



NARCH

National Association of Registered Canine Hydrotherapists

SPRING 2017 NEWSLETTER



With spring in the air and the daffodils showing their sunny faces, we can start to think about “hanging up” our wellington boots in favour of trainers when walking the dogs. We hope you are all well, and on track with updating any relevant details to your NARCH record. Make sure you have a plan in place to complete your CPD for the year as we are almost a quarter of the way through already!

STOP PRESS

We have taken the decision to cancel the NARCH Education Seminar in Manchester on April 23rd due to low ticket sales. A full ticket refund will be given to those of you who did purchase tickets and we will now focus on our October 8th 2017 seminar at The Holiday Inn, Guildford, which is always preceded by the NARCH AGM .

SAVE THE DATE:

We are planning a 2017 education seminar to be held at **The Holiday Inn, Guildford on Sunday, 8th October 2017**, save this date in your diary.

As usual the NARCH AGM will precede a full day of lectures, giving delegates 7 Hours CPD in all.



ARE YOU ONE OF OUR GROWING NUMBER OF OVERSEAS RCH's?



We are receiving an increasing number of registration applications from overseas canine hydrotherapists. We are delighted to welcome you to NARCH.

If you are one of our overseas members, we are always keen to hear from you and whether there are any country-specific legal, economic or logistical issues that affect your business in offering canine hydrotherapy services.

Whilst we appreciate that you may not be able to attend the NARCH Education Seminars held in the UK, we feel sure that there may be other seminars and conferences held in your locality that will gain you CPD hours. There are also numerous international webinar providers that you can access for CPD, the majority providing certificates of attendance/completion which can be used as proof of attendance for your NARCH CPD record.

Article No 4 of our regular insurance feature by Cliverton

These have been produced by Cliverton, who assist many RCH's with their insurance arrangements. To reflect the high standards maintained through NARCH Registration, we are pleased to advise that we have negotiated a premium discount with Cliverton applicable to RCH's:



WHAT DO YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DOG LEGISLATION? Part 1

Any responsible dog owner should be aware of their rights and responsibilities under the dog laws in the UK in order to protect themselves, their dog and the people around them. There are numerous Acts of Parliament that are currently in force relating purely to dogs

and many more relating to animals in general. It should be noted that legislation, particularly canine legislation, can change frequently, often as a result of “case law” and it is your responsibility as a dog owner to ensure that you are aware of all current legislation.

We outline below the legislation which can affect you and your dog the most. If you find yourself affected by any legislation you should seek experienced legal advice immediately.

Remember: “Ignorance is no defence in a court of law”

1) Dog Identification

The Control of Dogs Order 1992

This states that any dog in a public place must wear a collar with the name and address of the owner written or engraved on it or on a tag. The owners’ telephone number is optional but advisable.

Certain dogs are exempt from wearing a collar or a dog tag:-

- Any dog registered with the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association,
- Any dog whilst being used for emergency rescue work,
- Any dog whilst being used on official duties by a member of Her Majesty’s Armed Forces, HM Customs and Excise or the Police,
- Any dog whilst being used for driving or tending cattle or sheep,
- Any dog whilst being used for the capture or destruction of vermin,
- Any dog whilst being used for sporting purposes,
- Any pack of hounds.

Microchipping of Dogs (England) Regulations 2015

This includes the introduction of compulsory microchipping of all dogs with effect from April 2016. After this date all dogs not currently microchipped will have to be chipped and registered with a database compliant with the new regulations, and all breeders will need to microchip their puppies by the time they are 8 weeks old, and before they are transferred to a new keeper. The new keeper will be responsible for updating the microchip with their details.

Failure to comply with the new regulations could result in a fine of up to £500.

Compulsory microchipping is also being introduced in Scotland and Wales.

In Northern Ireland compulsory microchipping was introduced under the Dogs (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2011.

2) Nuisance and Dangerous Dogs

Byelaws on noisy animals

If a dog’s barking causes a serious nuisance to neighbours, the local authority can serve a noise abatement notice, which if unheeded can result in fines and legal expenses.

Animals Act 1971

If the keeper of an animal is negligent in looking after that animal or restraining it and it causes damage to another person or their property then the keeper will be liable to that other person.

This is why it is highly advisable to have third party liability insurance policy in place to cover this. It is something that is covered under most pet insurance policies and some household policies.

Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 (Section 3)

It is a criminal offence for the owner and/or person in charge to allow a dog to be ‘dangerously out of control’ in a public place, a place where it is not permitted to be and some other areas. A ‘dangerously out of control’ dog can be defined as one that has injured someone, or one that a person has reasonable grounds to be apprehensive that it

may do so. Something as simple as a dog chasing, barking at or jumping up at a person or child could lead to a complaint.

If a dog injures a person it may be seized by the police and the penalty may include a prison sentence or a ban on keeping dogs. There is also an automatic assumption that the dog will be destroyed unless you can persuade the court that it is not a danger to the public. There may also be a fine to be paid along with compensation and costs.

Dangerous Dogs (Amendment) Act 1997

This act amends the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991. It removed the mandatory destruction order provision on banned breeds and re-opened the Index of Exempted Dogs for dogs which the courts consider would not pose a risk to the public. It also gave courts discretion on sentencing, with only the court being able to direct that a dog be placed on the list of exempted dogs.

The following types of dog are banned under the Dangerous Dogs Act:-

- The Pit Bull Terrier
- Fila Brasileiro
- Dogo Argentino
- Japanese Tosa

Anti-social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014

This act:-

- Extends section 3 of the Dangerous Dogs Act 1991 so that it covers incidents which take place on private property, as well as in public places.
- Removes the mandatory requirement for police to seize and kennel prohibited dogs which they do not consider to be of risk to the public.
- Introduces Control Orders to prevent incidences of dog aggression.

Similar legislation exists in other jurisdictions within the UK.

The Control of Dogs (Scotland) Act 2010

Effective from February 2011, this act is enforced alongside the Dangerous Dogs Act to tackle irresponsible dog ownership through the introduction of Dog Control Notices. It also allows for prosecutions to be made where an incident has occurred on private property as well as public places and removes reference to a dog's 'size and power' when determining whether or not it is out of control.

The Dogs (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 2011

This legislation updates the Dangerous Dogs (Northern Ireland) Order 1991. This act:-

- Makes the microchipping of dogs compulsory
- Allows for dog wardens to attach conditions to a dog licence where a dog's behaviour has led to a breach of the Dogs Order (which is similar to a Dog Control Notice).
- Extends dangerous dogs legislation to cover private property.
- Increases the dog licence fee to £12.50 (with some exceptions).
- Makes it an offence to have a dog that attacks and injures another person's pet.

Since the Welsh Referendum in 2011, the Welsh Government has been able to update and improve substandard dog control legislation without obtaining prior permission from the UK Parliament. However, the Welsh Assembly has announced that it will not pursue its own Control of Dogs Act because it wants to unify legislation on dangerous dogs with Westminster.

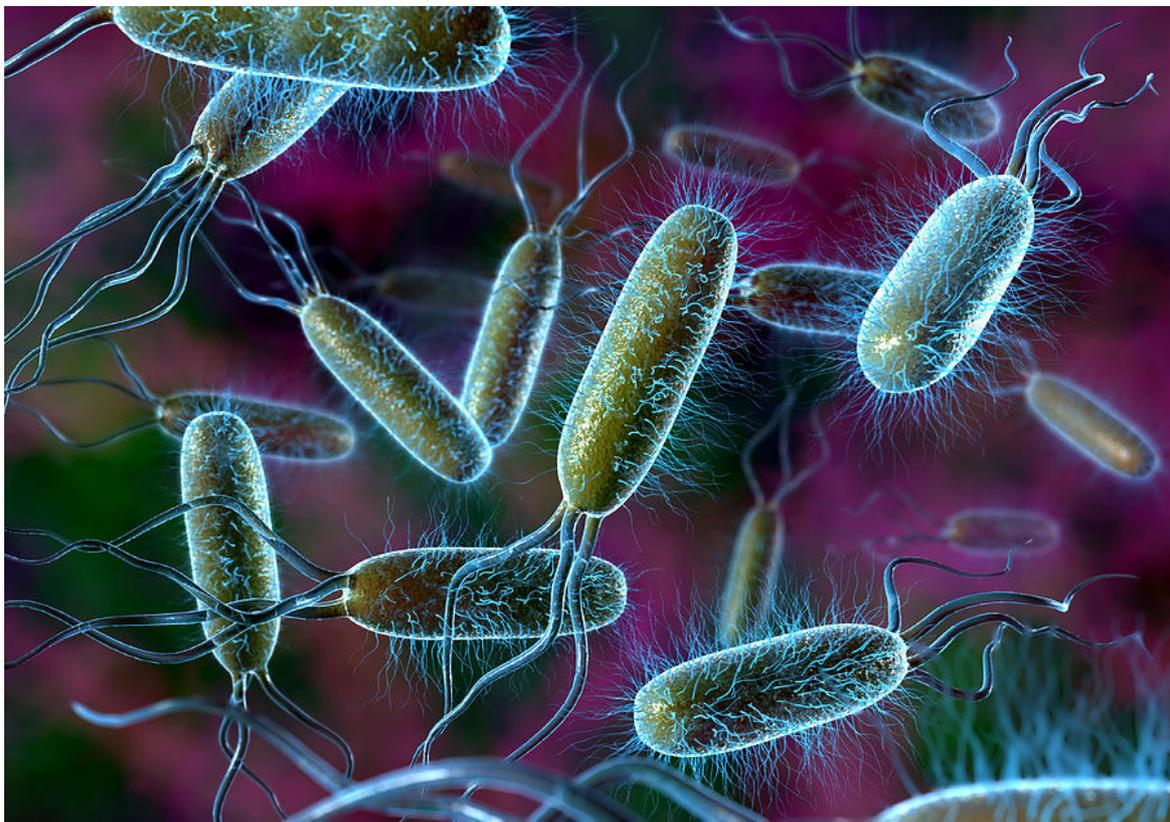
If you require additional information or assistance, please feel free to contact Cliverton for advice on 01328 857921.

Part 2 to follow in the Summer Newsletter

NARCH MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE – VACANCIES



We have a general vacancy on the NARCH Management Committee and would love to hear from anyone who would like to contribute to the future of NARCH by becoming a committee member. You will need to be an RCH and be prepared to attend meetings a few times a year. If you would like to know more about this voluntary position, please contact Nicky Kohn, NARCH Administrator, preferably by e-mail enquiries@narch.org.uk providing a copy of your up to date CV, highlighting any particular areas of expertise that you have acquired.



WHY DO I NEED TO HAVE MONTHLY MICROBIOLOGICAL TESTING WHEN MY DISINFECTANT LEVELS AND pH ARE ALWAYS GOOD?

IF YOU ATTENDED our October 2016 seminar in Guildford, you will recall the very informative and amusing Pool Water Management lecture given to us by Allen Wilson from Studies in Work. Allen has provided us with a short briefing note about pool water testing:

Whether or not you are using chlorine or bromine (with or without ozone or ultraviolet) you will still need to reinforce your hygiene regime by microbiological testing on a regular basis.

The lead body for the aquatic industry in the UK is the Pool Water Treatment Advisory Group (PWTAG) who advocate the following in their normal operational procedure:

12.1 Frequency and protocol

Tests should be performed monthly to monitor for the presence of various microorganisms such as Pseudomonas, Total viable colonies of aerobic bacteria and coliforms

12.1.1 More frequent sampling will be necessary if there is a problem, or for particularly heavily loaded pools. Hydrotherapy pools, even those not in a healthcare setting, should be weekly tested

12.1.2 Microbiological testing should be performed only by competent and accredited personnel at a United Kingdom Accredited Scheme laboratory (UKAS)

This therefore is best practice and ensures compliance with the following laws: [HASAWA](#), [COSHH](#) Regulations, [MHSW](#) Regulations. Other means of testing such as dip slides or adenosine triphosphates with luminometers will certainly assist but do not meet the requirements set down by the industry.

To ensure compliance with lead body guidance, British Standards and your own risk assessments, pools and spas accessible to the public must be microbiologically tested on a regular basis.

Anxiety causes grey muzzles in dogs

A study of 400 dogs from dog parks, shows, veterinary clinics, and other venues was done in the US. Each dog was photographed, and the researchers rated their muzzle grayness on a scale of 'no gray' to 'full gray.' Dog owners were asked to fill out a questionnaire assessing their dog's anxiety and impulsivity, along with other behavioral characteristics. To avoid bias, they were told the purpose of the study focused on dog lifestyle.



Dogs with higher levels anxiety were found to have a greater extent of gray hair, especially those known to be fearful of loud noises, and unfamiliar animals and humans.

The results published in the journal [Applied Animal Behaviour Science](#) revealed a link between these traits and a gray muzzle.

Click on the [link](#) to read more on this study

[CONTACT](#)

TEL: 07859 129143

FAX: 0844 443 2561

enquiries@narch.org.uk

www.narch.org.uk



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National Association of
Registered Canine
Hydrotherapists
16 Binhams Meadow
Dunsfold, Surrey, GU8 4LF

