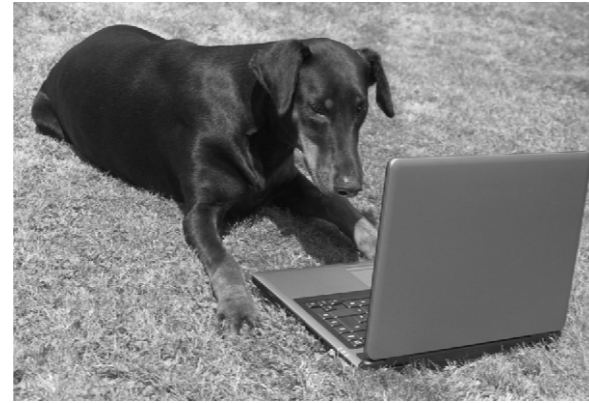


CANINE LIFE RULES

What we could learn from dogs:

- *When loved ones come home, always run to greet them.
- *Never pass up the opportunity to go for a joy ride.
- *Allow the experience of fresh air & wind in your face to be pure ecstasy.
- *When it is your best interest practice obedience.
- *Let others know when they have invaded your territory.
- *Take naps & stretch before rising.
- *Run, romp & play daily.
- *Thrive on attention & let people touch you.
- *Avoid biting when a simple growl will do.
- *On warm days, lie on your back on the grass.
- *On hot days, drink alot of water & lay under a shady tree.
- *When you are happy, dance & wag your entire body.
- *Delight in the simple joy of a long walk.
- *Be loyal.
- *Eat with gusto & enthusiasm. Stop when you have had enough.



- *Never pretend to be something you are not.
- *If what you want lies buried, dig until you find it.
- *No matter how often you are scolded, don't buy into the guilt thing & pout. Run right back & make friends.
- *When someone is having a bad day, be silent, sit close and nuzzle them gently.

Such words of wisdom from man's best friend!

TRIVIAL TRIO

- *Wombats can often sleep with their four feet sticking up in the air!*
- *The nest of an Emu can be up to 1.5metres wide!*
- *Sugar Gliders can glide through the air for up to 100 metres!*



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AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2010

ROWVILLE VETERINARY CLINIC

CARING FOR YOU AND YOUR PETS

An ASAVA Accredited Hospital of Excellence

Dr Kerrie Lay BVSc MVS MACVS,

Dr Rachael Guthry Bsc, BVSc. And Associates

919 Stud Road, Rowville Vic. 3178 Tel: 9763 1799



CLINIC NEWS

Its been an interesting couple of months in Rowville!! We hope you managed to survive the freak hail storm. The clinic suffered some damage and many cars belonging to both staff and clients were damaged here on the day. The clinic received many injured wildlife that Sunday including two turtles who were washed into Rowville, a couple of ring tail possums, two cockatoos, a rosella, a crow and a blackbird. Fortunately most of the casualties were assessed, treated and handed over to our brilliant wildlife carers for rehabilitation and release. We also treated a pet cat that had been washed down a drain and a litter of kittens! Most of the damage to the clinic has been repaired and we thank you for your patience at that time. Our next plan for the clinic is a complete rejuvenation of our car park! We are going to be resurfacing the entire area as well as adding a few extra car spaces. Unfortunately when this takes place, we will not be able to use the car park at all. Luckily, it should only take 2 days or so. Your patience at that time and assistance in parking in nearby Tampe Rd will be much appreciated. Please allow extra time to accommodate the change in parking when making appointments.

Warm congratulations to veterinary science student and vet nurse Georgia who recently married her long time partner Cam. We wish them much continued happiness. Vet nurse Lauren has learned first hand the dangers of lily toxicity in cats. Read about her cat Ella's ordeal over the page. Fortunately Ella survived and made a full recovery though not all cats are so lucky!

Dr Rachael Guthry has been very busy with the demands of raising her two small sons. Baby Ryan is growing steadily and we are happy to let you know that Rachael will be back at the clinic in July.

Patients love the gentle manner of Dr Cam Cooper who is blossoming as the rose amongst the thorns or is it the other way round? Cam has attended recent seminars on cancer treatment and canine surgery.

Look out for Melissa Haire who returns to Rowville to help out with puppy classes as needed. It's great to keep in touch with our "old" nurse!

Drs Monica Sellin and Rachael Guthry are looking forward to attending a Neurology seminar in September this year. Location Fiji!!! What a great place for a conference!

Dr Kerrie Lay and vet nurse Julie attended a recent evening seminar on animal behavior. Their new knowledge will benefit our patients both at home and in the clinic. Julie also attended a weekend quality assurance workshop by the Delta Professional Dog Training Association to maintain her accreditation. Great work Julie! Congratulations to nurses Gillian and Kerrie who both recently completed Certificate 4 in Business Administration.

Remember to keep an eye on our ever evolving website where you will find current news items, petcare information sheets and a great photo gallery! www.rowvillevet.com.au Evening appointments are available Monday to Friday until 8pm and are in very high demand. Should you find yourself unable to make your appointment please let us know. We would love the opportunity to offer that time to another patient needing our services.

Time to get the winter woolies out of storage as we prepare for the cooler and wetter weather!

See you in the clinic

Kerrie & Rachael



IN THIS ISSUE:

- * Ella' Bad Day
- * Bunny Boredom Busters
- * Canine Life Rules
- * Great books for young readers..

CLINIC HOURS:

Mon - Fri 8.30am-8pm
 Saturday 9am-5pm
 Sunday and pub hols 10am-5pm

BUNNY BOREDOM BUSTERS

At the Rowville Vet Clinic we are seeing an increased number of rabbits as family pets. With the right diet and environment a rabbit can be a much loved family member for a good ten years or so. Rabbits are very interactive and easily house trained. Boredom can lead to destructiveness however, so beware! Remember to look at the great rabbit section on our website www.rowvillevet.com.au

Environmental enrichment for bunnies:

1 Exercise:

Bunnies should be given a few hours of free run daily. This can be in the house or in the yard. Provide as many interesting objects in their exercise space as possible. Rabbits love things they can crawl through, jump over and chew on.

2 Toys:

Rabbits are very individual so you will have to work out which toys your rabbit enjoys the most. Rabbits love playing in and with boxes, any size or shape will do. You can provide empty boxes or you may choose to fill the boxes with things like paper which the rabbits will shred, hay which they will dig in or dried pine cones which they will play with. Rabbits also love untreated wicker baskets, cardboard cylinders, hand or tea towels, tunnel, plastic bottle caps and plastic baby toys such as keys. Check out parrot and cat toys which can often be used for rabbits. Plastic bins rolled on their side can be great to roll in or upturned can be jumped on for a better view. Hanging mobiles can be great fun to pat or run into. Really, you are only limited by your imagination. Many of the toys that you use can later be recycled.

Add some enrichment to your rabbit's life and enjoy the response. There is an interior designer lurking in every bunny!



PARVOVIRUS DISEASE OUTBREAK

You may have heard or seen media reports about the recent outbreak of parvovirus in Melbourne. Parvovirus is an extremely infectious viral disease of dogs that results in vomiting, bloody diarrhoea and often death. Parvovirus is one of the diseases that we routinely vaccinate against.

In one Western Suburbs clinic, they have treated more cases of Parvovirus in the last 2 months than in the last 2 years! Our enquiries indicate that the dogs that have been affected are very young or unvaccinated. This helps to explain why we have not had a similar disease outbreak in Rowville where our pets are lucky enough to be up to date with their vaccinations and health checks.

It is imperative to keep your pets immunity against diseases for which we have vaccines for up to date.

In the near future, the frequency of some of the dog vaccines will change. We will let you know about this at your pets yearly health check up.



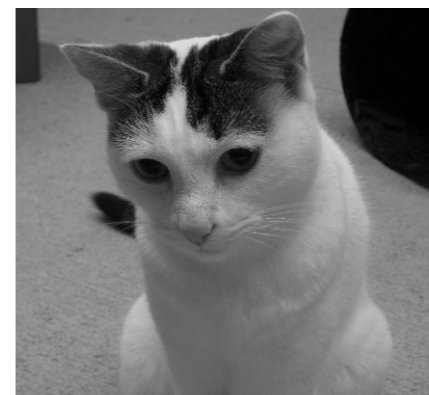
ELLA'S BAD DAY

Ella is the 1 year old cat owned by our clinic nurse Lauren. Ella is largely an indoor cat but she is exercised outdoors under supervision. Luckily for Ella, her owner is informed and observant or this tale would have ended badly.

Ella loves to chew on the fat bladed grass that all cats love. On this particular day, she also ate some leaves of a day lily which look very similar to her favourite grass. The day lily leaves (and in fact every part of the plant) are extremely toxic to cats so Ella was rushed down to the clinic for immediate treatment.

Ella was made to vomit and this showed grass and day lily leaves in the contents. After 3 days on intravenous fluid and close monitoring Ella was allowed to go home. The day lilies have been removed from the garden.

That was too close for comfort!



What do we know about lily toxicity in cats?

It mainly occurs in indoor cats (implying that floral arrangements are the main source).

All members of the lily and daylily family (Lilium and Hemerocallis genera) are implicated. ALL parts of the plant are poisonous including the pollen. The toxin causes kidney damage that can result in death.

Most cases appear at Christmas and Easter when we have these beautiful fragrant lilies in the house.

Cats treated within 18hrs of ingestion of the plant have a good prognosis but will require intensive hospital treatment for 3 days. Cats treated after 18hrs of ingestion have a very poor outlook.

Take home message:

If you see your cat eating any part of a lily or if you note a sudden increase in water intake, visit the clinic immediately. Do not have lilies in the house if you have an indoor cat.



GREAT DOG & CAT STORY BOOKS...

For the young and young at heart!

- Hairy Maclary Especially Rumpus at the vet - Lynley Dodd
- Slinky Malinki - Lynley Dodd
- Little White Dogs Can't Jump - Bruce Whatley
- That Magnetic Dog - Bruce Whatley
- Pocket Dogs - Margaret Wild & Stephen Michael King
- Milton - Hayde Ardalan
- Mog Books - Judith Kerr
- Harry the Dirty Dog - Gene Zion
- The Ugliest Dog in the World - Bruce Whatley
- Spot Books - Eric Hill
- Where's the Cat - Stella Blackstone & Debbie Harter
- Walter the Farting Dog - William Kotzwinkle & Glenn Murray
- Doggies - Sandra Boynton
- Dr Dog - Babette Cole
- Splat the Cat - Rob Scotton
- Reggie Queen of the Streets - Margaret Barbalet & Andrew McLean
- Snoopy! (the ultimate dog) - Leigh Hobbs
- Old Tom - Leigh Hobbs
- Puss in Boots - Dav Pilkey
- Dog Breath - Dav Pilkey
- Annie's Chair - Deborah Niland
- Quincy & Oscar - Kerry Millard