

# The Vet Clinic

Monday to Friday 9.00am – 6.00pm

Saturday 9.00am – 12pm



*Naturally Great Care for Animals*

## Sept 2015 issue 12

### In our 12th newsletter:

- \* Moving on - What's happening at the back of For Pets Sake?
- \* The importance of teaching children how to interact with dogs
- \* Goodbye Marge
- \* Some of the best pets don't have fur

### A CHANGE FOR THE BETTER

As many of you will have already heard, The Vet Clinic will be moving across the road in behind For Pets Sake. The new clinic is being built to specifically suit our needs and those of our clients and their pets. We are all very excited about the move which we hope will take place towards the end of the year. It will be more convenient for our customers and clients to have the shop and the clinic in one place. We've had a ball choosing colours for the floors, walls, bench tops and cupboard doors. Luckily we all seem to have similar tastes and while none of the decisions have been made lightly we have enjoyed the process. And rest assured, the coffee machine will most certainly be moving with us! We will be posting regular updates on our Facebook page so 'like' us to keep up to date with the progress of the new clinic.



Like us on Facebook!

## DOG BITES-KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

Australian based doctors have backed increased education as a means of addressing the number of dog bites occurring. Studies show that dog bites are most likely to involve children aged 0-4 years who are most often bitten on the face by a familiar dog and in a familiar environment.

Interestingly, the study also showed that two-thirds of incidents involved the dog being provoked. This highlights the importance of teaching children how to interact appropriately with dogs and the importance of adult supervision when young children are with dogs. Adults need to know when to step in and stop a child from pushing a dog too far.

It is not appropriate for a child to pull a dog's ears or tail or to sit on them.

Dogs do not enjoy being hugged. This is seen as dominant behaviour. Children need to learn to leave dogs alone when eating and sleeping and young children should never ever be left alone with any dog. It only takes a few seconds for a child to do something which a dog may not like. ALL dogs have the potential to bite if pushed past their own personal tolerance level.

In regard to breed, the study found that breed specific legislation is not necessarily effective and suggests the development of a set of well-defined criteria that enables early identification and control of individual potentially dangerous dogs.

Next time you see one of the many 'cute' pictures of a child with a dog such as the ones accompanying this article, think about how potentially dangerous the situation is for the child and how uncomfortable and possibly painful it is for the dog. Should the dog be pushed past its level of tolerance and bite the child, the dog will be unfairly labelled a dangerous dog and possibly put to sleep or at the very least rehomed.





## A SAD GOODBYE

Marge was the sweet young cat found up a pine tree with her kittens trying to keep them safe. We put her kittens through our adoption programme and decided to keep Marge as a clinic cat friend for Peanut.

Sadly it wasn't very long before Marge started showing signs that all wasn't right with her. After many tests and trialling different medications it became apparent that she wasn't improving but was rather declining at quite a rapid rate. It appeared that Marge had a degenerative neurological condition and with heavy hearts we decided that we had done all that we could for her and the time had come to say goodbye. We miss seeing Marge lying in her favourite spot in her bed in front of the heat bank. Surprisingly even Peanut seems to be missing Marge and loudly demands our attention more often than she used to.

## TWO BEARDED LADIES

The Vet Clinic and For Pets Sake were lucky enough recently to have a visit from a lovely gentleman called Roy and his two female bearded dragons. Roy and the girls have visited For Pets Sake a number of times now and we love seeing



them. Roy lives in Adelaide and rather than sit at home day in day out Roy likes to get out and about with his girls. Roy tells us he often takes them to Glenelg and Semaphore to let them roam around the lawn areas on their harness and lead. Roy has his van decked out for the lizards complete with heat mat and basking lamp. Roy always ensures that he carries something with him to clean up any messes the girls may deposit on our floors but so far they have been the picture of cleanliness-which is more than we can say for some of the canine visitors we've had in the shop.

Did you know that bearded dragons will often lose their teeth in the wild, due to tearing into prey? Their teeth, however, can grow back.

### PEANUTS POETRY

There once was a cat called Peanut.  
A stray she was since a wee nut.  
One day she was picked up by a nice lady,  
And taken to a place that seemed a bit crazy!

She remained in a cage for a week or two,  
The nice people thought she was pregnant, but turned  
out it was only poo!  
She was friendly and cuddly so they decided to keep her  
And Peanut rewards them daily with her chainsaw like purr.

She settled in great and was soon gallivanting outdoors,  
Climbing trees, jumping fences but always landing on all fours.

Her flatmate Vegemite was not at all impressed  
As Peanut would tease her, eat her food and leave a mess.  
But they soon worked things out between themselves,  
With Vegemite moving to the top shelves.

Peanut decided life here was better than the street,  
Because she was warm and loved  
and given all the food she could eat! (And boy could she eat!)

It has now been 3 years since that fateful day  
That Peanut was brought in as a wee stray  
Adventures she has had a plenty  
And she is willing to share a many...

So stay tuned for the next time  
When Peanut will continue her story with a rhyme.

Meow

