

St Bernards Buzz



VOLUME 3, ISSUE 6
JUNE 2017
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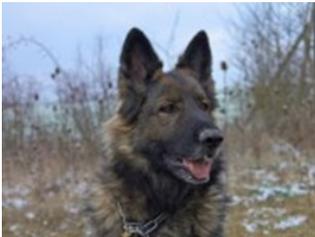
FREE Senior Checks!!

SENIOR PETS NEED SPECIAL CARE- "The Winter Chills make us Creak and ACHE!"

Older pets in particular are susceptible to chilly temperatures and you may notice reduced activity and more time spent by the heater. This may be a sign of the pain of osteoarthritis.

We recommend six monthly senior pet checks.

During the month of June we are offering FREE SENIORS CHECKS with our wonderful nurses. Often our pets hide their health problems from us, particularly cats, so the nurses have some checklists that they can run through with you to help assess your pet.



Managing an older pet can make a significant difference to our pet's quality of life, and there are many options available for management. Our nurses are able to go through the available options with you and discuss the best solution for your dog or cat.

Please call us on 8582 1344 to make an appointment for your FREE Seniors Check

Helping Your Senior Pet!

Caring for a senior pet is an important job and your furry friends are relying on you to guide them through their twilight years.

Here are our top three tips for senior care:

1. Keep your eyes open for changes in behaviour, weight, appetite, thirst and urination. The presence of a cough, a change in sleeping habits, stiff joints, a new lump and accidents around the house can all be a sign of underlying illness. Instead of putting these changes down to 'getting old' arrange a check up with us.

2. Choose a premium diet suitable for a mature pet. These help to maintain ideal body condition and will improve longevity. Ask us for a specific recommendation for your pet.

3. As mentioned above, a regular health check (ideally every 6 months) is absolutely essential for your ageing pet. Your pet can experience significant changes in a single year (equivalent to 6-8 human years). A veterinary examination will allow us to pick up on any issues as soon as possible and start treatment if necessary.

Phone us if you have any questions about your senior pet, as we will always be able to give you the best advice.



Happy & Health Senior Pets!

As the weather cools down remember too look after your fur kids.

With the colder weather increasing. The icy, rainy nights and foggy, cold mornings becoming a regular event, it is certainly time to assess whether your pet's have appropriate protection from the weather. There are so many options for bedding, housing and rugging your pets. As vets we are often asked how best to manage pets in

winter, particularly our seniors!

Winter tips for the oldies:

- Create a warm haven where your older pet can curl up and avoid draughty areas.
- Elevate their bed off the cold floor, and provide extra bedding, Options are endless!
- Maintain your pet's health and fitness by providing regular low impact exercise

If you believe your pet is in pain, ask us for veterinary advice. Advancements in veterinary medicine make treatment of age related disease very effective.



Blastoise

Patient of the Month

Blastoise is a happy 6 year old male Staffordshire Bull Terrier. Blastoise's parents brought him into the clinic to see Dr Jenni Trewren as they were concerned about a lump on his back left leg. A sample was taken from the lump and the cells were looked at under the microscope. Dr Jenni was concerned that the cells were consistent with a Mast Cell Tumour, a type of skin cancer that can potentially spread. Sending these samples to the lab confirmed Blastoise's lump was a Mast Cell Tumour.

Blastoise had the tumour surgically removed from the lower part of his leg. This type of tumour can be potentially nasty and can spread, wide margins around the lump had to be taken to prevent the tumour regrowing or spreading. Due to the location of the lump, unfortunately, there wasn't enough skin to close the wound. Therefore, Blastoise's leg has been left open to heal itself; this is called healing by second intention. Blastoise has been coming in to have his wound assessed and for regular bandage changes over the past month. He has been the perfect patient, sitting still for his wound to be rebandaged, so long as he had some treats to distract him! This can be potentially painful removing bandages during the healing process but Blastoise has been a very brave boy and is very popular with the staff at St Bernard's Road!

Blastoise's wound is still on the road to recovery but is doing well so far.

