



NEWSLETTER

Issue 70

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To our loyal clients and valued pets, **We are currently on high alert for Ticks.** Please remember to give your monthly Nexgard to your dog or your 3 monthly Bravecto top spot to your cat to avoid any problems. If your pet has fits please speak to your vet for alternative products.

In America there has been a spike in heart problems (Dilated Cardiomyopathy) in middle to large breed dogs with a potential link to grain free diets and a lack of taurine additive.

The common factor was a diet heavy in peas, lentils, chickpeas and potatoes-carbohydrates typically intended to replace grains. Ongoing research is occurring in this area. It is important to have the taurine supplement in your pets food. We will have to wait to see more studies that come from this recent spike in the condition.

Join in our Christmas Hampers free raffle when you bring you pet in from mid November to mid December for your chance to win a pamper pack with many goodies for you and your pet.



Many thanks to your support for the farmers. We raised \$786.70 and donated this to the local BuyABale charity. Above, Anthony is presenting Garry, the rural aid representative, with a cheque to help feed many animals in the Upper Hunter.



Anthony Payten B.V.Sc. (Hons), MANZCVS
Alison Barrett B.V.Sc. (Hons), B.App.Sc.
Keefe Tay B.V.Sc.
Jenny Warland B.V.Sc.

Kelly Payten B.V.Sc. (Hons)
Carla Kowald B.V.Sc.
Keith Ross-Anderson D.V.M.
Fiona Giblin B.V.Sc. (Hons)

Charlestown
6 Smith Street
Charlestown 2290
02 4943 6066

Belmont
18 Maude Street
Belmont 2280
02 4945 9677

Swansea
130 Pacific Highway
Swansea 2281
02 4971 4062

Does my dog need medical treatment for its itch?



When your dog suffers, your whole family can suffer too. If your dog's itching is caused by a medical condition, we have many strategies that can help.

Here are some clues that your dog may need medical treatment:

- Excessive licking, chewing, biting or scratching
- Excessive rolling, rubbing or scooting
- Foot chewing
- Hair loss
- Recurrent ear problems
- Changes in the skin, like sores or darkened color
- Redness of the skin
- Body odour

These signs can be triggered by many allergens like fleas, the environment (dust mites, moulds, pollens, etc), food and skin contact.

Many diagnostic options are available:

- diet trials
- allergy blood testing
- skin testing
- skin tape investigation
- skin scrape investigation

If any of these signs are evident in your pet, please contact us to book a consult to help diagnose your pets itch.

Royal Canin Skin Support

The Skin Support has antioxidants reducing damage to cells, 4 B-vitamins helping the skin barrier, omegs 3 fatty acids reducing inflammation of the skin and turmeric and aloe vera helping with healing.



New products

Cytopoint injection for skin allergies in Dogs

A new product Cytopoint has just been released for skin allergies. It is an injection that lasts a month acting on the early inflammatory stage of allergic dermatitis. It is considered the safest of our anti-allergy medications. For more information please call our hospitals.

Bravecto Spot-On for Cats

We have some good news for owners of cats that need tick prevention.

Bravecto Spot-On is available now and registered to give 3 months prevention against fleas and ticks for cats.



New Reminder System

Attention- update client details if they change - Historically our reminder system has been heavily reliant on the mail. In the last 2 years we have been using SMS reminders and are now relying on email and texting even more so. To make this transition successful, we rely on owners updating email and mobile numbers with us as soon as it is practicable when they change. We will still post letter reminders after the initial text and email.

We have also started a text reminder monthly for Nexgard use to help remind you when your next treatment is due **to help avoid tick paralysis**. The system relies upon treatment being given soon after purchase of the product so the timing of the reminder and treatment correlate. If you wish to opt out of the nexgard reminder either ring or email us and we can stop this for you.