



Celebrating healthy smiles and the well-being of our pets!

It's Pet Dental Health time at St Bernards Road Veterinary Clinic and we will be offering FREE dental checks for your pets by one of our fabulous nurses. We will check your pet's oral health and determine the best course of action to improve and maintain their pearly white teeth.

Added to this we are offering **a \$50 discount** off any Dental procedure during August and September.

Call us to arrange a FREE dental check for your pet today – 8364 4545

The Tooth About Dental Disease

There's no doubt about it, dental disease in our pets really stinks! It is one of the most common problems we see in veterinary practice and not only is it painful for your pet, but the increased bacteria in the mouth can also be associated with other conditions such as kidney disease, heart disease and liver disease. As many as eight in ten pets have dental disease!

Some of the signs to watch out for:

- Smelly breath
- Drooling or dropping food from the mouth
- A loss of appetite or weight loss

What causes dental disease?

A lack of chewing sinew and muscle (such as pets would develop catching food in the wild) allows plaque and tartar to build up around the teeth. Loads of cheeky bacteria appear and this leads to inflammation and eventual loss of the attachments that hold the teeth in place.

What's the best treatment?

Dogs and cats with dental disease need a general anaesthetic to assess the teeth and clean thoroughly under the gum line. Teeth that are severely diseased and potentially painful are generally removed and this helps to prevent problems in the future.

Prevention is the key

Wet and soft food diets are notorious for allowing plaque and tartar to accumulate. It is vital that your pet is on a premium quality diet that helps to clean their teeth as they chew. Speak to us to find out the most appropriate diet for your pet.

Caring for Your Pet's 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.

Dental diets and chews

We have excellent diets available that are 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 toothbrushes 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. If you are using a dental paste, make sure it is pet friendly (human toothpaste is toxic to pets).



**Remember
A Healthy
Smile
=
A Healthy
Pet**

