

Animal Attractions and Furry Festivities



Sunday April, 3

Sydney Animal Hospital's Norwest Open Day

This was a great opportunity for pet owners in the 'Hills district' to spend a day in the sun with lots of fun exhibitions, competitions and displays. This new state of the art facility was officially opened by Dr Harry Cooper and he was on hand to sign autographs and have photos taken with fans. Hundreds of people and their pets were invited to participate in competitions and exhibitions and many arrived early to join in the activities and tour the new facilities.



Furry Festivities-Norwest owner lookalike

Upcoming Events

Sunday May 15

2005 RSPCA Million Paws Walk

Time to lace up your comfy walking shoes and get some fresh air in the autumn sun, out in Sydney's fabulous Centennial Park. It's the time of year where paws, large and small, converge to help raise funds for the good work that the RSPCA do. You can choose between a 3k or 5k walk through the designated course. Entertainment provided will be flyball and agility demonstrations, a pre-walk warm-up 'Pet Aerobics', various performers and stalls selling pet merchandise. There will be entry for competitions like the ubiquitous 'owner/pet look alike' and 'opposites attract' to further raise funds. Fun will be happening on the day.

Loch Avenue South, Centennial Park
Registration from 8:00 am; Official walk starts 10:00 am until 12:30 pm
\$10.00 pre-registration (online)
\$15.00 for adults on the day
\$7.00 for children
\$30.00 Family (2 adults & 2 children)

August

Operation Cat - through Fairfield City Council

Due to the huge success of Operation Cat in 2004, Fairfield City Council has scheduled this much needed service again for 2005. Operation Cat is a joint venture between the council and the Cat Protection Society educating the public to the need to desex and microchip local cats. The Cat Protection Society will organise to pick up cats from their homes, transport them to a participating vet for desexing and microchipping and then deliver them home safe and sound the following day.

Bookings can be made ph: 9519 7201

Sunday August 7

2005 Dalmatian Welfare Day

Join the fun, join the dots and help a worthy cause. The Dalmatian Club of NSW has a special day to celebrate all things spotty and have a reunion for the Dalmatians who've been re-homed through their welfare activities. You don't have to have a Dalmatian to attend and your contribution will ensure that they can keep funding their efforts to place surrendered Dali's into suitable homes. Competitions (fancy dress, waggiest tail, owner look-alike) raffles and a treasure hunt will all be part of a fun family day.

Castle Hill Showgrounds, off Carrington Road
Registration from 10:30 am; approximate finish 3:30 pm
Contact: Andy Robertson 9653 3506
Admission: gold coin donation



It's A Dog's Life! - Peter Haran and Tracker Dog Caesar, Vietnam. Courtesy of Pet.

Exhibitions

Walking The Street

Newtown's King Street will once again be transformed into a living gallery exhibiting artworks and creations of emerging contemporary artists. Two Newtown pet shops will be exhibiting pet related art-'Strictly Pets' features artist Leonora Howlett's artworks which reflect her concerns for animal welfare. Further down King Street, recently opened 'Dog Bowl' will feature artist Camie Lyons who gets her inspiration from friendly local pet owners and their charges.

11-26 June
King Street, Newtown

It's A Dog's Life!

Public Servants with tails or six legs? 'It's A Dog's Life!' is a National Archives of Australia travelling exhibition that opens at the Museum of Riverina and runs until March 6. The title's not intended to be misleading but we should point out they don't just focus on dogs working for the government but all sorts and sizes of beasts who've been enlisted

for service. Did you know that a bunch of caterpillars were used to clear prickly pear cactus from Queensland and New South Wales? Horses and camels carried our ANZACS to battle and donkeys and mules carried supplies. The low profile dung beetle has been used by the CSIRO to clear paddocks of unwanted droppings. Dogs have been utilised to keep our borders safe and war-time pigeons were awarded medals for bravery (we hope they were tiny ones). All these unpaid and helpful workers are saluted in this fascinating exhibition.

'It's a Dog's Life!' celebrates the vital contribution made to Australia by so many beasts of burden and tiny creatures. As tireless employees, vigilant protectors and faithful companions, they never complain, don't get paid and don't take tea breaks.

current to 24 July
Australian Museum
College Street, Sydney



It's A Dog's Life! - Handler and dog in front of Mirage, 1980s. Courtesy of RAAF

How Urban Animal Works and Why You Should Be a Part of It

As Australia's first, free, cross-pet magazine, we created an evolutionary publication that appeals to pet lifestyle families and individuals with compelling editorial, visually bold images, ethical advertising standards and a lot of love and hard work on our part. We are not a large publishing house, we're not corporate and we celebrate pet companionship while informing and educating people on how best to care for and enjoy their fur, feather and fin companions. We're a pet family too!

Where do we go?

We unleash 40,000 copies of each three-month issue, distribute them free through pet shops, pet supply retailers, veterinary practices, grooming operators, boarding facilities, pet-friendly cafes and accommodation and also at pet events. We distribute from just south of Newcastle, just north of Wollongong to just this side of the Blue Mountains in an arc around Sydney. Our entire current publication (and its two previous issues-October 2004 and January 2005) are also fully up on the Internet, viewable in full with all ads intact and downloadable as PDF pages.

Since our first issue, we have also had a huge response by subscribers who come from all over Australia-often sent a copy by a friend in Sydney or those people locally who want them delivered when they first come out rather than finding one at a pet business. We charge \$20 a year for four

issues and give each subscriber at least four copies of each issue so they can share them with pet partners. We now have over 200 subscribers to the magazine.

Why are we free

People just don't go to newsagents to buy pet magazines and many news agents don't stock them because they don't sell. Our idea was to create a high quality magazine without horror stories, that is independent and although supported by advertising, not sponsored by a company nor allowing advertorial. We are dependent on advertising to survive and after three issues, we believe that our reach, distribution, quality, range of rates (on the opposite page) and our integrity make this publication an excellent investment for pet businesses, vets, pet products and services.

Please make sure that if you use our advertisers products and services, you let them know that Urban Animal was where you found them. If you have suggestions as to new outlets we should be in for free dissemination to customers or pet events we should be at, please let us know.

PHIL TRIPP-Publisher & Lisa Treen--Editor