

JAN 2024



# The Better Pet Gazette

highlandsveterinaryhospital.com.au

## breakthrough *treatment for pesky parasites!*

Exciting news! Australia is the first country worldwide to gain approval for using Bravecto Quantum (BQ), setting a new standard in canine healthcare.

The eastern seaboard tick is the single most dangerous parasite for dogs with just one tick capable of causing paralysis or death. BQ isn't just a solution; it's a shield against multiple adversaries. Just one injection will enable your canine companion to enjoy 12 months of continuous protection against paralysis ticks and fleas, brown dog ticks for 11 months, and gain relief from flea allergy dermatitis.

Used under veterinary supervision, it can be used for dogs from 6 months of age and older. While the paralysis ticks and fleas are at their worst in summer, the truth is that they are a threat all year round. Click [here](#) to explore the science and innovation that make this breakthrough product a game-changer!



*You can see why we love our jobs so much, when we get visits from these guys! They popped in to see us for their first vaccinations (there were 13 of them!) at 6 weeks of age. They are a cross between a Rhodesian Ridgeback, Great Dane and Irish Wolfhound.*



*The Better Pet Gazette is a monthly newsletter full of informative articles and tips on pet health as well as updates on what's happening at the practice. We hope you enjoy the read!*

Disclaimer: The content contained in this publication is for information purposes only, and may not apply to your situation. Neither the Publisher nor Authors provide any warranty about the content or accuracy of content enclosed. Information provided is subjective.

## Happy New Year!

from the team at  
HIGHlands Veterinary  
Hospital! Thank you for  
your support throughout  
the year. We look forward  
to seeing you and your  
pets in 2024.



need an appointment?  
**BOOK ONLINE**



get up to  
**\$10 OFF**



Get **\$5 OFF** when you order a repeat on your pet's medication using our website - and a further **\$5 OFF** if you order at least 7 days in advance of pick-up.\*

Save yourself a trip when you need a refill of a prescription for your pet. You can now go to **our website**, then to the **Resources** menu, then to a drop down which takes you to the **Prescription Refill** page.

The simple form takes only a minute to complete. Or, when you come to visit us we will give you a flyer with a QR code (see below) you can scan to reorder your pets' medication in a jiffy from the comfort of your home.

When you can save time here and there it gives you more time to have fun with your precious furry companions.

\* Terms and conditions apply.



# upcoming f LIVE TALK

**sound advice**  
tackling ear problems in our furry friends

HIGHLANDS VETERINARY HOSPITAL  
Join us on your lunch break:  
10.01.24 @ 12:30pm

@ facebook.com / highlandsveterinaryhospital

**f LIVE** Highlands Veterinary Hospital  
10 - JAN - 2024 - 12:30 PM

Veterinarian Dr Diederik Gelderman will discuss some of the most common issues with our pets' ears, how we can identify a problem and steps we can take to prevent recurring infections.

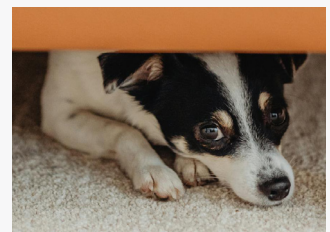
Animals are curious and always poking their heads into places they ought not to. This habit can result in ear problems, such as a bacterial infection, a mite infection, or even having a foreign object (such as grass seeds) becoming embedded in their ears. If your cat or dog is shaking their head, scratching the ear, whining, growling, or has a reluctance to let you near its head - they have a problem. Dr Diederik will give some quick and effective information about dealing with ear problems, starting with some tips about how to keep those ears infection-free!

Please listen in on Wednesday, 10 Jan at 12.30pm on our Facebook page [here](#). All of our previous talks can be found in the Live section under the More menu.

## DECEMBER FACEBOOK LIVE TALK RECAP

### "Sound Off: Noise Anxiety in Pets"

The end of the year is a noisy time with wild storms and wilder parties. It can turn some pets into a quivering mess. Dr Diederik explains the cause of dog noise sensitivity and how to support your fearful pet. A thunder jacket can help a pet but must be tight, like a firm hug, to give them a sense of security. Crates provide a haven where your pet can retreat from loud noise. Dr. Diederik covers several ways to desensitise your pet and many management tools, from pheromones and the use of lavender to relax your pet, to drugs or medical products that can help.



Click the link [here](#) to listen to Dr. Diederik give you some help to assist your pet in stressful loud times.





Adopting a new pet is an exciting journey filled with joy and anticipation. However, when it comes to introducing a new pet to your existing furry family members, a thoughtful approach is key to ensuring a harmonious transition. Read our recent blog that gives some great tips on introducing new pets into your home [here](#).



**What a fun competition as pets and owners hammed it up posing for the camera!**



Ian Stokes with Punk



Rosalind Martins with Bowie

# congrats!

The prize was for pets who got their vaccination or had their owners purchase a pack of Nexgard Spectra.

The \$500 worth of store credit from HIGHlands was a welcome incentive, although the fun and the tasty treats on hand for posing pets certainly helped.

Vaccinations are a vital part of pet health care and with a hot summer predicted, which suits the parasites sadly, it was good to have a great response. Here are our lucky winners:

**1ST: \$250 store credit**  
Ian Stokes with Punk

**2ND: \$150 store credit**  
Carol Townsend with Maverick  
Carol donated her prize to Greenpaws Rescue, which is just wonderful!

**3RD: \$100 store credit**  
Rosalina Martins with Bowie

**Helping Paws** is a HIGHlands initiative, designed to provide financial assistance to pet owners going through financial difficulties to raise money for lifesaving treatments or medication that their pets urgently require.

With the soaring costs of living crippling many people, you can help by buying a raffle ticket for some great prizes kindly donated by local businesses in a community effort to lend a hand. Donations are accepted gratefully as well.

The draw will take place quarterly (the first draw is at the end of March).

Tickets are \$2 each or you can get 3 tickets for \$5 which are available at our reception desk. Detail about prizes very soon.

Let's pull together and help pet owners get the vital care that their pets need. You can contact us to donate money as well, or donate via the collection box at reception.



# travelling

*with pets*



It takes a bit of planning when your pet is coming on a trip with you. Safety is important. While it looks cute for a dog to be hanging out the open window, a sudden stop can send a dog or cat flying out the open window. For this reason, you are now legally required to crate or use a special leash harness for pets to restrain them safely.

Don't forget that you will need more comfort stops on your trip, especially for a nervous or excited pet. But make sure they are on a leash before you let them out of the car, as a strange place or unusual sound (like a backfiring car, for example) could see them heading into the wilderness in fright. Remember to check any walkways, campsites or Airbnb overnight spots to ensure they are pet-friendly.

Also, never leave your pet to wander freely as some people don't appreciate a pet suddenly jumping on them. Here is a list of things you should think about when bringing your pet with you on a road trip:

- **Having your pet microchipped** means that pets can be easily identified if lost and returned to their home.
- Pets should have **vaccinations up-to-date**.
- **Use a pet harness or crate** when travelling by car for safety.
- **Hold off feeding your dog** for two hours before they travel to avoid car sickness.
- **Water and poop stops** are required every two hours.
- **Never leave your pet in a hot car** as they can perish within minutes.
- If staying at someone's home, **clean up where your pet poops** and ensure they behave.
- **Take some of their favourite toys** for company.
- **Always have plenty of water handy** for your dog or cat.
- **Your dog should be trained** to come and obey your commands.
- **Ensure you have their medications** with you.
- **Check out the vets** available along your travels, just in case.



## Rusty is a 14-week-old adorable puppy who came into the clinic with a rare disease called polyradiculoneuritis

Polyradiculoneuritis that can affect the motor nerves in older dogs and cats. In Rusty's case, he was unable to sit or stand, and he was very floppy. Luckily, this condition often corrects itself within 2-4 weeks.

Rusty has responded well to nursing and medical care and is recovering well. One of the bacteria that causes this condition can be found in chicken meat, but it cannot live in darker meat such as turkey, duck, or red meat. We suggest removing chicken meat from your pet's diet.

This disease is known as Coon Hound Paralysis in the USA and there it is caused by racoon bites! Check Rusty's recovery by clicking [here](#) to see the video.