

## PRACTICE SERVICES

- Appointment system.
- Convenient appointment times.
- Ample parking.
- 24 hour emergency service provided by our own team of vets and nurses.
- Nurses living on sites.
- Annual health checks.
- Orthopaedic referral service with certificate holder.
- 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](http://www.rainsbrookvets.co.uk)

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

Homes needed for the following cats. Contact the Cats Protection directly

### MID WARWICKSHIRE CAT NEEDING A HOME - PIRATE

Pirate is a very affectionate 2 year old black and white female. She had been living in a garden in the countryside for several months. Unfortunately as she had one white ear, the time spent in the garden caused her ear to develop skin cancer and so it had to be removed.

She would however make a lovely family pet, and is desperate to be rehomed. She was called Pirate as she stole the family's heart where she was living in the garden and has a black patch over with eye, but their elderly cat would not let her in the house. Contact us on: 01926 334849 or <http://midwarwick.cats.org.uk/>



### MID WARWICKSHIRE CAT NEEDING A HOME - ALFIE

Alfie is a very handsome, mature fluffy black and white boy.

When he arrived he was seriously ill with pneumonia and after a lot of TLC he has made a great recovery. He is however slightly asthmatic and will need medication, which the Branch will pay for, for the rest of his life. He is a very friendly boy who likes a fuss and would make an ideal friend and companion. If you are interested in him please contact us on: 01926 334849 or <http://midwarwick.cats.org.uk/>



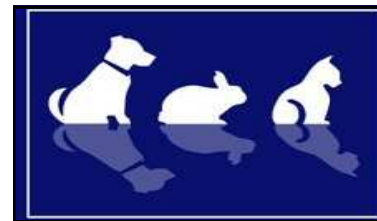
### RUGBY CAT NEEDING A HOME - CHARLEY

Charley is a very timid but also very playful cat who needs a quiet home with lots of attention and patience so she can overcome her timidity. She may well be happy around older, quieter children but not noisy, boisterous younger ones; her nervousness is thought to be the result of being teased by children at her previous home. She is a neutered female cat, around 2 years old, with medium length black fur with a white nose, chin and paws. She is healthy and was vaccinated in November 2006. As she has been an indoors only cat for the past 18 months she would probably be best suited to a home with a secure garden as she has very little experience of the big, bad world outside. Contact: Telephone Rugby 01788 570010 or <http://rugby.cats.org.uk> (no www).



### RUGBY CAT NEEDING A HOME - ZIGGY

Ziggy is a distinctively-marked black and white short-haired adult male cat aged about 6-8 years. He was having a very hard time surviving outdoors until a kind couple started giving him food last November but he still has to stay outside in all weathers. He did come in through their catflap for a short while and co-existed peacefully with their 3 cats and dog until he blotted his copybook and upset everyone by spraying, so has had to be shut out. Neutering usually reduces this behaviour and we would arrange for this to be done. He is a very independent cat, who has not been used to socialising with people; fusses seem to stress him and he dislikes being picked up, so would not get on well with children. He has tolerated being groomed, so might be won round with a lot of patience, but might be happier living in a warm stable or barn with other animals. He has no apparent health problems. Contact: Telephone Rugby 01788 570010 or <http://rugby.cats.org.uk> (no www).



# RVG News

July 2007  
Volume 1, Issue 5

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

Welcome to another Rainsbrook Newsletter. In this edition there is Talybont Challenge update, New Faces, Anaesthesia - what you didn't think you needed to know, Hillmorton Open day and more. 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](mailto:sch@rainsbrook.com) or in writing to the Leamington Spa surgery. Thanks!

### Challenge update and Prizes Galore!

As most of you are aware 6 of our team are taking part in a hiking, cycling and canoeing challenge to raise money for the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. They have to raise a minimum of £2500. Seems a lot, but in fact costs £3650 to keep a working guide dog going for just 1 year.

Amount raised is slowly increasing with thanks to friends, family and many generous clients, but we still have a long way to go! After the success of the Guess the Number of Easter Egg challenge, the team has put together a little competition to win some great prizes. These prizes have been donated from many places from James Wellbeloved to Petplan. All you have to do to enter is answer a very simple question at reception where you will be issued a ticket: *How many of the Rainsbrook staff are on the Talybont Challenge team?*

The first ticket drawn will have a choice from all the available prizes and so on until all prizes have gone. Each entry is 50p to enter as many times as you like!

The draw will be done in August, and the winners will be contacted by phone.

Best of luck, and thank you for all your continued support!

If you would like to donate a different way, please visit the following website: [www.justgiving.com/rainsbrookvetsteam](http://www.justgiving.com/rainsbrookvetsteam)

### New Faces...

In July we said goodbye to vet John Ryan who has left the practice to work an internship at the University of Glasgow. We wish him the best of luck for the future and he will be greatly missed.

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome to the team Marius Louw (right). Marius graduated from the University of Pretoria, South Africa in 2005. He is both a small and large animal vet. Marius also has a special interest in orthopaedics and will be assisting David Walker with his extremely busy Orthopaedic Referral Service. At home he has 2 cats and a wife!

Helena Kadow is joining us straight from University of Liverpool. Before going to vet school, Helena gained a degree in Zoology. Helena will see both small and large animals, of which she has an interest in equine medicine. She is local to the area, so we welcome her home!

Last but not least, Mary-Anne Frank will be joining us at the beginning of August. She graduated in 2004 from the University of Pretoria, South Africa. She is a mixed vet who has worked in Somerset and Cheshire. She is looking forward to joining the Rainsbrook team!

So, a fair amount of change in the Rainsbrook camp, but as ever we will continue to provide you with the care and service that you expect from your local veterinary surgery who provide that little bit extra!



**Cats Protection** are having a Summer Sundae Afternoon fete on 29th July 12noon to 5pm on Southam Road in Napton. There will be an Ice Cream stand, stalls, bouncy castle, face painting, pony rides and lots more! Entrance is 50p for adults, and children go in free. All proceeds will go to helping sick and abandoned cats in Warwickshire. Contact the CP on 01926 334849 or [enquiries@midwarkscats.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@midwarkscats.org.uk)

SOME OF THE RAINSBROOK TEAM



DAVID WALKER  
Veterinary surgeon,  
Orthopaedic certificate  
holder and Director



SIMON DANIEL  
Veterinary Surgeon and  
Director



SIAN DAVIES  
Veterinary Surgeon and  
Director



CHRISTEL OINK  
Veterinary Surgeon



MARIUS LOUW  
Veterinary Surgeon



MARY-ANNE FRANK  
Veterinary Surgeon  
(awaiting photo)



HELENA KADOW  
Veterinary Surgeon  
(awaiting photo)



ALISON COXON VN  
Hydrotherapist and  
Veterinary Nurse, super-  
visor of a hydro team of  
2



LIZ ROTHEN VN  
Head Veterinary Nurse,  
supervisor of a team of  
5 nurses



BECCI YOUNG VN  
Practice Manager

# Anaesthesia

*In the know.....things you never thought you would want to know about anaesthesia!*

At some point in all our pets' lives, they will under go a general anaesthetic (GA). Be it for routine neutering or for emergency surgery, the following information should give you more of an understanding of what is actually involved during a GA.

Most pets that are admitted at our surgeries for a surgical procedure are more than likely to undergo a GA, some procedures can be performed under local anaesthetic, but due to the generally wriggly nature of the patient, it is safer and far kinder for the individual to be put under. To be put under anaesthesia is the temporary loss of conscious sensations especially touch and pain. Anaesthesia is divided into 3 areas: Premedication agents, Induction and Maintenance. All drugs used in our surgeries are very similar to those used in hospitals.

Every anaesthetic is individual to your animal. Many things are taken into consideration, such as species, breed, age, weight and so on.

**Pre-medication** - This is the first part of the GA procedure. When you pet is admitted for surgery, the nurse or the vet will inject your pet with a mixture of drugs. The main reason for giving a premed is to produce a calm, relaxed patient prior to the induction of the main anaesthetic agent. When the premed is given, owners have the option of staying with their pet as they become sleepy. Another reason for the giving of premed is that it reduces the quantity of the injectable anaesthetic administered to your pet and also prevents vomiting during and post surgery. The other drugs in the premed 'cocktail' are pain-relief and antibiotics. These are given in the premed to ensure they are in the animal's system working for when the individual comes round.

**Induction** - It is at this stage a drug is injected directly into the pet's vein to induce the anaesthesia. A nurse holds the patient and raises a vein on one of the front legs. The vet injects the drug directly into the vein which causes the patient to quickly drift off to sleep. The drug we use here is Propofol, which is a drug used at human hospitals. Once the animal is no longer conscious, the vet will insert a special tube into the windpipe. This tube has an inflatable cuff that expands to protect the airway. It is through this tube that a mixture of maintenance anaesthetic drug and oxygen is given to the patient.



**Maintenance** - The induction anaesthetic drug is of a short duration, so after your pet has been intubated, they are attached to an anaesthetic machine (right) which produces a mixture of oxygen and a gaseous agent. The agent we use is called Isoflurane, which is also used in human hospitals. During the surgical procedure a qualified member of the team monitors your pet with additional support from ECG machines and pulse oximeters. After the surgical procedure has been finished, the patient is monitored closely to ensure a smooth recovery. We like to observe the patient for a good few hours after a GA before they can be discharged to go home.



If your pet is to undergo a GA (except for our small furry friends, i.e. rabbits, guinea pigs etc), they need to have been starved from the evening before the procedure. We do this as it reduces the risk of vomiting whilst under either of the anaesthetic stages. If a patient vomits during a GA, this can happen due to a reaction to any of the drugs used, there is a danger of their windpipe being blocked, therefore we make sure all animals have been starved thereby reducing this risk. Remember, if you have any queries, please ask a member of staff!

## Hillmorton's Open Day Report



Head Nurse Liz Rothen demonstrating what happens in theatre.



Vet Sian Davies and nurse Tristan Smith demonstrating our ultrasound machine.



Nurse Becky Boag and her free Fit For Life nurse clinics.



Vet John Ryan in one of our consult rooms looking at x-rays.

On May 5th our surgery at Hillmorton in Rugby opened its doors to the public so they could come and browse our facilities and speak to our staff. There was a fantastic turn out of people, some where faces we recognised, and others were new. A good time was had by all, and the feedback we've received makes all the effort worth while!

We have a total of 2 surgeries in Rugby, the other at **Craven Road** (photo below). Although all operations are performed at



the Hillmorton surgery, appointments with the vet can be made at our Craven Road surgery. Contact them on 01788 562844 and surgery times are the following: Monday to Friday 8.45am to 10am, 2.30pm to 3.30pm (except Fridays) and 5pm to 7pm. The Craven Road surgery is not open on Saturdays.