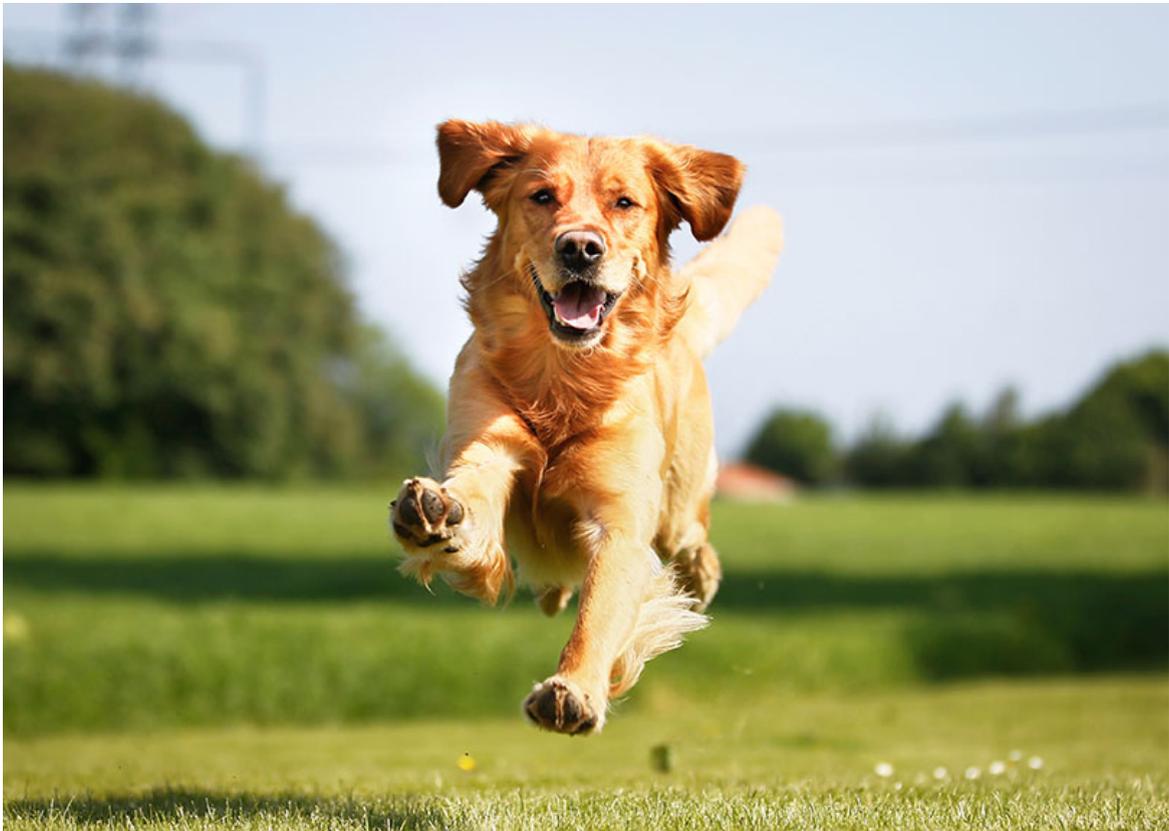




## SUMMER 2016 NEWSLETTER



We took the decision to postpone the May 2016 Manchester Education Seminar as it clashed with the Great Manchester Run. We are preparing for our October 16th 2016 Education Seminar and AGM to be held at the Holiday Inn, Guildford. Please hold this date in your diary....we have finalised the speakers and tickets will go on sale in July. Lecturers will update us on cruciate disease, pool water management and Christoffer Diehl from Scandi Orthopedic will be sharing exciting ground breaking developments in the design and use of canine orthotics. The seminar offers you 7 hours CPD.

[Dates for your diary](#)



**Sunday 16th October 2016**

Education Seminar and AGM at The Holiday Inn, Guildford

**Sunday 23rd April 2017**

Education Seminar at The Renaissance Hotel, Manchester. Please keep this date in your diary for future reference

## SPOT CHECKS – IMPORTANT

Please be aware that NARCH are now carrying out random spot checks of hydrotherapy centres. Scheduled audits are not the only time your centre may be visited, so ensure everything is in order at all times!

### [Guide to Professional Conduct for Registered Canine Hydrotherapists](#)

If you are not complying with the NARCH Code of Conduct you may risk suspension of your RCH status while issues raised are being addressed or investigated.

The aim of these checks is not to catch anyone out, they are to ensure we are maintaining the highest standards of professionalism and animal care.



## Swimming brachycephalic dogs – advice note



Please ensure you know and understand the specific needs, requirements and safety protocols associated with the swimming of brachycephalic dogs.

You should always consider the following:

- The physical position of the hydrotherapist(s) in the water in relation to the dog when swimming and your ability to continually observe the position of the dog's nose and mouth
- Regular checking of pulse, respiration rate, colour of mucous membranes
- Regular checking of position of the dog's head to ensure airways remain clear of the water at all times

- Cardiovascular fitness/body condition of the dog
- Any other medical conditions such as heart conditions and epilepsy
- Buoyancy – consider additional floatation aids as well as thoracic support provided by the hydrotherapist
- Do not use floatation collars/moon collars – EVER!
- Always review your hydrotherapy sessions to ensure the right outcome for the dog

## NEW NARCH water treadmill training and operating guidelines

As advised in our Spring Newsletter we have revised the training requirements for RCH's who operate, or intend to operate, a water treadmill. We want to ensure everyone offering this method of hydrotherapy treatment has completed recognised national qualification modules. If you are in any doubt regarding these new training guidelines, please send an email with your questions to Nicky Kohn, NARCH Administrator [enquiries@narch.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@narch.org.uk)



## PROOF OF NARCH REGISTRATION – why we don't issue annual certificates

Recently some members have asked for annual registration certificates. We do not issue certificates because the status of a RCH can change from "Active" to "Suspended" on a daily basis. This depends on numerous factors, for example – whether your Canine First Aid and Insurance certificates are up to date.

Please advise any veterinary professional, member of the public or insurer requiring confirmation of a RCHs' registration status with NARCH to check the list of RCHs on the NARCH register [www.narch.org.uk](http://www.narch.org.uk)

## NARCH – CPD RULES CLARIFIED

We are mid-year and by now you should all have a CPD plan for 2016. Please do not get to December and realise that you have no CPD hours uploaded and validated! The new NARCH system will automatically suspend those RCHs who do not have 20 hours CPD uploaded and validated by NARCH by midnight 31st December 2016.

Here are some examples of how you can gain 20 hours annual CPD:

- Attend one or both of the NARCH Education Seminars held each year
- Undertake up to 5 hours reading – either books or relevant magazine articles. This can count towards 5 hours CPD. To upload onto your NARCH record, enter the book title, author and ISBN reference number. Scan or photograph the front cover of the book and upload this image. The subject matter can be hydrotherapy, veterinary or canine related
- Undertake up to 5 hours off subject (non-hydrotherapy related) study e.g. IT training, book keeping, human first aid course, business course. This can earn you 5 hours CPD
- Every 2 years you need to complete a Canine First Aid Refresher Course and these usually carry either 3 or 4 hours CPD. Upload the certificate under the CPD section of your NARCH record, as well as under the First Aid section

- Look at the CPD section of the NARCH website for various CPD courses and webinars [CPD events](#)
- Some local vets/referral vets have been happy for RCH's to work through surgical case studies e.g. a TPLO, by watching the surgical procedure and reviewing the notes, pre and post surgery. Attendance can be counted as CPD if signed off formally by the veterinary surgeon
- If you are in any doubt OR require assistance, please contact Nicky Kohn, NARCH Administrator [enquiries@narch.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@narch.org.uk)

## OUR NEW REGULAR FEATURE

We will be featuring an insurance-related article covering topics of relevance to business owners. These are being produced by Cliverton who assist many NARCH RCH's with their insurance arrangements. To reflect the high standards maintained through NARCH Registration, we are pleased to advise that we have negotiated an insurance premium discount with Cliverton applicable to NARCH RCH's.



### Article No 1: Employers' Liability Insurance

ARE YOU BREAKING THE LAW? EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY INSURANCE – WHAT IS IT AND DO YOU NEED IT?

Did you know.....

That all employers are responsible for the health, safety and wellbeing of their employees and if an employee is injured whilst at work they can look to their employer for compensation? The Employers' Liability (Compulsory Insurance) Act 1969 was created to give employees protection and access to compensation should an incident occur at work and a claim for compensation arise.

Employers' Liability insurance is compulsory for ANY employer, whether they are a multi-national organisation or a local dog walker and all employers must display a valid Employers' Liability Certificate where their employees can see it.

The minimum limit of indemnity for Employers' Liability cover is £5million; however most insurers offer at least £10million.

You must have Employers' Liability insurance if you have a contract of employment/service with someone and it does not matter whether this contract is formally written down, spoken or even implied. It is not essential that the contract is actually referred to as a contract and the person may in fact be an unpaid voluntary helper.

So whether your friend helps you out when you are busy, covers for you whilst you are on holiday, or even whilst you are ill and unable to work, in each of these scenarios you MUST have Employers' Liability cover in place.

Many people wrongly assume that because their employee is self-employed, and pays their own tax, Employers' Liability cover is not required. This is not the case. What is important is the nature of the relationship and degree of control between the parties. i.e. a master/servant relationship exists.

The Health and Safety Executive enforce the law regarding Employers' Liability and employers can be fined up to £2,500 for each day without adequate insurance. They can also be fined up to £1,000 for not displaying a valid Employers' Liability certificate or failing to supply it to an HSE inspector when requested to do so.

Although an employer may be exempt from the requirement to hold Employers' Liability insurance if they only employ close family members, it is worth considering that even though they may not want to, a family member working for you may be forced into suing you if they suffer a life-changing injury at work and require expensive long term care. In this situation the benefit of having Employers' Liability cover will prove invaluable.

In a survey carried out for the HSE in 2012 around 5% of employers required to hold Employers' Liability insurance were found not to have any. Amongst those in breach of the law, employers with less than 5 employees or those that had been in business for less than 2 years were most likely not to hold the correct cover.

If you do not have cover and have employees you should take action now and call Cliverton on 01328 857921 to have Employers' Liability cover added to your policy. For more information visit [www.hse.gov.uk](http://www.hse.gov.uk) or call Cliverton on 01328 857921.

## FIRST AID REFRESHER COURSES – You must renew your First Aid Certificate every 2 years



There are numerous Canine First Aid courses available throughout the UK, but determining which ones meet with requirements of NARCH can be difficult. It is important to check with NARCH before booking, to ensure that the provider is one that meets our training requirements. Please do not leave booking your refresher course to the last minute. It is sensible to get your course booked at least 4 months before your certificate expires to avoid a last minute panic.

You may find the following key indicators useful:

1. Course duration should be between 4 hours and 6 hours

2. The course must include CPR, electrocution, fitting and drowning, in addition to standard first aid topics
3. All tutors must be either Veterinary Surgeons or Registered Veterinary Nurses
4. The course must be aimed at and designed for canine professionals, not pet owners

## CONTACT

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