



Meet the Wingrave team



Michael Fassas DVM MRCVS

Michael qualified in 1999 from Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece and completed an internship in small animal surgery and anaesthesia at the same university in 2002. He moved to the UK in 2003 and after working as a small animal vet for two other practices in Sussex and Surrey, he joined Wingrave in August 2008.

Since 2011, Michael has been the Clinical Director of our Sutton surgery. He strives and encourages everyone within the team to provide their best care and service to every client and their pets at all times.

Michael finds being a vet tremendously rewarding and enjoys all the challenges that each patient presents with. He really enjoys all aspects of veterinary work but has a clear preference in surgery. Over the years Michael has gained a wealth of knowledge and expertise in all aspects of surgery; soft tissue and orthopaedics, radiography, analgesia and rehabilitation following musculoskeletal disorders. He is currently completing a Certificate in Small Animal Surgery with BSAVA (The British Small Animal Veterinary Association).

Michael is very proud of the new operating theatres, equipment and other facilities since the completion of the extensive building works in 2014 and both he and his team are very happy to put them to good use for the benefit of our patients.

Although Michael does not currently have any pets of his own, he hopes to have a dog again soon.



Francesco Vinaccia DVM MRCVS

In 2000 Francesco qualified from the University of Naples following which he worked for two years in a Referral Centre in Italy and then one year in a Referral Centre in France, both specialised in surgery.

He moved to the UK in 2003 and after working for ten years in senior veterinary roles for two other small

animal practices Francesco joined Wingrave in August 2013 to work at and manage our Chipstead surgery.

Francesco is currently studying for the RCVS CertAVP in Small Animal Surgery. Like Michael, Francesco also enjoys all forms of surgery and has a particular interest in both orthopaedic and soft tissue. Francesco is always keen to continue to learn about new orthopaedic techniques and to use his expertise to provide the highest level of care for our patients. He enjoys showing clients the x-ray images and photographs he has taken, which he saves on patient's records.

It is amazing to see how many of our dogs love to see him.



Liz Stenson MA VetMB CertSAM MRCVS

Liz qualified in 2003 from the University of Cambridge. Prior to joining the team at the Sutton surgery in August 2014 she worked in a busy 20 vet practice in her hometown of Birmingham for 11 years where she gained a vast amount of experience.

Liz gained the RCVS certificate in Small Animal Medicine in 2010 and is an RCVS Advanced Practitioner in Small Animal Medicine. While she enjoys all aspects of general practice work her passions are feline and canine medicine, diagnostic imaging and cardiology. She has a particular interest and is an expert in treating a wide range of medical problems. Liz makes full use of the state of the art diagnostic facilities at the Sutton surgery undertaking most of the more complex ultrasonography, echocardiography and endoscopy work for the practice.

Unable to imagine life without a feline friend, Liz has made the trip south with her rescue cat Phoebe, who has settled in well to London life.



Ejaz Hameed DVM MSc MBA MRCVS

Ejaz qualified in 1998 from the University of Agriculture in Pakistan, he then undertook a Masters in Veterinary Microbiology. In order for his qualifications to be recognised in the UK, Ejaz undertook five years practice experience in this

country following which he was awarded Membership of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons in 2011. He continued to work for the next two years as a locum vet until he joined Wingrave in December 2013 to work at and manage both our Epsom and Horton surgeries.

Ejaz is passionate about providing both excellent client and patient care and is very proud of all that the practice has to offer.

He has a particular interest in diagnostic procedures including digital x-ray, ultrasonography, microbiology, haematology and laboratory tests.

He now looks after Smokey, a stray cat someone had brought into the surgery.



Trusting us with your pets for over 50 years



Sarah Tang MA

VetMB MRCVS

Sarah qualified from the University of Cambridge in 2011. She initially worked for a London-based cat rescue charity for a year and then spent two years working at a small animal practice in Surrey before joining Wingrave in May 2015.

Sarah works at our Sutton surgery and is happy seeing all kinds of pets, from Great Danes to dwarf hamsters.

Sarah has a strong interest in internal medicine across all mammal species, in particular rabbits and guinea pigs, she also enjoys the area of canine and feline behaviour.

Sarah is keen to advance her skills as a surgeon and dentist for all small animals. Her favourite part of veterinary work is consulting, as she enjoys getting to know clients and learning all the character quirks that make each pet a memorable individual.

Sarah is kept busy and entertained by her own three quirky cats, Izzie, Lexie and Ralph!



Daniela Fiore

BVSc MRCVS

Daniela qualified from the University of Liverpool in 2003. Daniela worked for the next 12 years in a number of small animal practices initially in South London and then Surrey and Kent before joining the team at Wingrave in October 2015.

She enjoys all aspects of her veterinary work with cats, dogs and other small pets, and has a particular interest in dentistry and dental x-rays as well as feline medicine, especially for elderly cats. She feels a lot can be done to improve their wellbeing in their retirement years.

Daniela works at both our Chipstead and Sutton surgeries. Keen to learn more, she is currently studying towards her advanced diploma in feline behaviour management. She believes that having a stronger understanding of the way cats think can make a real difference in keeping our feline patients happy and healthy, both at the surgery and at home.

Daniela has an adopted elderly cat called Charlie.



Heather Hewett

MA VetMB GPCert (FelP) MRCVS

Heather qualified from the University of Cambridge in 2005. After six months working in a practice in Kent, Heather moved to work for another small animal practice in Surrey for seven years followed by eighteen months in a cat only clinic in London. She joined Wingrave in August 2014.

Heather passed the General Practitioners Certificate in Feline Practice in November 2009, hence her special interest in cats.

Heather works at our Sutton and Chipstead surgeries and is keen to build upon her specialism of cats whilst welcoming the opportunity to treat dogs and rabbits again. She is particularly excited by the separate cat and dog waiting rooms and consulting rooms available at our Sutton surgery and to be able to have the opportunity to just see cats in rooms where only cats visit.

Heather has four rescue cats called Evie, Shannon, Trigger and Kicca.



Ilka Orsinger

Dr Med Vet MRCVS

Ilka qualified in 2002 from the University of Berlin, Germany, following this she completed a postgraduate degree (Dr. med. vet) on repeated anaesthesia in dogs. Alongside this she worked in an exotic specialist practice seeing plenty of small furries and some rather unusual pets from bats and spiders to snakes and chameleons; she has kept a special interest in small furries, like rabbits, guinea pigs and hamsters ever since.

After spending two years in a busy small animal practice in Berlin, where she enjoyed a more dog and cat based workload, Ilka moved to the UK in 2006 and joined a small animal practice in Middlesex where she had the opportunity to improve her surgical and diagnostic skills as well as being challenged by plenty of emergency cases.

Following a career break Ilka joined Wingrave in 2011, she has since worked in all our branch surgeries and is now mainly based at our Horton and Epsom surgeries.

Ilka loves the varied nature of her role as a vet where every day is different, she is passionate about her patients and enjoys providing excellent veterinary care. She continues to follow her interest in internal medicine.



Birgith Sims

BVetMed MRCVS

After qualifying from The Royal Veterinary College, University of London, in 1986, Birgith worked for a small animal practice in South London for eight years, followed by 12 years in a mixed practice in Surrey (small animals and equine) before joining Wingrave in August 2008.

Birgith has many years of valuable experience and knowledge as a small animal vet and particularly enjoys all forms of surgery. She loves caring for dogs, cats and smaller household pets as well as treating more unusual pets like ferrets and reptiles. Her main areas of interest are ophthalmology (eyes), oncology (cancer) and orthopaedic surgery.

Birgith is a member of the Association of British Veterinary Acupuncturists and hence qualified to undertake acupuncture procedures on our patients. She enjoys having the option of providing valuable complimentary treatment for the relief of painful and inflammatory conditions.

Currently 'between dogs' but look out for the odd German Shepherd puppy materialising!



Ann Bickford

BVSc MRCVS

Ann qualified from the University of Bristol in 1976. She started her working life as a vet in a small village in Yorkshire for a mixed practice; looking after both farm animals and domestic pets.

Ann particularly enjoyed working with small animals and decided this was the field she would prefer to concentrate on. After working in four other small animal practices, Ann joined the team here at Wingrave in 1998.

Ann works for us part-time and as she really enjoys consulting she spends most of her time seeing clients and their pets at appointments. She has a particular interest in cats, a species she finds both challenging and charming, plus she always enjoys listening to owner's tales about their pets. As one of our vet "cat advocates" Ann has been involved in obtaining our ISFM Gold Cat Friendly Accreditation. Ann is especially pleased with the separate cat waiting room areas we have at our Sutton surgery.



Nursing Team:

Our vets are supported by our fantastic team of veterinary nurses.

Our experienced and dedicated team of qualified veterinary nurses are here to help you care for your pets by offering Nurse Clinic appointments throughout the day.

Our nurses can help with any routine pet care concerns to include:

- Puppy & kitten progress checks
- General pet care advice covering: travel, stress, training and lots more
- Geriatric pet advice
- Weight management and nutrition advice
- Dental care advice
- Checking for fleas
- Therapeutic grooming
- Ear cleaning
- Nail clipping
- Administering medication



Consultants:

Mark Craig

BVSc CertSAD MRCVS

Mark qualified as a vet from the University of Liverpool in 1985. After five years in general veterinary practice, he recognised his real interest was the area of skin diseases and allergies. He then studied dermatology at the Royal Veterinary College in London and passed the RCVS Certificate in Small Animal Dermatology in 1993.

Since then Mark has built up Re-Fur-All Referrals, a veterinary dermatology referral service in the South of England and the Midlands.

Mark's dermatology referral service visits the Wingrave practice at least once a month with interim appointments being available if needed. This is a second-opinion referral service only, as all animals must be referred to him by one of our other vets.

Please ask any of our vets if you would like an appointment to see Mark.

Boots, his black & white cat, decided to move in with him and leave his owners who live next door!

Olivia France

BSc MCSP HCPC Reg. ACPAT A

At Wingrave, we work within the standards of the Association of Chartered Physiotherapists in Animal Therapy (ACPAT). ACPAT are a group of qualified Veterinary Physiotherapists who work under the rules of professional conduct outlined by the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP).

We work closely with Olivia France who is an experienced Chartered Veterinary Physiotherapist. Olivia graduated as a Chartered Physiotherapist from King's College London in 2010 and has worked as a Physiotherapist in private practice since graduating. She is an A cat member of ACPAT.

Physiotherapy is used to promote healing, reduce pain, improve movement and restore normal muscle control for both cats and dogs.

Treatments given will depend on your pet's medical history, ability and willingness. Common situations where pets can benefit include: following an operation, stiffness after rest, difficulty sitting or standing or walking upstairs, scuffing of toe nails, change in posture and limping. Treatment can be by massaging, stretching and/or strengthening exercises, rehabilitation and/or husbandry advice, and sometimes electrotherapy.



To learn more about our vets, as well as the services we offer at Wingrave, visit our website

 www.wingravevets.com

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