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The friendly team with
over
50 years of veterinary
experience



Summer Storms & Pets

We have already witnessed severe thunder and lightning storms throughout the country as we bake in the summer heat. Astraphobia is the name given to pets who are terrified of these electrical storms. For these pets, they need a safe place inside, tucked away in the quietest room in the house, perhaps within a crate filled with blankets and a favorite toy. Keep calm yourself, as animals pick up on human anxiety and are affected by it. Play some soothing music and comfort your pet without making an issue of it. Some dogs benefit from a type of wrap such as a 'thunder shirt' which is like a firm reassuring cuddle. Teach them kindly that the noise won't hurt them. But if your dog has a severe phobia bring them to see us as **WE CAN HELP**. Perhaps an anti-anxiety medication may be needed to break their anxiety this summer.



BENTLEIGH
VETERINARY CLINIC
for healthier + happier pets

Welcome to our January 2020 Newsletter.

As we move into the new decade, 2020 promises to be a year of momentous happenings, starting with the horrendous fires as Australia burns, to the impeachment of America's president. Times are rapidly changing, the old being replaced by the new. An awareness of the health of our planet, and a global society that are forging a new era. But animals have a simple perspective, they don't care about all that stuff. They just want kindness, a full belly and a home to call theirs. Sometimes I think the animal kingdom has the superior wisdom as they live for the moment and take one day at a time. Maybe that should be our motto for the future? This summer has fulfilled its promise with scorching hot days with a blanket of brown tinder dry groundcover. Wildlife are finding it tough, but we can help by leaving out some containers of water in the shade for them to quench their thirst. And remember to make sure your pets have plenty of shade inside and outside the house and an abundant supply of cool water to drink.



Bushfires – Be ready to Protect Your Pet protect your pet.

With grateful hearts, we applaud the firefighters and the support teams that are working night and day to contain these ferocious fires. If you are in the danger area, plan your escape routes well before you may need it, and move stock away from the danger areas as soon as possible. Look after your pets as they may panic if they catch a whiff of the fire, and fear may cause them to run away and hide. Keep your pet's safe inside until you must evacuate, and panic and escape from your arms. A house can be rebuilt, but family and pets cannot be replaced. Plan and be prepared. along with your personal items, plan an emergency bin for your pet needs. Medications, foods, contact phone numbers for yourself and your family and friends. A short bio on each pet stating their name, disabilities if any, medications, food intolerances, age, and personality. Make sure you include copies of their vaccinations in case they have to stay in a shelter for a short while. Collars, leash and harnesses, perhaps a favorite blanket and toy. Be ready if the wind changes and you must leave immediately. Put a harness on your cat too, as they may panic in the upheaval and escape from your arms.

Our information-packed website for healthier + happier pets is;
<https://www.bentleighvet.com.au>

Time for a laugh!

Q : If you were forced to go through one of the following doors, which door do you go through with 100 % certainty you'd stay alive: a door with a man with a gun behind it, a door with a tiger who hasn't eaten in 7 years behind it, or a door with an electric chair behind it?

A: The one with the tiger behind it, because if it hasn't eaten in 7 years it's dead.

Walking Your Dog



A front clip harness will help keep your dog from pulling. When you are out walking, remember dogs love to sniff, so allow a bit of time for Fido to wander a bit and 'read the newspaper'. Sniffing around provides mental stimulation for your pet. During the hot summer, bring plenty of water for your dog to keep them hydrated. When you are out walking, make sure your dog is wearing name tags with a contact number on in case they wiggle out of their collar and take off. Better yet, have them [MICROCHIPPED](#) for easy identification. This summer watch out for hot pavements which can burn your dog's feet. Rather than walking in the hot midday sun, do an early or late walk when it is cooler. Have some healthy treats to reward them for good behavior. When you meet other dogs out walking, ask their owners before allowing your dog to introduce themselves. Not all dogs are friendly to others. If you are by the beach or river, let your dog have a swim to cool down. Your dog loves to walk with you and it is valuable bonding time. It also helps wear off some of their energy!



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Worming your dog – And Why It Is So Important

Internal deworming is important for the health of our pets. Owners who do not deworm their pets leave them exposed to infestations that can cause discomfort, diseases and even death. There is more than just one type of worm, you can have roundworm, heartworm, tapeworm, and whipworm. These parasites live inside your pet and have negative and potentially deadly effects. Puppies and kittens need to begin treatment even as young as two weeks of age. Adult animals require treatment every three months. Worms have a complex lifecycle and we have many strategies to deal with dealing with these parasites. It is important to maintain a routine worming treatment as worms are an ongoing battle. Not only will it protect your pet, but it will protect your family as children can become infected with certain dog and cat worms. Call in and discuss this rather unpleasant parasite and how you can become proactive for your pet and the family as a whole [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.



Please check out our Facebook page and webpage for a wealth of information.

<https://www.facebook.com/bentleighvet/>

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Cancer of the Nose & Sinus in Cats.

Often found in older cats, white cats or cats that are thin haired varieties, and especially those cats that love to sunbathe behind a window. The cancer often starts with black dots, which look harmless enough, but then the cells start to bind together becoming crusty and then it starts to eat away at the nose. Nasal tumors or cancer are most always malignant. They are not sex specific and occur in the nasal cavity or the frontal and paranasal sinuses. Aggressive treatment is required which is a combination of local radiation and systemic chemotherapy. As with any disease, the early you notice it and seek veterinary help the easier and more effective it is to treat.

Icy Treats for Cats and Dogs

Both cats and dogs love tuna, and it's just as tasty when frozen. Freeze in small bite size mounds or even blend with a little yoghurt or egg before freezing. Not only will it keep them healthy, but it will be a cooling treat for them. As an alternative, Chicken or beef broth with no added salt mixed with water and frozen into ice blocks makes a refreshing snack for your cat or dog.

How to Remove a Tick from your pet.

Keep your pet calm and steady. It may help having a second person to hold and reassure your pet. Position your tweezers either side of the tick and grasp onto the tick as close to your pets' skin as possible, being careful not to pinch your pets' skin. Using steady even pressure, pull the tick straight out. Don't twist or jerk as you may leave part of the tick attached. Examine the tick to ensure the head and mouth are there. Kill the tick by placing it in a container with rubbing alcohol. Gently disinfect the bite site on your pet using triple antibiotic spray or wipes. Keep an eye on the site, and if it becomes red or inflamed, bring your dog [IMMEDIATELY TO US](#) as ticks can cause some nasty health problems

