

CLINIC OPEN DAYS

Join us for a day of fun and specials at
Kawerau Clinic 9th October

&

Whakatane Clinic 10th October

10am – 2pm

Win a **SONY DIGITAL CAMERA*** with your purchases of Frontline. Eukanuba Dog and cat packs up for grabs. Beanies, Shirts, & Jackets to be given away also.

Join us for a Fabulous BBQ

**special conditions apply*



MICROCHIPPING

With Microchipping now having been around for 12 months or so we are starting to see the benefits as well as the areas that need improvement. We need to clarify our position as provider of “Microchips”. We request a fee of \$35.00 be paid to provide a microchip and insert it into your animal. This is a requirement by law now for all dogs 3 months and over born after 1st June 2006, and for first time registrations. We then record the microchip in our computer system and provide you the client with several microchip barcodes and a form to take to council with your registration. You will also be offered the chance to register your animal on the NZ data base or the Australasian for an extra \$17.50. All animals registered with a data base have a greater chance of being returned to owners if lost outside their local area. This is a recommended course of action for clients who travel with their pets regularly.

WORM CONTROL

WHY WORM? Regular worming is essential to make sure your pet enjoys the best of health – and it’s easy to do! Roundworms, tapeworms, hookworms and whipworms are intestinal parasites. They can cause vomiting and diarrhoea in young animals. Adult dogs may or may not show clinical signs of ill health. Human infections may occur if *Toxicara* (roundworm) eggs are swallowed. Children are more susceptible to infection because they often play on grass areas which have been contaminated by dog faeces. If every owner treated their dog and cleared up their dogs faeces, then this disease would be virtually eradicated.

WHAT TO DO!

Many worm treatments do not kill all types of worms, so it is important to get professional advice on what is the most effective product for your pet. Worming is easy, effective and costs little. We recommend a Drontal allwormer tablet.

PUPPIES

The weaning of puppies should begin when they are 3-4 weeks of age by offering moistened quality dry food. The puppies will still rely partially on the bitch's milk until 6-7 weeks of age by which time they should be fully weaned. After weaning, changing to or adding a wet food may cause vomiting +/- diarrhoea.

It is important NOT to overfeed – a fat puppy may have a greater chance of developing into a fat adult and recent studies have supported the claim that overweight patients have a shorter life span than their leaner friends. Remember, the adult size of a pup is determined genetically, not by how fast it grows.

VARIETY?

Contrary to popular belief, puppies do not need a variety in their diets. Repeated changing of diets create finicky eaters and a cupboard of open bags of food. Many home prepared diets are deficient in certain vitamins, minerals and amino acids.

FEEDING

Before feeding a dog, a number of decisions have to be made, including the method of feeding, the type of food to use, and the cost and value of the diet. Portion feeding (precise amount given per day) is the best.

TYPES OF FOOD

There are many brands of food available and more are being released every month. It is important to choose a diet of high quality. For example, some dry dog biscuits are designed only as a snack and not as a complete food. Also, moist foods often give no accurate feeding guidelines and can have a very high fat content.



COST AND VALUE OF THE DIET

This can be calculated once a daily portion is known. This may be most easily done with premium dry foods that because of their higher nutrient density require smaller portions to be fed per day. (which often equates to very competitive pricing)



CALCIUM SUPPLEMENTATION

Calcium supplementation is only required when a known deficiency exists and supplementation of a balanced diet (eg premium dry puppy food) can cause adverse effects. The calcium: phosphorous ratio in the diet is the important factor.

Meat is not the entire natural diet of a dog or cat. As a hunter, the whole carcass including organs was eaten.

BONES

It is not advisable to feed bones to dogs for a variety of reasons which includes:

- *Initiating vomiting & diarrhoea
- *Intestinal obstruction
- *Constipation
- *Bones lodged on the teeth or across the roof of the mouth
- *Competitive fighting



New Product

Profender Allwormer

Profender combines powerful, broad spectrum control of intestinal worms with the ease and convenience of spot-on treatment. Profender protects your cat from tapeworms, roundworms and hookworms in one easy treatment. It is the only intestinal wormer that kills all infective stages of the relevant intestinal worms in cats in NZ.

The worlds first topical intestinal allwormer for cats.

No more struggling cats.

No more worms

Pick up a brochure



DESEXING- Spaying and Castrating Dogs

Spaying is the removal of both the ovaries and uterus via a very small incision in the abdomen.

Pre and post operative pain relief is given and she is home the same day.

Dogs may be spayed at any age although preferably around 5-6 months before their first heat.

Advantages:

- *no unwanted litters of puppies
- *no more dogs sitting on your doorstep
- *elimination of mammary tumours in later life
- *no bloody discharge when in season

Old Wives Tales:

- *Bitches need to have 1 litter
- *Early spaying will alter their personality
- *Bitches need to have one season
- *Obesity after spaying

Castrating is the removal of both testes of the dog via one small incision at the base of the scrotum. Castration is best performed before 6 months of age before he develops a number of undesirable male behaviour patterns.

Advantages:

- *decreased territory marking ie urine marking in and around the home
- *reduced unwanted litters of puppies
- *reduced wandering which results in less chance of being hit by a car
- *reduced fighting with other dogs
- *reduced incidence of prostate enlargement in old age.

TO DESEX OR NOT TO DESEX?

Generally, unless you intend to breed from your pet, then early desexing is the answer!



VACCINATIONS

Vaccines work by stimulating the body to produce its own defence against infection. The earliest age for vaccination of puppies is between 6 & 8 weeks of age, at which point the vaccine simply takes over the mothers role in providing protection.

The primary course always consists of two or more vaccinations. This is because:

- Timing for effective vaccination varies from puppy to puppy
- some vaccines such as leptospirosis need to be administered twice in order to achieve a high enough level of immunity

Puppy Vaccinations

Given at 6, 9 and 12 weeks then a yearly booster.



Vanguard Plus which is a vaccine against

Parvo, Distemper and

Hepatitis is a 2 yearly vaccine once the animal is over the age of 1 year old

Leptospirosis & Kennel Cough are vaccines that require an annual booster.

FRONTLINE®
A new standard in flea control. *Plus*

Congratulations to Teresita Kennon

With her purchase of a pack of frontline
she has won herself a new vacuum
cleaner.



First Aid for the Road Traffic Victim

It may happen that a cat or dog is run over and injured, and you are at the scene to help. As an animal lover with a basic knowledge of first aid, you may be in a position to help someone's pet and even save its life.

Continued Safety

Many of the rules of car accident first aid for animals are the same as for people, and the first step is to remove everyone, including the injured animal, to a safe area away from traffic.

Contact a Vet

If there are other people present, have someone ring the nearest veterinary clinic, where staff may be able to help with collecting the animal if you have no transport. This also gives the vet warning of your arrival, so that they can get equipment ready and see the injured animal quickly. Check to see if the animal has a tag with their owner's phone number this may be the quickest way of contacting a nearby veterinarian. If you are not in an area that you know, try ringing the local SPCA or other animal agency.

First Priority: Airways- Try to assess if the animal is breathing, and that the airway is clear. Allow the animal to choose a position in which breathing is most easy, remembering that collapsed lungs, bleeding into the lungs or a diaphragmatic hernia can all occur from the impact, and make breathing very difficult. If the animal is unconscious, lay them on their side with the neck extended to allow them to breathe more easily.

Handling a frightened animal A frightened animal may try to bite, so again consider your own safety. The most important thing for an animal that is still fully mobile but injured is that it does not run away. Dogs may be held by the collar, and a rope or lead attached if one is available. If it does not cause the animal further distress, using a blanket to restrain them also provides warmth and security, and allows you to lift them carefully into a car to get to the veterinary clinic

Bleeding If there is any obvious external bleeding, put pressure on the area. Tie a piece of clothing or any available bandaging around a bleeding limb or tail. Remember that the most serious bleeding can be internal, which may mean the animal is going into shock.

Recognize an animal in shock -Shock is a complex body reaction that can be rapidly fatal, as the circulation in the body is upset and not enough blood gets to the vital organs. Following a car accident shock may be caused by severe blood loss, pain, or other signals from the brain. The symptoms of shock can vary, but include shallow rapid breathing, the gums appearing white, the animal very quiet and disoriented, or loss of consciousness. Keep the animal warm and quiet. These simple steps may be important for an animal that is in shock, or with other serious injuries. Ensure rapid delivery of the animal to a veterinary clinic for treatment.

Anaesthetics and Drugs for Older Pets

Anaesthesia is often required in older pets for the cleaning of teeth, removal of lumps, or even suturing wounds in those active senior pets. While an older pet's heart and lungs may be fine, they may not cope as well with the stress that a routine anaesthetic can cause, so your vet will often decide to use a different anaesthetic than would be used on a strong young pet. Older livers and kidneys don't always clear the residual anaesthetic from the body as quickly, which can cause delayed anaesthetic recovery and other complications in older animals. Again, some anaesthetics are chosen purely for the faster recovery time in older animals. Many other drugs and treatments will also be affected by the state of an older pet's internal organs. For this reason, your vet may advise a pre-treatment or pre-anaesthetic blood screen or may even advise that surgery be postponed.