

Mansfield Veterinary Clinic

# September News



## SPRING

**into the Vet clinic and pick up wormers for your pets.**

**Cats and dogs should be wormed every 3 months.**

**Remember by worming them with the change of season.**

**Free to Good Home 'Holly'**

**20mth old Labrador Very friendly, great family pet.**

## Equine Influenza

As most of you are probably well aware, Equine Influenza has been the topic of discussion due to recent identification of infected horses in Australia. Equine Influenza (EI) is an acute, highly contagious viral respiratory disease that, until this most recent outbreak, has been exotic to Australia. The restrictions on horse movements in VIC, NSW & QLD had to be employed in an effort to prevent this disease from spreading.

EI is rarely a fatal disease, with most horses recovering within a few weeks. The period in which they can be infective to other horses only lasts for a short period early in the disease. A horse showing signs of coughing, nasal discharge, loss of appetite, labored breathing and a sudden increase in temperature (between 39—41degrees) may be treated as a suspect case. The disease is spread by direct contact between horses, but can also be carried between properties on clothing, cars, boots etc. Just like the human flu, there is no specific treatment. There are vaccines available overseas, but none will be distributed in Australia in the short term. The hope is to eradicate the infection so permanent vaccination of horses in Australia will not be required.

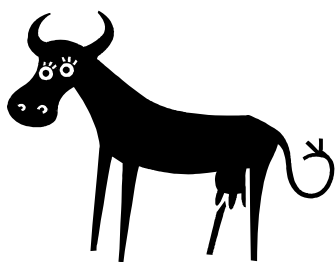
If anyone suspects their horse is showing respiratory signs similar to those described above, you or anyone in contact with that horse, must ensure there is no contact with any other horse. You must then call your local veterinarian for advice, the DPI or contact the Victorian Equine Influenza Helpline on 1800 678 779.

## Relay For Life

There is only six weeks to go until this year's Mansfield Relay for Life. While we are not fielding a team this year, we are helping to support Bri Seaton's team the 'Mt Battery Belles'. Come into the clinic for \$10 Promectin Plus horse wormer, \$20 Lice and Simple (the first registered product for equine lice) and cheap dog and cat worm tablets.

The Battery Belles are also having a stall at the Bush Market on September 16th selling homemade jams and chutneys, plants, herb gardens and strawberry pots; a Trivia Night on October 5th and a Grand Finale Sale on October 7th for all leftover treasures at 16 Ailsa St.

All profits to the Relay for Life which raises money for cancer research, education and patient support programs. A brilliant cause...



## Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Virus

*Just in case you missed Jackie's article in the Courier last month, here it is for you again.*

With the spring calving season underway, an interesting disease to discuss is Bovine Viral Diarrhoea Virus (BVDV), otherwise known as Pestivirus. BVDV causes several disease syndromes and can be a costly event on a farm by affecting reproduction, conception and weaning rates.

Signs that may indicate a BVDV infection on a farm include low conception rates, calving rates, neonatal calf survival and weaning weights. It can also cause abortion storms. Mature animals can often be exposed to the virus and show no ill effects, and develop strong immunity to the disease. Problems can arise when a cow becomes infected during pregnancy. While the cow goes unaffected, the calf may be aborted, deformed or stillborn, or remain lifelong carriers of the virus.

These lifelong carriers are the main way that the disease is spread and maintained in herds. They are born showing no signs of being ill but will go on to develop mucosal disease, a fatal disease typified by persistent diarrhoea. These animals usually die by the time they are 18 months to 2 years old.

Blood tests can be used to determine whether animals have been exposed to the virus and can also be used to diagnose persistently infected animals. A vaccine against the disease is available. For more information call the veterinary clinic, or refer to [www.bvdaustralia.com.au](http://www.bvdaustralia.com.au).

Very cute male  
kitten  
available at the  
vet clinic.  
Desexed,  
microchipped,  
wormed and  
vaccinated.  
Needs a loving  
home.

## Meg's Amazing Surgery

With the spring weather upon us, Meg was out helping her owner move some sheep when she had a run in with a car. Her back leg was badly damaged, with her hock joint exposed. Megs was referred to the Mansfield Vet Clinic Referrals Surgical Service. Her wounds were flushed out and x-rays were taken. Emergency surgery was performed by Dr Andrew Jacotine (on his day off we might add) the next morning to further clean the exposed bone and joint and attempt to reconstruct the joint. After 2 hours, and several screws and pins later, the joint was back together and within two days Megs was walking on the leg.

Megs is one of many dogs which have and will benefit from the referral surgical services offered here at the Mansfield Vet Clinic. Trauma cases are common in the country and often happen at night or on weekends. Being set up and ready to go allows for rapid management and repair of dog and cat injuries in the country without the need for transport to Melbourne based services.

## Scan Your Mares Early

Also with Spring comes the beginning of the equine breeding season. We have in-house facilities for scanning mares, or we can come to your property provided you have stocks. The first pregnancy scan should be at 16-17 days after service. At this time we can detect early pregnancies and it is the best time for identifying twins. Later stage twins are harder to determine and more difficult to manage. We also offer artificial insemination services and pre-service scans.

**FOR SALE**  
**15hh, 5yr old**  
**Bay QH X ASH**  
**mare**  
**For sale as a**  
**broodmare due**  
**to injury**  
**0428506194**