

# FLINDERS VIEW VETERINARY Surgery

...the pets' choice

Volume 2, issue 5

(07) 3294 1773

"Come see our team for your pet's rehab needs!"

## So long, farewell!

After an incredible few years of being part of the FVVS team, it's sadly time for me to say good bye. I first came to FVVS as a university student on an industry prac work experience, and after just 2 weeks I was offered to join this awesome team! My time here has been filled with so many great memories and learning opportunities and I am proud to say that through the help of my colleagues, I graduated in 2016 with a Bachelor of Applied Science (Veterinary Technology) and a Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing.

From emergency caesarians to late night exploratory laparotomy surgeries and everything in between, I have thoroughly enjoyed learning alongside the most committed and compassionate vets and nurses I have ever met. For me, coming to the clinic never felt like 'work', it has always been more of a hobby and a home away from home. Getting to know all our wonderful clients and their gorgeous fur-babies has been such a highlight and I am very sad to say good bye.

So, what's next? Nathan (my partner), Sonny (our goof-ball Golden Retriever) and miss Stevie (our beautiful rescue cat), and I are moving to the lovely coastal town of Port Macquarie, NSW, to be closer to our families and enjoy the lazy beach lifestyle we have been missing. I would like to sincerely thank all the team at FVVS for all their encouragement and support (and so much laughter) over the years, and to all our amazing clients and their pets for making it all worthwhile, I will miss you all dearly.

 - Ali Thorne



"Ali with little Ruby"

## Keeping up with those new year's resolutions!

Meet Max. Just your average happy-go-lucky 8-year-old Golden Retriever and owner of Dr Maz. As Max got older, he slowly became a bit more 'fluffy' around the waist area, but a tragic loss of his best mate plunged him into a state of depression, and as we can all relate to, the weight suddenly started stacking on rapidly. In combination with hip dysplasia - which used to limit the length of his daily walks - Max's dad got deployed for 7 months and Dr Maz found it very difficult to get Max out for his exercise with two young kids at home. So, his weight snow balled.

In February 2016, he topped out at **51.9kg!** Max was obese, lethargic, sad and depressed. His joints were aching under the added weight and his organs were in serious trouble encased in layers of fat. Action was needed. But how? Dr Maz put Max on *Royal Canin Obesity* and later on *Royal Canin Satiety Support Weight Management*. By feeding the calculated amount daily and with no additional exercise, the weight started falling off Max. Over the past few months, Max became happier, more energetic and started playing again. By January 2017, he reached his target weight of **37.5kg!** He is looking and feeling fabulous and has strutted his beach body all over the east coast in the past Christmas holidays!

Both Royal Canin Obesity and Satiety diets are high in protein to maintain muscle mass, whilst burning fat during weight loss. This also make patients feel fuller and increases palatability whilst looking after bone and joint health with added Omega fatty acids, glucosamine and chondroitin to support the joints placed under excessive strain of carrying extra body fat. And it is genuinely the easiest and healthiest way you can assist your pet in shedding those stubborn kilos!

Max can now look forward to a happier, healthier and more active lifestyle in 2017. If you are worried about your pooch or kitty's waistline. Call and book a time to chat with Dr Maz or one of our lovely nurses regarding weight loss programs and diets. Your pet will thank you for it!

- Dr Maz Kroezen



"Max - before starting his diet"



"After - Max's new summer body!"



WIN! WIN! WIN! Is your furbaby chubbier than they should be? Book your complimentary weight loss assessment now with us. Jump on our [facebook page](#) - "like & share" for a chance to win our Autumn prize pack. You could even WIN BACK the value of their Satiety Diet!

  
**ROYAL CANIN**

[competition runs until 30/5/17]



## Knees, glorious knees!

What more could we ask for?  
Cruciates, patellas, and more, supporting us off the floor!



How often do you walk down the road and see a dog limping, hobbling, or skipping? The animal body is an amazing thing, but sometimes things go wrong. We have all heard of football and basketball players injuring their cruciate ligaments...well, dogs and cats have them too, and sometimes they just snap. Ouch! We used to see these issues in middle aged, overweight, female dogs, but now we are seeing them in *all* dogs. Young, old, fat, thin, big, and small – it seems to be happening to them all!

A limping dog isn't limping just because it thinks it's funny, it's doing it because it's in pain – and we all know what that feels like. Animals usually need some sedation and x-rays to check and confirm what is going on in their joints, with cruciate issues being the most common. Patella luxations (yep, their knee caps just slip off the sides of their knees) are the next most common. Young dogs especially shouldn't ever be limping.

So, how do we fix them? Veterinary surgery has come such a long way over the last few years. We have many options for repair of these issues. Did you know that FVVS use Kevlar implants as one of the several options to repair the cruciate ligament! Sometimes we need to use titanium and stainless steel implants, sometimes we even change the angles of their joints. The main thing though is at the end of the day, with a little bit of rest, lots of love and some rehabilitation, these patients have an amazing return to function of their legs and go on to live excessively happy and fulfilled lives. You can see it in their smiles.

- Dr Andrew Hemming



"Nurse Jess' furbaby, "Lucy", has had both her luxating patella's repaired!"



"Miss Lucy having her rehabilitation session with Sarah"

## A massage a day keeps the pain away!

Having recently lost our geriatric loyal Border Collie, "Sally", I asked myself what more could we do to improve the health and quality of life in dogs in general. Our old girl was 17 years of age, on the best Mobility food, given joint supplements daily, and arthritis injections all year round, but watching her battle to get up and hobble around was so heartbreaking. She was always my biggest fan and, no matter what, would follow me to ensure I was being looked after even though this was causing her discomfort.

Knowing there would be plenty of other dog loving families out there in the same situation, I wholeheartedly threw myself into canine massage with a strong interest in rehabilitation for all of our orthopaedic patients as they too have postural changes as a result of surgery and lack of muscle mass to support their day to day activities.

Canine massage has so many benefits: it assists circulation, can help breakdown adhesions, lengthen connective tissue, improve performance, relieve pain and provide comfort, improve range of motion, assist with the detoxification process, and improves lymphatic flow.

It has been such a fantastic journey watching our rehabilitation patients improve in their quality of life and providing a massage service to our golden oldies as they are, and always will be, the ones that melt my heart. I'm hoping now I can follow them around to ensure they are the ones being looked after.

- Sarah Hemming

Since starting our 'Give Back' project in November, 2016, with your help we have been able to vaccinate **147 dogs in Nepal** against rabies, and provided a year's worth of sanitary products to **7 girls in Africa!** Thank you for your ongoing support and call us today to ask us how you and your pets can help!



Kiara and "Rambo"

## Meet our team: Kiara

Kiara is almost part of the woodwork at FVVS. Originally with a background in pharmacy, she has always had a passion for animals and animal welfare, even volunteering for many animal rescue charities over the years. When an opportunity arose to begin working in the veterinary industry with our team, she jumped at the chance. When she isn't working or studying, Kiara can be found spending time with her own fur family which comprises of 3 dogs (Rambo, Bindi & Pepper) and 2 cats (Tigger & Peaches). She spends loads of time training and doing obedience with her dogs, and competes in agility trials with Bindi and Pepper (although she says they spend most of their time disqualified for doing extra obstacles and having too much fun)! Kiara enjoys the outdoors, often spending her weekends and days off taking the dogs for a run at the beach, or kayaking in a river, and finding new places to go camping and adventuring. Kiara looks forward to continually developing her skills as a dedicated vet nurse and loves getting to know all of our clients and their furry, feathery and scaly pets!



## Contact us:

2/6 Astral Court  
Flinders View, QLD 4305

PHONE:  
(07) 3294 1773

E-MAIL:  
admin@flindersviewvets.com.au



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[www.facebook.com/flindersviewvets](http://www.facebook.com/flindersviewvets)

