

# Goolwa Veterinary Services

19 Oliver Street, Goolwa, S.A, 5214

Phone: (08) 8555 1666 24 Hours

[www.victorandgoolwavets.com.au](http://www.victorandgoolwavets.com.au)



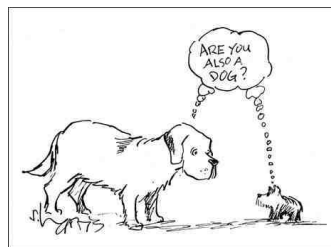
**Volume 3, Issue 2**

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## Practice News

Welcome to Winter 2008 at Goolwa Veterinary Services. Time to snuggle up in front of the fire for you and your pets. Lets hope we get plenty of rain to fill our tanks and the River Murray!!!

Some of you may already have had the chance to meet Dr. Fiona Spurling at our clinic. She will be consulting every Saturday at Goolwa if you would like to make an appointment with her. Chris is on at all other times.



This has given Chris & Christine an opportunity to have some much needed time with their family and they have already had a weekend away to York Peninsula, with Chris catching up on sleep and worrying about the Dolphins (very dangerous they are, ha..ha..) and Christine trying to do spear fishing ha..ha... They also had a weekend away to Myponga Beach.

Jacqui is enjoying her extra time at the Victor Harbor Clinic as is Trudi her time at Goolwa. Tarlee is settling in on Tuesdays at Goolwa.

All the best for the next 3 months.

From Chris, Fiona, Trudi, Jacqui, Tarlee and Debbie.

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

**PAGE 2**  
**Basic House Rules**  
for Cats

**PAGE 2**  
**Kittens Shopping List**

**PAGE 3**  
**Maltese Terriers,**  
**Staffordshire Bull**  
**Terriers and Jack**  
**Russel Terriers**

**PAGE 4**  
**Frequently Asked**  
**Questions**

**PAGE 5**  
**Arthritis and Your Pet**

**PAGE 6**  
**Pets Jokes**  
**and A Warm**  
**Welcome**



## Our Opening Hours

Monday to Friday: 9am-6pm

Saturdays: 9am-12pm

24 Hour Emergency Service Available

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## Basic Rules For Cats Who Have a House to Run

**DOORS:** Swinging doors are to be avoided at all costs.

**QUESTS:** Quickly determine which guest hates cats the most. Sit on that lap.

**PLAY:** This is an important part of your life. Get enough sleep in the daytime so you are fresh for your nocturnal games.

**TOYS:** Any small item: If a human tries to confiscate it, this means it is a Valuable Toy. Within paper bags dwell the Bag Mice—they are small and the same colour as the bag, so they are hard to see. You can easily hear the crinkling noises they make as they scurry around the bag.

**FOOD:** The best times to inform humans of your dish's emptiness are when they are unable to ignore you, such as when they are sleeping or on the toilet.

**VACUUM CLEANER:** This appalling Beast is known by many names, "Cat Eater" being the most prevalent. All you can do is run and hide.

**MEDICINE:** When you see the carrier come out, run and hide. Once the human grabs you, struggle gamely. Splay your legs out so that it is difficult to cram you into the carrier. If the human is trying to put you in with another pet, allow the other pet to bolt out the door. Resist attempts to open your mouth. Squirming is good.

**ILLNESS:** If you have to throw up, get to a chair quickly. If you cannot manage in time, get to an Oriental rug.

**CONCLUSION:** Humans need to know the basic rules. They can be taught if you start early and are consistent. You will then have a smooth running household.



### Your Kitten's Shopping List

\*If you are buying a new kitten here's a list of what you'll need to keep them healthy and happy. Please speak to us today.

- |                |                       |                |                  |
|----------------|-----------------------|----------------|------------------|
| *A cat carrier | *Litter, Scoop & Tray | *Bed           | *Flea Treatments |
| *Dry Food      | *Combs & Brushes      | *Toys          | *Worm Treatments |
| *Canned Food   | *Nail Clippers        | *Vaccinations  | *Desexing        |
| *Bowls         | *Scratching Post      | *Vet Check ups |                  |



## The Staffordshire Bull Terrier

Staffordshire Bull Terriers are plucky and strong-willed. Being the mix of a terrier and bulldog, they carry traits of both breeds. They can be quite stubborn but are courageous, reliable, tenacious and even-tempered but are very affectionate and lovable at the same time. They adore children. They have a strong prey drive and need to be socialized to other animals in order to accept them when they get older. They are not averse with to having a scrap with other dogs.



## The Maltese Terrier

The Maltese Terrier is a member of the Bichon family and is one of the oldest European breeds. Maltese are gentle-mannered and affectionate, yet playful and full of animation. Despite their size, they possess the vigor needed for an excellent companion. They are a healthy and happy breed and can live for at least fifteen years! The Maltese is intelligent and easy to train, but is very strong-willed. They enjoy being groomed, petted and fondled. During the reign of Queen Elizabeth 1, they were kept as a companion to the women of the Royal Family.



It can be useful to research you dog's breed. It can give you an insight into the inherited behaviour your dog may have retained. There are many useful website's available. Try typing in breed profile on your computer.

## The Jack Russell Terrier

The Jack Russell Terrier is a small, agile, brave, tenacious terrier that is known for fox hunting and flushing out other small animals. They will chase anything small that moves. They also can be scrappy with other dogs or pets. At home they are playful, exuberant and overwhelmingly affectionate pets. Socialization is needed to be okay with other animals.

The Jack Russell can become destructive and edgy if confined as they have quite high energy levels. Jack Russell Terriers can adapt to most living environments, provided there is a job to do, training or exercise is given. The best owner for this breed would be an active, terrier-experienced individual or family that are living in a suburban or rural environment.



## Frequently Asked Questions



Q. At what age should I have my pet desexed?

A. Six months is the recommended age. Feel free to ask us more.

Q. How often should I worm my pet?

A. Every three months for adult pets. Puppies and kittens need to be wormed more often.

Q. Can I feed my puppy or kitten milk?

A. Puppies and kittens are lactose intolerant. They do not need any milk once weaned from their mother. Make sure plenty of water is available instead.

Q. How do I stop my dog from barking?

A. It is normal for our dogs to bark. Provide them with toys and exercise to prevent boredom. Attend dog obedience classes and speak to Trudi at the clinic as she is experienced in this area.

Q. How can I stop my cat from urinating in inappropriate places?

A. Make sure the litter tray is kept clean and that there is one tray available per cat. Urine Off and Feliway are great products to stop inappropriate urination. Phone or use our website to order these products.

Q. What diet is best for my pet?

A. Royal Canin and Hills Science Diets are formulated to provide your pet with superior nutrition. It is difficult to provide a complete and balanced diet when making a home cooked diet. Veterinary Diets are available for puppies, kittens, adult pets, senior pets and pets with certain diseases.

Q. My pet has fleas. What do I use?

A. Advocate and Frontline are two of the best and safest products on the market to kill fleas quickly.

Q. How do I stop my puppy from biting and chewing everything.

A. This is normal puppy behaviour. Puppies love to chew. Buy them toys and attend our Puppy Pre-school Classes. Trudi can give you loads of tips. (08) 8555 1666.

# Understanding Arthritis

Arthritis is a long standing, degenerative disease of joints that can affect animals of all ages. It is generally caused by either abnormal forces on normal joints (eg: injury or being overweight) or normal forces on abnormal joints (eg: congenital problems)

Arthritis results in many symptoms including pain, inflammation, discomfort and reduced activity. If you have any concerns, come in and see either Chris or Fiona for a diagnosis based on the symptoms, medical history, physical exam and x-ray examination.

**What Can You Look For:** The signs of arthritis are slow in onset and varied, but following are some of the more prevalent signs.

1. Has your dog reduced their activity, including a reluctance to walk, play, jump or climb stairs?
2. Is it limping, lagging behind on walks or having difficulty rising from rest, particularly in the morning?
3. Is your dog more aggressive, irritable or yelping in pain when touched?
4. Is your pet licking, chewing or over-grooming a particular joint or joints?

## **Treatment will involve:**

1. Treating pain— Anti-inflammatory medication interacts with inflammatory pathways to reduce pain. Dogs should be prevented from overdoing exercise to avoid risk of further damage to the joint.
2. Enhancement of Joint Regeneration - Cartrophen treatment is initially, weekly injections for 4 weeks, then maintenance treatment every 3 months. It provides pain relief by acting on the underlying disease in the joint, helping to slow the progression of the disease, protecting and supporting the recovery of damaged cartilage.
3. Dietary Supplements— Joint guard/Sashas Blend and Megaderm. These supplements play an important complementary role and potentiate the pain relief and regeneration medication.

## **A Few Things You Can Do At Home To Make Them More Comfortable:**

1. Your dog should always have a warm, comfortable place to sleep with plenty of bedding to protect sore joints.
2. Keep your dog as dry as possible and out of drafty areas.
3. Gentle exercise is advisable, as vigorous games will aggravate the disease and discomfort.
4. Obesity is detrimental as the joints are made to carry extra weight. Check their ideal weight when next at the surgery.
5. Ensure your dog rests the affected limb.

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### **Pet Jokes**

An old woman saved a fairy's life. To repay this, the fairy promised to grant the old woman three wishes. For the first wish, the old lady asked to become young and beautiful. Poof! She became young and beautiful.

For the second wish, the old lady asked to be the richest woman in the world. Poof! She was the richest woman in the world.

For the last wish, she pointed at the cat she had kept for years. She asked that he be turned into the most handsome man on earth. After all, he had been her best friend for so many ears. Poof!

The fairy turned the cat into the most handsome man on earth. The old lady and the fairy said their goodbyes.

After the fairy left, the handsome man strolled over to here and asked: "Now aren't you sorry you had me desexed?"

A snail got mugged by two tortoises. When he went to the police, they questioned him as to what happened. He said, "I don't know, it all happened so fast....."

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A dog owner in Sydney had a Pit Bull that hated to walk. He kept sitting down and bracing his feet so that his owner would have to drag him by his leash. The owner finally gave up when he realized that he was creating a . . . bottomless pit!

## **Welcome to Goolwa Veterinary Services**

Bob & Lyn Quinton and Monty  
Rietje Versteeg and Sushi  
Mr. & Mrs. Landgraf with Moe Moe  
Marian Thompson and Poppy  
Lyn Roe and Samantha  
Teresa Hudson and Bailey  
Christine Koch and Hoagie  
Carol Thomas and Roxy  
Carmen Goodridge and Bear  
Dorothy Sims and Mishka  
Walter & Freda Gams and Maxi  
Lyndsay & Diane Goodwin and Saffy  
Dwayne & Trudy Nobbs and Duke  
Mr. Perry and Shaka  
Sandy Spenser and Buddy  
Bob & Sue Bosman and Ozzi  
Graeme Bignell and Kody  
Susan Berlin and Basil & Sammy  
Helen Bowlden and Gina  
Megan Secker and Chocko  
Nick Dougmore and Optimus Prime  
Veronica Teague and Rusty  
Sandy McIntyre and Sanjo  
Steve & Kathy Buidler and Bundy  
Sue Lange and Blade  
Ross & Mavis Engelson and Rolly  
Alan & Rhonda Brandt and Floss  
John Spencer and Jake  
Magali Grummett with her new pup  
Paul Hannagan and Abby  
Sue Banks and Sandy  
Jason & Jodi Evans and Marco  
Melaura Stephens and Cojack  
Mrs. Hocking and Fairley  
Barbara Glover and Clancy  
Susan Montgomery and Lucy  
Shane & Sue Von Stanke and Abby & Chester