

590 ELGAR ROAD, BOX HILL, 3129

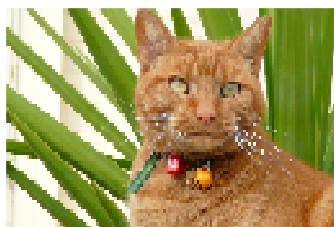
PHONE 9899 9518

Email: mail@elgarvet.com.au

www.elgarvet.com.au

The Elgar Road Veterinary Hospital Newsletter

WINTER 2008



- [Clinic News](#)
- [Arthritis](#)
- [New Services](#)
- [Puppy Vaccinations](#)
- [Cattery News](#)
- [Adoptions](#)
- [Staff Profiles](#)

Welcome to the Winter Newsletter! As part of our ongoing care for your pets, we like to keep you informed of staff news, new services we are now offering and problems which could affect your pets, particularly at this time of year. We are going to be writing a seasonal newsletter that will be accessible on our website, from the clinic and via mail out. Let us know if you would like to receive our quarterly publication and we can add you to our mail or email list.

Clinic News

The clinic has recently been very fortunate to gain some wonderful, experienced new staff members to join the dynamic existing team at Elgar Road. Emma Mason is our fantastic new full time vet, while Lee Coleman, Meredith Begg, Fiona Anderson and Lisa Elsner make up our new part-time vetting team.

Mich O'Connor is a familiar face around the clinic after many years of locum nursing at Elgar Road, but we have now secured her as a permanent member of the nursing team. After working in our cattery for several months,



Alice Clarke has now joined our clinic staff and will soon start studying her Certificate IV in vet nursing. Congratulations to Claire in grooming who is expecting her first baby at the end of the year.

Arthritis

Arthritis is one of the most common ailments of the aging pet and the cold weather can cause further discomfort.

Symptoms of arthritis include:

- Reluctance to walk or play
- Limping
- Stiffness of joints in the morning
- Licking of joints
- Difficulty in rising from a resting position
- Difficulty in climbing stairs
- Change in personality - less happy or playful.

Diagnosis of arthritis can be based on clinical signs, physical examination and/or x-rays. Fortunately there are several excellent options available for the treatment or control of this condition and its associated pain.

Arthritis is a painful disease that gets progressively worse over time, so the sooner your pet receives help, the better. Remember, animals are very stoic, so although your pet may not seem to be in pain, the simple rule is **if they limp, it hurts**. If you feel that your animal may be suffering from arthritis please make an appointment with one of our vets.



Ultrasound and Blood Pressure Measurement

We are always striving to improve the range of diagnostic and health services that we can provide, so we have recently acquired a new Ultrasound machine. Ultrasound is a non-invasive way for us to get a picture of what is happening inside the body. This information may help us to make a diagnosis and to work out the best treatment options. We are lucky that our new vet Emma has many years of experience using ultrasound, thus enabling us to now offer this service at Elgar Road.

We also now have a Doppler machine which allows us to measure animal's blood pressure. The Doppler can be used for diagnosing animals with high blood pressure and monitoring pets with predisposing conditions such as renal disease and hyperthyroidism. To further ensure your pet's well-being, we also use it to monitor patient's blood pressure while under anaesthetic.

New Puppy Vaccinations

We are thrilled about starting a new puppy vaccination protocol which will be cheaper and also allow you to safely take your puppies out into the big wide world 10 days after a 10-12 week vaccination. This is fantastic for earlier socialization as well as exciting for you to be able to show them off. If you would like more information about our new regime or would like an appointment to have your puppy vaccinated, please give the clinic a call.



Who's Up For Adoption?

We often have gorgeous animals looking for good homes. Currently we have "Nimbus" a 9yr old, male neuter, blue Burmese. If you think that you could offer a loving home to either of these boys, please call or visit the clinic so we can organise for you to meet them.



Cattery News

The cattery has a new admission form designed to get more comprehensive information about your pets, which all cattery clients will need to complete when their cat/s come in for boarding. We will also be monitoring the cats closely during their stay, including weight checks at admission and discharge.

Staff Profiles

Dr Emma Mason, although originally from Tassie, studied Veterinary Science at the University of QLD and graduated with first class honours in 1996. Stepping straight into small animal practise she worked initially in Adelaide before making her move to Melbourne soil. After 2 years in Malvern, she took up an internship and then residency in Small Animal Medicine at Melbourne University and completed her Membership in 2001 and Masters of Veterinary Studies in 2003. Emma moved back into private practice at Mt Waverley in 2001 and then joined us at Elgar Road in January 2008. Emma loves her life as a vet. After hours Emma and her partner Tim have been full time house-sitters for pets that are too old, ill or unwilling to go to kennels. Emma's other interests include renovating her old house, art and socializing with friends.



Devon Rankin needs no introduction. She was the first full-time veterinary nurse of the original practice at Elgar Road. The years of her tenure (1976-89) saw the practice expand rapidly and the name "Devon" with it's linkage to the practice became well known throughout the area. In 1989 Devon became owner/manager of D.B. Boarding, a private cattery located in separate facilities at the southern end of the veterinary property. In 1998 Devon became a partner of the new Elgar Road Veterinary Hospital with the role of manager of both Hospital and Cattery. Devon maintains a strong passion for all animals, be it her owner or clients. She sleeps with a Burmese on her head every night, much to husband's horror. She shares a love of horses with her 15year old daughter "Bobby" and a similar sense of humour with her 17yr old son "Billy".



Clinic Hours (By Appointment)

8am-7pm Weekdays

9am-5pm Saturday

10am-12 noon Sunday

HOME VISITING SERVICE AVAILABLE