



The College of
Animal Welfare

Rabbits and Small Furrries Congress

Thursday 30 March 2023

9.30am-4.30pm



EARLY BIRD

Book before

3 FEBRUARY 2023

for just

£125+VAT



Rabbits and Small Furrries Congress Programme

9am – 9.30am **Online Registration and Exhibition**

9.30am– 9.35am **Chair's Welcome** *Jan De La Rey BVSc MRCVS, Medivet*

9.35am – 10.20am **Bonding Rabbits – And why all bunnies need a buddy!**

Claire Speight RVN, A1, C&G Cert VNES

Rabbits are a social species and studies have shown they value the company of another rabbit as much as food. Bonded rabbits will show a range of behaviours, which lone rabbits are unable to participate in.

However, they are also territorial and can cause serious injuries on each other. It is therefore imperative that rabbits are bonded carefully, following specific strategies, in order to achieve a harmonious, long-term partnership.

During the presentation we will learn:

- Why rabbits need a companion
- What makes a good pairing
- Initial bonding steps to be taken
- The bonding process, including positive and negative signs

10.20am – 11.05am **What's Up Doc? – Common Rabbit Conditions**

Jo Hinde-Megarity RVN, LagoLearn

Rabbits are the UK's third most popular pet and as such, it is vital we know how to look after them correctly.

This presentation will cover a range of common conditions and it will cover topics such as general stabilisation, GI stasis, urinary issues, and Flystrike.

This should leave you with a greater understanding of each condition; including spotting symptoms, helping to create treatment plans and working with owners to ensure optimum husbandry and preventative healthcare is provided.

11.05am – 11.30am **Live Q&A Panel** Present questions to the speakers

11.30am – 12pm **Online Exhibition and Lounges**

12pm – 12.45pm **Welfare Minded Dental Disease Management in Rabbits and Small Mammals**

Matthew Rendle RVN, The Association of Zoo and Exotic Veterinary Nurses (AZEVN)

Dental disease is sadly still very common and causes are multifactorial and complex. It is important to review and nurse each case as an individual; being mindful of the owner's knowledge, understanding and wishes - but the priority must be managing the individual's welfare.

In this presentation, we will discuss aspects of how to nurse these rewarding cases well. We will cover the following key points:

- Prevention
- Assessment and diagnostics
- Treatment options and plans
- Quality of life assessments and managing owners

12.45pm – 1.05pm **Live Q&A Panel** Present questions to the speakers

1.05pm–2.05pm **Online Exhibition and Lounges**

2.05pm – 2.50pm **Why Guinea Pigs are NOT Small Rabbits!**

Abigail Edis RVN FdSc CertVNES, Beaumont Sainsbury Animal Hospital, Royal Veterinary College (RVC)

Whilst guinea pigs are also herbivorous small mammals and have similar gastrointestinal systems and similar diets to lagomorph species, they have many differences in their husbandry needs and common illnesses seen.

This presentation will talk through the common differences in caring for guinea pigs and why they are often medical mysteries when it comes to seeing them in practice.

We will also discuss some of the common presentations and the probably often underdiagnosed diseases these species are prone to developing. This will ultimately help us to educate owners more effectively and recognise signs of illness in guinea pigs when presented with one.

Key learning points:

- Understand why guinea pigs are not the same as rabbits when it comes to husbandry
- Be confident at educating owners on the husbandry and care in these species and what to watch out for when recognising signs of illness at home
- Know what the common and sometimes underdiagnosed conditions in the species are and their typical clinical signs and treatments

2.50pm – 3.35pm **Don't Fear the Ferret!**

Anna Mercer RVN APVN, Anna the Ferret Nurse

Ferrets are inquisitive and playful pets but can sometimes be a little misunderstood.

This presentation will help you to gain confidence when nursing the ferret patient in practice. We will cover the following key learning points:

- Introduction to the ferret (including husbandry, ferrets as pets, behaviour and anatomy)
- Pre, peri and post anaesthetic considerations when nursing the ferret patient
- Common diseases of the ferret and preventative medicine
- Becoming a ferret advocate and how to make your practice ferret friendly

3.35pm – 4pm **Live Q&A Panel** Present questions to the speakers

4pm–4.05pm **Chair's Close** *Jan De La Rey BVSc MRCVS, Medivet*

4.05pm–4.30pm **Online Exhibition and Lounges**

How to book...

For details of prices and how to book your place, please see overleaf to complete and return the booking form. You can also book online at www.caw.ac.uk/events/rabbits-and-small-furries-congress



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Please note the organisers have the right to change the programme at short notice and without notice.

Rabbits and Small Furrries Congress 2023

Fax Back Booking Form - Fax to 01480 422089

Please book online where possible at: www.caw.ac.uk/events

Name of person making the booking:

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Price Rate A - Early Bird Rate

(Bookings before 3 February 2023)

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Price Rate B - Full Price Rate

(Bookings after 3 February 2023)

£175 + VAT (B)

Delegate Name	Personal Email Address	Price Rate A or B	Total
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Do you have any dietary requirements? _____

Do you have any accessibility requirements? (e.g closed captions) _____

How did you hear about Rabbits and Small Furrries Congress? _____

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