

Small Animal Newsletter

CASINO'S LUCKY ESCAPE

A Fireworks Adventure Gone Wrong

Around fireworks season, we often see a few stressed and spooked pets, but young Casino arrived with a story of his own.

After heading off on an unsupervised adventure, he came home holding up his front leg and clearly in a lot of pain. Overnight his paw became severely swollen, and his worried owners brought him straight in to see our Hamilton team the next morning.

With the level of discomfort he was in, we admitted Casino to hospital for X-rays. These revealed a nasty fracture right through his humerus – the long bone of the upper front leg. While we ordered the custom plates required to fit his little limb, Casino settled into hospital life and made the most of his special pain-relief drip, which certainly helped keep his spirits up!

Once everything was ready, Dr Robert Bird performed an expert orthopaedic repair. To make sure the fracture healed as strongly and safely as possible, he used three different types of fixation:

Cerclage wire to wrap around and support the fractured bone pieces. An intramedullary pin placed down the centre of the bone for stability. A locking plate to secure everything firmly into place

This combination created a strong, stable repair – just what Casino needed to get back on his paws. We're very pleased to share that Casino has been recovering brilliantly. Thanks to quick action from his owners and skilled surgical care, he has kept all four limbs and is well on his way back to full function... even if he may now only have eight lives left!

X -Ray showing break



X -Ray showing repair



FREE FLEA & WORM TREATMENT WITH YOUR PUPPY OR KITTEN'S FINAL VACCINATION

Welcoming a new puppy or kitten into your home is an exciting time, and ensuring they get the healthiest possible start is something we're passionate about.

At Vetora, vaccination isn't just a routine appointment, it's a vital part of protecting your pet from preventable diseases and supporting a lifetime of wellbeing.

To reinforce our commitment to high-quality animal health and exceptional client care, we're proud to offer a free Simparica Trio or Revolution Plus treatment with every final puppy or kitten vaccination.

Why Vaccination Matters

Puppies and kittens are especially vulnerable to infectious diseases. Their developing immune systems rely on a complete series of vaccinations to build strong and lasting protection. By completing their full course of vaccines, you're giving your young pet the best defence against illnesses such as parvovirus, cat flu, and other serious conditions that can be costly, distressing, and at times life-threatening.

Our Added Support: Free Parasite Protection

To celebrate this milestone and continue going the extra mile, we're including a complimentary dose of Simparica Trio (for puppies) or Revolution Plus (for kittens) with every final vaccination appointment.

These treatments provide broad protection against common parasites such as fleas, ticks, ear mites, and worms — pests that can significantly affect the comfort and health of young animals. By ensuring your pet leaves their vaccination visit protected inside and out, we're helping set them up for a healthy and happy start to life.

Our Commitment to You and Your Pet

We know how important your pets are to your whānau, and we're here to support them at every stage, from their very first check-up to a long, fulfilling life by your side.

If your puppy or kitten is due for their next vaccination, or you have questions about parasite prevention, we're always happy to help.

Simparica Trio or Revolution Plus with final Puppy or Kitten Vaccination



FREE

You can now

Book Online

Check out our website



HEAT STROKE



Preventing Heatstroke in Dogs and Cats

Summer is a great time of year to get out and about with your pets, but we need to be mindful in this hot weather. Heatstroke in dogs and cats is a life-threatening emergency where their body temperature rises dangerously high- >40°C

Early Signs of heat stroke include

- Excessive panting/rapid breathing
- restlessness
- lethargy
- drooling
- bright red tongue/gums
- hiding (cats)
- mild wobbling.

Severe Signs of Heatstroke

- Vomiting or diarrhoea (possibly bloody)
- Staggering or mental confusion
- Seizures, collapse, or coma
- Very pale, bright red, yellow, or purple gums
- Rapid heart rate

What to Do (First Aid)

1. Move to a Cool Area – Shade or air conditioning immediately.
2. Cool Gently – Use cool, damp cloths on paws, groin, and belly; a fan helps. Avoid ice-cold water or large wet towels.
3. Offer Water – Small sips of cool water; never force.
4. Contact Your Vet – Call an emergency vet while cooling and on the way. Best outcomes occur if treated within 90 minutes.

Prevention Tips

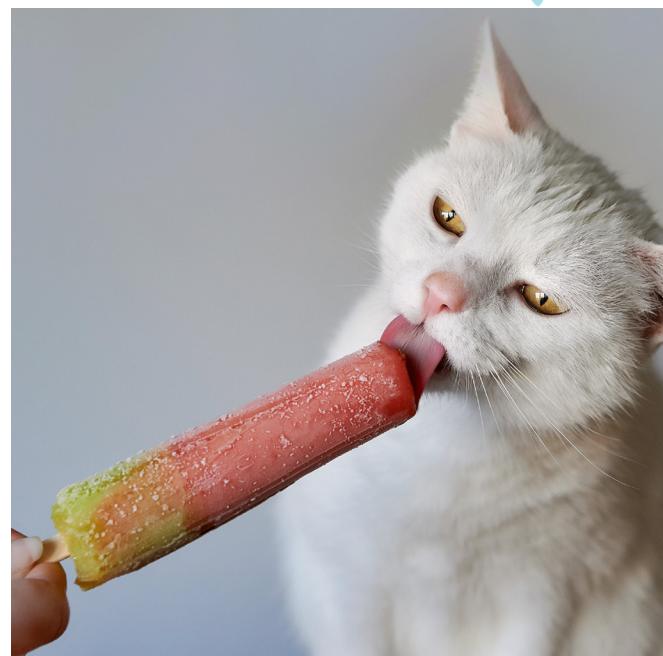
Prevention involves avoiding heat, ensuring water access, and being extra cautious with high-risk pets like brachycephalic (flat-faced) breeds, overweight animals,

puppies, and seniors.

Never leave pets unattended in parked cars (even with cracked windows), avoid exercise in heat - walk in early morning/late evening, provide constant fresh water, use cooling mats and groom long-haired pets.

Did you know?

A car's interior in New Zealand summer can become dangerously hot, reaching over 50°C in under 15 minutes on a warm day, even in the shade with windows cracked.



MEET THE TEAM

Annabel

Veterinarian - Hamilton

Meet Annabel – One of Our Dedicated Small Animal Veterinarians

We're delighted to introduce Annabel, one of our wonderful small animal veterinarians who works across our Hamilton and Cambridge clinics.

Annabel grew up on a sheep and beef station in rural Hawke's Bay, where her love for animals and rural communities first began. She started her veterinary career in mixed practice here at Vetora, working full-time at our Cambridge clinic.

Towards the end of 2025, Annabel discovered that her true passion lies in small animal medicine. Wanting to further develop her skills and provide the very best care for pets and their families, she transitioned to working solely in companion animal practice. We're thrilled to have her focusing her talents in this area, and our teams have already seen the energy and dedication she brings to every consult.

Outside of work, Annabel enjoys spending time with her husband and their beloved poodle, Meitschi. When she's not in the clinic, you'll often find her outdoors tramping, experimenting with new baking recipes, or planning her next travel adventure. Always keen to keep learning, Annabel has signed up to study German



this year at the Waikato Institute of Education.

She also has a strong interest in giving back to communities. In the past, she has taken part in sustainable farming and medical outreach initiatives in Cambodia and Vanuatu. Looking ahead, Annabel hopes to use her veterinary skills to support desexing and animal health programmes in areas where veterinary care is difficult to access.

Annabel is excited to get to know more of our clients and their pets as she continues her journey with Vetora. She's looking forward to partnering with you to keep your companions healthy, happy, and thriving. If you see Annabel around the clinics, be sure to say *kia ora* – she can't wait to meet you and your furry family members.

WORDFIND...

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CAT
PANTING
HEAT
SUMMER
EMERGENCY
COOL
WOBBLY
PREVENTION
WATER
DOG