



**NEWSLETTER**

*Hello to all our clients*

As we go to print, it is freezing cold. Pets don't tend to be affected by colds and 'flus like humans, but it is a time to think about the many arthritic pets who suffer in the cold. Remember there are lots of different treatments available to ease discomfort from arthritis.

The microchip debate has just finished and microchipping all pups became law on July 1st. Vets still recommend microchipping for all pets as a safe and permanent means of identification. Our staff can help if you would like more information on microchipping.

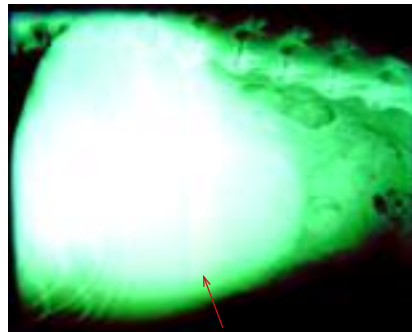
We hope that you enjoy our spring newsletter.

*Seton and the team at Kelburn Vet Centre.*

**Splenic Tumours**

Anyone who works in a veterinary clinic will tell you that things go in runs - and this month it has been splenectomies! In previous weeks we have had three dogs diagnosed with tumours of the spleen.

The spleen is an organ in the abdomen, just below the stomach. The spleen provides some helpful services in the body - acting as a reservoir of red blood cells, and removing old red blood cells and other nasties from the blood. However, a number of diseases can cause the spleen to enlarge, including cancer, which in turn causes a high risk of rupture and life threatening haemorrhage.



**On X-ray the enlarged spleen is obvious.**



**Woody - chemotherapy is not bad cos Fiona sits with me and I sleep!**

Our three patients are all older dogs who presented with differing symptoms. Woody had lost weight, and her tumour was then seen on x-ray. Melina and Amber both presented depressed and uncomfortable, and their tumours were felt when our vets examined them, and were confirmed by x-ray and ultrasound.

All dogs were then scheduled for supportive care and surgery to remove the diseased spleen. Surgery is difficult because of the huge size of the spleen and blood loss during the procedure.

*(Continued on back page)*

**SPRING 2006**

**Rumpelteazer's Column**



Hi everyone. I don't know what all the fuss is about microchipping - I've had it done and I didn't even meow. The vets think that as far as identifying lost and injured animals go, it is probably even more important to do us cats, as we are more likely to wander further from home, get lost or hit by a car, and not have a collar with an ID tag on.

I do have a collar as well of course - the vets say this is safe as long as it is put on properly, as loose cat collars can easily get caught. And you may have seen my flashing light on my collar that the nurses turn on in the afternoon - as I am quite hard to see. Even though I am not allowed out when it gets dark, sometimes I escape and they say they want to keep me safe.

Keep on opening that door for me!  
Later, Rumpelteazer



**Don't forget our website**

Our website is rich with information and news for you and your pet. You can even make your next appointment on-line. Check us out:

www.kelburnvet.co.nz  
Client password: rumpy

**Microchipping-  
New Dog Control  
Amendment Act.  
The facts.**

PAGE 2

**HEAD-LINERS**

**Cancer -  
What to look for and how  
it is treated.**

PAGE 3

**Senility -  
Does it affect dogs and  
cats?**

PAGE 3

**How is FIV linked to  
microchipping? -  
Test, Microchip and  
Vaccination protocol at  
Kelburn Vets.**

PAGE 4