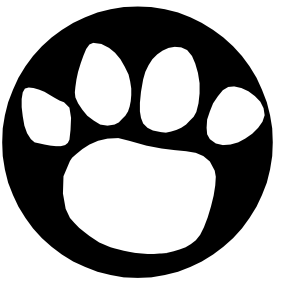


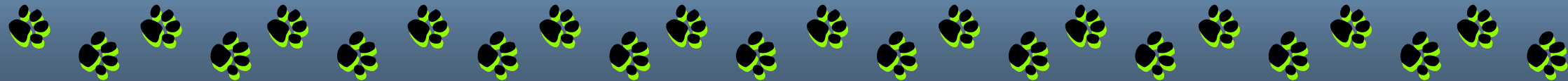


January



Simba is a 10 year old Japanese Akita.

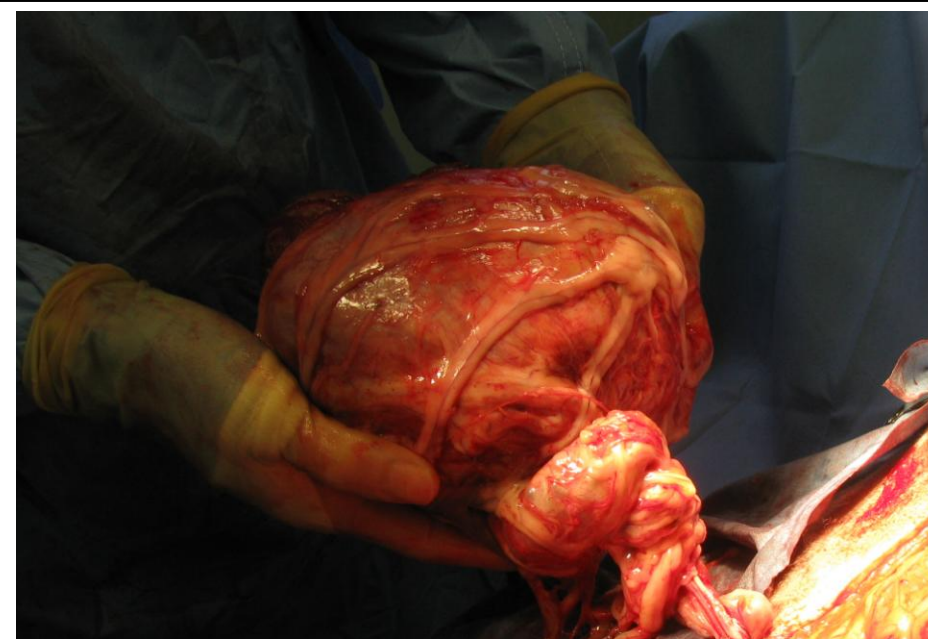
His owners brought him to the vets at the end of November as he had become incontinent at home. Simba was an un-neutered male dog. On clinical examination Rebecca noted that Simba only had one descended testicle, this is known as cryptorchidism. On abdominal palpation Rebecca suspected that Simba may have a mass in his abdomen. Simba was booked in for an abdominal ultrasound scan the following week.



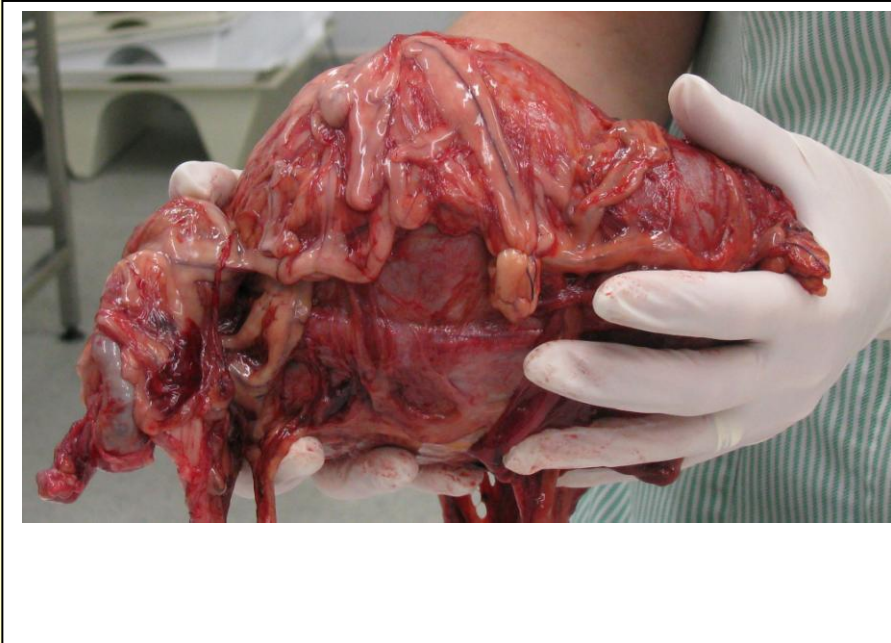
The ultra-sound scan confirmed that a mass was present in the abdomen. Due to the location of the mass the most likely cause was a testicular tumour. Simba was booked in for surgery.

Matt operated on Simba to investigate the abdominal mass. It was a very large testicular tumour. Matt surgically removed the mass and the descended testicle. Simba came back to the practice 10 days later to have his stitches removed. He has made an excellent recovery.

The story in pictures...



Matt operating to remove the mass



The Large testicular mass weighed 2kg!



The mass & the normal testicle.

Simba's case shows how important regular check ups are and highlights one of the major problems that can occur if pets are not neutered. In particular it shows the scale of problems that can occur from Cryptorchidism.

What is Cryptorchidism?

- A heredity condition
- One or both testicles fail to descend from the abdomen (where they develop) into the scrotum.
- The undescended testicle may remain in the abdomen or it may be located in the inguinal (groin) tissues.
- The retained testicle is a potential source of problems, particularly cancer or torsion (twisting).

Neutering

- Neutering in male dogs is recommended from six months of age.
- If your pet is still cryptorchid by 6 months of age, it is unlikely that the testicle will ever descended.
- Neutering is the recommended treatment for cryptorchid pets. It prevents testicular tumours and stops the genetic trait being passed on to future generations.
- If the testicle is not palpable in the inguinal canal (groin area), abdominal exploration is necessary to find the retained testicle.

