



Practice Newsletter

October 2017

THANKYOU

The Deepings Business Club have an awards ceremony and gala dinner to celebrate businesses local to the Deepings. There are 14 categories, 12 of which are nominated and voted by the public. Animates were nominated for the 'PRACTICAL EXCELLENCE' category of which we won!!!

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who voted for us. We are absolutely thrilled to receive the award and it means a huge amount to us in knowing that it was all down to our clients for taking the time to vote.



Members of the Animates team on stage receiving their Practical Excellence Award

Ghosts or Ghouls are not everyone's favourite



Once again it's that time of year - Halloween and Bonfire Night! This can cause our pets to become unsettled with the constant knocking on our doors and loud fireworks. Unfortunately not everyone uses fireworks solely on the 5th November, so as pet owners we need to be forearmed. Thankfully there are now a range of products available which can be used to help your pet cope with the anxiety and fear of fireworks and loud noises. You can call and make an appointment with a nurse to discuss the solutions available which may include environmental changes, or talk through the products available which can help during the festive time; Adaptil, Feliway, Calmex, and the RC Calm Diet. Please note that some of these products take time to work so it is best to come and see us as soon as

possible to get started. Below are a few tips to help your pets cope;

DOGS AND CATS:

- It is best to keep pets inside when there are stressful situations like fireworks. There may be times when your pet is outside so be prepared i.e. Out on a walk. Cats may be scared and venture further from home than usual to escape the noise, and dogs may be spooked and run off. Please ensure your pet is microchipped.
- Try and walk dogs before it gets dark so you are home before the fireworks start.
- Try to keep your cat indoors on Firework Night, ensure you get them in in good time and provide a litter tray.
- Close the curtains, play music or have the TV on to mask the sight and sound of the fireworks.
- Let your pet pace around and hide in corners if they want to. Do not try to coax them out as they are just trying to find a safe spot and shouldn't be disturbed.

- Try to stay relaxed, act normally and praise calm behaviour. Seeing you acting normally will help them feel settled.
- Avoid leaving your pets alone during Fireworks Night.

YOUR MORE UNUSUAL SMALL PETS: RABBITS, HAMSTERS BIRDS ETC

Small animals have acute hearing and loud noises and bangs can cause them actual pain in their ears as well as a great deal of stress.

- Hutches, cages and enclosures should, if possible be brought indoors to a quiet room or into a garage or shed away from windows or open doors. If the hutch cannot be brought inside, turn it around so that the open front faces a wall or fence instead of the open garden.
- Give your pet extra bedding for them to burrow into; they will feel safer this way.
- Cover aviaries and hutches with a thick blanket or a duvet to block out the sight of the fireworks and deaden the sound of the bangs produced. Ensure there is enough ventilation!



Welcome to the Animates Team

We would like to introduce the following new members to the team



Tana Borlace – Veterinary Surgeon

Tana graduated from the Royal Veterinary College in 2017. After university Tana completed an internship at the Kruger National Park in South Africa working with everything from rhinos to African wild dogs, before joining Animates in September 2017.

Tana's main interests are exotic and wildlife medicine and neurology.

Tana has a passion for wildlife and conservation. She spent 6 months on a game reserve in Zimbabwe working with elephants, leopards and lions.

In her free time Tana enjoys netball, travelling around the world and looking after her menagerie of pets!

Julie Vandekerckove – Veterinary Surgeon

Julie qualified from Ghent University in Belgium in 2016. During her studies she joined an Exchange program to work with wildlife in Malaysia. Before she moved to the UK she performed some locum work in small animal practices in Belgium. Her main interest is exotic animal medicine with a fascination for reptiles and amphibians.

In her spare time Julie enjoys observing her pet cornsnake, making adventurous travels and being in good company of friends and family.



Panagiotis Kokkinos - Veterinary Surgeon

Panagiotis (Panos) is originally from Cyprus and Greece, and qualified from Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in 2013. After graduation Panos worked at a private practice in Cyprus for several months. He has completed a two-year internship in small animal surgery at the same University and currently is writing his thesis to obtain his Masters degree. He has a particular interest in surgery, neurology and exotic medicine. He joined Animates in September 2017.

In his spare time Panos enjoys travelling around the world, swimming and good food with friends. In Cyprus, Panos has a ginger & white cat called Mickey.



Natalie Mostowiji – Veterinary Nurse

Natalie joined Animates in July 2017 and has recently qualified and is awaiting her registration as a Veterinary Nurse. Natalie grew up in South Africa and moved to the UK when she was 13 and she has had a passion for animals ever since - particularly exotic mammals.

Natalie has been married to her husband Gary since 2013 and they have 2 rabbits and a naughty cockapoo called Oakleigh.



WELL DONE

A much deserved congratulations to Suzanne one of the night nurse team at Animates for studying and passing her ISFM Certificate in Feline Nursing. Suzanne championed this programme at Animates and helped Animates achieve Gold Star accreditation to become a cat friendly clinic.

2 The Green, [Thurlby](#), PE10 0EB, t: 01778 420462, [Mon to Fri](#) 8am - 7pm, [Sat](#) 8.30am - 12pm
4 Stamford Road, [Market Deeping](#), PE6 8AB, t: 01778 380111, [Mon to Fri](#) 8am – 7pm