

Nose to tail

Companion animal newsletter



Stop the Press... **IDEXX** is here

There's been great excitement throughout The Vet Centre clinics as we have invested in an innovative upgrade on our in-house laboratory testing. Our new IDEXX machines allow us to provide you, our customers with far more comprehensive and accurate in-house blood and urine results ... within minutes. We are also able to access IDEXX's expert clinical support team to assist us in diagnosing complex cases.

SDMA is one of the tests we now have on hand which allows us to identify kidney disease (commonly seen in our older cats, but also in dogs) at earlier stages than previously. Early diagnosis helps us determine how advanced the disease is, enabling your pet to get the best treatment plan while there is still time to make a difference in their quality and longevity of life.



Aside from SDMA testing, we can also test optimum time for mating in dogs, dynamic liver function testing, inflammatory marker measurement, urine analysis and detailed blood cell analysis. Previously a lot of these tests were outsourced which meant delays in reporting to you. Your peace of mind is important to us – immediate answers allow us to formulate a treatment plan faster when it matters.

Xmas Opening Hours

All our clinics will be open during the Christmas period as normal. Over the Statutory Holidays there will always be one or more of our Vets available on call for emergencies. From 3 December, Mangawhai will be reopening for Saturday clinic from 9am – 12.30pm.

Summer pet care tips

Getting away for a break and can't take your pets? If you've booked your pet's holiday accommodation best check their vaccine status now. Dig out that vaccine booklet or give us a call to check that your pets are covered. Don't leave it too late!

Unwanted guests

Remember this is summer – houses are full of guests over the holiday break...some 'unwanted'. You don't want nasty fleas and ticks on the guest list. Is your parasite control up to date? At the Vet Centre we have a full range to fit your needs.

Medications, Prescriptions and Specials Diets

Save yourself the stress! Make sure you have ordered ahead of the busy summer break so your pet won't go without.

The unexpected!

It happens... whilst you're away your pet becomes ill or has an accident that needs veterinary attention. It's really helpful to let us know who is looking after your pet and that they have the authority to bring them to us and make decisions on your behalf, if needed.

Warning – Do not ingest!

Lavish Xmas feasts and summer BBQs are something we love to indulge in, but please avoid giving your pets festive leftovers. Those ham bones and turkey carcasses are just a few culprits. And remember the Xmas table isn't the only place pets will forage. Keep a watchful eye on the beach walks for anything from the pesky fish hook to pufferfish. Severe stomach issues can be serious and you may end up spending costly festive evenings at our after-hours clinic – no fun for anyone!



The Vet Centre

Maungaturoto | Waipu | Mangawhai | Ruawai



It's a cruel cruel summer ...

Summer can be really hard on our pets – they are covered in fur; and they don't sweat as we do. Panting is how they regulate their body temperature. With hotter temperatures heat stroke becomes a very real threat to them. It can cause seizures, blood clotting disorders, damage to internal organs – all of which can lead to tragic death.

Our short-muzzled buddies; Persians, Bulldogs, Frenchies, Pugs and the like... these guys have a tighter facial bone structure which makes it much harder for them to breathe in sufficient oxygen to cool them down Please be mindful they will suffer more than most from the excesses of sun and heat.

Heat stroke is an EMERGENCY and if untreated, is life threatening.



Look out for these symptoms:

Excessive panting

Visibly tired

Muscle tremors



Hot and dry nose, sunken eyes

Trouble urinating or small amounts of urine

Dizziness

Vomiting or diarrhea

Rapid Pulse (Check by placing hand on chest between front legs)

The do's and don't's over summer

- ✓ Longer haired pets should be clipped to remove thick coats allowing them to cool more effectively; dry quicker and prevent hot spots
- ✓ Ensure your pet has easy access to cool shady areas with plenty of water and airflow.
- ✓ Provide cold water baths or hose down your pet to keep them cool
- ✗ Don't leave your pet unattended in cars during summer. Temperatures in cars can reach extreme levels within a few minutes – even with the windows open.
- ✗ Don't walk your pet in the middle of the day. Exercise in the morning or evening when it's cooler.
- ✗ Don't underestimate how hot it is walk on concrete, sand or asphalt during summer – it can cause serious damage and burns to your pet's paws.

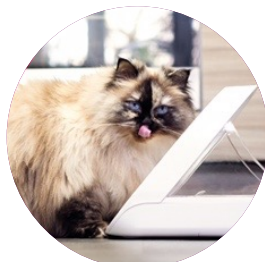


3 Bravecto promos to be drawn December - January!

For you:
A Barkers entertaining hamper



For cats:
A surefeed microchip feeder



For dogs:
An activity and behaviour monitor



T&C's apply. See in store for details

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



From all the Vet Centre staff we wish you and your family, both two and four-legged, a wonderful Christmas, a safe and happy New Year and a relaxing summer.