



# KAMO+VETS



**Summer 2018**

**Companion Animal Newsletter**

**Our Carlton Cres & Kamo Road, Whangarei**

**(09) 435 1924**

**[www.kamovets.co.nz](http://www.kamovets.co.nz)**

## Specials:



\*Buy any 13kg Nutro dog food for \$109.90 (normally \$132)

\*Buy any 2.9kg Nutro cat food for \$39.90 (normally \$48.90)

**For the month of December**

## Opening Hours:

**Monday 8am - 6pm**  
**Tuesday 8am - 6pm**  
**Wednesday 8am - 7pm**  
**Thursday 8am - 6pm**  
**Friday 8am - 4.45pm**  
**Saturday 9am - 1pm**  
**For after hours call us on: (09) 4351924**



## Kamo Vets are moving...

Yes, we are building a new clinic on the north side of Kamo, we will keep you updated with our progress as we go along.



A guy walks into a bar and takes a seat. Before he can order a beer, the bowl of pretzels in front of him says "Hey, you're a handsome fellow." The man tries to ignore the bowl of pretzels, and orders a fine Pilsner beer. The bowl of pretzels then says "Ooooh, a pilsner, great choice. You're a smart man." Starting to freak out, the guy says to the bartender "Hey what the hell, this bowl of pretzels keeps saying nice things to me!" Bartender says "Don't worry about it, the pretzels are complimentary."



## Clinic News:

Despite a couple of cold spells during November, summer feels like it is definitely here. This month we have a new vet starting – Stephanie Sugrue. Steph has recently graduated from Murdoch University in Perth but is a born and bred kiwi from Whangarei. We welcome Steph to the team – she will be working both in the clinic and out on farm, initially just three days a week but increasing to full time next year. Steph replaces Caroline who has moved back to Taranaki.

## Christmas Checklist:

**Vaccinations** – make sure all vaccines are up to date if your dog or cat is going to be at a boarding facility. This is of special note for cat owners – two yearly vaccinations are no longer accepted at catteries – they must have been done within the past 12 months. Also remember that vaccinations should have been completed at least 14 days prior to boarding.

**Medications** – if your pet is on medication or has a prescription diet, please remember to check you have enough to see you through the holiday period.

## Summer Tips:

Watch out for **sunburn** – the most commonly affected areas are sparsely haired areas especially those with white fur and non-pigmented areas of skin. This includes pink noses and white ears - especially in cats, and pink tummies - especially in dogs that like to sunbathe. Acute sunburn causes the same signs that we get – redness, pain and peeling. Chronic sun (actinic) damage can lead to cancer – squamous cell carcinoma and haemangiosarcoma being the most common.

Black coated dogs can also get sunburnt if they spend too long in the sun. The black colour can act as a heat sink/reservoir and cause true thermal burns which can be very serious. Use animal sunscreen, provide plenty of shade and avoid excessive time in the sun.

Another thing to be careful of is **heat exhaustion** – usually seen in dogs but can occur in all animals. Exercising in the heat of the day should be avoided. Never leave your pet in the car and again provide plenty of shade and water while your pet is home alone. Body temperature can rise very quickly and be fatal if not cooled quickly enough. If you suspect your animal has overheated, either hose them down or place a wet towel on them immediately and seek veterinary advice.

**Stomach upsets** are common, partly due to more left-overs being fed around the festive and barbeque season, potentially more scavenging behaviour especially on longer walks/beach walks and some infectious causes of gastroenteritis being more prevalent in summer. Veterinary attention should be sought if vomiting/diarrhoea is persistent ie. multiple times in a few hours, mild signs but continuing for more than 48 hours, or your pet is extremely lethargic or acting very out of character at any time. These are only guidelines as different pets will show different degrees of symptoms – if you have any concerns, ring for an appointment.

**Ear problems** are extremely common in summer. Some animals will require regular ear cleaning to keep wax accumulation down, especially those that have hairy ears, pendulous ears, a history of ear problems and frequent swimmers. If you see your dog scratching at their ears or shaking their head, check their ears. Normal wax is dark brown in colour and should not have a foul odour. Ear cleaners can be picked up over the counter. If there is a bad smell, obvious pus or extreme discomfort, then a trip to see the vet will be needed.



## Pet of the Month



Sponsored by:

**Lola**



Lola is a 6 year old medium haired cat that we have groomed a few times over the years, removing small knots in the areas she doesn't like to be brushed at home. She also has the length of her coat shortened to stay cool over summer, which helps prevent knots

forming for a period of time.

Grooming is an almost daily requirement for a long haired cat, and older cats that can longer get to the harder to reach areas like they used to. Mats tend to form when clumps of hair become tangled over a period of time if not brushed out, they can become large mats especially when moulting. The mats can cause irritation to the skin and become uncomfortable, particularly if there is some plant material or object stuck against the skin.

Therefore it is important to be able to brush your cat at home, making sure to brush right to the base of the hair removing any that is loose to prevent knots and mats from forming as the smaller it is when removed the easier it is. With the bigger mats they have to be clipped out as they are very close to the skin and when trimming with scissors there is the risk of cutting the cat's skin.

For cats who are difficult to groom at home, we can clip out any knots or mats they have here at the clinic if they will let us, or they can be booked in for sedation and groom to clip them out, give them a thorough brush and a cool haircut like Lola or just a tummy clip to make it easier to manage.

### Microchips:

All dogs are required to have a microchip when registered with the local council.

It is very important to update your contact details each time you move, change your phone number, or you rehome your animal. You can do this with us at Kamo Vets for no charge.

A lot of cats are now being microchipped as well, and this is really helping with finding their owners when they are lost.



### Christmas Hours:



#### December

**Monday 24th** - 8am - 4pm

**Tuesday 25th & Wednesday 26th** - Closed

**Thursday 27th & Friday 28th** - 8am - 5pm

**Monday 31st** - 8am - 4pm

#### January

**Tuesday 1st & Wednesday 2nd** - Closed

**Thursday 3rd** - back to normal working hours

### And the winner is...

Congratulations to Karen Fenger winner of the Bravecto hamper



**Cats** are the most popular companion animal in New Zealand, with 44% of households sharing their homes with at least one **cat**, followed by **dogs** at 28%. Only 10% of households have **fish**; however, with an average of around nine **fish** per household the total number of **fish** is 1.5 million, outnumbering **cats** at 1.1 million.

- Most popular cat names: Tiger, Puss, Smokey, Misty, Tigger, Kitty, Oscar, Miss
- Most popular dog names: Bailey, Bella, Max, Lucy, Charlie, Daisy, Buddy, Luna

A grasshopper can jump 20 times the length of its body

Ants never sleep and they don't have lungs

There is a butterfly in Africa with enough poison in its body to kill 6 cats.

A housefly hums in the key of F

A single elephant tooth can weigh as much as 9 pounds

