

[RETURN TO WEBSITE](#)

[SUBSCRIBE TO NEWSLETTER](#)

Not displaying properly? [Click here](#) to read online.



Murray Bridge Veterinary Clinic
140 Swanport Road
Murray Bridge, SA, 5253
mbvet@lm.net.au
www.murraybridgevet.com.au
Phone: **08 8532 2333**



EASTER HEALTH HAZARDS

Keep your pet safe this Easter

March 2018

We have a couple of new faces around the clinic that you may have already seen!

We would love you all to meet Jessie, our newest trainee Veterinary Nurse. Her passion for all animals shows through in her very happy and bubbly personality! We are very grateful to have her in our team.



A little bit about Jessie.....

1) What is your favourite animal breed?

Surely nobody has just one! I have always been absolutely amazed by elephants! But my favourite domestic animal breed would have to be the working dog breeds such as Kelpies, Blue Heelers and Border Collies. This is never a dull moment with those around!

2) What do you love most about your job?

The whole atmosphere! Being surrounded by people who love animals as much as I do! Not to mention the wide range of animals that come into the clinic, once again, never a dull moment.

3) What is your favourite thing/hobby to do after work?

Being entertained by my water crazy Kelpie at the lake!. I also love camping and 4x4 driving with my partner and our two dogs.

4) What pets do you have at home?

I have two dogs. A bouncy 2 year old Kelpie! Her name is Kell. She spends most of her time teasing Pup with sticks and toys until she gives in and joins the game. And Pup, the big softy who enjoys sun baking in peace, which Kell doesn't quite understand!

5) What is the naughtiest/cheekiest thing your pet has done?

- Being water-mad, my Kelpie, Kell takes any chance she can for a dip! One time in particular Kell swam so far out past our Jetty along the river that she couldn't be seen anymore. I thought I had lost her. She eventually tired and swam back to shore in her own time.

- The blow up pool was also a hit on Christmas day when nobody was looking until she burst the pool! That was the end of our day swimming in the pool!

Our Murray Bridge Vet Clinic Family has grown again!

Our lovely nurse, Sarah and family have welcomed little Ella Jean into the world. Big brother Zac and Izzi (their 4 -legged family member), are in awe of their little sister.



Contents of this newsletter

01 Hip Hip Hooray!!

02 WARNING – PAPP Fox Baiting Program 2018:

03 Chocolate toxicity - what to do

04 Easter health hazards you might not know about

05 Have you heard of our Pet Healthcare Plan?

06 Is your dog suffering from separation anxiety?

07 Why is my cat doing that?

08 A new study links raw chicken to paralysis in dogs

01 Hip Hip Hooray!!



Happy Birthday to our current Senior Pet Club and Healthcare members who will be celebrating in March

Missy 17 years old
Bill 15 years old
Jessie 11 years old
Kane 13 years old

And welcome to our newest Healthcare members who joined us in February

Charlie
Samson
Kelly

MBVC Healthcare plans are available for cat and dogs of all ages!

If you would like some more info on our Healthcare Plans please [Contact Us](#) or read more on our [website](#).

02 WARNING – PAPP Fox Baiting Program 2018:

WARNING – PAPP Fox Baiting Program 2018:

We have been advised that the department of Environment Water and National Resources will be placing PAPP poison baits around the levee banks of the Murray lands District. Click the link below for the exact baiting zones and danger periods.

PAPP fox bait poison is fatal to dogs and cats. If you think your pet may have consumed fox bait please contact the clinic immediately.

Public Notice Levee Bank Fox Control Program 2018

Swanport Pest Control Pty Ltd, Licensed Pest Controller

Will be conducting a Fox Control Program on behalf of the Department for Environment, Water, and Natural Resources.

On the levee banks of

Jervois Irrigation Area

Montieth Irrigation Area

Long Flat Irrigation Area

Mobilong Irrigation Area

Mypolonga (Mypolonga and Mypolonga North) Irrigation Areas

Wall Flat Irrigation Area

Pompoota Irrigation Area

Neeta Irrigation Area

Cowirra (Cowirra North and Cowirra South) Irrigation Areas

The Bait to be used: FOXECUTE® PAPP meat baits. Baiting Method: Baits will be buried at regular intervals along the Levee Bank in accordance with Best Practice Principles.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE FOXECUTE® PAPP meat baits, please follow the Link,

<http://www.animalcontrol.com.au/foxecute1.htm>

Duration: Active baits: February 5th to March 19th 2018 Danger Period: February 5th to April 16th 2018

Dogs **MUST NOT** be allowed into the Baiting zone. Dogs that must frequent the Baiting zone **MUST BE MUZZLED**.

Enquiries should be referred to Mr. Philip Mayfield 0427 310 211 Swanport Pest Control Pty Ltd Licensed Pest Controller.

Box 1366 Murray Bridge 5253 Email: swanportpestcontrol@yahoo.com

Land owners are encouraged to bait during the same period, please contact the SAMDB NRM Officers for fox bait supply.

Rural City of Murray Bridge Area Natural Resources Centre 110a Mannum Rd Murray Bridge SA5253 08 8532 9100	Mid Murray Area Deane St Cambrai SA 5353 08 8564 5154	Coorong Council Area Natural Resources Centre 110a Mannum Rd Murray Bridge SA,5253 08 8532 9100
---	---	--

03 Chocolate toxicity - what to do



Most dogs love chocolate and with their strong sense of smell they are very good at finding it! The problem is, dogs are not able to metabolise theobromine, a derivative of caffeine found in chocolate.

Ingestion can lead to an increased heart rate, vomiting, diarrhoea, agitation, tremors, seizures and even death. Cooking and dark chocolate are the most toxic but ingestion of ANY chocolate can be a problem.

Not surprisingly, Easter is one of the busiest times for chocolate toxicities and if your dog happens to eat an Easter egg, here's what we will do:

1. We will ask you how much and what type of chocolate your dog has eaten. This helps us work out just how dangerous the ingestion might be. Remember, that cooking and dark chocolate are the most toxic, followed by milk and then white chocolate.

The toxicity is also related to the size of your dog and the amount ingested. It is important to realise that *any* amount of chocolate can cause a problem so veterinary advice is always advised.

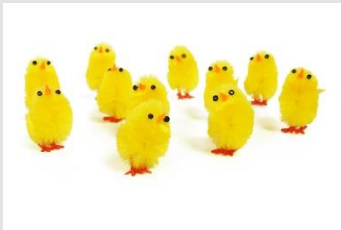
2. We will most likely induce emesis (which simply means we make your dog vomit). This is usually done using injection under the skin or application of a medication in to the eye. Vomiting tends to occur quickly and can sometimes be quite spectacular (especially if the wrapping has been consumed too!).

3. If we don't feel enough chocolate has been vomited or if the symptoms are serious, a charcoal meal or enema may be given to help reduce the toxicity. Some dogs will also need further supportive care including intravenous fluid therapy and hospitalisation.

Please phone us immediately, even if you only think your dog has ingested chocolate. We will give you the best advice.



04 Easter health hazards you might not know about



It's not only chocolate that can be an issue at Easter! There are a few other potential dangers - here's what you should watch out for:

1. Hot Cross Buns

Many people are not aware that sultanas and raisins (and grapes) may contain a toxin that can cause kidney damage in dogs. Keep these off the menu at all times and watch for any that happen to drop on the floor (a common issue if you have little kids!) Call us for advice if your dog ingests any.

2. Easter lilies

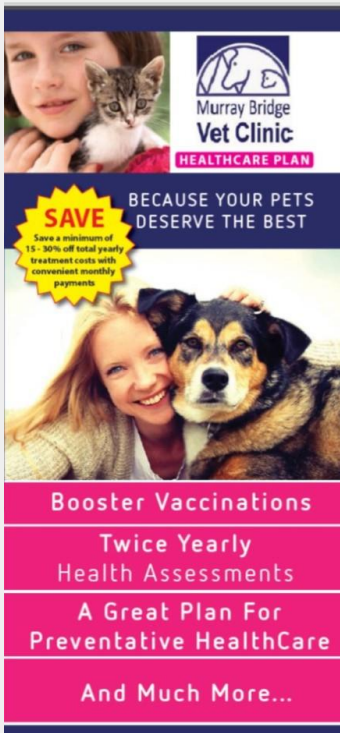
These beautiful fragrant flowers if ingested, can cause kidney failure in cats. The stems, leaves, flowers and stamen are all dangerous, as is the water the flowers are stored in. If you are worried about your cat you should call us and we will advise you on what you should do.

3. Easter toys

Those tiny fluffy baby chicken toys, plastic Easter eggs and bunny ears may be good basket stuffers for your kids, but your pet might think they look extra tasty and fun to chew on. They should all be kept away from cats and dogs as they can cause a gastrointestinal obstruction.

If your pet ingests any of the above over the Easter period call us immediately for advice. Make sure you have emergency numbers on hand if it is out of our normal opening hours.

05 Have you heard of our Pet Healthcare Plan?



The advertisement for the Murray Bridge Vet Clinic Healthcare Plan features a woman holding a kitten in the top left. The clinic's logo, a stylized 'M' and 'B' inside a circle, is in the top right. Below the logo, the text reads 'Murray Bridge Vet Clinic' and 'HEALTHCARE PLAN'. A yellow starburst graphic on the left says 'SAVE' and 'Save a minimum of 15 - 30% off total yearly treatment costs with convenient monthly payments'. The main text in the center says 'BECAUSE YOUR PETS DESERVE THE BEST'. Below this is a photo of a woman smiling next to a dog. At the bottom, a pink banner lists benefits: 'Booster Vaccinations', 'Twice Yearly Health Assessments', 'A Great Plan For Preventative HealthCare', and 'And Much More...'.

If you would like to know more about it, follow this link to our [website](#)!

Here you will find how the plan could help you to provide comprehensive preventative healthcare for your pet, spread the cost and take advantage of special offers for Pet Healthcare Members.

06 Is your dog suffering from separation anxiety?



Dogs are social creatures and they form strong bonds with humans. Most dogs cope ok with the daily separation from their owners but unfortunately some dogs will become very distressed and even destructive, a problem known as **separation anxiety**.

Watch out for:

- Barking, howling
- Excessive chewing, digging and pacing
- Destruction and scratching of barriers - especially near doors and windows
- House soiling

Our top tips to help reduce your dog's anxiety:

- Take your dog for a walk before you leave the house
- Don't make huge fuss when you leave your dog or when you return
- Start small - leave your dog alone for only five minutes extending to twenty minutes then an hour, then longer
- Leave your dog with plenty of stimulating toys, chews and mind games
- Leave the radio or television on for company

Please don't hesitate to speak to us if you think your dog is developing separation problems. We have plenty of tools available to help you and your pet.



07 Why is my cat doing that?



Cats are unique creatures and they will occasionally display certain behaviours that you need to watch out for as it can be an indication that something else is going on.

Here are a couple of behaviours to be aware of:

1. Spraying urine

The act of spraying involves a cat backing up to a vertical surface such as the wall, a piece of furniture, or curtains (usually about 20cm from the floor). The cat will quiver his raised tail and tread with his back feet as urine is directed backwards.

Stress can bring on spraying and it is often associated with territorial or competitive behaviour.

If you notice this behaviour, a check up with us is essential. Once we've ruled out any medical problems we can help reduce your cat's anxiety and manage feline spraying. Ask us for more information.



2. Scratching the furniture

Scratching allows your cat to sharpen their claws and also helps them to leave scent markers or a "calling card."

Unfortunately, some cats will choose to sharpen their claws on furniture and think that the back of the sofa is just one giant scratching post!

What to do if your cat is damaging furniture:

Place a scratching post right next to the furniture the cat is currently scratching
Offer a variety of scratching substrates; don't offer just one carpeted scratching post - try cardboard, logs of wood
Deter the cat from scratching furniture by placing double-sided sticky tape on it. Many cats find the stickiness of the tape unpleasant

If you're worried about your cat's behaviour you should always ask us for advice.

The Fine Print

This email contains comments of a general nature only and is not intended to be a substitute for professional veterinary advice. It should not be relied on as the basis for whether you do or don't do anything.

[View this newsletter online](#)

All content © Pet Pack 2018

You received this email because you're subscribed to our newsletter or are a client of Murray Bridge Veterinary Clinic

This email was sent to: (MemberEmail)

[Click here to unsubscribe](#)