



Annual Report

2023-2024



About the CVA

"The Mission of the Commonwealth Veterinary Association is to promote the veterinary profession within the Commonwealth by encouraging the highest professional standards of education, ethics and service in order to advance animal health, productivity and welfare so as to improve the quality of life of all its peoples."

Founded in 1967, the CVA celebrates 56 years without a single salaried staff member. We continue our capacity building efforts to assist veterinarians in their professional roles and their leadership potential within their communities and public office. The main aim of the CVA is to assist and strengthen the capacities of National Veterinary Associations of countries within the Commonwealth to improve the health and wellbeing of their communities and countries.



The CVA executive met at the BVA office in London for three days in July 2023. Topics discussed included a SWOT analysis, the preparation of a strategic plan for the coming four years, revisiting and drafting amendments to the constitution, and the election of office bearers for 2024 - 2027.

CVA Executive 2024-2027



PRESIDENT
Dr Sarah Wilkinson-Eytle (Jamaica)



SECRETARY
Dr Jeff Cave (Australia)



TREASURER
Dr Dianne Philips (Australia)



IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
Dr Olatunji Nasir (Nigeria)



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Dr Abdul Rahman (India)

PROGRAM DIRECTOR
to be confirmed



DR SEAN WENSLEY AWARDED HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

Outgoing Program Director Dr Sean Wensley was awarded honorary life membership of the CVA in recognition of his contribution in establishing a variety of programs and partnerships during his tenure as Program Director that will see the CVA in good stead during the coming years. Sean's input is sorely missed.

Notable Events

During their meeting at the BVA office in London the CVA executive had the opportunity to meet BVA President, Dr Malcolm Morley, BVA President elect, Dr Anna Judson, and Amelia Findon, BVA policy and governance director. The CVA looks forward to continuing a long-lasting partnership with the British Veterinary Association.

The CVA Past – President, Dr Olatunji Nasir represented the CVA for the fourth consecutive time at the America Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) House of Delegates where the ideals of the CVA were presented and the links between the AVMA and the CVA strengthened.



Small Projects

Satellite laboratory of the CVA/KVA WOAHO Reference Laboratory for Rabies and Animal Welfare Research Centre established in Pondicherry, India

The CVA is pleased to announce that a satellite laboratory of our CVA/KVA WOAHO Reference Laboratory for Rabies and an Animal Welfare Research Centre has been established at the Research Institute of Veterinary Education and Research (RIVER) Pondicherry, about 350 kms from Bangalore. This Rabies laboratory and Animal Welfare Centre will receive technical support from the CVA/KVA's established laboratory and centre at Bangalore.

Book Programme

Every year donated veterinary textbooks are sent free of charge from Australia. The CVA Book Program is coordinated by Dr Jim Connah in Hobart, Tasmania, Australia. Books are donated by veterinarians in Australia, all of whom are thanked for their generosity, without which the program would not exist. The books are available for distribution to veterinarians and veterinary students in CVA member countries in good standing. The current inventory in Australia comprises nearly 1000 books with over 700 different titles. During 2023 – 2024, over 100 veterinary textbooks were sent to countries such as Nigeria, Tanzania and Uganda Thank you to IDEXX for their continued support.

Training Opportunities

INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON CANINE RABIES DIAGNOSIS (BANGALORE, INDIA)

The CVA, in collaboration with the Karnataka Veterinary, Animal and Fisheries Sciences University (KVAFSU) organised a training workshop on animal rabies diagnosis from 19 - 22 December 2023 at Bangalore, India. This training program was held at the Veterinary College, Bangalore where the KVAFSU-CVA, WOAHA Reference Laboratory for Rabies is situated. A total of 6 participants were nominated by CVA under the CVA Study Fund Program and 4 were from India. The study fund participants were Dr Thushani Gunewardana of Sri Lanka, Dr Timothy Mayiana Lesuuda of Kenya, Dr Patrick M Amponsah of Ghana, Dr Magdalena P Kasika of Tanzania, Dr Prudence Ndishimye of Rwanda, and Dr Natalino of Timor Leste.

VET SUSTAIN

As a part of our on-going collaboration, Vet Sustain and Vet Salus offered the CVA one free place on the on-line course entitled "A Veterinary approach to sustainable food and farming". The value of the offer was £1500. To gain the most benefit of the offer for its members, the Executive decided to supplement this by extending the award to three places on the course to eligible members, with the balance of funding being paid from the CVA Study Fund. The three successful recipients were Nicholas Muyale of Kenya, Chelsea Simo of Vanuatu, and Gabrielle Young of Jamaica.



INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP ON ANIMAL WELFARE RESEARCH HELD AT KVAFSU/CVA ANIMAL WELFARE RESEARCH CENTRE (BANGALORE, INDIA)

The CVA and the Open Philanthropy Project sponsored an international workshop on animal welfare research from 17 - 18 January 2024 at the Veterinary College, Bangalore where the KVAFSU-CVA Animal Welfare Research Centre is situated. A total of 26 faculty and 20 postgraduate students attended, with the keynote address being given by Dr Cathy Dwyer, Director JMICAWE, The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, University of Edinburgh, UK.

INDIAN VETERINARIANS PROVIDED TRAINING IN ANIMAL WELFARE (MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA)

Three staff of the KVAFSU-CVA Animal Welfare Research Centre, Dr. Vivek M. Patil, Dr. Mahadevappa D. Gouri and Dr. H.C. Indresh were sponsored by the CVA with financial assistance from the Open Philanthropy Project to gain technical expertise in animal welfare through a two-week training program designed by Prof. Andrew Fisher, Director, Animal Welfare Science Centre (AWSC), University of Melbourne, Australia from 29 October to 10 November 2023.



VETS FOR CLIMATE ACTION'S MESSAGE EXTENDED TO INDIAN VETERINARIANS

Dr Jeannet Kessels represented the Australian NGO 'Vets for Climate Action' at a symposium the Veterinary College, Bangalore, India, arranged by Dr S. Abdul Rahman, Executive Director, CVA and Dr S. Yathiraj, CVA Asian Regional Coordinator. The CVA hopes that this is the beginning of a fruitful partnership with Vets for Climate Action as we all play our part in addressing this critical issue.



ONLINE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Over 600 peer reviewed online units, many of which are freely available to veterinarians in developing countries, are available through the CVA's association with The World Continuing Education Alliance. Registration details can be found by visiting the CVA's website.

Collaborations



International Veterinary Students Association (IVSA)

The CVA established a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the IVSA with the aim of establishing linkages that would be of mutual benefit to the membership of both organisations. Through this collaboration the CVA ran an essay competition on veterinary sustainability targeted at veterinary students throughout the Commonwealth.



World Veterinary Association (WVA)

The CVA past-President Dr Olatunji Nasir was reappointed as the Councillor for International Regional Organisations as well as continuing as the chair of the Pharmaceutical Stewardship Working Group of the World Veterinary Association. In addition, the CVA's Australian Delegate Dr Mark Schipp was appointed a Councillor for Asia and Oceania within the World Veterinary Association. Ties such as these help to strengthen the collaboration between the WVA and the CVA

CVA PHOTO COMPETITION

The CVA ran an inaugural photo competition with prizes of US\$100 awarded to each of three categories.

Category 1 - The Human/Animal Bond

Winner - Joel Itangirubuntu (Rwanda)

"Amidst the golden greenland, a friendship blooms where words are silent but hearts converse."



Category 2 - The Usefulness of Animals to People

Winner - Naresh Prasad (Nepal)

"Lifeline of the Himalayas"



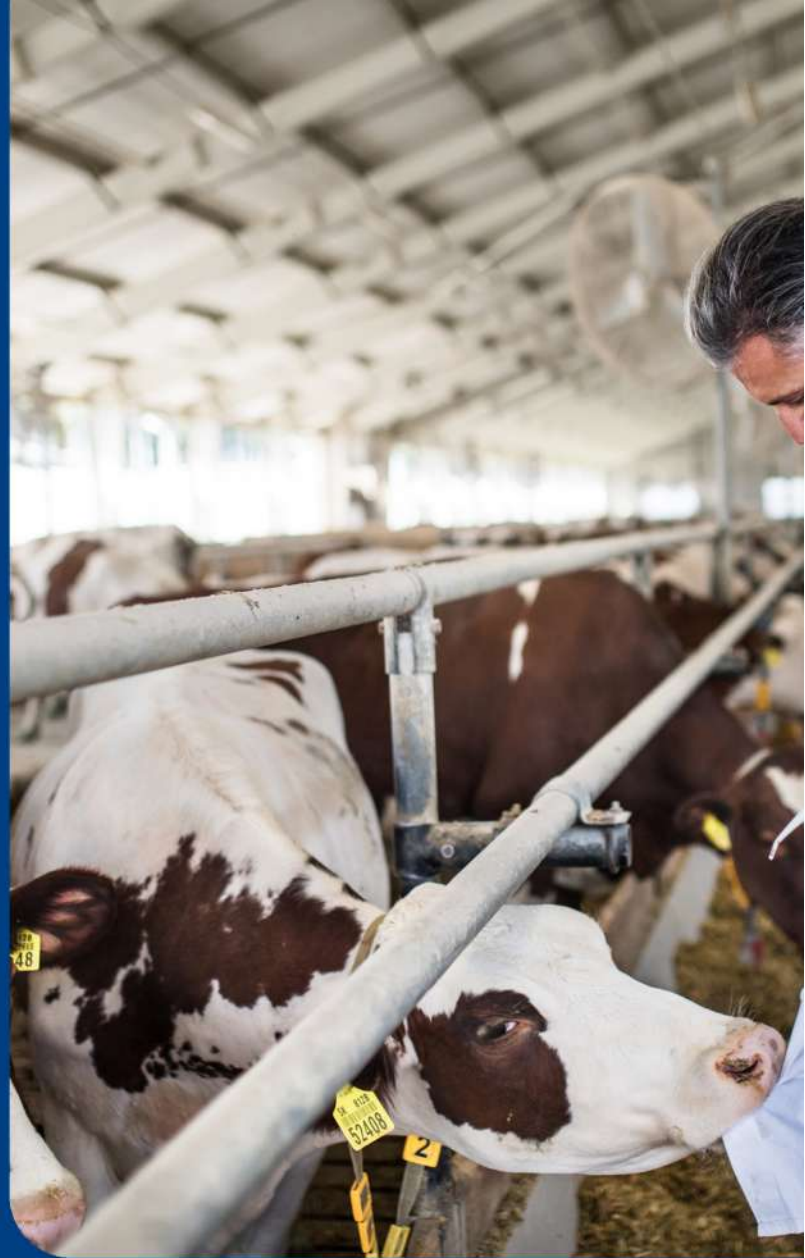
Category 3 - The Natural Beauty of Animals

Winner - Liselotte Kars (Belgium)

"Highland cow on the island of Vlieland"

**Commonwealth
Veterinary Association**

Thank You



Here is to a productive year filled with engagement

Contact us :

 [CVA FACEBOOK](#)

 <https://cva.vet/>

 info@cva.vet