

25 November 2015

## A 'Pawsitive' Christmas fundraiser

Have you got a pet dog, cat, chicken, duck or mouse? Do you think he or she is worthy of posing for a picture with Santa Claus?

Campbelltown Pet and Aquarium Centre are inviting residents to a photo opportunity with the big red guy and a photographer that will see \$1 from every picture go to the Macarthur Cancer Therapy Centre (MCTC).

Santa and pet pictures are a big hit at the centre, which is why Macarthur Cancer Therapy Centre's Director and Oncologist Stephen Della-Fiorentina said he is excited about the shop's fundraising initiative.

"Some people love their animals as much as their children, we are grateful that this love will go toward improving the health and lives of those overcoming or enduring their journey with cancer. We have a Pet Therapy programme here at the centre which already helps." Associate Professor Della-Fiorentina said.

The MCTC has been providing cancer services since February 2003 to the adult population of Macarthur, Wollondilly and Wingecarribee.

Over 7,000 chemotherapy services are delivered each year by experienced and trained nursing staff. In addition to this, the Centre offers the latest in technology that enables safe and accurate radiation treatment. There are also new patient assessments provided by Medical and Radiation Oncologists as well as Allied Health services in social work, occupation therapy, dietetics, physiotherapy, psychology and speech pathology.

A range of complimentary therapies are also offered to patients and their primary carer during and following their treatment including massage therapy, reiki, acupuncture, hypnotherapy and exercise programs.

For \$10 on the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of December, your pet can get some lap time and a photo with Santa while supporting a good cause.

To make the animals and Santa look at the camera, Campbelltown Pet and Aquarium Centre's owner Bill Norman said the photographer uses props to keep the pets entertained.

"Squeaky toys usually work well with dogs, but cats and rabbits aren't always as impressed," Mr Norman said.

"It's awesome to see pet owners in the community getting involved and excited about Christmas while supporting us as a business to help raise funds for the Macarthur Cancer Therapy Centre," he said.

Bookings can be made by phoning the store on (02) 46 251838 or visiting the store in the Macquarie Arcade, 6 & 7/266 Queen St, Campbelltown.