

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.



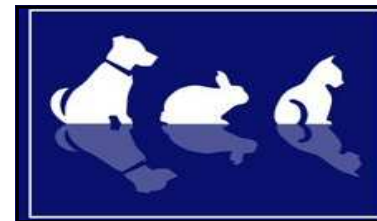
Cats Needing loving homes -
January 2008

 Garfield is a ginger and white boy, about 3 years old. He needs a home without young children as he does have a tendency to nip.	 Gina and Brecken are brother and sister, about 12 months old. They are both black and fluffy. They should make lovely family pets.	 Rocky is a 4 year old tabby male Maine Coon. He is temperamental and needs a confident owner, with no other pets or young children.
 Daisy and Milly are best friends. They are both young friendly girls and will make good family pets for a family with children over 5.	 Amadeus is a middle aged tabby boy who likes to be the centre of attention! He needs a home without young children or cats.	 Milly and Molly are sisters, about 8 years old. They are very close and like to sleep side by side. One is ginger, the other ginger&white.
 Daisy is a 10 year old female tortie looking for a quiet home. She is an independent cat who likes to sleep in unusual places.	 Barnaby and Flo are very nice cats. Barnaby is the ginger boy, about 10 years old and Flo is a 12 year old black&white female.	 Buffy is a slightly fluffy calico tortie, about 8 years old. She is a friendly, loving and gentle girl looking for a new home.
 Jasper and Tiddles are brother and sister, about 18 months old. They are both white with tabby patches and tail. Tiddles is very affectionate and outgoing. Jasper is very timid and spends a lot of time hiding.	 Princess and Missy are about 12 years old. Princess is black & white and Missy is a tabby/tortie. They are looking for a comfortable home together.	

Contact:

Mid-Warwickshire Cats Protection
Telephone: 01926 334849
Email: midwarwickcats@hotmail.com
Web: midwarwick.cats.org.uk

Up and Coming date for your diary
Saturday 9th February 2008 - REHOMING DAY, All Saints Church Hall, Warwick (Vicarage Field, All Saints Road, Em-scote) 10am - 1pm (entrance 50p/Children free.)



RVG News

January 2008
Volume 1, Issue 8

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



Welcome to the first newsletter of 2008! We hope you had a lovely Christmas and a great New Year! Remember, 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!

STAFF NEWS...

Congratulations are in order for trainee veterinary nurse Tristan Smith (pictured right). He sat his first year exams in December 2007 and passed! He has now begun his final year of studies which will involve finalising his portfolio of cases, and increasing his theoretical and practical knowledge. Where the first year of study is based on how the body works, the second year focuses on how this information works in practice. Charlotte Glasbey, another trainee veterinary nurse, sat her final year exams in December 2007. Results are due end of January.



You may have noticed that Sian Davies (pictured right) has not been taking any consultations for the past few weeks, this is because she has had surgery on her back. The operation went very well and she is recovering brilliantly. Sian will start to have consults at the end of this month, but it may be a few more weeks before she is back on the rota full-time. She is in touch with the surgery regularly, so if there is any advice needed from her regarding ongoing cases, let reception know, and they will contact her for you. We wish her all the best for a speedy recovery!

EXTENDED NURSE CLINICS...

	Mornings	Afternoon	Evening	
Nurse clinics over at the Hillmorton and Craven Road surgeries have been extended due to popular demand. Please see below for the new clinic times (including the Puppy Party).	Hillmorton Nurse Clinics	10.30am-12.30pm Tuesdays only	2.30pm - 4.30pm Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays 3.30pm - 4.30pm Wednesdays only	5.00pm - 6.45pm Fridays only
	Hillmorton Puppy Party	N/A	N/A	7.15-8.15pm (Wednesdays only) Call to confirm
Nurse clinics at the Leamington Spa surgery still run	Craven Road Nurse Clinics	N/A	2.00pm - 3.00pm Wednesday only	N/A

Nurse clinics at the Leamington Spa surgery still run Mondays to Fridays between 3pm and 4pm. Nurse clinics are by appointment only, and are useful for, to name a few things: advice regarding diet, old age, dental care and weight control. Nurses are also able to remove stitches (from neuterings) and will clip claws (small charge applies for this service). If in doubt, call your local surgery and they will make an appointment for you where appropriate.

THE RAINSBROOK 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



CHRISTEL OINK
Veterinary Surgeon



MARY-ANNE FRANK
Veterinary Surgeon



HELENA KADOW
Veterinary Surgeon



FIONA CLEGG
Veterinary Surgeon



BECCI YOUNG RVN
Practice Manager

Blood Donors: Saving lives!



A charity supported by Vets Now

Blood transfusions for our dogs and cats are not normally something one would think about, but the process has just got easier. If your pet is seriously ill, blood loss can be a common problem and as with humans, a blood transfusion can give a critically ill patient a good chance of recovery.

Rainsbrook has joined with Bilton Veterinary Centre, in Rugby, and the Pet Blood Bank to collect and store blood so that it is readily available for any pet which requires a transfusion.

Previously it was illegal to store blood, but now due to new legislation, it is possible to store packed blood cells and plasma. This will stop the frantic search for a blood donor, usually in the middle of the night, when the vet has been called out to a critical patient.

With Bilton Veterinary Centre and the Pet Blood Bank we aim to have donation days throughout the year, so if you have a healthy pet which matches the criteria below, please let us know. As with humans, it could save a life.

Criteria:

- Donor dogs need to weigh at least 25kg and cats need to be at least 4.5kg
- Aged between 1 and 8 years old
- Be of good temperament
- Have not travelled outside of the UK
- Be fully vaccinated
- Be microchipped (donor safety and product traceability)
- Be fit and healthy

Blood donation is carried out with the owner present and takes around 15 minutes. The blood is then separated into packed red blood cells (which can be stored for 5 weeks) and plasma (which can be frozen for up to one year).

Even if your pet is unable to donate there are other ways in which the Pet Blood Bank can be supported. For more info, please visit our website www.rainsbrookvets.co.uk or log on to www.petbloodbankuk.org

Glossary of terms:

Anaemia - deficiency of red blood cells, reduced ability to transfer oxygen to the tissues.

Blood volume - Total quantity of blood in the body.

Packed cell volume (PCV) - Percentage of the volume of whole, un-clotted blood occupied by the erythrocytes (red blood cells)

Plasma - fluid portion of blood in which the red blood cells are suspended.

Platelets - (Thrombocytes) are formed in the bone marrow, and are small and disk shaped. Their function is related to the clotting of blood (low platelets = reduced clotting ability) (see illustration, right)

Red blood cells - deliver oxygen to all parts of the body.

Red blood count - Number of red blood cells in a given sample of blood.

Vitamin K - required for blood coagulation.

Whole blood - This is blood as it comes from the artery/vein, usually combined with an anticoagulant.

If you are worried about your pet, please do not hesitate to contact the surgery and speak to our trained staff - we are happy to help.

Please remember, to see a vet is by appointment only - contact your local surgery.

Case Study Lucy the Collie X



Lucy: a 10 year old collie crossbreed



Larson: a 6 year old flat-coated retriever

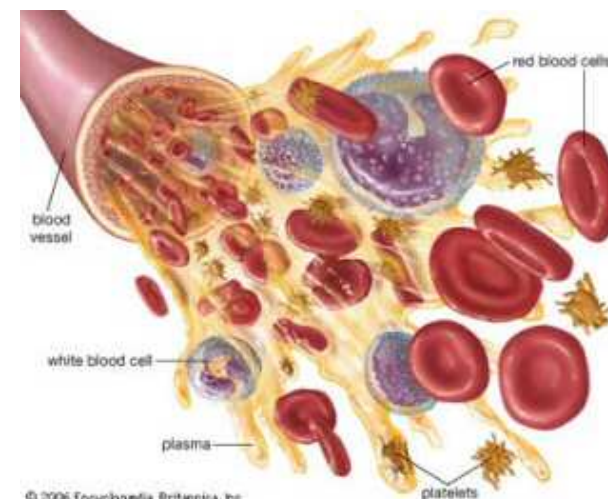
Lucy was presented to Sian Davies as a referral case in December 2007. She was suffering from sudden onset of nosebleeds which were not stopping. She was anaemic, had pale gums with petechial haemorrhages (pinpoint red dots) and occasional bleeding from an old wound on her tail. Her primary vet had performed blood tests which showed a very low platelet count and packed cell volume (thrombocytopenia), both of which were decreasing even with vitamin K treatment, resulting in her referral due to the worryingly low number of red blood cells in her blood. Once she arrived, Sian decided that Lucy required a blood transfusion as she was so poorly to help restore her blood levels to more normal amounts. A blood transfusion is a way to introduce whole blood or blood components directly into the blood stream to maintain or replace blood volume or to replace blood elements that have been reduced through illness.

Fortunately for Lucy, receptionist Felicity Vaughan was happy for her flatcoated retriever Larson to be a blood donor. Larson is a very good tempered dog and fulfilled all the criteria required to be a blood donor. He behaved impeccably as Sian and the nurses took his blood using a special blood collection kit. The process of donation takes about 15 minutes for around 500g of whole blood.

The donated whole blood was then prepared and given to Lucy via an intravenous drip accurately regulated by a pump. Lucy responded very well to the transfusion and by the next day was brighter. Further bloods were taken which showed an improvement, but still lower than normal PCV and platelet levels. Lucy remained an inpatient until her platelet levels stabilised and was discharged with a variety of medications and strict rest as if she banged herself she would bleed very easily (there was a high risk of internal bleeding). An immune mediated thrombocytopenia was suspected (this is where the body's own antibodies attack its own platelets). Lucy is still having regular blood tests to keep an eye on her platelet count and PCV levels, both of which are improving. Sian and Lucy's owner are extremely pleased with her progress.



Whole blood and drip pump



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THE RAINSBROOK TEAM



LIZ ROTHEN RVN
Head Veterinary Nurse



ALISON COXON RVN
Hydrotherapist and Veterinary Nurse



BECKY BOAG RVN
Veterinary Nurse



BECKY PEARSON RVN
Veterinary Nurse



CHARLOTTE GLASBEY
Trainee Veterinary Nurse



TRISTEN SMITH
Trainee Veterinary Nurse



ELAINE MILLES
Auxiliary Nurse



MARIE GUNTON
Kennel Assistant



BEV BEACHAM
Hydrotherapy Assistant