



NEWSLETTER

Issue 47

December 2016

We wish our valued clients and pets a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Enjoy your holiday season and take care with what you feed your pets. Storm season is upon us now and many of our pets suffer anxiety from the thunder. There are many tools at our disposal to help your pet through this season. Please turn over for more detail. Join in our Christmas hamper and photo comps.

Christmas Hampers

WIN one of our fantastic Christmas Hampers! All clients and pets visiting our clinics for a consultation or procedure after November 10th will be entered into the draw.

Winners will be drawn on December 15th.



Farewell Philip



We would like to announce the end of an era with **Philip Wilson**, the founder of The Lake Veterinary Hospitals, retiring in late December. Philip has been instrumental in making the hospitals what they are today. He has helped over 3 generations of families with their pets. He has always strived for the highest veterinary standards combined with a very personable approach. Philip has enjoyed helping thousands of pets feel better and live longer healthier lives. His cheeky grin and sense of humour will be missed amongst the team. He is looking forward to spending more time as a grandparent in the near future and travelling. Philip would like to thank all the clients and pets for making his veterinary journey such a special and unforgettable experience.

Christmas Photo Competition



Please join in our pet Christmas photo competition. The winners will receive 12 months worth of flea prevention products. Email entries to lakevet@lakevet.com.au
Last year's winner Winston.

Festive Food for Pets



The temptation during the Christmas season is to give our pets left over's as a perceived treat for them to share with us.

In many cases this may be without any consequence except a satisfied pet but we do often see gastrointestinal upsets associated with feeding seasoned, fatty or salty foods - this sounds like everything we have Christmas day!

Vomiting and diarrhoea are often symptoms seen but these may progress to a more serious condition such as pancreatitis, which requires hospitalisation and intensive care.

Please be careful when including that four legged family member in sharing your Christmas meal. Of course, to spoil their fun more, we should also avoid sharing our chocolates.

Fear of Thunderstorms and Fireworks

Summer in Australia can be noisy: thunderstorms, fireworks and Christmas parties are just some of the events that can trigger noise sensitivities in dogs. Although it may not be possible to avoid the noises, there are some simple ideas for helping your dog to cope during a noisy situation:

- Expose puppies to different noises from a young age and make sure the noises are always associated with something pleasant such as a dog treat. Using Adaptil while encountering a potentially scary sound will help your pup avoid negative associations with the noise.

- Providing a crate in a quiet room filled with toys and hidden treats allows your dog to retreat to a safe place when they feel threatened and helps them cope with the stress created by the loud noises. An Adaptil Diffuser can be placed close by to improve their sense of security.
- Never punish your dog for any behaviour that comes as a result of their anxiety - punishment may make their anxiety worse and has a negative impact on your relationship with your dog.
- Masking the loud noise with a noise your dog can tolerate (such as classical music) can make a big difference.
- Engage your dog in a game to distract them.

Some pets fear and anxiety associated with loud noises are severe, and require further medication and training. Please contact us to make an appointment with one of our veterinarians and help your pet feel more secure.

