



# MORUYA VETERINARY HOSPITAL VET NEWS MONTHLY

**April 2012**

**Issue 56**

Moruya Veterinary  
Hospital

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Opening hours

Monday to Friday

8.00 am to 6.00 p.m.

Saturday

9.00 a.m. to 12.00 a.m.

## CONSULTATIONS BY APPOINTMENT

### Veterinary Surgeons & Physicians

Dr Mary Atkinson B.V.Sc

Dr Anabel Blake BSc.BVMS.(Hons.I)

Dr Frances Busfield BSc.BVMS.

Dr Janelle Dunkley B.V.Sc

Dr Gary Eggins B.V.Sc

Dr Kerry Jackson B.V.Sc

Grad Dip App Sci (Aquaculture)

Dr Sam Lawson B.V.Sc

Dr Michael Nelson B.V.Sc

Mary and Peter have returned from their Antarctica travels.

Both had a wonderful time, but are happy to be back home.

The Bergalia Boys (Philip Atkinson and Wade Stubbs ) have now finished their trip from the Arctic circle to the Antarctic circle. There are some great pictures on their website. You can also still donate to the Make-A-Wish Foundation through their website [www.bergaliaboys.com](http://www.bergaliaboys.com)

## Moruya Vet Hospital Dog Walking Club

Moruya Veterinary Hospital is introducing a dog walking club.

On Thursday afternoons 1pm-2pm

Come along with your dog on lead with a (Poop bag)

Please let us know if you would like to join us for our dog and owner social event.

Our first walk will take place on Thursday 12 April and hopefully will be a weekly event.

Meet in the car park at the front of the vet hospital.

No costs are involved. If you are interested in joining us for a walk & talk , please give a call on 44742532. We look forward to seeing you.

## Easter Eggs Are Yummy But Not For Dogs

Although chocolate is one of our favourite treats, it contains substances that are toxic to animals. Chocolate contains chemicals such as caffeine and theobromine to which dogs are particularly sensitive.

The effects of theobromine and caffeine vary with the size of the dog and the form of chocolate, generally the darker or more bitter the chocolate the more toxic it is.

The ingestion of 50gms of dark chocolate per 5 kg of a dog's weight and 200 gms of milk chocolate per 5kg weight is in the danger zone.. A 10 kg dog could be poisoned by consuming just over 50 gm of darker chocolate or 500gm of milk chocolate.

While humans can safely ingest big quantities of chocolate, dogs metabolize theobromine more slowly, which triggers chocolate poisoning.

In humans, theobromine provokes the release of the euphoria hormone serotonin, but in dogs low doses trigger vomiting, nausea, increased urination or diarrhoea. Pets often become agitated and excitable and start pacing. More dangerous symptoms can develop, including an elevated sometimes irregular heart rate, blood pressure changes and epileptic type seizures and if left untreated can be fatal.

Foil wrappings from Easter eggs can also cause bowel blockages

**Please don't give your pet chocolate this Easter**

## Easter Jokes

Q. Why did the rabbit cross the road?  
A. Because the chicken had his Easter eggs.

Knock Knock

Who's there

Some bunny

Some bunny who?

Some Bunny is eating my Easter eggs!



## Permethrin Poisoning in Cats

Warning! Flea products labelled for use in dogs only should NOT be used in cats, not even a little drop.

Many 'Spot-on' flea and tick products formulated for dogs contain permethrin, which can be fatal to cats.

### What is Permethrin?

Permethrin is a synthetic pyrethroid insecticide. Pyrethrin is the naturally occurring form derived from dried Chrysanthemum flowers and related species. The synthetic form, Permethrin, is found in many 'spot-on flea and tick control products for dogs that are readily available in supermarkets and pet stores.

While pyrethroids are generally safe for most mammals, including humans and dogs, cats are extremely sensitive to their effects. Accidental poisoning is becoming increasingly common, especially in multi-pet households where a tiny amount of the dog's medicine is thought to be safe. Sadly, this is not the case— Please read the label before using any product on your cat.

### What are the signs of permethrin toxicity?

Most clinical signs of permethrin poisoning are related to the central nervous system. A cat that has come into contact with a permethrin product, by absorbing it through the skin and / or licking it off its own skin or the dog's usually presents with obvious muscle tremors over the whole body. These tremors turn into seizures in severe cases, often progressing to coma and death. Other signs of permethrin toxicity that may be seen include excess salivation, paw flicking, ear twitching, increased sensitivity to touch or sound, vomiting, diarrhoea, depression and uncoordination.

The onset of clinical signs are usually within 1 to 3 hours but can be delayed up to 12 hours and effects can last 3 days or more.

### How can Permethrin poisoning be prevented?

Permethrin poisoning in cats can be prevented by always reading and following label instructions before using a flea or tick product on your pet. Never use products labelled 'Do NOT use in cats' or 'for use in dog's only' on your cat, and don't use them on dogs if you have cats in your home. Your cat can become poisoned by licking the dog or even by sleeping next to your dog.

## Eurocoast Polocrosse Club Annual Carnival

Looking for something different to do this Easter break?

The Eurocoast Polocrosse Club is holding their annual carnival on Easter Saturday 7/4/12 & Sunday 8/4/12 out at the Mirrabooka grounds south of Moruya on the Princes highway. All are welcome to come and have a look at this fast exciting horse sport.

Come and Support our very own Dr Janelle Dunkley, Also Sue's family, Andy, Aimee & Michelle Mehl as they all compete.

*A man wanted an Easter pet for his daughter. He looked at a baby chick and a baby duck. They were both very cute, but he decided to buy the baby chick. Do you know why?*

*The baby chick was a cheeper!!*

## Useful Phone Contacts

- \* **Australian Seabird Rescue— 0406692179**
- \* **Batemans Bay Boarding Kennels 44717501**
- \* **Dog Grooming— (Swish Grooming)- 0410676850**
- \* **Eurobodalla Animal Welfare League- (de-sexing subsidy)-44713819**  
(General enquiries) - 0410016612
- \* **Eurobodalla Canine Club (dog obedience training) Peter— 44717711**
- \* **Eurobodalla Shire Council Pound - (lost dogs & strays)-44741019**
- \* **RSPCA -(animal cruelty)- Eurobodalla Branch 0424228425 Cruelty Hotline 1300278569**
- \* **The Dog Line- ( Dog behavioural Problems & Advice) 1300843364**
- \* **Wires-(wildlife rescue & care)- 0427020327**





