

## What A Trooper! Purple Heart award for January

### Opening Hours

Monday-Friday 8am-6.15pm

Saturday 8am-5pm

Sunday 9am-5pm (Closed 12.30-1.30pm)

All consultations by appointment.  
Phone 62884944

Closed Public Holidays.

This month's Purple Heart Award goes to Beau Jenkins, the terrier with a lot of guts!

Beau was attacked by another dog, leaving her with a large, painful wound on her leg. She and her family had to endure weeks of hospital visits, putting up with daily bandage changes, buster collars and infection. Most dogs would have become cranky and snappy through all this (and rightly so!), but little Beau was extremely patient and well behaved despite everything.

Beau also came in to board with us several times so that she could be monitored and her wound tended to, and all the staff grew to know her well. If she wasn't being cuddled by the nurses she was keeping everyone company in reception!

Beau is doing well now, she has a fairly large scar where she was bitten but it has healed nicely.

She really is a little trooper and a deserving receiver of Weston Creek Veterinary Hospitals' first Purple Heart Award for 2006!



Beau's bandaged leg.

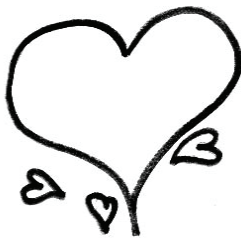


Beau today.

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## Valentine's Day Heartworm Promotion



Heartworm disease is a potentially fatal disease of dogs. The worm lives inside their heart and can cause heart failure. The worms are spread by mosquitoes. Treatment of infection involves killing the worms and can involve some risk.

WCVH recommends all dogs

receive heartworm prevention.

On Valentine's Day, 14th February 2006, all dogs tested for heartworm will get a free heart shaped nametag normally priced at \$13.50.

The test takes 15 minutes and requires a small blood sample

be collected.

Prevention and treatment of heartworm infection will be discussed once the result is known. Please call to make an appointment for the test.

February 2006

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**If you would like to receive this monthly newsletter by e-mail, contact the hospital with your details.**



## Thunderstorm Phobias

Does your dog have a phobia of thunderstorms?

Well here is a few helpful tips to make your Dogs night and yours a little easier:

Dont punish your dog

Comfort your dog as best you can making sure you use a happy playful voice, play a game with them to try and take there mind of it

If possible provide a safe place where the dog feels comfortable it may be under the house or with you, if the dog is inside be careful as they can run through glass or do a lot of damage in the house, to themselves or you

Dogs will run if they can so make sure your back yard is secure

You can also try and desensitize your dog of there phobia by playing a tape of a thunderstorm starting off with a low volume, play games with them gradually turning the volume up.

Another alternative is a prescription medication that involves bringing your dog down to see the veterinarian.

Dr Doris Beck has a special interest and training in treating behavioural problems and will be able to provide specific recommendations for your pet. Call us to make an appointment with her.

## Weight loss clinics at WCVH

Obesity in our domestic pets is increasingly being seen in vet practice.

A recent survey conducted by the RSPCA showed that 41% of dogs and 33% of cats are over weight or obese.

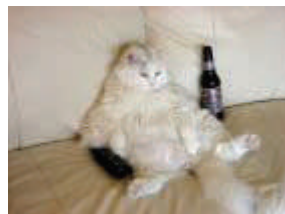
Overfeeding, lack of exercise, competition in multi-pet households, hormones and climate are all contributing factors as to why our pets overeat or are overweight.

Overweight animals have increased health risks such as: cardiovascular and respirator-system diseases; higher anaesthetic risks; increased risk of developing diabetes mellitus,

increased stress on joints; liver disease, and gastrointestinal disorders to name a few.

Weston Creek Veterinary Hospital is committed to assisting owners with pets who are overweight by running in-house Weight Loss Clinics, providing nutritional counseling and information and designing a program to suit your pet. Cats and dogs are both welcome.

If you feel your best friend falls in this category, please call the Hospital to arrange an appointment with our nurse to get your program started.



A couple of examples of overweight/obese pets.