

**Welcome to our new vet Noni! Come and see us at the Dogs  
Day Out this Sunday!**



**Turrumurra Veterinary Hospital**

**April 2016**

We hope everyone had a wonderful Easter break.

We are now open:

Monday to Friday: 7:30am-7pm.

Saturdays: 8am-2pm.

Sundays: 10am-12pm.

**Dogs Day Out-this Sunday 10th April**



Come and visit the Turrumurra Vet team at the annual free Dogs Day Out event this Sunday at St Ives Showground from 10am-3pm.

It's a great community day with a range of dog competitions, talent

shows, dog races, and the theme this year is 'Game of Bones' – where dogs can be dressed up in 'Game of Thrones' costumes to win the Best Dressed Pet competition.

Our stall will give you the chance to win a hamper full of pet goods worth over \$140 as well as plenty of mini-prizes and freebies. We would love to see you up there even just to have a chat about your lovely pets! The weather looks promising so come along and enjoy the day!

**Event Details:**

**When:** Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> April, 10am – 3pm.

**Where:** St Ives Showgrounds, 450 Mona Vale road, St Ives. Parking is free and available inside the showground.

**Welcome Dr. Noni Marceau**



We would like to make a warm welcome to the newest member of our team, Dr. Noni Marceau.

Noni grew up on the North Shore, in Lane Cove. Following completion of an Advanced Diploma in Horse Management in Orange, she moved to Brisbane to complete her Bachelor of Veterinary Science. During this time she worked as a veterinary nurse in an urban veterinary practice.

Following graduation in 2003, Noni worked in Brisbane for 2 years, then moved to the UK for work and travel. She settled in London where she met her partner, and worked in a family owned and operated veterinary practice for almost 6 years, including a sojourn of maternity leave in 2013 after the birth of their daughter.

After almost 10 years in the UK, in December 2015, Noni and her young family relocated back to Australia to take advantage of the sunny outdoor lifestyle and to be closer to family.

Currently Noni is studying for her Certificate in Advanced Veterinary Practice (UK equivalent of memberships) in small animal medicine. She has an interest in medicine, imaging and dentistry.

### Dog Park Safety



One of the greatest enjoyments of dog ownership can be visiting the local dog park with your dog and watching your dog run and play and get some much needed exercise.

However, dog parks can be potentially dangerous if a few precautions are not followed.

When watching dogs interact, look for:

- **Both** dogs initiating play (play bows, chase and tag).
- Role reversal (not always 50/50, but both dogs must take turns chasing etc.).
- Relaxed body language (loose body movements, postures and expressions and circular greetings rather than head on).
- Frequent interruptions (either dog or owner initiated). Many social dogs will naturally interrupt play by sniffing, wandering off, looking away briefly, having a drink, checking in with you or shaking off. If

your dog is not interrupting play themselves, you need to be able to call your dog away from play reliably and regularly.

If you don't see **all** of the above, interrupt play and either give the dogs a break or move away. While growling is normal during play, it is a sign that the dog is getting too worked up and the dogs should be given a break from play.

### **Big or Small, Bad Breath is just not cool...**



Did you know that over 80% of dogs and 70% of cats older than 3 years have some form of periodontal disease? Dental disease causes bad breath (halitosis), gingivitis and pain, and is also a source of infection that can make your pet unwell. It's not normal for your pet's breath to smell bad, and remember – most pets won't tell you that their mouth hurts!

Turramurra Vet offers FREE senior nurse dental checks by appointment, with a free dental food sample (while stocks last). This is an ideal opportunity for owners to find out if their pet has existing problems which have gone unnoticed, and find out how to prevent problems in the future.

There are many methods to keep your pet's teeth 'pearly white'. These include scientifically prepared dental foods, Greenies chews, water additives such as Healthymouth, and tooth brushing. Please ask us about all these options when you bring your pet in.

Next month we'll tell you how to introduce your pet to tooth brushing – yes it can be done!

## Did you Know?



There are many benefits to spaying or neutering your bunny. Firstly, a desexed bunny can live a longer, healthier life as the risk of cancer and urinary tract infections are greatly reduced. In fact, 4 out of 5 female rabbits develop uterine cancer by the age of 6 if not desexed.

Desexed bunnies are:

- Less destructive (as digging and nesting behaviours related to mating can cause destruction).
- Easier to litter train and more reliable with using the litter tray (or a particular spot).
- Calmer and less likely to show aggressive or possessive behaviours.
- Able to have a friend. Rabbits love bunny companionship and flourish in the presence of another bun. Many undesexed bunnies won't tolerate a friend of the same gender and when put with a bunny of the same gender, baby bunnies are quickly the result.

We offer desexing of both male and female bunnies. For more information please feel free to contact us on 9988 0198, or drop in any time to enquire.

