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All new
Healthcare
Plan
features



Pay for yearly
treatment
costs in
convenient
monthly
instalments!

All new healthcare plans!!

There has been no better time to join your pets up to our healthcare plans.

We have made some changes and they now include FREE UNLIMITED Vet and Nurse standard consultations. There is a special entry plan for Puppies and Kittens, and an adult plan which includes all the preventative healthcare needs such as vaccinations and dental care.

The plans can still be paid via automatic monthly direct deposits at no extra cost (or in full if you would prefer).

Sign up now to start using all the benefits and get your welcome pack full of goodies!

Take a look at the plans on our [website](#) and be sure to ask any questions you may have.

View the brochure [here](#). Read the terms and conditions [here](#).



Puppy Preschool Graduates

Congratulations to the puppies who have graduated from the October Puppy Pre School Class.

Ivy
Chevy
Chase
Remus
Rooster
Jassie

To view all the adorable graduation photos please visit our [website](#).

What will my puppy gain from Puppy Pre School?

Your puppy will gain valuable social skills by simply interacting with other puppies and people. These skills the pup develops it will use for life. Your puppy will learn how to interact with lots of people, loud noises and children and even a visit to the vet will become fun rather than something to shake about. Your puppy will develop into a friendly, educated, confident adult dog.

How will I benefit?

Owning a dog will be enjoyable rather than a chore. Having an obedient, well socialised dog is much more pleasant and stress free. You will also gain knowledge in all areas of pet care from dental, nutrition, solving behavioural problems, toilet training and lots, lots more. Weekly freebies and samples to take home for the puppy. For more information please visit our [website](#).

Hip Hip Hooray!!

A BIG Happy Birthday to our current Healthcare members who will be celebrating in November:

Bubbles - 12 years old

Scout - 14 years old

Molly - 13 years old

MBVC Healthcare plans are available for cats and dogs of all ages! If you would like some more info on our Healthcare Plans please [Contact Us](#) or read more on our [website](#).

Here you will find how the plan could help you to provide comprehensive preventative healthcare for your pet, spread the cost and take advantage of special offers for Pet Healthcare Members.

Keeping an eye on the eyes



When it comes to your pet's eyes, *if you think you can see a problem*, chances are, there probably is one. Eye issues can be serious and that's why it is always best to have your pet assessed as soon as possible if you notice anything out of the ordinary. Conditions such as conjunctivitis, corneal ulcers, uveitis and glaucoma can be very painful and if left untreated, can go downhill rapidly.

Things to watch out for (pardon the pun!):

1. Squinting or excessive blinking
2. Swollen eyelids or swollen eye
3. Increased redness on the white of the eye
4. Discharge from one or both eyes
5. Your pet's third eyelid (usually hidden in the corner of the eye) is easily visible or is very red
6. Your pet is continually rubbing their eye
7. You pet is suddenly bumping into furniture or walls

We ask that you resist the urge to place any left over ointment or drops you might have at home (dispensed for a human or animal) in your pet's eyes before we have had the chance to examine your pet. This is because there are some medications can that make certain eye problems worse and lead to further complications.

If you ever notice something's not right with your pet's eye, you should call us right away for advice.

Don't wait 'til it's too late - vaccinate!



Vaccination is one of the most important tools we have available to help keep your pet healthy. Vaccinations are safe, have minimal (if any) side effects, and we recommend them **because they work**.

With the summer holidays fast approaching and many pets going into boarding, now is the time to make sure your furry friend is up to date with their vaccinations. If they are overdue, they may require a booster vaccination so you need to get in early to avoid any headaches when it comes to admitting them to a cattery or a kennel.

Why do we recommend vaccinating your pet?

Vaccinations protect against fatal diseases: many diseases that are potentially dangerous to pets are completely preventable with the right vaccinations.

Vaccinations protect other pets in the community: when there are a greater number of pets vaccinated, the spread of disease is greatly reduced (something known as *herd immunity*).

Vaccinations ensure you can board your pet: if you need to board your cat or dog, either for a family emergency or a holiday, your cat or dog must be up to date with their vaccinations.

Vaccinations protect your pet at their most vulnerable: If your pet is sick, their immune system may already be compromised and this may leave them vulnerable to disease. Vaccinations ensure that they are protected even in this state.

Vaccinations save money: the cost of vaccinations is minimal when compared to the cost of treating a preventable disease.

There are a number of diseases we can vaccinate against, but your pet's general health, lifestyle, and location will determine the exact vaccinations necessary. We can help you make an informed decision about what is best for your pet, and we are always happy to discuss vaccinations with you.

Remember, when it comes to vaccinating your pet, we will give you the right advice. Call us today to check up on your pet's vaccination status.

How to care for pet mice



Mice make great pets! They are social, intelligent, don't take up a lot of space - and are very entertaining to watch at play!

They are well suited to people with limited time and budget, and are especially good for school-aged children and people who live in apartments.

Mice will eat almost anything - including grains and meat products. The best diet to keep them happy and healthy is a combination of fresh fruit and vegetables, as well as a small amount of commercial mouse cubes or pellets.

Mice are excellent escape artists, so it's important to have a very secure cage for them, made of metal or plastic, with a good lid or roof. Any wire flooring ought to be covered to prevent damage to their feet. They are particularly susceptible to heatstroke, so old glass aquariums should be avoided for use as mouse homes as they can become dangerously hot and humid.

Bedding should be absorbent, and changed regularly. Wood chips can be used, but it's important to ensure that they are unscented to prevent any respiratory problems.

Mice are very intelligent, and need lots of mental stimulation. An exercise wheel is an absolute must for these busy little creatures, and you can have a lot of fun providing them with new challenges in the form of empty toilet roll tubes and pipes for tunnels as well as mini hammocks and boxes to hide in.

If mice are kept in a clean environment with a good quality diet, they should remain healthy and happy. A healthy mouse is alert, active, and has a well-rounded body. Their eyes, nose, and bottom should be clean and free from any discharge. Sneezing, or laboured breathing can indicate respiratory problems - whereas drooling or a wet mouth may indicate a dental issue.

Lenno's diabetes



You may remember Lenno the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel cross from our previous newsletters. Over a weekend in August, Lenno suddenly started drinking copious amounts of water and urinating far more than what would be considered normal. He had also been very hungry over the past month (more than his usual self!) so a veterinary examination and some blood tests were in order.

A simple blood test was performed and it indicated that Lenno had high blood glucose (blood sugar levels). A urine test also confirmed the presence of glucose in his urine. A diagnosis of diabetes mellitus was made.

Diabetes is an endocrine disease where the body fails to produce enough insulin to help move sugar from the bloodstream into the cells for energy. For dogs, it is similar to type 1 diabetes in humans and patients generally require the administration of insulin once or twice daily.

The four main signs to watch out for:

1. Increased appetite
2. Weight loss
3. Increased thirst
4. Increased urination

Management of diabetes is life-long and involves regular blood tests, strict diet management and monitoring. Dogs usually require insulin treatment for life whereas cats may go into remission (the type of diabetes cats are prone to more closely resembles type 2 diabetes in humans). Some patients do not respond as we would expect so further investigation into other diseases may need to be considered.

We are happy to report that Lenno is responding well to treatment. He will require regular blood glucose curves in hospital over the next few months until he is stabilised on an ideal dose of insulin. He will also need to be monitored for potential complications such as the development of diabetic cataracts.

If you notice any changes to your pet's daily habits such as a change in appetite or thirst, it's a good idea to arrange a check up with us as soon as possible as there are many endocrine diseases that can present with similar signs. Early diagnosis and treatment can help prevent secondary complications that can in some cases be life threatening.

If you are worried about your pet you should always call us for advice.

Inflatable veterinary hospital set to save lives



An amazing new inflatable veterinary hospital has been launched in South Australia ahead of the bushfire season.

It is intended to help provide a place for SA Veterinary Emergency Management staff to work out of in the event of a bushfire.

It will give them the ability to care for and save the lives of wildlife affected by fires, treating animals for burns, smoke inhalation and dehydration.

The hospital can be set up in only ten minutes and is the first of its kind in Australia.

You can read more about this exciting new initiation [here](#).

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