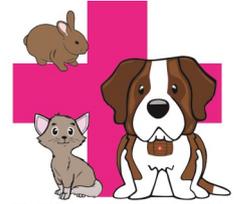


St Bernards Buzz



ST BERNARDS ROAD
Veterinary Clinic

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www.stbernardsvet.com.au

Congratulations Ellen xx



Our exciting news for this month is that Ellen has completed her Certificate IV Veterinary Nursing and is now a fully qualified veterinary nurse. We are all thrilled for Ellen and congratulate her on her achievement, she has worked hard to finish her training. We also congratulate Bec, her workplace trainer/mentor, who assisted Ellen with her training, and all of the team at St Bernard's Road for supporting Ellen throughout her training.

In addition to herd day-to-day nursing duties, Ellen also runs our Puppy preschool in association with our trainer, Petra. Ellen has a passion for dog training and behaviour, with her own dogs shining examples of how amazing canine companions can be when we put time and effort into their training.

Ellen also assists with our "Fear Free Visits" at the clinic - a program that we run to help our patients who are a fearful or anxious to feel more relaxed when they visit us at the clinic. The Fear Free program has had some amazing results and we are so proud of our patients who have been able to overcome some of their anxieties and now enjoy visiting us.

The Biggest Loser Competition

Is your cat or dog carrying around a bit of extra weight? Have their appetites and waistlines increased while their exercise tolerance decreases? Obesity in our furry friends is common and can cause a range of different health issues such as:

- * Diabetes
- * Joint disease and arthritis
- * High blood pressure
- * Heart disease
- * Inability to perform natural behaviours and exercise properly

We understand that a lot of owners can struggle with their pet's weight, so during August & September, we are running a St Bernard's Road Vet Clinic's 'The Biggest Loser' competition.

Our 'Biggest Loser' competition is for cats and dogs and will be monitored by our veterinary team through weight loss consults over the 2 month period. The award for biggest loser will be presented to the cat and dog that has lost the most bodyweight at the end of the 2 month period.

Our vets and nurses can create a plan for your pet that takes into account their current and ideal weight, age, breed, dieting and medical history and exercise availability. We will monitor your pet's progress towards their weight goal and make adjustments as needed to help you keep on track. If you think your pet would benefit from being a part of this program please contact our clinic on 8364 4545 to make a time for an initial weight consult with one of our nurses.

How to care for your pets teeth at home

Make every mouthful count: Every mouthful your pet takes should be hard work! Try to imagine what your pet would do in the wild. He would be munching on chewy, sinewy food that requires ripping, tearing and crunching. This is the natural and best way to clean the teeth. We have excellent diets available that are actually designed to clean the tooth as your pet chews. We can also advise you on the best chews and treats available when it comes to dental care. Not every chew on the market is entirely safe for your pet so it's best to ask us for advice.

Brushing is best: Brushing your pet's teeth is considered gold standard in home care. We have tooth brushes that enable you to get into the hard to reach places. Keep in mind that it can take a few months for your pet to get used to the idea! Daily brushing is recommended (in an ideal world) however a couple of times a week is better than no brushing at all.

Patient of the Month



Ali is an absolute star!

To help Ellen celebrate qualifying as a Veterinary Nurse, we have featured one of her dogs, Ali, as our patient of the month this month.

This fabulous photo was taken when Ali and Paul visited the clinic as part of "Bring your dog to work day". Paul is the tuft of yellow visible at the back of Ali's head—he was pretending to be dog for the day so he could qualify to come to work with his mum.

As you can see, Ali has very healthy teeth which make her smile look amazing. Our focus this month is on dental health, and the importance of early intervention with dental disease.

Like everything we encounter in daily life, it is much cheaper and easier to fix dental disease early in the course of the disease, rather than waiting until there is advanced disease present. Come in for a FREE nurse dental check this month.



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