

VETAILS

THE HABERFIELD VETERINARY HOSPITAL NEWSLETTER

FEB–MARCH 2021

53–55 Ramsay Street, Haberfield 2045
(near corner of Marion St.)

Phone: 9798 0785
Phone/Fax: 9799 2258

www.haberfieldvet.com

THE HABERFIELD VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Established 1975



CONSULTATION HOURS

Monday–Friday: 9:00am–12 noon; 5:00pm–8:00pm
Saturday–Sunday: 9:00am–1:00pm

NO APPOINTMENT NECESSARY FOR CONSULTATIONS

Appointments are necessary for routine surgery.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Friday: 8:00am–8:00pm
Saturday–Sunday: 8:00am–1:00pm

LIVE-IN STAFF We have 24hr nursing care provided by our live-in staff, a group of senior vet students.

'PICK UPS' AND 'DROP OFFS' can be arranged outside office hours. Please call if you require this service.

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCIES PHONE 9798 0785

The Haberfield Veterinary Hospital is a community based fully equipped veterinary hospital, and our primary concern is animal health and welfare. Some of our services include:

- For incapacitated clients, a local **pick up and delivery service and house calls** for simple procedures that do not require hospitalisation.
- Limited **boarding facilities**, especially for animals requiring medical treatment - remember to book early for the busy holiday periods!
- **Contacts for pet minders:** we have numbers for animal minders and sometimes our nurses and vet students can help.
- **Simple pet grooms**, (not a full grooming service) designed especially for feisty furry cats and snappy little dogs that may require sedation.
- A **pensioner discount** of 10% off the cost of consultations and surgery.

PREVENTING DOG BITES

Never leave children under 10 unsupervised with any dog, even the family pet, and teach all children the basics of dog safety. Even the friendliest dog can react if it's scared or feels threatened.

What kids need to know about dogs

- Leave dogs alone when they are eating or are near their food.
- Don't grab or cuddle a dog around the neck, as this can frighten it.
- Don't surprise a sleeping dog.
- Always ask the owner before you pat their dog.
- Don't enter a strange dog's yard without the owner being present.
- Don't play with any dog unless the owner is watching.
- Don't play with a dog with a litter of puppies, especially while the mother is still feeding them.
- Take care not to get dogs over-excited when you play with them.



PUPPY PRE-SCHOOL

Delta Society accredited dog-trainer, **Louise**, is running the puppy pre-school.

Join our fun and effective puppy class.

Bookings essential. Please ring **9798 0785** to enrol now.

LEPTOSPIROSIS IN SYDNEY

There has been some confirmed leptospirosis cases in inner western Sydney (Surry Hills, Glebe and Darlinghurst). It is currently recommended that dogs in the inner city are vaccinated and access to rats and stagnant water should be avoided.

Leptospirosis is an uncommon disease in dogs in Australia and in the recent outbreak all the dogs were severely affected and died. It is also a zoonotic disease so people are at risk of catching the disease. This can occur through exposure to contaminated water or direct transmission.

Infection with leptospirosis often occurs through exposure of animals to contaminated water sources, soil and food. Leptospire can survive for months in suitable environmental conditions which include stagnant/slow moving warm water. The reservoir hosts for the disease in the urban environment are most often rats and mice and it is likely that the rodent population of Sydney is endemically infected.

Clinical signs of the disease vary from no overt clinical signs to life threatening illness.

Vaccination is available and is recommended for dogs in the inner city who would be exposed to stagnant/pooled water or rodent populations. Initial vaccinations are given 2-4 weeks apart then a booster in a year.



PROFESSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

- The HVH is a supporter of The Australian Companion Animal Health Foundation (ACAHF). The ACAHF gives grants for research on small animal diseases.
- We support Pets in the Park, an organisation that provides free veterinary care to the pets of homeless people. www.petsinthepark.org.au
- We support the Australian Veterinary Association's Animal Welfare Trust which provides grants for research into animal welfare.

- We also support Vets Beyond Borders, an important organisation that provides veterinary care and seeks to improve animal welfare in the Asia Pacific region. www.vetsbeyondborders.org
- We support the Commonwealth Veterinary Association by hosting veterinarians from developing countries and donating veterinary equipment and instruments to veterinarians in these countries.

UNIVERSITY SUPPORT PRACTICE

- The Haberfield Veterinary Hospital provides the opportunity for Veterinary Science students from the University of Sydney to train with us.

FLEAS!

Fleas are the most common cause of itchy dogs and flea allergy can cause miliary dermatitis in cats. There are a number of products on the market and sometimes animals need treatment every 2–3 weeks instead of 4. As spot-on products spread over the skin it is important to follow the directions with regard to washing and as cats are important flea carriers all cats in a household should be treated at the same time. Call us for advice.

OUR VETERINARIANS



Dr Tanya Carter Founder of the Haberfield Veterinary Hospital

Tanya, a Member by examination of the Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists in Animal Welfare, a Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons. She is President of the

Australian Veterinary Association's AVAWE (Australian Veterinarians for Animal Welfare and Ethics), and Chair of the AVA's Animal Welfare Trust that distributes funds for research into animal welfare. She serves on several Animal Ethics Committees and is a veterinary member of the NSW NCAT. Tanya was a recipient of the Belle Bruce Reid medal awarded to Australia's top 100 women vets by the University of Melbourne in 2006. Tanya has a Master of Science in International Animal Welfare Ethics and Law from Edinburgh University. She is a published author on veterinary ethics. She has four adult children.

Dr Helen Gibson has been with us for many years and is an



experienced veterinarian. Mother to three beautiful girls, she is also a practising artist. Helen has a degree in Fine Arts as well as her BVSc. (You can see some of Helen's artwork on the walls of our waiting room). Helen works regularly on Monday night, on Tuesday and Thursday during

the day, and on regular Saturdays and Sundays. Helen enjoys surgery and performs our complex surgeries such as cruciate repairs.



Dr Kathy Tang has been with us since she graduated in December 2015. Kathy has been very much a part of the Haberfield Veterinary Hospital ever since she started her university studies. She was one of our resident vet students.

We are pleased to have casual veterinarians **Dr Tom Gillard**, who is undertaking a PhD on bee diseases, **Dr Wen Jin Shih** and **Dr Eunice Suen**, who was one of our resident students work from time to time.

STAFF AND NEWS

OUR NURSES Full time vet nurse **Lizzie** (below left) is a qualified veterinary nurse. **Amy** (below centre) is a qualified vet nurse. Long term nurse **Rachael** (below right) commutes from Canberra to work on a casual basis.



RESIDENT VETERINARY STUDENTS Our resident vet students are **Zi** and **Ruby**.



Zi is currently in her third year of the Bachelor of Veterinary Biology/Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree at the University of Sydney. A relationship she had with a dog in her childhood compelled her to consider a career working with animals.

Zi likes the diversity and problem-solving nature of the field and hopes to improve the well-being of both people and animals during her career. In her free time, Zi likes to go scuba diving to see wildlife in the underwater world.

We bid farewell to Martina and wish her well with her studies.



TICKS

Ticks thrive in areas of mild humid weather and are common in bush areas quite close to Sydney from Spring to Autumn.

The two most common ticks on dogs are the **Paralysis Tick** and the **Brown Dog Tick** with the Paralysis Tick being by far the more dangerous of the two. The initial symptoms of tick paralysis in your dog will generally be a weakness in the hind legs that will spread to all four legs. Typically, the dog's bark will change and vomiting is common. Once the muscles around the chest and throat begin to show signs of paralysis, your pet is in a very serious condition.

It is far better (and cheaper) to prevent tick paralysis than to treat it! You should check your dog every few days and most certainly after any visit to a recognised tick area.

Ticks are easier to find by feel than by looking for them. Check by running your fingers through your pet's fur, particularly around the head and neck where most are found, but you need to check the whole body including cracks and crevices such as in the ears, under lips and even between the toes.

Remember TICKS CAN KILL!



Paralysis Tick



Brown Dog Tick

Phone us for advice on a full range of preventative measures.