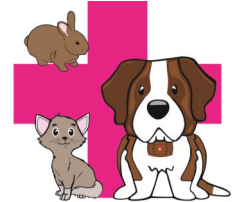


St Bernards Buzz



ST BERNARDS ROAD
Veterinary Clinic

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www.stbernardsvet.com.au



Mum's the word!!

With Mother's Day this month, we thought now would be a good time to share a few things about **pregnancy in dogs**. Here are some key facts:

Pregnancy (or the gestation period) in bitches normally ranges from 58 to 65 days with an average of 65 days

During pregnancy your bitch should be on a balanced diet. Ask us for the best recommendation. It can be dangerous to supplement her diet with extra calcium or vitamins

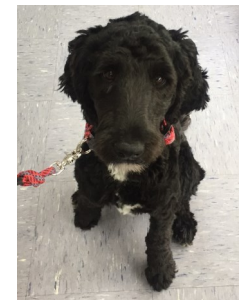
A bitch should be dewormed with an all wormer at week 4 and 6 of pregnancy. This is important to ensure she does not infect her newborn pups. You should vaccinate your bitch **prior** to mating to ensure maximum immunity is passed on to her puppies.

When a dog gives birth to puppies it is known as "whelping", and the bitch usually rests between the delivery of individual pups. The rest time can range from fifteen minutes to an hour, but you should **seek veterinary attention if:** Half an hour has passed since the onset of abdominal contractions and a puppy has not been born or; Half an hour has passed after the birth of a pup, your bitch is still having strong contractions and there is no sign of another pup

We will be happy to assist you with any queries you have regarding your dog's pregnancy and whelping.



Patient of the Month



Ralph is a 7 month old puppy and has been a regular visitor to our clinic to treat an eye condition (follicular conjunctivitis). Generally Ralph is a very happy and active puppy.

When Ralph came into the clinic recently he was flat and had no energy. Ralph had been vomiting for 24 hours, there were a couple of stockings he had vomited up and some small pieces of cloth in his faeces.

One of our vets examined Ralph and suspected bowel obstruction. Abdominal x-rays were performed and found there was an obstruction in the last part of the large intestine (distal colon).

We performed an enema under general anesthesia and we were able to remove a stocking and small pieces of cloth that were obstructing his bowels.

Ralph has been much happier after his procedure and decided to eat straight after recover from anesthesia. Ralph visited us the next day for a recheck appointment and was back to his active and happy self. No more vomiting and no secondary complications from the procedure. Last week Ralph's eye condition also resolved.



Million Paws Walk!

The RSPCA's Million Paws Walk on Sunday May 21st at Bonython Park.

Registration opens at 8am with the walk starting at 10:00am. By registering online prior to the 21st May, a discount is applied off the ticket price. <https://www.millionpawswalk.com.au/SA/adelaide>.

Did you know the RSPCA formed its South Australian body in 1875? RSPCA SA's role is to prevent animal cruelty, protect and care for all animals, and enhance their bond with people. In 2015-16, they cared for 10,059 animals, attended to 5,215 animal cruelty reports and 2,605 ambulance call outs. IT IS A GREAT DOGGIE DAY OUT!!!

How to help your arthritic pet at home!

If your pet is diagnosed with arthritis, there are plenty of things you can do at home to help them feel more comfortable.

We recommend a multi-pronged attack as this helps to reduce the need for large amounts of medication and will lessen the potential side effects of any one treatment.

6 tips for an arthritis-friendly home:

- Keep your pet lean to help reduce the load on their joints
- Consider feeding a diet specifically formulated for arthritis (ask us for the best recommendation)
- Continue to exercise your pet in moderation; gentle daily walks for dogs help keep the joints moving and muscles toned
- Provide a warm and comfortable bed with plenty of padding
- Use a portable ramp to help your dog in and out of the car



Provide an additional piece of furniture (like an ottoman) so your cat doesn't have to jump so high to reach his favourite spot

Ask us for more information on how to make your home arthritis-friendly.

