



# Commonwealth Veterinary Association e-Newsletter

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## Thoughts from the President

It is hard to believe that the first third of 2016 is over and I thought it was a good time to reflect on some CVA issues of broad interest.

We were all sorry to hear of the terrible Tropical Cyclone Winston that slammed into Fiji in February this year. We have continued to monitor



recovery efforts through our CVA Past President, Robin Yarrow who lives in the Fiji capital, Suva. It will take a long time for the outer islands to rebuild their lives and lost livestock and livelihoods.

We have had some good feedback and 'likes' on the CVA Facebook site <https://www.facebook.com/Commonwealth-Veterinary-Association-CVA-203118733200643/?fref=ts>, our new CVA website <http://www.commonwealthvetassoc.com> and regular e-newsletters. On behalf of you all, I would like to thank Jeff Cave, our Communications Officer for his dedication and talent in delivering our CVA Communication strategy. If we are not visible, we are not relevant.

The Executive has been working on the perennial problem of how to get stories and news from our Councillors for our newsletters and website. We are finalising a set of standard questions to ask each Councillor and Regional Representative and will draw up a schedule to approach you all and profile you in our monthly newsletters.

Our Treasurer, Deborah Kirton, has sent invoices to each CVA Councillor for the annual CVA Membership

subscription. I urge all Councillors to help progress payment from your national veterinary associations as soon as possible. This is a key responsibility of the councillor role. Subscription payments can now be made using the secure paypal facility on the CVA website.

This newsletter will continue to promote relevant news and information. We continue to have a strong commitment to continuing professional development, working in partnership with national veterinary associations and our CVA partners. I look forward to your continuing input and my best wishes to you, your families and staff.

Peter Thornber

President, Commonwealth Veterinary Association

## Vets Beyond Borders now crossing Borders in Australia

Vets Beyond Borders has a new national program: the Australian Veterinary Emergency Response Team (AVERT). For more information click [here](#).



## First Edition of Veterinary Evidence Released

The first edition of Veterinary Evidence, a showcase of knowledge summaries, articles, and commentaries, was recently released and can be found by clicking [here](#).



## WSAVA Animal Welfare Questionnaire

The WSAVA Animal Wellness & Welfare Committee (AWWC) is conducting a survey on the status of companion animal welfare globally. Information obtained will be used in development of animal welfare guidelines designed for the veterinary practitioner to use within the clinic setting & also aid in dealing with clients, the public & non-veterinary bodies.

The survey questionnaire can be found at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/WSAVA\\_AWG](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WSAVA_AWG) & should only take 5 or fewer minutes to complete. Responses are anonymous and all information will be treated confidentially.

Your participation is very important in helping the welfare of companion animals everywhere.



## 50th KVA Conference 2016 Presentations & Photos Now Available Online

The 50th Kenya Veterinary Association Scientific conference presentations are now available in PDF format and can be accessed by [clicking here](#). You can also access the presentations through the [KVA conference 2016 page](#) under the “latest news” tab.

A photo gallery capturing photos from the conference and the World Veterinary Day is also available at [this page](#). More photos will be added as participants from the conference and the World Veterinary Day share them.



## Interventions in Wild Animal Health

This year marks the launch of the Interventions in Wild Animal Health Field Course, run by the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), the Wildlife Institute of India (WII) and the University of Edinburgh (UoE) as a component of the on-line MVetSci in Conservation Medicine awarded by UoE. The Field Course, held predominantly in Sariska Tiger Reserve, Rajasthan, India, and supported by The Thriplow Trust, provided practical skills to complement the theoretical learning from the MVetSci Conservation Medicine with the objective of increasing the capacity of wildlife health professionals in developing countries where there are hotspots of wildlife disease.

Twenty-one students from ten countries, travelled to Sariska to receive in field teaching over a three-week period, covering three module topics: (i) population monitoring including practical use of transects and camera trapping, (ii) rehabilitation, field disease investigation and surveillance, including use of geographical information systems and field pathological investigation (iii) free-living wild animal restraint and anaesthesia, including planning, equipment and techniques.

The students also gained experience of wildlife management and human-wildlife conflict in Keoladeo National Park, Ranthambore National Park and wildlife

rehabilitation teaching at Wildlife SOS Bear and Elephant rescue facilities in Agra. The interventions in Wild Animal Health Field Course will take place annually, further details are available on <http://www.zsl.org/science/postgraduate-study/interventions-in-wild-animal-health>.



Method:

- Dissolve agar agar powder in 1/2 cup water in a medium saucepan.
- Bring to the boil and add 2tsp strawberry syrup or sugar to mixture.
- Remove from heat and pour in another bowl or mould.
- Allow to cool and set at room temperature or in the fridge.
- Once set, coarsely grate agar agar or cut into small chunks. Reserve.
- Clean basil seeds. This is best done in advance as it takes time; basil seeds often come along with lotsa tiny impurities.
- After cleaning, soak in 1/2 cup warm water for about 30 minutes or until seeds swell up and stick together as one big slimy mass.
- Prepare milk by stirring milk powder in 6 cups water. You can use the same volume of fresh or UHT milk if that's what you have on hand.
- Add fruit syrup, sugar and vanilla/almond. Stir until well combined.

## Recipes from the world – from Mauritius

### Alouda Glace

A cool drink well known by every Mauritian

Ingredients:

- 2 1/2 cups milk powder
- 6 cups cold water
- 1/2 cup fruit syrup/ sirop
- 1-2 tbs granulated sugar
- 2 tbs basil seeds/ tocmaria
- 1 sachet [5g] agar agar powder
- 1 tsp vanilla or almond extract
- Ice cubes, to serve

