



Naturally speaking

Nadia Crighton
looks at natural
pet care –
from diet to
healthcare.

WE ARE continuously reminded of the benefits healthy living and natural products can have on our well-being. Many natural products and treatments have proven beneficial in the human world, but what about our pets?

All veterinarians are trained to respect the natural principles of vet care but some take their studies further into complementary therapies such as acupuncture, chiropractics, herbal medicine and homeopathy. Those who integrate these therapies alongside traditional training are known as holistic veterinarians.

An example is Dr Liza Schneider, president of the New Zealand Veterinary Association's Holistic Veterinary Society and occasional *Animals' Voice* columnist.

"Conventional veterinary care uses medicines and surgery that ideally resolve the root of the problem or at least help to manage a disease condition," Liza says. "This approach is often lifesaving for severe infections, trauma and many other conditions but can have its limitations in the realm of some diseases like

