August 2026
Vol.1 No.2

RHODES VET CLINIC



The Horses Birthday

Did you know that 1 August is the official birthday for every horse in the Southern Hemisphere? While horses are born on many different dates throughout the year, they all officially become one year older on the same day. This standardised birthday makes it easier to group horses by age for racing, breeding, and other equestrian competitions.

Although your horse's actual birthday may be months away, August is a great time to celebrate and to think about their health and wellbeing. Regular veterinary check-ups, dental examinations, vaccinations, and parasite control are all important parts of keeping your horse happy and healthy. It's also an ideal time to review your horse's diet and body condition as we head into spring.

From playful foals to cherished senior horses, we wish all our equine patients a very happy official birthday and another year of good health, great adventures, and plenty of well-earned treats!



IMPORTANT

Please note that our bank details have changed. If you have an outstanding balance on your account that relates to goods and services after the 1st of July 2026. Please make payment to the new bank account.

Rhodes Vet Clinic
BSB - 063 510
ACC - 1047 6154

Rhodes Vet Clinic
74 Gellibrand Street
COLAC 3250
P - 03 5232 2111
E - info@rhodesvet.com.au

OUR TEAM

Veterinarians:
Dr Ben Rhodes
Dr Ness Edwards
Dr Caz Simpson
Dr Michael Rhodes

Practice Manager & Nurse:
Kirsty Paton

Nurses:
Amanda Fisk
Beth Callahan

Admin:
Megan Stewart

Clinic Hours:
Monday–Friday: 8 AM–6 PM
Saturday: 9 AM–12 PM
Sunday: Closed

RVC - Rhodes Veterinary Clinic

rhodes_vet_clinic

EMERGENCY

Expert Emergency Care for Large and Small Animals, 24 Hours a Day, 7 Days a Week. Our emergency phone number is 03 5232 2111

WE PROVIDE:

- Surgery & Medicine
- Herd Health Advice
- Pregnancy Testing
- Fertility Testing
- Lameness Consults
- Equine Consults
- Dentistry
- Digital X-ray
- Ultrasound
- Blood Testing
- Nutrition
- Soft Tissue & Orthopaedic Surgery

We care for all creatures great & small!

Medication Reminder

Please pre-order your pets regular medication. Pets must visit one of our vets every 6 months for a health check.

Horse Jokes



What do horses say when they fall over?
"I've fallen and I can't giddy-up!"

Why did the horse cross the road?
To visit his neigh-bours.

Horse walks into a bar. The bartender says "Why the long face?"

Why did the pony get a bad grade?
It was a little hoarse.

Why was the horse so happy?
It was on a stable income

Thank you for trusting us with your animals. We look forward to continuing to care for you and your pets.

Dental Health
Your Pet's Smile Says More Than You Think



When people think about their pet's health, they often focus on diet, exercise, or vaccinations. Dental health, however, is just as important—and unfortunately, it's also one of the most commonly overlooked aspects of pet care.

Bad breath isn't simply something owners have to put up with. In many cases, it's the first warning sign of periodontal disease, the most common health problem affecting adult dogs and cats. What starts as a build-up of plaque and tartar can gradually lead to inflamed gums, infection, damage to the bone supporting the teeth, and eventually tooth loss.

One of the biggest challenges is that pets rarely show obvious signs of dental pain. In the wild, animals instinctively hide discomfort, and our pets often do the same. They may continue eating and playing as normal while coping with significant oral disease.
Instead of obvious pain, watch for subtle changes such as persistent bad breath, dropping food while eating, favouring one side of the mouth, reluctance to chew hard treats, excessive drooling, or becoming less playful or affectionate. These changes are often easy to dismiss as "just getting older," but they can indicate a painful dental problem.

Dental disease doesn't just affect the visible part of the tooth. Infection can travel beneath the gumline and form a painful tooth root abscess. These abscesses may cause swelling below the eye, nasal discharge, or difficulty eating, although some pets show very few outward signs until the infection has become severe. Left untreated, these infections can spread and significantly impact your pet's overall wellbeing.

The good news is that dental disease is largely preventable. Regular veterinary dental examinations allow problems to be detected early, before they progress to more advanced disease. Professional dental cleaning under general anaesthesia enables your vet to clean above and below the gumline, assess every tooth thoroughly, and treat any diseased or damaged teeth.

Home care also plays a vital role. Daily tooth brushing is the most effective way to prevent plaque build-up, but even brushing a few times each week is beneficial. Veterinary dental diets, approved dental chews, and other products recommended by your veterinarian can also help reduce plaque and tartar between professional cleanings.

August is National Pet Dental Health Awareness Month, making it the perfect time to check in on your pet's oral health. Throughout August, we're offering 10% OFF all dental procedures. To redeem this offer, on the day of your pets dental procedure please bring a copy of the Voucher below.
A healthy mouth means more than fresh breath—it means less pain, better overall health, and a happier, more comfortable life for your pet.

RVC 10% OFF DENTAL PROCEDURES

RVC Footy Tipping Ladder
After Round 20

1. Ray (127) 2. Garry (126) 3. Scott (125)
4.Shannon (125) 5. Emma (123) 6. Cindy (122)
7. Chris (121) 8. Bianca (120)

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