

## Have you seen Henny yet?

### Opening Hours

Monday-Friday 8am-6.15pm

Saturday 8am-5pm

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

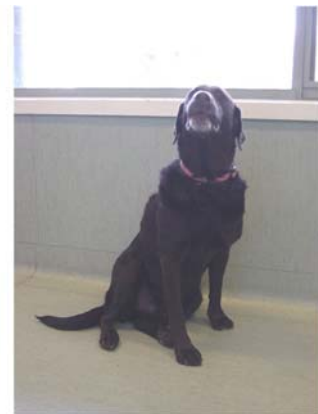
All consultations by appointment.  
Phone 62884944

Closed Public Holidays.

Our 'Slimmers Club' program has been running for several months now and we are seeing good results in nearly all of our loveable pets. One dog in particular, through the use of the Walthams Canine Obesity diet and an increase in exercise, has made rapid and life changing improvements in body condition.

Hennes Gilke is an 8 ½ year old, male Labrador who started to gain bodyweight earlier in the year. This is a common occurrence in the older animal which has started to enjoy the luxuries of life a little more, and now no longer finds as much enjoyment in chasing the ball. Add to this the reputation of the Labrador – a dog that will vacuum up any food that comes its way, and we have a recipe for a podgy pet.

We understand that it can be very challenging to improve a pet's body condition – particularly in the more senior animal that may have problems with mobility. This is why our Slimmers Club was designed to guide owners through the stages of weight loss. Regular weigh-ins and consultation with our weigh loss expert, Acacia, allow for a more organised approach to weight loss. If you find it difficult to resist the pleading eyes of your pet when it comes to dinner time, call our clinic for a free weight loss consultation with Acacia and see the kilos disappear.

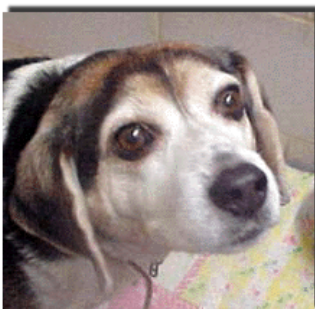


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In March Hennes weighed in at a comfortable 44.7kg. This was deemed to be about 5 kg too heavy. Through a combination of a strict calorie controlled diet, and efforts of Hennes owner to increase the lengths of walks we have seen Hennes drop to a stunning 41.5kg! Hennes now has more energy and looks great.

## Could my pet have Dementia?



Cognitive Dysfunction results from free radicals, which are produced by cell metabolism, slowly destroying the nerve cells of the brain. This leads to reduced memory and problem solving abilities. Over 50% of dogs older than 8 years show at least one sign of cognitive dysfunction. Although much less common cats over 10 years may also be affected.

Symptoms of the disease are often subtle and can include:

**Disorientation:** Your pet may get lost in familiar surroundings, or fail to recognize familiar places or people.  
**Less Interaction:** Your pet may no longer greet family members or seek attention.  
**Sleep Pattern Disturbances:** Your pet may sleep more during the day and/or be restless at night.

**Loss of housetraining:** Your pet may no longer ask to go outside and accidents may occur inside the house, in cats litter training maybe lost.

So what can you do if you recognize these signs in your pet? Contact us, as there are several effective treatments available to return your pet to their usual lively selves.

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



## Saint Bernards: The gentle giants

The Saint Bernard was originally bred by the Monks of Saint Bernard Hospice in the Swiss Alps. They developed the breed in the 12th century to assist in mountain rescues. The most famous St Bernard is Barry (meaning bear) who was born in 1800 and is believed to have saved over 40 people. Barry died in 1814 of old age and a statue in his honour stands in the animal cemetery in Paris.

The myth has it that St Bernards carried little barrels of liquor around their necks, this is however not true as alcohol is fatal to people suffering hypothermia.

The St Bernard was officially recognized as a breed in 1880 and is a tranquil, calm and gentle dog, with a sociable and friendly disposition. Devoted to his owners and children, non the less this giant can be wary around strangers and can be aggressive in the defense of his family.

This giant of a dog requires a firm hand and considerable space to do well, with a daily walk a must for this energetic breed. The long coated more popular type also requires daily brushing to keep his coat in good order. St Bernards do not tolerate the heat well, a consideration in the hot Australian climate for any potential St Bernard owner.

## Itzy-Bitzy worms Spread Itzy Bitzy Germs

Did you know that it is important to worm your pet for intestinal parasite every 3 months? It is a general misconception that owners believe that they only need to treat their animal for worms once yearly.

The eggs of worms that affect pets are widespread in the environment and pets are exposed to them every day. Worm infestation can adversely affect their health, causing poor body condition, diarrhea, coughing, skin disease, and vomiting. Worms can also cause illness in humans, so keep up with regular worming.

These are four kinds of intestinal parasites or worms:

- Hookworm
- Roundworm
- Whipworm & Tapeworm

The worms may come from faeces of other dogs or cat that have worms. Many healthy adult pets carry small numbers of worms but regular worm treatment keeps these numbers low to prevent disease.

### Worming Checklist:

- Worm adult cats and dogs every three months with an all wormer that kills all the major worm types.
- Pick up and dispose of dog faeces using a glove or plastic bag.
- Worm kittens and puppies every two weeks until three months of age then monthly until six months of age.
- Teach children good pet hygiene. Don't let animals lick their faces and wash hands before eating.

- Weigh your pet before worming so that the correct dose of medicine is administered.
- Check for correct treatment when taking dogs on to farms.

If your pet has not been treated for intestinal worms in the last 3 months or if you are having problems with worming your pet, please give us a call and we can arrange treatment. One of our nurses can administer the medication free of charge.

