

Pet Life - Magazine Issue 13.
AUTUMN 2020
CELEBRATE YOUR PET

FREE

SENIOR PETS

(AT IN A FLAP!)

SPAW

PROJECT KULI

ONLINE PRESCRIPTIONS
What you need to know

Pet Life

New Zealand



Petplan[®]
the pet insurance people

4 weeks
free
insurance*

Care for your **companion**

Protect your family member with **4 Weeks Free*** pet insurance and let Petplan help you with the cost of unexpected vet bills.

Visit **petplan.co.nz**

or call us on **0800 255 426**

*4 Weeks Free offer only available by calling Petplan on 0800 255 426.
Offer only available for new policies. Terms, conditions and waiting periods apply.
Please consider the PDS before making a decision to purchase the product.

Every pet deserves



Letter from the Editor



Well here we are heading into the cooler months which, to be honest, will be very welcomed at our place. With the lack of rain here in Marlborough we really have felt the pinch this summer. Willow, our horse, has been glaring at me while eating standing hay and our rabbit, Bluehead Snowy, was less than impressed with the miserable looking weeds we had been foraging for him. While the temperatures start to drop we may still get some hot days so it is important to make sure your pets still have access to shade and lots of fresh water. Be sure to read the articles from our friends at Pacific Institute of Technology regarding hot weather, the lack of water and our pets.

This issue is chocka full of heartwarming stories about rescue groups and initiatives in New Zealand and abroad. With the increase of overbreeding and homeless pets it is reassuring that there are so many caring people out there willing to help. We talk with South Pacific Animal Welfare (SPAW) and learn about Project Kuli, a canine desexing programme in the Kingdom of Tonga. Our rescue superstar is the not for profit organisation Feline Fix based in Kapiti. Feline Fix was established in September last year and has already desexed more than 40 cats and kittens and helped rehome three sets of kittens.

Helping rescue and welfare groups find furever homes for homeless animals is not only a passion for Pet Life but also for Lynda Barlow. Lynda launched Friends with Tales, a website open to all rescue groups and pounds across New Zealand to use to find homes for animals in their care. Read all about this great online platform and perhaps even find your new furever furbaby.

We all know the benefits pets have on human health so it is not surprising that riding can help those with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). Riders with ASD are attending lessons at Riding for the Disabled to help improve

communication and independence. The riding also helps improve physical aspects like balance and coordination. If you would like to support New Zealand Riding for the Disabled then consider getting involved with the Rotorua marathon this May and "Race for Good".

If you have just got a new kitten or thinking of putting in a cat door for your older cat then check out our article on training your cat to use a cat flap. There are some great tips which we are sure can help you and your kitty. We had a cat that took some time to come around to using the cat door. Winsloe would sit there with his nose hard up against it looking out but would then demand us to open the sliding door to let him in and out. It took time to make Winsloe feel comfortable enough to attempt a walk through the cat door by himself. But after his first walk through that was it, he was unstoppable ... in and out, in and out, in and out!

As usual we have a great variety of articles for all our readers to enjoy. Read on to see if ordering your pet's medication online is an option for you, learn about the lovely British shorthair, how to care for your ageing pet and what makes for good nutrition. I hope you enjoy our autumn issue and don't forget to check out the upcoming events section, head along to an event in your area and meet up with like minded pet owners and animal lovers.

EDITOR

amy

THE TEAM

MANAGING DIRECTOR
& EDITOR

Amy Scott-Thomas
info@petlife.co.nz
020 455 9111

SUB EDITOR

Inger Vos
editingfox@gmail.com

ADVERTISING MANAGER

advertise@petlife.co.nz

PRINT & DISTRIBUTION
Format Print

CONTACT DETAILS
Red Swamp Road, RD1, Kaikoura
www.petlife.co.nz

SOCIAL
facebook.com/PetLifeNZ
instagram.com/petlifenz

DISCLAIMER

Pet Life magazine is subject to copyright in its whole entirety. No part of the contents within are to be reproduced in any form, either whole or in part, without prior consent from Pet Life Ltd. Pet Life Ltd reserves the right to accept, reject or modify editorial and advertising material. All rights reserved. Opinions expressed within this publication are not necessarily those of Pet Life Ltd, their contributors, associated businesses or any related entities. Pet Life Ltd makes every effort to ensure that all information is true and correct from experts within their field. However, Pet Life Ltd or any persons involved with this publication does not accept any liability for the magazine's content. The inclusion of any product, service or business within this publication should not be interpreted as ratification by Pet Life Ltd. Copyright © 2018. ISSN 2537-7140 (Print) ISSN 2537-7183 (Online)



READER SURVEY — LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK

Head over to petlife.co.nz and follow the survey link to be in with a chance to win*. Just tell us about you, your pets and what you would like to see more of in upcoming issues of *Pet Life* magazine.

*One winner will be drawn at random and will receive a \$100 PrezzyCard. Survey closes 31 May 2020.



FRIENDS WITH TALES

A new adoption platform is uniting homeless pets with new owners all across New Zealand. We spoke to the animal lover responsible, Lynda Barlow, to find out her tale.

What is Friends with Tales?

Friends with Tales is a website/platform open to all rescue groups and pounds across New Zealand to use to rehome animals in their care. The website is for all animals, large and small: dogs, cats, rabbits, guinea pigs, birds, farm animals ... It's also a central place to find answers to pet care, training information, correct feeding, microchipping, and everything else animal related. And it's a source of information on how to correctly rehome your pet if you are unable to care for it.

Where did the idea to start this website come from?

The website was my idea. I have always rescued animals personally. In the past four years I've been a foster for rescue groups and could see the problems faced with rehoming, and with people dumping animals rather than reaching out for help. I am in marketing so thought long and hard for a solution and came up with Friends with Tales. It took six months to build the website and it was launched just prior to Christmas 2019. It has been a lot of hard work but is proving well worth the effort.

What is the purpose of the Friends with Tales website?

The purpose is a central place for all rescue groups and pounds to use to rehome animals. The benefit is the public has one place to go to, to find animals to adopt. Most rescue groups rely on Facebook to rehome animals and this does not attract enough visitors. The rescues and pounds do not have marketing budgets to promote themselves hence rehoming is a very slow and hard process. Friends with Tales is now one place where everyone can go to list animals in their care and where the public can go when looking for a new fur friend. It has gone very well so far with 300 to 800 hits per day.

What rescue groups does Friends with Tales work with?

I work with every rescue group across the country, and with every pound. It has taken time and effort on my part to find the rescue groups and pounds, to contact each one and invite them to join Friends with Tales. New pounds and rescue groups are joining every week.

How can a rescue group become involved with you?

A rescue group needs to register to use Friends with Tales as it is not open to public rehoming. The registration link is at the bottom of the website home page or they can email myself (support@friendswithtales.co.nz) and I'll send them a registration link and video.

How does the website help people find their new pet?

The website is a central place that the public can use to find dogs, cats, puppies, kittens and even roosters currently anywhere in New Zealand. I even help with organising transport by way of air or bus as most rescues will be open to rehoming outside of the city they are in. This helps animals in small communities find homes easier as we are opening them up to a much larger audience. I have already handled quite a few animals going from one island to the other to their new homes.

Does Friends with Tales charge rescue groups or new pet owners a fee?

There is no charge to either rescue groups or new pet owners when using the website. But the rescue groups and pounds do have a charge for animal adoptions. The adoption fees vary and generally include the animal being fixed, flead, wormed, micro-chipped, etc.

Do you have any success stories?

I already have too many success stories to list. On average I myself adopt out one to three dogs a day and the website provides the rescues and pounds with 10 to 200 adoption applications.

Is there anything else you would like to tell us?

Friends with Tales is the first of its kind in New Zealand. We have big plans in the coming months to help the ever increasing number of animals from across the country find their perfect new homes. Our mission is to save more innocent lives. Friends with Tales is turning rescue animals into fur-ever friends. The majority of these animals are truly wonderful loving souls, they are not damaged, and being homeless had little to do with the animal itself.

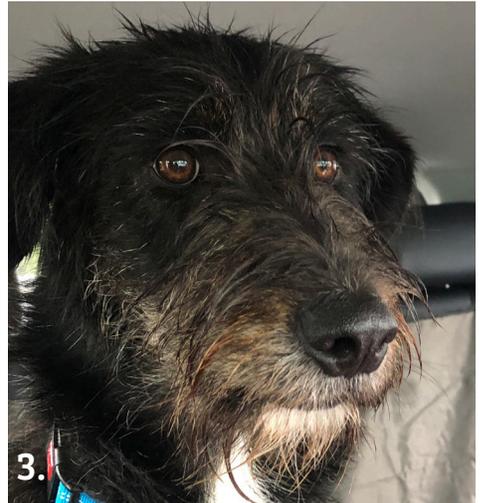
WWW.FRIENDSWITHTALES.CO.NZ



1.



2.



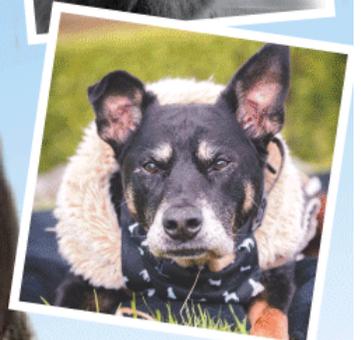
3.

1. Lilly was rescued by Lynda Barlow last year. Lilly had a broken leg, was 5 months old and about to be euthanised. Lynda paid the vet for her treatment after no owner came forward and then collected her. She stayed in a crate in recovery for three months while her leg healed. She now lives an amazing life with a couple on a lifestyle block, and gets to go to their beach home on weekends.

2. Nala is a gorgeous young pup looking for a home. Friends with Tales will help with organising transportation, by air, bus or whatever is required, so she can go anywhere in New Zealand.

3. This Dunedin beardie had no options and was running out of time. Lynda found him a home on the other side of New Zealand. His new owner was so excited, and he now has an amazing home with another doggy friend.

Don't Buy while Homeless Die!



 **friendswithtalesnz**

Join us in our efforts to save more lives, like and share our posts!

PICKING THE PERFECT PUPPY NAME

You've picked out the perfect puppy, and now he needs a name. Over the course of your new dog's life, you will use his name more than 35,000 times so be sure to pick a name you can live with and love.

Once you've chosen a name, try it out for a day or so. You'll soon know whether it's a keeper. If not, there'll always be more puppy names on your list and before long you'll have found the perfect fit!

Finding the perfect puppy name can be easy, but here are some things to consider when making a decision.

- Dogs understand short commands. Easy names with two or fewer syllables work well.
- Stay away from names that sound like any commands. Stacy and stay are too close for comfort and such a name may only confuse the issue.
- Remember, you'll be using your pup's name in public. Stinky may be a cute nickname, but it is probably not the best name to be calling out at the local dog park.
- Make your kids part of the decision process.
- What does your puppy look like? His colour, size, and personal style can inspire a variety of name choices.
- After a couple of days, your new dog's personality will really shine through. Try Cuddles for the sweet little guy who loves to get cozy or Puddles for the pooch who can't seem to find the doggie door.
- Cool movies and cool dog names seem to go hand in hand. Cool Hand Luke's Blue would be a fitting label for a variety of dogs or try a TV dog name like Scooby or Astro.



Safe4 Odour Killer

Non-Toxic ✓

Non-Staining ✓

Non-Corrosive ✓

Non-Irritant ✓

Non-Tainting ✓

Biodegradable ✓

Safe4 Odour Killer is a blend of organic oils and enzymes that break down the molecules that cause the odour rather than covering up one smell with another.

Eliminates all offensive smells such as urine, cigarettes, strong animal and pet odours (including male cat odour).

Available in concentrate form or ready to use sprays - perfect for home or professional use.



Disinfectant cleaners and other Safe4 household products also available online.

Safe4
The Professional Solution

Order online or email us direct

☎ 0800 723 347

✉ 4info@safe4all.co.nz

🌐 www.safe4all.co.nz

HOW DOES RIDING SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS WITH AUTISM?

Riding offers many benefits for those with autism. It gives them the opportunity to work on their communication skills and gives social interaction which they then can apply at home and at school.

Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is often described as "seeing the world through a different lens". According to Autism New Zealand, there are approximately 80,000 people in New Zealand who are affected by ASD. It is called a spectrum disorder because there are a wide range – a spectrum – of different traits. Each person can have very individualised experiences that impact their communication, cognitive function and behaviour in different ways.

Children are often diagnosed around two to three years of age, when differences in communication and play skills become noticed. Other people are diagnosed much later in life or not at all, depending on the level of support they need. This support varies from life-long high needs to low-level adaptations to support daily participation.

Riders who have ASD are referred to Riding for the Disabled (RDA) for a variety of reasons, and their goals are set around individual needs which are based on their learning and life skill development. As part of each riding session, coaches and riders incorporate communication and behavioural strategies, with

coaches encouraging riders to be as independent as possible.

Being on a horse can also support riders to develop sensory processing skills because they will experience a wide range of senses and can learn strategies to manage the differences they feel. They also benefit from the physical aspects of riding a horse, such as developing balance and coordination. It's also a fun and motivating sport and fitness activity.

If you would like to find out more, want to volunteer, or donate, please visit rda.org.nz.

New Zealand Riding for the Disabled serves more than 3000 riders and has more than 1900 volunteers at over 50 groups nationwide.

Our vision is to reach more riders and change more lives.



NZRDA



ONLINE PRESCRIPTIONS

When you or another member of your family sees your local medical practice for healthcare, in many cases you will walk away with a script in your hand for a prescribed medication. It's your choice where you go to get that medication. Yet, many pet owners seem unaware that they have similar rights when their pet requires medicine. Let's take a look at how veterinary medicines are regulated and distributed.

What medications are we talking about?

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) is responsible for regulating veterinary medicines under the Agricultural Compounds and Veterinary Medicines (ACVM) Act 1997. When there is an intention to import to and/or supply a medication product in New Zealand, the medication must be assessed by MPI officials to determine its required registration status.

Medicines are registered as either restricted veterinary medicines (RVMs) or over-the-counter (unrestricted). For RVMs, the clinical expertise of a veterinarian is needed to ensure the medication is used safely and effectively and to manage allergic or other adverse reactions.

MPI cites the example of antibiotic medications which are all classed as RVMs because of the risks associated with their use. For example, antibiotic resistance is an issue in the animal population just as it is with the human population. The veterinarian must diagnose the animal and determine the type of infection it is suffering from before matching it to the appropriate antibiotic. If the infection fails to clear, another antibiotic or treatment regime may be required.

Veterinary practices typically stock a range of medications for sale to their customers. But, like at your local GP, they are also able to write a prescription for a medication which they are not dispensing. You then source this medication from any authorised RVM seller; sellers must have approval from MPI to conduct their business.

RVM sellers are only allowed to dispense what has been authorised in the written script and, just as at your local vet practice, they must keep records about the medications they have sold. Records are subject to MPI audit.

As at January 2020, there were 365 restricted veterinary medicines approved for companion animal use in New Zealand:

- 332 approved for dogs
- 205 approved for cats
- 10 approved for caged birds
- 8 approved for rabbits
- 4 approved for rodents

Some RVMs are approved for use in multiple species.

Bringing online supply to New Zealand

Veterinarian Stefan Walther of myvet.co.nz broke ground in New Zealand when he began selling online in 2006.



Left: Stefan Walther, from MyVet.co.nz, with a selection of the medications that pet owners may purchase online with a prescription.

At the time, Dr Walther owned the Whangamata Animal Hospital. He noticed that residents from the Auckland region, who had bought medication off him after being in the area, would ask him if he could send more medication when a refill was required because his prices were cheaper.

"I went to MPI to tell them what I was going to do (sell online) to assure them that my suppliers were the same suppliers as for my veterinary practice. I wasn't cutting corners."

He also confirmed that as long as he met the documentation requirements, selling online would be legal.

"I wouldn't say that my new business venture was welcomed with open arms. I realised I was a disruptor in the veterinary practice space, but the business model I adopted had been working successfully in the US and UK, where I had previously practised. Vet practice incomes there were primarily based on the fees gained from consultations, with a reasonable mark-up. I couldn't see why New Zealand pet owners shouldn't benefit from the same cost model."

As his business grew, so did the resistance of some veterinarians to supply the prescriptions that their customers were legally entitled to. By 2011, the Veterinary Council updated its Code of Professional Conduct to explicitly address the issue of supplying written prescriptions.

"Where there has been a consultation and a veterinarian has proposed treatment with a veterinary medicine, the client is entitled to request from the veterinarian a written authorisation to take away and have the product dispensed by a different trader. The consulting veterinarian is ethically obliged to comply with that request."

The key thing here is that you have to specifically ask for a script. One will not be provided automatically.

In the United States, the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) is lobbying against a proposed change to that country's rules around scripts. The Fairness to Pet Owners Act, if passed, would require veterinarians to provide a written prescription in all cases. The AVMA contends that enough pet owners know their rights to ask for a script and, by making prescriptions mandatory, there will be an unnecessary administrative burden on vets (such as in cases where a client does not want a script).

Since its establishment, the myvet.co.nz business has seen tremendous growth – averaging 20 per cent per year. In fact, the online business became so successful that Stefan sold his Whangamata veterinary practice, which required him to provide 24/7 veterinary care to the local community, in favour of expanding the online business out of a warehouse in Tauranga. As part of the deal, Stefan and his wife were able to gain better work/life balance and spend more quality time with their children.

"We went from using the kids' bedroom to stock supplies to our current warehouse."

Success brings competition

Although MyVet is the largest online pharmacy in New Zealand, other outlets have entered the market. Stefan sees this as a good thing because "consumer choice is important and it's been something that pet parents in New Zealand didn't have for too long".

Dr Rebecca Penman, of Vet Post (vetpost.co.nz), concurred.

"Pet care is expensive and unsubsidised. But the most important thing for my business is consumers understanding that they are not getting a second-rate product. We buy from the same wholesalers that clinic-based veterinarians buy from."

When I spoke to Rebecca, she was less than 48 hours away from departing New Zealand to assist with bushfire relief in Australia. Her contacts in the veterinary supply field enabled her to travel with much-needed supplies. Both Vet Post and MyVet were audited by MPI in mid-2019. It was checked that the original prescriptions were on file and that medications were filled as prescribed. Both businesses passed their audits.

When should you ask for a script?

If a condition is acute, such as a wound or infection, then time is of the essence in getting medication administered to your pet. Buying directly from your vet practice is recommended.

However, when a pet's treatment is longer term, such as the many pets who are being managed with arthritis medications, then it's worth looking at prices and

selecting the most cost-effective provider.

You should also be aware that there are maximum periods of supply that apply to medications. For a stable condition in a companion animal, a script for a registered veterinary medicine may be filled for a maximum period of six months. The time limit is a maximum of four months for critically important antibiotics. The actual period of supply is chosen by the veterinarian depending on the medication, the condition being treated, and the risks that need to be managed.



Above: Rebecca Penman, from VetPost.co.nz, in Australia providing veterinary care to a bush fire patient.

Script fees

You'll have to factor in the cost for a script, which is virtually always an added cost to your consult fee. This is where the models of human healthcare and veterinary care diverge.

Whereas your GP will not charge extra for writing you a script, it is perfectly legal for a veterinarian to charge a script fee and most do. In researching this column, I selected vet practices at random using Google and asked about fees. Here are the results:

Location	Highest price	Lowest price
Auckland	\$25	\$15
Tauranga	\$35	Same
Palmerston North	\$15	Same
Wellington	\$22	\$17.80
Christchurch	\$25	\$24
Dunedin	\$12.50	Same

One vet practice automatically stated that for its regular clients, they would look to match an online price for medications. From personal experience, some vet practices where you are a loyal and regular customer will value your business by matching an online price.

It is certainly worth checking out online pricing because, even with paying a script fee, you may find that you can save yourself money that can be directed to other aspects of your pet's day-to-day care.

Kathleen Crisley
Principal Therapist
The Balanced Dog
www.balanceddog.co.nz



OBESITY AND YOUR PET

Do you know that it is possible to kill your pet with kindness? Giving your pet a lot of treats may be one way of showing you care for them but it can also make your pet gain weight slowly over time, increasing the risk of certain illnesses. Very few pet owners are aware that obesity is a condition which can impact the health, welfare and quality of life of their furry friends.

What is obesity in pets?

Obesity is a nutritional disease which is defined by the accumulation of body fat. It is one of the common health problems in cats and dogs, with studies indicating that one in three canine pets can afford to shed a few kilos.

What are the dangers of pet obesity?

Obesity can result in a range of conditions such as:

- exercise intolerance/decreased stamina
- respiratory compromise
- heat intolerance
- diabetes or insulin resistance
- liver disease
- heart disease
- high blood pressure (hypertension)
- cancers.

What causes obesity in pets?

- Feeding your pet high-calorie food.
- Lack of exercise, especially in apartment pets.
- Letting your cat or dog eat at will whenever they want.
- Giving your pet treats often.
- Neutering can reduce your pet's energy and activity levels, leading to weight gain.
- Diseases like arthritis, insulinoma and hypothyroidism can affect your pet's mobility and lead to weight gain.
- Large and giant dog breeds are prone to obesity.

How can I check if my pet is obese?

It's easy to determine if your dog is overweight or if your cat is obese. Here are some simple ways to check your pet's weight:

- Run your fingers along the ribs of your pet. You should be able to easily feel the outline of his ribs, with no excess fat covering.
- Check the waist of your pet – a well proportioned waist should be clearly visible when viewed from above.
- View your pet's belly from the side – there should be a neat tummy tuck, i.e., no hanging belly.

How can I manage or prevent pet obesity?

If the body check above indicates that your pet is overweight then it's time to change what, how and when you feed your pet. Here are some things you can do to manage or prevent pet obesity:

- Increase exercise indoors and outdoors.
- Feed your pet a healthy diet as a replacement for high-calorie food.
- Reduce the number of treats you give your pet.
- Reduce the amount of food you give your pet to prevent overfeeding.
- Speak to your vet for further advice.

Find it difficult to deny extra food to a begging dog or persistent cat? Remember: if you don't help them maintain a proper diet then it's only a matter of time before they will fall critically ill, which can cause them pain and cost you a lot of money.

THE CHRISTMAS INDULGE/BULGE!

It's the time of year when those of us who are still regretting the Christmas indulgence are swearing to turn over a new leaf. So while you're at it, let's address good nutrition for our pets as well, because this is vital in helping them to maintain an optimum weight and healthy constitution.

Adopting a natural approach to nutrition is the mainstay of holistic veterinary treatments. Addressing nutrition in combination with herbs, nutraceuticals and other treatment methods has supported many patients and improved their general wellbeing. Often, ongoing health problems begin to resolve.

It's a complex subject at a time when there are more types of commercial foods available than ever before, and ideas, opinions, and studies to match.

SO, WHAT DO WE FEED OUR ANIMALS?

Dogs

- 50-70 per cent good quality raw meat (e.g. lamb, fish, chicken)
- RAW chicken necks or marrow bones
- 20 per cent organ meat (read about parasites below)
- 20-30 per cent vegetables – green leafy vegetables, carrots, pumpkin and kumara (the latter can be roasted/steamed). Fruit such as apple, pear, and melon can also be included.
- Many dogs do not need soy, gluten or corn in their diet.

Cats

- 80 per cent good quality raw meat, fish and eggs
- 20 per cent organ meat (especially hearts)
- RAW chicken wings/neckes or whole small fish (e.g. sardines) three times a week
- 10 per cent vegetables, pulped/steamed and mixed with the meat.

Why mostly raw food? Because heat destroys vitamins and antioxidants contained in raw food.

IMPORTANT POINTERS

- The amount to feed varies depending on your pet's activity level and health status. It is usually about 2-3 per cent of your animal's body weight. A 5kg cat should get 100-150 grams a day. Adjust according to your animals needs.
- Cooking destroys much of the useful nutrients in meat.
- Raw bones are important to provide minerals, especially calcium and vitamins, and to help keep the teeth clean.
- Organ meats are important as they contain valuable nutrients such as taurine, an essential amino acid in cats.

- A high quality vitamin supplement and essential fatty acid supplement (e.g. fish oils) are also recommended. Kelp, spirulina and alfalfa powder are other options.
- Young growing animals need a diet that is completely balanced. It's vital this is done under supervision, otherwise use a good quality commercial option.

AVOID

Foods that are potentially toxic to animals such as raisins, grapes, onions, macadamia nuts and chocolate.

SAFETY ISSUES

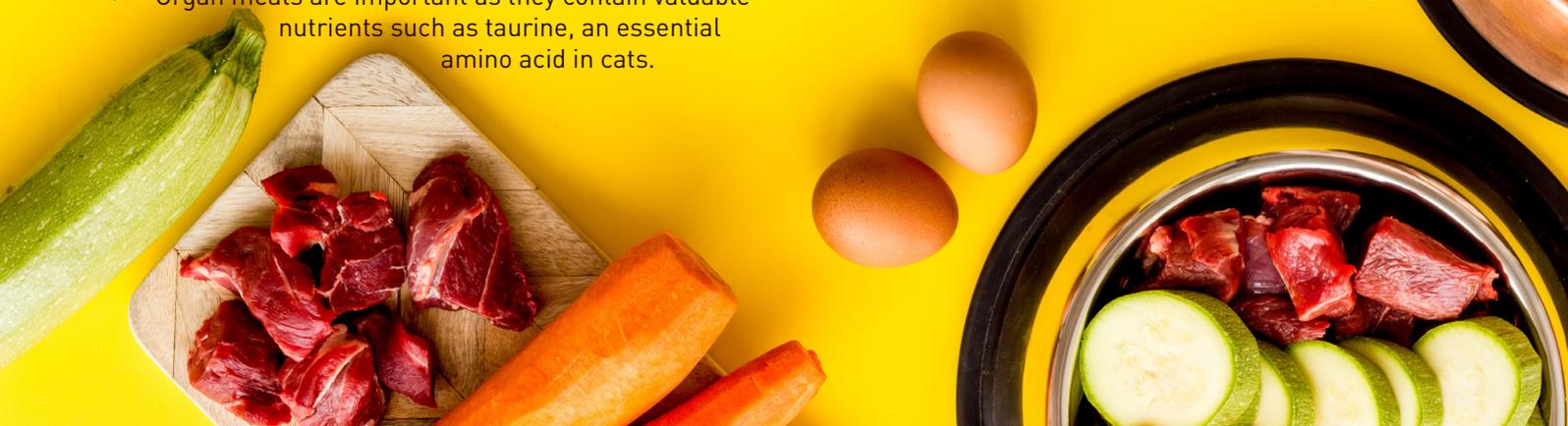
- **Cooked bones can splinter.** Feed raw bones and ensure that they are chewed. If your dog gulps his food, either crush bones before feeding or give large bones. Occasionally some dogs do not tolerate bones (vomiting or diarrhoea, etc). If your dog is one of these, crush/powder the bones and introduce them gradually into the diet.
- **Be wary of bugs.** Always practise good hygiene standards. Ensure the meat is fresh or frozen. Consider cooking food lightly if any of your pets has a compromised immune system – they could be more vulnerable to food-borne pathogens.
- **Parasites.** Those such as hydatids and sheep measles are killed after freezing raw meat for three days at -20 degrees Celsius or at -10°C for ten days. It is illegal to feed raw offal to dogs otherwise.

Some stockists of food I'd recommend are Raw Essentials/Feline Naturals, K9 and ZiwiPeak.

If you are unable to provide a balanced diet, feeding a good quality commercial food option might be a better choice. It is important to buy high quality and reputable products, low in carbohydrates and preservative free.

And remember, always introduce a new diet slowly.

Dr Jacqui Snell – BVSc, Grad Dip VWHM
Veterinary Holistic Healthcare
www.vethhc.co.nz



PROJECT KULI

This year, South Pacific Animal Welfare (SPAW) is embarking on a ground-breaking venture in the Kingdom of Tonga in the South Pacific in the hope to stabilise the canine population. Targeting geographical areas within the main island of Tongatapu, SPAW will roll out a mass desexing programme. While challenging, if successful, the benefits to both the canine and human populations within the area will be huge. A stable canine population breeds fewer puppies each year, reducing food demand and scavenging. Less breeding means fewer roaming dogs which in turn will lead to fewer fight injuries, fewer altercations between cars and dogs, and less transmission of the highly contagious, sexually transmitted canine venereal tumour TVT.

SPAW is a grass roots New Zealand based charity founded in 2010 to deliver much needed veterinary aid to our neighbouring South Pacific Island nations. Its founder, Karen Galvan, grew up rescuing homeless animals in her own neighborhood in South Auckland, volunteering at the SPCA animal shelter in Mangere. Animal welfare was always a natural calling. After travelling the South Pacific extensively in her 30s and witnessing the dire and desperate plight of animals living on islands, Karen gave her skills and expertise to running various animal welfare and veterinary projects in the South Pacific, including Rarotonga, Mangaia, Aitutaki and Majuro in the Marshall Islands. Karen then returned to New Zealand and set up SPAW so these clinics could be managed closer to home. Since then, the organisation has grown and is now a large family of animal welfare advocates, business people, vets, nurses and other individuals who work as volunteers to keep SPAW's vision alive and active. In May 2020, the organisation celebrates 10 years of service to animals, having treated an estimated 20,000 patients in that time.

"SPAW holds our relationships with our island partners close to our heart – our work is a collaboration of goodwill and a mutual understanding that, with some effort, we will be able to foster change over time. Critical to this is drastically reducing roaming dog populations and so this is our core focus for the years ahead," says Karen.

"SPAW's efforts are changing the way animals are seen and treated. We are at the forefront of educating entire communities about animal health and welfare. Many of these communities would otherwise never see a veterinarian, and the impact of our work is making a visible and life enhancing difference to thousands of animals every year."

Each year, SPAW recruits between 40 and 50 vet and vet nurse volunteers to deliver multiple field clinics, sometimes to very remote locations and under the most challenging conditions. Volunteers either fly or boat to these locations. SPAW resources the veterinary medicines, equipment and supplies needed. Small animals, large animals and even bird and marine life have passed through SPAW's clinics. No animal is ever turned away and the services are always offered free.

SPAW was responsible for setting up and introducing volunteer veterinary programmes in the Kingdom of Tonga and Nuie early last decade. Field clinics in Nadi, Taveuni in Fiji, Upolu and Savaii in Samoa, and Rarotonga in the Cook Islands followed.

"It is our desire to ensure that any animal living near a SPAW field clinic has access to free veterinary care," says Karen.

"We have spent 10 years building strong collaborative partnerships in the South Pacific. The past couple of



years we have seen the people living on Tongatapu become increasingly accepting of our work and so we feel the time is right to invest our energies into a more strategic solution to dog population management. There are simply too many dogs on Tongatapu, the cost and associated issues with managing these animal populations is high – we must do more to reduce the breeding. Targeting a specific area and working toward desexing 70-80 per cent of the dogs in that area is our goal. With less dogs, they become more valued and animals are visibly healthier; families can care for their dogs more adequately. Additionally, male dogs are less likely to roam in packs when desexed. We must act now to work toward less puppies being born and so more dogs are taken out of the relentless cycle of unwanted breeding. The Tongan Government has been very supportive and will work with us to ensure we meet our goals.”

The human health impacts of this programme also cannot be underestimated. Fewer, healthier dogs within an area should result in less faecal contamination of the environment and less exposure to humans of the diseases spread by dog faeces. Recent work in Tonga looking at canine parasite levels showed high levels of hookworm and whipworm eggs in canine faecal samples tested. Both these parasites are transmissible to humans, with children the greatest risk group of contracting these zoonotic diseases. Less roaming and breeding by dogs should also reduce the likelihood of humans getting bitten by dogs, reducing the demands on an already stretched human health system within Tonga.

Environmental and animal sciences lecturer Glenn Aguilar recently travelled to Tongatapu to conduct a survey of dog numbers as part of SPAW’s spaying and neutering initiative. He focused on a collection of 12 towns on the northwestern tip, driving along the dusty roads on the lookout for dogs. Where possible, Glenn recorded data about each dog such as sex, condition and size.

Glenn took photos and uploaded all of the data to the exact location on a map to develop a picture of where the dogs were located in each town. The data gives statistics such as the ratio of dog to human and dog to kilometre.

The Tongan Ministry of Agriculture provided three assistants to help Glenn with the work. They initially attempted to do counting on foot in an initial pilot survey in December 2017 but found that some dogs were aggressive.

“Dogs are territorial so we found we couldn’t go on foot. Even inside the car, we kept the windows shut because the dogs sometimes approached us,” says Glenn.

Glenn recorded if a dog appeared to be pregnant or nursing, presuming there was a litter of puppies hidden nearby that he couldn’t see. He also found large groups of dogs which were being fed by local people. The data gathered will help SPAW with the desexing programme beginning March 2020.

To learn more about Project Kuli head to SPAW’s website, spaw.org.nz, or to see project updates give the South Pacific Animal Welfare Facebook page a like.



In 2019, SPAW is proud to have provided the following levels of care, free of charge and without any government funding.



- 732 dogs desexed
- 110 cats desexed
- 21 dog and cat surgeries
- 688 dog consultations - providing flea and worm treatments, health checks, vaccinations and general veterinary advice
- 100 cat consultations - providing flea and worm treatments, health checks, and general veterinary advice
- 42 livestock surgeries and veterinary consultations
- 1690 total animals treated
- 305 volunteer clinic hours
- 2886 volunteer hours gifted by veterinarians and vet nurses
- 41 volunteer placements
- 6 island clinics coordinated and resourced

These statistics do not factor in the volunteer administration and leadership team in Auckland who attribute additionally around 300 hours a year to keeping the SPAW machine running.

SPAW is able to resource its clinics thanks to the support of volunteers and the many veterinary clinics and industry suppliers who contribute throughout the year.

CARING FOR YOUR SENIOR PET



Watching your beloved cat or dog age can be hard for any pet owner. Most pet parents struggle with the realisation that their pet is ageing, but it is a natural process of life. When you spot the signs, it's important to start adjusting to the lifestyle needs of a senior pet. Here are some of the ways to care for your ageing pet.

A HIGH-QUALITY DIET

As pets age and become less active, their caloric requirement drops, so it's important to choose a diet that's appropriate for your pet's age and lifestyle. Feeding a high-quality diet that's appropriate for senior dogs or cats can help prevent weight gain as well as reduce the chances of chewing and digestive issues. Consider adding more fibre to aid digestion while making sure your dog's food is low in fat and with fewer calories. Supplements such as fish oil or glucosamine can also be added to alleviate joint pain.

REGULAR EXERCISE

Your dog may be slowing down, but that doesn't mean he should spend his days curled up on the couch. Regular exercise will help your furry friend maintain his ideal weight and general health. It's important to be reasonable in your expectations for the intensity and duration of an activity. Too much of it can negatively affect your bestie's health while too little won't support muscle development. Because dogs have lower energy levels as they age, he may not be able to go on long hikes, but shorter, less strenuous walks will keep him in good shape.

REGULAR VET CHECKUPS

Much like it is with people, regular health checkups are one of the most important things when it comes to caring for senior pets. Their immune system gets weaker as they age, making them prone to a number of illnesses. A good number of these health issues can be

treated if they're caught early enough. That's why most vets recommend that senior pets should undergo health screening every six months. In addition to this, a trip to the vet gives you an opportunity to talk about your pet's diet, exercise routine and overall health.

ORAL HEALTH

Dental hygiene is particularly crucial as your pet ages. If you've always thought brushing your pet's teeth was a silly idea, you may want to pay attention to it as he gets older because teeth are time ticking bombs if neglected. If your pet doesn't enjoy having his teeth brushed, consider opting for dental treats and toys instead.

REGULAR GROOMING

Older pets typically have special needs as a good percentage of them suffer from dry skin. Flaky and irritated skin can become worse if not cared for properly. More idle time can predispose seniors to dull-looking and brittle coats as well as long nails. Consider brushing your senior pet regularly to avoid the development of mats and tangles. Also, use only natural shampoos as they can heal irritated skin and coats.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

Arthritis is a health condition that's common in ageing pets, so getting soft bedding in the form of a special dog bed can go a long way to provide a lot of joint support and comfort to an aching body. Also, consider a special ramp if your pet has dysplasia or joint issues. Furthermore, some senior pets go completely blind, so keep food and water in areas they can easily reach and not bump into.

As pets age, they need our care and attention even more, so try to spend as much time as you can with them. Additionally, pay attention to their health so you can pick up on any change in your furry friend, as this could be an indication of significant issues.



red dog

REHABILITATION

GETTING YOUR PET UP AND RUNNING

We all feel strains and pains in our bodies at some point; doing a little bit too much one day and feeling it the next. Then as we age, things often get a little bit tighter as we lose flexibility and strength ... we start to get injured easier. All of this is without having an injury that needs surgery.

Now take a moment to think of our pets. No matter how much we love them, sadly they age faster than we do. They suffer the same muscle loss with age, the same flexibility loss with age and sadly they often need the same knee and back surgeries as us.

Red Dog Rehabilitation works hard to make life easier for our four legged friends, offering rehabilitation assessments and exercise plans. Once they find your pet's joints that are losing flexibility, muscle mass and which may be sore, a personalised programme is created to improve these areas. Treatment plans to help pets that are recovering from surgery and neurological (nerve) injury can be formulated. It doesn't matter what your pet's age is, the goal is a happy mobile pet, who can experience their life with reduced pain and discomfort.

Red Dog Rehabilitation has state of the art equipment to ensure the perfect treatment for their patients. Therapeutic K Laser for laser therapy, neuromuscular stimulation, basic acupuncture and exercise equipment are available. The team also works in collaboration with hydrotherapists, vets, massage therapists and animal chiropractors as needed.

Years ago, Red Dog Rehabilitation noticed pet owners found it difficult to source pet equipment that was available overseas. Their online store was born. Priding themselves in importing only high quality products which they stand by 100 per cent.

One of their favourite harnesses is the Help Em Up harness. It has helped so many owners and animals by allowing the owner to lift their pet immediately and easily, rather than awkwardly using towels and slings, to get them into the car and out to the toilet.

Another favourite product is the wheelchair. The team supply rear wheelchairs and quad wheelchairs when needed. They also have a lease fleet available for short term

use, which is especially useful when owners aren't sure if their dog will like using a wheelchair or if they'll manage it. They love hearing from owners about how happy their dog is now it is able to run and walk again or even play in muddy puddles!

The newest product they are proud to support is the Assisi Loop. The loop offers targeted Pulsed Electromagnetic Field therapy that induces a natural mild anti-inflammatory effect in a pet's own body without any drugs. Many clients have had great results and are excited to have another effective alternative treatment available.

If your pet is feeling their age or has special needs then get in touch with Red Dog Rehabilitation to see how they can help your pet.



Shop online at reddogrehab.co.nz/shop.html



1. Diesel receiving laser treatment.
2. Poppy resting during her fitness workout.
3. Winter's treatment for stifle inflammation.

BREED PROFILE

BRITISH SHORTHAIR CAT



As the name suggests, the British shorthair cat is from Great Britain. This cat is a playful, affectionate and easygoing breed. Although the cats enjoy affection, they are an undemanding companion and don't do much pestering. While some cats get a reputation for being high strung, British shorthairs are not very active and a fantastic choice for people who are looking for a loyal best friend.

History

Generally regarded as the oldest English breed of cat, the British shorthair is believed to have descended from cats from Egypt which the invading Romans brought with them. With the rise of cat shows and strict breeding standards during the Victorian era, the breed grew in popularity as it was the only pedigree breed exhibited at the earliest shows. Today, the British shorthair is the most popular cat in the UK.

Appearance

The British shorthair cat is round all over, with large round ears, round eyes and round paws. It has a broad chest, muscular neck, strong jaws and a well-developed muzzle. The ears are quite small and larger at the base. Female cats weigh between four and six kilograms, and males between five and eight. Although their coats come in a bevy of colours and patterns, the most popular colours of fur are bluish grey and silvery, often paired with the most striking copper coloured eyes. This explains why they're also referred to as British blues.

Personality

In harmony with a soft and balanced appearance, British shorthairs are easygoing, loving and fiercely loyal, making them a very pleasant breed to have as a companion. They are known to follow their owners around the house because of their desire to be with their people. Being big cats, they are not fond of being carried around.

They make excellent cats for a family home as they get along well with all human members of the household, regardless of age. Even when left alone, they are satisfied to entertain themselves until their people return. Because of their cool temperament, they are rarely destructive and very sociable, making it easy for them to live with dogs and other cats.

Grooming

Despite its density, the British shorthair's coat is easy to groom, and weekly combing or brushing will remove dead hair and distribute skin oils. However, you should brush more in the spring and autumn to help get rid of extra hair. The rest is basic care, such as daily or weekly teeth brushing and nail trimming when required, etc.

Health problems

British shorthairs are typically a healthy breed of cat, but they tend to add weight as they age due to inactivity. While they're often known for their clean bill of health, it is still important to check their health regularly. The health problems they are prone to are gingivitis and hypertrophic cardiomyopathy, both of which can affect any breed. British shorthairs have an average lifespan of nine to 15 years, although some cats have been known to live up to 20 years. Because British shorthairs can easily become overweight, they need a lot of exercise and a careful diet to keep them fit and healthy.

Overall, these cats are very intelligent and excellent family pets.

THE BRITISH SHORTHAIR AT A GLANCE

Weight range: males 5-8kg; females 4-6kg.

Life expectancy: 7-12 years.

Eye colour: gold, copper, blue and odd-eyed.

Coat length: short – dense and plush.

Coat colour: variety of colours and patterns including blue, black, cream, tabby and smoke

Grooming: low.

Shedding: medium.

Affection level: medium

Friendly: medium.

Social needs: low.

THE IMPORTANCE OF GROOMING

Like cats, rabbits pride themselves on cleanliness, which is why it is so easy to teach them to use the litter box. They spend several hours a day grooming themselves, maintaining the quality of their skin and coat. However, just because your pet rabbit spends a large amount of its day grooming it doesn't absolve you from pet grooming. Rabbits, like all pets, rely on their owners to set a grooming plan and stick with it.

One of the most important things to do is to brush your rabbit at least once a day. The time you spend brushing your pet bunny will go a long way to establish a lifelong bond. The health benefits of brushing your pet rabbit include the removal of any dead hairs that your rabbit might otherwise swallow. Once swallowed, these hairs can form a hairball that can compromise your rabbit's digestive system. If a hairball creates a blockage, your pet rabbit will need to see a vet immediately.

When you are brushing your rabbit bear in mind that the average rabbit sheds its old coat approximately every three months; you'll be amazed at how much hair comes off while brushing. Rabbits have very delicate skin so look for a brush that has soft bristles that won't damage it. When properly groomed and cared for, long haired rabbits, like Angoras, are gorgeous. The problem is keeping all that hair combed, clean and free of mats.

It's quite a chore. If you are not up to keeping the hair free of mats then consider trimming your rabbit. This helps keep the coat clean and mat free but also keeps the rabbit more comfortable during the hot summer months. If you have never trimmed a rabbit's long hair before, you might want to take him to a professional pet groomer and watch how it's done before you try it yourself. Again, when using clippers or scissors, be very careful that you don't damage your rabbit's skin.

Every few weeks, check to make sure your rabbit's nails haven't got too long. If you think they are looking long, or notice that they are starting to catch, it is time to trim them. If you have never done this before, for the first time take your rabbit to a pet groomer or veterinarian. If you are comfortable to trim their nails yourself, be careful not to trim the nails so short that they bleed and your rabbit is too uncomfortable to move around.



UP COMING EVENTS

MARCH

Monday 9th, 6pm
It's a Dog's Life
Otaki Dog Park Aotaki Street, **Otaki**

Saturday 14th, 11am
Doggy Day Out
Long Bay Village, **Auckland**

Saturday 14th, 8am
Walk/Run Guided Horse Trek
Akitio Community Centre, **Taranaki**

Saturday 21st, 12noon
Dog Day Afternoon
Silo Park, **Auckland**

Saturday 21st, 12noon
Dog & Grog
Pocket Bar & Kitchen, **Grey Lynn**

Saturday 28th, 10am
PET First Aid Course
Energy Vats, **North Taranaki**

APRIL

Saturday 4th, 10am
Pooch Pool Party
Waltham Pool, **Christchurch**

Sunday 5th, 10am
BARK in the Pool
Point Erin Pools, **Herne Bay**

Saturday 11th, 9am
Doggy Day Out
Parnell Baths, **Auckland**

Monday 13th, 10am
Pooch In The Pool
Memorial Pool, **Tauranga**

Saturday 18th, 12.30pm
PET First Aid Course
Forester Park Kennel Club, **Dunedin**

Saturday 18th, 12noon
Dog & Grog
Pocket Bar & Kitchen, **Grey Lynn**

MAY

Saturday 2nd, 8.30am
Together for Animals Conference
Wellington High School, **Wellington**

Saturday 2nd, 10am
Pet Expo
Pioneer Stadium, **Christchurch**

Sunday 3rd, 3.30pm
Water Training
Little Shoal Bay, **North Shore**

Saturday 16th, 12noon
Dog & Grog
Pocket Bar & Kitchen, **Grey Lynn**

Saturday 16th, 8am
Animal Evac NZ Foundation Course
Botany Town Centre, **Auckland**

Saturday 30th, 9am
New Zealand Bird Conference
Commodore Hotel, **Christchurch**

Pet Life Ltd takes care collating upcoming pet events listed within. Pet Life Ltd is not associated with the running of the events listed and as such recommends you check directly with the organisers regarding each event. Times and dates may vary to those listed here. For more information about events listed visit petlife.co.nz/events. If you would like to see your event listed here, email us with the details info@petlife.co.nz.

CAT IN A FLAP!

While some cats may confidently stroll through a cat door, others may take some time to get used to the idea. Training your timid cat to use a cat door doesn't need to be hard work for you or stressful for your feline.

Choosing and installing your cat door

There are many cat doors on the market, ranging from the simplest through to those that are microchip operated. Choosing the right cat door for your cat will depend things such as:

- do you have neighbouring cats that would use the door?
- do you have stray cats that fight your cat?
- is your cat microchipped?
- are you installing the door into glass or wood?

If you are unsure what would be the best cat door for you, have a chat with your veterinarian or ask your friends what they have. When installing the cat door yourself, make sure you install the cat door at the correct height. Measure the distance from your cat's tummy to the floor which will give you an idea of the height at which you will need to insert the door. Inserting the cat door so it opens into a secluded and sheltered space can make your cat feel safe. Also consider installing the cat door during the summer months so your feline is feeling more inclined to head outdoors THROUGH the cat door!

Training your cat

For many, installation of the cat door is the easy part. Actually getting your cat to use the door can be hard work. Depending on your cat's personality, getting your cat to use the door could be as easy as showing it to them. For others it may take some time and patience to teach them to trust the cat door. Before you start make sure your cat is calm and relaxed – this will make all the difference. Prop the cat door open so your cat realises this gives it the freedom to roam indoors and out. If it is not naturally

inquisitive then place some food on the opposite side to entice them through. If this still isn't enough encouragement then sit on the other side to your cat with a treat in hand and try to coax them out with encouraging words. If your cat walks through, be sure to praise them with lots of verbal cues and snuggles.

If food or treats aren't hitting the mark then try adding your cat's scent to the cat door. Use your cat's bed or blanket and wipe this over the cat door to add their scent to it. Your cat doesn't have a cat bed? Try wiping a towel over them a couple of times and then using this to rub over the cat door to transfer their scent to the door. Applying your cat's scent to the cat door will encourage your cat to feel comfortable with the door.

Once your cat is happy to walk through the propped open door, remove the prop and see if they continue to use the door. If your cat refuses to walk through the closed door try sitting on the opposite side and enticing them with their favorite food or treats. Be patient and try for some time to get them to walk through. If they are reluctant to try, open the door slightly and then make them push it further open to walk through.

If your cat is not happy with this

then prop the door open again and allow them to become more confident walking through the open cat door. Once they are confident, close the door again and see how they go. If they refuse to walk through the closed door then retry enticing them through ... remember patience is the key at this step.

If after several attempts your cat is not interested in passing through the door to get treats, introduce playful familiarisation. Prop the cat door up and then start playing with your cat. All cats are born with a hunting instinct which allows them to survive – use this to your advantage. It is easy to teach your cat to learn easily and effortlessly through play. By harnessing the instincts of your cat you can get him to use the cat door. While most owners can't squeeze themselves through the cat door, "showing" your cat how it is done can help. To do this, walk through the main door closing it behind you, then reach through the cat door with your hand while calling your cat. When they come close enough give them a pat through the door and while patting try to encourage them through the cat door.

Remember, if your cat is taking a bit longer to get used to the new cat door, be patient. Eventually your cat will learn that using the cat door gives them unlimited freedom!



WATER, WATER, WHERE?

While New Zealand is blessed with a formidable amount of coastline, for pets it's a case of water, water everywhere but not a drop to drink. (Apologies now to pets and pet carers in Southland and the West Coast as the thoughts that follow relate more to the remainder of the country.)

A New Zealand summer can serve up some real challenges, and this year has been no exception – in fact, it's been quite exceptionally challenging. Much of the country didn't experience rain for 40-50 days, with a drought being declared from the Waikato to the far north. Great for days at the beach but not so much for pets who are inside or naturally forage for moisture or water to supplement their diet or simply survive.

Water bans place extra pressure on pets and their carers to consider water use, while owners of aquaria on groundwater supply can find a hardening of the water requires extra vigilance around filtration and monitoring of water quality. David has provided some more specialised advice below. Without any supplementary water sources around, like puddles and waterways, there has been little for cats, dogs and the wee fuzzies to get their daily needs. Extra water availability needs to be front of mind, and also consider some novel approaches to supply to keep the natural instinct of your pets in order.

For 2020/21, when putting up the Christmas tree, it might be a good time to do a quick check of water and ventilation measures in the immediate environment. Even here in the Bay of Plenty (empty), Caesar, our one eyed cat, has had to dodge inside temperatures of over 31 degrees and consume more than twice his normal water provisions. For any aquarium based crew, ensure measuring equipment is relevant and calibrated, and all your cartridges are clean or replaced. This will better serve your fishy mates. A word of warning, your supplier will be in heavy demand so let them know in advance.

Finally, if you're a lifestyle block pet carer then water and all day shade (yes the sun moves throughout the day) remains your key focus. Spare a thought for your bees who are foraging for water for 10,000 family members. There are some really awesome water systems with floating decks on the market to provide water without drowning the girls.

More importantly, if there are any issues in this article that you'd like to know more about, please give one of the Pacific Coast Technical Institute animal care tutors a call and organise a time for them to visit. Check out our ad and contact details in this issue.

Mark Hellyer
Animal Enthusiast
Pacific Coast Technical Institute

SUMMER FISH CARE

Summer has been hot and dry this year and our pet fish need some extra love in these conditions.

Tropical fish are, of course, tropical but that means 25 degrees Celsius. In a closed house in summer, water temperatures can rise to mid-30 degrees. This can be lethal to some species of fish, and certainly stressful to all. Some fish species have a maximum temperature which they can tolerate, but the main problem is that warmer water holds less oxygen and fish, like us, need oxygen to live.

Garden ponds, too, suffer from the heat and in addition they can lose a lot of water from evaporation at this time of year. Keep an eye on the water level in your pond, and don't forget to use a water conditioner to remove the chlorine from tap water when topping up.

So, how can we manage some of these things? Firstly try and keep your aquaria cool. This may mean closing

curtains or even leaving a window open. Having plenty of aeration from an air pump or surface agitation from a filter return will improve oxygen levels. In a pond, fountains and water features will improve the oxygen content of the water.

As a final note, if your pond contains lots of submerged aquatic plants such as the so called "oxygen weed", be aware that they only produce oxygen during the day and produce carbon dioxide at night. Combined with warmer water, this can suffocate your pond fish overnight and it's not uncommon for that to happen in summer. Counter this by operating fountains and waterfalls 24/7 to disperse carbon dioxide and increase oxygen levels in the water.

David Cooper
Fish and Aquatics Ambassador
Pacific Coast Technical Institute

Want to advertise your business here?
Contact us at
advertise@petlife.co.nz
for details.

PET DIRECTORY

THE BARKERY BROTHERS
SPOIL YOUR DOG

www.thebarkerybrothers.com

Bandanas NOT just for looks

Worn wet can drop body temperature by 3-4%

Add a drop of lavender oil to calm the soul

A sprinkle of eucalyptus oil to clear the nose

4URPAWS
Lifestyle accessories for your pet

@4URPAWS

natural animal
CARE • NURTURE • PROTECT

PET First Aid & Training (NZ)
Pet First Aid Training Courses

Could you help your beloved pet when they needed you most?

COLLOIDAL SILVER

E: contact@naturalanimal.co.nz
P: 027 224 0011
www.naturalanimal.co.nz

PetConnect

1500+ ITEMS

Over 1500 items online with a price match guarantee.

Shop at PetConnect.nz

@petconnect.nz /petconnect.nz

immunovet
NEW ZEALAND LIMITED

NOW AVAILABLE IN NEW ZEALAND

We are proud to announce that one of the finest pet food supplements available for animals is now available in New Zealand.

Genuine Original

Available in tablet or powder form

Don't stick a Band-Aid on it, heal from the inside, naturally. Proven results worldwide.

www.immunovetnewzealand.co.nz

red dog
rehabilitation
getting your pet up and running

We help your pet with arthritis, post-op injury recovery, aches and pains, neurological conditions, agility assessments & pre-competition treatments.

We provide reliable, high quality products to help you and your dog.

See our products or book online for an assessment at www.reddogrehab.co.nz
Contact us for more information at info@reddogrehab.co.nz

Barking CLEAN DOG WASH

24/7 Self Serve **DOG WASH**
NOW OPEN

Self Serve Dog Wash
Note or coin operated
10 MINUTE WASH

Warm water
Premium wash products
Blow dryer

TWO LOCATIONS
Prebbleton Veterinary Hospital
Auto Express Wash **ONLY \$10**
530b Sawyers Arms Rd

@littlelionsnz

little
for the **lions** in your life

Secure this spot for your business

4 issues for only \$99 + GST per issue

Includes social media post promotion on Facebook & Instagram

NEW ZEALAND WELFARE & RESCUE GROUPS

NATIONWIDE

KITTYCAT FIXERS

Phone: 021 059 5863
Email: info@kittycatfixers.org.nz
Website: www.kittycatfixers.org.nz

ROTTWEILER RESCUE & REHOMING NEW ZEALAND

Phone: 021 022 006633
Email: rottierescuenz@gmail.com

NZ RAT RESCUE

Email: office@nzrr.org
Website: www.nzrr.org

ANIMAL EVAC NZ

Email: info@animalevac.nz
Website: www.nimalevac.nz

NORTHLAND

RUAKAKA DOG RESCUE TRUST

Phone: 021 222 2849
Email: ruakakadogrescue@gmail.com
Website: www.ruakakadogrescue.com

AUCKLAND

CRAZY CAT LADY CAT RESCUE SOUTH AUCKLAND

Phone: 027 248 0577
Email: cclcr@hotmail.com

FRANKLIN CAT RESCUE

Phone: 027 901 2244
Email: franklincatrescue@gmail.com
Website: www.franklincatrescue.co.nz

9 LIVES ORPHANAGE

Phone: 021 210 0051 or 021 208 2486
Email: 9livesorphanage@gmail.com
Website: www.9livesorphanage.co.nz

HOPE RESCUE SOUTH AUCKLAND

Phone: 027 686 2778 or 021 0200 8791
Email: hope.rescue.south.auckland@gmail.com

PASSION 4 PAWZ

Phone: 021 126 1031
Email: passionforpawz@gmail.com

NORTH SHORE TURTLE, REPTILES & AMPHIBIAN RESCUE

Phone: 021 140 9491
Email: nsrescues@gmail.com

AUCKLAND FISH, TURTLE & REPTILE RESCUE

Phone: 021 113 3469
Email: reptilerescuenz@gmail.com

AUCKLAND PUPPY RESCUE

Email: Admin: puppyrescue@outlook.com
Fostering: puppyfoster@outlook.com
Adopting: puppyadopt@outlook.com
Website: www.aucklandpuppyrescue.com

AUCKLAND CAVY CARE

Phone: 021 969 301
Email: jrpetkeeper@gmail.com
Website: www.aucklandcavycare.org

CHAINED DOG AWARENESS

Email: info@cdanz.org
Website: www.cdanz.org

LOVED AT LAST "LALA"

Phone: 021 179 8689

9 LIVES CAT RESCUE

Phone: 02 486 2374
Website: www.9livescatrescue.org.nz

PET WHISPERER RESCUE TRUST

Phone: 022 482 1620
Website: www.rescue.petwhisperer.co.nz

BAY OF PLENTY

WHANGAMATA CAT

Phone: 021 252 7002
Email: whangamata.cat.adoption.team@gmail.com

FREE AS A BIRD BATTERY HEN AND POULTRY RESCUE

Phone: 021 212 4788
Email: freeasabirdrescue@outlook.co.nz

ARRC WILDLIFE TRUST

Phone: 07 579 9115
Email: info@arrc.org.nz
Website: www.arrc.org.nz

WAIKATO

ADOPTABLE

Phone: 07 390 0529 or 021 263 5652
Email: jay@adoptable.org.nz
Website: www.adoptable.org.nz

PAWS 4 LIFE

Phone: 021 246 8978
Email: rachael@paws4life.co.nz
Website: www.paws4life.co.nz

NEW LIVES ANIMAL RESCUE

Phone: 027 649 9088
Email: newlivesrescue@xtra.co.nz
Website: www.newlivesrescue.co.nz

PAWS AWHILE ANIMAL SANCTUARY

Phone: 021 102 9977
Email: anna.dahlberg@hotmail.co.nz

DOG PROTECTION LEAGUE

Phone: 027 535 8930
Email: dogprotectionleaguenz@hotmail.com

L.A.R.A ANIMAL RESCUE & FARM SANCTUARY

Phone: 07 974 9024
Email: larafarmrescue@gmail.com
Website: www.littleacresfarm.co.nz

DC RESCUE

Phone: 021 041 4108
Email: dc_rescue@yahoo.co.nz

HAWKE'S BAY

HASTINGS & DISTRICTS SPCA

Phone: 06 878 8733 (shelter)
Email: committee@spcahastings.org.nz

GOAT WELFARE NZ

Phone: 0211 602 329
Email: goatwelfarenz@hotmail.com

MANAWATU/ WHANGANUI

POPPELLES KITTEN RESCUE

Phone: 027 438 7913
Email: poppelles@clear.net.nz

ALL PAWS RESCUE

Email: rescueallpaws@gmail.com
Website: www.allpawsrescue.org.nz

HAVEN BULL BREED RESCUE

Email: havenrescue@yahoo.co.nz
Website: www.havenrescue.org.nz

WELLINGTON/KAPITI

HUHA - HELPING YOU HELP ANIMALS

Phone: 04 392 3232
Email: enquire.huha@gmail.com
Website: www.huha.org.nz

KITTEN INN

Phone: 04 565 1193
Email: info@kitteninn.org.nz
Website: www.kitteninn.org.nz

WELLINGTON AMPHIBIAN AND REPTILE RESCUE

Phone: 027 840 6064 or 027 318 3840
Email: wgmt.rescue@gmail.com

THE OUTPAWED RESCUE TRUST

Phone: 021 644 538
Email: outpawed@gmail.com
Website: www.outpawed.wordpress.com

WAIRARAPA COMMUNITY KITTIES

Phone: 027 882 9518
Email: wairarapakitties@gmail.com

CATS PROTECTION WELLINGTON

Phone: 04 389 9668
Email: catsprotectionleaguegmt@hotmail.com
Website: www.cpl-wellington.org.nz

WELLINGTON RABBIT RESCUE

Email: Info@wellingtonrabbitrescue.org
Website: www.wellingtonrabbitrescue.org

UPPER HUTT ANIMAL RESCUE

Phone: 04 526 2672
Email: info@animalrescue.org.nz
Website: www.animalrescue.org.nz

LOOSE LEASH CAT RESCUE

Phone: 021 197 5990
Email: Looseleash.catrescue@gmail.com

WEST COAST

GREYMOUTH SPCA

Phone: 03 768 5223
Email: greyspca@xtra.co.nz

CANTERBURY

CAT RESCUE CHRISTCHURCH CHARITABLE TRUST

Email: catrescue.chch@gmail.com
Website: www.catrescue.org.nz

CHRISTCHURCH BULL BREED RESCUE

Phone: 021 296 7389
Email: chchbullbreedrescue@hotmail.co.nz
Website: www.chchbullbreedrescue.org.nz

TURTLE RESCUE AND REHOMING

Phone: 021 202 0185
Email: turtleinfo@paradise.net.nz
Website: www.turtlerescue.co.nz

CAT CARE INC

Phone: 021 149 9903
Phone: 03 313 3851
Email: info@catcare.org.nz
Website: www.catcare.org.nz

OXFORD BIRD RESCUE & CANTERBURY RAPTOR RESCUE

Phone: 021 292 7861
Email: obr@xtra.co.nz
Website: www.oxfordbirdrescue.org.nz & www.canterburyraptorrescue.org.nz

CATS PROTECTION LEAGUE CANTERBURY

Phone: 03 376 6094
Email: cplcats@xtra.co.nz
Website: www.cats.org.nz

DOG WATCH SANCTUARY TRUST

Phone: 03 981 4708
Email: info@dogwatch.co.nz

THE NEW ZEALAND RAPTOR TRUST

Phone: 027 448 9044
Email: admin@nzraptor.co.nz

ŌTAUTAHI RABBIT REHOMING

Email: rabbitreomingotautahi@gmail.com

AXOLOTL RESCUE

Email: axolotlrescuechch@outlook.com

OTAGO

CAT RESCUE DUNEDIN

Email: catrescuedunedin@gmail.com
Website: www.catrescuedunedin.org.nz

ONE BY ONE RESCUE NZ

Email: onebyonenz@gmail.com
Phone: 03 926 9325 (Trina)
Phone: 027 857 9379 (Jaimee)

SOUTHLAND

SOUTHERN CROSS GREYHOUND ADOPTIONS

Phone: 027 201 6812
Email: debbie.branks@sit.ac.nz

SOUTHLAND GREYHOUND ADOPTION

Phone: 027 511 8894
Email: southlandgreyhoundadoption@gmail.com

FUREVER HOME

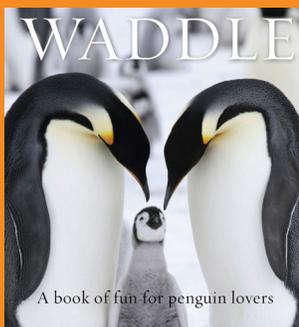
Email: info.fureverhomes@gmail.com
Website: www.fureverhomes.org.nz

Pet Life is not associated with any group listed within. This list has been put together to assist our readers with finding suitable rescue and welfare groups within their area.

If you would like to see your rescue/welfare group listed here, email info@petlife.co.nz.

WIN!

WADDLE



By Lloyd Spencer Davis
RRP \$29.99

Waddle is available from existlepublishing.com and wherever great books are sold.

Penguins. We love them. Seemingly upright caricatures of us, it is easy to bond with these black and white 'little people'. They have become perennial favourites of cartoonists, because they are fun. They make us laugh. Waddle is a compendium of delightful quotes and gorgeous photographs that capture the essence of this amusement. Its intention is to put a grin on your face and a warm feeling in your heart — all thanks to these endearing creatures that don't just walk, but waddle.

Pet Life has two copies of WADDLE to give away. Enter at petlife.co.nz/competitions. Competition closes 31 May 2020.

Celebrating 4 UR PAWS new HQ's

Go in the draw to win a bandana for you and your friend. Snap a photo of the new 4 UR PAWS HQ van, post it on Facebook or Instagram and #4URPAWS.



Competition runs until 31 May 2020. Three draws will take place on the last day of the month.



RESCUE SUPER STAR

Feline Fix



Every cat should be wanted, say yes to desex!

Annette Buckley and Sandra Knight, two long time volunteers of animal charities, are trying to be the ambulance at the top of the cliff when it comes to rescuing cats.

Feline Fix, their not for profit organisation based in Kapiti, was founded in September 2019 to help spay and neuter cats and kittens, and it's proving to be a worthwhile and important service for the area. Annette says her involvement with the national charity Kittycat Fixers gave her the inspiration to do something locally.

"Volunteering at my local SPCA for 20 years means I've seen countless cats and kittens plus many other animals being dropped off. One Saturday morning, I witnessed two cages full of kittens being dropped off within the space of 10 minutes. It was heart-breaking and I just wanted to cry," says Annette.

Sandra has also seen firsthand what the height of kitten season looks like at the many rescues around the country, and both agree it shouldn't be like that.

Annette says there are a number of reasons why some owners do not desex their cat.

"Some haven't heard of groups that can help them or they feel embarrassed to approach someone that can help. Sometimes it is financial, and some owners simply do not realise the importance of desexing at an early age."

In the first month of operation, Feline Fix launched a Facebook page and the team started regularly posting on as many community notice boards as possible to spread the word. Anyone can ask for help, whether they have a Community Services Card or not.

Cat owners are asked for a minimum \$30 contribution, "more if they wish", to be paid directly to the vet on the day of the procedure. Feline Fix subsidises the balance.

Feline Fix received a foundation

grant from Friends of Animal Charities (FOAC) to get established and they continue to support their work. FOAC operates an Op Shop in Paraparaumu and all profits go to the animals.

"We wouldn't be where we are today without them. We have also received funding from the Waikanae Op Shop to carry out our work."

In their spare time, Annette and Sandra hold stalls at the local Saturday markets and have collections at supermarkets to raise funds.

The women celebrated six months of Feline Fix at the end of February, and their statistics are very encouraging. More than 40 cats and kittens have been spayed or neutered, and three sets of kittens have been surrendered for rehoming.

Annette and Sandra say they hope their efforts are making a positive difference and, in the meantime, they are definitely enjoying helping the community, one fixed feline at a time!



Fat Cat was the first Feline Fix client, spayed on 1 October 2019.

Contact Feline Fix to learn more about how you can help!

Donate

givealittle.co.nz/cause/feline-fix

Email

felinefix.kapiti@gmail.com

Phone

027 230 2024





Pacific Coast
Technical Institute



New Zealand Certificate in Animal Care (Level 3)

Delivered by PCTI through an NZQA approved subcontracting agreement with Manukau Institute of Technology.

pcti.co.nz
0508 28 72 46



**MANUKAU
INSTITUTE OF
TECHNOLOGY**

Te Whare Takura o Manukau