



**Spring Already!!** 2011 seems to be racing by! The rugby world cup has already started – we’ll be watching the games and cheering with all our might – **“Go the All Blacks!”**



While time flies by and exciting new events occur, some things never change. We had a mild winter this year and with that comes a higher flea population as the spring weather warms up. Ensure you have started your pet’s flea control to minimize the outbreak. For best control, treat fleas all year round.

## October is Seniors Month

**Get the spring back in your pets step ready for summer!**

Make an appointment this October for a check up with your senior pet and you will receive 20% off our senior blood and urine tests, arthritis medication, x-rays, and blood pressure. Have peace of mind this summer knowing your pet has been to the doctor for a check up and is fit and healthy. Celebrate your senior pet!

(Seniors are over 8 years for dogs and over 10 years for cats)



## Guy Fawkes is coming!



We will be starting to hear that characteristic pop and whistle of fireworks from November through Christmas and into the New Year. There a few simple things you can do to help your pet.

- On Guy Fawkes night keep your pet inside, with the curtains closed and a radio or TV on.
- Feed them a main meal before it gets dark so they are more likely to be sleepy and relaxed when the fireworks start.
- Remain stress-free and relaxed yourself. Dogs look to owners for leadership and the more stressed you are, the more your dog will worry. Don’t fuss about them - that is likely to make them worry.
- Work on training exercises inside during the worst of the fireworks. This is a great distraction, allowing your pet to focus on you and your treats instead of the noises outside!



For outdoor dogs, we recommend they are moved into the house or garage for the night. If you do decide to leave your dog outside, ensure they are wearing their collar with an identity tag and that your property gates are secure.



To ease the fear of fireworks you could try rescue remedy (10 drops to one water bowl) or synthetic pheromones such as DAP (for dogs) and Feliway (for cats). These pheromones help make your pet feel safe and secure. Buy them over the counter at reception. If this isn’t enough for your fretting friend, make an appointment to discuss this with your vet and we will work together to find a solution and or sedative that will help.





## Claudius - Using up his 9 lives!



In this newsletter we are celebrating the story of an 8yr old Ocicat called Claudius. He had moved to Ellerslie with his owners in November last year and after two weeks of house confinement, Claudius decided to do some exploring. Sadly, Claudius got lost. He was lost for over 6 months!

Luckily for Claudius, a kind person noticed him loitering around their house and not looking very well. After 2 weeks of trying, they managed to coax him inside.

Claudius was presented to our Veterinary clinic on Queen's birthday weekend. He was extremely emaciated – his skin looked two sizes to big! He had 3 large oozing abscesses and he was extremely anaemic with a very very high white blood cell count from his infections. He was dehydrated and very near death.

Fortunately because Claudius had a microchip we were able to locate his owners and reunite them. Our phone call was a pleasant surprise, but when they saw him they knew he wouldn't be able to go home anytime soon. Claudius was in a very critical condition.

He was so anaemic if his red blood cell count dropped any further he would suffer heart failure from lack of oxygen, his gums were white and he was so weak that eating was a chore! Over the next 3 weeks, Claudius underwent blood tests nearly every day to carefully monitor his recovery, blood pressure monitoring, abscess flushing, fluid administration, tablet administration and he even needed to have his calorie intake carefully calculated. He didn't seem to mind all this testing as long as he was eating!

After 4 weeks in hospital, Claudius was finally strong enough to go home and continue recuperating. We saw Claudius for his final check up in August which showed everything is back to normal. His hair is growing back and hiding his abscess scars. He is very happy to be home and hopefully he has learnt not to explore so far again!



## Heat Stroke

It is going to warm up soon and when it does beware of heat stroke! Remember, it doesn't have to be a 'boiling' temperature outside to be too hot inside your car. Take sensible precautions this spring and summer.

- NEVER leave your dog or cat in the car when you are not with them. Even with a window down slightly – it's not enough and your car will quickly turn into a sauna.
- Do not run a brachycephalic breed of dog (ie; pugs & bulldogs) during the middle of the day. Time your walks for morning and evening so you still enjoy an outing without the stress of your pet collapsing.
- Ensure your pet's have shelter from the sun and plenty of water this summer. Do not let your pet drink salt water at the beach. Take fresh water for them.

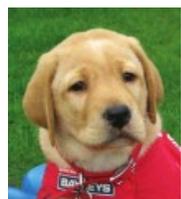
By following these three simple rules you can enjoy a stress free and fun summer in the sun with your pets.

Heat stroke is deadly. If you are concerned your pet is suffering from heat stroke, please do not hesitate to contact or got to your Veterinarian immediately.

## Community News

We are proud to announce we are sponsoring a puppy in the New Zealand **Guide Dog Foundation**. We will give you regular updates as he and his littermates strive to become Guide dogs.

There is a donation box in reception if you would like to help support the foundation.



We hope you have enjoyed this newsletter. If you would like to give feedback or suggest a topic you would like covered, please email us at [pets@greenlanevets.co.nz](mailto:pets@greenlanevets.co.nz).