



## Pet of the Month:- “Kelly”

Kelly is a gentle old lady (Labrador cross) who we have known for many years. Her story is one of outstanding parental commitment, perseverance and good fortune.

Kelly went missing one Wednesday and was no- where to be found when her owners returned home from work. They spent the next 24 hours contacting all of the local vets, the RSPCA, council as well as visiting the Bracken Ridge and Dakabin shelters. Unfortunately nobody had any news of Kelly.

After days of fruitless searching, on a hunch, they decided to drive out to one of the shelters on the south side. They asked the staff to check their database again, but once again, the search came back empty. They then showed the staff a photo of Kelly, which one of the staff recognised. She told them that she remembered this dog. Kelly had come into the shelter several days earlier after having been hit by a car and because of her injuries had been euthanased.

The owners were distraught and asked to take Kelly home. The nurse went to fetch her and came back as white as a



[www.mcdowallvets.com.au](http://www.mcdowallvets.com.au)

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sheet! There was Kelly - alive - as she hadn't been euthanased yet. You can imagine the owners surprise and relief! At this stage, Kelly was still very ill and wasn't able to use either of her back legs. We saw her the next day and diagnosed a dislocated right hip and torn ligaments in her left knee, along with various bruises and grazes.

Several surgeries later Kelly has recovered fully, much to her owner's joy! She is back to her usual antics - keep an eye out for her - you may bump into her running at the off leash park or swimming in the creek!

***If you haven't already microchipped your pet - please do so.***

## Vaccination Amnesty!

Has it been several years since your pet was last vaccinated? Talk to us about our **vaccination amnesty!**

There has been a lot of **Parvovirus diarrhoea** around Brisbane lately. As a service to our community and to help prevent our suburb from being invaded by this virus we are offering a vaccination amnesty whereby we will *restart your pets vaccination course for the same price as a normal annual booster*. Phone us on **3353 6999** now to take advantage of this offer.



## Spaniels:

### Why Do They Get Ear Infections So Often?

One of the attractions of owning a spaniel is their long, silky luxurious ears. While they look terrific, these ears have several design faults. Because they hang downwards, blocking the entrance to the ear canal, it is harder for air to enter the canals and circulate. This means that the external ear canal never dries out thoroughly and is prone to becoming infected with yeast (a bit like thrush) and bacteria. This problem is exacerbated by the heat and humidity of Queensland summers. Dogs with upright ears like cattle dogs, Schnauzers and Kelpies (and humans for that matter) have open, exposed ear canals and are less likely to suffer from infections.



If ear infections are not treated promptly, chronic inflammatory changes in the ear canal will cause it to shrink, exacerbating the moisture problems and leading to recurrent infections and ultimately deafness. You should check the canals of your dog's ears weekly. If they are getting waxy, get a special ear cleaner from us which helps dissolve the wax. If the canals are inflamed, there may be

an ear infection which needs antibiotics. Be careful after bathing your dog to dry out the ear canal, this is a good time to use the cleaner. Do not place objects such as cotton buds down the ear canal, since they may damage the ear drum. The next time you visit us, ask us to show you how to clean your dog's ears thoroughly.

## Even Dogs Do IT...

