



GIVE THEM A CHANCE

The most common injury that we find when the animal is still alive is a broken back. But we've had others that have just been clipped on the nose by a car and so they get concussed. Sometimes mouth damage, tooth damage, concussion, broken jaws. So we've had several of those and they can come good. Fractured pelvises, broken legs are very fixable. We've had quite a few broken legs. Broken shoulder successfully repaired. Three breaks, shoulder, upper leg, lower leg and Howard Ralph, the well known wildlife vet, pinned it all right the way through. His name was Bandage and he got released a few months back up on Reidsdale. He wandered off into the bush, happy as Larry.

It's very distressing to find animals left in the middle of the road being ignored by people driving past them. We've found live animals like that, in the middle of the road that other people have obviously driven around and just left there. It was only a caring person that bothered to stop and then contact us.

We get phone calls from all over the country because we've got a presence on the internet. People Google wildlife rescue and they find my mobile number. We've given people advice in South Australia and Western Australia and goodness knows other places.

We bring injured animals into care.

When you see an animal lying on or near the road, the first thing to do is please check the animal. Even if you don't check it, ring NARG. You know, like you drive around it and there's a brand, fresh new roadkill, call us.

Our number is not a secret. It's 4846 1900.

There's little signs all over the place on fences and all that sort of stuff. We're on the preschool calendar. It's not a secret organisation and we're 24 hours a day, unlike Wires. Don't ring Wires. Wires does not operate anywhere near here.

Bring us any animals — we take on all comers. We rescue snakes and reptiles of all sorts. We rescue birds and opossums but what we don't do is take opossums out of people's roofs. We're not pest control people.

But don't forget, opossums injured on the road can have babies on board too. An echidna could possibly have a puggle. Echidnas don't have pouches. They tuck their tummy up and hold the puggle against their tummy with their stomach muscles. They are quite unusual and unique. How anyone runs over an echidna I don't know anyway. But then again, how do they run over turtles or blue tongued lizards?

The pink crosses on road kill are to let people know that it's been checked. I'm one of the pink cross people. There's several of us around now. Several really good people who are out on the roads early will ring us if there's a fresh roadkill so that it can be checked. ■

FUR, FUR, FUR-EEZING!



Winter care for cats and dogs

Katie Lyons

As we enter our next Braidwood winter, there are several things that we as pet owners can do to ensure that our pets remain healthy, happy and pain free during the colder months.

One of the easiest things you can do to ensure your pet stays warm in winter is to consider where it sleeps. It is important to ensure that their sleeping area is in a dry place, and that it is up off the cold ground and out of draughts, particularly if they live outside.

You should provide lots of thick warm materials for bedding, which will not only assist with warmth, but will also cushion your pet's joints to help keep them comfortable. Ensure the bedding is made of material that can be washed and dried easily for their hygiene and ease of work for you. If your pet is outside, consider a safe way to warm your pet's bed, such as heat mats (as long as they are not chewers!) or warm (not hot) water bottles.

Continuing your pet's exercise routine is also very important. It can be easy for us to cease exercising in winter due to the decreased day length and the colder weather. Just like us, it is important for dogs in particular to continue their exercise routines which will not only assist with joint and body functioning, but also assist with weight control, reduction of boredom and keep them mentally stimulated.

Winter can also be a time of year that animals show arthritic signs and pain. Dogs suffering from arthritis may show a disinterest in walking, jumping, going up or down stairs, playing or interacting with their owners or other pets. An arthritic dog may be slower to move, may even move with a stiff gait, and have difficulty rising. Sometimes owners also notice a change in personality.

Arthritis in cats is often overlooked as owners think that their cat is just not enjoying the cold, or getting old. Cats suffering from arthritis are usually reluctant to play or move, and may sleep more. They are often more reluctant to jump, or may use additional smaller jumps to reach their favourite position, rather than one single jump. Cats in pain may also become cranky both with their owners and with other pets.

Treatment for arthritis is relatively easy and can make a dramatic difference to your pet, allowing them to be more active which will help them maintain fitness and body heat. ■



2017 Braidwood Antique & Collectables Fair

On the long weekend
29th September – 2nd October 2017.

In 2005 the Antique Fair commenced as a fund raising event for the Braidwood Hospital, by the Hospital Committee. As the Hospital Committee members changed, the running of the Fair was taken over by the Braidwood Lions Club as one of their signature yearly events to raise funds to support community needs in the Braidwood area.

The Antique and Collectable stall holders come from far and wide, including the South and North Coast, the Sydney area, Blue Mountains, Canberra, Queanbeyan and Southern Highlands to display and sell interesting and collectable items including furniture, furnishings, linen and lace, porcelain, silver and bric-a-brac from the Victorian, Art Novae, Edwardian, Art Deco and Retro periods.

The Braidwood Lions are delighted to have the valued sponsorship of the Braidwood Community Bank to assist with the Fair. Also valued is the wider Braidwood community coming along to enjoy and participate in the event and donating coins to the fund raising efforts.

Braidwood Lions Club

Supporting our community with regular activities around town

Membership Enquires to the Secretary: 0417 900 765



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