

# CORAL COAST VETERINARY SERVICE

**SUMMER 2018**

## **Welcome our new Veterinarian Dr Jay**

Dr Jay came to Australia in 2009 from India to base himself and his family in Innisfail. He commenced his career in dentistry and then decided he would pursue his interest in animal care and become a qualified veterinarian graduating from JCU in 2017.

Jay has an interest in small animals and has already made a positive impression with our furry friends.



## **HOLIDAY SEASON IS FAST APPROACHING, ARE YOU PREPARED?**

Planning a holiday with family and needing to leave your pet at home with a carer whilst you go on holidays or are you considering a local boarding kennel? If so, plan ahead so you can enjoy a well-earned, hassle free holiday while your pet enjoys the company of their carer.

Your pet's current health status is important.

Book your pet in for a full veterinary health check and make sure they are up to date with vaccinations (in case of emergency boarding/ hospitalisation), worming and parasite control.

Identification - Have a microchip implanted in your pet if you have not already done so. This will make it much simpler for you to be contacted should your animal go wandering. It is also a good idea to give your carer's details to neighbor's just in case your pet is distressed (or is causing stress).

Prepare a care record for your pet - Write down as much information about your pet as possible for the person looking after them. Here's an idea of some of the things you should note...

- Pets often put on weight during their owner's absence so provide a list of do's and don'ts, where to buy, how much to feed and how often.
- Medical complaints or medication needed to be given including regular preventatives eg. fleas, heartworm and treatments eg. Arthritis, heart medication. Also, instructions on how to administer them.
- Habits that may be unique to your pet.
- Requirements for exercise and check that your carer has time to do this.

Permission to provide care for your pet – Leave the contact details of your veterinarian for the carer of your pet, as well as a letter of authority for any medical/surgical procedures in case your pet needs veterinary attention while you are away. Make sure you discuss methods of payment should care be required. Emergency centres and most vet clinics do not offer account systems.

Many clients leave their details and instructions with our Clinic which takes some of the stress away when having to place pets into care.





# HOT HOT HOT!!!

**That's exactly what it is locked in a car or in the back of a ute without shade.**

Every year in summer lives are lost due to heat exposure. Unfortunately, it's an all too common scenario and for some it's a life lost.

Even on mild days, temperatures in a car can rapidly heat up to reach more than double the outside temperature. When it's 22 degrees Celsius outside, the inside of a car can reach a stifling 47 degrees Celsius. This is no environment for a dog.



It is still a common belief that is fine to leave a dog in a car if they've parked in the shade, or if the windows are tinted/rolled down. No matter the weather or location, it is still a very dangerous situation for any dog.

Symptoms of heat stress in dogs include:

- Panting
- Drooling
- Restlessness / Weakness
- Vomiting, diarrhoea or seizures

Because dogs cool themselves through panting, they are particularly at risk in a hot car. If the air around them is too hot and there is no access to cool water, dogs cannot lower their body temperature back to where it should be.

## **What should you do if you find a dog left in a hot car?**

1. Call for help - If the owner of the car and dog cannot be located straight away, contact your local police as soon as possible and request assistance.
2. Monitor the dog - If you are able to, stay with the dog until help arrives.

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*"Have you thought about gifts for your pet this Christmas?"*

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## **HAVING TROUBLE DECIDING ON A GIFT FOR FAMILY MEMBERS THAT SEEM TO HAVE EVERYTHING!**

Sometimes giving a practical gift is the best option at Christmas time and that's where we can help.

We have lots of options available:

1. Collars, leads and harness's (Don't forget we are happy to order or source something special)
2. Tick prevention packs – Nexgard, Nexgard Spectra and Bravecto just to name a few
3. Vaccinations – You can surprise someone by prepaying for yearly vaccinations (Gift Certificate)
4. Flea, tick and everyday shampoo's
5. Scientifically formulated cat and dog food available in both wet and dry (Gift Certificate)

Christmas for many is a financial challenge. It seems to come around faster and faster each year, leaving us little to no time to be fully prepared. This also happens to be the time of year for our pet's when the paralysis ticks are in full swing or when vaccinations are needed so that we can pop our beloved pet into care to take the family away on a much-needed holiday.

So, if the above impacts on our lives, it more than likely impacts on someone close to us with their own fur babies. So, this holiday season, let's think about gifts that will ease financial strain on those we love.

**FROM ALL THE TEAM AT CORAL COAST VETERINARY SERVICES WE WISH  
YOU AND YOUR FAMILY A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS.**

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