

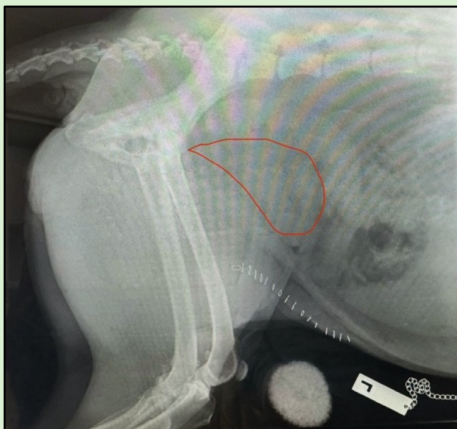
# Peanut's Paws

## The Vet Clinic



### Shadow's Story

Shadow sure does have a story to tell! This poor old lady had been suffering from repeated UTIs over a few weeks, and medications weren't making much difference. Our vets recommended an ultrasound of her bladder, where a very large bladder stone (urolith) was found. Dr Claire performed surgery to remove the 7cm x 5cm x 2cm 'hamburger patty' from her bladder, and now Shadow can pee freely! This lucky girl is much happier now, and has fully recovered from her surgery.

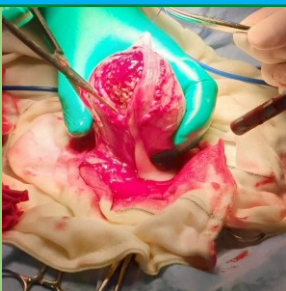


Post-op x-ray showing the urolith sitting outside Shadow's body. The red line outlines her bladder. This thing was huge!



The 'hamburger patty' in question!

#### Nurse's Pic of the Month



Extracting Shadow's Urolith from her bladder!

#### Animal Fun Facts

The most dangerous animal in the world is the mosquito!



## NEWS

### Farewell Nurse Suzie!

We are sad to report that our beautiful nurse Suzie has left us to continue her career back in the human nursing world. It seems she simply missed her human patients too much. (We reckon she's welcome to them!)

We are all very sorry to see her go and will miss her constant smile and the shining light she brought to us every day.



### Congratulations Sarah!

Our very own Nurse Sarah has just graduated with a Bachelor of Veterinary Technology from The University of Adelaide!

Joining Nurse Courtney, this means we are lucky enough to now have TWO fully qualified Vet Techs on our team! How amazing is that?!

We are super proud of our girls and the fantastic Techs they already are, and continue to be.

Well done Sarah!



# DISEASE IN FOCUS

## Hyperthyroidism

- Hyperthyroidism is a very common disease in older cats around 12 years and older.
- It occurs when the thyroid gland enlarges and becomes overactive. Sometimes this is due to a malignant tumour, but more often than not, the enlargement is benign.
- The thyroid gland controls the body's metabolic rate, so an overactive thyroid puts the body's metabolic rate into overdrive, which has significant effects on various organs, especially the heart.
- Clinically we see old, thin, ragged cats with a huge appetite, who tend to be very vocal and appear restless and grumpy. They will often drink a lot and wee a lot.
- The effects of the disease on the body can be very serious, including heart muscle and valvular damage, high blood pressure, kidney damage, and eye damage. These secondary effects can be fatal over time.
- Diagnosis is relatively straight forward. Full blood tests to assess kidney and thyroid function are required. In cats with the disease these tests will show abnormally high levels of the thyroid hormone thyroxine (also known as T4).
- There are several treatments depending on the individual case, however most cats are prescribed daily medication for life.
- It is essential that cats are monitored closely with blood tests every 3-6 months to ensure all is going well and dosages remain optimal.

# The Back Side (aka Peanut's Pants)

## Wondering what to do about Wildlife?



You may have seen this article in The Leader recently. In it, Dr Claire explains why it is really important to leave the care of wildlife to the experts.

So what should you do if you find an injured animal?

- Is it a baby bird? If it is, it is best to leave it alone as its parents are very likely to be nearby, supervising its flight training. You may not be able to see them. Of course, if it is clearly injured, being harassed by other birds, or covered in ants, by all means do pick it up.
- If you find an animal during business hours, or the opening hours of any vet clinic, please take the animal to the clinic ASAP.
- Do NOT try to give water or food, and do not try to give any medications.
- Please try to avoid making an assessment such as 'it's just stunned' or 'it has a broken wing'. Please leave

diagnosis to the vets.

Roseworthy Veterinary Hospital will take wildlife 24/7. Seven days a week, 24/7, Barossa Wildlife Rescue will come to YOU!

