

In this issue: Deadly cat virus outbreak in Sydney, local dog poisoned in Pymble, summer ear infections and a kids guessing game!

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Turrumurra Veterinary Hospital

February 2017

Deadly Cat Virus Outbreak - Is Your Cat Protected?



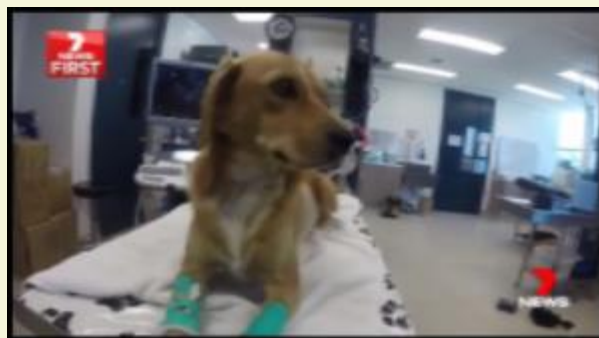
There has been a recent outbreak in Sydney of a deadly feline viral disease – feline panleukopaenia virus (also known as feline enteritis). This disease has not been seen in Sydney for many years due to high rates of vaccination, but has now struck unvaccinated pet cats, as well as three animal shelters in Western

Sydney causing multiple deaths.

Symptoms in infected cats include fever, lethargy and loss of appetite, followed by vomiting and diarrhoea.

Fortunately, vaccination is extremely effective at preventing this virus, and is a component of the core F3 vaccination that we recommend for all feline patients at Turrumurra Vet Hospital. So if your cat is overdue their vaccination, or you are getting a new cat or kitten – make sure they are vaccinated as quickly as possible to ensure their continued protection.

Warning - Local Dog Poisoned with Rat Bait in Pymble



One of our beautiful patients, Roxie, the 2 year old Beagle x Cavalier King Charles Spaniel, came to us earlier this week after suddenly becoming unwell and developing changes in her breathing. Our examination, blood tests and x-rays found that Roxie was bleeding into her chest and we immediately suspected she may have eaten rat bait.

Her owners checked their yard and found sausages that had been thrown over the fence, stuffed with rat bait and Roxie had eaten enough of them to put her in grave danger.

She was immediately transferred to Northside Vet Specialists at Terrey Hills for an urgent blood transfusion and is still receiving treatment there. Roxie is showing signs of improvement but is not out of the woods yet and will need continuing medication for another 4-6 weeks.

Keep your fingers crossed for a full recovery for Roxie, and stay vigilant – watch out for any suspicious activity! If you were watching 7 news on Thursday the 9th, you might have even seen her gracing the TV screen as her story was covered! Click [here](#) to watch the story.

Ear infections: the downside of Summer!



Did you know that ear infections are one of the top reasons that dogs visit their vet?

Commonly observed signs include scratching at the ears and head shaking. Ear infections can also cause redness of the ear flaps and ear canals, a smelly discharge and pain (yelping/ whining or groaning when the ear is handled). If you notice any of these signs, please contact us to arrange a consultation: your pet requires veterinary attention.

As ear canals in our companion pets are much longer than in people, it is necessary to examine each ear with an otoscope to assess the ear canals and eardrums thoroughly. We also often need to take a small sample of the debris in

the ear to find out what kind of ear problem your pet has.

Treatment of ear infections is typically done with topical ear medication, however severe cases may require oral medication. Flushing the ears with an ear cleaner is beneficial also: helping by removing debris such as pus, ear wax, infection, and accumulation of old medication. We always recommend rechecking the ears after treatment: they may look better from the outside, but the long ear canals of dogs can hide infection deeper down.

If ear infections are a recurrent problem or are accompanied by other skin problems, it is important to determine the underlying cause to help develop long term treatment strategies. Some common primary diseases that can result in ear infections include: environmental or food allergies, hormonal diseases, growths or foreign bodies. Arrange your appointment to see one of our vets to discuss these possibilities. Treating the underlying cause of the ear disease will decrease the frequency of the ear infections.

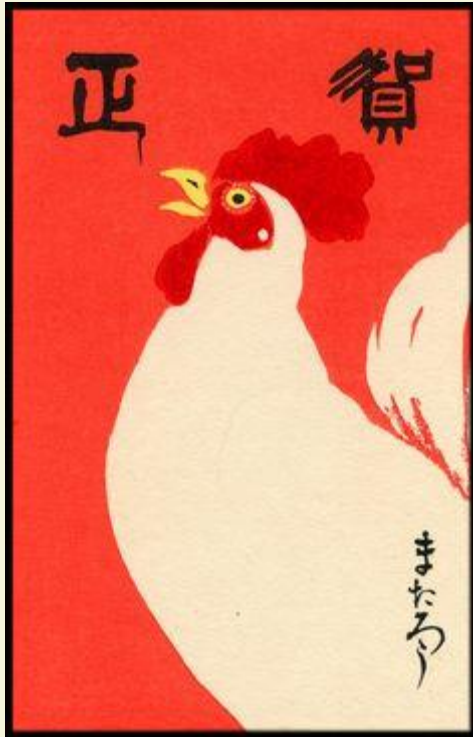
Kids Competition - a monkey game!

What is the difference between a monkey and an ape?

First correct answer wins a prize – email your answer to

[info@turramurravet.com.au!](mailto:info@turramurravet.com.au)

Chinese New Year – Kung Hei Fat Choy



We wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous Chinese New Year. This Chinese New Year ushers in the Year of the Rooster. People born in the year of the Rooster tend to be active, sporty, amusing and love being the centre of attention.

Famous roosters include Bob Marley, Roger Federer and Serena Williams – there must have been some good tennis vibes in the rooster births of 1981!