



Bath Vet
REFERRALS

Spring Referral News



Spring 2026

TPLO

Consultation, radiography, surgery (Synthes implants), hospitalisation as needed, 8 week follow up radiographs, peri-operative medication, 6-month complication guarantee*

£4,500

*Please visit our website for T&Cs



Welcome to our latest Bath Vet Referrals newsletter

Giulia and Lucy return

Welcome to our Spring update. We are delighted to welcome Giulia and Lucy back from maternity leave. Our full team is now back together, so our medical service is back to full capacity. This means we are now in a much stronger position to accept urgent referrals and respond to advice queries promptly.

Our new CT scanner

Our new CT scanner is greatly appreciated by the team and can perform faster scans with better image quality. We now have the option of a 'CT add-on' for our surgical procedures at a very competitive price of £350 (excluding interpretation) in addition to some of our surgical and medical packages that already include CT. This will be a great bonus if, for example, we think that a CT before a fracture repair might help planning or knowing in advance where fissures are, for only a small additional cost.

Clinic visits and presentations

We are also in the process of contacting practices in the surrounding area to arrange visits. We use this opportunity to listen to feedback about the needs of our referring practices and how we can improve our services. If you are keen for us to visit, please let us know and we can prioritise you. We also have a library of recent clinical presentations that we can deliver during a lunch and learn visit. If you think your practice would benefit, please let us know and we can send you our list of topics.

Finally, I would like to thank everyone that has referred to Bath Vet Referrals throughout 2025 and I hope we can provide everything you need from a referral service going forward.



Dr Jon Shippam
Clinical Director & Head Referral Surgeon



Case Study:

Surgical Management of BOAS and Deep Nasal Fold Infection in a Pug Cross



Samantha Lane

BVSc BSAVA PGCertSAS MRCVS
RCVS Advanced Practitioner
in Small Animal Surgery

Case presentation

Pork Chop, a 5-year-old male neutered Pug cross, was referred to our Senior Referral Surgeon, Samantha Lane, for a chronic infection of his deep nasal facial fold (commonly referred to by breeders and owners as a “rope”). The referring veterinary practice had treated the fold with Flamazine cream (silver sulfadiazine) and chlorhexidine wipes, but there was minimal improvement. The owner had also noticed increased respiratory noise, lip licking, and Pork Chop sleeping with his head propped up.



Pre operative picture of Pork Chop showing stenotic nares and deep facial fold.

Clinical examination & grading

On clinical examination, Pork Chop had a body condition score of 4/9, mild respiratory effort, and upper airway stertor audible with a stethoscope over the larynx. Both nostrils were severely stenotic. An exercise tolerance test was performed by Sam, a Kennel Club Respiratory Function Grading (RFG) Scheme Assessor. This assessment demonstrated moderate respiratory effort and stertor, resulting in an RFG Grade 2 classification and a diagnosis of brachycephalic obstructive airway syndrome (BOAS). He was therefore considered a candidate for surgical intervention.

Case Study



Pork chop positioned for surgery. Tonsillar hyperplasia and elongated soft palate can be seen.

Diagnostics & pre-operative planning

Given the increased anaesthetic risk associated with BOAS, it was decided to operate on Pork Chop's airways before addressing the facial fold. This decision was supported by Doyle et al. (2020), which demonstrated that dogs having corrective airway surgery prior to subsequent procedures had a 79% reduction in post-anaesthetic complications. The study also highlighted that combining procedures increases risk, with each additional 15 minutes of anaesthetic duration increasing the odds of intra- and post-anaesthetic complications by 12% and 11%, respectively. Cases with concurrent facial fold and BOAS disease benefit from staged surgical intervention, highlighting the importance of referral for assessment by experienced surgeons.

Pork Chop's pre-anaesthetic blood results were within normal limits. On induction, his airways were further assessed and found to include an over-large tongue, hyperplastic tonsils, an elongated soft palate, and grade 1 laryngeal collapse; his trachea was mildly hypoplastic. A CT scan of the head and thorax showed no evidence of aspiration pneumonia and aberrant nasal turbinates were not present.

Surgical intervention

Surgery included removal of the tonsils, folding flap palatoplasty to shorten and thin the soft palate, resection of the laryngeal sacculles, and alarvestibuloplasty. These multilevel interventions were performed to address all levels of airway obstruction identified during assessment and imaging.



Sam is performing a folding flap palatoplasty.

Case Study



Sam is performing alarvear surgery.

Research participation

Pork Chop was enrolled in Samantha's BSAVA Masters in Clinical Veterinary Research, with a research focus on comparing the haemostatic effects of topical xylometazoline and adrenaline in brachycephalic dogs undergoing nares surgery. Participation in this study provides additional pre-surgical diagnostics and contributes to improving understanding of haemostatic management during alarvear surgery. Samantha is actively recruiting cases over the next six to nine months.

Follow-up

Pork Chop recovered well and was discharged the following day. He will return in 4-6 weeks for post-operative follow-up to assess response to surgery and at that time, his facial fold surgery will be scheduled. An update on this procedure will be provided in the next newsletter.

Surgical costs

At Bath Vet Referrals, for BOAS surgery, we offer a fixed price of £3,715.20, which includes:

- Referral consultation and exercise tolerance test
- Pre-anaesthetic blood profile
- CT scans of the head and thorax for comprehensive airway assessment and evaluation for aberrant nasal turbinates or aspiration pneumonia
- Multilevel surgery as required
- Post-operative hospitalisation for 24 hours
- All peri-operative medications
- Follow-up consultation 4-6 weeks post-surgery

For referring practices, this package provides a complete diagnostic and surgical solution, with careful planning to minimise anaesthetic risk and optimise outcomes. If you have a case suitable for BOAS surgery or would like to discuss referral, please contact us: contact@bathvetreferrals.co.uk.

Reference

Doyle CR, Aarnes TK, Ballash GA, Wendt-Hornick EL, Baldo CF, Johnson RA, Wittum TE, McLoughlin MA. Anesthetic risk during subsequent anesthetic events in brachycephalic dogs that have undergone corrective airway surgery: 45 cases (2007-2019). J Am Vet Med Assoc. 2020 Oct 1;257(7):744749.

New CT Scanner Installed for 2026



We're excited to share some big news from Bath Vet Referrals!

Our hospital has recently installed a new Siemens SOMATOM go.Now CT scanner, bringing cutting-edge imaging capability to our diagnostic and referral services. This investment is already transforming the way we work, improving our efficiency, image quality, and diagnostic confidence across all departments.

What this means for you and your clients:

- **Clearer images and faster scans:**
Exceptional detail helps us detect subtle changes and make more confident decisions.
- **Improved workflow:**
Rapid scan times and streamlined protocols mean shorter procedures and quicker results.
- **Enhanced patient care:**
Less anaesthetic time, lower radiation dose, and improved diagnostic accuracy.

At Bath Vet Referrals we use our new CT in:

- **Full referral cases** across orthopaedics, soft tissue, internal medicine and selected neurological cases.
- **Outpatient CT scans including:**
 - Orthopaedic cases (elbows, shoulders, patella luxation planning)
 - Staging for metastatic disease prior to surgery at your own practice
 - Selected neurological or soft tissue cases

For urgent cases: please call us directly on 01225 982777.

For more information and referral forms, please visit bathvetreferrals.co.uk.

Thank you for your continued trust in our team; we're excited to share the benefits of this new technology with you and your patients.

Clinical Clubs

We are pleased to announce our new quarterly Clinical Club - free evening CPD. The evening will start with a hot buffet on arrival, followed by two informal presentations with opportunity for discussion.

Monday 8th June 2026

Immune mediated polyarthritis

Edward Corfield

Updates for feline hyperthyroidism

Lauren Demos

Tuesday 8th September 2026

Case based wound discussion

Samantha Lane

Common fractures from splints to screws

Cate Khursandi



Venue

St Andrew's Community Church
Hawthorn Grove
Bath
BA2 5QA

7:00pm Hot food

7:30pm Start

9:00pm Finish

Attendance : Free

To reserve your free place please email contact@bathvetreferrals.co.uk with your name, practice and dietary requirements.

Gastrointestinal Workup Upper GI

Consultation, ultrasound,
blood profile, upper GI
endoscopy (including
biopsies, histopathology),
1 night hospitalisation*

£3,000

*Please visit our website for T&Cs



Save the Date:

CPD Event confirmed for October 2026

Date Wednesday 7th October 2026

Venue Bailbrook House Hotel
Eveleigh Avenue
London Road West
Bath
BA1 7JD

Hosted by one of only two Grade II Listed country house hotels in Bath, our Autumn CPD Event at Bailbrook House Hotel is an unmissable opportunity to learn and network in a wonderful setting.

Be amongst the first to know

We'll be announcing full event details soon - sign up to our emails at bathvetreferrals.co.uk to be the first to hear and to secure your place!

Scan to sign up to the BVR Newsletter



To receive emails with the latest information about our CPD events, Clinical Clubs, offers and other news about Bath Vet Referrals, please sign up scanning this QR code.



Decompressive spinal surgery

Same day referrals, onsite MRI and three surgeons trained to perform the procedure make Bath Vet Referrals the first choice for decompressive spinal surgery

We offer same day referrals for patients presenting with acute disc extrusions. Typically Dachshunds and French Bulldogs, we also see other breeds that may have had a history of recent spinal pain but acutely progress to being unable to walk on their hind limbs.

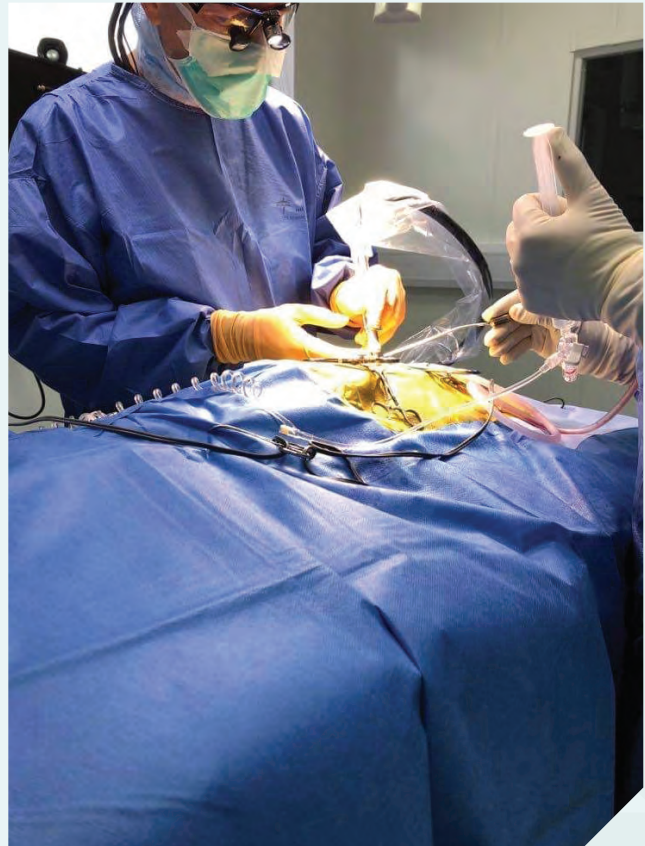
The prognosis is much better if surgery is performed before they lose conscious deep pain, so prompt referral is recommended, even if they can manage to walk a few steps.

Swift, accurate diagnosis

We have onsite MRI for accurate diagnosis and localisation, and have three surgeons who are trained to perform hemilaminectomy surgery to remove disc material and decompress the spinal cord.

Excellent success rate

Patients that haven't lost conscious deep pain have over 90% chance of walking again after surgery, with most patients walking within four weeks of surgery. We offer a spinal surgery package that includes same day consultation, MRI, decompressive surgery and up to two nights hospitalisation for £5900.



Meet the team

Surgery



Jon Shippam
BVSc CertSAS MRCVS
RCVS Advanced
Practitioner in Small
Animal Surgery



Sam Lane
BVSc BSAVA
PGCertSAS MRCVS
RCVS Advanced
Practitioner in Small
Animal Surgery



Ted Corfield
BVSc CertAVP(GSAS)
MRCVS
RCVS Advanced
Practitioner in Small
Animal Surgery



Cate Khursandi
BVSc CertSAS MANZCVS
AFHEA MRCVS
RCVS Advanced
Practitioner in Small
Animal Surgery

Medicine



Lisa Gardbaum
BVetMed CertSAM MRCVS
RCVS Advanced
Practitioner in Small
Animal Medicine



Lauren Demos
BVMS DipABVP
(Feline Practice)
MRCVS



Giulia Grenga
BVetMed CertAVP(SAM)
MRCVS
RCVS Advanced Practitioner
in Small Animal Medicine



Lucy Andrews Hird
MA VetMB CertAVP(VDI)
MRCVS
RCVS Advanced Practitioner
in Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging

Rosemary Lodge Veterinary Hospital
Wellsway, Bath, Somerset, BA2 5RL

01225 982777

contact@bathvetreferrals.co.uk



bathvetreferrals.co.uk

