



CVA awards honorary life membership to Dr Bob McCracken

In special cases, the CVA honours members of the CVA and others who have contributed immensely either to the working of the CVA or the veterinary profession with an Honorary Life Membership of the CVA. The CVA has honoured past members such as Jim Archibald, Brian Derbyshire, Amrita Patel, Ann Pryor, Shireen Rahman and more recently Bernard Vallat.

Dr Bob McCracken is the CVA's latest honorary life member.

Ever since Dr McCracken was appointed as Programme Director 12 years ago he has been a pillar of strength to the CVA, giving it his valuable advise as well as scouting for possible financial sponsorship.

His contribution in saving PCVC5 at Barbados from a financial disaster by getting Norbrook sponsorship was exemplary. CVA enjoyed Norbrook support for nearly 4 years because of his close friendship with Lord Ballyedmund the owner of Norbrook. Many regional meetings of the CVA were supported by Norbrook in addition to supporting the printing of the JCVA. Dr McCracken was also instrumental in keeping the ties of the BVA and CVA together being the past President of



the BVA.

With his retirement from the CVA the CVA will not only be losing a great friend, philosopher and guide but also a great source of inspiration to all of us.

With this background Dr McCracken was awarded an Honorary Life Membership of the CVA.

British Veterinary Association launches strategy to help vets speak up for animal welfare

The British Veterinary Association (BVA) has launched its landmark animal welfare strategy at its annual London Dinner (3 February) highlighting the veterinary profession's unique opportunity – and responsibility – to advocate animal's best interests at individual, community and political levels.

Just over 50 years since The Brambell Report (1965), ten years on from the Animal Welfare Acts of 2006 and following 18 months consultation, BVA President Sean Wensley presented 'Vets speaking up for animal welfare' to a roomful of key influencers including DEFRA Minister George Eustice MP, other MPs and Peers, industry representatives, NGOs, journalists, retailers and animal welfare scientists.

BVA's animal welfare strategy provides a framework to help the veterinary profession advocate good animal welfare outcomes for all animals, identifying six priority areas as building blocks for future action:

- Animal welfare assessment
- Ethics
- Legislation
- Education
- Advocacy
- International

Each priority area outlines its aim, evidence gathered through consultation and actions for BVA. Priority area ‘animal welfare assessment’ provides a consensus definition of animal welfare and ‘ethics’ emphasises veterinary professionals’ animal welfare-focus; with their principal duty being to animals, despite also having duties to their clients and the businesses that veterinary surgeons work for. Other priority areas, such as ‘international’, highlight veterinary responsibility in ensuring animal welfare is recognised as a key objective within sustainable development and in future systems of environmentally sustainable animal agriculture.

Recipes from the world – from Myanmar

Mohinga - This noodle soup is considered the Burmese national dish and is eaten for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Ingredients:

<p>Prepare the fish 300g catfish (or use whole trout) 1 lemon grass stalk, bruised ¼ teaspoon ground turmeric 500ml water</p> <p>To make the onion paste 1 large onion, chopped 3 cloves garlic 1cm fresh ginger 2 lemon grass stalks, white part only 3 whole dried chillies, soaked in hot water 1 teaspoon shrimp paste ½ teaspoon paprika ½ teaspoon ground turmeric 6 tablespoons peanut oil</p>	<p>To make the mohinga soup 1.5 litres water 100g young banana stem, sliced (alternatively use 12 small shallots, peeled) 75g ground rice powder, roasted 3 tablespoons fish sauce 1 teaspoon ground black pepper</p> <p>Eat with 500g fine rice noodles or wheat noodles, cooked 3 limes, halved 5 hard-boiled eggs, peeled & quartered 2 handfuls of fresh coriander, chopped gourd or onion crispy fritters extra fish sauce & chilli flakes</p>
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Method:

Put the fish in a large pan, add the water, lemon grass and turmeric. Bring to the boil and simmer for 6-10

minutes until the fish is just cooked. Remove the fish from the pan and when cool enough to handle, peel the skin and flake the flesh, discarding any bones. Drain the fish stock through a sieve and reserve for the soup.

Pound the onion, garlic, ginger, dried chillies and lemon grass into a paste in a pestle and mortar, otherwise just chop everything as finely as you can.

Heat the oil in a saucepan and add the onion paste. Cook over moderate heat for 15-20 minutes until the paste is soft and caramelised. Add the shrimp paste, mash with a wooden spoon until incorporated, then mix in the turmeric and paprika. Cook for a further minute until the spices are fragrant before adding the flaked fish. Pop the lid on and cook for 10-15 minutes, allowing all the flavours from the onion paste to infuse into the fish.

The soup paste is done. If you are making this in advance, cool the mixture completely and pop in the freezer. It will keep for up to 1 month.

To make the soup: put the soup paste (completely defrosted if using from frozen), rice powder, water and the reserved fish stock (or 500ml of water if not using fish stock) in a large pan. Bring to a boil while stirring continuously to make sure the rice powder doesn't clump. Add the shallots or banana stem and simmer for 20-30 minutes until they are tender. Add the fish sauce and taste for seasoning. Finally add lots of black pepper before serving.

To serve, put a handful of noodles in a bowl and ladle over the soup. Let everyone add the garnishes as they wish. It should taste spicy, salty and tangy from the limes.



3rd International Conference on Rabies in West Africa (RIWA)

"Harmonizing Stakeholders and Tools for the Prevention and Control of Rabies"

22-26 March, 2016 | Accra | Ghana



Akwaaba! (Welcome!)

The RIWA Ghana Organizing Committee, with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, and the Ministry of Health jointly host the 3rd international conference on Rabies in West Africa. The event brings internationally renowned experts to present scientific and technical papers and to provide one-to-one advice and support for connectivity in harmonizing stakeholders and tools for the prevention and control of rabies in West Africa. The conference covers regional and global perspectives on human and animal rabies control; infrastructure for surveillance of rabies and rabies related viruses; the use of geographic information systems in focussing rabies control; improving health outcomes and surveillance capacity building. Participants are drawn from Ghana, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, the Gambia, East and Southern Africa, Europe, North America, the Pacific Rim, the West Indies and beyond.

Opening

Welcome Address RIWAGH Chairman
Goodwill Message RIWA Chairman
Opening Remarks Hon. Minister of Health

Overview on rabies: Epidemiology
Diagnosis and control

Scientific and Technical Sessions

The scope includes domestic animal, wildlife and human populations.
Rabies: Locate and eliminate
WHO operations on rabies in West Africa
ECOWAS commission on rabies
Policy and alternative funding for rabies control in West Africa

Country Presentation on Rabies

Ghana	Benin
Liberia	Togo
Nigeria	Mali
Sierra Leone	Senegal
The Gambia	Cote d'Ivoire

Conference Report and Recommendation

Conference Venue

College of Physicians and Surgeons, Accra
Ghana

Closing Ceremony and Dinner

Have a taste of Ghanaian hospitality

Abstract

Submission deadline is December 23, 2015

Richard D Suu-Ire
Chairman
RIWA Organizing Committee

Honourable Fifi Kwetey
Minister of Food and Agriculture
Chief Guest of Honour

Babasola O Olugasa
Secretary
Scientific Committee

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