



Commonwealth Veterinary Association e-Newsletter

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Upcoming CVA Activities at the “Grassroots” Level

The CVA has always prided itself on its ability to assist veterinarians throughout the commonwealth at the “grassroots” level. In this issue we highlight some of the CVA’s current and upcoming activities where veterinarians at the “grassroots” will be assisted. We look forward to reporting the progress of these activities in future editions of the CVA e-newsletter.

CVA study fund

The CVA has a long history of assisting a veterinarian from a developing country within the commonwealth to gain expertise in an area of their interest in a more developed country of the commonwealth through a short-term study program.



Within the next year the CVA hopes to assist a recently graduated veterinarian from Samoa see large animal practice, a commercially run piggery, government veterinary work, and small animal practice in Australia to help overcome the professional isolation of her working in a small island nation.

CVA guest lectureship

The Veterinary Association of Trinidad/Tobago has requested assistance for a guest lecturer to travel from

Barbados to Trinidad/Tobago to give a weekend seminar in practice management and record keeping to its members through the CVA guest lectureship program. This will be made possible through modest funding.

In addition, the South African Veterinary Association will provide the CVA funding for the travel of a lecturer from the University of Pretoria, South Africa to travel to a nearby African country and give CPD training.

Assistance following natural disasters

CVA country councillors in Vanuatu and Nepal have been contacted and asked for ways in which the CVA could provide assistance following the cyclone and earthquake in their respective countries. In both cases, the country councillors indicated that they would request CVA assistance when the situation in their countries had become clearer.



CSU veterinary student visit to Fiji

Dr Robin Yarrow of Fiji, a past president of the CVA, in conjunction with the Secretariat of the Pacific Community is helping facilitate the visit of final year veterinary students from Charles Sturt University, Wagga, Australia to Fiji to gain clinical experience, provide veterinary supplies and take part in small projects. This will be of considerable benefit to both the people of Fiji and the veterinary students.

Assistance towards veterinary services in Tonga

Dr Deb Kirton, the New Zealand CVA councillor, is currently working with the Scenic Circle hotel group and the animal health services of Tonga to formulate a proposal to help upgrade the animal health and welfare situation in Tonga, which will most likely include the upgrading of the existing veterinary clinic in Tonga and the formation of a mobile veterinary service.

Continuing professional development

Dr Jeff Cave, the Australian CVA Councillor, sent the first of hopefully many e-book collections through the post on memory sticks to recipients in Malaysia and Swaziland. This was a relatively cheap and easy process. Dr Cave is ever interested in extending the existing CVA book program, which he currently manages, to include e-book collections, and veterinary equipment and supplies.

Finally, the CVA has been given opportunity to manage an education portal connected to the World Veterinary Association (WVA) Education Network. The managed portal will allow the CVA to offer education within the WVA Education Network. The WVA Education Network offers on-line CPD education from a range of well recognised providers that is available to all veterinarians, has been peer reviewed, provides subject matter specialists, and gives CPD points for study completed. Roughly half its contents is available at a nominal fee and the other half is available free of charge. The contents which incur a charge are generally available at less than 50% of the total cost for users from developing countries. It's up to the user to decide what contents they would like to study so for them it could be free of charge. This provides the CVA with a way of providing free of charge on-line CPD to all veterinarians within the commonwealth.

Profile: Karen Reed

Karen qualified from the Royal Veterinary College, University of London in 1987 and worked in private farm animal practice in the UK before taking a Voluntary Service Overseas position teaching animal health in an agricultural college in Nepal for 3 years and then gaining her MSc in Tropical Veterinary Medicine from the Centre for Tropical Veterinary Medicine in Edinburgh. A further overseas posting followed to Jordan, working with nomadic sheep herders.

Since 2002 she has worked in working equine welfare and is currently Head of Animal Welfare and Research for the Brooke, an international equine welfare charity.

Karen is currently Secretary of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association and regional representative for UK/Mediterranean Region (since 2011) and she was also Chair of the British Veterinary Association Overseas Group from 2007 to 2013.



Contact Karen at:
karen.reed@thebrooke.org

Recipes from the world – from the Cook Islands

Raw fish in coconut cream – Ika Mata

Ingredients

- 250 grams of fish fillets (tuna, sword fish)
- 1 cup of lemon or lime juice
- 1 cup of thick coconut cream
- Green onions, tomato

Method

Cut fillets into 1cm pieces. Sprinkle with salt and leave for a few minutes. Cover the fish with lemon or lime juice. Refrigerate for approx. 2 hours until the fish is white. Strain off the juice and squeeze out any moisture. Pour 1 cup of coconut cream over the fish. Garnish with finely chopped green onion and tomato. Serve chilled.

Yum!



Website: <http://www.commonwealthvetassoc.org/>