



HIGHland Veterinary Hospital

66 Old Hume Highway

Braemar, NSW 2575

E: info@highlandsveterinaryhospital.com.au

Ph 02 4872 1144



November 2019 Newsletter

Hello and welcome to this month's newsletter.

We are well into spring now, with higher daily temperatures and drought like conditions making life difficult for animals, especially for our Wildlife. Recently we had a baby Wombat handed into us from some people who saw a Wombat lying beside the roadway, and they stopped to check the animal to see if they had any young. Sure enough, there was an orphaned baby in the pouch.

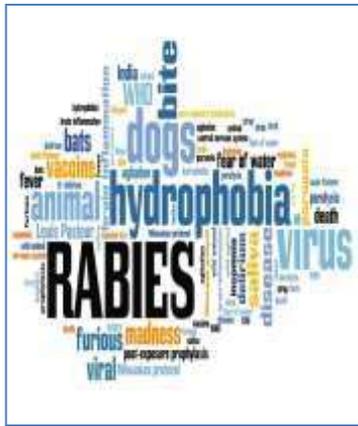
Wildlife are searching further afield from their normal habitat to find water and are attracted to the runoff alongside the roads. Don't assume someone else has checked the animal for any young. Please stop and check the pouch, collect the youngster and hand them into the closest vet for a health checkup. We will then make sure they get the right foster care to support them until they can be released back into the wild. Check out our cute video on Facebook with Dr. Diederik and Griswold, for the sweetest baby Wombat you have ever seen. [Click here](#) for the link.

Total Pet Wellness. Prevention is always better than cure, and for the proactive pet owner, we make it easy to compare pet health plans designed with you and your budget in mind. They are tailored preventative health plans that support your pet and are designed to give your fur baby the best opportunity for a long and healthy life. You can find out more by [clicking here](#). The benefits are listed and you can find a plan that is right for you. Prevention not only is better for your pet, but it beats the price of curing an established disease and the heartache that disease brings with it.



This month we cover topics such as Rabies, pet obesity and osteoarthritis, and our case study is about Jubilee the Boxer and the importance of blood work prior to surgery. You will love the picture of the Halloween Pet Selfie – it would be scary except for that adorable face! If you want to join in the selfie challenge – the next challenge is the **Red Dingo Pet Adventure** which is explained in detail on page two.

We have just unveiled **our latest project** here at HIGHlands Veterinary Hospital. To honor those whose pets who have passed over the rainbow bridge to a life beyond, our new Memorial Wall will grow into a beautiful place to visit and reflect on those who have gone on ahead. Pay it a visit next time you call in to see us.



RABIES – the name is from the Latin word that means ‘to rage’. Animals who are infected with the virus often act angry and aggressive.

Rabies is caused by a virus and is a serious disease that is spread via saliva. According to the World Health Organisation, Rabies kills nearly 59,000 people a year – that is a staggering one person every nine minutes. Australia is fortunate that we don’t have rabies but that is no excuse to lower our guard. Border control and health authorities are concerned that the virus could quite easily make its way to our shores via yachts carrying rabies infected dogs from Indonesia. If this happened it could quickly infect our dingo and domestic pets and create havoc for the people living in the area. Rabies is nearly always fatal as it attacks the brain and the spinal cord. But Rabies is 100% preventable. There is no vaccine in Australia for pets except for those going overseas to live. Protect our borders from within ... show you care by being aware!

Join our Facebook Page for more information.
<https://www.facebook.com/highlandsveterinaryhospital/>



CASE STUDY – Jubilee the Boxer.



Jubilee is about 7 years of age, and she was brought in by her owners as she had a huge lump on her hip. This lump is a type of mast cell cancer, so we were preparing to go to surgery to remove it for her. As per usual we did the pre-op blood tests as this is a prolonged surgery to remove a lump that large. The results of the tests were surprising. Although she was not demonstrating any signs of disease, the results show that Jubilee was having problems with her kidney function, and the pre-op blood count showed signs of pancreatitis. This was vital information for us as had we gone straight to surgery without these tests, it could have pushed her kidneys into failure. First, we must ensure these conditions are treated and improved so we will re-evaluate Jubilee in 10 – 14 days. If the kidney and pancreatitis indicators come down, then we will consider going to surgery. To see Dr. Diederik Gelderman explain this in more detail, [click here](#) to view the video.

This case study just shows the importance of doing the pre-op blood tests prior to surgery as Jubilee had shown no visible signs of kidney trouble nor pancreatitis.

Have You Tried Out Our New APP Yet?

Our new APP is super easy to install and use and it is FREE! Download the APP from Google Play or the App store and search for HIGHlands Veterinary Hospital. It contains loads of great information such as a page on poison control for pets, a pet health library where you can find out information about animal disease and conditions, and a loyalty stamp section where you can accumulate points and get rewards. You can also use the APP to schedule an appointment and there are some fun features such as shots of your best pet selfie photos.



The Selfie Competition for November is called The Red Dingo Pet Adventure! How creative can you get with a pet selfie of your dog having an amazing adventure in the Southern Highlands dog parks, cafes, walking, rafting ... I am sure you get the idea! The prize is a Red Dingo pet tag, fully engraved and you can even pick the one you love from the catalogue. The selfie shot needs to be submitted via the Veterinary Hospital (HVH) APP so if you haven’t downloaded the APP yet, then now is the perfect excuse to do so!

Here is the winner of our last month Pet Selfie competition. It would be frightening except for that sweet face!



RED Dingo Tags - These are great looking tags that provide ID information to protect your pet. Designed in enamel on solid stainless steel, they will never rust or corrode! For more information, [CLICK HERE](#). Combined with a recycled plastic classy lead, your dog will not only look good, be easy to relocate if lost, but you will be doing your part in cleaning up the planet!



Check Your Pets After a Walk in the Park or Bush.

Be on the alert and check your pets coat for Foxtails and other grasses that can burrow into your pets' skin, eyes, nose, ears and lungs causing all sorts of irritation and discomfort.



When you have a question or enquiry regarding your pet, you can go to our website, our Facebook site, or log into our HIGHlands APP. We have invested a lot of our time to ensure you are kept informed of valuable information.

[Click here](#) for our website

[Click here](#) for our Facebook

Or

Go to your APP Store and search for HIGHlands Veterinary Hospital



Adopt a Pet – Bruno is waiting for a forever home- can you help? He is waiting at the Golden Oldies Animal Rescue.

This lovely dog is still a puppy at heart and loves to play and will be your shadow as he will love you to bits. He has been microchipped, vaccinated and neutered. Bruno gets on well with other dogs of medium to large size but is a bit of a cat chaser, so a home without a cat would be best. He is a Neo Mastiff cross, but don't be put off by his size. He is a big dog but is a loveable and devoted pup and a real personality. Bruno would so love a forever home; please can you help make his dream come true. Call his foster care giver David on

0417 176 260 or contact the [Golden Oldies](#) for other pets on 0403 265 498

Obesity and osteoarthritis (OA) are on the rise in the modern pet.

Because (OA) is a progressive degenerative disease, it can often go undiagnosed because pet owners mistake the signs as normal 'old age' behavior. Being overweight doesn't cause arthritis but it worsens it. If an animal has gained a lot of weight it compounds the problem by making movement more painful and difficult. Early diagnosis of this disease is the key. The subtle symptoms include a pet whose activity rate slows down, they sit a lot and watch rather than get involved in games. If you think your pet may have this condition, call us on 02 4872 1144 and mention this newsletter and you will get a free obesity and osteoarthritis health check with us but this offer is limited to the first 15 to call and take advantage of our offer.

Protect your pet from prolific parasites. These pests are Ticks, Fleas, heartworm, intestinal worms and tapeworms. Briefly, the heartworm is a parasitic worm that is injected under your pets' skin by a mosquito bite. They mature inside your pet and migrate through the organs to the heart and lungs. Ticks latch onto your pets' skin and suck the blood, while producing a neurotoxin that can produce paralysis. Flea bites cause skin disease, tapeworm infection, and anemia. While intestinal worms degrade the health and can cause considerable damage if left unchecked. Luckily there are products available such as annual injections, topical applications, shampoos and sprays, tablets and chews and collars that can all help overcome these unwelcome parasites and restore your pet to good health. Book in for [regular health checks](#) where we will check your pet inside and out to ensure your pet will be only giving you love and cuddles! If you have a health plan with us, you will find we cover parasite management.

A Touch of Humor 🤔

A burglar breaks into a house and starts looking for valuables. As he starts putting them into a bag, he hears "Jesus is watching you." Startled, the burglar looks around for the speaker. Seeing no one, he keeps putting things in his bag and again he hears "Jesus is watching you!"

This time he sees a parrot, so he asks, "Who the heck are you?" to which the bird replies "Moses!"

"Who would name a bird Moses" the man laughs. Moses replies "I don't know ... I guess the same kind of people that would name a Rottweiler Jesus."

Have a wonderful day and an awesome month!