

~ December 1, 2011 ~

Clinic Christmas Hours

The clinic will be open on Saturday December 24th between 8.00am and 1.00pm.

We will be on call for emergencies between December 25 - 27.

Contact our vet on: 0407 811 222

We will re-open on December 28th.

We wish all our clients a happy and healthy christmas.



Summer Safety

While you and your pet are having fun in the sun this summer, remember to watch out for:

- **Heat Exhaustion**

Never leave your pet in a car, even if it is for just a short time. It only takes a few minutes for the temperature to reach deadly levels. Be careful also leaving your pet locked outside on extreme days; make sure there is shade and plenty of water available.

- **Thunderstorms and Fireworks**

Dogs are very sensitive to fireworks and thunderstorm noises. It commonly leads to pets who escape their own backyard due to fright. Keep watch of your pets at times of thunderstorm or fireworks activity. Speak to us about ways to help your pet cope.

- **Snakes**

Take care around bushy creeks, dams and even overgrown backyards. Look out for snake bite symptoms such as collapse, vomiting, muscle weakness, dilated pupils or blood in urine. If you suspect a snake bite seek veterinary attention immediately.



Feeding Puppies and Kittens

Bringing home a puppy or kitten can be very overwhelming.

One of the most commonly asked questions is "what should I be feeding?" Getting your puppy or kitten eating premium food is one of the most important tips for starting out on the right track.

Forget messing around with home-cooked diets. Premium puppy or kitten food is completely balanced and provides all the correct nutrients for a growing pet. There is no need to add any extras; in fact additives may have a detrimental effect on bone growth.

Start good habits early - never feed human food or left overs as this is more likely to lead to an overweight pet and can trigger nasty bouts of vomiting and diarrhoea.

Softening dry food with warm water can encourage your puppy or kitten to eat the new food but also remember that dry food helps to clean your pet's teeth.

Always change your puppy or kitten onto a new diet over a few days. This will help prevent tummy upsets and will make for a smooth transition and a happy and healthy pet.

Give us a ring at the clinic if you have any questions.

Hills Science Diet premium brand pet food have a range of puppy and kitten foods designed for the specific requirements of young animals.

Hills Science Diet is available at the clinic.



Shoo Fly

Over summer, flies and mosquitoes can cause as much grief for our pets as they do for us. Dogs are particularly prone to irritation around the ears and nose from the bites of these annoying insects.

Flies carry bacteria and bites can lead to a nasty infection. Flies lay eggs in warm, damp fur and especially in an open wound. If the wound goes undetected, the eggs can hatch into maggots in less than 24 hours.

To prevent flies and mosquitoes bothering your pet. Keep your pets area clean. Pick up any faeces as soon as possible. Don't leave food out during the day. Remove old bones. Clean your pets bedding on a regular basis.

If you notice any flecks of dried blood around the ears or nose, remove with a damp cloth. The blood will attract flies and mosquitoes.

Wasps and bees can also be a problem especially for inquisitive puppies who don't know any better and get bitten on the face. Apply cold compresses to the swellings. If the swelling does not subside, or there are breathing problems contact the veterinary clinic immediately.



There are products available that are safe for your pet and repel flies and mosquitoes. Ask at the clinic for more information.

Tips for a safe Christmas

- Watch out for potential toxins: Chocolate, nuts, garlic or onions.
- Avoid cooked bones
- Barbecue skewers can be ingested by your pet.
- Alcohol can be fatal in dogs. Signs of intoxication are vomiting, wobbly gait, depressed respiration rate, seizures and may be seen 30-60 minutes after ingestion.
- Christmas decorations such as tinsel and baubles can cause choking and intestinal obstruction especially in curious young animals.



Website Special

We have great specials on parasite control.
Stock up for the summer months.
Go to our website and click on shopping.
www.bannockburnvet.com.au



Having trouble reading this? [View it in your browser](#). Not interested anymore? [Unsubscribe](#) instantly.