



Let your cat roam...at home!

Issue 6 Christmas 2009

Endorsed by



**The staff at Oscillot wish you and your families and, of course, your pets, a very MERRY CHRISTMAS**

**but...**

**Don't let Christmas fun and celebrations cause stress for your pets**

Oscillot reminds owners the holidays can overwhelm cats and dogs and to understand signs of stress instead of discarding them if they don't fit in.

Please take time out to think about the effect any celebrations might have on the household pets.

Sadly, some pet owners don't put enough thought into what is best for every member of their family; and this includes any pets. As soon as a cat or dog displays any undesirable behaviours then owners can be quick to cart them off to an Animal rescue shelter but in fact the pet may just be displaying signs of stress as they can't understand what is happening in their environment.

Some pets can become extremely distressed by loud noises, the unexpected arrival of strangers in their house and disruption to their routine. Christmas is also never the time to think about getting a new pet, as they will find it difficult to adapt to an unpredictable environment.

### **Try these simple measures**

- Make sure your cat or dog has a comfortable quiet place to retreat to if things get a little noisy or hectic. Ideally a separate room in the house so that if they want to escape they are not trapped in a room with strangers.
- If introducing people for the first time to a dog in the family, make sure they approach quietly and let the dog smell their hand before moving in to stroke them. Make sure the introduction is positive and people approaching from behind, or all at once don't overwhelm the dog.
- Keep dogs separate when people are eating and don't encourage anyone to feed them, in particular children, as the presence of lots of food can cause great excitement to a family dog which can encourage grabby or nippy behaviours.

Animal shelters see an influx of unwanted and abandoned pets after Christmas and behavioural reasons can sometimes be the reason cited. More time spent understanding the needs of a dog or cat can prevent undesirable behaviours such as inappropriate toileting and becoming destructive when stressed.



- If visiting friends or relatives are bringing their own cat or dog then make sure that canine introductions have been made away from the home as territorial issues can arise. Cats will be incredibly frightened by the presence of a dog in the house, so two separate areas must be kept safe and completely secure for each animal.
- Never leave any children alone with pets in the house

## **NEW OSCILLOT® for a HAPPY NEW YEAR for you and your cats.**

### **CUSTOMER SURVEY SUGGESTS IMPROVEMENTS TO OSCILLOT**

A recent survey of customers who have purchased and installed the Oscillot paddle system since its launch in September 2008 showed us that you wanted us to make certain changes to our product.

To make installation of Oscillot even easier we have

- Extruded the paddles as single section in aluminium to reduce weight and do away with the need to assemble paddles.
- Reduced the length of the standard paddle to cover 2 metres for easier handling.
- Reduced delivery time to just days by establishing distributors in more areas.

The survey also showed that most customers would be happy to accept just one standard colour to save on cost and enable faster delivery times.

The preferred colour was Merino/ Paperbark/ Terrace. The new paddles will be available from 4<sup>th</sup> January 2010 at \$59.95 per set inc. delivery\*.

### **DON'T WORRY...**

### **ORIGINAL OSCILLOT PADDLES AND FITTINGS WILL STILL BE AVAILABLE**

Until 30th March 2010, customers who plan to extend their original Oscillot system to create even greater yard space for their cats will still be able to buy original Oscillot paddles and components to match.

Steel paddles in the colorbond® colours can be ordered in the 2440 mm length.

**\$75 per set inc. delivery\***

## OTHER COLOURS & CUSTOM LENGTHS?

Yes. Paddles in all colorbond® colours can be made to order for an extra cost.

Custom lengths up to 3 metres can also be made to order in the aluminium extrusions in any of the colorbond® colours for an extra cost.



**NEW** 2 metre ALUMINIUM SINGLE SECTION EXTRUDED PADDLE only requires axle to be inserted to complete assembly.

\* conditions apply



The classic lines and neutral 'Paperbark' colour of Oscillot's NEW aluminium extruded paddle contrasts well with all of the other colorbond® colours .

\* conditions apply

# IT'S CHRISTMAS AGAIN... so who will give these cats a special gift ?



[click on logo for more information](#)

## The 12 cats of Christmas

In a bid to raise awareness of pet ownership responsibilities, as well as re-home older cats that normally get overlooked at Christmas time, Cat Haven has launched a Christmas campaign.

Cat Haven Media and Communications Coordinator Jessica Reid said that lack of sterilisation combined with lack of commitment to care for a cat and stick by it for the duration of its life would see the dumping of up to 2000 cats at Cat Haven in only two months between December and January.



With limited capacity to hold only 120 cats at a time at Cat Haven and nowhere for the surplus to go Ms Reid said that Christmas time would see the euthanasia of many innocent animals.

"This Christmas we want to send a clear message to the public that pet ownership comes with a range of responsibilities," she said.

"Pet ownership isn't for everyone, you need to make sure that you can afford to keep the pet and sterilise it and that you are prepared for a 20 year commitment.

"There's also the cost of unanticipated vet bills, food, who will look after it when you go on holidays and if you're living in a rental property if you are allowed to let you keep a cat."

Ms Reid said that in the twelve days leading up to Christmas, Cat Haven was profiling 12 older cats to give them an extra chance of finding a new home.

"At Christmas it's always the older pets that miss out, because they are not as cute as the kittens," she said.

"This Christmas, Cat Haven is profiling twelve older cats which are named in Christmas theme- we have Holly, Rudolf, Twinkle, Sparkle, Santa, Snowflake, Stardust, Elfie, Jingles, Bell, Tinsel and The Grinch all looking for loving homes.

"All these pets have interesting backgrounds and brilliant personalities and a special present for the owner is available when adopting any of them, just ask Cat Haven for more details."

Ms Reid said this Christmas all cats that Cat Haven sold would be free to a good home, but only on the condition that owners bought an adoption package that start at \$125 which includes essential services such as sterilisation that owners would need to purchase anyway to take care of the cat.

"You will also be in the running to win a special cat prize every day in the lead up to Christmas if you purchase one of our pets, all you need to do is assure us that you can give the cat a loving and caring home forever."

#### **Download 12 Days of Christmas Poster**

- [12 Days of Christmas Poster](#) (162 KB, PDF )

<b>OSCILLOT DISTRIBUTION CENTRES OPENING EARLY 2010</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• ADELAIDE</li><li>• PERTH</li><li>• CANBERRA</li><li>• BRISBANE</li><li>• MELBOURNE</li></ul>
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# HOT WEATHER CAT CARE

## Hot weather care ...

- Do not take your cat along for car rides. It is dangerous to leave a cat in a car alone for any amount of time. Cats cannot sweat like people. Brain damage, heatstroke, and death can occur within a matter of minutes from the extreme heat that can quickly build up in a parked car.
- Make sure that your cat always has a supply of clean, fresh, cool water.
- Apply sunscreen to a white cat's nose and ears tips. White cats do not have enough color pigment to protect their skin and thus can easily develop skin cancer just like people.
- Talk with your vet about flea and tick prevention. There are new treatments available that are safe and effective. Also, consult with your veterinarian if it is necessary to protect your cat from heartworms in your area.
- If you have a BBQ, do not share your foods with your cat.

Take precautions to protect your cat this summer. When the temperature rises, cats that are old, sick, or have white fur need special attention.

Your vet may be on leave over Christmas... Be sure to have the number for your emergency animal hospital on hand.

## Be alert for signs of heat stress...

- heavy panting
- glazed over eyes
- rapid pulse
- unsteadiness or staggering
- vomiting
- a deep red or purple tongue

## Emergency heat

### stress care ...



- If your cat becomes overheated, you must lower his body temperature immediately
- Move your cat into the shade and apply cool (not cold) water all over his/her body to gradually lower the cat's temperature
- Apply ice packs or cold towels to your cat's head, neck, and chest only
- Let your cat drink small amounts of cool water or lick ice cubes
- Take your cat to your veterinarian as soon as possible - It could save your cat's life

## CHRISTMAS TREATS for your pets...

### DON'T FEED THEM CHOCOLATE!

Even in relatively small amounts chocolate is poison to cats and dogs. Chocolate contains caffeine and theobromine, two different types of stimulants that affect the central nervous system and the heart muscle, as well as increasing the frequency of urination. For a cat or dog to lick the remains of an ice cream from a bowl is unlikely to cause any harm at all unless the animal has a specific medical condition already.

However, if the animal was to eat a larger quantity of chocolate he may become very sick indeed and develop vomiting or diarrhea. When the amount of chocolate eaten is excessive, symptoms can include restlessness, hyperactivity, muscle twitching, increased urination and/or excessive panting. White chocolate has the least amount of stimulants and baking chocolate or cocoa beans have the highest. **A better idea is to buy chocolate drops, which are made specifically for pets, as they will not harm your pets' teeth.**



Technical & installation support will be available throughout the Holiday Season.

If you need advice on Oscillot products or installation call Paul on 0412 748 668 or email [support@oscillot.com.au](mailto:support@oscillot.com.au)

HAVE A HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY.

