



# NARCH

National Association of Registered Canine Hydrotherapists

SUMMER 2018 NEWSLETTER



NARCH AGM and Education Seminar

**Sunday 7th October 2018 at Holiday Inn, Guildford, GU2 7XZ** . We have an exciting programme set up for our AGM and Autumn Education Seminar taking place at The Holiday Inn, Guildford on SUNDAY 7TH OCTOBER 2018. The AGM starts at 09h15 followed by the Education Seminar starting at 10h15.

## Our lectures and speakers are:



### "Underwater Treadmill – What could possibly go wrong? "

– **Dr Susanna Alwen** MA VetMB  
MRCVS, GP Cert Western Veterinary Acupuncture and Chronic Pain Management, Certified Canine Rehabilitation Therapist, Diploma in Hydrotherapy for Small Animals.

"Professional working dogs – searching for a safer UK" – A representative from the Metropolitan Police Dog Support Unit

"Water Testing workshop" – Lovibond Tintometer Ltd, experts in pool water testing.

"Stress and Rehabilitation" – **Veerle Dejonckheere**, Veterinary Surgeon and recognised international expert in integrated veterinary care combining conventional medicine and complementary approaches in her professional practice

"Let's talk about the elephant in the room....." – **Angela Griffiths** CCRP, Dip HSA, RCH, IAVRPT will talk about welfare issues in canine hydrotherapy, covering what we mean by "causing unnecessary suffering" and discuss drowning, dry drowning and secondary drowning, to give some clarity and guidance around this difficult subject. Angela will also talk about changes that she believes must be made in hydrotherapy practice and use of equipment, to protect dogs and their owners.

For the full programme and to book your place, please go to the NARCH website, click [HERE](#)

**EARLYBIRD COST is £65** per person for bookings made before 1st September 2018. Thereafter, tickets cost £80 per person.

Please note we do not issue tickets, you will receive an e-mail confirmation from us, adding your name to the delegate register.

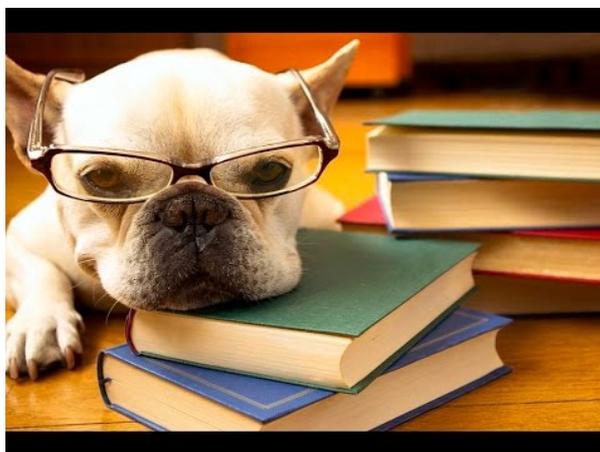
RCHs and their paying guests are welcome to attend the Education Seminar which starts at 10h15. Gain 7 hours of CPD by attending this event, CPD certificates will be provided at the end of the day.

*We hope to see as many of you as possible – book **NOW** and take advantage of the Earlybird discounted price.*

**Resource Library – IT IS A RESOURCE TO YOU, SO PLEASE USE IT!**

You will increasingly see NARCH referring to the Resource Library tab on the website. It is always worth

taking a look here as we have uploaded quite a few new guidance documents this year. You can also find all the back copies of our Newletters. New documents include an equipment list for centres in preparation for audit and a document on pool water management and microbiological testing will be available shortly.



## CPD for 2018 – What does your CPD record look like?



We are now past the half way point in the year and you ought to have at least 10 hours CPD uploaded and validated to your NARCH record.

Make sure that you are on track with your CPD plans for 2018 – you need to have 20 hours CPD approved and validated on your NARCH record before 31st December 2018 in order to avoid temporary suspension from the NARCH register. The Resource Library has a guidance note regarding CPD, so please take a look at it.

If you are a newly registered RCH from 2018 you will have been advised how many pro rata CPD hours you will need to complete in 2018. If you are in any doubt, please contact [enquiries@narch.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@narch.org.uk) for assistance.

## COMMITTEE VACANCY FOR TREASURER

We are currently looking for a new Treasurer to join the NARCH committee following the resignation due to work commitments of Jacquie



Dyson. Please contact Nicky Kohn [enquires@narch.org.uk](mailto:enquires@narch.org.uk) should you have relevant experience and be interested in learning more about this voluntary position. Please attach your CV with your enquiry. The committee meet about 4 to 6 times a year.

## Audits – Are You Audit Ready?

We are now well into our Audit schedule and have uploaded several useful guideline documents onto the Resource Library of the Website. The most recent document is an equipment list, which shows equipment expected to be present at a centre and which will be checked during your audit. If you require clarification on any items, please email NARCH [enquiries@narch.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@narch.org.uk).



We will be uploading a comprehensive guidance note covering Pool Water Management and Microbiological Testing to the Resource Library in the near future as well. Many of you have asked for clarification on what microbiological testing you should be carrying out and at what intervals, particularly as this will be an area of focus during your audit.

When you are due to be audited you will receive an explanatory letter from NARCH, setting out the date of your audit and other particulars. We also ask you to complete a short pre-audit information form which must be returned to NARCH in the week prior to your audit as it will contain the most recent information about your employees and your centre. We then go on to explain what areas our Auditors will require access to and the records and documents they will be reviewing which include:

- All areas of your hydrotherapy centre
- Your booking system/booking diary
- Hydrotherapy staff attendance records
- Patient records including medical history of each patient and veterinary referral documents
- Pool water testing and maintenance records
- Risk assessments, emergency procedures, health and safety policy

The Auditors will also need to talk to your staff and observe hydrotherapy sessions in both the pool and water treadmill (if you offer treadmill sessions).

All RCHs, whether a centre owner or not, have a responsibility as a RCH to ensure that their working environment is safe and to ensure that hydrotherapy is provided to patients in a safe and appropriate manner. One of the best ways for you to prepare yourself for an audit will be to go to the Resource Library and read through the [NARCH Guide to Professional Conduct](#). Everyone should have read this Guide on registration already, but now would be a good time to refresh your memory.

Finally, take time to carry out a risk assessment of how your centre would withstand an emergency, whether a fire, flood, human medical emergency or a patient needing to be rushed to the emergency vets. Just because something has always been “done

that way” does not guarantee that it is in fact the best way, or indeed, the safest way.

Ask yourself the questions:

- How would you lift the dog?
- Do you have transport to get to the vets?
- Is the emergency vets' phone number prominently displayed for both you and your clients benefit?

These questions are not exhaustive. All these aspects and more, if correctly assessed, will help you have a clean, tidy and safe premises and will enhance your ability to have a good NARCH inspection.

## CONTACT

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