



THE STRAVEN ROAD  
**VETERINARY**  
**CENTRE (LTD)**

**VETERINARY SURGEONS**

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**Newsletter – SPRING 2013 Issue 21**

**CLINIC NEWS**

Our big news this month is that our Head Veterinary Nurse, Tania Fernandez, who was nominated for “Veterinary Nurse of the Year” won the title, announced on the 11<sup>th</sup> October in Auckland. We are very proud of Tania. A most deserved award.

We are also sad to announce that by the time this newsletter is published Tania will have left us for a promotion to practice manager at another Christchurch veterinary clinic. We are all extremely sad to see her go, but recognise her considerable talents and drive to undertake the challenge of a practice manager role.

A decision has been made to spread Tania’s Head Veterinary Nurse duties among the veterinary nurses and a new graduate veterinary nurse will join the staff to ensure enough nursing cover.

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**SEASONAL UPDATE**

**Spring**

Now that we are well into spring it is good to be thinking about the following:

1. Desexing your kitten or cat if you haven’t already done so. There are 100’s of unwanted kittens that homes can’t be found for every kitten season. Kittens can be desexed from as early as 8 weeks of age.
2. Check your pet’s vaccination status and make sure they have the cover they need. If you have lost their vaccination certificate, please give us a call to double check.
3. If you stopped over winter, now is the time to start up flea treatments again before you get a house infested with fleas. Check out the new product for cats that we review later in this newsletter.
4. If you haven’t done so already make sure you have booked your pet’s care for your summer vacation.

Whether this is a boarding kennel, a cattery, a homestay or a friend, ensure that this is confirmed.

5. If you have had a winter hiatus from exercising your dog, you and your dog will need to be eased back into it to regain fitness. Seek advice from our friendly staff about how to do this without risking injury to your dog. At this time of the year we often see preventable injuries which could be avoided with careful exercising.

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**NEW PET SEASON**

**Kitten and Puppy Care**

Spring and summer are often the time of year when people decide to add a new fur baby to their family.

Before you decide to get a new pet, don’t forget that the staff at your veterinary clinic have a wealth of knowledge that can help you make a good decision on selecting the right puppy or kitten.

This is also a useful article on our website about getting a new dog: <http://www.veterinarycentre.co.nz/getting-a-new-dog.php>

Once you have chosen your new pet, even if this is not your first pet, often it’s hard to remember all of the things you need to know about the first year of your new fur babies life.

On our website we have a couple of great articles which will help to jog your memory.

Kitten Care:

<http://www.veterinarycentre.co.nz/new-kitten-info.php>

Puppy Care:

<http://www.veterinarycentre.co.nz/new-pup-info.php>

Remember our staff are experts when it comes to pets, and we are here to help with all the advice and assistance you need with your new addition. Taking the time in the first few months to getting things right will pay dividends for a lifetime.

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**Caring Vets,  
Healthy Pets**

