



"Lachie"

What does a dedicated vet do on a Tuesday night, when the rest of the team are wrapped up watching Game of Thrones? She walks a colicky pony around and around the hospital paddock in the dark and cold.

Lachie is an aged pony that developed colic and was initially treated at home. However, his condition worsened considerably, so he was transported to the clinic for intensive care, including IV fluids and regular naso-gastric tubing. This meant that one of our dedicated vets stayed at the hospital all night to treat Lachie and keep him moving at regular intervals. Things began looking dire for Lachie. He had begun to reflux fluids from his nose and was in shock.

Dr Nicole persevered with intensive treatment, which included a few rectal examinations which had the added benefit of helping shift things along. Finally, Lachie let out a big fart! This doesn't sound very exciting to most people, but to a colicky horse owner and the treating vet, this is gold.

Lachie stayed in intensive care for another 24 hours, and his bottom belchers were dutifully recorded by the son of Lachie's owner - a total of 14 in 15 minutes at one stage. Lachie slowly improved, began eating well and passing faeces. His dedicated owners were heavily involved in his care, which helped him, and our staff a lot.

Thankfully Lachie has continued to improve and is home with his devoted family.