



Mon-Wed 8am-7pm
Thurs-Fri 8am-5pm
Sat 9am-12.30pm
Sun 9am-12noon
www.cambridgevets.co.nz
827 7099
0800 226 838

www.cambridgevets.co.nz

Special points of interest:

- Risk of Pyometra in un-neutered female dogs
- Does your pet have bad breath?
- New building update
 - Have a Merry Christmas

“like” us on
 Facebook



Joke:

After a talking sheep dog gets all the sheep into the pen, he reports back to the farmer, “all 40 sheep accounted for”. “But I only have 36 sheep” says the farmer! “I know” says the sheep dog, “But I rounded them up!”

Sit & Paws

Cambridge Vets



Volume 3, Issue 4

CHRISTMAS 2015

Prevent Poisonous Pyometra

Pyometra is the technical term for a pus-filled infected uterus and is a common condition in older entire female dogs. Toxins and bacteria can leak across the uterine walls and into the bloodstream causing life-threatening toxic effects. Without treatment death is inevitable, and Steve and Helen Van der Valk nearly found this out recently with their beloved working dog Lace.

Lace presented late one Sunday night very unwell to veterinarian Dr Bill Hancock. She was very unwell. In typical stoic working dog style, Lace had been working hard and not showing any signs of illness up until a couple of days prior. Being 9 years old, entire and having had a heat a couple of months prior Lace was a prime candidate for pyometra. In fact she had been thought to be possibly pregnant. Unfortunately, though, she had a horrendous bloody smelly discharge from her vulva and she was severely dehydrated which led us to realize she was actually gravely ill as opposed to pregnant. Surgery to remove the infected uterine contents is the usual treatment required for pyometra and it can be very challenging, as in Lace's case when the patient is very toxic already. Once Lace was stabilized as much as possible with intravenous fluids, multiple antibiotics and pain relief, I took her into surgery the following day. While the surgery was demanding it went as well as could be expected; however as Lace was already so very ill prior, her recovery was an ongoing battle to get the blood poisoning under control and to prevent organ failure from occurring. Lace ended up having a blood transfusion, multiple intravenous lines, numerous medications and a long hospital stay to ensure she would walk out the door again.

Remarkably, just seven days later she did just that (even after developing further complications), and is back on the farm eating dog roll 'til the cows come home (and I suspect sleeping inside the house as opposed to her kennel!) I expect Lace will take many months to recover from her ordeal, in fact she will never be the same again; she is now spayed and has golden retriever blood on board!

Spaying your dog cannot be over emphasized to prevent this condition. One in four entire female dogs will develop a pyometra in their lifetime. Often an owner plans to breed a pet or is undecided; as time passes they then fear she is too old to be spayed. Any female dog or cat can be spayed at any age. As vets we would much rather spay an old dog that is still healthy than wait until they are very sick when the risk of complications are much higher, the ability to save their lives is a lot harder and everything is obviously more costly. We had a good outcome in Laces case which was ultimately rewarding – but prevention is a lot easier in the long run.



Prevention!

Prevention is ALWAYS better than cure.

Having your pet screened for diseases before they show symptoms can potentially add years to your pets life.



We would like to wish all of our Senior Pet Wellness Club members and their families a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy New Year! Thank you for all your continuing custom and support and we look forward to being of service to you in 2016.



Don't Ignore Your Pets Bad Breath!



Bad breath is often a warning sign of dental disease

Dental disease can lead to heart, liver and kidney problems

Protect your pet with regular check-ups

New Building UPDATE

Check out the progress on Cambridge Vets new purpose built clinic! It's looking great and we are keenly watching the changes day to day. The new clinic is conveniently located on the corner of Empire and Alpha street and we are looking forward to moving in at the start of 2016!



Christmas Parade



Our team had a fantastic time at the Cambridge Christmas Parade on Sunday, we are very proud winners of the 'Business' and 'Overall' prizes for our float entry. Big thanks to all who took part and helped us be part of this wonderful community event!

Clinic Hours for Christmas & New Years 15/16

Late Night Clinics (8am-7pm Mon-Wed) will recommence: 5th January
Duty Vets will be available through our after hours service

Ph: (07) 827 7099 or 0800 226 838

FOR EMERGENCY CALLS

There will be Large Animal Veterinarians on duty at all times.

For Small Animal emergencies outside of opening hours, please ring the clinic phone number (07) 827 7099

which will direct you to the appropriate after hours contact.

Resumption of normal hours - 5th January!

- Monday Dec 21st: 8am - 7pm
- Tuesday Dec 22nd: 8am - 7pm
- Wednesday Dec 23rd: 8am - 7pm
- Thursday Dec 24th: 8am - 4pm
- Friday Dec 25th: CLOSED
- Saturday Dec 26th: CLOSED
- Sunday Dec 27th: CLOSED
- Monday Dec 28th: CLOSED
- Tuesday Dec 29th: 8am - 5pm
- Wednesday Dec 30th: 8am - 5pm
- Thursday Dec 31st: 8am - 4pm
- Friday Jan 1st: CLOSED
- Saturday Jan 2nd: CLOSED
- Sunday Jan 3rd: CLOSED
- Monday Jan 4th: CLOSED
- Tuesday Jan 5th: 8am - 7pm