

# BENTLEIGH VETERINARY CLINIC

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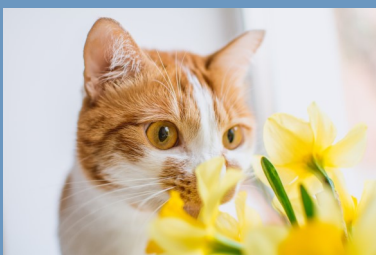


**BENTLEIGH**  
VETERINARY CLINIC  
for healthier + happier pets



## What is Periodontal Disease?

It is a disease in cats or dogs which is caused by a progressive bacterial disease that damages their gums, bone and other supporting tissue in their mouth. The disease lurks below the gums and can be hard notice until the disease is very advanced. Preventative dental care is vital for pets to avoid this nasty condition. A regular dental health check should be included in your pets annual check-up. A probing check of their teeth and gums plus an Xray evaluation taken under general anaesthesia will be necessary once a year. [Book Here.](#) Symptoms of the disease include a bad breath, bleeding gums, loose teeth, or receded teeth. There are four stages of the disease with stage one being mild, to stage four being having a poor prognosis.



**Our Virtual Nurse Anna** is available if you cannot get through to our clinic or it is after business hours. You can [click on the link](#) on our website on the right hand side of the webpage and Anna will help you with your pets problem whether it is booking an appointment, passing a message to the team, or any general question you may have.

## September 2022– Welcome to our newsletter.

Spring means we can look forward to warmer weather and longer days. September is Happy Healthy Cat Month, plus National Dog week (the last week of the month). Not forgetting the Hug Your Hound day on the second Sunday in September. All these special days remind us to care for our special furry friends and ensure that they are living a healthy, happy life. Those routine things such as dental care, parasite protection, and a general health check will keep them in tip top condition. Spring cleaning means cleaning the dog/cat bed and letting it dry in the warm spring sunshine (a good way to get rid of any bugs). Scrub those bird cages using a mild lotion that won't affect your bird. And let the warm wind blow through your home. Spring is a new beginning so get out with your pets and enjoy the sunshine.

## It's Spring & Ticks and Fleas are Back in Force!

These parasites latch onto our pets and feed on their blood. They carry bacterial diseases such as Lyme disease, that are harmful to dogs, cats (and humans)! ***Please ensure that your pet has had their vaccination shots!*** Check them after walking outside for both pests. Engorged ticks are easier to find as they are larger, but when removing them make sure you remove all parts of the tick. If you are not sure, bring them into us to check. Prevention is the best option, don't wait till disease from these parasites get a hold as it can be harder and more expensive to treat than to prevent. [Click here](#) to book an appointment.

## Diet Can Make or Break Your Pet.

Feeding your pet a high quality pet food that provides all the essential nutrients is more economical in the long run as it keeps them healthy and disease free. The first couple of ingredients should be some sort of meat, not a meat by-product or grain. Many cheaper foods have a high ratio of fillers but skimp on good protein. Pets also require a regular food schedule; adult dogs often require two meals a day, cats may require more. A regular meal time can help you to toilet train your pet as they usually have to go to the bathroom approx. 20– 30 minutes after eating. You can be prepared and get them to the bathroom or outdoors in time. Remember to give a ton of praise when they get it right—especially for a young animal as they thrive on attention. Avoid giving your pet an excess amount of treats or 'people' food as it is not good for them. Provide plenty of water for drinking, especially in summer. If you are in doubt about what to feed your pet, call in to our clinic for a chat. We can suggest some things that will keep your cat or dog fit, healthy and full of energy.

## Keep in touch and follow us here.

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<https://www.bentleighvet.com.au/>  
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**Dogs have dew claws** just above the paws on the lower part of their leg. Because of their location, they don't get worn down like the other claws do during walks. They need frequent trimming to ensure they are healthy and don't cause your dog any pain. Make it a habit to do a quick check of the dew claw for injury or infection. Or we can do it for you as some dogs are nervous about their feet being handled.



### Top 8 Pet Names for 2022

#### Female names:

Bella, Luna, Lucy, Daisy, Zoe, Lily, Lola, and Bailey.

#### Our Favourite names;

Biscuit, Karma, and Pixie.

#### Male Names:

Max, Cooper, Buddy, Milo, Bear, Rocky, Duke, and Tucker.

#### Our Favourite Names;

Chewy, and Moose.



## Dog Etiquette in Public Areas.

When taking your dog out in public areas, they must be restrained, well trained and polite to other dogs and people. A dog can cause injuries if they jump up or tangle themselves around the legs of young children or the elderly. Before you go out in public your dog needs to be leash trained, and they should obey the commands such as sit, down, stay and other commands that make it a pleasure to take them out with you. Allowing your dog a quick hello sniff with other dogs is fine, but move on promptly to prevent the leashes becoming entangled which is a safety risk for both animals. Your dog should come when called which is essential to maintain control over their behaviour ... you don't want to have to chase them which is frustrating and embarrassing. If there are any signs of aggression between dogs that meet, calmly remove your dog from the situation before it escalates. Remove any poop your dog makes, and always check before you go out anywhere that your dog will be welcome.

## Snakes are protected under the Nature Conservation Act 1992. Please note — they cannot be killed or taken from the wild and to do so comes with severe penalties.

We all love spring, and snakes are no different. It is the mating season for them which means males snakes will be out and about to find a female partner for mating. When you see them, treat them with respect. Keep out of their way, keep your dog, cat and toddlers inside. Lock up your birds or hens so that they are safe. Keep your yard mowed, pick up stacks of iron or building offcuts, and don't let piles of rubbish build up around your house. Let them slide along through your property, but if they do linger, contact your local snake catcher to remove them safely. Get your local number now and put it up on the fridge with a magnet, you never know when you may need it. Spring and summer are the snakes most active months, so treat them with respect because they play an important role in maintaining the natural environment.

## Itchy and Scratchy Pets!

Your beloved pet can nearly drive you mad with obsessive itching and scratching. Like humans, they can be allergic to things in the environment such as dust mites, pollen, mould, the saliva from another animal when licked, or even a product that has been used on their coat. Allergies can also stem from flea bites which can cause a lot of itching and skin discomfort. Food allergies can also upset your cat or dog. If your pet is driving you crazy with their itching, if they have bald patches on their skin, red weepy sores or are generally not themselves, a seasonal skin allergy may be the cause. Tell tale signs include the itching, red or scabby skin lesions, hair loss, licking their paws obsessively, and an inability to sit still and relax. Before it gets too bad, schedule a visit to our clinic so we can confirm a diagnose and provide home treatments to help manage this issue.

## Try out our tongue twister!

Try saying this one quickly and test your skills.

**The big black bug bit the big black bear, but the big black bear bit the black bug back.**

**Or Try this one — Five frantic frogs fled from fifty fierce fishes.**