

The Vet Clinic

Monday to Friday 9.00am – 6.00pm

Saturday 9.00am – Noon



Naturally Great Care for Animals

It is with a heavy heart that I write this newsletter....

Many years ago a small black cat entered the clinic, battered, bruised and skinny.... I took one look at her and my heart melted....Against many better judgements, I insisted we keep her and look after her as we needed a clinic cat.

Her name became Vegemite, she was the lucky one. She was allowed to stay. She had to endure multiple surgeries to enable her to run and jump again, but she pulled through each one with the determination and strength of a survivor.



She settled in and was happy to call The Vet Clinic home. Our bond grew quickly; I believe I needed her as much as she needed me.

Daily cuddles were a must, complete with her drooling all over my knees and the keyboard. Her little paws worked overtime kneading away at my pants that hence all looked a bit frayed around the knees. A floor cat she was not, she enjoyed having a bed high up so that she could observe the world around her and also so that she could see when I entered the room, then it was time to come down for cuddles.



Although she was happy enough to stay inside to start with, the outside world started to beckon her as she got stronger and more comfortable. Eventually I had to be brave and trust her to be brave as well! She loved to hang out in the old grape vine, watch the birds flutter about and even one day was confronted by a peacock on our roof! Boy did she love that! She often ventured over to the Blacksmith's for some mousing and down the back to the creek. She never ventured too far and was always happy to come home to tell us all about her adventures.

Vegemite was happiest as an only child. So you can imagine that she was none too keen when Peanut Butter (that Peanut cat!) moved in as well. Vegemite took to sleeping on top of the kennels and eventually her bed, food and water were all set up there. She amazed us with her ability to climb the doors to get up there.

It was a love/hate relationship between Peanut and Vegemite but they learned to tolerate each other well enough to share the space. There were tiffs and noisy remarks and fights over who got a lap when one was available. But overall, things were happy.

But the strays did not stop coming... We all found it difficult to say no so we soon found ourselves running a kitten/cat adoption program with many poor little strays looking for good homes. Vegemite wasn't impressed. Her comfortable home was suddenly overrun with a variety of young and old, kittens and cats alike. They all deserved a chance for a loving home but Vegemite wasn't willing to share hers. She would go for walkabouts for a day or two. Then those walkabouts turned into 2-3 days, then 4-5 days. She always came home, even if I did have to go find her up back at the creek and she always looked none the worse for wear.

One day she went out and it was 7 days before she came back... We were all really worried but none more than me. I was so relieved when she showed up at the front door. .. I gave her extra-long cuddles and told her that I just wanted her to be happy. I started wondering where she went on those long periods away...

She stayed in at the clinic for 2 or 3 days, hardly left her bed! We spoiled her with some wet food and all the dry she could eat.

Then one day she decided it was time to go out.... what she didn't tell us was this was her last goodbye.

That day, vegemite sauntered outside, belly full, happy on an overdose of cuddles, well rested and she never returned....

It has been 3 months since that day. I hope and pray that she has found herself a lovely new home where she is the only cat and gets all of the attention and has just decided it was time to move in there fulltime. I hope that she is happily curled up on a lap by a fireplace drooling uncontrollably and as content as any cat can be. I hope that she has found her forever home.

But I miss her everyday...

Though as one door closes so does one open and along came little Margarine. She was brought in from Riverton, 3 kittens in tow. She was just a kitten herself, a petite little thing she was trying to keep her babies safe up in a pine tree.

We fully expected her to be afraid of us as were her kittens, but when we opened the cage, she was so happy to receive some attention and a belly rub. We let her nurse her kittens for a couple of weeks then it was time to start finding everyone a home.



Figure 1:
Always waiting for a lap!
Our darling Vegemite.



Margarine was desexed, vaccinated and microchipped all ready to find her new forever home. She seemed quite content to rest up in the big cage, food at her beck and call and a friendly hand to give her a belly rub on a daily basis! We watched numerous cats and kittens come and go and yet Margarine stayed. We're not sure if it was a case of nobody wanting her or us not wanting to let her go! But as time went on she was allowed to have the run of the clinic and that has led to her becoming a permanent part of our family.

In true Peanut Butter style, she is making sure life is not too easy for Margarine but it seems that Marg can give it as could as Peanut can!! They seem to have found a happy medium and slowly Margarine is coming out of her shell and showing her true personality. She is a darling little cat and has certainly won hearts here in our happy clinic.

So keep an eye out in our future newsletters for Peanut and Marg's adventures... There is always an adventure waiting to happen for our furry friends here at The Vet Clinic!

Warmly, Suzanne