



Ultimate Veterinary Clinic Newsletter

ISSUE NO. 2

Summer Edition



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Our core values:

- The well-being of you and your pets
- To provide high quality medicine and surgery
- Honest and reliable vet care
- Continually updating our knowledge and services
- Striving to build a long term partnership with you and your pets

Our facilities and services include:

- Routine veterinary consultations, vaccinations and microchipping.
- Small Animal surgical facilities; elective & specialised.
- In-house diagnostics; pathology, ultrasonography, digital radiology.
- Quarantine
- Pet food and other pet supplies

Welcome to Ultimate Vet Clinics Summer edition newsletter

We are very excited to say that each season we will be able to email you all the latest clinic news, special offers, upcoming events, discounts and your pets health check reminders.

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Ultimate Vet welcomes any suggestions or ideas of things you would like to see in our newsletters. If you have anything to share, drop us a line at

info@ultimatevet.com.au and we'll see what we can do for you.

We appreciate your feedback



With Christmas and New Year approaching, it certainly is a time for much celebration and joy with loved ones, including our four legged family members. However, too much Christmas cheer may not necessarily always be a good thing! Pets most commonly present to vet clinics during this time of the year with the following three issues. Having an awareness of these issues will ensure that you can take the precautions necessary to keep your pets happy and healthy throughout the entire festive season!

FOREIGN BODIES

Tinsel, various Christmas ornaments and decorative wrapping is pleasing for us to lay our eyes on. What we often fail to realise though, is that our pets also tend to share this pleasure, to the point of chewing and ingesting these objects! As a result, they can lead to gut upsets such as vomiting and diarrhoea and as a worst case scenario, can even cause a blockage in the digestive tract. In these unlucky individuals, surgical removal is required. As such, you can avoid this risk by limiting access to these items when they are unsupervised!

TOXICITIES

With the large variety of food available during the Christmas season and our animal counterparts not being able to process everything that we humans can, toxicities during this period are common. Onion toxicity, chocolate toxicity and toxicity from raisin/currant ingestion in fruit cakes would be the most common ones to consider during this season. Onion toxicities generally occur during the summer barbeques, following ingestion by an unsuspecting dog. Onions lead to fragility of the red blood cells, and therefore cause anaemia (lowered red blood cell count). Typical clinical signs that might be noted include an increased breathing and heart rate, pale gum colour and lethargy.

Chocolate also tends to be available in large quantities during the Christmas season, which is great for us! However, even in small amounts, it is highly toxic to animals and leads to clinical signs such as vomiting, diarrhoea, hyperactivity, seizures and disorientation. Grapes, and all their dehydrated forms, for instance, sultanas, raisins and currants, which are highly concentrated in Christmas puddings and fruit cakes are also toxic to dogs and can lead to renal (kidney) failure. Now that you're aware what to look out for, should your pet manage to ingest anything toxic during this festive period, please don't hesitate to contact us immediately!

PANCREATITIS

Even though Christmas is a time of over eating and drinking for many humans, keep in mind that this 'gluttony' can lead to severe consequences in our four legged companions. One of these in particular is pancreatitis, simply put, inflammation of the pancreas. Generally, pancreatitis is linked to the ingestion of a large fatty meal, which our pets are then unable to process. As a result, avoid fatty leftovers from roast turkey or ham, as well as sausages from the barbeque. Other cured meats which are high in salt should also be avoided, as these can lead to gut upsets and pancreatitis. Common signs seen include vomiting, diarrhoea, inappetance, abdominal pain and dehydration.

Finally, during the New Year Season, if your four legged friend is likely be distressed by the sound of fire-works during this time, please ensure that they are provided with a safe and quiet place to hide during all the festivities. In their anxiety, many attempt to and successfully escape the family home, so ensure that your garden is secured, otherwise, keep them indoors.

We at the Ultimate Vet Clinic all want this upcoming holiday season to be a happy and safe time for you and your pet!

Enjoy the festive season with your furry family members!

Harvey Bacon

Harvey Bacon is a 1 year old British bulldog who presented to the clinic on 15th November after eating a large river pebble.



After taking an xray of Harvey Bacon we realised that unfortunately due to the size of the stone that there was no chance he would be able to pass this on his own.

Surgery was the only option. A exploratory surgery under anaesthetic was performed and the stone was found in Harvey Bacon's stomach. The stone was then removed by an incision into the stomach. Harvey Bacon was placed on a drip to prevent dehydration and to make the surgery safer. He was given several medications - antibiotics to prevent post surgery infection, and pain relief medication. After recovering in hospital for 24 hours Harvey Bacon was doing very well so he went home to be cared for by his parents.

Harvey Bacon has recovered well now as you can see in the picture below.

Hopefully he will stay away from rocks and stones in the future!



Latest news:

Dr. Julie's trip to India

I recently spent 2 weeks on holiday with 3 friends in India. The holiday was planned as a "Hen's trip" for a friend who is getting married in February, and to buy saris to wear at the wedding. We arrived in Delhi, a very busy and colourful city, with lots of markets and old colonial buildings (not to mention the constant smog and busy traffic!). After a crowded overnight train trip we arrived in Varanasi, the "holy city", on the banks of the famous Ganges River. Locals swim in the "purifying" water and wash their colourful clothes on the banks. None of us were brave enough to swim in the river after we found out about the 200 million litres of untreated sewerage pumped into the river daily (not to mention the dead bodies supposedly placed in the river)! We did enjoy a nice sunset cruise on the Ganges and watched a Hindu religious ceremony from the safety of the boat. Of course we couldn't miss visiting Agra-the city where the famous Taj Mahal is located. This beautiful building is even more impressive in real life with intricate patterns hand carved into the white marble walls. Other highlights were eating large amounts of amazing Indian food, visiting all the markets and indulging in massages!



Answer the following quiz to go into the draw to WIN a Free dog bed

1. How many teeth does a dog have?
2. Name 4 types of intestinal worms dogs can get?
3. How often should your adult dog or cat be vaccinated?
4. A C3 vaccination for dogs consist of?
5. Heartworm is transmitted via mosquito's - true or false?
6. Vets can implant a _____ so if your pet gets lost we can scan and get your details.

Email us you answers by 25th Dec. The winner will be contacted via email or by facebook by 4th Jan.

GOOD LUCK!

DON'T FORGET TO





**DON'T FORGET OUR
FREE
XMAS
SAUSAGE
SIZZLE**

DATE: Saturday 8th December

TIME: 2-3pm

**PLACE: 242 Narre Warren-Cranbourne Rd
Narre Warren South**



**Ultimate Vet Clinic would like to personally invite you
to our Xmas sausage sizzle.**

**All the staff at Ultimate Vet Clinic would like to say a BIG THANKYOU for
being such loyal and valued clients, and would like wish you all a Very Merry
Xmas and a Happy and Safe New Year.**

We look forward to seeing you and your pets in 2013!

PRIZES for Best Dressed Pet on the day, lolly bags, giveaways

(All dogs must be on lead and cats in cages as clinic will be closed)

RSVP: By 24th November 8790 2425