

## Contact Details

03 9557 9500

reception@bentleighvet.com.au

The friendly team with over  
50 years of veterinary  
experience



### HOW WE CAN HELP

Dental Health Checks for all  
pets

Cat Grooming – get rid of  
those knotts

Routine Surgery such as  
desexing, lump removals,  
cancer surgery, urinary tract  
surgery and so much more.

Vaccinations to prevent  
serious disease.

And

Affordable PET HEALTH CARE  
PLANS

These ease the financial  
burden of pet healthcare and  
provide for optimum  
preventative care. Plans are  
designed to cater for your pets  
age and situation in life.

Open pay– for immediate  
payment of treatment which  
allows you pay off over time.



Welcome to our **MAY 2019** Newsletter.

Autumn has settled into its routine, with cooler days and nights making life just that bit more pleasant. Some pets may feel the cold a bit more than others, and senior dogs can be prone to the weather. Consider getting a sweater or coat for your pet which can help them ward off the chills. Signs that your pet is feeling the cold include whining, shivering, and reluctance to move about. A little more food may be required to build them up for the oncoming winter but don't go overboard here. Excess weight can cause health problems. It is all about finding the right balance for your pet. Come in and talk to us – we can give you some great pet tips about Autumn care.



### ARTHRITIS AMONG PETS.

Arthritis can be quite common among dogs although it is less common in cats. The give away signs are when you notice that your cat or dog becomes less active than they used to be. Getting up onto their feet may be a slower process as well. Your pet will rarely complain, they just adapt and accept the pain. But it doesn't have to be that way. Exercise, weight control and the use of an anti-arthritic medication can make the cooler weather much more pleasant for the older pet. Joints are often the most affected – often the neck, back and hind quarters are key areas. We can prescribe the right amount of medication that will give your pet freedom from the pain. Ask us about how we can help.

If you notice anything different about your pets behaviour, please contact us as prevention and early treatment is always best. Don't wait until the problem spreads or increases... treatment is always easier at the beginning of a disease than when it is fully developed.

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

### KENNEL COUGH – A TYPE OF DOG FLU?

If your dog gets out and about and is really a social pup, it can be difficult to avoid kennel cough. Although it can sound bad, it is like a dose of the flu for us. The best cure is to give your dog rest, quality food and plenty of fresh water. Keep them at home so they don't pass it on. If it is quite severe, you will need to bring your dog in for a health check and pick up some antibiotics. Your dog can take a few days before they get their energy back. We can assist your dog back to full health – for more information come in and talk to us.

## AUTUMN DANGERS



Cooler temperatures will see rodents seeking shelter by attempting to move into your home. This could prompt the laying of Rodenticides or mouse/rat poison around your property. Cats and dogs will investigate most things, and poison is not immune. If ingested, the results can be fatal. If you must put these poisons out please do so with extreme care and put them in places where your pet cannot reach it. Many people choose to change their car engine coolant as Autumn settles in. Beware Ethylene glycol-based coolants as they are highly toxic to pets. A small tsp spilled onto concrete can be fatal if ingested by your pet.

**TICKS & FLEAS ARE STILL ACTIVE:** Don't let Autumn fool you, these pests aren't going anywhere! But they are on the prowl for a warm winter home and your pet's make an idea homesite. Make sure your pet's have their prevention medications so that they can avoid these persistent parasites and the diseases they carry.

## Bentleigh Veterinary Clinic

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**TEAM MEMBER - DR FELICITY** has the passion for animals that somehow makes the required long hours of study worthwhile. Having graduated from Melbourne University in 2001, she started her career in a small animal practice in south east Melbourne where she developed her passion for dog and cat medicine. Further studies continued in 2006 when she commenced a residency in Small Animal Medicine. This was followed by membership with the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Science. But it has been her strong interest in feline medicine and the use of ultrasound for both cats and dogs that has kept her busy. To top all that off, she is currently studying Behavioural Medicine for pets which makes her an even more valuable asset to the clinic. After a busy day at the clinic, Dr Felicity goes home to her husband and two active daughters, not to mention their pet Staffy called Duke, a Schnoodle called Rocco and a stick insect called Stick Man. Now that's dedication! If your cat or dog has any health or behaviour issues, Dr Felicity can help.



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

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

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

**Environmental Enrichment for Cats.** What this means is providing a variety of fun things for your cat to provide them with mental and physical stimulation within your home. Cats love heights. They are happiest when they can climb up high and view the world. Shelves that act as a stepping ladder to a higher resting post are ideal. Scratching posts and climbing frames are ideal. But don't discount the occasional cardboard box or large paper carry bag ... they love to hide inside where they can ambush you when you walk past! Perhaps you can build a secure enclosure off the home where they can get access to go out and enjoy some fresh air, climb about or just sunbathe the afternoon away. Play is a great way for cats to get exercise and prevent boredom. Toys that move easily or on their own will fascinate your cat, even a simple toilet roll or piece of scrunched up paper can suffice. Treat dispensing toys will make them work for their food, and just good old fashioned patting and playing with your cat will help make their life rich and rewarding. Look carefully at your home from your cats point of view. Is it fun and interesting or dull and boring? It may be time for a makeover! It will help prevent behavioural problems created by a bored cat.



Courtesy of the Funniest pictures .com

**DID YOU KNOW...**Dogs and humans have the same type of slow wave sleep (SWS) and rapid eye movement (REM). It is at the REM stage that dogs dream. The twitching and paw movements are in response to their dreams.

**Cats homing instinct** may be due to magnets in their brains! Cats find their way home through a process called 'psi-travelling' – experts think they navigate via the angle of the sunlight or that they have magnetised brain cells that acts as a compass.