



Welcome to another issue of the Greenlane Veterinary Centre newsletter. We hope that you have all been having a wonderful, safe and warm summer. We would love to see what you have been up to, so please send in any photos you may have of you and your pets having summer fun. Send to staff@greenlanevets.co.nz

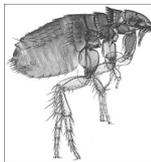


BESTPRACTICE ACCREDITATION

We are proud to announce that we have once again achieved our **BESTPRACTICE** accreditation. **BEST-PRACTICE** is an industry recognised standard of excellence, and all accredited practices must achieve rigorous standards in patient care, staff training, practice facilities, customer service and comfort for both owner and patient. A **BEST-PRACTICE** clinic must pass an audit every 2 years to ensure that they are maintaining the highest standard of care for your pet.



Fleas, fleas and more fleas!



The weather so far this year has been kind to our furry friends, but we have seen an increase in skin problems.

Unfortunately the flea population has been enjoying the weather and is flourishing as well. Fleas love this humidity!

Remember how important it is to keep your flea treatments up to date throughout the whole year. 1 flea can lay up to 100 eggs per day. These eggs hibernate in cooler weather. Stopping fleas laying all year round will substantially decrease how many eggs you have hatching in your home and yard once spring arrives again!

For dogs afflicted with skin issues flea treatment is vital to minimise irritation. Only 5% of the flea population are actually on an animal. 95% of the population are in the environment. Remember you may not see them until they have reached large, hard to control numbers.

Staff News



There have been a few changes around the clinic in recent months. Head Vet, Dr. Justine Alley has been on maternity leave. She and husband Rob have welcomed Jessie into their lives. Justine is returning to work in late February. We can't wait to have her back!



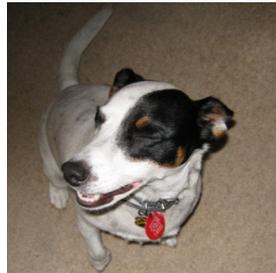
Interesting Summer Case: Alex

This summer we have been seeing grass seeds causing problems once again. Alex's owners were having a relaxing Saturday at home when they noticed their 3.5 year old Jack Russell had a teary and slightly squinting left eye. Under close inspection at the veterinary clinic, we found a large grass seed embedded in the conjunctiva under his upper eyelid. We applied local anaesthetic and, with



a very co-operative patient, we were able to remove the offending grass seed easily. No additional grass seeds were found. The seed had scraped the top layer of his cornea, causing a large superficial ulcer.

Fluorescein (green stain in photo) is used to assess ulcers in eyes. It was lucky Alex's owners were attentive, as eye ulcers can quickly become a serious problem, especially if they become infected. Alex went home with pain relief and some eye drops with strict instructions not to rub his face in the grass again! At his last recheck, the ulcer has healed well and Alex is back to his usual self.



Pet Fit 2011

Obesity is one of the most common problems we are presented with in Veterinary Practice. Pets who are overweight can endure health ramifications such as diabetes, heart disease, and painful arthritis. Therefore, we are excited to announce the launch of our PetFit weight loss competition.

Our nurses, in conjunction with Hill's Pet Food, are running personalized weight loss clinic to aid you in enabling your pet to reach a perfect, healthy weight. You can be in to win our PetFit Slimmer Of The Year title, with great prizes.

Please call today to book a free weight loss consultation.



PRODUCT NEWS:

Microchip-Operated Cat Doors

Do strange cats enter your house, eat your cat's food, urinate inappropriately and stress out your cat? The new SUREFLAP keeps unwanted cats out by only opening for microchip numbers that it recognizes. It is simply a matter of programming your cat's microchip number in. Multiple numbers can be entered if you have more than one cat. All your cat needs is a microchip! To find out more about this great product, please talk to our lovely staff in reception.

New Staff

We have welcomed Dr. Stephanie Bonner into the practice. Steph has recently returned to NZ from working in the UK and Australia. She is currently studying for her Masters in Veterinary medicine through Massey University. Welcome on board, Steph!



We would like to take this opportunity to send our condolences to all those affected by the Christchurch earthquakes. Christchurch is showing their immense community spirit as they pull together through this crisis that has touched so many throughout New Zealand. Our thoughts are with you Christchurch.

