



Veterinary Science Newsletter

News and events



UQ VETS critical care saves a life

When Humphrey was found by his owners, he was under the pool cover and was non-responsive. His quick-thinking owners immediately performed CPR, after which he started breathing again. Humphrey was rushed to his primary care vet where medications and oxygen therapy was administered. Humphrey's vet was concerned about his breathing and lung function so he was referred to UQ VETS for 24 hour veterinary critical care.

Humphrey required oxygen therapy and sedation over the first night to keep his blood oxygen saturation within normal range. Unfortunately, he deteriorated over Monday morning and the oxygen therapy became inadequate. In order to supply him with the oxygen he needed he was anaesthetised and a tube was placed into his trachea or 'windpipe'. He was then put on a ventilator, which is a breathing machine and also referred to as "life support" in human medicine. This specialised therapy can only be provided at clinics such as UQ VETS, who have board certified criticalists, full-time emergency and critical care vets and critical care residents on site, working around the clock.

Special blood tests were taken from one of Humphrey's arteries to measure his lung function. At the time he was placed on the ventilator, his lungs were working at around 20% of normal. The ventilator 'breathing machine' allowed supplementation of a high level of oxygen to keep him alive. It also helped to open up his airways and prevented fluid accumulating in the tissues.

Over Tuesday, the settings were reduced to allow his own breathing function to take over. Chest X-rays were performed which revealed a marked amount of oedema (fluid)

in his lungs. We believe Humphrey developed non-cardiogenic pulmonary oedema, a type of fluid on the lungs which develops from holding your breath.

By Wednesday, Humphrey's lung function improved to around 90%. Due to reduced blood pressure from his sedatives, he was weaned off the ventilator over a few hours. He was recommenced to be put on nasal oxygen support from this point. On Wednesday night through Thursday morning, Humphrey had a total of 3 seizures. As Humphrey was in the Intensive Care Unit, the on-site veterinarian was able to immediately identify this issue and treat accordingly. Humphrey had no more seizures from Thursday and was neurologically normal by Friday.

Humphrey was discharged home the next Monday, after spending one week in Hospital. (Photo: Humphrey upon discharge with his owners)



UQ VETs and The School of Veterinary Science at the 2019 RNA show or Ekka

UQ VETs and The School of Veterinary Science were well represented at the 2019 RNA show or Ekka. UQ VETS again provided veterinary care for many species of animals at the exhibition and our students volunteered to help out at the animal nursery. Congratulations to Dayboro and Production Animal Services for providing excellent care to the animals. UQVETs presence was highlighted by lovely purple branded scrimmage around

the veterinary examination areas in the new Large Animal pavilion. SVS also had a stall in the Experience Beef area. Thanks to all our staff and student volunteers, particularly Rachel Allavena, Paul Mills, Rowland Cobbold, Jayne McGhie, and Ben Wood.



1969 BVSc graduate reunion

The Head of School hosted the 1969 BVSc Graduates 50 year reunion on 29 June. The group of 20 toured the Veterinary Teaching Hospital, Clinical Studies Centre, Clinical Skills hub and Darbalara before enjoying dinner at the Foundation Building. It was a wonderful day with time to engage in lots of discussion about old times and the future.



Mrs O'Leary and Charlene Mooken (Moo)

The Holstein Simulator Cow and Calf have been named Mrs O'Leary and Charlene Mooken (Moo). Congratulations to Dick Wright for being granted this prestigious honour.

Mrs O'Leary, the famous cow of Catherine "Cate" O'Leary is popularly blamed for causing the Great Chicago Fire in 1871 by kicking over a lantern in her stable while her owner was druckmilking. In fact, while the fire did start in the O'Leary's barn, investigators never determined the true cause of the fire. It was later found that the cow story was "fake news" made up by a journalist with the aim to sell newspapers. "She symbolised health, safety and wellbeing when working around animals".

Charlene Mooken was sent to a Camp Washington Slaughterhouse, but escaped by jumping a fence! After eluding the traps and tranquilizer darts of officials and police

officers for over 11 days, she was finally captured late one night in Ohio. After that show of spirit and dedication, she was allowed to live out her days at Farm Sanctuary's New York Shelter, where she was popular with animal rights activists and animal lovers. She lost a battle with spinal cancer in 2008, but her memory and spirit lives on, along with that of other cows in history who've successfully escaped the abattoir. "She symbolized the will to live, to enjoy life and not be messed with!" (Susie Coston).

And once again the SVS students have done the school proud by volunteering to showcase our new model in action, for a recent media release. Many thanks to all those involved.



Jashim Uddin presents his research in Norway

Jashim Uddin, a PhD Student based at the Centre for Animal Welfare and Ethics, recently attended the 53rd congress of the International Society for Applied Ethology (ISAE), in Bergen Norway, held from 5-9 of August 2019. There were 411 participants from all over the world who presented their cutting edge research on different aspects of animal welfare. Jashim presented his research work titled "A sampling strategy for the determination of infrared

temperature of relevant external body surfaces of dairy cows." In addition, Jashim had the opportunity to visit a Robotic dairy farm, an intensive but free range poultry farm, a mountainous goat farm where machine milking is used to milk goats, an organic salmon fish farm and a tour on the fjords lake. Jashim was granted a prestigious fellowship to attend this congress.



Gatton NAIDOC Festival 2019

Part of a broader three day intercampus event, the Gatton NAIDOC Festival was held on Wednesday 7 August in the central walkway. The campus hosted a range of activities including a Welcome to Country from traditional owners, smoking ceremony, cultural dance, painting and weaving workshops. Planning for the event was carried out by a small group of SAFS and SVS staff and students. Special thanks to Tarriaki Duncan for all of her organisation and to our MC, Stefenni Bourne.

(Photo: Staff and students had the privilege of participating in the smoking ceremony)



UQ Avian and Exotics Service participates in wildlife disease surveillance program

The UQ Avian and Exotics Service in the VMC is participating in a nationwide wildlife disease surveillance program coordinated by Wildlife Health Australia (WHA). All wildlife cases seen by Bob Doneley and his team are recorded and this data is transcribed by Stephanie Shaw (and previously Helen Owen) and uploaded to a national database (eWHIS - electronic Wildlife Health Information System) for collation and analysis of trends.

[More information](#)

Allison Stewart wins an award at the Australia Bain Fallon Conference



Dr. Allison Stewart won the 2019 Annual Equestrian Veterinarians of Australia Awards of Excellence Research Based Poster Prize for the poster: *Stewart AJ, Yuen, KY, Hinrichsen S, Bertin FR*. Effect of sample handling on ACTH concentrations following thyrotropin-releasing hormone (TRH) stimulation in horses.* at the 41st Bain Fallon Memorial Lectures, Australian Equine Veterinary Association, Gold Coast, July 2019. The research was part of a grant sponsored by Boehringer-Ingelheim: Co-Cis: Stewart AJ, Bertin FR. Stability of equine

adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH) under conditions encountered by Australian veterinarians. \$30,316



Congratulations Dain Heffernan and Andrea Schoep

Congratulations to Dain Heffernan and Andrea Schoep who welcomed their second child on July 31 – Alexander Larry Heffernan.



Please support Paws for a Purpose

Paws for a Purpose is a registered Australian charity with initiatives in assisting people and their pets. Some of the people they assist include the elderly, disabled and homeless. These are socioeconomic groups that often place so much importance in their pets, yet will struggle to keep them. The charity aims to ensure that everyone has the opportunity to provide for their beloved pets.

Paws for a Purpose is currently working to combat Canine Parvovirus (CPV), a virus that can cause profound effects and potentially death in puppies. CPV is currently an important disease in Australia despite the availability of a vaccine, still popping up in locations around the country as an outbreak or epidemic. To help support this initiative for further research into preventing and controlling Canine Parvovirus, they are selling a 100g bag of dog food treats for \$12.40. They are also selling T-shirts and singlets for \$35 each. A small amount of the money will also go to the halfway dinner committee. It would be great if we could help the charity out! Even one bag of treats would be greatly appreciated.

[More information](#)

Teacher showcase

Professor Malcolm Jones

Malcolm Jones is best known for his role as a teacher of animal diversity and parasitology. Mal teaches veterinary, veterinary technology and science students in the diversity and interactions of life forms, leading to a detailed overview of the parasites affecting domestic animals. He is also known for having rather strange friends who have at some points in their lives infected themselves with parasites (as Mal has) and



he will often recount these stories of self-sacrifice!

What makes Mal a great teacher? He makes parasites interesting and enjoyable to learn about. He is known to be one of the most empathic and caring teachers in the School.

Mal has always been a great supporter of the students and was instrumental in the formation of the Peer Support Network. In his words: *"I was working with students who had the desire to set up our Peer Support Network. I*

remember the students wanted to know whether UQ and the school would support a PSN. It just happened that we had invited David Bartram to speak at the school for our 80th Anniversary, and at the SIG week, on Mental wellness for veterinarians. I was able to get the students to speak with David as he had experience with PSNs. David, of course, advised the students to exercise caution. The students were undying in their passion, however, and with some philanthropic funding provided through links created by Jon Hill, we were able to kick start the PSN."

Mal is also delighted to be a part of VFL and the VTFL programs. *"I think that these have done so much to promote well-being and positive approaches to studies for many students."*

Mal was Director of Students for eight years. In this role, Mal assisted students to navigate their studies and the university PPLs, particularly when the going got tough for those students. He found this role incredibly rewarding as he learned about the tenacity and strength of many of our students. Mal also enjoys enabling students to pursue some aspects of their training overseas, especially in facilitating clinical EMS in vet clinics in Brazil. *"It was great to see our aspiring vets interact with international colleagues and to foster links that transcend coastlines, borders, language and culture with respect to animal care and welfare."*

Student testimonial

"Hi Mal,

Just wanted to pass on my totally (sic) appreciation of you as a vet lecturer.You instantly made me love my degree and managed to make learning about parasites enjoyable when it has the potential to be very dry.....So long story short, thank you very much for everything you've taught and inspired in me. If only every lecturer could be as helpful as you!"

Brought to you by the SVS Vet Ed Network

Vital statistics:

Years of tertiary teaching: 20+

Discipline areas: Parasitology, veterinary biology

Course coordination: VETS1060, VETS3009

Teaching courses: VETS1060, VETS2006, VETS2032, VETS1005, VETS3009

Residential Schools: VETS2032

Current RHD students: Dayana Barker, Gangi Samarawickrama, Oyime Poise Aula

Student Quote:

"I'm still at UQ - my favorite so far is Professor Mal Jones for his unwavering support of students and staff alike."

Upcoming events and opportunities



Geospatial Methods in the Garden City

21-25 October, 8am-4.30pm, Toowoomba City Library. International expert Dr Emanuele Giorgi will provide an introduction to geostatistical models and their application to disease mapping problems. Participants will learn how to carry out geostatistical analysis using state-of-the-art methods and statistical software.

[More information](#)

Inaugural Veterinary Wellness Symposium

This event will be held on November 1 and 2 at Cedar Creek Lodge, Tambourine Mountain.

Working in a stressful, continually changing, and emotionally charged environment can be heart breaking and debilitating to our health. At this Wellness Symposium we offer the opportunity to learn positive strategies to build resilience, and to combat compassion fatigue and burnout.

[More event details](#)

Third National Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) Forum

This event will be held in Brisbane on 8 November 2019 at the RBWH Education & Conference Centre at Herston.

SVS is a major partner to this event, which brings together physicians, nurses, pharmacists, veterinarians, dentists, policy makers, and others, under a multidisciplinary umbrella of effective action against AMR in human and animal medicine.

On Thursday afternoon prior to this conference, there is a veterinary workshop - [Developing and Using Prescribing Guidelines: Guidelines to the Guidelines](#). As many SVS staff and students as possible are encouraged to attend in person. The seminar room for the workshop will be Zoom enabled for those that cannot make it to Herston. Any questions please contact Justine Gibson or Rowland Cobbold.

[More event details](#)



UQ VETS Equine Practitioners Conference 2020

The Second Annual UQ VETS Equine Practitioners Conference will be held on Wednesday 5 and Thursday 6 February 2020 with themes of colic, lameness, cardiology and reproduction. There will be eleven 30 minute lectures from our equine specialists, residents and farrier and then six 90 minute laboratories. Hands-on practical skills will be taught with 23.5 hours of CPD.

[More information](#)

Vet Ed Down Under Symposium 11-13 February 2020: *Sharing practice growing together*

The symposium is a two day event to be held on Tuesday 11 and Wednesday 12 February, 2020, promoting veterinary education in the Australia/New Zealand region through the sharing of innovations, ideas and best practise in teaching and learning in an open and friendly atmosphere. Post-conference workshops will be scheduled on Thursday 13 February, 2020. [Abstract submissions open 1 August!](#)

[More information](#)

In case of an emergency

In case of confirmed emergencies such as gas explosions, life threats, confirmed fire, please contact **000** - remember to call out of UQ first by dialling another 0 first, i.e. **0-000**.

For medical emergencies, UQ still mandates UQ Security be contacted first, all hours, on ext **53333** or **3365 3333**.

In both cases, remember to let them know you are calling from UQ GATTON campus and in the latter case, your building number.

8114 (Veterinary Science Building)

8106 (Veterinary Teaching Building including Anatomy, Post-mortem, MPL and Histo labs)

8156 (Veterinary Medical Centre)

8179 (Clinical Studies Centre)

[School of Veterinary Science](#), The University of Queensland, Phone: (07) 5460 1834

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