Contact Details 03 9584 2511 clinic@cheltenhamvet.com

The friendly team with over 50 years of veterinary experience.



SIGNS OF A HEALTHY PET!

Good health is essential to a pets happiness. Here are the signs of health you should look for. If you have any concerns, please contact us.

A bright, alert responsive demeanour. Moves easily without lameness

Eats and drinks normally plus urinates and defectates normally

A clean, glossy coat in good condition free from parasites and skin disease

Ears that are without smell and discharges. Clear bright eyes without weeping or redness

No sneezing or abnormal discharge from the nose.

No vomiting. Normal breathing without coughing.





Welcome to our August 2019 Newsletter.

With just one month left of winter, it is time to think ahead to spring. This is the time where the parasites like fleas and ticks wake up and are on the prowl for a host animal to feed off. Don't let that host be your beloved pet. Dose up during this last month of winter so that their protection is in place for the change of seasons. See our preventative health page <u>here</u> for more information on preventative health. Check your pets' weight and adjust their diet if they have put a bit of weight on during the cold months. Perhaps increase their exercise to get them prepared for the spring where the pace of life picks up and fitness is essential. If your dog or cat is suffering from a touch of arthritis in their joints and they are showing signs of pain, bring them into us as we can prescribe something to ease their pain and get them moving again.



IS YOUR PET SUFFERING FROM ARTHRITIS? Dogs more than cats tend to suffer Arthritis. The most common type of arthritis in pets is osteoarthritis which is known as degenerative joint disease (DJD) which is characterised by progressive, longterm and permanent deterioration of the cartilage that surrounds the joints. It can be just part of the aging process or may be brought on by injury and trauma to their bodies. Signs of arthritis in your pet includes limping and difficulty in moving, such as getting in or out of a car. Spinal issues may give your pet a hunchback posture. Many pets with arthritis can become irritable if handled in a way that increases their pain. Muscle atrophy is another symptom – muscles on one leg may be thinner than muscles on the other leg. Licking, chewing or biting at specific areas of their body to ease their discomfort can cause inflamed skin and hair loss in that area. So how do we alleviate this condition? Physical therapy is a must for the arthritic pet. Certain exercises can increase the joint flexibility and strength. A balanced diet is important as excess weight can only compound their problems. If you suspect your pet is suffering from arthritis, please **book** in for a health check. We can suggest ways to help you can manage your pet's condition and alleviate their pain.

Our information packed website for healthier + happier pets is; http://www.cheltenhamvet.com

Salt Lamp Alert! Some pet owners have warned of pets who are attracted to these lamps and become addicted to licking the salt. Too much salt is very toxic to animals and they can suffer from weakness, vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, tremors, coma and even death. Keep these lamps out of reach of your pets and if you suspect that they may have been licking the lamps, bring them into us so we can assess their situation and offer solution to get them healthy and happy again.

ACUPUNCTURE



At Cheltenham Veterinary Clinic we realised the benefits of acupuncture – a practice going back over 4500 years. Our clinic can offer this treatment for your pets who suffer from acute and chronic pain, osteoarthritis, behaviour problems, geriatric disorders and so much more. Known for its gentle, noninvasive healing methods that are well tolerated and without any side effects. If you would like to know more, please contact our clinic for more information.

COMFORT FOR ELDERLY PETS

Senior pets benefit from extra love and attention. Here are a few of our ideas.

Provide soft, elevated bedding. Feed them with a high-quality nutrition designed for seniors.

Use low impact exercise to keep them flexible. Let them sleep inside where its warm and dry. Manage their temperature by providing a jacket in winter.

Make toilet arrangements easy to get to and use. Give them lots of attention and be gentle with them.

Cheltenham Veterinary Clinic

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ABOUT CHELTENHAM VETERINARY CLINIC.

Our team here are a committed group of professionals who are committed to the vision "to make people and their pets happier and healthier". We offer a full range of veterinary services and products for small animals and pets. In 2011, our vets were selected by Seeing Eye dogs Australia (SEDA) to look after the health and medical needs of the SEDA puppies in training. The time, love and patience to raise these special working dogs is invaluable as they will one day become the gift of independence for people who are blind or have low vision. Such is our dedication to pet welfare and health. Check this link to learn about our team members, from the veterinarian owners Dr David Stasiuk and Dr David Wilson, to our veterinarians, nurses and reception staff. Each one has the same dedication to your pet to ensure they get the best possible treatment and recovery options. From state-of-the-art diagnostics, on-site surgical suite and caring friendly consultations, you know you are in good hands.



Please check out our <u>Facebook page</u> – it is regularly updated and covers a wealth of information.

AUGUST DENTAL HEALTH OFFER.

Dental problems are prevalent, and we are finding that giving your dog or cat a bone to chew is just not enough. Dental disease can creep into the gums of otherwise healthy animals, and slowly cause dental decay and gum disease which can contribute to life threatening conditions such as kidney and heart disease. Some options for dental health include a special dry diet, raw bones, regular brushing and a dental scale and polish under an anaesthetic. Cheltenham Veterinary Clinic offers FREE dental checks for all pets all year round. Get your pet used to having their teeth brushed from a very early age and it will be so much easier to control dental decay as they grow older. Make sure you use a special toothpaste made just for pets, as human toothpaste does not suit animal health. Some of the toothpastes for pets even taste like a treat to make it easier to convince your furry friend that brushing the teeth is fun and rewarding!

We encourage regular check-ups to avoid advanced disease which can take some curing. Preventative care is always the better option. See our webpage on <u>dental care</u> <u>here</u> then book your pet in for a visit!



Curtesy of CrazyHyena.com

SMELLY EARS ARE A PROBLEM.

A smelly ear is the sign of infection either from parasites or a foreign object that is lodged within the ear. Infection starts and spreads in the warm and moist conditions within the ear. The smell can be quite strong and is a sure sign that all is not well. As the ear is very delicate, don't try probing it yourself and risk harming your pets hearing. Bring your cat or dog into us where we can gently remove the offending object(s) and treat if need be with antibacterial or other medications.