



SPRING NEWSLETTER
SEPTEMBER 2020

Bowral Veterinary Hospital

Dr Angus Celebrates 10 years at BVH!

Dr Angus commenced work at Bowral Veterinary Hospital back in September 2010, having come from Kuringai Vet Hospital in Sydney.

Over the past 10 years Angus has become an integral part of the vet hospital as he serves his large clientele base and also a key community member through his sporting endeavours and his involvement in the local schools with his two sons.

Angus has continued to study over the past ten years, adding a Master of Vet Studies, reproduction skills as well as Echocardiography (ultrasound of the heart) to his qualifications.

Angus and his family are now well entrenched in Bowral life and will be for many years to come. Angus has a true passion for animal health and pet care and can often be seen at the hospital long after we are closed, making sure everything and everyone is well looked after.

We hope you join us in wishing Angus a very happy 10 year anniversary and best wishes for the next 10!



What's in this seasons newsletter?

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Garden hazards for dogs and cats

Bowral Veterinary Hospital

78 Station Street Bowral NSW 2576

Phone: 4861 1444

Email:

info@bowralvethospital.com.au

Opening Hours:

Monday—Friday 8:30am-5:30pm

Saturday: 9am-1pm

Sunday: 10am-12pm

After hours service:

Veterinary assistance is available 24/7 at Bowral Vets. To contact the on call veterinarian simply phone the clinic and a message will provide you with the on call veterinarians mobile number.

Our Vets:

- Dr Grant Poolman BVSc, MVSc
- Dr Angus Hayes BVSc, MVSc
- Dr Kate Eppleston BVSc (Hons 1)
- Dr Lucy Parker BVSc (merit)
- Dr Sophie May BVetBiol, BVetSc
- Dr Eliza D'Arcy-Moskwa BVSc, B Equine Sc (Hons 1)
- Dr Jodie Donovan BVetBiol, BVetSc

Our Support staff:

- Practice manager—Angela Ireland
- Reception—Emma D'Arcy
- Nurses—Renee Masters-Gilroy, Shanay Toth, Madison Porter, Teresa Harvey, Jasmin Cristian, Margerita Pietilainen, Melissa Rees

Is your bunny feeling funny?



Often at this time of year, your rabbit may have a fresh burst of energy and may appear more excitable and playful than normal. This phenomenon is commonly known as 'spring fever' in rabbits and is thought to be related with the warmer weather and lush spring pasture growth at this time of year. Don't fret though, in a few weeks' time your rabbits behavior will return to normal.

Spring time means fleas and ticks

Everyone is enjoying the warmer weather and unfortunately this can result in apparent sudden flea infestations for some of our pets. The occasional flea seen on our pets in cooler months, if untreated may continue to breed and lay eggs, of which remain dormant until warmer months. This looks like a sudden flea infestation when really the problem started long ago.

How can I tell if my pet has fleas?

Sometimes you may see fleas in your pets haircoat, but typically they are very good at hiding. So if your pet seems to be scratching a lot, particularly at the base of their tail, or around their neck this is often a telltale sign your pet has fleas.



Ok, so my pet has fleas- what should I do?

The best course of action is to treat both your pet and the environment. Without combating both of these factors, it will be very difficult to get in control of this problem.

How to treat your pet:

There are a number of excellent flea prevention products on the market at the moment, ranging from monthly to 6 monthly protection for your pet. To discuss the best option for you and your pet, please speak to one of our friendly staff members by calling reception on (02) 4861 1444.

How to treat the environment:

Ideally, anything your pet has come into contact with should be cleaned thoroughly. This means hot washing (greater than 60 degrees C) and air drying any bedding, coats etc that your pet uses. Carpets and furniture can be steam cleaned, or alternatively there are household pesticides available you may use, however many of these products are toxic to cats.

Did you know?

Fleas are fantastic jumpers. They can jump to heights of 50 times their body length. Furthermore, the flea jump acceleration is even faster than that of a space shuttle leaving our earth's atmosphere! This skill is necessary for fleas to reach their moving targets (our pets backs).

Tidying up the garden? Things to be mindful of for your pet

Many people are working in their gardens at the moment, and we have been seeing a few unwell animals as a result of this. Animals tend to get into things they shouldn't. The following lists a few of the more common problems we see at spring time.

1) Snail bait toxicity



Snail bait poisoning is unfortunately a common occurrence amongst pets, particularly at spring time when we want our gardens to look their best. When using these products, it is important to ensure that the bait in whatever form (pellet, liquid, granules) are not accessible by pets and wildlife. They are extremely toxic if ingested and potentially fatal even in small quantities. Some products are labelled as 'pet safe', however it is always important to read the packaging carefully as they may still be toxic if ingested.

After ingestion your pet may appear anxious, uncoordinated, exhibit mild twitching and may breathe rapidly. If left untreated, this will progress to muscle tremors, seizures and eventually death.

2) Fertilizer consumption

Fertilizer or soil based product such as 'blood and bone', 'dynamic lifter' or compost, can be quite enticing to dogs as they are made from products that smell really good to them. When consumed in large quantities they may cause gastrointestinal upset (vomiting/diarrhea) and obstruction, as well as toxic insult to vital organs.

3) Plant toxicities

There are many plants that are toxic to our pets either by ingestion or contact. Animals can present with varied symptoms depending on the type of plant they were exposed to. A list of the most common toxicities associated with plants can be found here:

<https://www.petpoisonhelpline.com/pet-owners/basics/top-10-plants-poisonous-to-pets/>

4) Snake bites

There have been reports of snakes seen on properties already this year, due to recent warmer weather. Most common encounters are with Copperhead or Red belly black snakes, as well as Brown and Tiger snakes. Signs your pet may have been bitten by a snake include sudden collapse, vomiting, trembling, panting, weakness or 'drunken' stagger.

Regardless of cause, if your pet has been exposed to any of the above categories, the best action is to seek veterinary attention immediately. Early veterinary intervention will give your pet the best chances of successful treatment and recovery.



Staff Pet Profile

Name: Golly

Owner: Emma

Breed: DSH

Age: 10 years old

Hobbies: Catching rabbits, eating

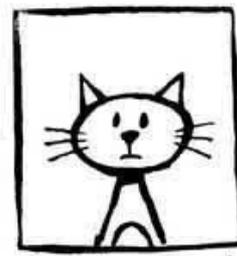
Bad Habits: Catching rabbits, scratching the furniture

Interesting Facts: Golly was left at Bowral Vet Hospital after his owners never came back to claim him





Man's best friend.



Man's weird reclusive roommate who poops in a box.

brian.

We're on the web!!
www.bowralvethospital.com.au

