

FESTIVE DANGERS



Vets warn pet owners that some festive treats pose a danger to their animals' health
FULL STORY BELOW

THOMAS AND FRIENDS

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Lights at night shine spotlight on Christmas spirit

THE festive season starts well before December in Bowers St South, Everton Hills, where Tim Brinums has decked his halls in a blaze of glory.

Mr Brinums' glowing Christmas light display was named the winner of the 4KQ Christmas lights competition in the residential category for Brisbane north for the second time.

The display, which features a 100m lit frontage and some inspired internal displays, has been a labour of love for Mr Brinums, who began work on the display about six months ago.

Mr Brinums' passion for his light display began about 10 years ago.

But he stepped it up a notch after entering the 4KQ competition for the first time five years ago when he opened his own store, Christmas Alight, in Everton Hills because he wanted a greater range of Christmas lights.

"The whole idea is to bring everyone together to have a brighter, joyous Christmas."

➔ **Visit 17 Bowers St South, Everton Hills, nightly, 7pm to 10pm, unless raining.**



TWICE A WINNER: Tim Brinums with his award-winning lights display at Everton Hills.

Picture: SARAH KEAYES

Lucas will view Hills move case

LOCAL Government Minister Paul Lucas has asked the Moreton Bay Ratepayers Action Group to present its case for a boundary change to make The Hills District part of Brisbane.

Three members from the group, including Pine Rivers South branch chairman Geoff McKay, met with Mr Lucas last week to discuss their campaign for residents in The Hills District and Bunya to break from Moreton Bay Regional Council.

The meeting followed the collection of 4102 signatures on a petition, which was tabled in State Parliament the previous week.

Mr McKay said the minister asked for further information before he could consider referring the case to the Change Commissioner.

They hope to have it ready by Christmas.

Mr McKay said the group also sought a meeting with Moreton Bay Mayor Allan Sutherland and councillor Brian Battersby.

"We would like to think the Mayor and Cr Battersby recognise there is a public mood out there that ought to be addressed," he said.

Festive fare not for pets

EXPENSIVE MISTAKE: VETS WARN OWNERS OF DANGERS SOME FOODS POSE TO THEIR ANIMALS' HEALTH

ALLIRA PREECE
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NORTHWEST veterinarians have urged residents to monitor their pets' food intake at Christmas to offset an expected rise in food related illnesses.

Dr Shane Barrington from the Mitchelton Veterinary Practice said pet owners were unaware of the dangers certain foods posed to their pets' health with their naivety sometimes costing

them up to \$5000 in veterinary bills.

He said chocolate and fatty meats were the most lethal, causing illnesses like pancreatitis and other symptoms which included vomiting and nausea.

"Something as simple as giving your dog a ham bone can make it quite ill. If you know your pet is a scavenger you really need to be vigilant of what yourself and other people are feeding it."

Albany Creek vet Dr Rod

Straw from the Brisbane Veterinary Specialist Centre said last year over the Christmas holidays more than 50 pets were admitted to the centre, all with food-related illnesses.

He said this time of year saw an average 10 per cent rise in the number of animals with food poisoning.

"In most cases pet owners are surprised when we advise them the cause of their pet's illness is the human food they have consumed.

"If you're having a big Christmas lunch and have to include your pet, put a bowl of (animal) treats on the table so when you give it to them they think it's what you're eating too.

"They just want to be a part of the feeding frenzy," he said.

Recommended pet food brands which include the right nutrients for your pet's diet include The Hills Science Diet, Purina and Royal Canin.

NOT FOR PETS

Foods toxic to animals

- Chocolate
- Avocados
- Onions
- Garlic
- Macadamia nuts
- Turkey skin
- Pork crackling
- Sausages and other fatty meats
- Grapes, raisins and sultanas

SNAPSHOT

NEWS PACK

ARMED ROBBERY

A Mitchelton man, 31, was threatened with a knife on Saturday when he was confronted by four men on the corner of Samford and Glen Retreat roads. The men stole cash and a mobile phone. The main offender is described as Caucasian, about 180cm, slim and was wearing a bright orange shirt.

METER REPLACEMENT

Unitywater contractors will be replacing old water meters in Everton Hills, Arana Hills, Albany Creek, Ferny Hills and Bunya this month.

We'll make Christmas ...too easy

\$35
each
SAVE ~~¥\$11~~

Gage Pils Bottles
24x330ml
OR Carlton Mid Block
30x375ml Cans

24 CASE
\$50
each
SAVE ~~¥\$10~~

Stone's Alcoholic Ginger Beer, Big Head Beer, Peroni Nastro Azzurro Bottles 24x330ml OR Matilda Bay Fat Yak Bottles 24x345ml

24 CASE
\$40
each
SAVE ~~¥\$7~~

Coopers Clear Bottles 24x355ml, Bluetongue Premium Lager OR Stella Artois Bottles 24x330ml

BWS ...too easy

For your local bottleshop visit bws.com.au or call 1300 138 297* SMS your postcode or suburb to 0438 138 297*

BWS supports the responsible service of alcohol. It is illegal to purchase alcohol for people under 18. Advertised lines available in QLD stores only from Wednesday 14th December until Tuesday 20th December 2011 unless sold out prior. Trade not supplied. Limit rights reserved. Savings are based on BWS standard selling prices. No further discounts apply. Not all varieties available at all stores. *Standard local call and SMS charges apply. BWS reminds you not to drink and drive. BP141212QLD6