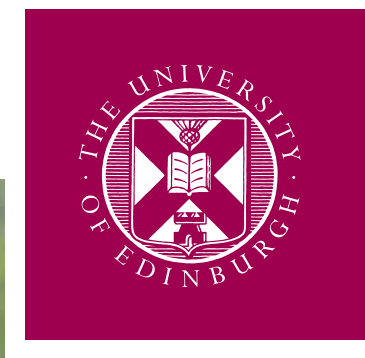


DICK VET *news*

Magazine for the Alumni & Friends of The Royal (Dick) School of
Veterinary Studies, The University of Edinburgh



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RADIOLOGY

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MESSAGE FROM HEAD OF SCHOOL

Dear Friends,

As 2014 seems to be flying by at a rapid rate, it is nice to look through this copy of the Dick Vet News and remind myself of some of the highlights of the last twelve months. 2013 was an incredible year for us, in terms of research, clinical activity and teaching successes and 2014 looks to be exceeding all of our expectations.

As ever, our Undergraduate and Postgraduate students remain exemplary ambassadors for the campus and I am delighted to see all of their successes. I am immensely proud of the calibre of the students this School produces. The staff and student body has worked incredibly hard together to build a true academic and social community. Under the leadership of Professor Susan Rhind, the School continues to lead the way in teaching innovation. As an example, and with financial support from the Marchig Trust, the School has invested in 3D printing technology to support teaching of anatomy and surgery. Our clinical skills facilities for students are second to none and regarded as an example of best practice in veterinary education.

Recently, we hosted the Postgraduate student day, with the Charnock Bradley lecture delivered by Professor Oswald Jarrett. The standard of Postgraduate research and presentations was exceptional this year. Our Postgraduate community is an enormous strength of the campus and it is of great credit to our Postgraduate Dean, Dr Bernadette Dutia, that our Postgraduate satisfaction survey results remain the highest in the University. Our taught Postgraduate programmes also continue to grow with new online Masters programmes and two new MOOCs (Massive Open Online Courses) launched this year. These are free to anyone across the globe. Our flagship MOOC is Equine Nutrition (hosted by Dr Jo-Anne Murray), running recently to 25,000 students worldwide.

Currently, 10,000 students from 146 countries are signed up to our new MOOC "Do you have what it takes to be a veterinarian?"

The campus remains at the forefront of veterinary and animal disease research. However, we cannot be complacent and continue to invest in people and facilities to support this campus as having the greatest concentration of animal bioscience in Europe. As hosts of the National Avian Facility, the new building to house this is nearing completion. At the end of 2014, we will see building start on the campus innovation hub that will support staff and student facilities on the ground floor and research innovation and industry collaboration on the floors above. Architects are currently working on plans for our new large animal imaging facility, allowing us to lead the way in translational livestock and veterinary medicine. The recent announcement that we will be growing a closer alliance with SRUC (Scottish Rural College) will only serve to enhance our impact on agriculture.

Our clinics have seen exponential growth this year and we have been fortunate to attract some exceptional staff internationally to support our clinical activities. To accommodate the growth, we are planning to install a new MRI facility in the Hospital for Small Animals. Plans are also in progress for a new equine surgical suite, which will host a Centre for Thoroughbred Medicine and Rehabilitation.

As Head of School, I am immensely thankful to be supported by some of the most gifted individuals in veterinary and animal science. Indeed, these are exciting times for the Dick Vet and it is amazing to be part of it.

Professor David Argyle

NEW INTERVENTIONAL RADIOLOGY SUITE OPENS

Animals with a range of conditions and diseases are benefitting from a new interventional radiology suite at the Dick Vet

The Gladys Ogilvy-Shepherd Interventional Radiology Suite places the Dick Vet at the forefront of cutting-edge minimally invasive procedures used to treat a range of conditions.

It provides dedicated facilities for the vet school's interventional radiology service, that can be used to treat urinary, cardiac and vascular ailments which previously would have either been classed as untreatable or needed surgery.

This means less time under anaesthesia, reduced recovery times and shorter hospital stays.

The suite equipment includes a state-of-the-art laser, as well as a high definition endoscopy system and a C-arm fluoroscopy.

Its StarMedTec Auriga QI Laser system, for instance, uses a highly-targeted laser beam to break down bladder and urethral stones, as well as reducing tumours and masses.

It can also be used to remove ectopic ureters, which cause incontinence and for which the only other treatment would be surgery.

In addition, the Suite's mobile C-arm fluoroscopy provides key visualisation during procedures. Unlike still images provided by X-rays, the fluoroscopy imaging provides continuous moving pictures of the procedures being undertaken.

The suite's high-definition fibre optic endoscopy scopes also enhance visualisation, providing pinpoint accuracy when identifying the site needed to be treated.

The opening of the suite was attended by Gladys Ogilvy-Shepherd, whose support was instrumental in equipping the facility.

Tracy Hill, senior lecturer in Internal Medicine at the Dick Vet, said: "The



Above: Gladys Ogilvy-Shepherd (pictured centre) and Bunty Lyons are pictured at the opening of the suite with Professor David Argyle, Head of School, along with Dr John Mosley and Dr Tracy Hill.

use of interventional radiology means that recovery times are much faster. There is either no incision, or a very small incision, which means that we are able to discharge most cases the same day or night following on from treatment. Interventional radiology is used for a number of conditions, but it is an expanding discipline with on-going research to find new and less invasive therapies."

The suite is predominantly being used to treat cats and dogs, which are referred to the Dick Vet's Hospital for Small Animals by their vets.

Further plans include raising funds for a fluoroscopy table which can adjust in many directions to provide greater flexibility during positioning, as well as providing the suite with its own cytoscope (used to look at the interior lining of the bladder and uretra), along with a camera and lightsource, which do not need to be shared with other services so are always available when needed.



Members of the Hospital for Small Animals staff who work on the Interventional Radiology service.

“

It provides dedicated facilities for the vet school's interventional radiology service, that can be used to treat urinary, cardiac and vascular ailments that previously would have either been classed as untreatable or needed surgery.

DICK VET EQUINE PRACTICE

Providing first class care and education - Dr John Keen reports



The Equine First Opinion team: Louise Cornish, Tess Fordham, Eugenio Cillán-García, Jenny Clements and Gemma Pearson.

Primary care veterinary practice has evolved greatly over the last ten years with species specialisation now commonplace. Several years ago we made a conscious decision to split the Farm Animal and Equine parts of the Large Animal Practice Teaching Unit (LAPTU), so that our equine clients have round-the-clock access to vets who concentrate on horses - and vice versa for farm clients!

Behind the scenes, organisational and staff changes have been taking place as we strive to make our Equine Practice better for both our loyal clients and also for students aiming to gain vital day-one skills. We now have closer integration between the Equine Practice and Hospital, such that the Practice has access to a selection of the most up-to-date diagnostic equipment such as mobile x-ray, ultrasound and endoscopy. Many common diagnostic procedures can now be done at the owner's yard without the need to travel to the Hospital. At the same time, cases which are admitted to the Hospital benefit from better case continuity through much closer collaboration between our Practice and Hospital vets.

We also have a rejuvenated and forward-thinking Equine First Opinion team - pictured above. This comprises two equine certificate holders (Louise Cornish and Jenny Clements); one expert in lameness/surgery (Eugenio Cillán-García) and our excellent and enthusiastic intern, Tess Fordham.

Louise Cornish is a native of Edinburgh who crossed the 'great divide' to study at Glasgow Vet School, qualifying in 1998! Her early vet career involved mixed practice in Northern Ireland then equine practice in Australia. Returning to the northern hemisphere, Louise has spent the last 11 years working at Clyde Vets in Lanark, where she has been one

of the senior equine vets. Louise has acquired a wealth of experience in general equine practice, but specific interests include dentistry and reproduction work. She gained her Certificate in Equine Practice in 2007 and is used to all types of problems in all types from the family pony to the competition level eventer. Louise also has an interest in charity work and has recently spent some time in The Gambia with the Horse and Donkey Trust.

Jenny Clements is one of our most experienced vets and has worked in the Practice for several years. She works in the Practice part-time and spends the rest of the week looking after her two toddlers. Jenny has a special interest in medicine, and has her certificate in equine internal medicine.

Eugenio worked at the Three Counties Equine Practice in Gloucestershire before starting a residency with us here in the Hospital from 2009-2012. Following this, he was employed as one of the senior vets at a large equine practice in the South of England, but we were really glad to tempt him back in 2013. Eugenio specialises in lameness and surgical problems, and is sitting his European Surgery Diploma exam next year. He has a special interest in feet problems, such as hoof cracks and imbalance, as well as in horse racing practice; he is a regular visitor to Lucinda Russell's race yard where he consults on various performance-related clinical problems.

Tess Fordham, who hails from a farming community in the Lake District of Cumbria, joined us in October 2013. Tess qualified from the new Nottingham Vet School in 2011 and following some time as a volunteer for African horse charities, gained a hard sought after internship at the Royal Vet College Hospital near London. She has a keen interest in Fell Ponies which her family keep and breed.

Last but not least we have Gemma Pearson who spends around three months in the Equine Practice per year while she rotates as a resident through the Practice and the Hospital. Gemma qualified from Glasgow in 2009, first came to the Dick Vet as an equine intern and accepted a residency in 2013. Gemma is rapidly building a reputation for expertise in equine behaviour and spends much of her time advising and teaching on behavioural problems, whilst also undertaking a Masters degree in Equine Learning Theory. Gemma is one of a small number of people to have completed the Associate Diploma in Equitation Science. As well as this, she enjoys stud work and general equine medicine.

The regular team are ably assisted by our hospital residents out-of-hours who are all experienced vets, proficient at dealing with all kinds of emergencies.

The First Opinion team is crucial to our School, providing an outstanding learning experience for students, great case care for clients and helping the whole Equine section to research the key clinical and welfare problems of concern to horse and pony owners.

TIM RETURNS TO LEAD DERMATOLOGY



The Dermatology service has a dedicated treatment area in the Hospital for Small Animals.

Dr Tim Nuttall has re-joined the School to lead and redevelop the Dermatology service and is keen to build strong relationships with local vets and clients.

Explaining the service offered by the Dermatology team, Tim said:

“We are open for the referral of any dermatology case for one-off or on-going treatment and provide a professional, prompt service.”

“Our focus is on communication, animal welfare and quality of life for patients. The service has been operating for more than 30 years and offers treatment for companion animals and exotic species. We can also see horses and other large animals with our colleagues in the other Dick Vet hospitals. Based in our dedicated treatment area within the Hospital for Small Animals, we are able to offer comprehensive care, however should the need for a referral to another service arise, our world class staff and facilities enable us to carry out any procedure or treatment within the hospital.”

“From early summer 2014, Debbie Gow joins us and we are delighted to welcome her to the Dermatology team.”

As well as treating clinical cases, the Dermatology service has an ethical clinical research and education programme. This is important in furthering our understanding of skin diseases to improve animal care. Our research interests include the diagnosis, treatment and genetics of atopic dermatitis, bacterial infections and antibiotic resistance. We have also participated in a number of clinical trials that have led to new treatments for atopic dermatitis and other skin diseases.

BSAVA WOODROW AWARD

Tim Nuttall has been awarded the 2014 BSAVA Woodrow Award. This is presented for outstanding contributions in the field of small animal veterinary medicine.

Delighted by the award, Tim said: “I am honoured to have received the Woodrow Award as recognition of the contribution I have made to small animal veterinary medicine.”



Tim receives his award from Michael Day, Senior Vice President, BSAVA.

RECOGNITION FOR PROFESSORS HALLIWELL AND THODAY

At the Seventh World Congress of Veterinary Dermatology in Vancouver, the Hugo Schindelka Medal was awarded to Professor Emeritus Richard Halliwell. This recognises excellence in lifetime scholarship and publication in the field of veterinary dermatology.

Professor Keith Thoday also received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the ECVD. It is only the third time that such an award has been made. Keith has received in excess of three quarters of a million pounds in research grants, authored more than 105 peer-reviewed publications and is a past President of the ECVD and Chair of the RCVS's Dermatology Board.

SMALL ANIMAL NEUROLOGY SERVICE ESTABLISHED



Katia gained extensive experience internationally before joining the Dick Vet.

Dr Katia Marioni-Henry has joined the Hospital for Small Animals to establish the Small Animal Neurology service. The Neurology service is involved in the investigation and treatment of intervertebral disc disease, seizures, intracranial and spinal neoplasia, inflammatory disorders of the central and peripheral nervous system, and neuromuscular disorders.

Katia has a very diverse background. Graduating from the University of Parma in Italy and she was awarded a PhD from the University of Turin in Small Animal Neurology/Electrophysiology. Subsequently, she completed a rotating internship at Auburn University (USA) and a residency in Veterinary Neurology at the University of Pennsylvania (USA).

In 2003, Katia became a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine with a subspecialty in Neurology.

Dr. Marioni-Henry is also a member of the European College of Veterinary Neurology and an RCVS recognised specialist in Neurology. Katia has authored various papers on clinical neurology and has a special interest in neuromuscular conditions and feline neurology. She held academic posts in the United States including clinical instructor at the University of Missouri-Columbia and, for four years, Assistant Professor of Neurology and Neurosurgery at the University of Tennessee-Knoxville.

In 2008, Katia moved with her family to England and became a

consultant in Small Animal Neurology and Neurosurgery for various large veterinary referral centres in England before joining the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies to lead the development of the Small Animal Neurology Service at the Hospital for Small Animals.

Katia is receiving new cases on Monday and Tuesday and rechecks on Friday.

MRI is available at HfSA every Wednesday. Emergency referrals in Neurology/Neurosurgery are seen by Katia and her colleagues of the Internal Medicine and Orthopaedic services every day of the week by prior arrangement. Katia can be contacted via the following email address:

neurovet@ed.ac.uk

TINY IMPLANTS COULD HELP TREAT CANCERS IN HUMANS AND ANIMALS

A multi-million project is underway to develop sensory implants able to detect molecular changes in tumours, with a view to improving cancer treatments

The £5.25 million initiative – Implantable Microsystems for Personalised Anti-Cancer Therapy (IMPACT) – aims to benefit both animal and humans, with the ethos of “One Health – One Medicine.”

It brings together a broad-range of expertise from across the University. In addition to experts from the Dick Vet, the project – led by the University’s School of Engineering – encompasses human cancer specialists, bioelectronics experts, radiologists, engineers and social scientists.

The implantable silicon devices will be made at the University of Edinburgh’s Scottish Microelectronics Centre, with the aim of being able to detect – in real time – rapid and fleeting biochemical changes to tumours.

The implants will incorporate wireless sensors – the size of a grass seed – to relay key information about the behaviour of cancerous cells, such as changes in levels of oxygen, PH as well as the activity of proteins and nucleic acids.

This information could then be used by both clinicians and veterinarians to measure a tumour’s response to therapy, thereby influencing treatment provided to both humans and companion animals alike.

Experts at the Dick Vet and The Roslin Institute are analysing tumour biopsies from dogs and cats undergoing treatment to identify in greater detail how the implants could be used to target cancerous cells. Information gained from studying dog and cat tumours can also be related directly to human patients, as the cancerous cells share similar molecular mechanisms.

The five-year IMPACT initiative is funded by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council, and also involves collaboration with Heriot-Watt University.

Professor David Argyle, Head of the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, said: “This project is an excellent example of human and veterinary medical professionals working together with engineering and technology experts to improve the health of people and their companion animals.”

“In working together across species and across disciplines we aim to bring the next generation of medical devices into clinics far more quickly. This project also illustrates collaborative working involving scientists from universities in Edinburgh bringing together different areas of different expertise.”

The IMPACT team hopes eventually to develop chips capable of delivering information about a tumour that will allow rapid changes to treatment in real time. Although

specifically aimed at radiotherapy delivery, eventually doses of chemotherapy could be delivered in this way. This would also enable tumour-specific therapy, with the dosage and frequency of therapy adapted for individual cases.

Professor Alan Murray, Head of the University’s School of Engineering, who is leading the IMPACT initiative, said: “I’m extremely excited by the aims of IMPACT and the work that we are starting to do. I am equally excited by the quality of my collaborators. Edinburgh is one of very few places where a team of world-class engineers, scientists, medics, vets and social scientists could be assembled to take on this kind of massively interdisciplinary challenge.”

The project is just one of many comparative medicine research projects – to develop treatments to benefit both animals and humans – at the Dick Vet and The Roslin Institute.

Research includes comparing gene expression in canine and human lymphomas, as well as the isolation of cancerous stem cells in dogs with osteosarcoma, the canine equivalent of a type of human bone cancer most common in children.



This project is an excellent example of human and veterinary medical professionals working together with engineering and technology experts to improve the health of people and their companion animals.

Professor David Argyle

Scientists have also identified cancer stem cells, resistant to chemotherapy and radiation, in feline mammary cancer. These cancer stem cells are believed to exist in human breast cancer, which is also similar to feline mammary cancer in terms of relative age of onset, incidence, and patterns in how the cancer spreads.

The University of Edinburgh is also establishing a unique training programme intended to develop a new generation of veterinary researchers, able to conduct internationally competitive research while still being grounded in clinical practice.

The ECAT-V programme is modelled on the Edinburgh Clinical Academic Track (ECAT) programme for medical trainees and enhances the School’s “One Health – One Medicine” philosophy, where traditional boundaries between veterinary and human medicine no longer exist.

FOOD SAFETY FORUM MEETING

The fourth meeting of the European Veterinary Teachers in Food Safety (EVTFS) was held at the Dick Vet in May. Delegates travelled from across Europe to attend, with representatives from Finland, the Czech Republic, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, England, Macedonia, Slovenia, Portugal, Norway, Sweden, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. The meeting was hosted and chaired by Alex Seguino, the School's Head of Veterinary Public Health (VPH).

The Food Safety Forum's aim is to discuss the future of food safety teaching across Europe. The focus of this year was on innovative ways of teaching the practical component of the Veterinary Public Health course and, in particular, the use of the Virtual Slaughterhouse, which was developed by Alex Seguino. At the meeting, the Vet School's Director of Veterinary Teaching, Professor Susan Rhind, gave an inspirational talk on the development of vet schools' curricula, highlighting examples of different teaching models. This was followed by Prof Guenter Klein from the University of Hannover, who presented on the use of e-learning in Veterinary Public Health teaching.

The issue of animal welfare teaching to Undergraduate students with an emphasis on ethical matters around the non-stun slaughter of animals and the different approaches taken



Delegates travelled from across Europe to take part in the Food Safety Forum at the Dick Vet.

across European vet schools was also discussed.

The next meeting was scheduled for Uppsala in Sweden in 2015 to examine the future of veterinary food hygiene and the training required for the veterinarians of the future.

Overall the aim is to work towards a European consensus and framework for the future of veterinary public health.

'ONE HEALTH' APPROACH TO TEACHING CORE SKILLS IN DENTISTRY



Our students were given the chance to practice their clinical skills on mannequins of human heads and learn about the similarities between veterinary and human dentistry.

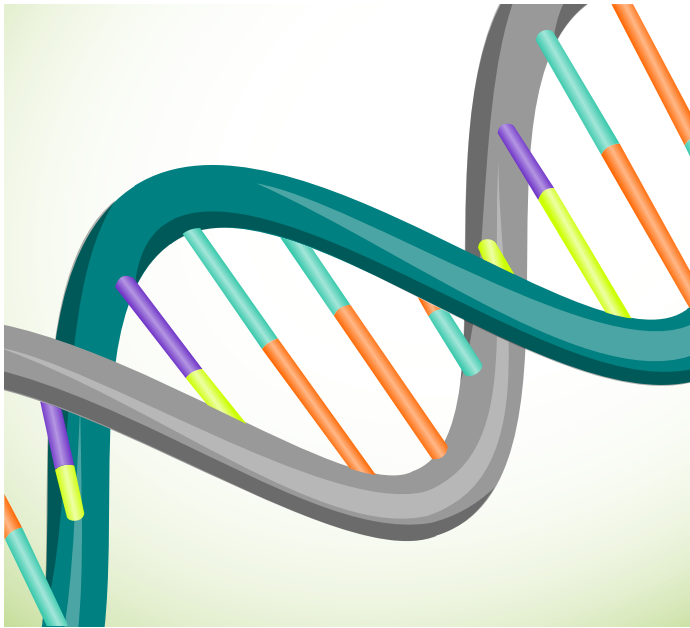
Staff at the Dick Vet and the Edinburgh Dental Institute (EDI) recently came together to offer a unique, intensive two-day course in dental prophylaxis for fourth year veterinary students. Students spent time in the EDI's clinical skills laboratory, where they practiced techniques on phantom human heads.

Dr Andrew Gardiner, Senior Veterinary Clinical Lecturer at the Dick Vet said, "We decided to adopt a 'One Health' approach which complemented our existing veterinary dental training and also our new final year elective in general practice dentistry. The students initially found the phantom

heads a little disconcerting, but were soon happily treating them - and learning quite a lot about their own periodontal health in the process!"

The teaching prompted a lot of discussion about the similarities between veterinary and human dentistry and the necessity for optimum client communication and education in both fields. Dental Institute staff had earlier visited the Vet School and had observed and assisted in a third year dental skills session before designing the new classes. It is planned to run the classes again in the future.

NEW CENTRE OF DNA EXPERTISE



Ground-breaking research in human and animal health, the environment, and sustainable food production will be supported by a new world-class centre of DNA expertise.

The Edinburgh Genomics facility will bring together experts in the field to focus on unravelling and analysing genetic code in large-scale studies.

It will aim to be at the forefront of the emerging personalisation of medicine, in which treatments can be tailored according to patients' genes. Its technology will enable scientists to quickly compare hundreds of DNA

samples from patients with particular diseases, to pinpoint key genes and inform development of therapies.

Scientists at the centre, based at the University of Edinburgh, will also seek to break new ground in agriculture, by identifying genes that could contribute to animal wellbeing or crop disease.

The centre will enable environmental scientists to learn more about the natural world, and facilitate a fast response to diseases that pose a risk to plants or wildlife.

Edinburgh Genomics will make use of the University's expertise in supercomputing and informatics to analyse the massive amounts of data generated in large DNA studies.

Expertise and technologies at the facility will be available to researchers and industry, and it will be a leading provider of training, service quality, and support to collaborators.

The new venture will build upon decades of experience by merging the existing facilities of Edinburgh GenePool and ARK-Genomics, which is funded by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council. The facilities' scientists and technology will contribute to the work of the new centre.

Professor Mark Blaxter, Director of Edinburgh Genomics, said: "Edinburgh researchers already lead the world in this area, and our facility is ready to support more of this ground-breaking work. We will work with clinicians to apply new knowledge in the clinic, with farmers and breeders trying to improve our food supply, and with scientists aiming to understand the genetic underpinnings of how our ecosystems function."

Edinburgh Genomics is supported by the Medical Research Council, the Natural Environment Research Council, and the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council.

JOURNAL OF FELINE MEDICINE AND SURGERY RESIDENT BEST PAPER

We were delighted that the winning paper of the inaugural JFMS Resident Best Paper Award 2013: 'A retrospective analysis of urethral rupture in 63 cats', was authored by Elena Addison et al, at the Hospital for Small Animals. This is a great achievement by Elena and her colleagues.

Eligible papers for the award (lead authors holding Resident status at time of submission) were evaluated for benefit to cats, direct usefulness to practitioners, quality of science,

originality and standard of writing.

Utilising a good number of cases, this study revealed valuable new findings and insights on the challenging problem of urethral rupture in cats. Importantly, once aware that accidental trauma is such a significant cause of urethral damage, practitioners can be more vigilant in looking for it; particularly as significant urethral injury can occur despite the absence of pelvic fractures. Similarly, through knowing that urethral catheterisation commonly results in tears and

strictures, veterinarians can pay more attention to using a gentler and a more patient technique - hopefully reducing the incidence of urethral rupture as an iatrogenic complication.

JFMS Resident Best Paper Award 2014

All accepted papers published in JFMS in 2014 (articles can be Online First) where the lead author holds Resident status at time of submission will be submitted for evaluation for the award in 2014. For more details about the Award visit: www.award.jfms.com

SUSTAINABILITY GOLD AWARD FOR EASTER BUSH CAMPUS

The Easter Bush Campus has received a Gold Award at the University's Sustainability awards. The Roslin Institute also received a Gold Award for sustainability within its Laboratories.

In addition, the Campus received a special recognition award for the Campus Freezer Management and Energy Efficiency work.



The hard work and dedication of our Campus Facilities team has been recognised in these awards, which are extremely well deserved.

Val White

Campus Operating Officer



Dawn Windsor and Brian McTeir from The Easter Bush Campus Facilities and Services team are pictured at the Awards ceremony with Dave Gorman, the University's Director of Social Responsibility and Sustainability.

HONG KONG PARTNERSHIP



Hong Kong University's Li Ka Shing Faculty of Medicine and the Dick Vet have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to launch a unique partnership which will allow Hong Kong University (HKU) students to experience a year of study here. Successful students may then elect to return to Edinburgh after completion of their HKU degree and complete the remaining three years of the Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (BVM&S) degree. Students will be offered places after approval by the admissions team with academic merit a key criterion. The innovative collaboration will allow students to obtain a Bachelor of Biomedical Science degree and BVM&S in a combined total of seven years compared to the eight years this would take studying separately in the two institutions. It also provides a fantastic opportunity for students to experience an education on two continents in leading Higher Education institutions.

RECOGNITION FOR PROFESSOR PADDY DIXON



Professor Paddy Dixon gave the Plenary Lecture at the BEVA Congress, when he was also awarded The John Hickman Memorial Trophy from BEVA President, Keith Chandler.

He was also awarded the Dick Vet Staff Clinical Research Award and passed the inaugural examination of the European Veterinary Dentistry College equine sub-specialty (EVDC Equine).

MADAME JEANNE MARCHIG – A TRIBUTE



Efforts to improve animal welfare and protection owe a significant amount to the work of Jeanne Marchig, who passed away last May.

University flags were flown at half-mast on the day of Mme Marchig's funeral to pay tribute to the tireless efforts of the animal welfare campaigner.

Mme Marchig was born in Warsaw, Poland. She studied painting and the history of art in Sweden and Italy and it was in Florence that she met the renowned Giannino Marchig, whom she married in 1955.

As well as her own work as a painter and that with Giannino, as an art restorer, Jeanne was passionate about raising awareness and taking action against the cruel treatment of animals across the world. In 1989, she founded the Marchig Animal Welfare Trust, in memory of her late husband, who had passed away six years previously.

For the Dick Vet, Jeanne will be best known for her generous and forward thinking in funding the establishment of the Jeanne Marchig International Centre for Animal Welfare Education, which she officially opened at the School in 2011.

Her vision was that the Centre, which was established following a £2 million pound grant from the Marchig Animal Welfare Trust, would form an integral part of the University of Edinburgh's Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies. It would create a focal point for animal welfare education across the globe, collaborating with international partners to improve understanding of animal welfare issues and engaging with politicians, governments and professional organisations, with the aim of improving animal welfare and promoting alternatives to the use of animals in education and research.

Professor Nat Waran, Director of the Jeanne Marchig International Animal Welfare Centre at the Dick Vet said "We miss Jeanne and her unwavering passion for improving the lives of animals through her many projects, but we are proud to have been trusted to continue her work through the international animal welfare centre, inspired by Jeanne's vision to improve the quality of life for all animals through education, training and by influencing policy at the highest level.

"We know that by debating the issues, raising awareness of concerns and pushing the boundaries of what is considered acceptable across different borders, we can make a positive impact for animal welfare today and in the future, both within and outside of the veterinary profession."

The Jeanne Marchig International Centre for Welfare Education is one of many organisations and projects throughout the world that have been supported by the Marchig Animal Welfare Trust. Other initiatives supported by the Trust include the veterinary care and treatment of

animals in developing countries, re-homing programmes for companion animals, anti-poaching, support for Interpol wildlife enforcement officers, the care, protection and rehabilitation of wildlife and educational and campaigning work against the inhumane treatment of animals.

In 2010, the University of Edinburgh awarded Mme Marchig the Honorary Degree of Doctor honoris causa, "in recognition of her outstanding global contribution to animal welfare and animal welfare education".

Professor David Argyle, Head of the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies said: "Madame Jeanne Marchig was an important figure in global animal welfare and her legacy will be one of improved education and training around the world. We were proud to partner with the Marchig Animal Trust to open the Jeanne Marchig International Centre for Animal Welfare Education and its work will continue to make a difference across the world".

GIVING RESCUE DOGS A NEW LIFE

The Jeanne Marchig International Centre for Animal Welfare Education's Outreach Veterinary Education Manager, Heather Bacon, and Welfare Veterinary Nurse, Hayley Walters, spent their annual leave assisting in a dog rescue shelter in Nakom Phanom in Thailand earlier this year. They were helping to treat over 2,000 dogs that had been rescued from the meat trade industry and were being illegally transported to Vietnam.

Many dogs that had collapsed from starvation were hospitalised and it was whilst treating the sick dogs in the hospital that Heather and Hayley met two little dogs, which they would eventually bring back to Scotland. As you can see from the photo below, both Mothi and Stewart have settled in very well, and are loving their walks around Edinburgh and East Lothian. A bit like their owners they took some time to get used to the 'fresh' Scottish weather!



Mothi and Stewart enjoying the Scottish seaside!

PROFESSOR KEITH DYCE (1926-2014)



We were saddened to learn of the passing of Professor Keith Dyce. Professor Dyce was born in Edinburgh 1926.

He attended the University of Edinburgh and the Royal (Dick) Veterinary College, graduating BSc from the University of Edinburgh in July 1947. He was made a Lecturer in the Department of Anatomy, Royal Veterinary College, London during the late 1950s and early 1960s.

Professor Dyce obtained a DVMS from University of London in 1958. Between 1965-66, he was visiting Professor of Dog Anatomy at Cornell University.

In 1967 he moved to the Netherlands to take up the position of Professor of Veterinary Anatomy at the State University of Utrecht, returning to Edinburgh in 1974 to occupy the Mary Dick Chair of Veterinary Anatomy at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, which he held until 1984.

During that time he was also appointed Dean of the Veterinary Faculty from 1980-1984, at which point he took early retirement. After retirement Keith Dyce was appointed as Visiting Professor of Veterinary Anatomy in the Royal Veterinary College in London.

Professor Dyce is perhaps best remembered as co-author of the Textbook of Veterinary Anatomy/ (with W.O. Sack and C.J.G. Wensing) which has been the standard Veterinary Anatomy textbook for decades.

SUE KEMPSON EUSA AWARD AND RETIREMENT



Sue receiving the award for teaching in Veterinary Medicine at the EUSA Awards event.

We were delighted to be able to announce that Dr Sue Kempson won the Edinburgh University Students Association (EUSA) Award for teaching in Veterinary Medicine. The Award was presented at the annual EUSA Teaching Awards Ceremony held in April and was a fitting tribute as Sue also marked her retirement following 37 years at the Dick Vet.

Throughout her time here, Sue made an enormous contribution to teaching and research and this was recognised by a special celebration held for colleagues and friends.

STUDENT NURSES SUCCESS!



Congratulations to our Student Nurses Kirsty Carlin, Martyna Godniak and Kirsty Harley who have passed the final step of their training and are now fully qualified Veterinary Nurses!

EDINBURGH WELCOMES KERALAN GUESTS



We have been fortunate to host a number of visits by staff and their students from the Kerala Veterinary and Animal Science University (KVASU) in India.

In June, we were pleased to welcome six senior Indian veterinary academics led by Edinburgh University Alumnus, Professor Usha who is the Director of Pig Genetics and Production Research.



All of us were travelling out of India for the first time and for a few of us this could be a once in a lifetime opportunity.

Dr George Chandy

During their week-long visit, the group learned about the way in which the School's Postgraduate and Undergraduate students are taught using a variety of different methodologies; how farm and zoo practicals are integrated into problem based learning exercises; how knowledge about animal welfare is introduced throughout the curriculum and the way in which the curriculum is designed around Day One skills.

Professor Usha said, "It has been a wonderful experience for us to learn about veterinary education in Edinburgh. This visit has helped us to make suggestions for improving veterinary education in Kerala. I am sure this visit will open up the next stages of this joint initiative." The second visit was led by KVASU's Director of Wildlife studies, Dr George Chandy, who brought a group of Postgraduate students to Edinburgh. He said "All of us were travelling out of India for the first time and for a few of us this could be a once in a lifetime opportunity."

"The visit has been highly inspirational and has touched our hearts and minds." We are now awaiting the arrival of our third set of visitors from the KVASU with whom we have a Memorandum of Understanding, relating to animal welfare and conservation medicine.

PRINCIPAL FELLOWSHIP FOR PROFESSOR RHIND

Professor Susan Rhind has been awarded a Principal Fellowship from the Higher Education Academy. This Fellowship is bestowed upon individuals who have demonstrated a sustained and effective record of impact at strategic level and a wider commitment to academic practice and strategic leadership in teaching and enhancing the student learning experience.

Susan is the first veterinarian to achieve this Fellowship, so many congratulations to Susan on this important recognition.

SUCCESSFUL CVMA WORKSHOP IN CHINA



During the third week of October, Nat Waran, Fritha Langford and Heather Bacon accompanied by international colleagues, travelled to China where they were co-organising and presenting animal welfare, at the 4th China Veterinary Conference.

They shared a range of practical and research experiences relating to both the development of animal welfare in veterinary education and practice, the influence of evidence-based research on livestock husbandry, transport and food safety, an issue that is currently of significant importance in China.

By linking animal welfare to its practical benefits, such as improved health, improved productivity, improved food safety and improved research and education outcomes, even those with little interest in the subject may be inspired to develop better practices that benefit animals around China.

The conference was supported by the Animals Asia Foundation and WSPA, and attended by colleagues from SRUC, the World Veterinary Association, the Federation of Vets of Europe, and the OIE.

Over the next year the JMICAWE will be working with the CVMA to develop successful teaching practices and integrate animal welfare throughout the Chinese Veterinary curriculum.



THE ART OF BEING A VET STUDENT

Over the last year, the School has run an art competition in conjunction with the Vet Student Council entitled 'The Art of Being A Vet Student'. We were delighted with the quality of the entries we received and now we are pleased to display these in the atrium of the veterinary teaching building.

Congratulations to our winner, Kate Fink, who won with her stunning photographs, however all of our entrants produced memorable and beautiful images.

ATHENA SWAN BRONZE AWARDS SUCCESS



The Dick Vet has become the first veterinary school to receive an Athena Swan departmental award, which highlights excellence in recruiting, retaining and promoting women in higher education.

The Athena SWAN award focuses specifically on opportunities for women in the areas of science, technology, engineering, mathematics and medicine in academia.

The awards are granted for a three-year-period and the University of Edinburgh also received a renewal of its Institutional Bronze Award, recognising its solid foundation for eliminating gender bias and developing an inclusive culture that values all staff.

Professor Anna Meredith, who chaired the Athena SWAN submission on behalf of the School, said:

"As a vet and working mother who has had to balance the demands of an academic and clinical career with family commitments, as do so many of my professional colleagues, I was delighted to lead this successful submission for a Bronze Award."

COLLEGE OF ART COLLABORATION



Penelope is pictured in front of her exhibition, along with Dr Tudor Jones and Dr Alastair Macdonald

Penelope Kay, a student in Sculpture at the Edinburgh College of Art writes about her project, drawing inspiration from the vet school's Summerhall building

"During last autumn, I had the opportunity to show my work in the foyer of the Teaching Building in an exhibition called Getting Started, Research and Preparation. The work began in Summerhall when I was a student in a class run by Jane Weatherley for the School of Continuing Studies at the Edinburgh College of Art (ECA)."

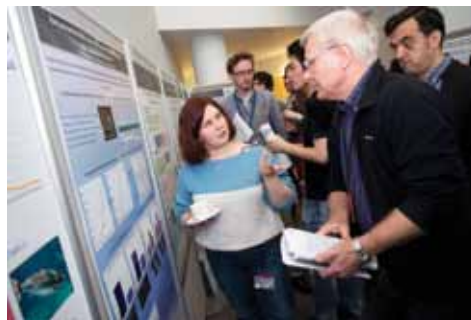
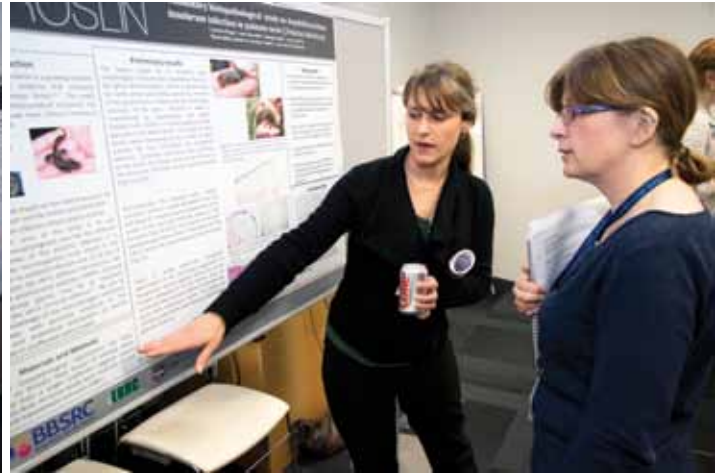
"At the time, Summerhall was still operating as a veterinary school, and I was greatly inspired by the work going on there. My research in the dissection room and histology laboratory resulted in many photographs, collages and sketches: bones in boxes, microscopes set ready for a histology class, and dissections labelled with pins and pipe cleaners. The results were all part of my application to ECA and I am now a full time Fine Art student."

"The art class was encouraged and supported by Alastair Macdonald, now an Honorary Fellow of the Dick Vet. At the time he showed us round Summerhall, opening up the rooms with their displays of specimens and older artworks that have now moved with you to Easter Bush."

"Alastair has continued to encourage the link between the Dick Vet and ECA, welcoming me back to present the work I did at Summerhall, and to continue my studies in the beautiful new building."

A new collaboration between the two schools 'Where Art meets Science' has been set in motion by Andrew Gardiner, Susan Rhind and Tobias Schwarz from the Dick Vet together with Joan Smith and Andrea Roe from ECA. With the expert guidance of Richard Collins, the CAD-CAM Technician from ECA, the art and vet students who have joined the project will work together to investigate the potential of 3D printing.

STUDENT RESEARCH DAY



The Easter Bush Research Student Day was held in the Roslin Institute building on Wednesday 30th April.

The programme comprised oral presentations and the opportunity to review posters and network.

Presentations covered a wide range of research areas, with Clinical Scholar, Scott Kilpatrick (pictured), presenting on '*Plasma cytokine concentrations in dogs with a congenital portsystemic shunt*'.

Awards were presented for the best posters at the conclusion of the event.

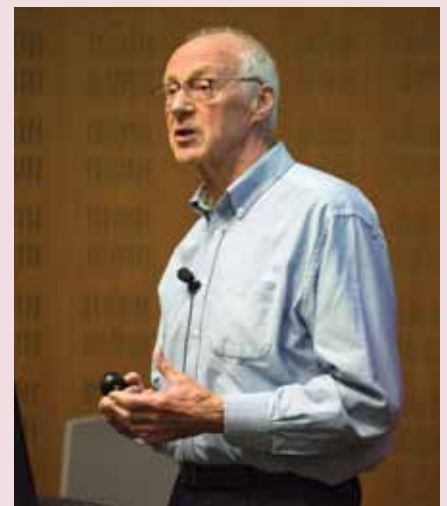


CHARNOCK BRADLEY LECTURE

Student Research Day was followed by the Charnock Bradley Lecture. This year we were delighted to welcome Professor Oswald Jarrett from The University of Glasgow.

Professor Jarrett delivered the lecture on the impact of retroviruses on human and animal health.

Head of School, Professor David Argyle said: "I am very grateful to Professor Jarrett for giving this year's Charnock Bradley Lecture. He gave a fascinating insight, which will have been of great interest to our staff and students and which was a fitting way to conclude a very successful Student Research Day."



INDIAN ANIMAL HEALTH AND WELFARE ACADEMICS VISIT

In May, we hosted a number of our Indian collaborators as part of an interdisciplinary gathering of academics and researchers from the Colleges of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine; Science and Engineering and Humanities and Social Sciences to celebrate the University's long-standing work in India.

The aim of the conference, organised by The University's India Institute, and opened by Dr APJ Abdul Kalam, former President of India, was to promote scientific excellence by enabling Edinburgh-India partners to come together and to help shape our future strategy.

Vet School staff were important contributors to the conference with a number of invited guests talking about the work we are doing with them in India.

Dr Ashok, the Vice Chancellor of the Kerala Veterinary and Animal Science University (KVASU) and his senior team have been working with Vet School staff members from the Jeanne Marchig International Centre for Animal Welfare Education to help build their capacity for teaching animal welfare as part of the Indian veterinary curriculum, as well



Dr Kalam was awarded an honorary degree at a special Dinner which formed part of the inaugural conference of The University's Edinburgh India Institute in May. Dr Kalam is pictured with The University of Edinburgh's Principal, Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea, and Dr George Palattiyil.

as collaborating with our conservation medicine team on wildlife studies.

Professor Ayyappan, Director General of the Indian Council for Agricultural Research, who presented a plenary paper at the conference entitled: 'Harnessing research and education to feed India', was extremely impressed

by the possibilities for future research partnerships and we will now be entering into a collaborative agreement to facilitate the growth of research partnerships between the University and researchers in the Indian Veterinary and Agricultural Institutes.

HONG KONG GOVERNMENT VISIT



Also in May, a delegation from the Hong Kong Government, led by the Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation and accompanied by members of the Centre for Food Safety, Food and Environmental Hygiene and the Food and Health Bureau, visited the School to discuss future collaborations, including the possibility of veterinary student placements.

Pictured: The delegation from the Hong Kong Government is welcomed by Head of School, Professor David Argyle.

VET SCHOOL AND ROSLIN STAFF LEAD MAJOR CONFERENCE IN INDIA

Animal health and welfare experts from Edinburgh have taken part in an international conference in Bangalore.

The five-day event, organised jointly by the University, looked at ways to improve the quality of life for both livestock and pets, as well as diseases threatening India's wildlife.

Topics for discussion included new techniques to address infectious diseases in herd animals; finding new ways to tackle India's growing problem of rabid dogs; and examining treatments for other zoonotic diseases - those affecting both humans and animals.

Professor Natalie Waran from The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies said:

"The improvement of animal health and, by association, human health in India is a pressing concern, especially with the numbers of domestic and livestock animals set to rise significantly in the coming years. My colleagues

and I wanted to learn from India's experience and use our expertise to help tackle a diverse range of animal diseases and welfare issues."

Conference delegates also learned about Edinburgh's use of technology to provide distance-learning opportunities for around the world.

In addition to a large number of postgraduate courses, Edinburgh has pioneered the provision of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs). These free online courses are available to anyone.

Typically lasting six weeks, Edinburgh's MOOCs include courses such as "Animal Behaviour and Welfare" and "The Discovery of the Higgs boson". To date, more than 600,000 people have enrolled for Edinburgh's MOOCs.

Edinburgh has a long history of collaboration with Indian universities and research institutes. Over the past few decades Edinburgh's relationship with India has grown and strengthened



Dr S. Abdul Rahman welcomes Professor Sir Timothy O'Shea, the University of Edinburgh Principal.

and this year the University has almost 250 Indian students enrolled - more than twice as many as five years ago.

In 2013, the University launched the Edinburgh India Institute. This provides a focal point to collate all research and cultural links between Edinburgh and India.

The University's India office, based in Mumbai, provides a local liaison point for Edinburgh's activities across the country.

POSTGRADUATE SUCCESS

Postgraduate research and teaching at the University's Easter Bush campus has grown from strength to strength, with the number of Postgraduate research students doubling over the past five years.

In addition, the number of Postgraduate taught programmes has grown to now number two on-site courses and five online distance learning Masters programmes.

The School also came top out of the University in the National Postgraduate Research and Taught Student Surveys with 96% of PGT students and 93% of PGR students expressing overall satisfaction with their programmes.

There are more than 170 Postgraduate research students, and last year alone the School took on 40 new PhD, 1 MPhil

and 1 MSc research students. Student research is wide-ranging, with projects ranging from looking at animal welfare to carrying out science at a highly molecular level. Masters students also carry out research projects in their final year, contributing significantly to the School's research ethos.

Dr Bernadette Dutia, Director of Postgraduate Studies at the Dick Vet and The Roslin Institute, said: "Students want to come here because of the exciting research-rich environment that we are able to offer them.

"In addition, the online courses also offer great opportunities for students from all over the world who, perhaps because they are working full-time, can adapt their studies to work around their schedules where they are based. The on-line

courses also offer great flexibility. As well as a Masters that can be spread across three years, students can also opt to do a certificate or diploma qualification."

The School's online Postgraduate community - with courses including Equine Science; International Animal Welfare, Ethics and Law; Conservation Medicine; Bioimaging and One Health - incorporates 159 students from across the world.

Its Masters in Animal Biosciences and Applied Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare, run on-site, also have a student cohort of 36.

In addition, the Dick Vet plays an active role in the post-graduate training of veterinary clinicians, with seven interns and 29 residents, some of whom are also undertaking Masters by Research.



*Animal-tastic!
After their last lecture of fourth year, our students dressed up to mark the occasion in true animal fashion.*

WORLD HORSE WELFARE

The 7th International Colloquium on Working Equids 2014



Congratulations to Christian Byrne of Third Year who has been awarded a Bursary by World Horse Welfare. The bursary scheme provides the opportunity for students to attend The 7th International Colloquium on Working Equids 2014. The Colloquium consists of two days of lectures and discussion together with a third day of practical workshops. The event will focus on the question: "How do we demonstrate the importance of working equid welfare to human livelihoods?"

Delighted by the news of this Award, Christian said:

"I am hoping to take away from the Colloquium an understanding of the diversity of roles that working equids play in different communities and how the veterinary surgeon can assist in optimising the interaction this has with animal and human welfare."

Professor Bruce McGorum, Head of Equine Sciences said: "This is great news for Christian and we are delighted with this award enabling him to attend the event in London in July. Competition for places was extremely tough and I am sure Christian will find the Colloquium hugely beneficial."

INTERCITY RIVALRY!

'Dick Day' is an annual sporting event held between Edinburgh and Glasgow Vet Schools, named after our founder, William Dick.

This year Edinburgh came out on top, with the overall score being 5-3! Dick Day's first ever indoor volleyball game was won by Edinburgh and the netball girls continued their tradition of success with an impressive 27-17 win.

In the horse riding, Glasgow managed to steal a victory with some fancy dressage skills and good jumping.

Edinburgh's hockey team came out with a close fought 6-5 win. Rugby brought mixed fortunes for Edinburgh - the girls won (17-5) but the boys lost 15-0. Glasgow won the boys' football 3-1 while Edinburgh's girls won after a tense penalty shoot-out!

A victorious Dick Day meant spirits were high on the pub crawl and a great night was had by all. A massive 'thank you' for everyone who came down to watch and well done to everyone who played. Congratulations on proving our sporting prowess!

BURNS NIGHT



Above: Students and staff alike enjoyed an evening of speeches, food and fun to celebrate Burns Day – a very traditional date in the Scottish calendar which celebrates the life of Scotland’s poet, Robert Burns.

Below: Scary costumes were the order of the day in October when our students organised an evening of fun and games for Hallowe’en. Much merriment was had by all with a prize awarded to the best pumpkin carving!



HALLOWE'EN



INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR FELINE IMMUNITY STUDY

A researcher from The Roslin Institute has beaten off competition from scientists throughout Europe to be recognised for her work looking at feline immunity.

Debbie Gow's research, carried out with the Dick Vet, focussed on growing key feline immune cells – known as macrophages – in the laboratory.

Her work will not only enable scientists to better study the role of macrophages in feline immunity, but will also help research into conditions – such as feline tuberculosis or feline immunodeficiency virus – both of which target these cells.

Dr Gow, who has recently completed her PhD, received the ABCD & Merial Young Scientist Award, which is granted for basic and clinical research, at the International Society of Feline Medicine congress in Barcelona.

“Macrophages are our first line of defence, if we get a wound or a cut, macrophages come in, clear up the debris and fight infection. They also perform an incredibly diverse role in maintaining our body function as well as helping our acquired immune system to release antibodies,” she said.

“Culturing feline macrophages in the dish means that we can better understand how they work, as well as



carry out research into specific feline macrophage diseases. We can now look at how macrophages are stimulated by a whole range of viruses and bacteria enabling us to better understand how cats respond to infectious diseases.”

As well as creating a model to culture macrophages in the laboratory, the research also showed the presence of a key receptor, needed for macrophages to work effectively.

Although the receptor – needed for the binding of colony stimulating factor 1 – has been identified in other animals, it has never been shown to exist in cats before.

The binding of colony stimulator factor 1 enables pre-cursor cells from the bone marrow to mature and differentiate into macrophages, and has also been shown to help reverse renal failure in mice.

Dr Gow said: “Better understanding of colony-stimulating factor, and the role of its receptor, could potentially lead to developing treatments for cats with renal disease, both to prolong and to improve quality of life, and this is research that we would like to take further.”

The research built on previous studies at The Roslin Institute looking at the role of macrophages in different species. Samples, enabling the feline

macrophages to be cultured from blood or bone marrow cells, were donated by clients of the Dick Vet.

Professor Marian C. Horzinek, chairman of the European Board on Cats Diseases (ABCD), said: Deborah Gow's work has practical applications, including the possibility to grow macrophages in culture - a notoriously difficult enterprise! Macrophage cultures also offer the possibility to study viruses with this cellular preference, like the FIP-causing mutants of feline coronaviruses.”

“

Culturing feline macrophages in the dish means that we can better understand how they work, as well as carry out research into specific feline macrophage diseases. We can now look at how macrophages are stimulated by a whole range of viruses and bacteria enabling us to better understand how cats respond to infectious diseases.

Dr Debbie Gow



KEVIN AWARDED EUROPEAN SPECIALIST STATUS

Kevin Eatwell is among the first vets to be awarded diplomat status in small mammal medicine by the European College of Zoological Medicine (ECZM).

The diplomat status recognises Kevin as a specialist in small mammal medicine throughout Europe.

This will enable him to offer training to residents at the Dick Vet wishing to gain European accreditation in this field.

Kevin is already a ECZM diplomate in Herpetological Medicine – the only person in the UK to have this status.

He is also the only veterinarian to hold both an ECZM diploma in herpetological and in small mammal medicine worldwide. In addition he is a Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons recognised specialist in zoo and wildlife medicine.

He said: "Being granted this diplomat status paves the way for specialised training for qualified veterinarians at Edinburgh University, both with reptiles and small mammal pets, such as Rabbits and rodents. It is a wonderful opportunity to be involved in training the next generation of European Specialists and to lead advances the field."



Kevin Eatwell pictured, centre, with Dick Vet students.

The European College of Zoological Medicine is a recently formed worldwide recognised organisation. Its intentions are to further the knowledge and veterinary treatment of all Zoological species.

To qualify as an ECZM diplomate a vet needs to meet stringent criteria. This includes time spent specialising

in a particular field as well as three first author and a minimum of three second co-author publications relevant to the specialty.

Diplomat for the European College of Zoological Medicine also input into the ECZM training criteria for vets specialising in their particular areas.

FOLLOW US WHEREVER YOU ARE!



SOCIAL MEDIA

The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies may have been founded nearly 200 years ago, but we're always looking for new ways to engage with our students, alumni, clients and friends worldwide.

With this in mind, our official Twitter and Facebook pages post regular news, events, information and photos from the School.

We are always looking for new ways to engage with our audience and we continue to develop new initiatives on social media to help make it easier for you to keep up to date with the latest news and events going on around the School. On Facebook and Twitter you'll be able to see what's going on and contact us easily.

Additionally, we are using social media to engage with our students, especially those new to the School and bring them into the Dick Vet family. Increasingly, students use social media in their personal and academic lives and it is

important that the School keeps up with them. We have a tradition of integrating new ways of learning and teaching into the School, from web courses like our free online Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) to the use of Second Life and our virtual farm. The Dick Vet always strives to use new technology and techniques to improve our students' experience.

The School is embracing social media across many different areas, from individual courses to whole areas within the School. To see if there is an account which you'd be interested in following, check out the Social Media Hub, accessible from our website, where all of the School's pages are listed.

You can follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DickVet and on Twitter at www.twitter.com/TheDickVet.

NEW STAFF JOIN EQUINE TEAM



Dr Richard Reardon has joined the Equine Team as a senior lecturer in equine surgery.

Richard graduated from the Royal Veterinary College in London in 2004, following which he spent six months in mixed practice before undertaking an 18 month equine internship at O'Gorman, Slater, Main & Partners in Newbury.

Richard then spent six years at Glasgow University, during which time he undertook a residency in equine surgery as well as a Master's degree and a PhD. Richard obtained his RCVS certificate in orthopaedic surgery in 2009, his ECVS diploma in Large animal surgery in 2010, a Master's degree in Equine surgery from the University of Glasgow in 2011 and has just completed his PhD investigating risk factors for injury to Thoroughbred horses during racing.

Richard enjoys all aspects of equine surgery and has research interests in both soft tissue and orthopaedic surgery. Soft tissue surgery research interests include evaluation of surgical procedures of the equine upper respiratory tract, an area in which he has published and presented internationally and risk factor analysis for epistaxis in racing Thoroughbreds. Richard also has a keen interest in respiratory endoscopy at exercise and has been involved in a number of publications in the area.



We are also very pleased to welcome Dr Raphael Labens. Raphael graduated from the Veterinary University of Vienna, Austria in 2000.

He went on to work in an equine referral hospital in Germany before completing a large animal internship at the University of Liege, Belgium in 2002. This was followed by a senior clinical scholarship in equine surgery at the University of Glasgow, during which he obtained a Master's degree and Certificate in Equine Orthopaedic Surgery.

After completion of his scholarship Raphael served as a Registrar in Equine Surgery at the University of Glasgow before accepting an equine surgical residency at North Carolina State University in 2006. He passed his specialty board exams in 2010 becoming a member of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons. After his residency Raphael stayed on at NC State as a part time orthopaedic surgeon while also pursuing his PhD studies which he completed in 2013. In 2014 he was appointed as an Adjunct Assistant Professor at NC State. His research interests include novel diagnostic imaging techniques and the use of nanotechnology for the treatment of synovial disorders.

ANDREW JOINS EMERGENCY & CRITICAL CARE SERVICE

Andrew Brown graduated from the University of Cambridge in 2002, and following an internship at Cambridge he completed a residency at the University of Pennsylvania in Emergency and Critical Care. He became a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care in 2006, and worked as an Assistant Professor of Emergency and Critical Care Medicine at Michigan State University. Following three years in private referral practice Andrew joined the University of Edinburgh in 2014 as Senior Lecturer, and now leads the Emergency and Critical Care Medicine service. He is one of only three RCVS recognised specialists in Emergency and Critical Care in the UK.

Andrew has lectured internationally, published widely and contributed to multiple textbooks on all aspects of emergency and critical care. His current research focus is the development of diagnostics to rapidly identify sepsis, and haemostasis in critical illness.



ADAM GOW JOINS INTERNAL MEDICINE TEAM



We're very pleased to welcome back Dr Adam Gow who has returned to the Hospital for Small Animals as a Senior Lecturer in Small Animal Medicine.

Adam graduated from the Dick Vet, and initially worked in two small animal hospital practices in Gloucestershire. On returning to Scotland, three years were then spent in an out-of-hours emergency clinic before joining the School, first as Visiting Clinical Fellow, then Resident in Canine Medicine. Adam went on to become a European Specialist in Veterinary Internal Medicine and Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Diplomate of Small Animal Medicine in 2010. A year was then spent back in first opinion practice in Edinburgh before he then completed a PhD on production of canine liver cells from stem cell sources at the Roslin Institute and Dick Vet.

It is hoped that Adam's research will help development of new drugs as well as reduce the need for animal testing. Adam's clinical and research interests include gastroenterology, liver disease and hepatic encephalopathy.

RICHARD ELDERS JOINS ONCOLOGY



A Dublin graduate, Richard completed an internship at the University of Glasgow, followed by two years in general practice in Gourrock. He completed an ACVIM-approved medicine residency at the RVC and an MSc in Clinical Oncology at the University of Birmingham based on canine mast cell tumours. Richard expanded this research into an RVC-based PhD studentship on mast cell immunotherapeutics and targeting. Thereafter, he worked at Davies Veterinary Specialists and most recently at the Animal Health Trust, gaining a DECVIM-CA (Oncology) and RCVS Specialist status in Veterinary Oncology.

CLINICAL CLUB

Wednesday 2nd July - Update on endocrinology

This clinical club will review the approach to common and more unusual endocrinopathies seen in practice in dogs and cats. Using a series of case studies, we will discuss diagnosis, management and developments in endocrine case care.

The meetings are free, no booking is required, just please come along to

what we hope will be very informative, enjoyable and relaxed CPD sessions led by senior Dick Vet medicine clinicians.

All Clinical Club meetings will take place in Room 1.25 of the Veterinary Teaching Building (beside the Hospital for Small Animals), starting at 7.30pm.

Further details about the meetings are available from Richard Mellanby, at Richard.Mellanby@ed.ac.uk

Further information on the Small Animal Internal Medicine Service can be found at www.ed.ac.uk/vet/hfesa-int-med

VETERINARY CPD COURSES

We deliver a range of online and face-to-face CPD events throughout the year to help veterinary surgeons, veterinary nurses and other animal healthcare professionals to meet their CPD requirements and stay up-to-date with the latest advances.

Each event is tailored to meet the individual requirements of the subject. Please see our CPD website for further information on individual courses.

Events for Summer 2014 Day courses



Foot and Farriery Study Day - 11 July

Online courses

Professional Skills: Managing Complex Issues in the Animal Health and Conservation Workplaces

Rabbit Dermatology

Rabbit and Rodent Anaesthesia and Analgesia

Rabbit and Rodent Critical Care

Approach to abdominal surgery in dogs and cats

Reconstructive surgery in dogs and cats

Wound management in dogs and cats

DAY
1



*...Introducing NEW treats
Making compliance fun*



and for
years to
come...

DAY
60

NEW Metabolic Advanced Weight Solution Treats and Mini

Great compliance with zero deprivation

- Tasty new Canine and Feline Treats
A healthy way to support compliance
- New Metabolic Mini for small and miniature breed dogs with specially designed smaller kibbles



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APPETITE GENES ARE KEY TO BETTER DIETS FOR POULTRY STUDY SHOWS

The welfare of poultry could be improved by a discovery about how chickens regulate their appetites. Scientists have identified how a chicken's genetic make-up can affect the signals sent from its stomach to its brain that tell a chicken when it has had enough to eat.

Poultry farmers often have to restrict food for chickens because some birds are insensitive to feelings of fullness and can overeat, affecting their ability to reproduce.

The study could make it easier to develop methods to develop diets that reduce excess growth more naturally in these birds.

Researchers say that genetic differences, which affect when chickens recognise when they have had enough to eat, could date back thousands of years when chickens were first domesticated and breeds were selected for their size.

Dr Ian Dunn, who led the study at The Roslin Institute, said: "The findings shed greater light on food intake in birds and help us understand why some breeds – in general the faster growing types of chickens – are more insensitive to feelings of fullness than others."

The study, published in the American Journal of Physiology, Endocrinology and Metabolism, focused on a protein called cholecystokinin (CCK) that has a key role in sending signals linked to being full from the gut to the brain.

The researchers, funded by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, found that some birds were better equipped than others at recognising the protein, making them more effective in triggering signals of feeling full.

The study involved cross-breeding a fast-growing meat production strain of chicken with a relatively slow-growing, chicken. The researchers looked at

how the protein was processed in both types of chickens and in the new cross breed.

They showed that reduced levels of protein that recognizes the fullness signal also affected the chicken's natural body weight.

Their findings back up the theory that, when poultry were domesticated thousands of years ago and bred for increased size, their appetite levels were changed. The study could also help inform research looking at appetite regulation in other animals.

Dr Dunn said: "All species regulate their appetites to make sure the amount of food taken in is just the right to maintain body weight and fat content. Our research has shown that there is genetic variation in the interpretation of biological signals sent relating to being full. This also affects what would be considered to be the natural body weight of chickens."

BIRD WELFARE RESEARCH CENTRE

Poultry health and welfare, a key factor in a multi-billion pound food industry, is being boosted with a national centre based at the University's Easter Bush Campus.

The National Avian Research Facility (NARF), which was officially opened by the Minister for Universities and Science David Willetts, will provide a resource for both UK and international researchers studying chicken health and disease.

This £14 million facility, supported by the Biotechnology and Biological Science Research Council (BBSRC), the University of Edinburgh, Roslin Foundation and the Wellcome Trust, is classed as a national capability, due to its strategic importance for UK research.

Its research – dedicated to improving avian health – will have a significant impact on the UK's economy, which has a multi-million pound poultry industry

employing some 35,000 people.

Mr Willetts opened the first of two units that will form the facility in September.

He said: "Agricultural science and technology is one of the world's fastest growing markets and we can't allow the UK to be left behind in the global race. In an industry worth £4 billion to the UK economy employing around 35,000 people, the National Avian Research Facility will enhance the UK's reputation as a world leader in this field."

Researchers at the NARF will study a range of diseases that place a significant economic burden on the food industry, such as *Campylobacter* and *Salmonella*. Chickens are a major food resource providing meat and eggs with a global annual production of over 52 billion chickens.

In addition to conventional avian accommodation, the new facilities will

contain research laboratories for the production of genetically modified (GM) chickens. Scientists at The Roslin Institute have already used GM technology to produce chickens that are unable to spread bird flu.

Future development at the NARF will also include specially designed sterile areas, which, together with the conventional avian accommodation and research laboratories, will enable researchers to work to improve human health by reducing food borne diseases.

This vital UK poultry research is a collaboration between The Roslin Institute, which is incorporated with the University of Edinburgh's Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, and The Pirbright Institute in Surrey.

Both institutes are renowned for their research into animal diseases and are funded by the BBSRC.

MAJOR RESEARCH INTO SUDDEN DEATH IN RACEHORSES

Research at the Dick Vet, funded by the Horserace Betting Levy Board (HBLB), is yielding some clues regarding the provenance and risk factors

The Dick Vet has long been on the forefront of equine research and has a proud history of working with partners across the industry. Recently, the Horserace Betting Levy Board funded a three year scholarship at the Dick Vet, to take the lead in a multi-centre study of sudden death in racehorses, in an attempt to gain a better understanding and find ways to reduce the likelihood of this devastating, but thankfully extremely rare, occurrence.

Sudden equine death is extremely challenging to investigate as it is, by definition, any fatality which occurs in a closely observed and in a previously healthy horse, during or immediately after exercise. The belief, leading to this study, has been that if the risk factors could be identified, this could help to reduce the likelihood of sudden death occurring. The HBLB funded this pioneering study by awarding a scholarship to vet Catriona Lyle, who studied at the University of Edinburgh's Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies with Professor Bruce McGorum, Head of Equine Sciences, Dr Lisa Boden and Dr Tim Parkin.

During Catriona's three-year scholarship she coordinated a collaborative study involving information from racecourses in North America, Australia, Japan and Hong Kong, studying post-mortem data from 284 cases across a 20-year period. In the UK post-mortems are not always carried out in cases of sudden death and so gaining access to these international records was essential.

Catriona explained: "The study has shown that the cause of death can be quite variable, ranging from severe lung bleeding to a pelvic fracture that causes massive bleeding into the abdomen. But in approximately half the cases I studied, the pathologist was uncertain

as to the cause of death. The most likely explanation for death in these situations is cardiac rhythm irregularities, but this is very difficult to prove."

Following Catriona's analysis of these international data she then looked at cases of sudden death in British Racehorses. Over a seven year period, with over seven hundred thousand race starts, there were 201 sudden deaths on British racecourses. The same syndrome is known to occur in eventing, show jumping and hunting but statistics have not been established in these sports.

There have been estimates that in the general horse population around 5% of horses in the same age range as racehorses die each year because of illness or injury. Cardiac disease accounts for about 5% of these deaths and older horses in the general population are more prone to cardiovascular related death.

In the UK sudden death study, Catriona found that increasing age is a risk factor, steeplechases posed more of a risk than flat races and racing during the summer was associated with a greater risk of sudden death. However, this should be put in the context that, on average, steeplechasers are older than hurdlers or Flat horses.

Jenny Hall, chief veterinary officer of the British Horseracing Authority, welcomed Catriona's findings.

"This was an extremely useful project," she stated. "We are continuing to build on Catriona's research with an ongoing investigation currently running at Britain's northern racetracks.

"Sudden death is very distressing and we hope that owners will understand that allowing a full investigation into every racecourse death will help us reduce this risk."

Professor Willie Donachie, Chairman of the HBLB's veterinary advisory

committee, adds: "We were delighted to see how well Catriona got on during her scholarship."

"Not only did she complete two major studies on sudden death where her results will pave the way to reducing this problem but she also passed her European Diploma exam; a fantastic set of achievements in only three years."

Key Facts from the study

- This was a major study into death on UK racecourses
- British Horseracing Authority records of 705,914 race starts from 1st January 2000 to 31 December 2007 were reviewed
- The problem is extremely rare
- There were 201 cases of sudden death associated with racing
- Horses running in the National Hunt races were more at risk for sudden death than those in Flat races
- Horses that had raced within the last 60 days were less likely to be affected
- Identification of these risk factors may help towards reducing the risk of sudden death in the future

Publications arising from the study

Lyle CH, Uzal FA, McGorum BC, Aida H, Blissitt KJ, Case JT, Charles JA, Gardner I, Horodagoda N, Kusano K, Lam K, Pack JD, Parkin TD, Slacombe RF, Stewart BD, Boden LA (2011) **Sudden death in racing Thoroughbred horses: an international multicentre study of post mortem findings.** Equine Vet J 43 324-331.

Lyle C, Blissitt K, Kennedy N, McGorum BC, Newton R, Parkin T, Stirk A, Boden L (2012) **Risk factors for race-associated sudden death in Thoroughbred racehorses in the UK (2000-2007).** Equine Vet J 44 459-465. DOI: 10.1111/j.2042-3306.2011.00496.x.

UNDERSTANDING LUNG DISEASE

Researchers at The Roslin Institute and the Dick Vet are investigating how molecular probes can be used to diagnose bacterial infections in lung disease more rapidly.

The probes, being developed by Mark Bradley's group in the School of Chemistry, can potentially be used to identify the number and type of inflammatory cells and bacteria in the distal lung in real time, giving significant advantages in selecting the most appropriate therapy for intensive care patients presenting with radiological evidence of lung infiltrates.

Usually significant delay is incurred when physicians have to wait for the results from the culture of biological samples. Real-time visualisation of probes interacting with their targets is achieved through the use of high resolution confocal fibre-optic microendoscopy, an advanced imaging technique that can identify changes at a cellular level.

Researchers are using the probes in ventilated sheep lungs in order to test their performance and reliability under clinically relevant physiological conditions. The study forms part of a 'one medicine, one health' approach with the aim that such probes could be used for both human and veterinary medicine.

Dr David Collie, a Reader in the Division of Developmental Biology at The Roslin Institute and The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, said: "The use of these probes is an emerging field. Whilst the initial application is likely to be in human medicine, as probes become more available and affordable, their practical relevance will potentially extend to veterinary medicine."

The research, carried out in collaboration with Professor Chris Haslett and Dr Kev Dhaliwal in the University's Centre for Inflammation Research, exemplifies the close ties that exist between researchers and their clinical and scientific colleagues.

The potential also exists for molecular probes to provide insight into the pathophysiology of a range of conditions including radiation-induced lung injury, cystic fibrosis and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

"In addition to their potential value in dissecting the mechanisms underlying common diseases in the lung, in vivo imaging technologies allied to molecular probe design potentially also provides the means to more precise diagnosis and more effective therapies across a range of lung conditions" said Dr Collie

Researchers are also looking at why radiation treatment used to treat lung cancer, breast cancer and lymphoma, can also lead to pneumonitis – inflammation of the lung tissue.

Their work could help highlight which cases have a greater risk of radiation pneumonitis, which would in turn enable clinicians and veterinarians to tailor the radiotherapy treatment accordingly.

PIG DISEASE IS TARGET OF GENETIC STUDY

Transatlantic research group to tackle porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome

A fast mutating virus that affects pig herds and costs pork producers millions of pounds each year is being targeted by scientists.

A transatlantic research group is to tackle porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS), which leads to reproductive failure in breeding stock and causes respiratory tract illness in young pigs.

Also known as Blue-Ear Pig Disease, the condition can prove fatal as it affects pigs' immune systems and leaves them vulnerable to other infections.

Researchers at The Roslin Institute are working with Iowa State University, which has received a \$3 million grant, to find

ways to tackle this devastating virus.

They will study whether some pigs have a genetic makeup that makes them less likely to become sick following infections. This knowledge could help to ensure the breeding of healthier pigs, which are less likely to succumb to PRRS.

The virus is especially virulent as it evolves rapidly. As a result it now has many genetic variants. This causes challenges in vaccine production, as an inoculation against one strain does not protect against another strain of the virus.

The research will include look at whether breeding for a specific gene variant, which protects against PRSS, does not have knock-on effects such as

making the animal more vulnerable to another disease.

Professor Steve Bishop, of The Roslin Institute said: "The constant mutation of the PRRS virus means that the efficacy of vaccines is severely hindered. This collaborative research project will enable us to assess the potential use of breeding to help reduce the impacts of this problematic disease."

The \$3 million grant to look into PRRS was awarded by the US Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture, while The Roslin Institute receives strategic funding from the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council.

CATTLE CAN BE A SOURCE OF MRSA IN PEOPLE SCIENTISTS FIND

The A type of MRSA found in humans originated in cattle at least 40 years ago, new research has found.

The Roslin Institute study provides clear evidence that livestock were the original source of an MRSA strain which is now widespread in people.

Researchers studied the genetic make-up of more than 40 strains of the bacterium *Staphylococcus aureus*, which can build up antibiotic resistance to develop into MRSA.

At least two genetic subtypes of the bacterium, which have become endemic in people, were then traced back to cattle by the scientists.

Researchers say the most likely scenario is that the bug crossed over from cattle to people through direct contact – perhaps through people working with farm animals.

The research will help scientists find out how the bacteria are able to spread and cause disease in humans and to prevent further strains from jumping from livestock.

After switching to human hosts, the *Staphylococcus aureus* bacterium became resistant to the antibiotic methicillin and developed into methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* or MRSA. In addition, the bacteria acquired the ability to avoid attack by the human immune system. However, these bacteria that originated in cattle do not appear to be more aggressive or more resistant to antibiotics than other MRSA affecting humans.

Lead researcher, Professor Ross Fitzgerald, of The Roslin Institute, said: “Human infections caused by bacteria being transmitted directly from livestock

are well known to occur. However this is the first clear genetic evidence of subtypes of *Staph. aureus* which jumped from cattle and developed the capacity to transmit widely among human populations’.

Laura Spoor, of The Roslin Institute and first author on the research paper, added: “This research provides insight into how some strains of MRSA have evolved and help us better understand how they have adapted to cause disease in different host species.”

The research was funded by the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) and Swan-Riddell Ker Memorial PhD studentship. It involved The Roslin Institute, the University of Cambridge, National Food Institute Denmark, the UK Health Protection Agency and the Statens Serum Institute, Denmark.

RED SQUIRRELS THRIVING ON ISLAND

Red squirrels living on a Scottish island are fighting fit



A survey of the animals on the Isle of Arran has been conducted by scientists who are monitoring the population in a bid to help save the species.

They have found the squirrels to be in excellent health and showing few signs of disease.

Researchers were particularly relieved to find no evidence of the deadly squirrelpox virus.

Keeping squirrelpox at bay is vital to red squirrel survival and being on an island gives Arran’s population the best chance of avoiding this disease.

The findings are good news for the future of this endangered species.

Red squirrels around the UK are under threat from deadly diseases and competition for food and habitat from grey squirrels, which were introduced to Britain from North America in the 19th century.

Arran is one of 19 red squirrel strongholds in Scotland - there are no grey squirrels on the island. Red squirrels are found in both deciduous and coniferous woods all over the island.

The survey was led by vets and scientists at the University’s Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies and funded by the People’s Trust for Endangered

Species and Forestry Commission Scotland.

The team humanely trapped and examined 21 live squirrels with the help of local foresters and rangers.

Vets also examined the remains of 16 squirrels that had been killed on the roads.

Detailed health checks included tests for common squirrel diseases, such as parasites and viruses, and also investigated the genetics of the animals.

Professor Anna Meredith, Head of the Exotic Animal and Wildlife Service at The Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies said: “Some populations of red squirrels have been found to have high levels of diseases, and lack of genetic diversity could also affect their health, so we’re delighted to find that Arran’s red squirrels are fit and healthy.”

EASTER BUSH AND BEYOND: DINNER WITH A DIFFERENCE!



Our fantastic veterinary teaching building played host to a wide range of partners, friends, and supporters on Wednesday 19th February. The event was hosted by The University of Edinburgh's Vice-Principal, Professor Mary Bownes and Professor David Argyle, Head of the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies.

Guests enjoyed a drinks reception and the opportunity to meet staff and colleagues, followed by a welcome address and presentation on the past, present and future of the Vet School's Easter Bush Campus.

Professor Argyle thanked our guests for their tremendous support and gave them a vision of our future with further multi-million pound investment planned at Easter



Bush. Our Veterinary Student Council President, Stacy Eastman, then gave a fascinating insight into her life as a student at the Dick Vet which received warm applause from all present.

After the presentations, dinner was served in the School's atrium with



guests enjoying good company in a wonderful setting.

We were delighted to host this successful evening at such an exciting time in the School's development.

THANK YOU TO THE DICK VET'S COMMUNITY OF SUPPORTERS

Over the past year we have been grateful to receive wonderful support from alumni, clients and friends of the School. Many of you have contributed to our Animal Hospitals Fund which helps us buy vital new items of equipment, our small animal MRI Scanner appeal, or supported the student Access Bursary programme. Whether you've given a donation, carried out fundraising on our behalf or have one of the Dick Vet collection cans at your premises it all adds up. We are pleased to highlight here two examples of how donations have helped the School

EQUINE HOSPITAL BENEFITS FROM NEW IMAGING EQUIPMENT



Richard is pictured at the dedication of the Charles Davidson Seminar room, along with his Dad, Aunt and Uncle.

Staff, students and patients at the Dick Vet Equine are benefiting from four fantastic new state-of-the-art items of imaging equipment including an ultraportable laptop ultrasound scanner thanks to generous support from Friend of the School, Richard Davidson. The gift honours Charles Davidson, Richard's late grandfather who studied, and worked at the Dick Vet for over 30 years. Richard explains: "As a young man my grandfather worked as a pit blacksmith before entering the Dick Vet in 1923. He was due to sit his final exams in 1928, but was unable to due to a severe bout of rheumatic fever, meaning he received an ungraded degree despite being an outstanding student. In the following year after his graduation, he was put forward for and awarded the Fitzwygram Prize." Richard's family still have his certificate. After graduating, Charles went into private practice in Cheshire, before

returning to join the Dick Vet staff in 1933 to help found the department of clinical veterinary medicine. Charles remained on the staff, mainly working in the field, until his retirement in 1965. We were pleased to be joined by Richard, his Dad, Aunt and Uncle to formally dedicate the Charles Davidson Seminar room in the teaching building in recognition of the gift.

VETS OF 1973 SUPPORT THE DICK VET

In September, the class of 1973 celebrated their 40th year reunion. 22 graduates made their way to Edinburgh from all corners of the globe to relive their experiences of studying at the Dick Vet. Reunion organiser George Gunn explained: "Some alumni hadn't seen each other for over 30 years so there was a lot to catch up on, but I wanted to ensure the weekend was meaningful in more ways than one, including giving something back to our alma mater. That weekend we started the Vet 1973 reunion fund and I have been encouraging all the class to contribute so together we can have an impact on the next chapter of the Dick Vet." We are thrilled that the funds generated will provide two new Access Bursaries to help undergraduate vets facing financial difficulties take up their place at Vet School. *Please see page 35 for further details of the reunion.*

MRI SCANNER APPEAL

Last year the Dick Vet launched an appeal to generate funds to acquire an MRI Scanner which will be permanently housed at the Hospital for Small Animals. Very few centres have onsite MRI, so it will be a valuable addition to our diagnostic imaging services to have a dedicated unit. We would like to thank everyone who has supported the appeal so far, and look forward

to keeping you updated with our progress. If you would like to find out more about the MRI Scanner Appeal, or make a donation please contact:

Julie van den Driesche
Email: julie.vandendriesche@ed.ac.uk
Tel: 0131 651 1407
Web: www.ed.ac.uk/vet/mriappeal

SUPER FUTURE FOR SUMMERHALL

Creative hub for the arts retaining strong ties to the Vet School

For almost a Century, Summerhall served as the site where hundreds of students from the Dick Vet honed their veterinary skills.

Today, the iconic building is now in its third year as a creative hub for the arts, showcasing performances and exhibitions, as well as providing studios and workshop spaces for artists.

The last University students and staff moved out of Summerhall at the end of the 2011 and, within just a few months, the building had already undergone renovations to ensure it was ready to become Venue 26 at that year's Edinburgh Fringe Festival.

Bought from the University by a company founded by economist and philanthropist Robert McDowell, Summerhall's reputation and capacity as an arts venue has continued to grow. In the last Fringe festival alone, it hosted more than 1,500 performances from 80 different artists as well as more than 20 exhibitions.

Yet the hive of activity that goes on at Summerhall is not limited to the August festival month, with exhibitions and performances from international artists running all year round.

And while Summerhall may now be an arts venue, there is more than a nod to its history as the Dick Vet. The former Small Animal Hospital is now the Royal Dick Bar, with a portrait of William Dick greeting customers as they walk through the door. And on the bar walls hang skulls, presumably used in days gone by for veterinary anatomy teaching, and shelves with old-fashioned microscopes and various other scientific instruments.

The library has been turned into a large exhibition space, with a café alongside, its brown woolly carpet ripped out to reveal the wooden floorboards underneath and, upstairs the original laboratory benches remain, but glass cabinets have been built on top of them to showcase artists' work. The paint used in renovating Summerhall, is also aptly



The Summerhall building as many of our Alumni and staff will remember it.

named Elephant's breath. The Anatomy Lecture Theatre and Post Mortem rooms, with the sinks still intact, also provide unique venues for shows, where spaces can be transformed according to the performers' needs with clever lighting and black out blinds. In 2012, the Post Mortem Room even hosted the Edinburgh International Fashion Festival and has also been used for a wedding reception.

Marcus Pickering, Managing Director of Summerhall, said: "When we took over the building it was a great challenge, not only to turn Summerhall into an arts venue but also to adapt it so it met all the regulations as a public venue. When you are looking at 535 rooms on a two-and-a-half acre site that is no small feat, but we have tried to retain the history of the building as much as possible.

"The histology laboratory, for instance, has been restored to how it used to be with its sinks, gas taps and copper tubes. We also renovated the area that was originally Hope Park and Buccleuch Congregational Church,

restoring old parts of the church that had been adapted for University use."

A modern micro-brewery has been established at Summerhall, producing Barney's Beer that is served in the Royal Dick Bar. It is returning beer production to the site, where in the 1700s a family-run brewery was established by Robert McLelland. Plans are also underway to start up a gin distillery.

"Summerhall is an incredibly versatile venue," said Mr Pickering. "In addition to shows, exhibitions and events such as Christmas markets, we have around 200 artists working on sites with 102 companies renting spaces. This ranges from creative IT start ups to jewellery making."

"Seeing the building's transformation from vet school to arts venue has been fascinating, and it is by no means complete. We are continuously renovating, restoring and upgrading areas. The amount of imagination needed is incredibly daunting, but that is part of the reason why Summerhall is so unique."

EASTER BUSH CAMPUS GOES FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

Further major investment planned to double capacity by 2025

The Easter Bush campus already has the largest concentration of animal science and animal welfare expertise in Europe. With the siting of the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies and the Roslin Institute opposite each other, collaboration between scientists and veterinarians are enhanced and grown over the past three years. The overall aim of the Campus: To improve animal health and welfare, which in turn can positively impact on human health, in order to deliver solutions to global challenges both within the veterinary and livestock industries.

The Vet School teaching building and The Roslin Institute, which both opened in 2011 with more than £100 million of investment, are just the first phase of development at Easter Bush. Vision 2025 aims for further expansion in order to continue to provide a dynamic and vibrant working environment with world class facilities, which will see the campus double in capacity by 2025.

2013 saw the opening of the first of two units that will form a £14 million National Avian Research Facility. The facility – a resource for both UK and international researchers – is classed as a national capability due to its importance for UK research. Along with conventional avian facilities, specially designed sterile areas (pathogen free) will aid research into avian disease and reducing food-borne diseases.

In 2014, work is also due to start on the Easter Bush Innovation Centre. This will provide key campus facilities as well as have a key role in public outreach activities, from hosting school visits to providing a focal point in the organisation of the Midlothian Science Festival. As such, it will be a key resource for the Easter Bush Research Consortium, which – along with The Dick Vet and The Roslin Institute – includes Scotland's Rural College (SRUC) and the Moredun Research Institute.

In addition to public outreach, the Centre will also be integral in helping newly established companies – spun out of animal science research – to grow. This bio-incubator space, with laboratories and offices, is where newly established businesses can translate research into practical applications. For instance, this could include initiatives to improve livestock farming to help find ways to ensure sustainable food production amid a growing global population. The hub, which has received £25 million worth of funding from the Scottish Government, the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council and the University of Edinburgh is due to be completed in 2017.

Val White, Campus Operating Officer at Easter Bush Campus, said: "The Easter Bush Innovation Centre plans



The Easter Bush Innovation Centre will be a hub for the Campus.

provide a unique environment for the fostering growth of young businesses, which are very exciting. At least 70 per cent of our researchers have at least one link with a company, so industry already recognises the knowledge and expertise we have here on the site and this Centre provides an opportunity to enhance and sustain these collaborative links. Also, Easter Bush is very much part of the Midlothian community, which is just one reason why the public outreach component is such a vital component to the Centre plans."

Major investment is also planned for the Dick Vet's Large Animal Clinical Facility, which makes up the final phase of the Easter Bush Vision over the next decade. This includes setting up a Centre for Health Welfare and Rehabilitation of Racehorses, which will look at all stages of a racehorse's career, to provide evidence-based practical advice for the racing industry. In addition, a £25 million Large Animal Research and Imaging Centre is also planned, with PET, MRI, ultrasound and CT scanning facilities. The centre will further complement imaging expertise at the Dick Vet, following on from a £3 million investment in imaging facilities at the Hospital for Small Animals with the opening of the Riddell-Swann Veterinary Cancer Centre in 2009.

ALUMNI IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Class of '85

KATE RICHARDS

My veterinary degree is the foundation of my career which has spanned many different roles working with animals and politicians, in byres and the Boardroom, wearing wellies and heels. I had not anticipated this career path when I graduated from the R(D) SVS with a burning desire to be a farm vet. It has been a fantastic experience and I have learnt an enormous amount, working with people in a number of different professions in the UK and further afield.

I spent 14 years in practice, as a farm vet, a partner in a mixed practice in the north east of Scotland, enjoying cattle and sheep work. I left practice to join Schering-Plough Animal Health, propelled by the desire to have a more normal working pattern and join a hockey club so that I could play every weekend. As a veterinary advisor in Schering-Plough I worked with farmers and vets across the UK, after gaining a Diploma in Marketing I was promoted to a marketing role.

I have spent the last 10 years in the Civil Service, joining Defra HQ as a



veterinary advisor in 2003. The Civil Service is a vast organisation with 17 departments. I have worked in five departments, in the beating heart of Whitehall, drawing on skills I honed as a practitioner; gathering and analysing evidence, making decisions, strategic financial and business planning and interpersonal skills including listening, influencing, negotiating, communicating. My roles have included: Scientific Secretary to the Spongiform

Encephalopathy Advisory Committee which provided independent advice on food safety, public and animal health issues relating to TSEs; Principal Private Secretary for three Secretaries of State for Scotland dealing with issues as diverse as transport, the UK constitution and the Papal visit to the UK in 2010; Cabinet Office working on the Civil Service Reform Plan; Ministry of Justice providing corporate support to 450 policy officials. Demanding roles which broadened my experience beyond veterinary horizons.

I am a non-executive Director on the Moredun Foundation Board; Moredun's research has led to the development of vaccines, diagnostic tests and treatment strategies for farm animals globally. My work as a Board member requires strategic thinking, financial analysis and business planning in a scientific context which is extremely fulfilling and has brought me in a full circle back to my roots while drawing on the experience of governance, business and resource management I have gained in senior government roles.

VET SCHOOL ALUMNI IN NEW YEAR HONOURS LIST

The School is pleased to announce that two of its alumni were recognised in the New Year Honours list.

Dr Ernest Logan OBE

Dr Ernest Logan, who qualified with a BVM&S in 1959 and then a PhD in 1979, was made an Officer of the Order of the British Empire. Dr Logan received his OBE for services to Agriculture in Northern Ireland.

Mr Edward George Campbell MBE

Mr Edward George Campbell, who qualified with a BVM&S in 1960, was made a Member of the Order of the British Empire. Mr Campbell received his MBE for services to Animal Welfare and to the community in Londonderry.

Both Dr Logan and Mr Campbell have been long term supporters of the School and we are delighted to honour them.



After nine years in general practice I arrived at the Dick Vet surgery department to carry out a field trial using a plasma protein concentrate against E-Coli infection in calves.

I had a laboratory, a technician, Alex Stenhouse, but no protein concentrate. Alex was a God send. He was very knowledgeable and I had the good sense to listen to his advice. Where others failed we produced concentrated Immunoglobulin M which protected calves against Colisepticaemia.

When I left the Dick Vet, Alex Stenhouse was one of the chief technicians in the plasma protein fractionation unit at Liberton.

Dr Ernest Logan

Class of '54

JOE MCALLISTER

I never intended to write a memoir of my career, daughters can be persuasive...!

My background did not foretell that I would eventually become a vet. I grew up on Tyneside. After school I became indentured to Boots chemist. Pharmacy was not for me. Demobbed in 1948, I applied for entry to Houghall Agriculture School. I thoroughly enjoyed the course and was fortunately offered a scholarship to the Royal Dick Vet.

I studied a B.Sc. in conjunction with the M.R.C.V.S. I loved anatomy, especially studying skeletal structures. One day in the canteen, whilst enjoying our rabbit stew, I slipped the scapula of a cat from my pocket, claiming I found it in my stew and announced we were eating cat. Uproar ensued momentarily until I came clean. The metacromion process reassured the diners.

In my student days, money was in short supply. My entertainment was playing soccer for the class team.

On qualifying in 1954, I took an assistantship in Alnwick Northumberland. I gained experience working with farm animals and also perfected my athletic ability running away from a highland cow down with milk fever. On another occasion a Galloway chased me around a byre.

My old Ford Anglia got me through the harsh winter of 1955, narrowly missing being snowed in for 6 weeks in the valleys of the Cheviots.

That summer I was diagnosed in the R.V.I. Newcastle with acute undulant fever, with a titre of 1:20,000, at which point they stopped making dilutions.

From then until 1957, I worked with Mr. Robinson in Carlisle, an excellent practitioner. There I renewed my acquaintance with Galloway cows, being flung through an open byre door by one.

In January 1957, I joined the Irish Department of Agriculture. It was a case of "cherchez la femme." I saw in the New Year of 1958 in Co. Cork, containing an outbreak of swine flu.

The ordinary small farmer, being extremely poor, never called out a vet. In fact they used the services of the local handyman.

Small acreages of poor land running 2-3 cows, rarely more. White washed cottages, beautifully kept, sharing them with their cows. Very kind people, helpful and extremely nice to work for.

I got married in 1960 and stayed living in the West. I joined the Meat Inspector Division of the Department at Co. Mayo Bacon Factory. In 1970 I transferred to the Mayo District Vet office in charge of eradication schemes and had the satisfaction of seeing



Joe McAllister.

the incidence of diseases decline. I enjoyed my life in Western Ireland. Veterinary has been very good to me, allowing me to pursue many interests. The angling on the lakes of Mayo is excellent. Sailing in Clew Bay is glorious with all the beautiful islands regularly visited over the years. Clare, Innishturk, Innishboffin, the Inishkeas and the Arrans - golf courses in abundance.

I've had the pleasure of enjoying a long retirement since 1987, and being a kept man by my wife, who continues to work part-time as a Pharmacist.

In short, a pleasant and productive long life to look back upon.

Class of '72

DAVID FRANKLIN: HONORARY FELLOWSHIP OF THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF VETERINARY SURGEONS

David receives his award from former RCVS President Jacquie Molyneux.

David Franklin has been elected as an Honorary Fellow of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

At the awards ceremony held at the Royal College of Physicians in London in July 2013, the President of the RCVS, Jacquie Molyneux, told the audience, "David is a talented equine veterinarian who has far exceeded the high personal, clinical and professional standards that he has set himself throughout his career, both as a practising vet and in his work with the Veterinary Defence Society. He has demonstrated enthusiasm and professionalism at all levels and is an exemplary ambassador for the veterinary profession."

In presenting David with his scroll of Fellowship, the President congratulated

him on his 'considerable contributions to the profession', and concluded by saying, "He is a great communicator, treating all individuals with the same empathy, fairness, wisdom and professionalism. This is a difficult blend of qualities, and it has been present in David's work in simply exceptional measure."

David was delighted to be joined at the ceremony by his wife, Helen, a fellow Dick Vet graduate, his son and wife, his son being a housemaster at Wellington College in Berkshire, and his daughter, a doctor, who flew in from Sydney with her husband especially for the occasion.

Class of '73 REUNION

In early September, graduates from the Class of 1973 made their way to Edinburgh from across the UK and Ireland, and as far afield as the USA, Canada, and South Africa to relive their experiences of studying at the Dick Vet.

The weekend got underway on Friday with a relaxed reception giving everyone a chance to re-acquaint themselves;

The original graduation photo was brought along by reunion organiser, George Gunn, which had everyone reminiscing about the student days.

On Saturday morning the group enjoyed a tour of the new vet school facilities at the Easter Bush Campus on the edge of Edinburgh, and were able to see how much the School had changed since the Summerhall days 40 years ago.

This was followed in the evening by a formal dinner with partners held at the University's Playfair Library, and attended by special guests Professor David Argyle, current Head of School and retired lecturer, Alan Rowland.

A great time was had by all remembering experiences of Edinburgh and sharing stories about where the last 40 years has taken everyone.



Class of 1973, then (bottom) and now (top), pictured with Head of School, Prof David Argyle, and Sally Anne Argyle.

Class of '63 REUNION



The Class of 1963 met up in October to toast each other's success and reflect on their careers since leaving vet school. They met up on Friday in Edinburgh for a relaxed evening and had a tour of the new facilities at the Easter Bush Campus on the Saturday morning. The focus of Saturday was a formal black-tie dinner held at the Royal Scots Club and a wonderful evening was enjoyed by all, remembering student days and experiences at the Dick Vet.

Class of '83 REUNION



The Class of 1983 came together again for their thirty year reunion in September. The event was organised by Christine Shield and Mervyn Drever who said:

“Our visit to the ‘new’ Dick Vet was really fascinating. We enjoyed a highly entertaining and enlightening tour of this well-thought out and superbly-designed teaching facility.”

“The wonderful talk by Colin Warwick gave an excellent balance reflecting the history and evolution of the Dick Vet schools with the modern facility now at Easter Bush. The Dinner and entire weekend was a great success and as a year group we were delighted to make our donation to the School in recognition of the past, present and future of this truly unique Vet School.”



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Thurs 19th June to Sun 22nd June
Royal Highland Show
Ingliston, Edinburgh

SMALL ANIMAL MEDICINE CLINICAL CLUB 2014

Wed 2nd July
Update on endocrinology

Further events

For details of further events, including the Clinical Club, please visit: www.ed.ac.uk/vet/events

HOW TO CONTACT US

We depend on your support to maintain our high standards and fund new developments. You can help us to deliver the future of veterinary medicine. Here's how to contact us:

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Help us to keep in touch. We would like to keep in regular contact with our readers. If you would like us to email you details of news and events, please email your name and full address to vet.alumni@ed.ac.uk