



Heathmont Vet News



Special Care for Special Friends

HEATHMONT ANIMAL HOSPITAL PTY. LTD.

A word from the boss....



Hello Everybody!

Now that it is Autumn we have a look at those of us in our Autumn years and what can be done to keep us healthy. We also welcome our new vet Kate who is so nice she took Maestro away to live with her. I must say I much prefer being the undisputed Queen of the place!

We also have a great story about a lost pet reunited with their owner because it was microchipped and a reminder about our great referral program. I do like meeting new people and if they are lucky I will sit next to them in the waiting room.

Happy reading ...



**Issue 69
Autumn 11**

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Clinic Hours

Mon – Fri:	8.30 am – 7.30 pm
Sat:	9.00 am – 3.00 pm
Sun:	11.00 am – 1.00 pm
Pub. Hol:	9.00 am – 11.00 am

THE TEAM

Vets:

Peter Green
Karyn Rayner
Kate Harslett
Lisa Elsner
Rebecca Wilcox

Nurses:

Tracie Owens
Liz Shaw
Elyse Carmichael
Jackie Hall
Leeanne Croote

Groomers:

Christine Amery
Belinda Floyd

The Boss:

Diva

The Autumn Years

It seems unfair that dogs and cats age around 7 times faster than us and it is a fact that we easily forget especially if your 10 year old dog still acts like a puppy!. However, once dogs and cats reach 7 years of age they are regarded as seniors and are susceptible to a range of age related illnesses some of which creep up on them undetected.

Because of this, we recommend twice yearly vet checks, or at the very least, a 6 month nurse health check. Our nurses are trained to do health checks looking for abnormalities that may warrant a veterinary examination.

While we can not slow down the ageing process, we can often slow down disease processes such as arthritis, periodontal disease and kidney disease which will improve the quality of life of older pets.

So, if you have a pet over 7 years of age, make sure you bring them in every 6 months for a check up and bring a urine sample if possible. Even better, you can join our Senior's club which is free to join and includes benefits such as a discount on senior food and free urine tests. Senior club pets have twice yearly vet checks and an annual blood screen to check for underlying problems such as diabetes and kidney or liver disease.

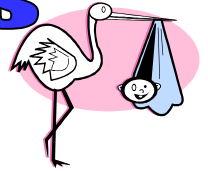
Call or email us for a brochure on our Senior's Club.



DIVA

HAH Happenings

And so the Baby Boom at HAH yet again continues. A BIG congratulations to **Liz** and her husband Adam, who are expecting their second child due in early July. Liz will commence Maternity Leave in June.



Belinda is back! We are pleased to welcome Belinda our previous groomer back to HAH. Belinda is available to groom your pooch on Mondays, alongside Christine who is available on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.



Elyse will be enjoying her much deserved 3 week break as she jet sets off to Thailand in April with her sister.

You may begin to notice a few familiar smiling faces at reception over the coming weeks, as Dr Greens daughter **Gabby** joined us again after spending 3 months in Hawaii on an student exchange program, filling in some evening shifts. We also welcome back **Jackie** in May who returns from Maternity leave after having her second child San.

NEWSLETTER COMPETITION WINNER

A BIG congratulations to our 'Monthly email Newsletter competition winner' Murray Roberts, who won the Portable DVD Player.

Thanks to all who registered for our monthly newsletter and we hope your enjoying the read!



Maestro settles into his new home.

We have been fortunate enough to have had Maestro relocate to our very own Dr Kates house! After some serious persuasion to her husband, it was decided he would join their clan.

A few months later, we are pleased to inform you that Maestro has settled in better than we expected, and has resorted to opening boxes of Barbeque Shapes rather than large bags of dog food

Both Maestro & Diva are happier than ever apart and Diva has even begun to make an appearance out the front more often. You may also notice, we haven't had to discount open bags of foods lately..

Our Sincerest apologies!! ☺

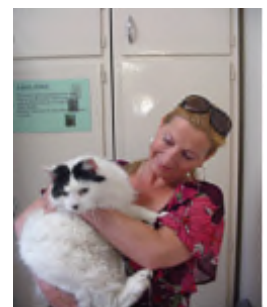
The value of microchipping your pets

In November 2010, we received a call from a client, who had noticed a unfamiliar cat hanging around their home, requesting food. At first they just assumed it was a neighbour's cat as it is often hard to identify a cat in the yard as being a stray. A month past and they decided to contact us. We advised them to bring the cat down to us so we could scan it for a microchip. To the cat's luck we found a microchip, contacted the registry and then got in contact with his owners.

Once we got in contact with his owner Elise, she was not only in tears but in disbelief, as 'Pepe' the 15year old cat, had been missing for just over 12 months. His owners had given up hope, assuming he had either wandered off to die or like any owners worst night mare had been hit by a car.

"The worst thing was not knowing whether he was alive or not. If he had of been hit by a car and his body was found, as sad as it would have been, at least we would have had closure. But not knowing was the hardest thing," said Elise, Pepe's owner.

If it had not been for his microchip, Pepe may never have seen his family again. If your pet hasn't been microchipped, we strongly advised you reconsider and for all those who are microchipped, please ensure all your contact details are up to date!



Pepe and Elise's first cuddle in over 12months.





Smile a while

Why Some Men Have Dogs And Not Wives:

1. The later you are, the more excited your dogs are to see you.
2. Dogs don't notice if you call them by another dog's name
3. Dogs like it if you leave a lot of things on the floor.
4. A dog's parents never visit.
5. Dogs agree that you have to raise your voice to get your point across.
6. You never have to wait for a dog; they're ready to go 24 hours a day.
7. Dogs like to go hunting and fishing.
8. A dog will not wake you up at night to ask, "If I died, would you get another dog?"
9. If a dog has babies, you can put an ad in the paper and give them away
10. If a dog smells another dog on you, they don't get mad. They just think it's interesting.

5 Reasons You Should Get Your Dog Groomed at HAH

1. Satisfaction Guarantee.
2. Only premium products used.
3. Free health check on every dog. .
4. Veterinary back up on site. .
5. Frequent user bonuses.

Receive a \$20 rebate every 3rd groom

Special Offer!: Half price grooms for first time clients

Available Thursdays and Fridays.



Welcome..Dr Kate Harslett

Many of you may have already had the pleasure of meeting Dr Kate Harslett, for those who haven't, we are very pleased to be able to welcome her to our team. Kate joins us after recently graduating with honours from Veterinary Science at Melbourne University in 2010.

Kate has a wide range of veterinary interests, and loves to meet new animals and their owners. In her free time Kate enjoys playing mixed netball, going to the gym and playing the piano.



Refer a friend and be rewarded!

If you refer someone to our practice using our referral cards, when they come in with a pet you will receive a thankyou pack which includes:

- a voucher for a **FREE** bag of Eukanuba or IAMS food (value up to \$32),
- a **FREE** Hydrobath voucher (value \$30)
- a **FREE** Urinalysis voucher (value \$28) and for a limited time,
- one entry for each referral to our monthly B&B accommodation prize.

Referral cards are available at reception or by phoning and we will post some out for you.

*** **Congratulations** to Gail Kearney who won last month's draw for a night for 2 at Burnbank Boutique Retreat (www.burnbank.com.au) in Berwick. ***

New Memorial Wall

You may have all begun to notice the stained timber wall at the front entrance of the clinic. Well we are pleased to announce that this will be our new Memorial Garden Wall.

For those who haven't heard of this, our memorial garden wall is an area where clients that have lost their beloved pets are able to have a plaque made up that can be placed on the wall, as a way of paying tribute to their special friend.

A BIG thank you to all our loyal friends who helped raise the funds by donating for this project.



Heathmont Vet News

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**Autumn
2011**

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**Inside this
Issue:**

- ⇒ The Autumn Years
- ⇒ The Value of Microchipping your Pets. (Pepe's Story)
- ⇒ Meet Dr Kate our newest Team Member.