



Pet of the Month:- "Barney & Peppa"



This month our heroes are two siblings who have survived against the odds and have overcome several adversities due to their plucky nature and the love and attention of their owners. The last year has been quite a year for both Barney and Peppa. During this time they have BOTH been diagnosed and treated for liver disease, Cushings disease (a hormonal imbalance caused by a tumour of the pituitary gland), and diabetes. They have taken sibling rivalry to the extreme, matching each other with each disease. Recently their owners noticed that Barney was developing cataracts in both eyes (a consequence of the diabetes) and so he underwent surgery to remove the cataracts, transforming his vision and giving him a second lease on life. Not to be outdone, Peppa has followed suit and is recently recovering from her surgery!

It has been heart warming to see the commitment and love between these two little heroes and their parents and to see how the early diagnosis and control of their diseases has transformed their quality of life. When discussing the cataract surgery their parents said "Having their eyes done

has given them a new lease on life, it's amazing to see a dog go for surgery blind and then to pick them up with perfect sight". When asked for any advice that they would give other pet owners, they said: "Know your pet and act on any changes as soon as possible, trust your vet to do the right thing for you and your pet".

Hot Dog!



People usually prepare themselves for the dangers of increased temperatures, but as the dog days of summer approach, our trusted companions also need special attention to ensure that they don't get heat stroke or sun burned.

A dog's normal body temperature is 37 to 39 C. Like people, dogs can become overheated quite quickly, particularly in humid weather as they rely on panting to cool down. If their temperature rises to 39.5C, they are at risk of developing heat exhaustion. Once it elevates beyond 40C, they have entered the danger zone of heat stroke. With heat stroke, damage to the body can be irreversible. Organs begin to shut down, and veterinary care is immediately needed.

www.mcdowallvets.com.au
Shop 8 McDowall Village Centre, Cnr Beckett & Hamilton Rds McDowall
Phone: 3353 6999

Here are some other tips for keeping your dog cool this summer:

- Keep dogs indoors, in air conditioning, on very hot days.
- Do not leave dogs in a car during the summer.
- Even with the windows down, temperatures inside a car can quickly rise to above 120 degrees.
- Make sure outdoor dogs have plenty of shade.
- Keep fresh water available for dogs at all times.
- Exercise dogs early in the morning or late in the evening. If this is not possible, exercise in an air conditioned environment.
- On very warm days, provide your dog with a sprinkler or wading pool.
- Consider getting your dogs coat clipped short if it is a long coated dog.
If the dog has a light coat or exposed skin, take precautions against sunburn.



Dogs can acclimate to warm temperatures and have no trouble staying outdoors in the heat. However, dogs that are used to cool climates or air conditioning should not be placed outside on warm days. Acclimating the dog gradually is the key.



Summer Itch

With the change of season we are seeing a lot of dogs developing allergies again and starting to become very itchy.



Does your dog lick at its front feet often?

Does he/she get recurrent ear infections?

Are they scratching a lot, but you can't find any fleas?

These are all signs of canine hayfever. Just like us, prevention or early treatment of symptoms brings a lot of relief. We have some wonderful new treatments available that are having great results so give us a ring if you think your dog is suffering from this common problem.