



### Summer came and went in a flash this year!

We hope you had a nice break and found some sunshine to enjoy!!



We've had lots of excitement already this year and have made some great new additions to our team. Watch this space as we introduce our new friendly faces!



You may have noticed our photo board is in a new position for everyone to admire. We love seeing client photos!

**Send us a photo of your pets and we'll put them up for all to see!**



### Facebook

Facebook is a new initiative for us to keep you up to date with local events for your pets, changes in the veterinary clinic and promotions.

**'Like'** Greenlane vet clinic to join the fun and be the first to know about our promotions.

### Dental disease — why we care so much about this.....

So your pet's breath smells—what's the big deal?? Dental disease is a primary concern of veterinarians for two main reasons:

- 1) it hurts to have inflamed gums and cavities. Most pets will keep eating in the face of horrendous dental disease— as your pet's advocate, it's our job to let you know when we feel your pet is in pain.
- 2) heavy tartar in an animal's mouth can lead to infections through vital organs including the heart, liver and kidneys.



Dental disease is more common than you realise. It is seen in 85% of dogs and cats over 2 years of age! Eating biscuits alone isn't enough to maintain your pet's dental health. Imagine only eating biscuits and not seeing a dentist your whole life—you wouldn't do it and your pet is no different.

Early signs of dental disease include bad breath, tartar and red gums. Left untreated this will lead to sore gums, cavities and tooth root infections. You can be referred to have fillings placed, but most animals have their teeth extracted when they have a cavity. Remember, bad dental health doesn't just affect the mouth. It can lead to infections throughout the body including the heart, liver and kidneys!



We don't expect you to know how your pet's teeth look, have one of our vets or nurses check your pet's teeth next time you are visiting our veterinary clinic.





## Moving house with your cat can be stressful

To help your house move go smoothly, follow these 5 steps:

- On the day of the move while still in your old house, shut your cat or cats into one room that has been cleared of everything except their bedding, a litter tray, one piece of furniture in / under which he/she can hide and their cat cage.
- It is helpful to plug in a Feliway Diffuser 24hrs before you arrive at your new house to help make your cat feel more comfortable. Feliway is a synthetic copy of the feline facial pheromone, used by cats to mark their territory as safe and secure. Feliway creates a state of familiarity and security in the cat's local environment. As a result, Feliway can be used to help comfort and reassure cats, while they cope with a challenging situation and help reduce the stress caused to a cat during a change in their housing situation.
- In the new house try to unload one room first. Then your cat can be shut in one room with their bedding, food, litter tray and toys while you sort out the rest of the house.
- Keep your cat inside for at least two weeks before allowing them outside. When you first allow your cat outside, it is best to choose a weekend when you are at home and let him/her out just before meal time so they come home when they're hungry!



## Chocolate tastes so good but is so bad!

### Please keep chocolate out of your pet's reach this easter.

Chocolate is a mixture of cocoa beans and cocoa butter. It contains theobromine and caffeine, which are both classified as methylxanthines and are toxic. Dark chocolate contains more theobromine than mild chocolate and is therefore more toxic.

Unfortunately, dogs and cats are sensitive to the effects of methylxanthines which can cause hyperactivity, increased heart rate, tremors, and potentially death when ingested at a toxic dose. Other effects seen with chocolate overdose is vomiting, diarrhea, increased thirst, increased urination, and lethargy.



If your pet ingests chocolate – please contact us immediately for advice.

## Community News

We are pleased to welcome **Debbie England**. Debbie brings a wealth of knowledge to our reception and practice. She was a veterinary nurse for 20 years working in the North Shore and recently moved to this side of the harbour. Debbie has two cats – Pipi is a shy little tabby and Coco a bold Burmese!



In her spare time Debbie can be found out cycling, taking photos or volunteering in far flung places like a Namibian wildlife sanctuary!

### Join us in supporting the Red Puppy Appeal

Puppies must train for 2 years, pass 55 tests and walk thousands of steps before becoming RNZFB guide dogs. There are members currently waiting for a guide dog so that's why funding help is vital.

The appeal is 30th March—1st April

**We will be selling biscuits to raise funds and continue our support of the guide dogs from March 29th to the 31st.** Drop in for one of our tasty biscuits!

