

Our thanks to Mary Fairley and the committee of the Alton & District Dog Training Club for donating a share of the profit of their annual dog show to the Langford Trust. From the two photos we received, it looks as if the show was a very good mix of fun and seriousness!!



The Whippet won the Best in Show and the Best Puppy in Show and Irish Setter was the Reserve Best in Show.



Winner of the 'dog most like owner' - or was this the 'owner most like dog' class?



Some of our Trustees took the opportunity at the British Small Animal Veterinary Association's annual congress to get together with our past graduates and current clinicians. If you are a graduate of Bristol Vet School then we hope to see you next year at BSAVA on Thursday 20th April 6.30 - 8pm.



Equine Open Day April 2006
Badminton Horse Trials 4th - 7th May 2006
Shakespeare in the Garden - Thursday 22nd June 2006



news

The Langford Trust for Animal Health & Welfare

Supporting the University of Bristol's School of Veterinary Science at Langford

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Sovereign, a 10yr old Thoroughbred cross gelding was referred to the Langford House Equine Hospital following a chase in which he had become stuck in a cattle grid. The referring vet had successfully managed to extricate him from this delicate situation with sedation and careful manipulation. He was loaded with some difficulty but travelled well under the careful vigilance of his owner; a medically trained nurse.

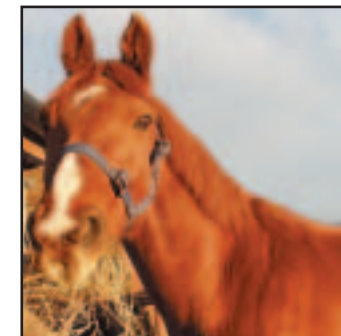
He was in so much pain upon arrival at Langford that he was only just able to stand. Radiographs revealed that the wounds had gone all of the way down to the cannon bones and careful examination revealed them to be close to the hock and fetlock joints. It was clear that some surgical cleaning and repair of the wounds was necessary and this was done under general anaesthesia. Analysis of the joint fluid showed that the injury had narrowly missed the joints but the extensor tendons had been lacerated. The wounds were cleaned and dead and contaminated tissue was removed. Due to the severe tissue loss, complete closure of the wound with sutures was not possible so a cast was applied to protect the limb.

Sovereign recovered from the anaesthetic and was immediately more comfortable. During his period of convalescence at Langford his cast was removed and replaced with bandages. Three weeks after the initial accident a skin graft was harvested from his flank and

then grafted onto his healing wounds. This resulted in an acceleration of the wound healing, although the graft was eventually shed due to infection associated with the



initial injury. Sovereign was discharged from the hospital after one month, his wounds have continued to heal well despite further attempts to escape!! His owner has reported that he is now walking out happily and the wounds have almost healed completely.



Danny, a 9 year old Golden Retriever, had always been the picture of health. Then suddenly one evening he became very reluctant to walk, appeared extremely subdued, and stopped eating. When he was examined by his local vet it was apparent that he had developed a serious problem in his central nervous system, so was referred to the Intensive Care Unit at Langford as an emergency. On examination at Langford he was able to walk only with a great deal of support and kept leaning to the left. He was barely aware of his surroundings and was obviously a very sick dog. The vet who examined him was suspicious of a problem in his brain. Unfortunately, this is a very difficult area to examine in dogs, as normal radiographic and ultrasound equipment can't show us what is going on inside the skull. Fortunately, the MRI van was visiting Langford that day and Danny was able to be scanned as an emergency. The scan pictures demonstrated changes consistent with an infarct. An infarct is caused by a blockage in a blood vessel rather like a "stroke". A sample of spinal fluid was taken which backed up the diagnosis. There is no

particular treatment for this problem in dogs other than time, and Danny was treated supportively in the ICU whilst we waited to see if he would make a good recovery. A week later Danny was much brighter, able to walk normally, and able to recognise his delighted owner. Danny is still not quite back to his normal self but is well on the road to recovery. He will have further check-ups at Langford to monitor his progress and to find out if he has any underlying disease which might have caused his "stroke".



Here is Danny about to go home – not quite his normal cheery self yet but able to walk normally, happy to see his owner, and even thinking about finding his toys!



The Small Animal Hospital has recently expanded its facilities, with a mobile MRI scanner visiting Langford on a regular basis. MRI is an advanced imaging technique which allows us to see structures such as the brain and spinal cord which cannot be imaged with routine X-ray

techniques. The scanner will be visiting us every 2-3 weeks and is operated by Burgess Diagnostics who have many years experience of scanning dogs and cats. It dramatically improves our ability to investigate various problems, particularly neurological and orthopaedic conditions. Dogs and cats need to be anaesthetised for a scan and, if necessary, additional procedures such as spinal taps can be performed at the same time. This exciting new facility further enhances the service we are able to provide to patients and clients. Our hope for the future is to install a permanent MRI facility at this vet school.

How to help the Langford Trust

- **Standing Order** By donating any amount monthly, quarterly or annually by a standing banker's order not only can we budget and plan ahead with our funding of projects but we can also claim tax from the Inland Revenue when you use the standing order form that is available from this office.
- **Ambassador** Become an Ambassador by making a monthly donation of just £21 by standing order and by telling your friends about us and the significant work that we do. In return we will invite you to exclusive Ambassador functions at Langford House and give you priority notice and information and preferential booking facilities and concessions whenever possible on fundraising events. For more information please contact this office on 0117 928 9207 or tick the relevant box on the bottom of the order form.
- **Legacies** Please remember us in your will, if you care about animals in your lifetime please help us to continue caring about them ever after. Important tax advantages can be gained by leaving part of your estate to a registered charity. For more information or a confidential chat please contact this office on 0117 928 9207 or tick the relevant box on the bottom of the order form.
- **Donate Shares** Take advantage of the income tax relief by giving the Langford Trust quoted shares or securities. Benefits to the donor include not having to pay capital gains tax on any increase in value and more importantly you will receive income tax relief on the market value at the date of disposal.
- **Buy-a-Brick** for Small Animal or Equine facilities. A £20 minimum donation secures your pet's name on the "brick wall" in either the small animal hospital reception or the equine centre reception.
- **Buy our Christmas Cards and other Merchandise** See the enclosed Christmas card brochure and order form.

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Use Gift Aid and you can make your donation worth more. For every pound you give to us, we get an extra 28 pence from the Inland Revenue. So ask us to send you a gift aid declaration form or just tick the box on the order form or . It's that simple.

Our thanks also to Sylvia Evans of Amshura Afghans, West of England Dachshund Society, Mrs Rawle, Badminton Horse Trials, Newbury & District Agricultural Society, Sandy Waterton, the class of 2005 vets, the estate of the late Ada Kembury, Severnside Dog Agility Club, the estate of the late Josephine Probert, the class of 2005 veterinary nurses, Dennis Jones and all our standing order and covenant donors. Your help has enabled us to continue to support animal health and welfare throughout the year and hopefully for years to come.

