



animal aid

Vet Clinic Newsletter

December 2005

The Animal Aid Veterinary Clinic would like to wish you, our valued clients, your families, and your pets a safe and Happy Christmas & New Year.

The Clinic will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, Monday 27th and Tuesday 28th December, New Years Day and Monday 2nd January.

Otherwise our hours will be as normal:

Monday 8.30am – 7pm

Tuesday – Friday 8.30am – 6pm

Saturday 9am – 1pm

To cater to your Veterinary needs over the holiday period and beyond, the clinic now has an *After Hours Emergency Advice Line* which operates from 6pm on Friday nights, until 9am on Monday mornings, as well as all day on public holidays.



A vet can be contacted by calling 0400 824 024, and will be able to give you advice, schedule an after hours appointment, or advise you of the appropriate action to take until the clinic is open. This may mean referring you straight to the Animal Emergency Centre if your pet requires urgent attention. During week nights we suggest you contact the Emergency Centre directly for all your pet emergencies:

Animal Emergency Centre
37 Blackburn Road
Mt Waverley 9803-8122

Whilst we are celebrating and sharing the good cheer of the festive season there are just a couple of things to keep in mind to keep your pets happy and healthy:

- They will love some left over turkey (after you have removed the bones – cooked bones are a big no-no!).
- Get them raw bones to help keep those teeth healthy and white; keep an eye out for wasps if they are outside. (If the breath is a little on the smelly side maybe you should call in and have the teeth checked in the New Year.)
- No chocolate for our furry friends. Carob chocolate is acceptable.
- Take care with all the decorations and small parts on new toys and games that come home over the holiday season, little things ingested can lead to big health problems and costly removal later.
- If your dog is afraid of the fire works please house them somewhere very secure and safe for New Years Eve. We don't want them ending up in the pound with the 100 or so other dogs lost each New Year's Eve, or even worse, injured on the roads.

- Remember the car is not a place for pets on warm days; they will die just as quickly as a child left unattended in the car.

Summer is upon us and so are the fleas, we have already seen a number of animals in the clinic with major infestations. Fleas are a serious health problem to dogs and cats. Along with the immediate pain and irritation from their bites, they are responsible for Flea Allergy Dermatitis (eczema). This is the most common skin complaint we see, in fact fleas are the cause of more skin problems than anything else. Their bites are not limited to our four legged family members; our blood is just as good with each bite potentially carrying viral, bacterial & parasitic diseases.



With the wide range of control products available, there is no need for any animal or household to have fleas. If you would like more information on flea control, please call in or the clinic on 97390500.

Another important warm weather risk to watch for is snakes. We have already had a case of snake bite this year so keep your pets out of long grass and keep your grass cut short to decrease potential serpent habitat.



Looking forward to seeing you all in the New Year,
From the Animal Aid Vet clinic staff.