



# Ultimate Veterinary Clinic Newsletter

ISSUE NO. 12

Winter time



(03)8790 2425

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Our core values:

- The well-being of you and your pets
- To provide high quality medicine and surgery
- Honest and reliable vet care
- Continually updating our knowledge and services
- Striving to build a long term partnership with you and your pets

### **Our facilities and services include:**

- Routine veterinary consultations, vaccinations and microchipping.
- Small Animal surgical facilities; elective & orthopedics.
- In-house diagnostics; pathology, ultrasonography, digital radiology.
- Quarantine
- Pet food and other pet supplies

## **Welcome to Ultimate Vet Clinics Winter edition newsletter**

We are very excited to say that each season we will be able to email you all the latest clinic news, special offers, upcoming events, and any clinic promotions and discounts.

242 Narre Warren – Cranbourne Road Narre Warren South Vic 3805  
**p: 03 8790 2425 f: 03 8790 3856**

e: [info@ultimatevet.com.au](mailto:info@ultimatevet.com.au)

Ultimate Veterinary Clinic Pty Ltd ABN: 82116442472

Ultimate Vet welcomes any suggestions or ideas of things you would like to see in our newsletters. If you have anything to share, drop us a line at [info@ultimatevet.com.au](mailto:info@ultimatevet.com.au) and we'll see what we can do for you.

We appreciate your feedback



## CARING FOR YOUR SENIOR CAT

Many of us have beautiful feline friends who rule the household. Cats can be wonderful companions who can live for 15-20 years. When cats get older their needs can change, so it is important that we keep a very close eye on our elderly cats.

The main things we tend to notice are sleeping more, not wanting to jump up or down from objects and changes in appetite/thirst or weight. Some common health problems that occur are hyperthyroidism, kidney failure and osteoarthritis. Regular health checks that may include a dental check, blood tests and urine testing can identify these problems early so treatment can be initiated. There are plenty of things we can do to keep our older cats happy and comfortable in their twilight years.

Vision, hearing and taste can be affected in senior cats. These changes may be so subtle that they go unnoticed for a long time. Cats often cope quite well as their vision starts to deteriorate as they learn where all the furniture is and what path to take to avoid a crash. If a cat's sense of taste and smell have altered, food may not be as appealing as it once was. If this is the case then try gently warming up some canned cat food to see if the smell and taste are more attractive that way.

Cats tend to mellow with age. They are often less inclined to run about the house and are more likely to be found curled up in the sunshine. Some behaviour changes can be related to health issues so if your normally happy cat gets suddenly aggressive or your normally angry cat is suddenly easy to handle then it's best to get them checked out.

In older cats it's best not to assume they are just slowing down with age, regular health checks may help your elderly feline friend live a longer, more comfortable life.



## Molly's Story

Molly the English Staffy has become famous in recent months. Her face has appeared on TV, in the newspaper and online to try to warn the public about the dangers of ingesting Kinetic Sand.

She is lucky to be alive after ingesting the children's toy. This sand contains an agent that causes it to stick to itself and can be molded into shape.

Molly came to visit Dr. Bob after her owner noticed that she wasn't feeling 100%. She had started vomiting, refusing to eat and was losing weight. Molly was admitted to hospital and placed on intravenous fluids to combat dehydration. She had blood tests to ensure that her organs were functioning as normal. X-rays revealed that Molly had ingested the Kinetic sand and it was stuck in her intestines. After feeding her barium (a liquid that shows up bright white on X-ray) it was obvious that she had a blockage in her gastrointestinal tract. Every time her intestines tried to push the sand out, it just remoulded to a different shape.

Dr. Bob had never seen anything like it before.

Molly underwent abdominal surgery to milk to sand out of her intestines. This was not an easy task given that the sand is so sticky. After all the sand was cleared from her intestines, Molly was much brighter and happier.

She started eating the following day and went home from hospital soon after.

Molly is now on the road to recovery & doing well.





As we are coming into winter and the weather is getting cooler, we need to remember that our pets get cold too.

Here are a few ways to keep them warmer on those cold winter days.

**1. Heated pet beds**



**2. Jackets & coats** if your pet is going to be outside a waterproof jacket is a great idea.



**3. Wheat bags or snuggle safe disk** (we do not recommend hot water bottles due to the risk of burns) make sure a blanket or towel is put between your pet & the wheat bag & they are able to move away if it gets to warm.





**Kylies baby is due on 28th June**

**Guess the sex, weight and date!**

**Email your answers to [info@ultimatevet.com.au](mailto:info@ultimatevet.com.au)**

