



Commonwealth Veterinary Association e-Newsletter

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Commonwealth Veterinary Association (CVA) joins the World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) as an Affiliate Member

At the General Assembly of WSAVA held on 26th September, 2016 at Cartagena, Colombia, CVA was formally admitted as an Affiliate member of WSAVA. Dr Abdul Rahman, Past President and Executive Director of CVA attended the meeting and presented the activities of CVA to the members of the General Assembly. The members voted unanimously to admit CVA.

Dr Abdul Rahman was invited to the VIP summit of WSAVA which was attended by Presidents of various International and National associations. Future collaborations between these organisations and WSAVA were discussed.

Dr Rahman had separate meetings with the President of WSAVA Dr Walt Ingwersen and Past President Prof Collin Burrows and discussed possible collaboration on projects in Africa and the Caribbean.

Dr Rahman also had a meeting with the President of WSAVA Foundation Dr Gabriel Varga. The WSAVA foundation funds projects in collaboration with national associations and Dr Varga was very interested to hear about the activities of CVA and the future potential of this Affiliate membership. This collaboration has been discussed with the CVA executive to hear a full briefing on meeting outcomes and to discuss how best to collaborate with these important new partners and affiliates.



CVA Country Councillor Profile – Dr Dianne Phillips of Australia

Q1. Tell us about you, your family and where you live?

I live in a beautiful part of rural Victoria, amongst farmland and nearby bushland, lakes, unspoilt beaches and national parks. I like to think we have the best climate in Victoria, which helps when you are working as a rural practitioner outside!

We have a small hobby farm where we keep a little goat herd, chickens and ducks and occasionally a horse which my 3 girls ride. We make goats cheese when we have a doe in milk, and a ready supply of home grown fruit, vegetables and eggs.

Q2. What is your favourite food?

Maybe that home-made goats cheese on good bread, but I'm a bit of a foodie so can't choose one thing!

Q3. Do you have any favourite music?

Most types of music except modern jazz and punk/hard rock.

Q4. What is your favourite sport

Swimming and cycling.

Q5. Tell up in a paragraph what your current veterinary position is.

I work in for the Victorian government, partly as a field veterinarian, and partly as a technical expert for the rest of my animal health team in the south east of Victoria (about 15 other staff). Our work covers disease surveillance investigations and projects, traceability and auditing of agricultural industries, animal welfare in production animals and emergency response for natural disasters and emergency animal diseases.

Q6. What influenced you to become a veterinarian?

My grandparents were farmers and I spent many hours following my grandfather around and helping (hindering?!) him with his livestock as a child. I always wanted to help in some way in the rural community and preferably work outside.

Q7. What do you enjoy most about being a veterinarian?

Finding solutions to problems and being part of a rural community.

Q8. What are some of the main challenges for you and your national veterinary association?

In the digital age, everyone is an expert and it's hard to stay abreast of new developments; vets need to work harder to retain a respected and authoritative position in animal health. The traditional model of veterinary careers are no longer representative of the many and varied veterinary pathways and the organisation must be flexible but relevant and cost effective to retain the membership of its constituents. The globalisation of agricultural markets, levels of international travel, effects of global warming and habitat loss create many

new challenges for our agricultural industries and stakeholders which vets must respond to with limited resources! Changing animal welfare values often place vets in an bridging role between traditional farming members and a rapidly evolving urban society, where it is challenging to find a constructive pathway forward.

Q9. How do you communicate to your organisation about the CVA and its activities?

I supply the AVA with a twice yearly written report, supply short media article for publication and have ad hoc communications about ideas, events and plans.

Q10. How do you think the CVA can assist you in your Councillor Role?

Communication between members to identify particular needs or opportunities and to build networks between counsellors to boost connections and exchanges. I would be happy to hear from any of the CVA community!



Recipes from the world – from Bermuda

Bermuda Rum Swizzle

Ingredients:

- 4 oz Gosling's Black Seal Rum
- 4 oz Gosling's Gold Rum
- 8 oz Pineapple juice
- 8 oz Orange juice
- .75 oz Grenadine
- 6 dashes
- Angostura bitters

Method:

Fill a pitcher a third of the way with crushed ice and add all the ingredients. Churn vigorously until frothing (or shake in a large shaker) and strain into 4 rocks glasses filled with fresh ice. Garnish each with an orange slice, a pineapple cube and a cherry.



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