



Patch & Professor Geraldine Hunt

Watch Dog

Tall Tails and True from Here and Around the World

Patch undergoes lifesaving liposuction

A 12 year old Kelpie X recently received lifesaving liposuction to remove several large fatty tumours. Fatty tumours (lipomas) are common in older dogs and generally don't pose a health threat unless they become large and interfere with mobility. Director of Sydney University's Veterinary Science Centre, Professor Geraldine Hunt, is a specialist in small animal surgery

and had been made aware of a European veterinary surgeon removing one of these tumours by a surgical suction device. Much like liposuction, these tumours are sucked out requiring only small surgical incisions.

Patch's owner was reluctant to subject him to major surgery to remove the tumour because of his age and the trauma it might cause. His owner gave Professor Hunt the green light to try this new procedure to improve Patch's quality of life. The tumour on Patch was about 15 cm across and was growing inside his back leg, causing pain and interfering with his mobility. If the tumour had grown much bigger, euthanasia may have been necessary.

Two weeks after surgery, Patch is running around and able to jump into the car. Professor Hunt doesn't believe liposuction is the alternative to dieting and exercise for portly pets. Although he's not a petite pooch, we can report that Patch is much lighter and happier.

Free Acupuncture sessions for your pet—as long as you're in Nottingham, UK

A vet clinic in Nottingham is trying to encourage pet owners to think about alternative treatments for pets. This forward thinking vet clinic is offering free acupuncture sessions to interested people and pets. People with pets suffering with arthritis, muscular pains and recovering from surgery are encouraged to attend the sessions.

LAPD starts breeding and training their finest

The Los Angeles Police Department has begun breeding and training its own service dogs in a bid to save money on importing dogs from Europe. At present they estimate that a service dog costs around US\$8,500 each and there has been an increasing demand for dogs since 9-11. The concept has come under fire from some professional trainers as they question whether police departments are equipped or experienced to breed appropriate dogs.

Wine Dogs are happy campers in the Hunter

Paw Wheel Drive, the company that packs your pooch and takes you on 4 wheel drive adventures, announce that they are now doing wine tours in the Hunter Valley. Weekend trips include visits to several dog friendly wineries combined with their 4 wheel driving tours. The team at Paw Wheel drive have spent considerable time finding dog friendly camp sites and wine tasting venues where your dog is shown the welcome mat. We understand their favourite drop from the region is Char-dog-nay. For more information contact Johnno on 0406 333 899

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