

We have now reached the halfway mark for the year – where has the month gone? and why has someone made the clocks run faster? It only seems like yesterday that I was wrapping presents for Christmas and making New Year resolutions (which I have yet to achieve).

But anyway – here we are entering the 2<sup>nd</sup> month of winter and it is about time for everyone to think about "Christmas in July" which is a special celebration in our business. Lynelle (manager) started this last year and it was a great success with lots of clients enjoying the different activities that she organised.

So let me explain what we have in store for you, the owner, and for your furry friend this month.

July is always cooler and has short days and Lynelle (our manager) started the tradition last year (I am not sure if a tradition can occur after one year but that is being "picky") of having a basic celebration of life in general and that fact that we live in a wonderful part of the world by having a "Christmas in July" were we assist our lovely owners and their animals at a reduced cost.

### **Christmas raffle**

Most owner are aware that each December we hold a Christmas Hamper Raffle that is FREE to enter. We wish to continue with this raffle in the month of July- that means that both Bargara and East have a raffle that you can enter for **FREE**. All clients who come to our business will automatically be entered into the raffle-if you are really good and smile sweetly to our staff then they may even write out more than one ticket for you.

The raffle will be drawn at the end of July and the winner will have to collect the raffle themselves—anyone who does not collect their prize within 5 working days of the draw will be sent a photo of Dr David eating the hamper himself.

## Winter clips—\$25.00 for face, feet, bottom & hydrobath

Winter clip involving the feet, bottom (anal area) and hydrobath is discounted to \$25.00 (normally \$45.00). Again we see a lot of animals during winter with feet, anal or head problems that would benefit from having the hair removed and we want to encourage all owners to keep their animal pristine and disease free so if you your animal is liking its feet, if your animal is rubbing its backside on the ground, if your animal is licking itself around the anal or vulval area, if your animal is showing signs of ear or eye problems or if you are concerned in



any way with your animal then this is a great opportunity to deal with the hair in a discounted period. There is no doubt in my mind that the majority of owners of dogs do not wash their dog during winter but most dogs would benefit from a deep cleansing bath at least once a month. We would encourage owners to bring their dog in and allow our staff to pamper your pooch with a good massage and cleansing shampoo and conditioner using our surfactant shampoos and medically developed conditioners. So ring 41531399 (East) or 41591009 (Bargara).

## Afternoon Tea for the Guide Dogs

On the 25th July, Lynelle invites ALL owners to a free afternoon tea at our main animal hospital. We do encourage all owners to donate a gold coin (or two) to the Guide Dog association, but it is up to you. There will be free coffee and tea as well as free cakes etc. It is a great way to get together and celebrate life and at the same time help others who are less fortunate than ourselves. So make a note of it—25th July at East Bundaberg Veterinary Hospital—Afternoon Tea. Just bring yourself and your sense of humour and maybe a gold



coin to assist the wonderful organization who trains dogs to assist those people who are visually challenged.

### **Rum Ball Sale**

As well as the donation box the staff of our animal hospital will be offering to sell to anyone interested our "world famous Rum Balls" (Lynelle made me write that) - the packet of Rum Balls will cost \$5.00 and ALL the money raised from this sale will go to the Guide Dogs.



To assist us in catering and to give some ideas for how many packets of Rum Balls to make - we do ask that clients contact us and let us know if you are wanting to attend. Even if you do not want to donate a gold coin, even if you do not want to buy some Rum balls - we would still encourage everyone to attend. The coffee, tea and other drinking beverages (no alcohol) will be free and there will be plenty to eat for free and just having you attend would mean a lot to our staff and especially to Lynelle. On the same afternoon the raffle will be drawn, and the lucky winner will be notified.



# 50% off desexing special

July is also our desexing special month- we are offering 50% off normal desexing prices (T&C apply) and we are filling up fast. There is only limited spots and most are already taken so if you are interested then please contact us on 41531399 (East) or 41591009 (Bargara) as soon as you can. So if you are truly interested – get on the phone **NOW** and make a commitment and lets cut down on all the animals ending up in shelters without loving owners.



### EVE —the Christmas Elf will be with us during July

Lynelle also tells me that new the elf EVE has kindly offered to assist Lynelle during the month of July but as EVE (the elf's name) mainly works at night she will not be available to meet the owners during the day. So consequently, Lynelle will be posting on our Facebook page many photos of Elf EVE as she wonders through our animal hospital at night and basically sticks her nose into areas which she feels needs to be addressed (and other areas that she just wants to "sticky beak"). So if you jump onto our Facebook page during the days of July you can follow EVE in her adventures at our animal hospital and you may get some insight of what happens and areas the public do not normally see.

(A big congratulations to Joanne Jackson for winning the Facebook "name the new elf" competition)

### Dental month – August – 50% (or more) discount on cost

Just a note to all clients – in August (only a month away) we are holding our yearly Dental Discount Month. This is the one month of the year that all owners of dogs and cats can save over 50% of the normal cost of having an animal's dental concerns dealt with.

There is SO much evidence being shown that the health of our animals depends on how healthy the teeth and gums are. There is now evidence to show that the majority of infections of the heart, liver,

kidney and spine are actually started with bacteria or fungus that enter the body through the oral cavity and in animals who do not have good dental health the risk of internal problems is greatly increased (and in some cases these infections can lead to the death of the animal).

The other interesting information shows that age of the animal does NOT play a major role in the development of the internal disease – that young animals with dental or oral problems are at nearly the same risk as senior animals who have dental or oral problems.

#### Davo's Corner

I was sitting with my golfing mates the other day while I waited for my prize for "Most Use of the Course" after nearly playing to my handicap of 36 (just missed by just 20 strokes – my closest result ever!). Anyway, the conversation turned to the subject of "Best Feelings" and what was the best feeling we had experienced over the last month. One buddy stated that his best feeling was paring the 9<sup>th</sup> hole, another stated that his best feeling was hitting his tee shot down the middle of the fairway. My eyes started to glaze over and my mind started to wonder to the "best feeling" I had a few days ago – and it had nothing to do with golf.



It all started last Saturday when I was enjoying myself in the "Davo Den" (also called my shed or as my wife calls it "The Smell-O-Shed") – there I was toothbrushing the groves on each screw, polishing the rivets and oiling up each nail. I was dressed in the Davo Den uniform of Jackie Howe singlet, Boxer shorts, football socks pulled up to the knees, elastic-sided steel-capped shoes. Like all safety conscious workman I was wearing my high Vis vest, on top of my head was the orange hard-hat (that comes with the protection visa and built in ear muffs) and I was wearing my safety glasses for added protection (you cannot get too much protection in a dangerous workplace such as Davo's Den).

The through the doorway came that beautiful sound that all men love to hear – the sound of a chainsaw being started in the neighbourhood. As soon as I heard the sound my breathing started to increase, my eyes dilated, my palms become so sweaty that I had to pull on my leather gloves (I had them looped in my utility belt that I always wear when entering the "Den" - as I love to call the place). I was excited and knew it was important to help a fellow human being – especially if it involved a chainsaw.

I immediately grabbed the chainsaw I use for normal use – the one with the 40cm cutting blade – and stepped outside. Now my "Den" is situated at the top of small hill and it overlooks all the neighbourhood. I stood there on that cool morning and literally "cranked it up". I took that chainsaw and made it sing – the sound was beautiful. Coming back on the wind was the answer call of my neighbour's chainsaw. It was then I realised that he (or she)

was using a more powerful chainsaw – there was obviously a serious problem somewhere in the neighbourhood and it was going to need a bigger chainsaw.

So back into the "Den" I went and pulled down the "Big Daddy" – a 63cm cutting blade. Again, I leapt out of the "Den" and stood there – one hand on the safety bar and on hand curled around the trigger and did I let it *RIP*!

The whole neighbourhood stood still to listen to the sound of "Big Daddy". The birds stopped singing, trees started to shake to their roots, leaves started to fall from the shaking limbs, animals hid in their holes or under woodpiles, people stopped eating their breakfast just to listen – the only sound was my wife madly putting all the wooden chairs and tables inside the house and our dogs clambering to be allowed inside the house where they felt they would be safe.



That, ladies and gentlemen, is the best of feelings – a man with his chainsaw and something that needs cutting!