

CARNEGIE VETERINARY CLINIC



CARNEGIE CAT COTTAGE

66 Rosstown Road
Carnegie, Victoria 3163

P: 9563 5422

E: TheTeam@carnegievets.com.au

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, Unusual & Exotic Pet Medicine and Surgery, Ophthalmology, Theriogenology, Pharmacology, and Veterinary Practice Management.

Dr Kelly Wilkinson

BVSc (Hons) (Melbourne)

Special interests: Small Animal Medicine, Feline Medicine, Animal Behaviour, Unusual & Exotic Pet Medicine & Surgery.

OUR NURSES

You may have already met our nurses. They have pets of their own and are well versed in 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.

Alexis Demertzidis

B. Biological Science, Cert IV (Vet Nursing)

Karina McFadzean

Vet. Nurse in training

Leila Wight

Vet. Nurse in training

VETERINARY CLINIC HOURS

Monday to Friday: 8.00 am – 7.00 pm

Saturday: 9.00 am – 1.30 pm

CARNEGIE CAT COTTAGE

ADMISSION & DISCHARGE HOURS

Monday to Friday: 10.00 am – 1.00 pm

Saturday: 9.00 am – 1.00 pm

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

PET EMERGENCY CENTRE

1103 Dandenong Road, Malvern East
Phone: 9569 3677, Melways ref: 68 J3

SOUTHERN ANIMAL EMERGENCY CENTRE

248 Wickham Road, Highett
Phone: 9532 5261, Melways ref: 77 H8

YOUR VET

AUTUMN 2022

with
compliments

In this edition we talk about...



GREYHOUNDS
AS PETS



IS YOUR CAT
TOO FAT?



PUPPY
PRE-SCHOOL



NEW CAT
INTRODUCTIONS

Wage war on worms

Worms can be both contagious and dangerous, leading to life-threatening conditions and even pet-to-human transmission in some cases. Take the time to learn more about worms and how to stop them in their tracks.

WHERE DO PETS GET WORMS?

Your dog or cat can get infected anywhere. Worms can be carried by farm animals, insects and some wildlife. They can even be in raw meat.

One of the most common infection possibilities is from faeces. If your pet ingests or even touches faecal matter containing microscopic parasitic eggs, they can develop worms.

Worms can also be passed to puppies and kittens from their mother's milk. Tapeworms are carried by fleas and lice, and heartworms from mosquitos. Pets that eat animals such as lizards, birds and rodents, are also at risk.

COMMON WORM TYPES

There are many different worm types; we'll mention some of the most commonly found worms in cats and dogs below. For more detailed information please talk to us.

Hookworms

Hookworms are spaghetti-like parasites that pose a human health risk. They feed on intestinal linings and cause animals to experience diarrhoea, weight loss, and anaemia.



Roundworms

Like hookworms, roundworms look like spaghetti and live in the small intestine. Pets with roundworms can experience diarrhoea, a pot belly, and poor-quality fur. Failure to seek treatment may lead to secondary bacterial pneumonia, and puppies may also be at risk of lung damage and death.



Tapeworms

Tapeworms are rice-like parasitic worms living in the intestines of cats and dogs. While many pets with tapeworms don't exhibit obvious symptoms, it's not uncommon to notice lethargy, diarrhoea, and poor-quality fur.



Hydatid tapeworms can have serious human health consequences, resulting in internal cysts containing tapeworm larvae. These cysts may grow for several years before causing symptoms like chest or stomach pain, weakness, coughing, and nausea. Surgery or medication is often necessary to remove the cysts.

Whipworms & threadworms

Both cats and dogs can be at risk of threadworms and whipworms, with these worms living in intestines and causing symptoms like weight loss, poor fur quality, and diarrhoea. Generally, infection results from faecal to oral transmission.



Heartworms



Heartworms can have serious effects for cats and dogs, and are caused by the bite of an infected mosquito. Sometimes there's no sign of infection; but they can cause coughing, weight loss, abdominal fluid, and breathing difficulties leading to heart and lung disease and sometimes even death.

PREVENTATIVE ACTION

Management is essential; providing your dogs and cats with quality worming products and keeping to a schedule for worming are core parts of pet ownership.

It's also important to clean up after your pets, wash your hands after touching animals, and not allow your pet to lick your face. Changing kitty litter daily and keeping pets away from wildlife are also practical measures.

Knowing how damaging worms can be for your pets and your family, it's important to see us for preventative measures to suit the needs of your pet.

Our newsletter is free! You can take a copy with you.

It's time for puppy pre-school

Studies have shown that dogs can be more obedient at any age when they participate in command training and puppy socialisation classes. Is your new puppy ready for their first lesson?

Puppy pre-school, is an excellent first step for your young dog to learn about social boundaries, obedience, and socialisation. It's also an ideal training opportunity for you, as the owner, to understand normal puppy behaviour and the 'dos and don'ts' of dog ownership.



What's involved in puppy classes?

If you've never had a puppy before, you may not be aware of what's involved in puppy school and whether it's right for you and your dog. Both you and your new puppy can benefit from these training classes in many ways.

You can gain insight into your puppy's body language and learn techniques for positive behavioural development. Trained professionals may also cover basic information around nutrition, wellness, parasite control, stages of development, and even pet insurance.

These classes are an opportunity for your puppy to experience a new environment with unfamiliar people and pets. They can enjoy play sessions with dogs of a similar age, interact with people, and learn basic commands. Puppy pre-school can also be a safe environment for you to get help for any problems you've been experiencing, such as aggression or general disobedience.

Training for dogs can begin at any age, but we recommend enrolling your puppy



in classes before the age of 16 weeks, and after they've had their first vaccination and vet check. This is when they learn some of their most crucial socialisation skills and cement behaviours that can have long-lasting effects.

Puppy socialisation and training can lay the foundation for a well-rounded, well-socialised, and well-behaved dog. If you haven't yet enrolled your new family addition in a puppy training class, ask us to tell you what's available.

There was an estimated 6.3 million pet dogs in Australia in 2021

How eating playdough solved a mystery

We've long known grapes, raisins, and currants are poisonous to dogs, but it wasn't until a dog ate playdough that we found out why.

A letter published in the April 2021 issue of Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association described the findings of Colette Wegenast, DVM, senior consulting veterinarian in clinical toxicology at the APCC, when she handled the care of a dog that had eaten homemade playdough.

Many homemade playdough recipes include high levels of salt, which can cause hyponatremia in dogs (too much sodium in the blood). Vet intervention and fluid therapy are generally required to combat it.

In this instance, only a small amount of salt was present in the playdough, and the dog didn't develop hyponatremia. Instead, they experienced vomiting and developed azotemia – a condition that occurs when kidneys are no longer able to filter waste properly, causing high levels of nitrogen in the blood.

Rather than salt in the playdough, the dog's owner had used cream of tartar, leading experts to believe the dog had tartaric acid poisoning. Symptoms of tartaric acid poisoning include vomiting, diarrhoea, excessive thirst, and sometimes even acute renal failure.

Colette worked with American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Animal Poison Control Center (APCC) toxicologist Irina Meadows, and they established that tartaric acid contains potassium bitartrate, and both feature in high concentrations in grapes.

Further investigations allowed them to theorise that dogs are sensitive to tartaric acid, and that it's possible that the high volume of it in playdough and the naturally occurring amount in grapes and raisins could lead to azotemia and tartaric acid poisoning.

This newfound information may allow veterinary experts to better understand grape and raisin poisoning; how it happens, better testing options, prevention, and treatment.

What do you do if you suspect your dog has eaten grapes, raisins, or playdough?

Now that there's a possibility that playdough is equally as dangerous for your dogs as grapes and raisins, urgent vet care is required if you believe your dog has ingested any of these products.

Symptoms of a toxic reaction in your dog can include vomiting, diarrhoea, a loss of appetite, lethargy, dehydration, and decreased urination. The sooner you see your vet for help, the faster your dog can receive the treatment they need.



Is your cat too fat?

The Australian Veterinarian Association estimates that nearly half of all cats in Australia are overweight. If your cat is more than simply fluffy, it might be time to act.

There's no ideal weight range for a cat since they come in all different shapes and sizes, however there are ways to know whether they're getting more than their fair share of food.

Start by looking at them from above to see if you notice a waist between their rib cage and hips. If they appear round, they may be overweight. You can also run your hands down their spine and across their ribs to feel how much fat there is over the bones.

In general a cat should be well-proportioned with a slight fat covering over the ribs, minimal abdominal fat, and a waist. They shouldn't have big fat deposits over their lower back area, limbs, or face.

While it can be hard to come to terms with the fact your cat has extra padding, there are steps you can take to solve the problem.

Hiding food around the house to help your cat 'hunt' for it, or using food toys and encouraging playtime may all be ways you can help your feline friend shed the kilos.

Sometimes, over-feeding is the sole problem, and serving smaller portions can see them slim down within a matter of months.

We offer professional advice on appropriate serving sizes, the best food for their needs, and methods to help your cat work for their food.

See us if you need advice with your cat's nutrition, there are many different ways to help your cat slim down for their health and well-being.

A two-cat household: can it work?

Dogs can often be successfully introduced to each other at various stages of life with relative ease, but welcoming a second cat into your family can be a harder task.

Cats can be territorial and sometimes don't take happily to change. In addition, not all cats are socially compatible, especially if they're not naturally friendly. They may prefer to be the only cat in a household and even get a little jealous. However, if the time has come to welcome a new cat or kitten into your home, there's a few things you can try to improve your chances of success.

Start slow

As excited as you might be about showing your cat their new housemate, you may stand a better chance of a successful interaction if you carry out the introduction process in stages.

Keep your new cat in a separate part of the house to your current cat for around one week, and ensure they have everything they need to adjust to their new surroundings. This allows them to become comfortable with you and their new environment before they encounter another feline.

This slow introduction phase also allows your current cat to notice and adjust to the new cat's smell. Slowly introduce them to other parts of your home in 10-minute intervals until their confidence builds.

Give both cats their own space

As much as you want your cats to be best friends and get along, most cats will learn to co-exist without friendship and may still desire their own space. Make sure both cats have somewhere to call their own, such as a bed or crate in a quiet part of the house.

Purchase a second litter tray

If you have a litter tray in your home, consider purchasing a second one for the new addition. Most cats don't take kindly to sharing their toilet with others, and a second one may reduce the risk of any accidents.

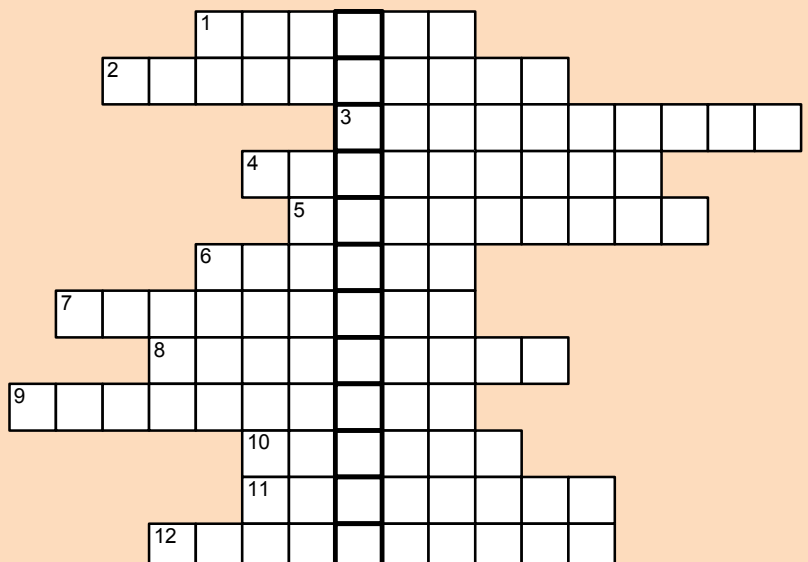
A successful introduction of a new cat to your household can be possible, but it takes time. Speak to one of the staff for help and advice.



HIDDEN WORD

Find the hidden word in the bold squares by filling the answers of the clues in the puzzle. Answer is on the back.

1. A very young form of an insect that looks like a worm.
2. Weighing more than the normal or expected amount.
3. The study of poisonous chemicals and how living things reacts to them.
4. The medical care given to a patient.
5. A tall slender dog of an ancient breed noted for swiftness and keen sight; used as a racing dog.
6. Of or relating to the cat family.
7. Willing to do what someone tells you to do or to follow instruction.
8. To talk to and do things in a friendly way.
9. A small worm with a long, round body that lives inside the bodies of animals.
10. Something that can kill you or make you sick.
11. A process by which skills are taught.
12. The state of being friends.



Do greyhounds make good pets?

Australians have been opening their homes to greyhounds and giving them a second chance at life once they retire from the racing industry, but what do you need to know before adopting one?

They may need help with socialisation

According to the RSPCA, greyhounds kept in kennel-like environments for much of their racing career may lack the necessary social skills to thrive in a new home right away. This may be a barrier for many prospective owners, but persistence, patience, and training can sometimes be all it takes for your greyhound to slowly adapt to their surroundings and domestic life.

They love to collect things

Many greyhounds love to collect items, such as shoes, toys, and even cushions. No one can say with any certainty why they're hoarders or collectors, but it may be a coping or comfort strategy.

After adoption, you will come to learn all your new pet's quirks and decide to keep anything harmful or precious out of reach.

They need time to adjust to your lifestyle

The things we and our other pets take for granted, such as toys, a bed inside, and even the sounds of television or music in the background, can be unfamiliar and sometimes even scary for recently adopted ex-racing greyhounds. A slow introduction to new environments and situations may be necessary to help them feel comfortable and safe.

They don't need racing level exercise

Greyhounds are fast, but they don't have excellent stamina. They require no more exercise than your average dog and they also love to sleep! Provide them with daily mental and physical stimulation just as you would for any other dog you adopt or purchase.

Greyhounds can be much-loved pets, and thousands of them are re-homed across Australia each year to loving families. However, before you jump into the adoption process, take some time to learn about their needs to see if they're the right fit for your home and family.



APPOINTMENT REMINDER

Ask our receptionist to record details of your next visit. Take this newsletter home and keep it somewhere handy as a reminder. Help us to help you keep your pets happy and healthy.

PET NAME	DATE	TIME

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annual check up | <input type="checkbox"/> Vaccination |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Follow up examination | <input type="checkbox"/> Worming |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Flea/tick treatment | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

HIDDEN WORD

VETERINARIAN

Disclaimer: The information in this newsletter is not intended to be a substitute for professional advice, diagnosis or treatment. Decisions relating to your pet's health should always be made in consultation with your veterinarian.

Dr Ketan Jivanjee

Ketan graduated Bachelor of Veterinary Science from the University of Pretoria, Onderstepoort, South Africa. Prior to that, he completed a 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.

Kelly'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 for patients. Striving for excellence in service and care is our priority.

To provide the best service and facilities for your needs it is necessary to charge realistic fees for treating your pet. Prompt payment of your 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 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.

Our newsletter is free! Take a copy with you.