



NEWSLETTER

*H*ello to all our clients

We hope you enjoy reading our autumn newsletter. As always, please contact the clinic with any questions raised by the articles, or for any other animal related information - we are here to help.

Seton and the Kelburn Vet Centre team.

*C*ase Study - Lucca has united anconeal processes

If that sounds like a painful diagnosis - it is. Young Lucca is an Italian Spinone, a breed we do not see too often at the clinic. However, in common with other large dog breeds (Lucca will weigh up to 45 kg when fully grown), he is predisposed to problems in skeletal development.



Lucca is making steady progress after surgery for united anconeal process

As a young four-month-old pup, Lucca was already lame and experiencing pain in his front legs. Xrays a few months later showed that the anconeus process at the top of both his ulnas had not fused. Surgery was required to remove these bone fragments from the elbow joints.

United anconeal process is part of the elbow dysplasia disease syndrome, and is an inherited disorder. Buying puppies from a breeder that has had the dam and sire of the pup elbow scored (their elbow xrays show no



developmental problems) will reduce the risk in a puppy. Keeping puppies trim and not allowing rapid weight gain is also important.

With rest and pain medication, then later a gentle exercise plan, Lucca has made steady progress. More recently, he has shown hip pain and has also been diagnosed with hip dysplasia, which is also being medically managed.

AUTUMN 2005

Rumpelteazer's Column



Hello and a happy New Year to you all. I must say I am glad that all those silly holidays are over - too many days when there aren't any people around to pat me, and if the clinic is closed I even get put into a hospital cage 'for my own safety'. No offence, but some of your sick pets do not make for very stimulating company.

Fiona our nurse was asked by a client in the waiting room a few weeks back to remove me because I was attacking his dog. Attacking! - I was just having a bit of hide-and-seek fun. That dog doesn't know what a cat is capable of if he thinks that was an attack!

On another thrill-seeking adventure a few weeks back now, I hopped into Sue Velvin's car next door at the doctor's surgery. She drove all the way to Northland before she realised I was her passenger, but was kind enough to drive me back - I wouldn't have liked to walk. Thanks Sue.

Later...
Rumpelteazer.



Ovariohysterectomy -
High tech desexing surgery for your pet. Follow the surgical procedure with Chloe the German Shepherd.

PAGE 2

HEAD-LINERS

Microchipping your pet -
New legislation requires all new puppies born from 2006 to be microchipped.

PAGE 3

FIV in our Cats -
To vaccinate or not to vaccinate?

PAGE 4

Tsunami relief work for animals - Kelburn Vet Centre donates \$500.

PAGE 4