

**August
2013**

Rhodes Vet Clinic



**Volume 3
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Newsletter

Rhodes Veterinary Clinic
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Veterinarians:

Dr Michael Rhodes
Dr Cate Watt
Dr Andrew Stanley

Practice Manager:

Cindy Schoell

Nurses:

Kirsty Paton
Lauren Price

Simpson:

Christine Burgin
Kim Henderson

August — Dental Month



Many pets require dental treatment during their life time. Over time food particles and bacteria build up in the mouth forming plaque. This leads to infection and inflammation in the gums (gingivitis). The gum disease can then affect the teeth and their surrounding structures causing pain, loosening and the loss of teeth.

Our Veterinary nurses Kirsty and Lauren will examine your pet's mouth. They will check for tartar, gum disease and loose teeth. They can help to advise on strategies to keep your pet's teeth healthy and will provide you with a free dental health pack. If your pet is found to have problems that need further attention, our veterinarians, in a consultation, will assess the teeth and discuss scaling of plaque and removal of loose or diseased teeth.

Many older pets have a new lease on life after their dental problems have been addressed. Good dental health is the cornerstone to happy healthy pets.

We provide:

- Surgery & Medicine for small and large animals
- Soft Tissue & Orthopaedic Surgery
- Dentistry
- Digital X-ray
- Ultrasound
- In House Blood Testing
- Nutrition & Prescription Diets
- Microchip Identification

For August Dental Month we are conducting a FREE dental health clinic. This clinic will be at our Vet Clinic in Colac on Wednesday 14th August from 4-8pm.



Simpson Office:

Our Simpson Office is open
Monday to Friday
10am to 3pm
P: 03 5594 3257
F: 03 5594 3339

Colac Office:

Our Colac Office is open
Monday to Friday
8am to 6pm
Saturday 9am to 12 noon

Our emergency number is:

5232 2111

We are available 24/7 for emergencies



Have you got your salt out?

It is that time of the year when we have gone past the shortest day and really heading towards spring in a rush.

The basic ingredients of rain, longer days and warmer temperatures are making the grasses grow at a faster rate. This grass will have had a good feed of fertilizer which will have a component of potassium (K). This really helps growth.

The cow consumes this high yielding potassium grass in vast amounts. The potassium is absorbed into the cow's blood system and heads off in all directions. The next thing you see is a cow that is sitting down with signs similar to milk fever and yet she has been calved for months. You rush in to your DIY mixture of 4in1 or double-cal and the cow has not moved post treatment.



To stop this you must place ad lib salt out for your cows to have as they come into the dairy or at the dairy.

The sodium (Na) in the salt pushes potassium out of the way and allows the calcium (Ca) to reach the cow's muscles. The cows are then able to utilise the calcium in the diet and rather than staying on the ground, they are able to stand, walk, poo and moo!

SO remember rock salt ad lib will prevent frustrating cows down mid lactation. Have YOU got YOUR salt out?



Footy Tipping!

Ladder leader is still Josh sitting on 119 points.