

# Gilbert St Gossip



## microchip rules!

Summer brings scary noises including thunder from storms as well as fireworks in celebration of the silly season. The result is hundreds of terrified dogs who often manage to escape and head for the hills. **This is why it is essential your pet is microchipped.**

Now is the perfect time to check the contact details attached to your pet's microchip. Unfortunately, for many microchipped pets, the contact phone number assigned to the chip is incorrect and **this makes the chip useless.**

If you don't know your pet's microchip number, drop by with your pet and we can scan it for you. If you already know the microchip number you can jump online at [www.car.com.au](http://www.car.com.au) to update any details. It's also a good idea to have an **ID tag** attached to your pet's collar as this can speed up the lost and found process.

## why vaccination is vital!

Vaccination is a vital tool we have available to help keep your pet healthy.

Even if your pet doesn't have contact with other pets, he should be vaccinated. Many people aren't aware that there are diseases that can be transmitted in water droplets through the air or in contaminated faeces.

### OTHER REASONS VACCINATIONS ARE SO VITAL

**They protect against deadly diseases:** many dangerous diseases are completely preventable with the correct vaccinations. Why would you put your pet at risk?

**Vaccinations save money:** vaccinations are substantially less expensive than the cost of treatment for the diseases they prevent. We think this is a no brainer!

You can board your pet with other animals: if you ever plan to board your dog or cat he must be up to date with his vaccinations - what would happen if you had a family emergency and boarding was the only option?

Visits to the vet hospital: if your pet has to stay in hospital he needs to be vaccinated. If your pet is sick, his immune system may be already be compromised so you want to know he is protected.

There are many diseases we are able to vaccinate against but your pet's health, lifestyle and where you live may affect which vaccinations are deemed necessary - we can help **you** make an informed decision and are always happy to discuss vaccinations with you.



## is your pet prepared for summer!

### Here are our top tips:

#### Prevent parasites

The warmer months bring about pesky parasites. Fleas, mosquitoes (that can carry deadly Heartworm), biting flies and potentially deadly paralysis ticks love the warmer weather. Now's the time to get your prevention regime sorted. Prevention is easier (and always cheaper) than treatment. Ask us for the best product recommendations.

#### Get a haircut

Dog groomers book out quickly over the warmer months so you should arrange grooming appointments now. Keeping your dog's coat shorter over summer will help keep your dog cooler and more comfortable and help reduce grass seed problems. We are always the best place to start when it comes to looking after your pet. We can provide you with the most accurate and up to date information so phone us or drop in if you have any questions.



## patient of the month

Raffael is a lovely young cat who has had a very serious problem... he presented with a full bladder that he could not empty. Sadly, this is not an uncommon problem in male cats, because the urethra that emptied urine from the bladder is very narrow. As you can imagine, a blockage can be quite uncomfortable, and can quickly progress to life-threatening complications.

When Raffael first presented, he was 'quite uncomfortable'... he would not move his legs and sat like a frog, confusing the whole picture. Fortunately, a blood test showed that his kidneys weren't yet suffering (a common complication), and an x-ray showed that his spine and legs appeared to be healthy.

He was given a short anaesthetic and a urinary catheter was placed to unblock the urethra and allow the bladder to be emptied. The catheter was stitched in place so that he would not get another blockage straight away. You could tell he was feeling much more comfortable straight away. He promptly fell asleep!!

More information can be