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#### WINTER 2017 NEWSLETTER



Thank you to all who attended our October AGM and Education Seminar, the day was a great success.

- · Steve Burke gave an excellent talk about water pollution and bacteria
- · Dr Anna Tauro from Fitzpatricks Referrals covered neurological rehabilitation in dogs
- · Rachel Bean gave an interesting talk on canine behaviour
- Our final lecture of the day gave us all much thought-provoking information as Peninsula covered Health and Safety and Employment Law

Delegates at Rachel's talk agreed that NARCH should give a donation raised on the day of £75 to the Soi Dog Charity in Thailand. Rachel and many other UK RVNs offer their services to the Charity each year to help with the ever-growing problem of the care and treatment of stray dogs.

## Dates for your diary



Our 2018 AGM and Education Seminar will be at the Holiday Inn, Guildford on Sunday 7th October 2018

# UPDATE ON NARCH AND THE ANIMAL HEALTH PROFESSIONS REGISTER (AHPR)

All RCHs were sent an e-mail in November, advising that NARCH have withdrawn our involvement with the AHPR.

NARCH had been an active participant of the AHPR hydrotherapy sub-group committee over recent months. As the development process evolved, NARCH were able to gain a clearer picture of how the AHPR intended operating in practice. The AHPR recently outlined that they wished to take on a regulatory and disciplinary capacity for all registrants and in doing so change the roles of NARCH and the CHA. NARCH already fulfils this role and we have spent the last few years investing in systems that help us do this better and provide transparent information to the public, veterinary profession and pet insurance companies.

Regulation and raising standards within small animal hydrotherapy were the reasons for the creation of NARCH and we feel that NARCH should continue in this primary role.

The NARCH committee came to the conclusion that it was appropriate for NARCH to withdraw from the AHPR hydrotherapy sub-group committee and this was communicated to the AHPR in November 2017.

We can advise that NARCH had not committed any member funds to the AHPR.

## VET FESTIVAL 8 - 9 JUNE 2018



NARCH will again be an associated partner for the Vet Festival which is being held at Losely Park, near Guildford, on 8th and 9th June 2018.

RCHs will be able to purchase tickets at a 10 % discount. Watch the NARCH website where a link will soon be available for this. The Vet Festival offers a great opportunity to gain CPD points, so save the date.

NEW ONLINE FIRST AID REFRESHER TRAINING COURSE NOW AVAILABLE

New rules have recently been agreed by NARCH to enable RCHs to refresh their first aid training. Refresher courses can be attendance-based or done on-line.

Both types of course must be offered by course providers that meet NARCH requirements both in terms of course content and tutor qualifications. All refresher courses are valid for 2 years



and if the previous first aid refresher renewal was achieved via an on-line course, the RCH must complete an attendance-based first aid refresher course. Please note this important point.

Please see the separate section of the NARCH website which lists the various attendance-based courses and online-based courses, together with course providers, meeting NARCH requirements.

All courses must be supported by an attendance certificate bearing the title of the course, the name of the student, the date, the course provider, the tutor's name and the number of CPD hours awarded for the course.

Veterinary surgeons and practising registered veterinary nurses may request an exemption from Canine/Feline First Aid refresher training.





Winter has arrived and with the change in the season comes the cold wind, the rain and of course, for some of us, SNOW!

At this time of year, we all need to be especially vigilant whilst caring for our pets. Many foods that we consume at this time of year such as chocolate, grapes, raisins, currants, vine fruits, onions and macadamia nuts are highly poisonous to our four–legged friends. Holly, mistletoe, ivy, lily flowers and poinsettia plants are also poisonous to our pets. And don't forget that alcohol is a poison too.

But it's not just food and drink that we need to be cautious about, fireworks are now popular throughout the festive season and many pets have a phobia and fear of fireworks. Christmas tree decorations can seem attractive, especially to younger dogs. So, take care to try prevent mishaps over the festive season.

Our pets are creatures of habit and for some Christmas means a lot of noise and disruption to their quiet accustomed life, not forgetting the possible invasion of their own space by dogs belonging to visiting relatives.

Remember that anti-freeze for cars and windshield de-icer sprays are both highly poisonous to animals along with road salt. Please think carefully about where you walk your dogs when we have snow and ice on the ground.

#### NARCH WEBSITE



Please take some time to ensure that your NARCH record is right up to date as we approach the year end. Remember to ensure you have uploaded 20 hours validated CPD by 31st December 2017. If this is not done you risk automatic suspension from the NARCH register on 1st January 2018.

In addition, check that your first aid refresher training is up to date and validated and that you have uploaded up to date Professional

Indemnity Insurance and Public Liability Insurance. Please remember to check that any first aid course you sign up for meets NARCH requirements. See the NARCH website for further details or check with NARCH Administration at <a href="mailto:enquires@narch.org.uk">enquires@narch.org.uk</a> if you are in any doubt.

If you are a centre owner check that your centre details are correct and up to date. We now have a map on our homepage which shows the location of all active centres and what they provide. This will help the public to find NARCH registered centres in their area more easily.

#### ARE YOU READY FOR AUDIT?

Our programme of audits is now underway and we suggest that all RCHs give thought to whether they are ready for an audit.

Carry out a risk assessment of your practices, procedures and of your premises. By doing this, you will have clean and tidy premises and your chance of a good NARCH audit inspection will be improved.



#### AND FINALLY...



The NARCH committee would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We hope you will all get the chance to spend time with friends and family and enjoy the holidays

### **CONTACT**

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