

Dog Training Tips



Excessive barking when left alone

Dogs with separation distress bark the most right after their owners leave home for the day. An easy way to immediately reduce barking is by feeding your dogs breakfast from hollow chew toys such as Kong's toys or treat balls.

Each evening weigh out and moisten your dogs kibble for the following day. Squish the gooey food into hollow chew toys or Kong's toy and put them in the freezer overnight. In the morning, give your dog the frozen stuffed chew toys. Or use a treat ball filled with their mornings breakfast.



Your dog will spend an hour or more getting their breakfast from the chew toys and if your dog is busy with chew toys, they won't be barking.



KONG Classic Dog Toy



Dental Treats for Dogs



\$14.90 RRP
Our Special Price \$9.90



IMPORTANT MESSAGE FOR ALL RABBIT OWNERS



The New Zealand Veterinary Assn have been informed of the imminent release of Rabbit Haemorrhagic Disease Virus (RHDV) K5 in the Christchurch residential red zone to control the burgeoning wild rabbit population.

LINZ have agreed to delay the release until late June 2019 to give rabbit owners more time to vaccinate their pets.

The virus was initially released throughout the South Island last year and is established in the wild rabbit population including in the Waitaki Valley, McKenzie Country and Central Otago. The Christchurch re-release is a reminder for pet rabbit owners to ensure their rabbits are vaccinated against the virus. Your Blue Cross Veterinary Centre is able to administer the vaccine that protects it against the K5 virus.

VETERINARY CENTRES

- ▶ Oamaru Ph 03 434 5666
- ▶ Waimate Ph 03 689 7213
- ▶ Palmerston Ph 03 465 1291
- ▶ Glenavy Ph 03 689 8118
- ▶ Kurow Ph 03 436 0567
- ▶ Omarama Ph 03 438 9868
- ▶ Ranfurly Ph 03 444 1020

BLUE CROSS

All prices and promotions in this issue are valid until the end of the month or while stocks last.



20% OFF



Limited time only!



BY THE BIG BLUE CROSS

PURINA
PRO PLAN

FREE Dental Treats



with purchases of Pro Plan Dog 12kg or larger

Because your pet deserves the very best!



into the Wild

MONTHLY DOSING
Gentle on pets
TOUGH ON PARASITES

Buy any pack of Broadline, Frontline or Nexguard and go in the draw to win!!

ONE SET TO BE WON IN EACH VETERINARY CENTRE CLINIC!!

Win an amazing garden tool set worth \$350

Cotton's Corner

Brrr we are starting to get some cold mornings out there!!! Fortunately for me, my people here at my Blue Cross Veterinary Centre have a great winter range of snuggly beds for me to dive into. I think of it as taking them for a "test run" for you!

The cold weather does not seem to be slowing down these fleas yet though, I have a lot of friends coming in to see my vets that are itching and scratching, I hear they are taking the fleas inside and they are biting their humans too...especially the little people - they really seem to like them! I am lucky here, one of my nurses gives me a Broadline spot-on flea and worm treatment so I never have to worry about those pesky parasites and my humans are protected too!!

....Cotton



Lumps & Bumps



Anna McLeod BVSc

As our pets get older, lumps and bumps can often pop up more frequently over their bodies. Finding a lump can be daunting, 'What if it's cancer?'

Though skin lumps are one of the most common conditions we see, there are lots of different types so diagnosis is very important.

Some can be benign and nothing to worry about, while others can invade deeper and potentially spread to other organs in the body.

One of the first steps we take to find out what a lump may be, is to collect a needle sample. This can help us identify the type of cells within the lump and the best plan for your pet, whether it be:

- Surgical biopsy or removal
- Testing for spread to other areas of the body
- Continued monitoring for changes in size, consistency or appearance

In general, lumps and bumps that grow or change quickly are of most concern, with early treatment of these giving the best chance of cure.

To help keep our pets happy and healthy, it is important to frequently check their body from the top of the nose to the tip of the tail. If you feel any lumps or bumps, make a note of WHEN you find it, WHAT it looks like, HOW big it is, and make an appointment to see your Blue Cross Veterinarian.

Our Lump and Bump Check involves ...

- A consult including a full physical exam
- Lump map with findings
- Sampling and analysis of suspect lumps in clinic
- Further advanced laboratory analysis of lumps as required

Early Detection Saves Lives



Interesting Case



Aroha Te Hiko BVSc
Veterinary Centre Oamaru

Molly's Lumps

Molly's owners were concerned about several hard lumps growing quickly on her tummy. Her owners brought her into Veterinary Centre Oamaru where her vet, Aroha was suspicious of mammary tumours.



Mammary tumours are the most common type of tumour in female dogs. Up to 25% of entire bitches will develop mammary tumours in older age. Some are fast growing while others may not be noticed for some time. The prognosis for these tumours is generally good with early surgical removal.

Spaying dogs and cats before their first heat greatly reduces their risk of mammary tumours.

Unfortunately, a biopsy of Molly's lumps revealed cancer. An urgent mastectomy was performed to remove the cancerous tissue. Molly has recovered well and is now back to her playful self but still visits

Aroha frequently to monitor her health closely.

It is important to monitor your dog regularly for any lumps and book an appointment to have these checked. Any lumps or bumps are certainly worth investigating and the sooner the better. Don't wait until it's too late, pop into your local Blue Cross Veterinary Centre to see one of our professional veterinary team.



Because your pet deserves the very best

LIKE US ON
facebook