



WENTWORTH FALLS ANIMAL HOSPITAL



• Newsletter • Winter 2007 • Issue #2

Passionate About Pets
www.wentworthfallsvet.com.au

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New 24 hour emergency service

If your pet has an accident or is unwell outside normal opening hours we provide a 24 hour emergency service. If you need some telephone advice or are worried about your pet, Steve and Andrew are always available to discuss your concerns.

Call our normal practice number (02) 4757 3255 and listen for the mobile phone number given in the recorded message.

Your pet will be cared for with A-Class hospital facilities, including: vaccinations, de-sexing, X-ray, intensive care, general surgery, dentistry, in-house and external blood and urine testing, external pathology testing, acupuncture and puppy pre-school.

Opening hours

Monday to Friday
8.30am – 7.00pm
Saturday
9.00am – 1.00pm
Sunday
10.00am – 12 noon

Practice website

Wentworth Falls Animal Hospital now has a website to inform you of the services we offer. The site is very simple, explaining how the practice was created and how to find us.

Take a moment to have a look at www.wentworthfallsvet.com.au

+ designed by Lee Taylor. Contact Lee via email at pacepub@gmail.com



Wentworth Falls Animal Hospital's vets have been busy training to offer your pets even better care.

Going that extra step for "You"

As veterinarians, there is an ongoing commitment to maintain and enhance professional skills and knowledge. Continuing professional development is a requirement of every registered vet in all states of Australia. This development benefits the vets, the profession, the practice, the patients and especially our customers – "You".

Andrew Laws BVSc (Hons) recently furthered his surgical skills completing an intensive one-week course, lead by veterinary specialists from around the world. The course covered soft tissue surgical procedures in dogs and cats.

Stephen Gibson BVSc (Hons) is undergoing a one-year correspondence Emergency Medicine course. The course covers everything from non-classic snakebite presentations in dog and cats, to unusual toxic poisoning our furry friends

occasionally encounter. The course attempts to cover the majority of emergencies seen in private vet practices, like vomiting dogs, and cats with breathing difficulties. We hope you don't have to use our emergency services too often, but should you require our assistance, we offer a very reliable emergency after-hours service that can be reached by calling (02) 4757 3255.

Fiona Gibson BVSc (Hons) attended an internal medicine course held in Brisbane in May '07. The course focused on involved and complicated medical conditions seen infrequently in the general practice environment. Fiona is our experienced export veterinarian as well as having a strong interest in medical cases.

Our nurses are encouraged to further their animal care skills and they are supported to attend technical training courses.

Pet Profile: Humphrey

Humphrey is an eight-year-old de-sexed female terrier cross who was brought into WFAH for a check up, after she began to slow down on walks, had difficulty breathing and a swollen tummy. Radiographs were taken and confirmed Humphrey has an unusually large heart. Her heart has a muscle disease that doesn't enable it to pump the blood around her body in the normal way. Humphrey is now on medication to help her heart pump normally and is back to chasing everything in sight. Send in your Pet Profile to: fallsvet@commander360.com



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+ phone : 02 4757 3255 fax: 02 4757 3277 email: fallsvet@commander360.com web: www.wentworthfallsvet.com.au ABN: 62 113 520 264



Weight control: every dog has it's day

When it comes to winter, humans are no different to animals – everything slows down. The bitter chill of the outside air inevitably leads to decreased physical activity and we experience a reduced metabolism. If food consumption increases during this time it could contribute to weight gain.

Some breeds of dogs are more prone to weight gain than others and winter sometimes can be the time when it starts. Arthritis as well as other medical conditions can play a part in weight gain issues (see below), making pain management and veterinary support important.

Wentworth Falls Animal Hospital offer a tailored program to all our patients who need nutritional advice and support for weight loss. Please contact the practice on (02) 4757 3255 to discuss options available for weight control.

A Hills Pet Slimmer Program is a great option to seriously tackle weight loss.

Quigley (right), a pet therapy Labrador from an aged-care home in Leura, is one of our patients on the program who will significantly benefit from any weight loss, especially reducing pressure on his joints. The program works by reducing calorie intake by feeding a prescription r/d Hills diet, as well as increasing his exercise and having a big sign around his neck reminding the elderly residents not to give him left over scraps (you know who you are!).

We look forward to keeping you up-to-date with Quigley's progress.



No scraps, we're peckish: Quigley will be on the Hills Pet Slimmer Program to beat the battle of the bulge.

+ If you have any questions that you would like to see answered in Pet Care, please email us on: fallsvet@commander360.com

Vets Beyond Borders a winner

During Autumn 2007, we lent our support to local photographer David Darcy and Vets Beyond Borders – a not-for-profit organisation operated by veterinarians to improve the health and well-being of both animal and human populations in developing communities in India, Asia and the Pacific.

In February, David travelled to India for a month to photograph street dogs and highlight the work of Vets Beyond Borders.



Vets Beyond Border's David Darcy (left) and winner Michael Kelly.

Arthritis: Does your dog look like this?



Is your dog showing one of these signs?

- Difficulty rising from a resting position
- Lying down or resting more than usual
- Stiffness after exercise
- Reluctant to exercise for as long as usual
- Limping
- Difficulty walking, running or jumping

If your dog is known to slow down in the cooler months, we would advise a consultation in early winter to discuss pain relief options. Your pet could benefit from medicine relieving joint

inflammation and helping with pain management.

Recently we have seen significant advances in non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications for dogs.

Treatment options include:

- Weight loss
- Pain medication
- Cartrophen injection course (increases joint fluid)
- Nutritional supplements
- Acupuncture

To help fund VBB projects we raffled off one of David's prints worth \$150. The raffle was drawn on May 2 and our lucky winner was Michael Kelly of Wentworth Falls. Congratulations Michael!

David's visit to India was confronting at times, but also very rewarding. He will hold an exhibition of his photographs from India in the near future and hopes to also publish a book with photographs from the trip.

For more information go to www.vetsbeyondborders.org

No job too big or small

Our practice can handle the majority of complicated surgeries, such as bladder stone removal, abdominal obstructions to caesareans. Call us on (02) 4757 3255.

