

devoted vets

for your animal's life!



for your pet's health

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Summer 2014

With Christmas just around the corner...

The festive season is here so we look at how to keep your pet safe during the holiday period

Summer is the high risk season for pets - and a busy time for you - so take a quick look at our reminders to make sure you've got the basics covered

Claira, Charlie and all the team at Devoted Vets send their best wishes to you at Christmas and New Year!



Christmas and New Year bring all the joy of giving and receiving, families getting together, holidays and sometimes the chance to just put our feet up to relax. Ah, that's the spirit! So looking forward to it.

For vets and vet nurses, the Christmas period can be very busy. Pet illnesses are more frequent over summer, and there are some special risks at Christmas time, so here are some timely reminders to make it safer for your pet and less worrying for you.

Most people know about the risks of chocolate to pets - especially dogs. Chocolate contains stimulants that excite the pet and in high doses, can cause heart failure - so no chocolate treats for pets!

Dark chocolate is the most dangerous form so watch that piece of chocolate mud cake left out that you know who can reach!

Grapes are particularly poisonous to dogs, causing a potentially fatal kidney failure. All forms of the fruit are dangerous, so fresh grapes, fruit cake, raisins, sultanas and wine are all toxic.

The treatment for grape poisoning is hospitalisation on a fluid drip for three days at the vet clinic . So no Christmas pudding or cake for your pet!

Small toys can be dangerous to cats and dogs, especially kittens and puppies. The young ones love playing and chewing on any attractive object. Parts of children's toys can cause problems such as bowel blockages.





Likewise cooked chicken or turkey bones can splinter and cause blockages. If a blockage occurs, the danger signs are loss of appetite, vomiting and dullness. Emergency surgery may be required to save the pet's life - so prevention is better than cure!

With a few sensible precautions, you can make Christmas fun and safe for your pets and your family!

Summer care for your pets

Summer brings many additional risks for pets. Keep these risks uppermost in your mind: Dogs love the freedom of long daylight hours and warmth, with plenty of games. However heat stress is a very real risk to pets as well as humans. Like humans, heat stress in any animal can cause breakdown of muscle tissue and with it, kidney failure. Don't "over-do" exercise in really hot or humid weather and obviously, make sure your pets have plenty of fresh, cool water available at all times.



Make sure your pets are currently vaccinated and their flea and heartworm control is up to date. If your pets travel with you on holidays, phone us for the latest treatments for tick paralysis and car sickness.

Claira's (and Charlie's) corner!



Merry Christmas and have a Great New Year from Claira, Charlie and all of their mates at Devoted Vets!

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Clinic Hours

Monday and Thursday: 8am to 7 pm

Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday: 8am to 5pm

Saturday: 9am to 12 noon