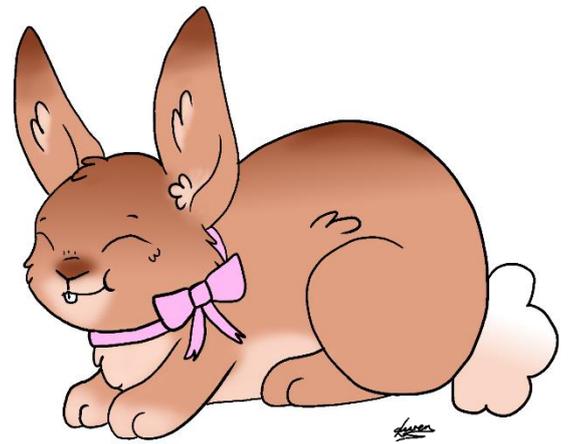


## **New Rabbit Vaccination**

For the past few years, ever since the RVHD2 virus was found to be prevalent in Bedford, we have recommended that rabbits in Bedford are vaccinated with a special RVHD2 vaccine in addition to the traditional annual myxomatosis / RVHD1 vaccine. Because these vaccines were not licensed to be given together, this meant that rabbits had to make two trips to the vet to receive protection. Last month Acorn House took delivery of the first rabbit vaccine to combine protection for all three diseases in one dose. This means that full protection can be given with a single annual injection, minimising stressful visits to the veterinary practice for our rabbits.



## **Emergency Dental Treatment**

During the COVID outbreak, routine dental treatment has been put on hold, in an effort to minimise staff and client numbers at the practice, and to conserve PPE for the NHS. However, emergency procedures must still go ahead. In dogs, the most common dental emergency that we see is a molar abscess. This is an abscess in and around the roots of the large upper molar teeth. It causes a swelling underneath the eye, a bad smell as pus drains into the mouth, and it is very painful. This picture is of a dog treated last month. The Xray shows a black area around the tooth root, where the bone has been eaten away by the infection. The photograph shows the blood and pus leaking out of the gum. Treatment is to surgically extract the tooth (it is a large tooth, so this is similar to a wisdom tooth extraction in people) and treat with antibiotics. Abscesses are more common when there is tartar and gum disease, but in this case the teeth were very clean and the infection had got in through a tiny fracture on the tip of the tooth, probably caused by chewing on a bone or hard chew toy.

### **Congratulations Carla and Andy!**

We were delighted to hear that our lead Emergency and Critical Care nurse, Carla and her husband Andy, had welcomed their new baby daughter, Leigha, into the world on 10th May. What a cutie, we can't wait to



### **Teaching Puppies to be Comfortable at Home Alone**

We know that lots of households have welcomed a new puppy into the family recently, and these puppies will have enjoyed having their owners at home during the lockdown. However, we will need to go back to work and school eventually and it is very important that we teach our puppies to stay calm and relaxed when they are left to amuse themselves for short periods. If we do not provide this training, we will have some very stressed young dogs when the lockdown is finally lifted. Check out the RSPCA training page at

[www.rspca.org.uk/adviceandwelfare/pets/dogs/training/leftalone](http://www.rspca.org.uk/adviceandwelfare/pets/dogs/training/leftalone) and make sure that you teach your puppy this vital skill.

### **Marley and the Socks**

Marley came to see vet Katharine one evening as an emergency because he had eaten his owner's sock. Socks can get stuck inside the intestines of dogs, particularly small dogs like Marley, and require life-saving surgery to remove them. For this reason, it was decided to give Marley an injection to cause vomiting and try to get the sock out before it moved out of the stomach and into the intestines. The injection worked beautifully but Katharine was most surprised when Marley vomited up not one but three socks!

