



Mid-Warwickshire Branch
Contact: 01926 334849
Email: midwarwickcats@hotmail.com
Website: www.midwarwick-cats.org.uk

Rugby Branch
Contact: 01788 570010
Website: <http://rugby.cats.org.uk>

Home Needed!



Twinkle & Dipstick
Gorgeous sisters who want a home of their own. Twinkle and Dipstick are young sisters, about 18 months old. They came into our care with a litter of kittens each which have now been rehomed. Twinkle is the one of the left and is an outgoing cat who enjoys fuss and attention. However her sister Dipstick on the right is a little timid, and does not enjoy being picked up. Now their kittens have moved on it is time for them to find a home of their own. Interested? Call the CP on 01926 334849



Monty
A Golden Oldie deserves a loving home of his own. Monty's story and photos vividly reflects the excellent work that Cats Protection carries out (before on the left, after on the right). In May of this year, Monty was rescued from a local garden in a pitiful condition. Extremely thin, with badly matted fur, and hyperthyroid. Four months on, having received excellent veterinary treatment, lots of TLC from one of our wonderful team of fosterers, and after a successful operation, Monty is healthy and ready to be rehomed. He will be rehomed on our Golden Oldie Scheme where his vet bills will be paid for the rest of his life. He now deserves a loving new home. Are you the person that can offer it to him? Please call the CP on 01926 334849.



Scatty
A purry girl, who likes a fuss! Scatty is a young female, about 3 years of age who came into our care through no fault of her own. She was a little timid at first, but now she has gained confidence she is a purry girl, who likes a fuss. However she does occasionally nip when being stroked and so needs an experienced cat owner who can cope with this type of behaviour. She also hates other cats and so needs to be rehomed on her own. Interested? Call the CP on 01926 334849.



Bianca
Beautiful pure white female who wants to be your friend. Bianca is a beautiful pure white female, about 4 years old. Even though she has yellow eyes she is not deaf, as some white cats can be. However she has been abused in her past and although in this photo she looks as if butter would not melt in her mouth, she is a little feisty. She desperately wants to be your friend and will allow herself to be stroked, however, she does hiss if you are close by as she is a little uncertain about humans but she very rarely strikes out. She needs an experienced cat owner who will leave her alone when first homed and give her the space to decide in her own time when she can be approached and how much fuss she will tolerate. Because of these behavioural issues she has been with us some time. However if you feel that you can cope with this, and would love to aid her rehabilitation, then please let us know. She needs to be rehomed without children or other cats and dogs. Interested? Call the CP on 01926 334849.



Rainsbrook Veterinary Group Ltd and Hydrotherapy Centre
Small and Large Animal Veterinary Surgeons

Welcome to another Rainsbrook Newsletter. If you have any suggestions on articles you would like, or if you and your pet have a story, please contact Stacey Hammond via email on sch@rainsbrook.com or in writing to the Leamington Spa surgery. Thanks!

Change for the New Year!

The end of November saw us say goodbye to Veterinary Nurse Charlotte Glasbey. She has been snapped up by Hartpury College in Gloucestershire to teach first year nursing students. An amazing opportunity for a recently qualified nurse, the teaching will allow her to complete her credits for her degree, and help towards her teacher training certificate. There is nothing like being thrown in the deep end—during her first two weeks on the new job, she was in charge of teaching classes of 45+ students! She is thoroughly enjoying her new challenge, but does miss the hands on experience which she gets in practice. She will be greatly missed, but we will see her regularly as her one-eyed rescue cat Emi will be coming in for her regular check ups!



Becky Boag and 'Jack'

The remaining nursing staff have been divided between our two surgeries of Leamington and Hillmorton, Rugby. Becky Sidwell and Tristan Smith will be the regular nurses at our Leamington surgery with Marie Foulkes, the kennel assistant, based there too. At the Hillmorton surgery Becky Boag and Gemma Archer will be the nurses based there along with auxiliary nurse Elaine Miles. Charlotte Wildman will be floating between both surgeries. To maintain cohesion between all sites, we are pleased to announce that Becky Boag has been promoted to Surgery Head Nurse at Hillmorton and Becky Sidwell (right) is Surgery Head Nurse at our Leamington branch. Big congratulations to both!



Fingers Crossed!

Tristan Smith (right) completed his final Veterinary Nurse exams this month. He completed two written papers, and then a further 8 practical exams which took place at Hartpury College in Gloucestershire. Results are due January 2009, and we are all hoping for a successful result! Once passed he will become a Registered Veterinary Nurse (RVN), and his uniform will change from pale to dark green.

Christmas Opening Hours:

As ever we will be providing our own 24 hour emergency call-out service over the Christmas and New Year period. To contact an out of hour vet, please phone your local surgery and follow the instructions on the recorded message. A vet will return your call in less than 10 minutes.

Christmas Eve: 8.30am-4.00pm
Tues Dec 30th: 8.30am-7.00pm

Christmas Day: CLOSED
New Years Eve: 8.30am-4.00pm

Boxing Day: CLOSED
New Years Day: CLOSED

Sat Dec 27th: 9.00am-12noon
Fri Jan 2nd: 8.30am-7.00pm

Sun Dec 28th: CLOSED
Sat Jan 3rd: 9.00am-12noon

Mon Dec 29th: 8.30am-7.00pm

Charity Box Thefts

In the local press it has been noted that charity boxes have repeatedly been stolen from businesses, and unfortunately our Leamington Spa surgery fell foul to these sticky fingers. To avoid it happening again the Leamington surgery will no longer have these boxes on display, however, if you wish to donate to charity, please talk to our receptionists and they can take you donation and store it in a safe place. A lot of charities rely heavily on donations from the generous public, so please let the actions of a selfish few effect the needy. Over the Christmas and New Year period you will see collection areas at all our surgeries for donations of food and bedding for our local rescue shelters. Please give if you can, anything is gratefully received and is put to good use.

PRACTICE SERVICES

- Appointment system.
- Convenient appointment times.
- Ample parking.
- 24 hour emergency service provided by our own team of vets and nurses.
- Tier 2 RCVS Accredited Practice
- Nurses living on sites.
- Annual health checks.
- Orthopaedic and Small Animal Medicine referral services with certificate holders.
- Modern surgical facilities.
- In house laboratory (Rugby).
- Nurse clinics providing expert advice on tooth care, diet, preventative health care.
- FREE puppy parties (Rugby).
- Hydrotherapy pool and water walker (Leamington)

OFFICE HOURS:

Monday to Friday
8.30am to 7.00pm
Saturday
9.00am to 12.00 noon

SURGERIES

83, High Street, Hillmorton.
Rugby, Warwickshire.
CV21 4HD
Tel: 01788 542221
Fax: 01788 562242

1, Craven Road.
Rugby, Warwickshire.
CV21 3JX
Tel: 01788 562844
Fax: 01788 553642

(and Hydrotherapy)

12, Upper Grove Street.
Leamington Spa, Warwickshire.
CV32 5AN
Tel: 01926 422592
Fax: 01926 334084

www.rainsbrookvets.co.uk

24 hour emergency service - call your local surgery direct and follow the instructions.

THE RAINSBROOK MEDICAL TEAM



DAVID WALKER
Veterinary surgeon,
Orthopaedic certificate
holder and Director



SIMON DANIEL
Veterinary Surgeon
and Director



SIAN DAVIES
Veterinary Surgeon,
Small Animal
Medicine certificate
holder and Director



FIONA CLEGG
Veterinary Surgeon



MARY-ANNE FRANK
Veterinary Surgeon



HELENA KADOW
Veterinary Surgeon



CHRISTEL OINK
Veterinary Surgeon

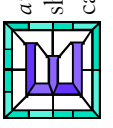


BECCI YOUNG RVN
Practice Manager

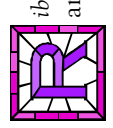
Christmas has sneaked up on us again, so while we are running around like mad things organising for this holiday, please keep in mind the welfare of all your pets. Below are a few pointers to keep in mind for everybody's safety...



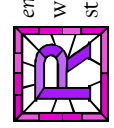
Make sensible decision! Never give or receive a pet as a Christmas present. Taking on any pet is a big responsibility in many ways, and it is this time of year that impulsive decisions are made. Please take the time to make an educated decision about opening up your home to a new pet.



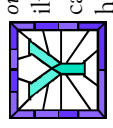
Feeding large quantities of food is generally a given for us over the festive period, but shouldn't be the case with your pet. Overindulgence and sudden diet changes can cause gastro-intestinal upsets, so please be aware of what you are feeding your pets.



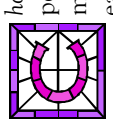
Ribbons, wrapping paper and presents are all very tempting to the curious pets. Try and avoid leaving pets alone near gifts to prevent damage—to them and your gifts!



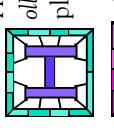
Fireworks, remember people may celebrate Christmas and the New Year with fireworks. If your pets are frightened of fireworks, there are products available to ease stress, so please contact your local surgery for details.



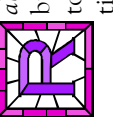
Xmas, our pets may appreciate a safe, warm and quiet place to settle if you are having family members over during the festive period. Pets who are not used to many people can become very stressed with new additions to their home territory, no matter how fleeting the visit, or how placid the person!



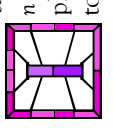
Chocolate is poisonous to dogs! If your dog does eat chocolate over the Christmas period call our 24 hour emergency service and speak to one of our vets. Try and make a note of the type of chocolate and amount that was eaten. If your dog has eaten chocolate we will advise that he is made to vomit. Soda crystals are very useful to induce vomiting so to be prepared you can keep a bag in a safe place. However, contact your vet first before inducing.



Holly, Poinsettia and Mistletoe can be poisonous to pets, please ensure that these plants are out of reach and that any fallen berries are picked up off the floor.



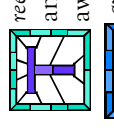
Rabbits and guinea pigs who live outside in hutches do not necessarily need to be brought into the house over the winter period, but they will benefit being moved to a more sheltered area of your garden. They still need to be checked two or three times every day, especially to make sure their water supply has not frozen over.



In case of emergency, or if you are worried at all about the health of your pet, please call your local surgery and follow the instructions on the recorded message to contact the out of hours vet. Our own vets and nurses cover our out of hours at our own surgeries.



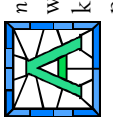
Salt on the roads can cause irritation to your pets feet, especially dogs who are walked across roads and along public highways. To avoid foot problems, give your pet's feet a rinse with clean water when you get home.



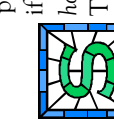
Tree baubles and decorations will be novel to most pets, and some of our pets will try and investigate these shiny things, and generally investigate with their mouths! Be aware that they are choking hazards so try and keep them out of reach of your pets.



Maybe have a thought about all the homeless animals this season and make a donation. At our surgeries you will see areas where donations of food and bedding can be left for the homeless dogs and cats.



Antifreeze needs to be stored carefully, and if there are any spillages, these need to be wiped, and rinsed down with plenty of water. If consumed, antifreeze can cause kidney damage which in most cases is irreversible. Alcohol is very palatable to pets—do NOT let them drink it. Alcohol can cause liver and kidney damage which if severe is usually fatal. If in doubt, call the surgery immediately.



Shockwaves caused by breaking ice on ponds can kill the wildlife that reside in them. The best way to create holes in the ice is to place a saucepan of boiling water on the ice, and then put a ball that floats in the hole to prevent it freezing over again.

All of us at Rainsbrook Veterinary Group would like to wish one and all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

EXTENDED CAPTION COMPETITION!

Up for grabs is up to £50 worth of dog or cat goodies (depending on winner's preference) for who can come up with the best caption for this photo of my cat Loopy! His unflattering pose is asking for trouble—so bring it on people!

Write your caption below, along with your name and contact details, and hand in or post to your local branch. Last date for entries will be Saturday February 1st 2009. The winner will be contacted shortly thereafter and the caption published in the next newsletter.

Your caption:



In Memory - Bear Scott
6th December 2008

The following was written by Tim and Sue Scott a few weeks ago before the loss of Bear.
We offer our most sincere condolences.



Bear came fully into our lives - by his own decision - in 2005, although we had seen him around the block for some time before that. At the time, we could see him enduring a miserable existence with his then family (?). Often left out to fend for himself, Bear became quite unwell and when he started popping in to us for tea he was in a bad way. Then he was left totally on his own when his family just up and left him. Perhaps this was the best moment in his life, because very soon he came round to see us and never left again!

To begin with we started fostering Bear for the Cat's Protection League. Very quickly, though, we just had to adopt this totally loveable woolly old thing. By this time he was thought to be about 11 - so a lot of years of not much joy. However, after a full MOT by the vet, plus a new healthy and regular diet, Bear blossomed into a stunningly beautiful, mature old gentleman. To begin with he was very wary of his Dad (and males in general) - hinting at some rough treatment in his past. He was very clingy with his new Mum from day one, though. Fortunately, after lots of fuss and love, he began to trust us both. Then, very quickly, he just couldn't get enough of either of us!



He also had some new brothers and a sister to get to know as well - Buster (Laird of Wolston), Bonnie and Parsnip (Snippy). It took a while, but Bear established himself as the new head of the household - which, grudgingly, the others just about accepted. Then, when the unhinged Parson Russell pup, Jacques (aka Poo), joined the fold, he quickly laid the law down there, too! Bear has become such a loving animal; forever seeking out a knee during the day. He's very chatty too. When we're out for a while and come in late, we know we'll be greeted with "and what time do you call this?" in voluble Bear-speak. At bed time, too, he is forever telling us off for staying up late and depriving him of someone to lie on when we're in bed - usually his Dad (who is more tolerant!). As regular as clock work, when we're tucked under the duvet, his jauntily cocked tail (nick-named 'Rodney the Rodent') can be seen making its way around the bed like a shark's fin - to be followed by a quick meow announcing his arrival as he bounces up onto his Dad. This is usually followed by a lot of purring and very determined cheek to cheek snuggles!

Sadly, Bear now has lymphoma, which seems totally cruel, given the tough years he's already endured. Luckily, he's being cared for wonderfully by the lovely team at Rainsbrook and God bless them for giving us some more time together. Whilst it's only been a few short years that Bear has had with us, we hope we've given him some of the best and happiest years. He has certainly been very special to us and we'll miss him terribly, although he'll leave us with the happiest of memories of the "Silly old woolly old Bear"

Sue and Tim (his Mum and Dad)

THE RAINSBROOK MEDICAL TEAM



ALISON COXON RVN
Hydrotherapist
& Veterinary Nurse



BECKY BOAG
RVN
Veterinary Nurse



BECKY SIDWELL
RVN
Veterinary Nurse



TRISTEN SMITH
Student
Veterinary Nurse



GEMMA ARCHER
BSC
Student
Veterinary Nurse



CHARLOTTE WILDMAN
Student
Veterinary Nurse



ELAINE MILLES
Auxiliary Nurse



MARIE FOULKES
Kennel Assistant



BEV BEACHAM
Hydrotherapy Assistant