

Peanut's Paws

The Vet Clinic



PET PERFECTION



Our perfect pet for this edition is the most handsome **Tigger**. Tigger came to us when his Mum noticed some dark scabs on his ears. Our vets diagnosed skin cancers and recommended an initial cryosurgery treatment. This was effective for some time, but most recently, the cancers had reached the point where the best option was to perform ear amputations.

Skin cancers are common in white cats or those who lack skin pigment of their ears and noses. These cancers are most frequently found on the ears, but can also occur on the pink or haired part of the nose. When they are small in their early stages, they can often be kept at bay with cryosurgery (freezing the cancers off), but in most cases further cancers develop, resulting in the need for surgery to remove the ears, nose, or sometimes both.

These are nasty, fast growing, aggressive cancers, so although ear and nose amputation seems extreme, it is often needed to keep our friends comfortable and happy.



STAFF PROFILE

Nurse Suzie

You may have noticed some lovely new faces in the clinic over the last year or so.

Our newest staff member is Nurse Suzie, who is the loveliest person you could ever meet!

Suzie comes to us from the world of human nursing, where she has had many varied roles including ER, research, and theatre nursing. She is also an army reservist, and has assisted in disaster recovery efforts, including deployment for the Kangaroo Island bushfires in 2021.

Suzie is a super quick learner, and an absolute joy to have in the clinic. We look forward to helping Suzie pursue her passion with animals. Please give Suzie a warm welcome when you are next in the clinic!



Nurse's Top Pics



Animal Fun Facts

For every human in the world, there are ONE MILLION ants!!



DISEASE IN FOCUS

GRAPE



TOXICITY IN DOGS

- With vintage just around the corner, this is the time of year when we start to see issues with doggos eating grapes
- Grapes of any kind, including wine grapes, table grapes, raisins and sultanas can be toxic to dogs leading to kidney failure and death
- Where it gets tricky is we don't actually know WHAT the toxic component is, we just know it exists!
- To make things even more frustrating, some dogs can be poisoned by only ONE grape, where others can eat literal kilograms with no ill effects at all!
- This makes treatment tricky, as there is no way of predicting which dogs may be poisoned and which will not
- Initial treatment is aimed at decontamination. If the dog has eaten the grapes within the last couple of hours, we will give them medicine to make them vomit. We then advise that the dog be placed on IV fluids in hospital for at least 48 hours to help support the kidneys and flush the toxins from the system. We also run a series of blood tests on admission, at discharge, and again 3-4 days after going home.
- These blood tests are to check kidney function, and if there are any concerns that the kidneys are not working properly, further treatments are required
- Due to the risk of death, aggressive treatment is always advised
- Some dogs do die after eating only one grape, so it is very important to keep your doggo away from the vineyard during vintage!

The Back Side (aka Peanut's Pants)

Question: Can I give Panadol to my pet??

- The short answer is **NO!!**
- Paracetamol is **FATAL to cats**, so **never ever** give your cat any form or brand of Panadol!
- Paracetamol is **SOMETIMES** ok for dogs, but **ALWAYS CHECK** with us first, because it is **NOT** safe for every dog

Finally help for older kitties with osteoarthritis!

Arthritis in older cats is often overlooked, as our kitty friends tend to be very good at hiding their pain.

What does arthritis pain look like in cats?

- Reduced grooming – developing matts & tangles
- Not jumping as high or as often
- Sleeping more
- Staying inside for longer periods
- No longer using the litter tray as often, or not using it all
- Grumpiness or reluctance to be picked up/carried/patted/brushed

How can we help?

- In the past, the mainstay of therapy for these guys has been anti inflammatory medications. The trouble is, lots of older cats also have some degree of kidney disease, and this family of medications cannot be used unless the kidneys are healthy
- Enter new drug **SOLENSIA**
- **Solensia** is new to the market, and is safe to use in cats with kidney disease. It is an injectable medication that is given in the clinic, and usually provides relief from arthritic pain for 4-6 weeks
- We are seeing great results with this product!
- Talk to us about Solensia today 😊

 **Solensia**
(frunevetmab injection)



**Thanks to Solensia,
I am...back where I belong**