

**I'M FREE!!
PLEASE TAKE ME**



WINTER 2014

CARNEGIE VETERINARY CLINIC & CARNEGIE CAT COTTAGE

66 Rosstown Road
Carnegie, Victoria 3163

P: 9563 5422

W: www.carnegievets.com.au &
www.carnegiecatcottage.com.au



OUR VETS:

Dr. Ketan Jivanjee
*BSc (La Trobe), BVSc (Pretoria),
MRCVS (UK)*

Special Interests: Small Animal Surgery, Small Animal Internal Medicine, Ophthalmology, Theriogenology, Pharmacology, Unusual & Exotic Pet Medicine & Surgery, Veterinary Practice Management.

Dr. Kelly Wilkinson *BVSc (Hons) (Melbourne)*
Special interests: Small Animal Medicine, Feline Medicine, Animal Behaviour, Unusual & Exotic Pet Medicine & Surgery.

You may have already met our nurses; Kara, Melissa and Sajani. They have pets of their own and are well versed on all clinic, hospital and cat boarding services. Please do not hesitate to ask them any questions. They will assist you as much as possible to ensure a well informed and worthwhile visit to the clinic. Our staff will eagerly assist you with your appointments, food supplies and any other questions you may have about the care and welfare of your pet. Passion, Pride and Perseverance in Service and Care is what we do.

Kara Billing *Cert IV (Vet. Nursing) BSc (Zoology)*

Areas of interest: Surgical Nursing, Practice Management, Puppy Preschool, Nutrition & Behaviour, Counselling & Client Relations.

Charlie Samor *C 15 Cert (Sweden)*

Areas of interest: Surgical Nursing, Medical Nursing, Nutrition & Behaviour, Counselling & Client Relations.

CARNEGIE VETERINARY CLINIC HOURS:

Monday to Friday: 8am – 7pm

Saturday: 9am – 1:30pm

CARNEGIE CAT COTTAGE – HOURS OF ADMISSION AND DISCHARGE:

Monday to Friday: 10am – 1pm

Saturday: 9am – 1pm

In the unfortunate event that you would require veterinary assistance after hours please contact:

PET EMERGENCY CENTRE: 1103 Dandenong Road, Malvern East, Victoria 3145
Phone: 9569 3677 Melways Reference: 68 J3

SOUTHERN ANIMAL EMERGENCY CENTRE:
248 Wickham Road, Highett, Victoria 3190
Phone: 9532 5261 Melways Reference: 77 H8

PROTECTING YOUR DOG AGAINST KENNEL COUGH

Kennel cough is an umbrella term used to describe a hacking cough in dogs caused by various viruses and bacteria. The two main causes are infection with parainfluenza virus and the bacteria Bordetella Bronchiseptica. The latter is a similar bacterium to the one that causes whooping cough in humans. These bacteria and viruses cause an inflammation of the major airways resulting in a hacking, paroxysmal cough. The cough can end in gagging and retching of mucus which may give owners the impression that their dog has something stuck in its throat. Coughing is often worse at night and is exacerbated by exercise and pressure on the throat region – such as pulling on a lead.

Kennel cough is highly contagious. Infected dogs can even transmit the disease prior to showing any symptoms. The treatment for kennel cough will vary from case to case depending on the age of the dog and the

severity of symptoms. Puppies and elderly dogs (who may have preexisting airway disease) tend to be the most severely affected. Treatment may include antibiotics, anti-inflammatory drugs and cough suppressants. In addition to medication prescribed by your vet, owners should rest their dog and isolate it from other dogs. Taking the dog into a nice steamy bathroom or humidifying the environment may also help.

As with any disease, prevention is better than cure. A vaccine that protects against the two major causes of kennel cough is available. Because many other bacteria and viruses can cause the problem it is still possible for a vaccinated dog to contract kennel cough. However vaccinated dogs tend to have a less severe form of the disease and recover more quickly than unvaccinated dogs. Speak to your vet about what is an appropriate vaccination for your dog.



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KEEPING YOUR PETS HAPPY OVER WINTER

Even pets can get the winter blues, so it can help to give them some extra attention and cuddles over the cooler months when everyone's moods can drop just a little. Here are some other vital tips for keeping your pets happy and cosy over winter.

KEEP ACTIVE: We all know how easy it is to go into hibernation mode over winter and avoid exercise, but it is good for you and your dog to keep up with the walks and exercise. It is worth braving the weather and putting on a few extra layers to get outdoors. Keeping your pet moving helps with joint health and mobility and prevent arthritic animals from seizing up as much.

BEDDING: Some extra blankets and/or padding on your pet's bed will make a great difference. Also make sure that their bed is away from draughty, cold and damp areas. Raised beds are great for avoiding draughts and cold coming from hard floors. For outdoor animals, make sure their shelter is well insulated and protected from the elements.

GROOMING AND RUGGING: Don't assume that your pet doesn't need a trim up over winter if they have regular grooming. Coats being left to grow too long in an attempt to keep your cat or dog warm can lead to skin

irritations and matting. It is a good idea to perhaps keep their cut a little longer than in other seasons and you can add extra warmth with a rug or coat for your pet.

CAREFUL OF THOSE HOT SPOTS: In the search for the ultimate warm spot your pet might get themselves into danger. Be aware that your cat (or your neighbours) might be hiding under your car or in your engine to keep warm. They might get too close to an open fire, so it is always good to have the guard up so that sparks don't land on their coat. Finally make sure that you keep an eye on animals around heaters that can be knocked over.

WATER: It is just as important in winter for your pet to have access to plenty of water. If you live in a very cold area and their water supply is outside, make sure it doesn't get iced over. Indoor heating can cause some dehydration, so make sure they have access to water even when you are all bundled up in one area keeping warm.

FLEAS: Fleas are not just a summer problem. Heated homes can set off a fleas cycle as well as the warmer weather, so make sure you keep your pets treated all throughout the year.



RODENTS MAY BE THE PERFECT PET

For many people rats will always be vermin. Small dirty animals with scaly tails whose only redeeming feature is to provide exercise for scared beholders as they leap on and off chairs shrieking RAT!

It's time this stereotype was corrected and we realise that these animals are one of the most appropriate pets for young children. Pet rats are a different species to the wild plague-bearing type. Many fancy varieties are available, the most common being the Hooded rat and the Self-coloured rat. Domestic rats are bred to be docile and sociable and can be kept in groups. Males and females can be kept together, but bear in mind that they reach sexual maturity by 6-8 weeks.

Rats are nocturnal. But unlike many small rodents they are not cranky if interrupted from their slumbers for a play. They enjoy being handled, seldom bite and, once used to owners, will not run away. Cages must be well ventilated and cleaned every other day otherwise odours can be a problem. For this reason bird cages or wire barred rodent cages are preferential to aquariums.

Obesity can shorten a rat's life span and can be prevented by feeding your rat small amounts of fresh food plus a pelleted rodent ration. Pellets prevent selective feeding, which occurs with seed mixes where rats will preferentially choose the high fat, low calcium sunflower seeds.

Mammary tumours are common in rats occurring anywhere from under the chin to the base of the tail. The good news is that 80% of these tumours are benign. Rats live for 2 1/2 to 3 1/2 years.

In summary rats are the perfect children's pet – cheap, sociable, safe, interesting yet short lived enough to ensure that you will not be left "holding the baby" once the kids have left home!

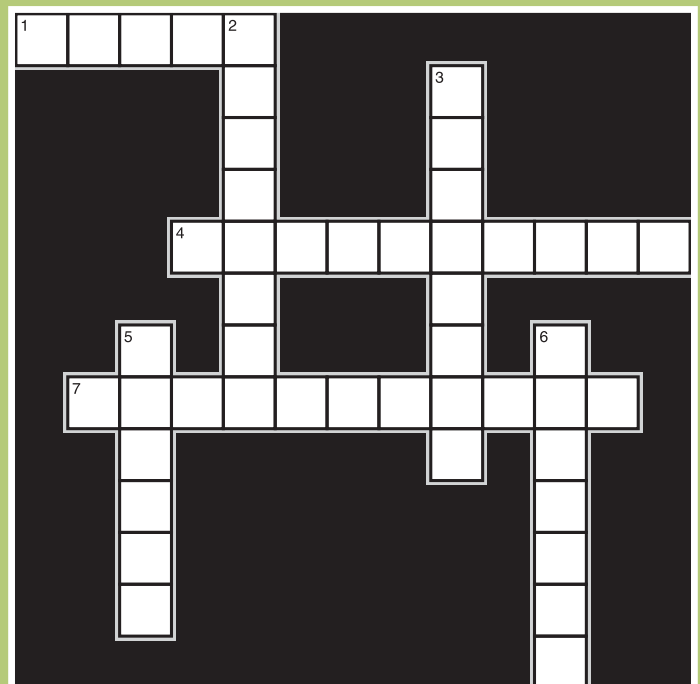
Clever CROSSWORD

ACROSS

1. What should you treat your house for all year round?
4. What is better than cure?
7. Indoor heating can cause _____.

DOWN

2. Cage tents give extra warmth and the feeling of _____.
3. Put some extra _____ on your pet's bed over winter.
5. What do many people think of rats as?
6. What do toys help to alleviate?



EACH OF THE WORDS CAN BE FOUND IN THIS ISSUE OF "YOUR VET".
ANSWERS ARE SHOWN ON BOTTOM OF THE BACK PAGE.

PLAY TIME PHOTO COMPETITION: BE IN TO WIN A PURE SILVER PENDANT AND CHAIN FROM SILVER PET PRINTS VALUED AT \$215

Send us a photo of your pet enjoying their play time and you could be a winner.

Simply email us a picture of your pet enjoying their play time to:
cliniccompetition@gmail.com

Don't forget to tell us your pets name, your name, address, phone number and the clinic you attend. Please make the subject heading 'Winter Pet Competition'.

The winner will have their photo displayed in the next issue of Your Vet and receive a Silver Pet Prints pendant and chain which is personalised with your pets paw print.

Entries must be received by 31/08/2014.

THAT'S IT! GOOD LUCK!



www.silverpetprints.com

KEEPING YOUR BIRD WARM IN WINTER

Birds can be ill equipped to keep warm over the winter months, so it is important to take extra care with their environment over this time. Here are some things that will help keep your bird comfortable and warm.

CAGE COVERS: Most bird cages will have a cover to give the bird privacy and cover them up at night. Over winter, make sure that this cover is well insulated or a good thickness to keep the draft out. Perhaps swap to a thicker blanket or look at getting a new winter-crafted cover.

HEAT LAMPS: Heat lamps are a good way to effectively and safely give your bird some extra warmth.

HEATED PERCHES: Birds can lose a lot of heat through their feet, so a heated perch is an excellent way to warm them up from the feet up.

CAGE TENTS: These are probably more suited to smaller birds. Cage tents are a small enclosure that fits in your cage, they are soft and warm and the bird can pop inside them for a bit of extra warmth and even the feeling of security.

TOYS: As with any animal, and indeed ourselves, movement will keep your bird warm and help alleviate boredom. Making sure your bird has some good toys will help to promote this movement.



WINTER REMINDER! GET YOUR PET CHECKED FOR ARTHRITIS

The cold weather of winter seems to play havoc with arthritic patients. If you have noticed that your pet is stiff on rising, has a limp or is reluctant to jump into the car (or onto the kitchen bench in the case of cats) then it may be time to have a '10,000 mile' service and check out their joints. Arthritis is not just a disease of the elderly – some sources state that one in five dogs over one year of age is affected.

Arthritis needs to be attacked from many different angles. Weight loss, exercise modification and diet all need to be addressed. Your vet can also advise you on appropriate medications for your pet, from disease modifying drugs (drugs which slow down the progression of arthritis and keep the joints happy longer) to anti-inflammatory drugs and pain relief.

Dr. Ketan Jivanjee

Ketan graduated Bachelor of Veterinary Science from the University of Pretoria, Onderstepoort, South Africa. Prior to that, he completed Bachelor of Science with majors in Biochemistry and Microbiology from La Trobe University, Bundoora. Ketan is a Member of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, United Kingdom. In 2003, a passion for surgery led him to complete a one year post graduate course in Small Animal Surgery conducted by the University of Sydney.

Ketan has focused on small animal practice since graduation. He spent three years in a busy small animal hospital in Albury/Wodonga honing his medical and surgical skills. His time there was both fruitful and rewarding allowing him to provide an in-depth medical and surgical service here at Carnegie Veterinary Clinic. He enjoys the rigours, challenges and diversity of a multi-faceted general practice. Out of the clinic, Ketan takes an avid interest in motor sports.

Dr. Kelly Wilkinson

Kelly graduated Bachelor of Veterinary Science with honours from The University of Melbourne. Kelly is passionate about feline medicine. In 2002, Kelly completed a one year post graduate course in Feline Medicine conducted by the University of Sydney. Over the years, Kelly has maintained a strong focus on continuing veterinary education. She is also a member of the European Society of Feline Medicine.

Kellie's interests away from the Clinic are her two beautiful daughters – Natalie and Stephanie.

We are passionate about continuing veterinary education and ongoing learning. All members of the Carnegie Veterinary Clinic Team partake in continuing professional development to further enhance their skills and ultimately provide better service to clients and better outcomes to patients. Striving for excellence in service and care is our priority.

To provide adequate service and facilities for your needs it is necessary to charge realistic fees for treating your pet. Prompt payment of our account will help us keep the fees down. Please note that we require complete payment at the time of each consultation visit and prior to discharge from the clinic for companions that underwent in-hospital procedures. An estimate of fees can be provided for all diagnostics and treatment. We accept cash, eftpos, mastercard and visa.

The Clinic itself does not offer an account facility.

We strongly recommend Pet Insurance. Unfortunately, a Medicare type system is not in place for our pets, so the real cost of providing treatment and care must be borne by the owner.

If you would like to know more about pet insurance or Petplan specifically please feel free to pick up brochures which are readily available from reception.

Nobody likes waiting. We do our best to run on time. However, occasionally there are complex cases and emergencies, so we can run behind. We appreciate and thank you for your patience.

Down: 2. Security; 3. Blankets; 5. Vermin; 6. Boredom.

Across: 1. Fleas; 4. Prevention; 7. Dehydration.

ANSWERS TO CROSSWORD