

**August  
2023**

# Rhodes Vet Clinic

**Volume 13  
Issue 08**

**Newsletter**

Rhodes Veterinary Clinic  
74 Gellibrand Street  
COLAC 3250  
P: 03 5232 2111  
F: 03 5231 5892  
E: info@rhodesvet.com.au

**Veterinarian:**

Dr Michael Rhodes

**Practice Manager:**

Cindy Schoell

**Nurses:**

Kirsty Paton

Amanda Fisk

**Admin:**

Kylie Mahoney

Beth Callahan

## Mastitis: Common Pathogens

Mastitis is an inflammation of the udder that is often due to infection by the time it is detected.

Clinical signs include heat, swelling, pain in the udder, changes to milk consistency, colour, smell and sometimes unwell cows. These changes can tell us a lot about what is going on!

There are two main causes of mastitis.

Firstly there is environmental. This means from places outside the dairy, like drains, muddy areas, calving down paddocks and wet areas around hay.

Secondly there is dairy spread. This contamination occurs in the dairy and is caused by cracked rubberwear, poor vacuum, milk line too narrow, over milking, poor hygiene, not wearing gloves, not using enough teat spray ... this list goes on!

Many of the bacteria are preventable with good hygiene (clean, dry teats before cups go on) and teat spray. Teat canals are open for 30 mins after milking so are susceptible to infection. Teat spray kills any pathogens on the teat to prevent this and not walking through teat deep mud also helps. If a cow is running milk before calving her teat canals are open and susceptible to infection. - Start milking her to reduce the mastitis risk.



## We provide:

- Surgery & Medicine for small and large animals
- Herd Health Advice
- Cattle Pregnancy Testing
- Bull Fertility Testing
- Lameness in Cattle
- Equine Consults
- Soft Tissue & Orthopaedic Surgery
- Dentistry
- Digital X-ray
- Ultrasound
- In House Blood Testing
- Nutrition



Dr Mike will be back seeing all our wonderful clients from August 7th. Please be patience as appointments are filling up fast upon Mike's return.

Thank you all for your understanding and patience during this time.

We are very grateful to Dr Leigh for keeping the clinic running and allowing Dr Mike to enjoy a break. Thank you Dr Leigh !

**Simpson Office:**

Please call 5232 2111

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

**Colac Office:**

Monday to Friday

8am to 6pm

Saturday 9am to 12 noon

**We are available 24/7  
for emergencies.**

**Our emergency number  
is: 5232 2111**

## Dental Month

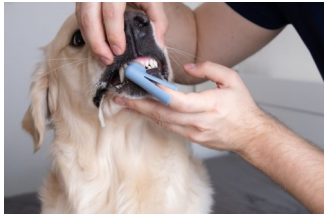
Pet Dental Health Month is an important annual event that helps pet owners learn about the importance of pet oral hygiene. During Pet Dental Health Month, pet owners are encouraged to take extra steps to ensure their pet's teeth and gums stay healthy. This can include brushing their pet's teeth, scheduling regular visits with a veterinarian for professional cleanings and providing pet-safe dental chews and treats.



Good oral hygiene is essential for pet health, as pet dental problems can lead to serious health issues. Pet owners should be aware of common pet dental problems such as gum disease, bad breath, and tartar buildup that can cause pain and discomfort for their pet if left untreated. By scheduling regular pet dental checks and practicing good pet oral hygiene, pet owners can help keep their pet's teeth and gums healthy.

Veterinary dentistry includes the cleaning and if needed the extraction of your pet's teeth as well as all other aspects of oral health care. These procedures should be performed by a veterinarian under a general anesthesia. Dental cleaning includes scaling to remove dental plaque and tartar and polishing, similar to the process used on your own teeth during your regular dental cleanings.

There are several things you can do to help reduce the build-up of plaque and tartar on your dog's teeth and prevent the development of dental disease.



Dog dental chews – we all know dogs love to chew, and there are several brands of dental chews available which can help reduce tartar build up. The way these dental chews work is that they become sticky when chewed by your dog, and this draws plaque and tartar off the teeth helping to keep the teeth clean.

Teeth brushing – much like people brushing their teeth to keep them clean, you can also brush your dog's teeth using a dog tooth brush and special dog toothpaste. This mechanical brushing action against the teeth surface will help slow the build-up of plaque and tartar.

Feeding a healthy mouth – an easy way to help prevent the development of dental disease in your dog, is to consider feeding them a specially formulated dog biscuit diet, such as Hill's Prescription Diet t/d dental pet food. When your dog chews these special dog biscuits, as they crunch them up the biscuits help to abrade the surface of the teeth reducing the amount of plaque and tartar on the teeth, slowing the development of dental disease.



RVC footy tipping competition as of round 19

1. Shannon - 124
2. Len - 119
3. Sharyn - 116
4. Scott - 116
5. Josh - 116

The ladder is withheld after round 19 with the winners announced at our end of season presentation

An advertisement for Pet Dental Health Month. It features a dog wearing a hat and a striped shirt, and a cat holding a toothbrush. The text reads: 'AUGUST is Pet Dental Health Month Say Cheese'. Below this, it says: 'To celebrate Pet Dental Health Month our nurses are offering free dental check ups Call the Clinic to book a time with Kirsty or Amanda'.

**AUGUST**   
is Pet Dental Health Month  
*Say Cheese*

**To celebrate Pet Dental Health Month our nurses are offering free dental check ups**

Call the Clinic to book a time with Kirsty or Amanda

Zip now, pay later 

**On purchases over \$100**