

# WINGHAM & VALLEY VETS

Newsletter

November 2020

Volume 17

## November & 'The Fuzzy Vet Lips'

You have no doubt noticed that throughout November, all our male employees have been sporting some dapper (and not so dapper) moustaches for Movember. This is a great cause that raises money and awareness for Men's health. Pete, Mick, AJ, Zac and Troy have a group fundraising page called 'The Fuzzy Vet Lips' <https://au.movember.com/team/2324737> - please feel free to donate and support a great cause!



## Exciting New Reproduction Services

Due to substantial demand, we have decided to significantly expand our range of advanced canine reproduction services. Many of our breeding clients expressed an interest in transcervical insemination and frozen semen insemination and so the practice has purchased a state-of-the-art endoscope for transcervical insemination (TCI), as well as a phase-microscope to enable advanced semen assessment and morphology of canine, equine and bovine semen. Our vets have undertaken special training in endoscopic insemination, and we are already seeing fantastic results after our TCI inseminations, with very high pregnancy rates and excellent litter sizes. We are seeing similarly great results with our equine inseminations. Also due to demand, we have decided to start freezing and storing semen on-site which will mean much less travel for clients as we are the only practice offering this in the Manning Valley. We enjoy working with our lovely, ethical breeding clients who come to us because they want a best-practice approach to the care and management of their breeding dogs who, in many instances are truly part of their family. This is obvious to us in the way their owners care for them and how they prioritise their comfort and welfare. It really makes reproduction work enjoyable and rewarding, when we can work together to ensure the best outcomes for our patients.

## Cases of the Month

• • •  
Ear Infection  
Snakebite  
Linear Foreign Body  
Snail Bait Toxicity  
Colic  
Displaced Abomasum  
Tick Paralysis  
Coccidiosis

## Run Dates

• • •  
Krambach: every  
Tuesday

Comboyne: second  
Friday of every month  
Thurs 11<sup>th</sup> December  
Thurs 8<sup>th</sup> January

Oxley Island: fourth  
Thursday of every  
month  
Thurs 24<sup>th</sup> December  
Thurs 28<sup>th</sup> January

Cooperook,  
Lansdowne & Hannam  
Vale: third Wednesday  
of every month  
Wed 16<sup>th</sup> December  
Wed 27<sup>th</sup> January

To book a job, please  
call by 5pm the day  
before a run.

Emergencies will be  
accommodated.

Subsidised travel fees.

**6557 0000**

## *Is your dog a nervous wreck every storm season?*

Storm phobia is a very common behavioural problem in dogs and unfortunately many dogs are not managed or treated appropriately for their storm phobia. There are lots of ways we can help treat or prevent your dog's storm phobia. Signs of storm phobia include shivering and shaking as a storm approaches, desperately trying to get inside, destructive behaviour, vocalizing or whimpering. Some dogs are so severely storm-phobic that they will injure themselves in attempts to escape their yard and the most severe consequence of unmanaged storm phobia is when dogs escape their yard and run out onto the road. If your dog is showing signs of storm phobia, please book an appointment and we can put a treatment protocol in place to greatly improve their comfort levels.



### *New Nursing Trainee Abbie*

We are very excited to introduce our new nursing Trainee Abbie! Abbie has been attending the clinic on a volunteer basis for the past few months and we have been so impressed with Abbie's wonderful attitude and enthusiasm for vet nursing that we have decided to offer her a permanent part time position while she undertakes her Certificate IV in Veterinary Nursing. Abbie has an obvious love of animals and we are sure she will be a wonderful asset to our nursing team. Welcome to Wingham & Valley Vets Abbie!!

### *Strategic Livestock Testing Currently for Bushfire-affected Producers*

Local Land Services is helping livestock producers recover from the 2019 Bushfires with a range of projects and assistance measures geared to improve livestock health and welfare in this important recovery period. Producers within or on the edges of the fire scar are managing a range of additional issues because of straying stock, the destruction of fences, pastures and infrastructure which places stresses on normal livestock management functions. Producers are reporting: straying livestock, which increases biosecurity risk and potentially introduces new endemic diseases into a herd; reduced access to fenced paddocks, which can increase parasite burdens; and stock nutrition challenges and livestock health impacts from weeds or diminished water quality. These are issues that LLS is supporting producers with, through targeted livestock, water and feed testing and the LLS is undertaking the animal health aspect with the help of Wingham & Valley Vets. Plus, LLS is bringing an industry leader in Low Stress Stock Handling to run four courses for cattle producers in January and February 2021. Use of these stock handling techniques will improve profits, the wellbeing of stock and ease movement of livestock in future emergencies. Positions are heavily subsidised and open to all managers of cattle. Spaces are limited so please email [Lyndell.stone@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Lyndell.stone@lls.nsw.gov.au) to RSVP. If you feel your livestock are not achieving their growth potential or have specific livestock production concerns following the fires, please call us or your District Veterinarian to discuss your needs and concerns. This offer is only available for the next couple of months or until funds are expended, so please get in touch ASAP if you would like some more information.

### Thank you from St Joseph's Wingham

Thank you so much to the very kind people who brought in cans of paint for the St Joseph's Primary School playground. St Joseph's is so grateful for the very kind generosity. It is lovely to live and work in such a wonderful town where so much generosity of spirit is regularly displayed by businesses and individuals. Alissa and Michael will soon be assisting with the construction of multiple cubbies for the children to help complete the playground and would welcome the assistance of any one who likes carpentry and has some spare time over the next month or two. If you are interested in lending a hand, please contact the clinic on 6557 0000.

### Three Day Sickness Vaccine Orders

**Please contact us to order your BEF (Three-day sickness) vaccine in time for the start of the three-day sickness season.**

Last year we experienced a dreadful season for three-day sickness. There were very high numbers of affected cattle, a much higher rate of incidence than is usual, and unfortunately, a high death rate. Some of our local dairy farms lost over 15 cows each despite every effort to save them and so we are getting lots of enquiries this year about vaccination for BEF (Bovine Ephemeral fever) as no one wants to go through the same experience this year. Furthermore, a major BEF outbreak has other severe implications for farmers other than the death of cattle – Bulls who contract BEF can be rendered infertile for up to 6 months and they are more likely to become recumbent and die, and Dairy herds that experience an outbreak are likely to sustain a severe drop in milk production as affected cows recover. **If you would like to talk to us about vaccinating your herd for BEF please call on 65570000 – the vaccination needs to be given before the arrival of the insect vector that carries BEF and so we recommend having your cattle vaccinated before mid/late December.** The recommended protocol is 2 injections, at least 2 weeks apart.

### Tick Paralysis cases are increasing

We are continuing to see quite a high number of tick paralysis cases, so please ensure your dog and cat are on an effective tick preventative. Tick preventatives literally save lives because sadly, not all pets who are treated for tick paralysis will survive so prevention truly is better than a cure. If you are not sure which tick preventative will be most effective for your pet, please give our lovely reception staff a call on 6557 0000 and they will be happy to discuss this with you.



## Companion Animal, Equine & Cattle Services

Fully Equipped A-Class Hospital  
Digital Radiography & Ultrasonography  
Qualified Trainers & Veterinary Behavioural Services  
Dairy Herd Health Programmes  
ACV Accredited Pregnancy Testing  
Infertility Investigation & Bull Breeding Soundness Exams  
Lameness & Mastitis Management  
Equine Dentistry & Pre-purchase Exams  
Canine Assisted Reproduction

Over 100 years combined experience  
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**24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE – 6557 0000**