

**2010  
AUSTRALIAN VETERINARY ASSOCIATION  
ANNUAL REPORT**



# CONTENTS

3.....The AVA Board	30.....Avian
4.....President's report	31.....Behaviour
6.....CEO's report	32.....Cattle
8.....Treasurer's report	34.....Conservation Biologists
10.....Organisational chart	35.....Dental
11.....Staff structure	36.....Equine
<b>12.....STATE DIVISIONS</b>	38.....Greyhound
12.....Australian Capital Territory	39.....History
14.....New South Wales	40.....Holistic
16.....Northern Territory	40.....Industry
18.....Queensland	42.....Pig
20.....South Australia	43.....Poultry
22.....Tasmania	44.....Practice Management
24.....Victoria	46.....Public Health
26.....Western Australia	48.....Reproduction
<b>28.....SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS</b>	48.....Sheep
28.....Acupuncture	50.....Small Animal
29.....Alpaca	52.....Unusual and Exotic
	54.....Welfare and Ethics

## 56..... FOUNDATIONS AND FUNDS

56.....Australian Companion Animal Health Foundation
56.....Benevolent Fund

## 58..... FINANCIALS

58.....Directors' report
61.....Statement of comprehensive income
62.....Statement of financial position
63.....Statement of changes in equity
64.....Statement of cash flows
65.....Notes to the financial statements
74.....Director's Declaration
76.....Auditor's Independence Declaration
77.....Independent Auditor's Report

# THE AVA BOARD



**BARRY SMYTH**  
President / Nominee of Equine Veterinarians Australia



**PETER GIBBS**  
Vice President



**BEN GARDINER**  
Treasurer



**STEVE ATKINSON**  
Director



**MICHELE COTTON**  
Nominee Of Australian Small Animal Veterinary Association



**RON HARRIS**  
Nominee of Australian Cattle Veterinarians



**MARK LAWRIE**  
Director



**JULIA NICHOLLS**  
Director



**PAM SHORT**  
Director

# CORPORATE SUPPORTERS

PLATINUM AFFINITY PARTNER



PLATINUM SUPPORTER



GOLD EDUCATION SUPPORTER



SILVER SUPPORTER



CORPORATE SUPPORTER





## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**During 2010 we started using the tagline 'We are the profession'. This reflects our reality in two distinct ways. The Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) is the only national voice for veterinarians in Australia, so while not all veterinarians are members, the association is the representative voice for the whole profession in a very real way.**

'We are the profession' also refers to us as members. It's we who run our professional association, it's veterinarians who make the important decisions at the AVA and it's our association whose purpose is to help us meet our collective goals.

To be a credible advocate for its members, the AVA needs to have a large membership base and the resources to service the needs of its members. An overarching aim of the AVA is to have as large as possible percentage of registered veterinary graduates in Australia as members.

At the end of December 2010, there were 6567 AVA members – 1912 student members and 4655 graduate members. Only 70% of graduate members pay full membership fees, 494 (11%) pay no subscription at all and 403 members (9%) pay concessional subscriptions. Life members comprise 93% of those who pay no subscription at all yet enjoy full access to all AVA membership services.

The percentage of registered veterinarians who are AVA members is 48% and there are 66% of undergraduates who are AVA student members. The main area where AVA membership is lacking is in veterinary practitioners who work in city-based small animal practice.

In my first year as AVA President, it has become even more obvious to me that some of the barriers to greater participation

in our association relate to the complexity of our structure. For a small profession (and a smaller association), we need to support a large number of small sub-groups, along with the army of around 500 volunteers needed to run these groups.

A little-understood effect of such a complex structure is that effective communication becomes exponentially more difficult as the number of communicators (for example, our many groups and committees) increases. It becomes harder for an individual member to access the information he or she needs to know.

There are both advantages and disadvantages in our current structure. Members can connect with different parts of the organisation that provide what they need – branches for collegial support or special interest groups for clinical education, for example. However, we also need to be affordable and efficient in our use of resources and this has very much been in the centre of our efforts during 2010.

The current structure of the AVA into a national office with 8 divisions and 37 branches is a result of the way the AVA was set up in 1921. In the mid 1990s special interest groups (SIGs) were set up and currently there are 21 SIGs. This structure means that in addition to the national office and AVA Board, there are 66 group presidents, 66 secretaries, 66 treasurers and 66 committees servicing the needs of AVA members.

Often there is an overlap of functions and too little internal communication, so experiences and corporate knowledge are either not shared across the organisation, or not shared in a timely manner. Thus the day-to-day operations across the AVA are not as efficient as they should be. There

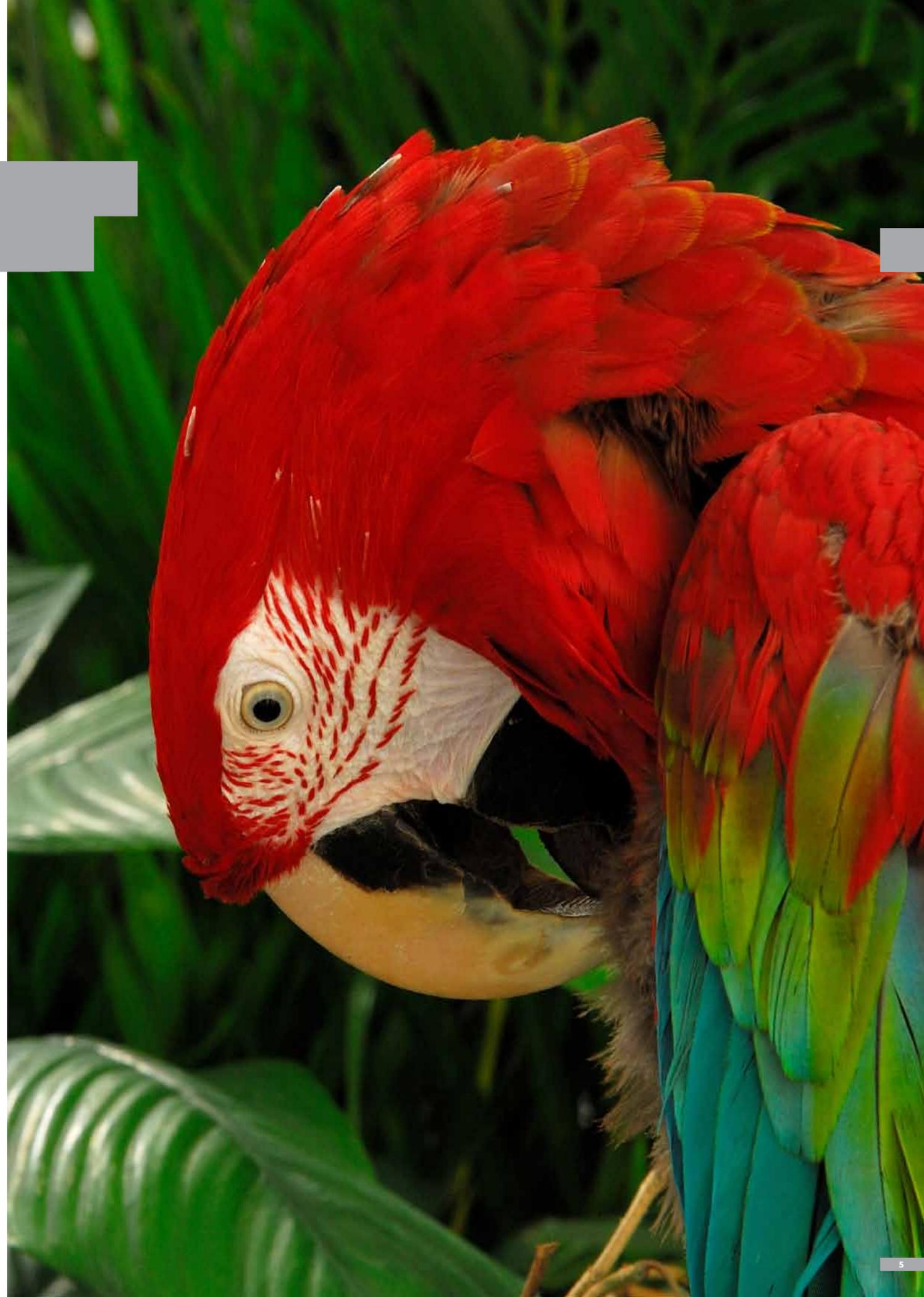
have been changes to management structures in an attempt to address these issues, but this is somewhat hampered by the underlying complex structure of the AVA.

In World Veterinary Year, at the time of the 250th anniversary of the establishment of the first veterinary school at Lyon, and the 90th anniversary of the establishment of the AVA, it is time to reassess how the AVA is organised to ensure the most efficient and effective way to service its members' needs. This will no doubt cause quite a bit of discussion, but this is a discussion that must be had to ensure the future of the AVA as the peak national body for the veterinary profession in Australia.

During 2010, we were able to set some foundations in place to improve the efficiency of our operations as a professional association. We canvassed new ideas about membership and how we can meet a broader range of needs in a more cost-effective way. We also made inroads into improving our financial processes and communicating more effectively with members. We put considerable effort into our membership database to ensure that we have a much better idea of who our members are and what their particular needs are likely to be.

You can find more detail about all we achieved together during 2010 in this annual report. The AVA Board looks forward to continuing to improve how the AVA interacts with its members and services their needs. Thank you for being part of your professional association during 2010 and for all you have contributed to our many achievements.

**Barry Smyth**



## CEO'S REPORT



**Building on the achievements of previous years, 2010 saw some significant progress towards our strategic goals. It was the first year of a new three-year strategic plan, which included organisational values for the first time. Collegiality, integrity, respect, knowledge, animal welfare and innovation are the values identified that inform our decisions and actions as an organisation.**

The vision remained unchanged – “A global community that respects and values the benefits of enhanced animal health, welfare and production.”

Our association's mission was amended “To serve the community as Australia's premier reference group for animal health and welfare, to represent the veterinary profession and to promote the interests of members.”

The strategic plan set out some ambitious targets and we made important progress towards our goals in several areas.

### Speaking for the profession

The objectives of our advocacy program at all levels are clear priorities, consistent messages, effective alliances, and to harness the efforts of all veterinarians to help our elected representatives understand the profession and its concerns.

Our national advocacy program was enhanced in 2010 through the articulation of the profession's policy interests in the lead-up to the federal election. Our policy

platform document, *Veterinarians: our health and agriculture depend on them*, focussed on national policy issues of biosecurity and protecting animal industries, infectious disease response, and healthy communities (through food safety, food security, rural veterinary services and animal welfare). Staff, officeholders and members were able to communicate these concerns to local members of parliament, ministers and shadow ministers.

There were also some significant gains in advocacy at the state and territory level. Western Australia saw the culmination of efforts to close a legislative loophole that meant the continuation of tail docking in dogs. AVA efforts in New South Wales helped increase staffing at the main pathology laboratory, as well as amending proposed changes to the *Veterinary Practice Act*. We also helped secure funding for the development of an equine vaccine against Hendra virus.

Our media program continued strongly in promoting the profession and educating the public, with a 56% increase in coverage compared with 2009.

### Education and information sharing

One of the highlights of 2010 was the Pan Pacific Veterinary Conference in Brisbane. It was a stellar turnout, with more than 1000 delegates and the largest-ever trade exhibition of over 100 exhibitors.

The launch of the long-awaited new AVA website has set the scene for us to move into the mainstream of 21st century online communications. It allowed us to automate many of our manual business processes, provide new tools to help AVA committees, and set up a virtual communications hub for all AVA members with discussion forums. It's also the basis for upcoming offerings like the SciQuest online library, and developments in the delivery of continuing education in new ways.

### Membership

We continued our strong growth in student members, increasing our numbers by 82% over 2009. Our goal is to significantly grow AVA membership as a percentage of all registered veterinarians by 2012. We had hoped to achieve a target of 55% of registered veterinarians being AVA members, but as overall growth in the profession is proceeding at a rapid pace, the number of registered veterinarians increased by 5.3% while the number of full AVA members grew by 2.1%. This year has highlighted both the magnitude of the challenge we have set and the need to stay focussed on this goal.

We continued to add to our portfolio of benefits. AVA members can now take advantage of an offer of discounted rates for home loans and other financial services with AMP Bank. Members can also access

life, disability and trauma insurance without the need for medical exams.

The launch of the AVPMA Veterinary Chart of Accounts was a crucial first step in enabling practices to compare results and improve their business performance to the benefit of both veterinarians and communities.

### Advancing the science

The *Australian Veterinary Journal* had a great year as our flagship scientific publication and the international face of the veterinary profession in Australia. Its impact factor increased by 31% over the previous year, and jumped from 63rd to 48th out of 141 veterinary journals around the globe.

Scientific meetings and publications from special interest groups also performed a vital function in keeping the profession up-to-date and in touch with the global veterinary community.

### Advancing the profession

Our focus on students and new graduates continued as part of our strategy to ensure the AVA remains relevant to the profession in the future. As career patterns change along with the demographics of the profession, the AVA also set in place ways to engage with those who aren't able to attend face-to-face meetings. Our investment in online communication and continuing education opportunities is an important part of including veterinarians on career breaks,

living in remote and regional Australia, and in short-term roles in the AVA.

### Finance

In 2010 our most important financial goal was to achieve the organisational budget target after investing reserves in member services in 2008 and 2009. We performed significantly better than budget, and this is an important first step in returning the AVA to a regular pattern of breakeven and surplus budgets in 2012 and beyond. We met our targets for maintaining cash reserves, liquid assets and our current ratio to ensure that the AVA remains in a strong financial position.

### Governance and management

We recognise that 'one AVA' means working to improve communication across the organisation. In 2010 we held summit meetings with special interest groups and divisions, and continued to develop knowledge of good corporate governance not only within the Board but across all the groups that make up the AVA family. The Board also put in place new systems for regular review of legal compliance and risk management activities as set out in the strategic plan. Staff turnover and training also achieved the targets set out for 2010.

Thanks to the cooperative efforts of committee volunteers, members, staff and corporate supporters, it has been a year of achievements for the profession that every member can be proud of.

We give special acknowledgement to all our AVA sponsors, supporters, trade exhibitors and advertisers. Our AVA corporate supporters Guild, Hill's Pet Nutrition, Provet, Troy Laboratories and IDEXX Laboratories make significant contributions to the work of the association, and we'd like to thank them particularly.

### 2010 Award recipients

Congratulations to all who were honoured in 2010 with an AVA award.

**Gilruth Prize** – Ian Beveridge

**Kesteven Medal** – Laurence Greeson

### AVA Fellowships

- Onn Ben-David
- Norman L Blackman
- Alastair Henderson
- George Barry Smyth

### Meritorious Service Awards

- Cliff Bridle
- Wayne Fitzgerald
- Scott Parry
- Susan Fowkes
- Michael J Cannon
- Trevor Heath
- Deborah Neutze
- Warwick Vale
- Jonathan Lumsden

**Excellence in Teaching Award** – Daniel Schull

**Don Kerr Student Award** – Katie Orr

Graham Catt

# TREASURER'S REPORT



## Financial result

Following the accumulation of surpluses in the years leading up to 2008, the AVA Board approved budget deficits in 2009 and 2010, as it sought to reinvest in the activities of the AVA for the benefit of members.

The final 2010 operating result for AVA parent was a deficit of \$293,014, (consolidated deficit \$270,556), a more favourable result than the budget deficit of \$470,000, by a margin of more than \$170,000.

This result reflected steady operational expenses (decreased by 0.05%) and an increase in income of \$954,000 (10.84%).

The AVA is a complex organisation with a large number of cost centres, which all have their own approved budgets. On behalf of the Board, I would like to express appreciation to the various groups, and associated staff, for their cooperation throughout the year. Their response to the financial advice provided has helped to achieve a result in excess of the AVA budget target.

The AVA strives to provide a return on investment by way of direct and indirect member services and a strategy for future growth of the Association and the profession. It is reassuring to plan and implement change, involving significant expenditure of funds over the past few years, then manage the return to a break even budget for 2011.

Importantly, the AVA balance sheet has been particularly strong in recent years and remains so (as intended) following the two planned deficit years. On a consolidated basis the AVA holds total assets of \$12,188,016 and net assets of \$9,961,018. The AVA parent entity contributes total assets of \$12,108,488 and net assets of \$9,032,459 to these consolidated totals. These asset positions include current assets and investments in shares and managed funds of \$6.691 million.

## Investment performance

During 2010, despite periods of market volatility, the total funds invested in direct shares and managed funds remained buoyant, slightly outperforming the all ordinaries index. While global financial uncertainty prevails we have elected to continue to hold significant cash funds in term deposits. This provides operational liquidity while yielding an average interest rate on these deposits of close to 6% per annum in 2010. The placement of funds for longer terms occurs based on external professional advice.

## Property and equipment

During 2010 there were no major property or asset acquisitions and no material shift in valuations. The AVA holds five offices as freehold and, combined with plant and equipment, these assets provide a book valuation of \$5.417 million as at 31 December 2010.

## Trusts

The AVA has six trusts which have a total equity of \$928,557. The Australian Companion Animal Health Foundation, Animal Welfare Trust, Benevolent Fund, Animal Welfare and Crisis Response Trust, Veterinary Emergency Support Trust and the AVA Animal Welfare Institute held balances of \$660,364, \$56,993, \$186,697, (\$135), \$24,628 and \$10 respectively.

## Key aspects of finance committee activities in 2010

The finance committee continued to meet every month by teleconference or face-to-face preceding AVA Board meetings. Apart from the duties of monitoring and advising on financial performance, we reached agreement to cease the practice of maintaining separate group interactivity account balances.

This agreement was affirmed after much discussion, culminating in a group summit held

prior to the Pan Pacific Conference in Brisbane. Many group treasurers and committees have worked hard over the years to ensure the financial health of their group, but in reality this segregated financial system involved onerous and unnecessary administration. It also reduced our overall financial operational potential by holding multiple silos of funds within the groups.

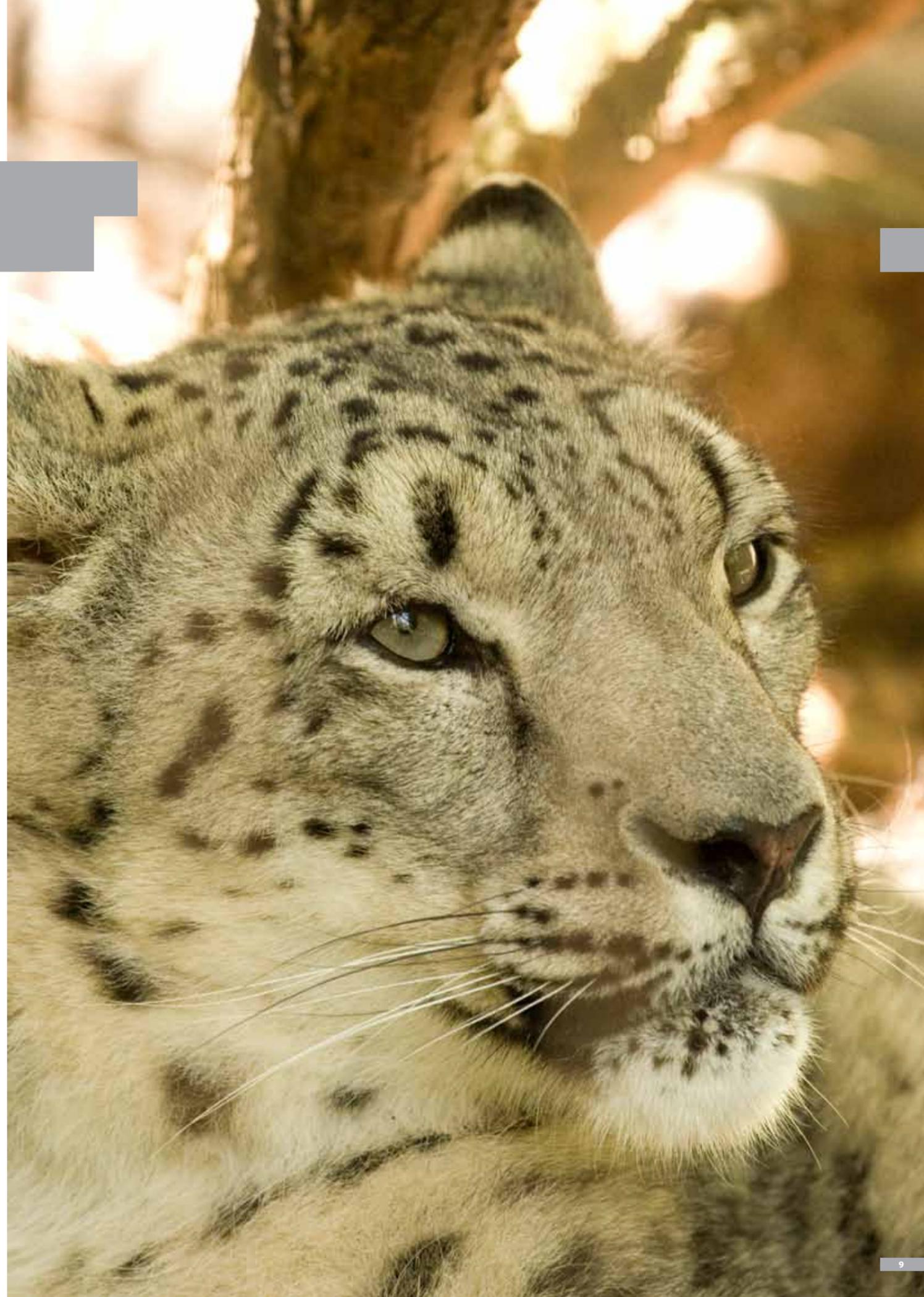
We are, and have been for many years, a single legal entity. The benefits of this unified position should include financial efficiencies, whereby coordinated planning of activities provides financial security to all of its parts, reducing duplication and enabling greater capacity to fund activities regardless of their origin.

During 2010, we also introduced the Budget Charter, with the specific intent of providing guidance on financial matters, expectations of financial responsibilities and a framework for financial communications for all parts of the AVA. The Budget Charter is subject to review, and to be a success requires cooperative goodwill throughout the AVA. I have already been pleased to see an increase in communication between groups, staff and the Board.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the 2010 finance committee, including Directors Julia Nicholls, Kevin McGrath, Ron Harris and Peter Gibbs, along with AVA President, Barry Smyth, CEO, Graham Catt, Secretariat, Sue McGrath, and in particular Corporate Services Manager, John Robb.

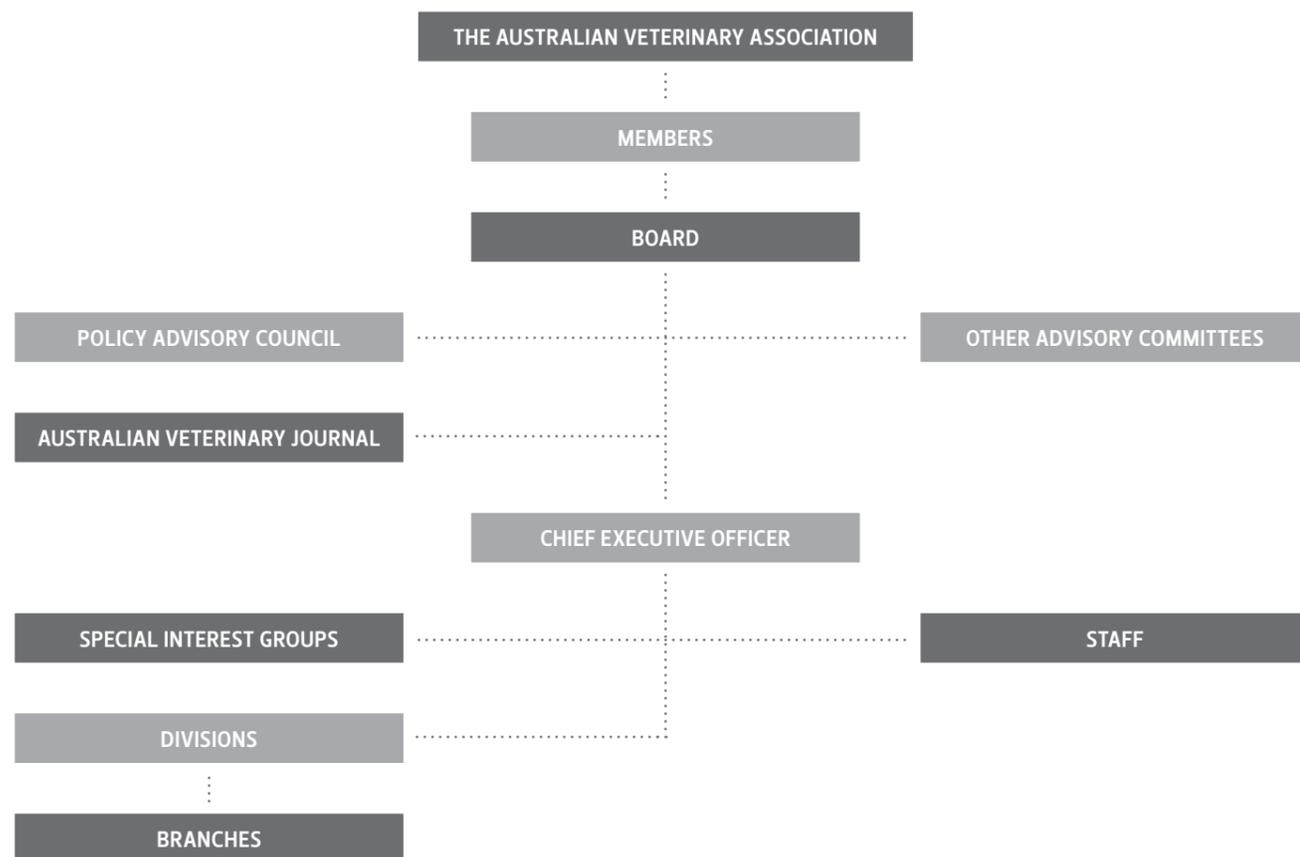
I would also like to like to thank the treasurers from all of our groups, who volunteer their time to oversee our organisation's finances. This year has been one of achievement and improvement that has placed the AVA on a sound financial platform for the future

**Ben Gardiner**

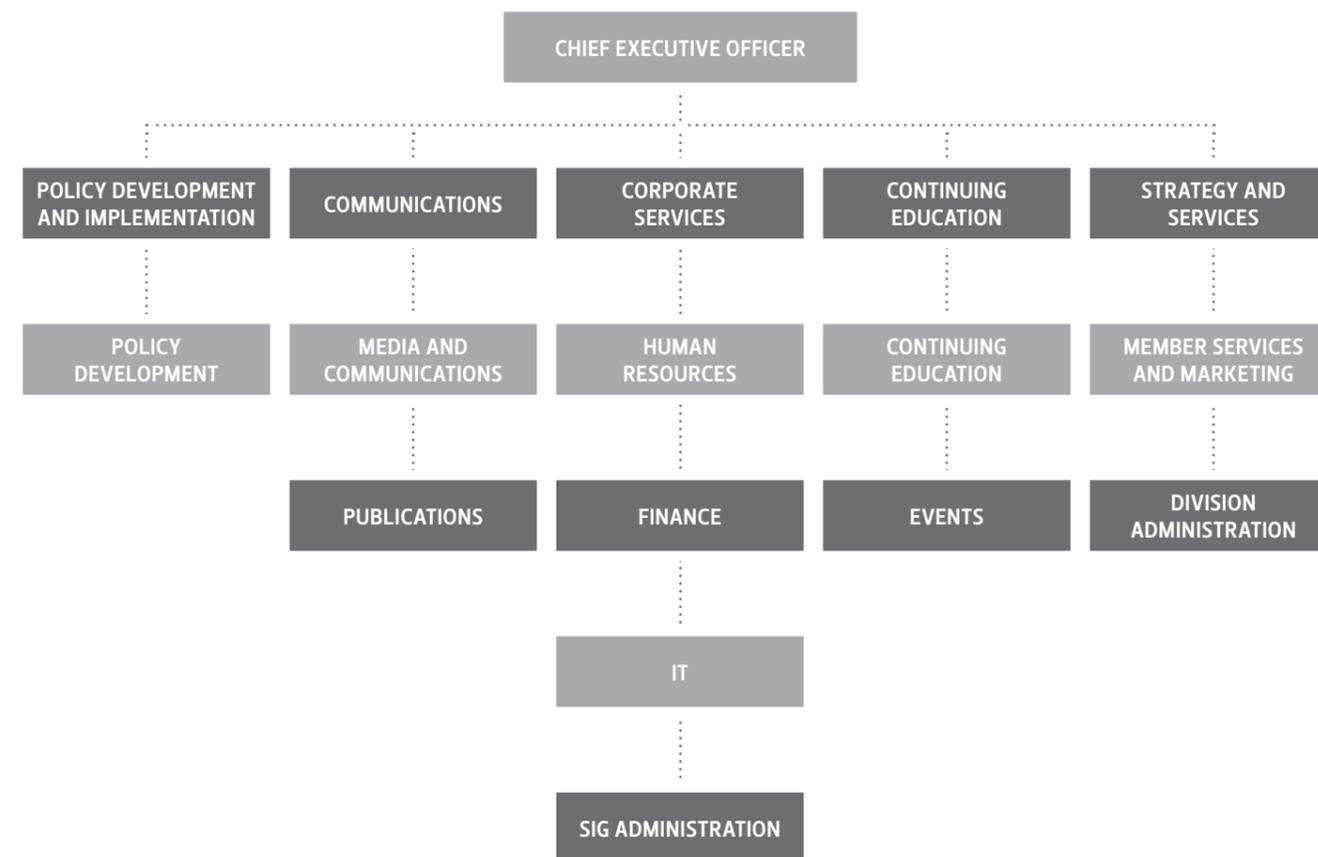




# ORGANISATIONAL CHART



# STAFF STRUCTURE



## AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY DIVISION

**The ACT Division celebrated an important milestone in 2010 – 50 years since the formation of an ACT Branch, back in 1960.**

Our division office relocated to new premises in AMA House during the year. The move means we have a slightly bigger office in a more central location, which will better serve the needs of our staff, members and visiting dignitaries.

Our continuing education events have been well attended and have covered a wide range of topics, including the management of common syndromes in pocket pets, soft tissue surgery techniques and skin flaps, and both the Christmas in July and Annual

Snow Conference were a success and attracted a good number of delegates.

Members can now keep up-to-date with division events, continuing education opportunities and news via our division Facebook page, which we created this year.

Membership numbers have remained steady since last year, with approximately 75% of veterinarians living and working in the ACT being financial members of the AVA. Our membership comprises a good mix of private practitioners, non-practising and government veterinarians.

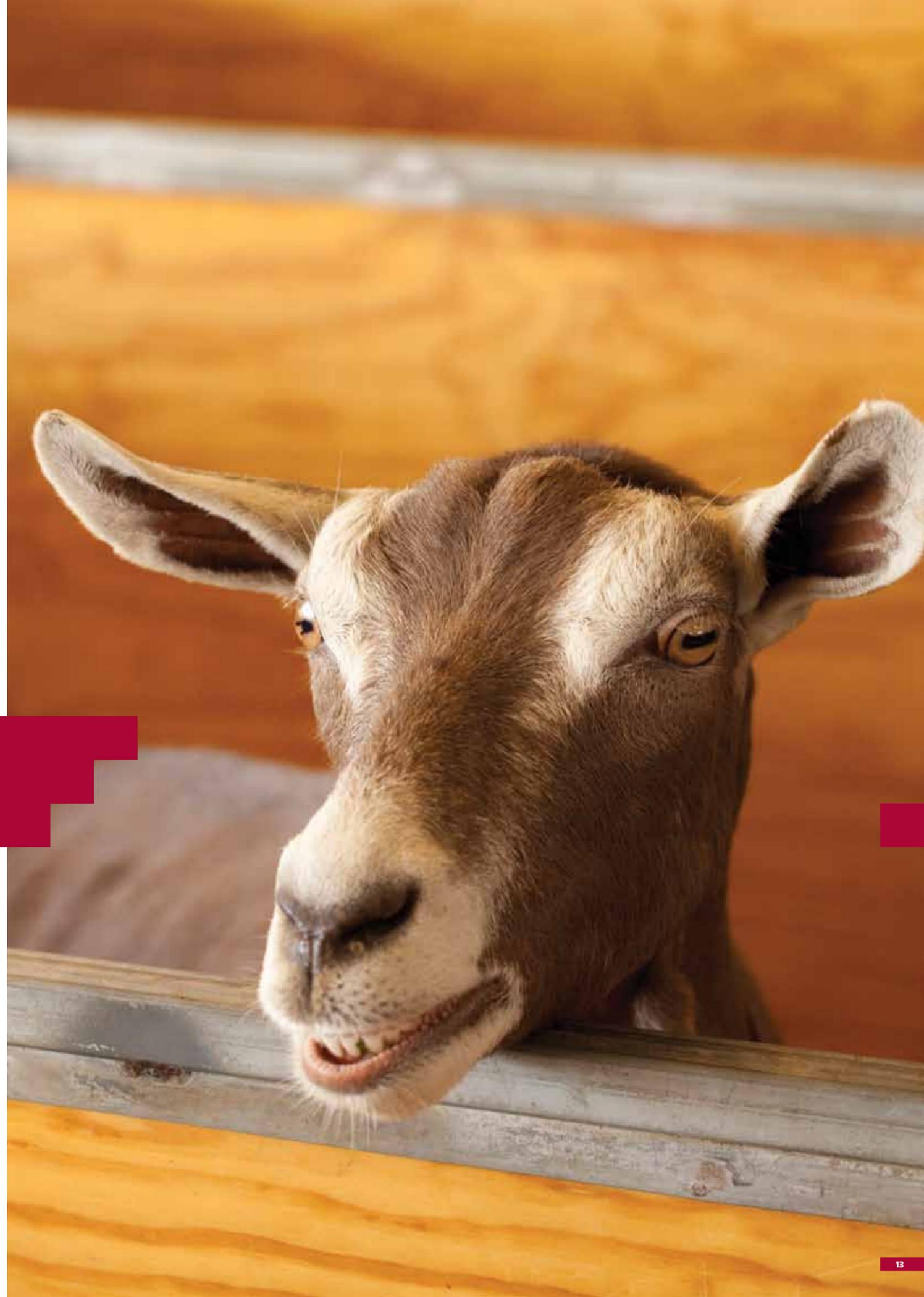
We established closer ties with the Veterinary Nurses Council of Australia and

we are now working with them to provide mutually beneficial services to veterinarians and veterinary nurses.

Thank you to the Division Committee – Raana Asgar, John Aspley Davis, Kevin Doyle, Lyn Gallimore, Ken Loh, Emma Rooke, Bruce Twentyman, Noriel Williams and Mary Wu – for contributing their time and effort to our members.

Thanks also to our Board representative, Peter Gibbs, and Administration Officer, Peta Horan, for their work throughout the year.

**Olivia James**  
President



## NEW SOUTH WALES DIVISION

**The New South Wales Division was busy dealing with a number of issues throughout the year. Equine dentistry and artificial breeding remain ongoing issues for the Division, as does our work on Q fever in veterinary workplaces, following the infection of staff in a Sydney metropolitan practice.**

Animal welfare agendas continued, including kittens in waiting areas, strays and local government collection policies, kangaroo culling, bow-hunting and pig-dogs. Policy Advisory Council addressed whip use, circuses, slaughter, feed-lots and rodeos. Our committee has provided input on all of these issues, and I'd like to thank Tim White and Tony English in particular for their work in this area.

This year our committee began the task of raising money to finance a perpetual scholarship in memory of Kath Farr, one of the early graduates from the University of

Sydney and a pioneer veterinary practitioner in rural Australia. The prize will be awarded to a female undergraduate of the university's veterinary school, who intends to work in rural NSW.

Our goal was to award the first scholarship this year, but we were not able to secure sufficient funds. Our committee will continue to encourage further contributions to the fund, which is administered by the University of Sydney.

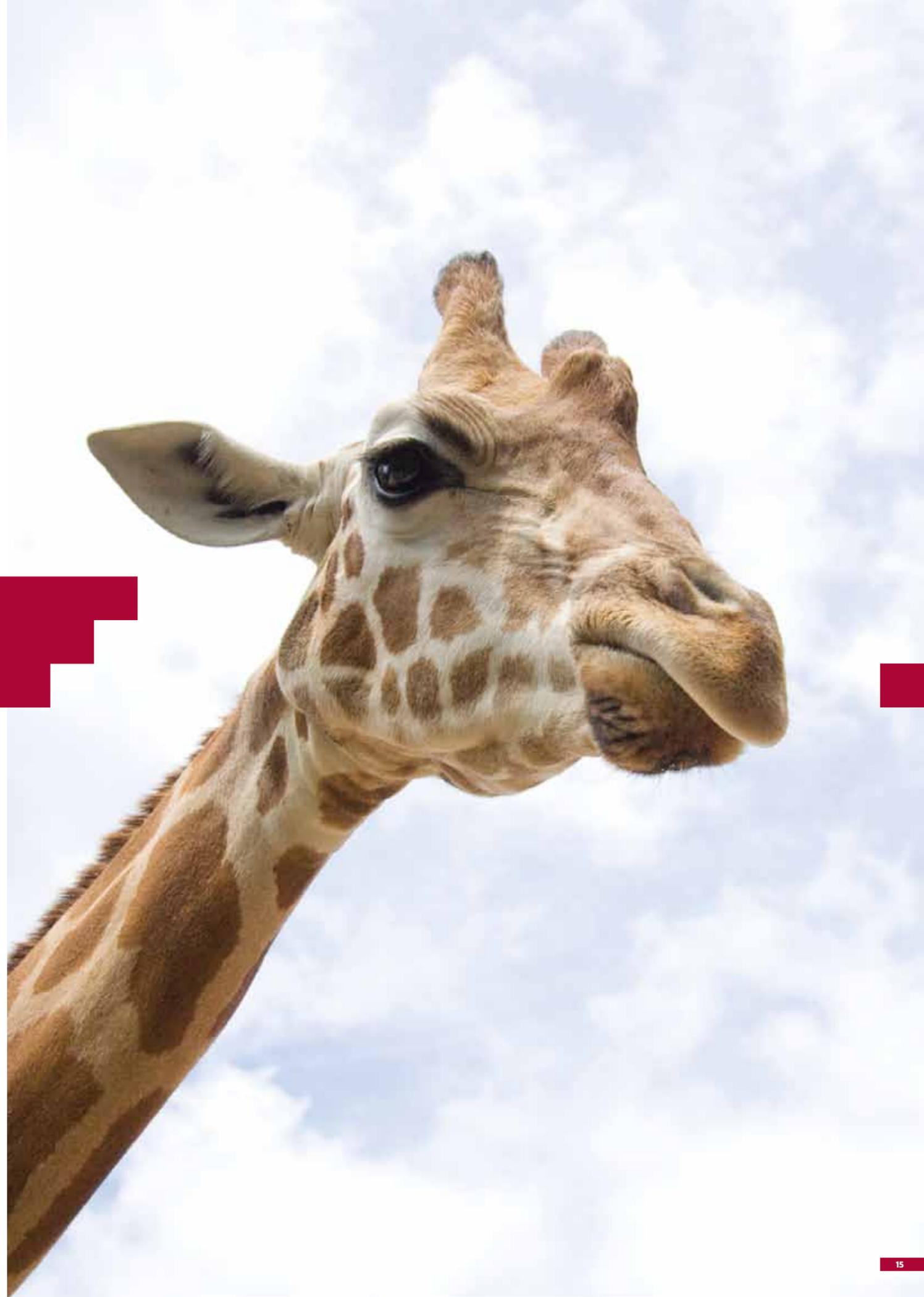
The stand-out achievement for the year has been our success in maintaining the profession's control over veterinary practice in NSW. The AVA made submissions to the panel that was conducting a review of the *Veterinary Practice Act 2003*, but our input was not taken into consideration. It was only due to the hard work of some of our younger committee members, along with the support of many of our members, that our vigorous campaign led to the

withdrawal of the sections that allowed corporate control of financial decision-making in veterinary practices.

However, the Veterinary Practitioners' Board is already signalling its intention to revisit corporate control in 2011, so it's important that members remember that we need to all stick together to have our opinions heard.

Looking ahead, there is an initiative of Rod Starr's that I would like to get off the ground in 2011. The idea is to create a list of clinicians who can be available at short notice to respond to a colleague in an emergency. We have four volunteers to date, but in order to make it work we need about 20, so I encourage anyone that can help to volunteer their services.

**Geoffrey Tomkins**  
President



## NORTHERN TERRITORY DIVISION

**The Northern Territory Division had a busy year and we are proud of our achievements in 2010.**

Our annual conference was a great success, and later in the year we followed up with the inaugural Northern Territory Division President's Reception. We are looking forward to making our 2011 annual conference on orthopaedics and tropical diseases bigger and better than ever before.

This year the Division actively participated in the first round discussions about the *Northern Territory Veterinarians Act*, and we will continue our involvement by participating in the second round that will be held in 2011.

Our main focus for 2010 was on disaster preparedness due to the continual risk of cyclones and floods in the Territory. At the May Policy Advisory Council meeting our animal disaster management policy was ratified and we created a suite of

supporting brochures for veterinary practices and their clients on protecting small animals, large animals and horses in cyclones and floods.

In November we actively sought media coverage for our work on disaster preparedness and were rewarded with stories appearing in several newspapers, as well as on radio.

Our other focus this year was on indigenous community animal medicine and management. The AVA was invited to be an advisor to the Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) and this involvement has helped the Division to form stronger ties with the federal and territory governments.

We are committed to developing better management and understanding of indigenous animal health issues, and we look forward to creating better policies and

guidelines that members can look to when implementing these health programs.

We have continued to communicate with members via our print and electronic publications, as well as adopting new ways, such as a division Facebook page. Division representation on the Animal Welfare Advisory Council, the AVA's Policy Advisory Council and on the Primary Industry Training Advisory Council, has also continued.

On behalf of the Division I would like to thank our previous President, Claire a'Beckett, and our committee for all their hard work.

I would also like to give a big thanks to the outgoing committee members, Siobhan Egan, Brian Heim, Lara Bettink and Sarah Alexander, and to the staff, Sam Mead, Barbara Gill and Sam Windler.

**Alex Burleigh**  
President



## QUEENSLAND DIVISION

**The Queensland Division had an interesting and successful year, largely due to the division of responsibility between executive committee members.**

We identified five key areas for 2010–2011, including membership, education and events, advocacy, sponsorship and branch engagement, and each area was managed by one member of the committee.

In 2010 we had a number of initiatives to improve member services. These included the introduction of a Young Member Representative to our committee. Tess Guilfoyle is the first to take on this role. We also launched the Cenvet AVA Queensland Division New Graduate Mentor Scheme and mentor training, and developed a suicide prevention training program for the profession.

Our annual conference was held in conjunction with our South East Queensland Branch and was a great event, due in part to our sponsors. We continued to educate children about responsible pet

ownership through AVA PetPEP and visited 450 schools, reaching approximately 30,000 students with our message.

Our members were once again active on a range of committees and in a number of meetings throughout the year. We have established a good working relationship with the Veterinary Surgeons' Board, and will now meet regularly with them. We have had strong representation on the Hendra Virus Inter-Agency Working Party, the Horse Industry Biosecurity and Market Access Liaison Group, the Gold Coast City Council Animal Management Committee, the Pet Partnership group on the Sunshine Coast and we participated in the State Government working group on puppy farms.

We advocated for, and were successful in achieving, the revision of the *Queensland Veterinary Surgeons' Act* and the *Queensland Animal Care and Protection Act*, and we contributed to a review of the content and delivery of the veterinary

nursing training package – with a specific focus on dental nursing.

In my role as President, I appeared in a film for Workplace Health and Safety Queensland to promote the Work Safe Home Safe Program and was interviewed by the media on a range of topics including snakebites, heartworm, cane toads, ticks, parvovirus, pets and seniors and Hendra virus.

At a branch level, many successful events were run, including seminars on modern awards and three infection control workshops in conjunction with the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation and Workplace Health and Safety Queensland.

On behalf of the executive committee I would like to express gratitude and appreciation to the staff who have helped to make all of this possible.

**Jodie Wilson**  
**President**



## SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

**The South Australian Division had another busy and successful year. Not only did we continue to be the state's premier veterinary continuing education and social event provider, but we also developed a new strategic plan to see us through the next two years.**

Our Small Animal Practitioners Branch (SAPB), Rural Veterinary Practitioners Branch and Hindmarsh Branch were as active as ever, holding a number of successful evening seminars, workshops, conferences and social events for members.

On an administrative level we are planning to absorb the SAPB into the Division to simplify our structure.

Our 2010 annual conference had a record number of trade exhibitors, and was well attended by veterinarians and veterinary nurses. We also attracted record attendance numbers at our annual meeting, perhaps because it was held just prior to happy hour.

The Veterinary Industry Ball at the National Wine Centre attracted 250 guests and the New Graduate Mentor Scheme get-together was another success, matching 30 new graduates to mentors. Mark Reeve and Simon Edwards, together with our staff, have been instrumental in keeping this great scheme going.

Ties with the local veterinary school continued to strengthen, thanks to

Executive Officer, Samantha Mead, and AVA Student Representative, Chalette Lourens, and resulted in our AVA student membership being the highest in the country.

The Division continued to coordinate a cat management committee that includes representatives from the Dog and Cat Management Board, RSPCA and Feline Association. The work of this committee, and the efforts of Samantha Mead, Warren Foreman and Julia Nichols, has led to the commencement of a national cat management working group.

We have also had involvement in a working party that made recommendations to the Minister on changes to the South Australian Code of Practice for the Care and Management of Animals in the Pet Trade, and we were involved in the proposed changes to the *Veterinary Surgeons' Act* of South Australia and the amendments to the Controlled Substances Regulations.

I would like to sincerely thank Rachel Westcott for writing the South Australian Veterinary Emergency Management (SAVEM) Plan. This was a massive undertaking and has passed the government assurance process, a truly monumental achievement. The Division will now present the SAVEM to all relevant ministers, government departments and organisations.

Our community profile was strengthened at the RSPCA's Million Paws Walk where we

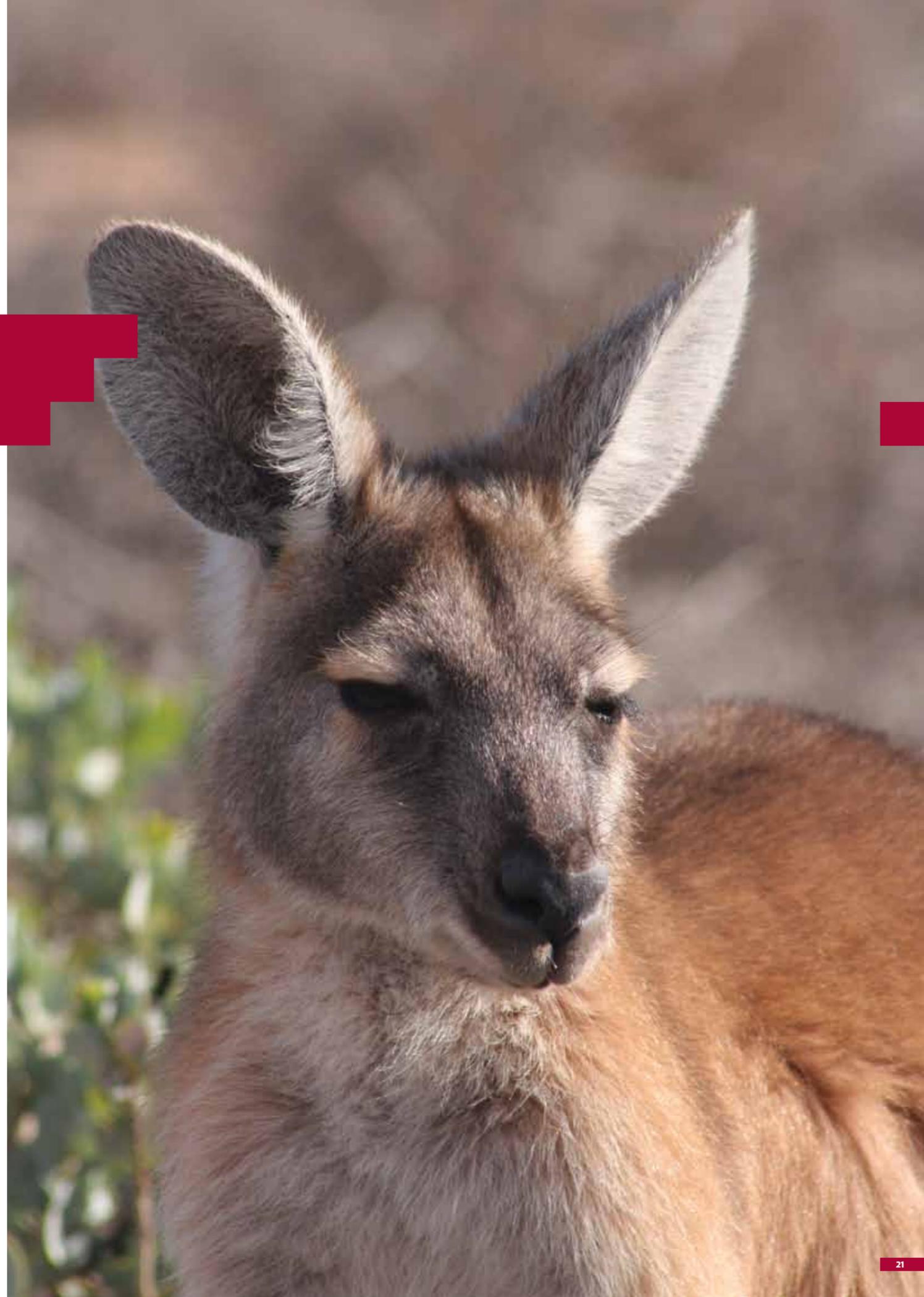
provided a popular vet check station. Thank you to all our members who volunteered on the day.

At our strategic planning day we agreed to reform PetPEP. We conducted two member surveys to confirm that our plan was in keeping with member's wishes. As a consequence, our PetPEP delivery will now be in line with the national model and no longer be core business. PetPEP has been a successful program for nearly 20 years thanks to the efforts of Barbara Gill and in recent times, Sam Windler and their team of volunteers.

In 2011 we hope to further implement our strategic plan, which endeavours to make us the 'go to' organisation for all animal matters in South Australia. We will also focus on increasing our community profile and membership numbers, continuing our role as the premier continuing education provider in the state, improving our finances and updating our division manual.

I would like to thank all of our committee members who have generously volunteered their time, support and friendship, as well as the South Australian Division staff, Samantha Mead, Barbara Gill and Sam Windler, who have worked hard to fulfil the needs of the committee and our members.

**Andrew Nathan**  
President



## TASMANIAN DIVISION

**In 2010 the Tasmanian Division focused on delivering a series of successful, well attended continuing education events.**

We facilitated seminars in the north, south and north-west of the state, including a series of pathology seminars presented by one of our pathologists at Mt Pleasant Laboratories. The seminars were practical and interactive, and focused on large animal cases and wildlife diseases recently seen in the state.

We held our annual meeting in March in conjunction with the University of Sydney's Centre for Veterinary Education program, which featured a presentation on geriatric medicine.

Our annual conference was held in Launceston in November and was attended by a record number of interstate delegates.

The conference included an inspiring line up of speakers in both the veterinary and veterinary nurse's streams, as well as an address from AVA President, Barry Smyth, and Board member, Ron Harris, who took the opportunity to speak to delegates about the changes to the financial management and the future direction of the association.

Their time was much appreciated, as was the continued support of more than 20 industry sponsors, who helped make our conference a great event.

A group summit was held prior to the Pan Pacific Conference in May, and Executive Officer (EO), Angela Offord, and I attended. The meeting facilitated discussions between the divisions and addressed key issues, such as changes and challenges for the year ahead.

The Division has continued to liaise with government on a range of issues, particularly in relation to the government's draft Cat Management Bill, government pathology capabilities and the Veterinary Board of Tasmania. Several of our members are also involved with a number of statutory advisory and animal ethics committees.

I would like to thank our EO, Angela Offord, who has worked tirelessly throughout the year to help us achieve our goals, and I would also like to thank the members of our committee for all their time, ideas, hard work and support over the past year. They have all made a tremendous contribution, which has been much appreciated.

**Suzanne Martin**  
President



## VICTORIAN DIVISION

**One of our major initiatives this year was the development of our emergency plan, which we began working on in 2009. This work will be ongoing, but we have already produced a significant amount of documentation, which is in the final stages of review. This has been the result of many meetings held with relevant organisations, such as the Department of Primary Industries (DPI), Department of Sustainability and Environment, and our own emergency planning committee.**

The Division kicked off its continuing education events with a workshop on the Animal Care and Veterinary Services Award 2010 and then went on to hold another 41 continuing education events throughout the year.

In March we held our annual meeting and in April we held our annual conference in Ballarat. Unfortunately, the number of delegates was not as high as we were expecting, so the conference program was adjusted from two days to one.

Our sponsorship and support of veterinary students continued and the Division remains a Principal Partner of the Veterinary Students' Society of Victoria and supports the Practitioner in Residence Program at the University of Melbourne.

We are fortunate to have a number of our members provide support to our committee by serving on various working groups and committees. In particular I'd like to thank Onn Ben-David for his work on the Policy Advisory Council and David Rendell for his role on the Victorian Animal Welfare Advisory Committee.

The Division kept up its advocacy work, and met with Minister of Agriculture, Joe Helper, Director of the Bureau of Animal Welfare, Stephen Tate, as well as shadow Parliamentary Secretary, Bill Sykes, about the dangerous dogs legislation. The AVA supports most of the legislative amendments, but remains opposed to the breed-specific areas.

As President I was involved in a range of media topics during the year, including vaccination policy, veterinary salaries, obesity in pets, parvovirus, snake bites, pet insurance and mouth to snout resuscitation. I also continued my role as a member on the Veterinary Nurses' Reference Group, Box Hill TAFE's General Diploma of Veterinary Nursing Steering Committee and in the provider network for the Animal Care and Management Training Package.

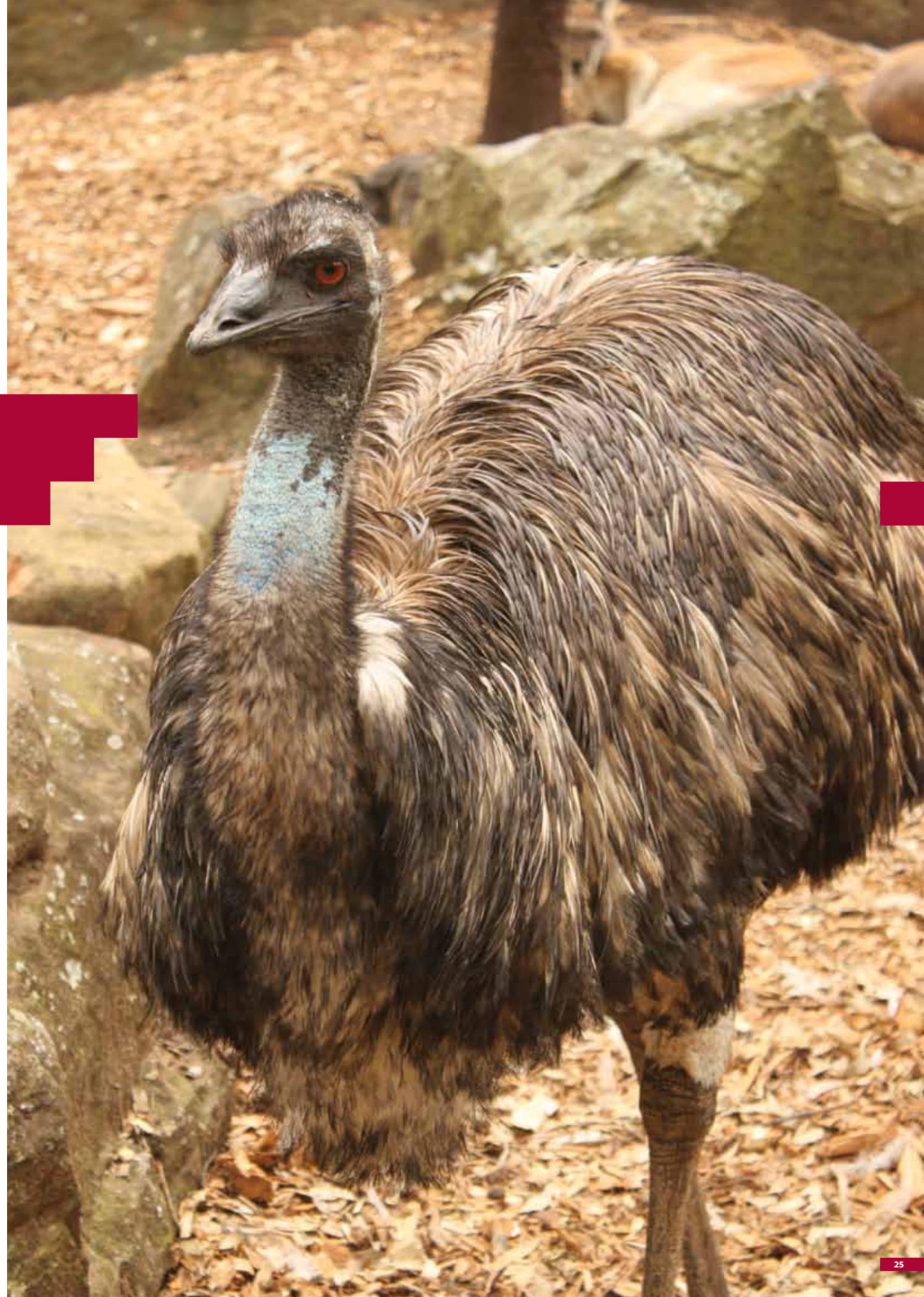
The Division collaborated with the Australian Cattle Veterinarians, and members of our Animal Welfare Advisory

Committee, to provide a response to the DPI review of the Bovine Johnes Disease TCP2 Program. We also made requests to the DPI for more realistic funding into sudden death investigations in cattle, and received a positive result.

As well as responding to drafts from the Policy Advisory Council, we have provided comment on a wide range of policies, guidelines, codes of practice and bills throughout the year. These include: a review of the national framework for Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Regulations, Dangerous Dogs, *Primary Industries Legislation Amendment Act 2010*, National Standards for Animal Feed V15, draft Pounds and Shelter Codes of Practice and commercial dog breeding.

My thanks to the executive committee and staff for their dedication and support throughout 2010 and for their personal support during my time as President. Thanks also to Mike Harrison for his work as Honorary Editor of our newsletter, *Vic Vet*, and a special thank you and congratulations to Susan Maastricht who will be our next Division President.

**Bill Harkin**  
President



## WESTERN AUSTRALIAN DIVISION

**The year started with two goals in mind. The first priority was to build upon the successes we had achieved in advocacy, continuing education and mentoring and engaging with veterinary students. Our second was to engage the state government in the funding of the AVA's PetPEP.**

Members of the Division, along with the AVA President at the time, Mark Lawrie, met with staff from the education ministry to discuss funding for PetPEP and its value as an educational tool. Funding was not forthcoming, but the ministry did agree to add the PetPEP material to the relevant syllabus areas so that primary school teachers could access and use the material.

Our 2010 annual conference was held in Fremantle and built on the success of our inaugural division conference last year. Speakers included Stan Marks, Tony Caiafa, Eric Taylor, Mandy Burrows, Ziggy Chester and Rachel Stone, and we attracted more than 45 trade exhibitors. Special thanks to our sponsors, Hill's Pet Nutrition, Provet, iM3, Medfin, Lawnswood and Guild, as well

as to our organising committee, Tony Vigano, Maryanne Culliver and Rachel Stone.

We also received invaluable support and sponsorship from the Australian Small Animal Veterinary Association, who provided President, Graham Swinney, as a speaker and Rodney Sundra as a moderator at the conference.

Our goal to continue to grow our student membership numbers means that division representatives regularly visit the Murdoch University's veterinary school campus, and this year we conducted the first official clinic coat ceremony in conjunction with the university. The ceremony marked the beginning of the students' involvement with clinical disciplines, and was an opportunity to educate students about the benefits of AVA membership and our mentoring scheme.

The final yet equally important area for the Division this year has been our increased media coverage. Our contact with the media rose to an all-time high during 2010, thanks to the excellent work of the media

team in national office, as well as the Division staff and the availability of appropriate speakers.

Thank you to the national office team for the work they have done to help me prepare for media interviews. It has been an excellent experience and opportunity to state our position on a wide variety of topics, including vaccinations, behaviour and behaviour-modifying drugs, as well as the exceptionally high number of canine parvovirus cases that we experienced in the spring. I became convinced we had finally become the go-to media contact when I replaced the owner of a pet superstore, as the 'ask-an-expert' on the number one breakfast radio show in Perth.

The media coverage we've received has also given us another forum to talk about responsible pet ownership, the importance of teaching children how to interact with pets, and about how education programs like PetPEP exist for these very reasons.

**Garry Edgar**  
President





## AUSTRALIAN VETERINARY ACUPUNCTURE GROUP

**The Australian Veterinary Acupuncture Group (AVAG) maintained its focus on providing quality continuing education for members and, in particular, for International Veterinary Acupuncture Society (IVAS) graduates.**

Throughout the year, Ulrike Wurth and others have been working hard on the veterinary acupuncture position statement for the AVA Policy Advisory Council (PAC). The document has been passed by the PAC and the AVA Board is in agreement about the need for such a statement. Adjustments to the wording will be considered at the next PAC meeting in May 2011. Many thanks to Ulrike Wurth for all her hard work on this project.

The seventh Australian IVAS course commenced in January, and in November around 35 students took the exams. In December, Bruce Ferguson presented five days of Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine (TCVM) at Murdoch University consisting of musculoskeletal acupuncture techniques and the TCVM herbal module for kidney, bladder and geriatric disorders.

During the year our executive committee has been working hard on preparing our program of lectures and three days of post-conference workshops for the 2011 AVA Annual conference. We are thrilled to have Huisheng Xie as our keynote speaker presenting a comprehensive musculo-

skeletal program in conjunction with the greyhound, small animal and equine special interest groups.

We have continued to produce our quarterly journal, as well as keep in contact with members via our eNewsletter. Our website is a popular feature for our members and offers them the opportunity to have their details listed for public acupuncture referrals if they are IVAS certified.

Thank you to all of the AVAG committee members for their hard work during 2010.

**Esther Horton**  
President



## AUSTRALIAN ALPACA VETERINARIANS

**The Australian Alpaca Veterinarians (AAV) kept up a steady stream of communication with members via our informative newsletters, which include special interest case reports and updates on the latest research.**

Our members continued to use our online discussion forum to discuss cases with each other, and we were pleased to be able to offer AAV members access to the latest Veterinary Clinics of North America, Food Animal Practices book, on alpaca and llama health management.

We held our annual meeting at the Pan Pacific Conference in May and spent much time preparing for the biannual

International Alpaca Veterinary Conference that will be held in May 2011 in Peru. The two-day conference will feature key note speakers Professors David Anderson and Christopher Cebra and will cover a wide range of topics including surgery, breeding and fertility.

**Tiffany Ellis**  
President





## AUSTRALIAN AVIAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

**The Australian Avian Veterinary Medical Association (AAVMA) enjoyed some successful events in 2010.**

At the Pan Pacific Conference in May, we hosted an avian behaviour and training seminar and workshop, which was very well attended. The workshop was run by Jim McKendry of Parrot Behaviour and Enrichment Consultations and included the theory of parrot training, as well as a practical demonstration with a number of his feathered friends.

Our own conference, run in conjunction with the Association of Avian Veterinarians - Australasian Committee and the Unusual and Exotic Pets special

interest group, was a great success. Run in Hobart in November, we attracted almost 100 delegates each day. International speakers Scott Echols and Nigel Harcourt-Brown were fantastic, and the wetlab on fracture repair in birds was fun and educational.

Our annual meeting was also held in Hobart and a new committee was elected. Thank you to Alex Rosenwax, who stepped down as President, for his considerable contribution to AAVMA.

At Policy Advisory Council we contributed to the development of policies on the control of feral and pest bird species, as

well as on the redevelopment of a policy on hunting waterfowl.

**Kimberly Earl  
President**

## AUSTRALIAN VETERINARY BEHAVIOUR INTEREST GROUP

**The Australian Veterinary Behaviour Interest Group (AVBIG) maintained strong membership levels in 2010 and continued to play an active role in promoting and advancing behavioural medicine within the profession.**

It was wonderful to see so many vets attend the behaviour stream at the Pan Pacific Conference in Brisbane. The recognition of the importance of behavioural medicine has grown in recent years and at most sessions the attendance at the behaviour stream was second only to attendance at the small animal stream.

Our committee has been busy making our voice heard on a number of issues that are

important to the profession and our clients. We put forward a submission to various politicians with respect to a Department of Primary Industries survey on dangerous dogs and proposed changes to Victorian legislation on this issue, as well as submitting a statement to the AVA Board.

We have also provided submissions to a number of external groups on behalf of the profession. AVBIG, in collaboration with the Behaviour Chapter of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists, made a submission regarding the use of specialist titles. The time frame to submit this was quite short and the prompt input from a number of members was greatly appreciated. This is an area of

particular importance in the behaviour field, given the competition we face from providers of behaviour services outside the profession.

We are still a relatively new special interest group, but our survey results show (we had a response rate of 20%) that 90% of members surveyed are happy with the benefits we provide and the value for money they receive. We plan next year to work on winning over the remaining 10%.

Thank you to our hard working committee who have been a pleasure to work with this year, I look forward to another successful year with you in 2011.

**Debbie Calnon  
President**

## AUSTRALIAN CATTLE VETERINARIANS

**I am in awe of the huge amount of time and effort the Australian Cattle Veterinarians (ACV) committee and staff put in to running our group.**

This year our stand-alone conference once again proved to be a great success. Held in Alice Springs, it was the first in a trilogy of conferences that will be held over three years that focuses on *How to treat*, *How to diagnose* and *How to prevent*.

*How to treat* included a great line-up of local and international speakers who provided fantastic practical advice and shared their broad knowledge and experience with the delegates. All attendees at the conference learned something that will change the way they practise and to me, this is the greatest measure of success for a continuing education course.

Our young member stream was well attended and gave our younger members a voice. It was also pleasing to see how

well all our members – students, recent graduates and more seasoned veterinarians – interacted at the social events. It seems we are all linked by our common bovine bonds.

We have also held a number of Rural Practice Weekends throughout the year, which are great events for the students and our members alike.

The ACVList has become a reality and members are now able to post questions on the internet and receive answers and advice from our network of veterinarians. The ACVList is a great example of the future of peer-learning and the ACV is very proud of this achievement.

Our Veterinary Bull Breeding Soundness Evaluation (VBBSE) scheme is one of the jewels in the crown of the ACV. Our Bull Sub-committee continues to review the scheme to enhance the reporting and move towards a more robust 'risk assessment' model.

We are very proud of the relationships we have with our industry partners. We are working together to strive for successful cattle practice. By keeping these relationships strong, our members benefit in so many ways, and I would encourage all ACV members to support our sponsors whenever possible.

I would like to thank our Scientific Officer, David Beggs, for his ongoing ability to multitask. He provides sound advice, does a magnificent job of editing our journal, and organises the scientific program at our conference as well as the AVA Annual Conference.

As usual, Anne Cover and her staff have done an amazing job of organising our activities this year and we thank them for all their hard work as well.

**Rob Bonanno**  
President





## AUSTRALIAN VETERINARY CONSERVATION BIOLOGISTS

**The Australian Veterinary Conservation Biologists (AVCB) had an active year on all fronts.**

Our membership has continued to grow, and most of this growth has come from an increase in our student members, which is pleasing for the future of our group.

We have actively been involved in a number of local and international conservation issues and we have advised the Policy Advisory Council on several policies that involve conservation issues.

Our annual presentation was held at the Pan Pacific Conference in Brisbane and was highly successful. Topics covered were

varied and included everything from marine mammals to feral horses. In addition we held a post-conference workshop, Two worlds, which included visits to Sea World and Dream World.

We held a number of successful seminars at the University of Sydney Veterinary Conference Centre, thanks to the work of Derek Spielman, who is responsible for the ongoing organisation of these seminars. Vere Nicolson was responsible for the organisation of our presentations in the South East Corner of Queensland, and we thank her for her efforts also.

We continue to communicate regularly with our members via our newsletter and email contact.

**Geoffrey Dutton  
President**

## AUSTRALIAN VETERINARY DENTAL SOCIETY

**The Australian Veterinary Dental Society (AVDS) had a busy and successful year.**

We delivered another lecture and wetlab series at the Pan Pacific Conference in May. All of our lectures were well attended and the number of delegates continued to rise from previous years.

Our wetlabs were fully booked within weeks of them being announced, a very pleasing result, and one we feel indicates that AVA members as a whole are coming to understand the importance dentistry plays in modern veterinary science.

Work began behind the scenes with Hill's Pet Nutrition and culminated in a

partnership with the AVDS that will see both parties working together over the coming years to provide education opportunities to veterinarians and veterinary nurses throughout Australia.

Wayne Fitzgerald continued to passionately represent us on the Policy Advisory Council. Wayne's knowledge and drive has continued to serve the AVDS and the AVA well, guiding the development of dental and non-dental policies throughout the year.

The biggest challenge we faced in 2010, and one that will be ongoing, has been our involvement with Agrifood Skills Australia's development of national training packages in equine dentistry. In conjunction with the

AVA and the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists Dental Chapter, several members have been working tirelessly to have expert, scientific and justifiable input into the development of these courses. The work Gary Wilson and Wayne Fitzgerald have done on this important task is greatly appreciated and the AVDS supports them completely.

Next year we are looking forward to inviting an international speaker to deliver part of our lecture series at the AVA Annual Conference in Adelaide. We will also increase the number of wetlabs on offer at the conference because of the overwhelming demand we saw in 2010.

**Aaron Forsayeth  
President**

# EQUINE VETERINARIANS AUSTRALIA

**This year a case of Hendra virus appeared in Tewantin on the Queensland Sunshine Coast. The outbreak renewed calls for equine vets to remain vigilant and strengthened calls for the development of an equine vaccine. Amid increased public pressure from the media and calls from Equine Veterinarians Australia (EVA) for funding, the federal government matched a \$300,000 State Government grant for vaccine development.**

As a disproportionate number of vets have contracted Hendra virus since 1994, Queensland Occupational Health and Safety examined the way equine vets managed their risk when dealing with Hendra virus cases. The EVA worked closely with Biosecurity Queensland and Queensland Occupational Health and Safety to review some of the barriers to infection control, including the cost of administration on business, the time taken to train staff, a perceived low risk and uncomfortable, impractical personal protective equipment (PPE). Central to effective risk management is an ideological change in the way we approach equine cases. The EVA has developed risk assessment guidelines for members and is continuing to educate them about the need to change traditional methods of horse treatment.

The fourth version of the Guidelines for Veterinarians when Handling Potential Hendra Infection in Horses, was published by Biosecurity Queensland. The EVA made

recommendations to include remuneration of vets and questioned the level of responsibility practitioners were given during an outbreak. Both were included in the updated version. The EVA is also encouraging all Chief Veterinary Officers to adopt 'Hendra packs' in their states. The packs include a quick reference guide plus information on occupational health and safety requirements for veterinarians. Government funding to supply all members with PPE and Hendra packs didn't come to fruition, however, the EVA is now looking for corporate money to produce more practical PPE.

The equine stream of the Pan Pacific Conference in May included sessions presented by Dean Richardson, Christy Seacombe and Oliver Liyou, and covered orthopaedic surgery, medicine and dentistry, while Simon Hurn presented an interactive ophthalmology workshop.

Bain Fallon was once again a huge success. Key note speakers from the USA and Australia included Eric Parente, Louise Southwood, Johnathan Lumsden, Angus McKinnon and John Chopin. The topics covered included reproduction, orthopaedic and respiratory surgery, as well as lectures on critical care. The introduction of the vet nurse stream and the 'How to' sessions were a new initiative and the endoscopic workshop delivered practical training opportunities for clinicians.

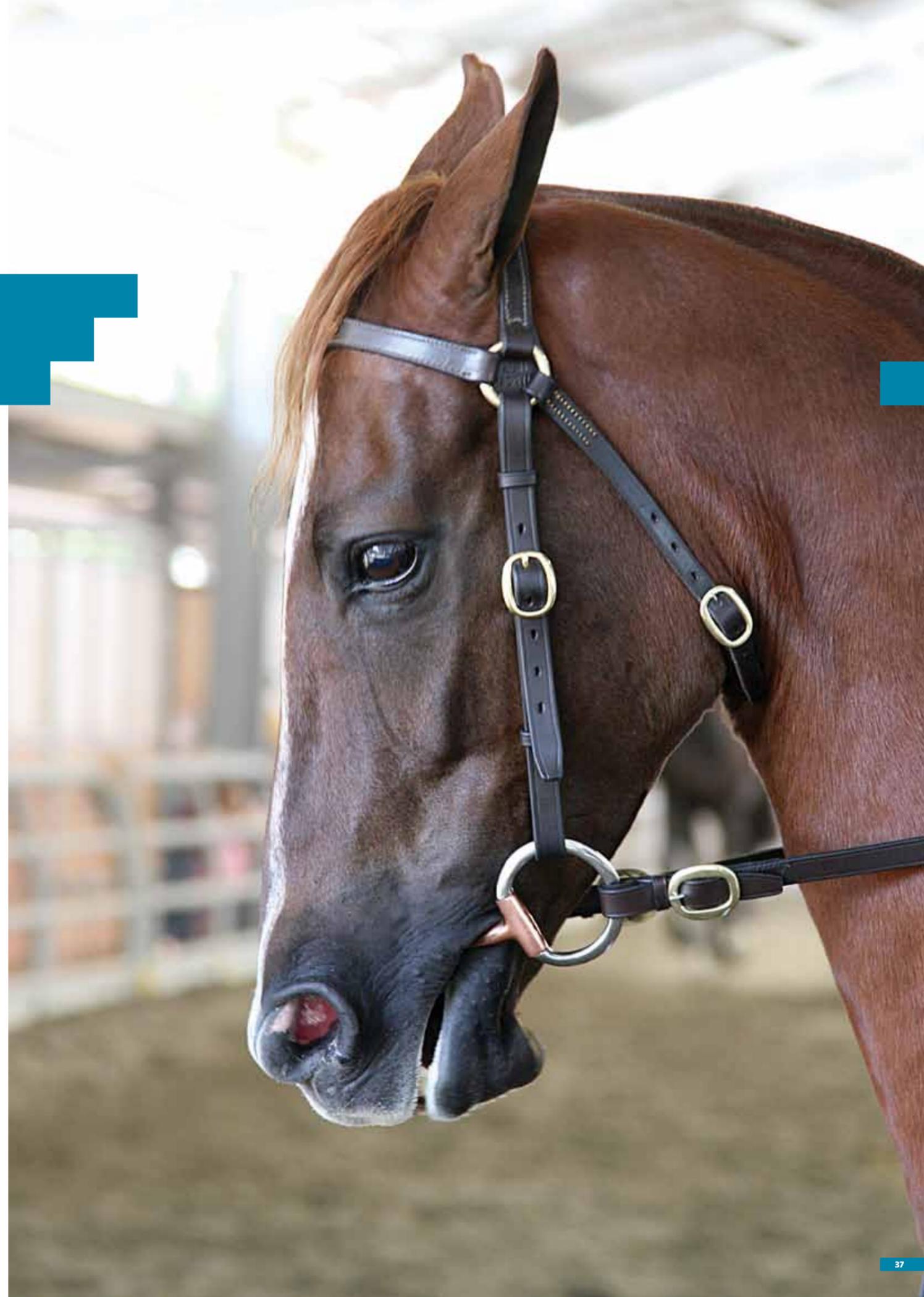
Membership representation with key stakeholder groups, such as the Australian Racing Board (ARB), Australian Harness Racing and the Australian Horse Industry Council (AHIC), continued, with the remuneration of vets on race day and the rules relating to the use of therapeutic drugs in racing both being addressed with the ARB and Animal Health Australia respectively. The EVA supported the AHIC in their submission to be added to the Emergency Animal Disease Response Agreement, as well as the use of a levy scheme to fund future exotic disease responses.

We also submitted a response to Agrifood Skills Australia regarding the development of dental training standards for non-veterinarians. We opposed many aspects of the proposed the training package. Potential animal welfare issues and a lack of national regulation were raised.

Membership in 2010 continued to increase and we now have almost 1000 EVA members. The scientific content of our journal is at an all-time high and our presence at Equitana and published articles in *Hoof Beats* magazine continue to raise the visibility of members within equine circles.

Our achievements throughout the year would not have been possible without the tireless work of the EVA staff. Thank you to Jane Barry, Katherine Baird and Laura Egan for their effort and dedication.

**Chris Reardon**  
President





## AUSTRALIAN GREYHOUND VETERINARIANS

**The Australian Greyhound Veterinarians (AGV) membership numbers remained steady in 2010 and we continue to have many international veterinarians as members, from New Zealand, the UK, Asia and the USA, as well as Australian vets.**

Our support of the Thumps and Post-race Distress Syndrome research at the University of Melbourne continued, and because of the increase in racing in New South Wales, we mentored a number of new NSW track veterinarians throughout the year.

AGV members were also active individually, Jane McNicholl continued her

PhD research into greyhound heat stress at the University of Adelaide and Steve Karamatic represented AGV at the Greyhound Board of Great Britain conference, where he presented a paper.

At the Pan Pacific Conference in May we provided support to the trigger point and musculoskeletal sessions, and in keeping with the theme of collaboration with New Zealand, I attended the New Zealand Greyhound Veterinarians Conference.

Secretary, Ray Ferguson, has continued to keep our members up-to-date via our email database, which has been a great channel for facilitating communication

among members, especially with those who live overseas.

Finally, it is with great sadness and loss that we report the death of Jim Gannon. Jim was a founding member of the AGV and a mentor to most of the senior greyhound practitioners in practice today. His extensive knowledge and willingness to help his colleagues will be sadly missed.

**Chris Doyle  
President**



## AUSTRALIAN VETERINARY HISTORY SOCIETY

**Our main focus in 2010 was to prepare a brief history of the development of veterinary science and the veterinary profession in Australia to coincide with Vet2011 celebrations, which will mark the 250th anniversary of the establishment of the first veterinary school in Lyon, France.**

Upon completion of this project the Australian Veterinary History Society (AVHS) will seek acceptance to complete a more detailed and thorough history of veterinary science and the veterinary profession. This is timely as Australia's two oldest veterinary schools have now achieved centenary status and 2011 also marks 90 years of the AVA.

There has been a gradual decline in members of the AVHS as our membership base becomes older. In response we have kept our membership fees low.

At our annual meeting in May, John Auty resigned from the position of Secretary and Treasurer, a role he has held since 2002. Thank you to John for his many contributions to the AVHS, and welcome to Jeff Brady, who has agreed to serve as Secretary and Treasurer in the interim.

The passing of Jim Gannon and Robin Giesecke was sadly noted this year. Robin was preparing a book on the achievements of women veterinary graduates and her

brother approached the AVHS to help complete the book. Thank you to Helen Fairnie who has agreed to pick up this project and see it through to completion.

The next annual meeting of the AVHS will be held at the AVA Annual Conference on 16 May and all members are invited to attend. I also encourage all AVA members to join the AVHS to ensure that we can continue to capture veterinary history.

**Andrew Turner  
President**

## AUSTRALIAN HOLISTIC VETERINARIANS

The Australian Holistic Veterinarians (AHV) committee continued to implement the strategic plan that we adopted in 2009. The plan focuses on continuing education, policy development, improvements to our website and supporting research into integrative veterinary medicine. We were given a significant donation last year to be used to part-fund research projects to advance integrative veterinary medicine and, in conjunction with the AVA, we have been in contact with research bodies to develop our research program.

We hosted a number of continuing education events throughout the year, including a workshop on Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine, as well as our sessions in the holistic stream at the Pan Pacific Conference. Our program at the conference covered hyperbaric oxygen

therapy, standards of care and nutritional care in cancer and our post-conference workshops delivered practical information about trigger point therapy, spinal awareness, remedial massage and western herbal medicine.

In February 2011, we will become the first AVA special interest group to deliver continuing education to our members via an interactive webinar and we hope that this new technology will make it easier for members to access continuing education.

Our newsletters have undergone a redesign and feedback from members has been positive. With the assistance of the AVA, work on improving our website and making it interactive continues.

AHV members have enthusiastically represented us on AVA committees and the

Policy Advisory Council. Policy areas of particular interest to our group were acupuncture, the regulation of pet foods and climate change.

At our last annual meeting we made changes to the structure of our committee, and we now have the following positions: President, Vice-President, Honorary Secretary and Treasurer, Publications Editor and Policy Advisory Council Representative. Thank you to the out-going committee members who have given great service to the AHV over many years.

Finally, it is with sadness that I pass on condolences to the family of colleague and AHV Librarian, Toni Werchon, who passed away this year.

**Megan Kearney**  
President

## AUSTRALIAN VETERINARIANS IN INDUSTRY

The Australia Veterinarians in Industry (AVI) enjoyed a successful year in 2010.

The arrival of Maureen Revington on the AVI Committee meant that we were able to have some great input into the AVA Annual Conference agenda for 2011. Thank you to Maureen for her outstanding work on the conference organising committee.

The AVI maintained representation on a number of industry committees, and we made several submissions throughout the year. Submissions were made on the use of compounded pharmaceuticals, the review of AVA membership fees and the AgVet Chemical review.

We held our annual meeting at the Pan Pacific Conference in May and we have also

run a number of very successful and well attended social functions during the year.

Thank you to the current and out-going AVI committee for their continued contributions to our group. Thanks also to our members it is great to see the professional collegiality in our group.

**Kim Agnew**  
President





## AUSTRALIAN PIG VETERINARIANS

**The Australian Pig Veterinarians (APV) has 135 active members.**

Throughout the year, our executive committee has been involved in discussions with a number of industry bodies and government agencies on a range of topical issues, including pig welfare and the human pandemic H1N1 infection.

Our members have continued to represent us on the Therapeutics Advisory Committee, Policy Advisory Council and the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee.

Our 2010 annual conference and annual meeting were held prior to the International Pig Veterinary Society

Congress in Vancouver, Canada and was attended by 50–60 members. We continue to offer the Doug Ross memorial travel awards each year to allow students to attend the conference.

In addition to the continuing education on offer at the conference we also continued to provide members with a monthly 'What is your diagnosis?' case report.

**Tony Fahy  
President**



## AUSTRALIAN VETERINARY POULTRY ASSOCIATION

**Our biggest achievement in 2010 was creating closer international ties with our poultry colleagues by working in collaboration with them on two events.**

The first, held in May on the Gold Coast, was a scientific meeting held in association with the Poultry Information Exchange. As well as providing our own local experts to speak, the Australian Veterinary Poultry Association (AVPA) also supported two international speakers to present at the conference.

The focus of the meeting was on avian influenza and Newcastle disease and Australia's preparedness for these. There was also a strong focus on endemic diseases, including infectious

laryngotracheitis, chicken anaemia virus and fowl adenovirus, as well as newly-emerging conditions such as avian nephritis.

The second scientific meeting, linked with a World Poultry Science Association, was held in Christchurch, New Zealand in October. Here discussion centred on attitudes to animal welfare matters, including consumer and retailer expectations, legal issues, differing production systems and future breeding contributions to bird welfare issues. AVPA members also learnt much about the control of *Campylobacter* in New Zealand poultry production.

Thanks must go New Zealanders, David Marks and Kent Deitemeyer, who made it

possible for us to organise this event in another country and helped up to secure New Zealand speakers.

Both meetings were very successful for our special interest group.

Back home, our members were actively negotiating with the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority throughout the year to maintain the permit system for some medications for egg layer chickens.

Next year is also shaping up to be a busy year for us, with another two meetings envisaged.

**Peter Groves  
President**

## AUSTRALIAN VETERINARY PRACTICE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION

**One of our biggest achievements for the year was the launch of the Australian Veterinary Practice Management Association (AVPMA) Veterinary Chart of Accounts at the Pan Pacific Conference in May.**

The AVPMA Veterinary Chart of Accounts is without a doubt the most powerful practice management tool that has been developed for Australian veterinary practices and one that every practice should be using to allow effective industry benchmarking and consistent practice valuations. Our special thanks to Tom Catanzaro, one of the contributors to the Chart of Accounts, who was instrumental in the development of this resource.

The launch was supported by a workshop hosted by Dr Catanzaro in Brisbane, and sessions at the AVPMA Annual Conference in Adelaide in October. The AVPMA is committed to continuing to provide opportunities for practice owners and

managers to learn about the implementation of the chart and its associated tools, as well as interpretation of the data it provides.

Our stream at the Pan Pacific Conference focused on communication – something that challenges us all on a daily basis. It was a pleasure to welcome Jane Shaw, the director of the Argus Institute at Colorado State University, as our key international speaker. Jane presented a series of lectures that centred on practical examples to help empower veterinarians with the skills to better communicate in difficult situations, particularly end of life conversations.

The winners of the 2010 Practices of Excellence in Customer Service Awards presented interesting sessions, which provided an excellent insight into what successful Australian practices are doing to achieve high standards of customer service. Thank you to Pfizer Animal Health for their support of the awards over the past 10 years.

The new AVA Practices of Excellence Awards were also launched at the conference and we welcomed Cenvet as the new program sponsor. Since the launch we have received a record number of entries for 2011, and each practice has completed a comprehensive practice health check as part of the entry process.

Thank you also to all of our sponsors, in particular Hill's Pet Nutrition and Provet, whose generous support has made our achievements possible.

Lastly, thank you to Debbie Neutze, AVPMA Executive Officer, and Jill Baker, Administration Officer, for their ongoing support and commitment to the AVPMA. Both Debbie and Jill finished working with us at the end of the year, but we look forward to welcoming Mark Fraser as the new Executive Officer in 2011.

**Jennifer Trewren**  
President





## AUSTRALIAN VETERINARIANS IN PUBLIC HEALTH

### **The Australian Veterinarians in Public Health (AVPH) group continued its journey of reinvention throughout the year.**

We held our annual meeting at the Pan Pacific Conference in May, where we swore in a brand new executive committee. The committee now includes me, as President, Emma Rooke, Secretary, Michael Reichel, Conference Convenor, Brant Smith, Vice President and Policy Advisory Council representative and Steve Atkinson, AVPH Board representative. Rob Ryan, a second-year student at the University of Queensland, is our undergraduate representative and Jo Dups, who is undertaking a PhD program with the Australian Animal Health Laboratory, is our postgraduate representative.

Special thanks to the outgoing executive committee for their sterling efforts over the last few years.

The new AVPH executive now includes a large number of undergraduate student members, who have all made meaningful contributions to the veterinary public health cause.

A student chapter of our special interest group, known as the Veterinary Public Health and Biosecurity Group, arose out of a University of Queensland veterinary students' association, and is in the process of gathering members across all of the Australasian veterinary schools. This group has been very active over the year, contributing to AVA and other conferences, as well as convening their

own workshops and meetings. We thank them for their injection of interest and energy into our area, and look forward to their continuing contributions and successes in the near future.

Other achievements in 2010 included improving our governance arrangements, rationalising our fees and membership structure, reviewing our bylaws, and developing an online committee workspace.

We have also kept up our involvement on the Policy Advisory Council and our advocacy efforts for members on a range of issues, as well as developing an informative program on veterinary public health for the 2011 AVA Annual Conference.

**Rowland Cobbold**  
President

## AUSTRALIAN REPRODUCTION VETERINARIANS

**Membership of the Australian Reproduction Veterinarians (ARV) continued to rise in 2010, with our student members playing an increasingly important role in our group.**

This year we ran a three-and-a-half day conference at Charles Sturt University in Wagga Wagga. Lecture topics included the relationship between stress and reproduction, semen collection and freezing, foetal programming, emerging peptides and bull lesion syndrome.

We also ran practical sessions that included a semen assessment lab and embryo freezing demonstration, as well as workshops on embryo transfer in cattle, sheep and horses.

A presentation of this scale was a major undertaking for our group and I would like to acknowledge the considerable effort from both staff and students at Charles Sturt University, the generous support of our corporate sponsors, the willingness of

members to help with organisation and tuition at the practical sessions, and the dedication of the staff in the ARV office.

The ARV continues to have a representative on the AVA Policy Advisory Council, and provides a valuable interface between the veterinary profession and the production animal industries.

**Peter Atkinson**  
President

## AUSTRALIAN SHEEP VETERINARIANS

**The past year saw a change in the Australian Sheep Veterinarians (ASV) executive committee, with Kym Abbott stepping down from his role of President after two years of service. Thanks go to Kym for his great work in the role, especially in providing advice to the AVA, and the wider sheep industry, on the contentious mulesing issue.**

During the year the ASV committee approved a draft mulesing policy for recommendation to the Policy Advisory Council. The policy strongly supports the cessation of mulesing as soon as industry can manage the animal welfare aspects, and recognises that blowfly strike management is a wider issue.

We ran a strong stream at the Pan Pacific Conference in May, which featured presentations on a wide range of topics, including nematode control and other parasites, sheep feedlots, weaner nutrition and reproduction, and a range of sheep diseases. Our combined session with the Australian Veterinarians for Animal Welfare and Ethics was well attended and focused on research into mulesing alternatives and related flystrike management issues.

The ASV will be running a stand-alone conference next September, in addition to our stream at the AVA Annual Conference in May.

In late 2010 we introduced a new communication channel for our members to discuss technical issues with each other. This new initiative was quickly adopted by members and there are already a number of postings on a diverse range of subjects, including plant poisonings, lice on shedding fleece breeds, and problems with the supply of flystrike prevention products.

Our thanks go to our Executive Officer, Anne Cover and her team, for the excellent job they've done during the year.

**Brown Besier**  
President



# AUSTRALIAN SMALL ANIMAL VETERINARY ASSOCIATION

## Our 2010 Australian Small Animal Veterinary Association (ASAVA) Annual Conference, held in Hobart, was a perfect mix of science and socialising.

The focus of the program was infectious and immune-mediated diseases, and our two international speakers, Professors Michael Day and Tim Gruffydd-Jones, each presented great sessions, before joining forces for the second Roger Clarke State of the Art Lecture on immunological and clinical aspects of inflammatory bowel disease.

On the final afternoon we ran a forum on vaccination, which included a lecture from Professor Day on the World Small Animal Veterinary Association's Vaccination Guidelines Group recommendations, as well as an interactive members' forum.

I would like to thank all of our sponsors and the companies involved in the trade exhibition for supporting our conference and for their ongoing support throughout the year. Special mention to our 2010 major sponsors – Gold sponsor, Hill's Pet Nutrition, Silver sponsor, Provet, and Bronze sponsor, IDEXX Laboratories, as well as dinner sponsor, Cenvet, and breakfast session sponsors, Hill's Pet Nutrition, Pfizer, Virbac and Novartis.

At the Pan Pacific Conference in May we helped to manage the small animal stream and once again held our annual New and Recent Graduates Dinner.

The PennHIP training workshop, run by Gail Smith and Tom Gregor, from the University of Pennsylvania on the last day of the conference, received a very good response with almost 80 attendees.

In October we ran our first Relax and Reinvigorate (R&R) Conference at Salt Beach, Northern NSW. Approximately 40 delegates attended to see sessions by Anna Deykin on ophthalmology, Paul Canfield on cytology and clinical pathology and Phil Brain on nasal disease.

We plan to hold two R&R conferences each year to provide delegates with a short continuing education program run in a relaxing resort environment.

The *Australia Veterinary Practitioner* (AVP) continues to be an excellent resource and member benefit, and I would like to acknowledge the herculean efforts of Rick Atwell, who after more than 25 years, is stepping down as Editor. We welcome Giselle Hosgood as new AVP Editor in 2011. Thanks to our Executive Officer, David Imrie,

*The Companion*, underwent a major facelift this year, and has never looked better.

Members of our committee have continued to represent us on the AVA Board, Australian Companion Animal Council, Nursing Industry Advisory Group, Therapeutics Advisory Committee, Committee for Companion Animals in the Community, Policy Advisory Council and the Hospital Accreditation Scheme.

We have also maintained our role on the AVA Conference Program Committee and David Neck is our new ASAVA representative. Matthew Retchford stepped down from the role this year, and our thanks go to him for his many years of service.

Finally, I would like to thank the ASAVA staff, Executive Officer, David Imrie, Events and Administration Officer, Ria Tamone and Cristina Sacco, who resigned this year. Thank you also to our committee, including Debbie Osborne, Adrian Choi, David Neck, David Mason, Rodney Sundra and Mark Kelman. Mark is our newest committee member, filling the vacancy left by Phil Brain, who retired after 18 years of service. His dedication and hard work will be missed.

**Graham Swinney**  
President



## UNUSUAL AND EXOTIC PETS

**In 2010, the Unusual and Exotic Pets (UEP) special interest group, held a hugely successful combined conference with the Australian Avian Veterinary Medical Association (AAVMA) and the Association of Avian Veterinarians – Australasian Committee.**

Keynote speakers included Frances and Nigel Harcourt-Brown from the United Kingdom, and attendance was high, with more than 100 delegates each day.

Our scholarship winners for 2010 were Beverley Stanley-Clarke, who won the Stephen Ross Scholarship for her paper, *A case of persistent osteomyelitis in a rabbit*. John Debenham was awarded the Anne Martin Scholarship for students for his work on investigating coccidiosis in captive echidnas.

We received some great media exposure throughout the year. As well as the coverage we received from our combined session with AAVMA at the Pan Pacific Conference in May, we also provided comments on reptile-borne zoonoses and cats and wildlife.

We continued our policy work and the Guidelines for rabbit and ferret vaccination were distributed to AVA members for comment. Policies discussed within the UEP membership included rabbit welfare in Queensland, guidelines for the keeping and sale of reptiles in pet shops and myxomatosis in pet rabbits.

The Yahoo listserv, where experienced members provide advice for practitioners, has proved successful, with an average of 60 posts a month. Recent discussion topics include

moulting in penguins, frog anaesthesia, metabolic bone diseases in lizards, myxomatosis and sugar gliders as pets.

Several of our members have continued to be involved with the teaching of a comprehensive course for veterinary undergraduates in avian, small mammal and reptile medicine and surgery at James Cook University. In addition, Brendan Carmel and Sasha Herbert are teaching exotic pet medicine at the University of Melbourne, and Bob Doneley has been appointed as superintendent of the new small animal clinic at the University of Queensland, Gatton campus.

**Robert Johnson**  
President



## AUSTRALIAN VETERINARIANS FOR ANIMAL WELFARE AND ETHICS

**The Australian Veterinarians for Animal Welfare and Ethics (AVAWE) continues to contribute to animal welfare in Australia through their work on animal ethics and animal welfare advisory committees, in research, teaching and government.**

We have had a strong executive committee this year and our student members have been particularly active, no doubt due to the events we have sponsored at a number of universities around the country. We continue to have representation on the staff of most of the veterinary schools and we are still closely associated with the Animal Welfare Chapter of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists.

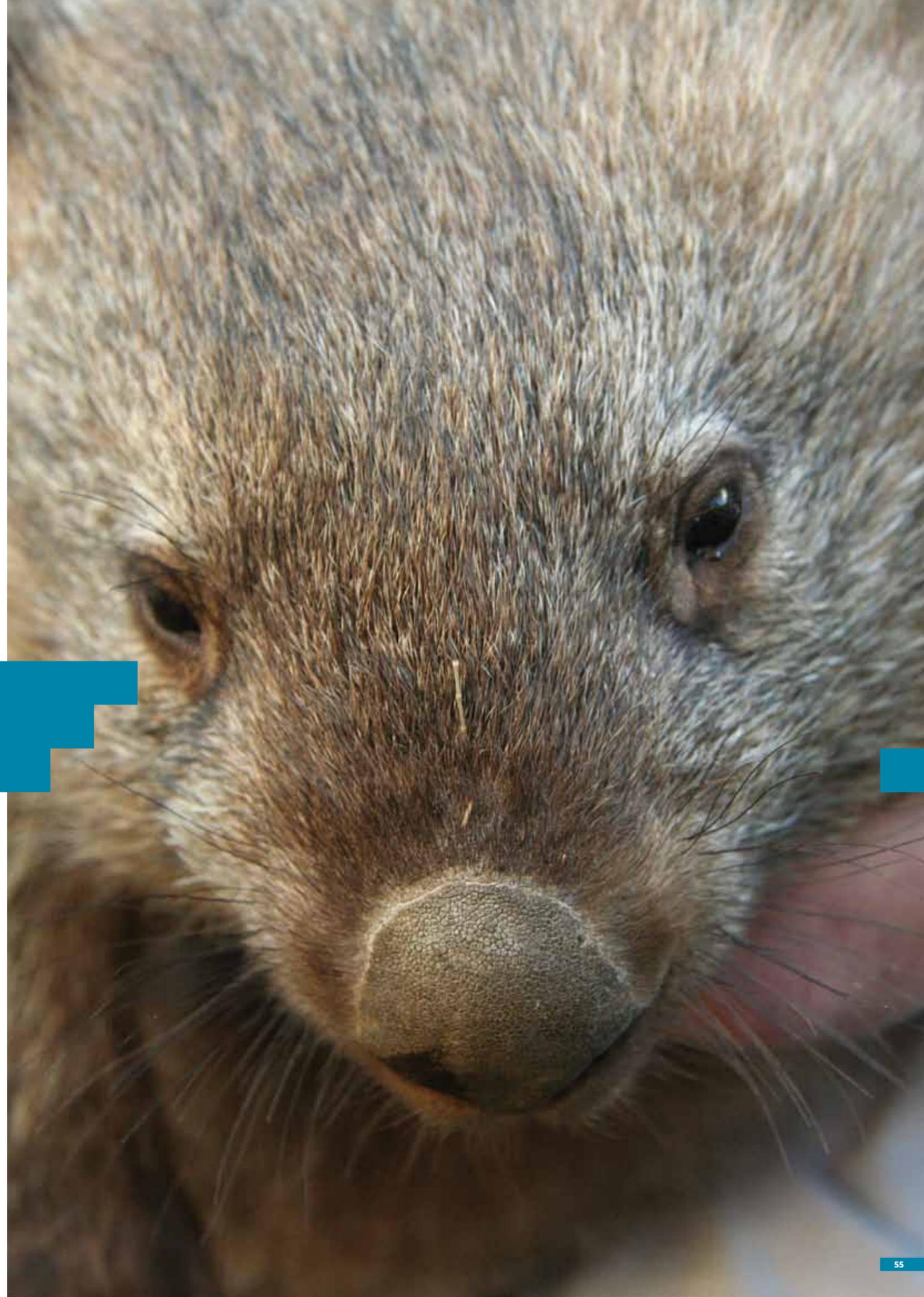
We had a significant presence at the Pan Pacific Conference, with a number of sessions and presentations focusing on our key areas of concern; animal welfare undergraduate teaching, professional ethics and animal law. The number of stand-alone and combined sessions with other special interest groups grew again in 2010.

Our annual dinner at the conference was a great event and guests were treated to thought-provoking presentation by conference presenter, David Mellor.

Production of our newsletter has continued and AVAWE President-Elect, Susan Maastricht, also introduced a new communication initiative this year, ethical dilemma case studies.

Based on a similar feature in the British Veterinary Association's journal, *In Practice*, an ethical dilemma is proposed by an AVAWE member and another of our members responds. The responder carries out a thorough research project looking into the current legal, welfare and ethical requirements that have a bearing on the case and this is printed alongside the ethical dilemma in the *Australian Veterinary Journal*. Both writers earn Vet Ed points for their work, and all AVA members benefit from the provision of up-to-date information about animal welfare, animal law and professional ethics.

**Tanya Stephens**  
President



## AUSTRALIAN COMPANION ANIMAL HEALTH FOUNDATION

**The Australian Companion Animal Health Foundation (ACAHF) continued funding projects to further knowledge of the cause, treatment and prevention of clinical diseases in companion animals.**

The Foundation raises money through donations from veterinarians and companies associated with the pet industry, pet owners and other concerned members of the public. All gifts and

donations to the Foundation are tax deductible to the donor, under the *Income Tax Assessment Act*.

Donations for 2010 totaled \$44,546.51, including \$5,340.73 from the sale of condolence cards. This money will be used to fund research grants in 2011.

The type of research that is funded is wide-ranging and is chosen for the direct benefit of companion animals. Some

examples of research programs funded in 2009–2010 include canine dermatitis, feline coronavirus infections, ageing and cognitive dysfunction in dogs and kidney disease.

These grants were assisted by funds from the Ottie Testa Memorial Fund and the Sue Du Val Memorial Fund.

The Trustees would like to thank everyone who so kindly donated to and supported the Foundation in 2010.

## BENEVOLENT FUND

**Compared with the devastating start to 2009 as a consequence of the Victorian bushfires, 2010 was a relatively quiet year for the Benevolent Fund.**

This year the Fund assisted 11 colleagues, 10 of whom were ongoing beneficiaries, the other a new graduate who came to the attention of the Trustees in April.

The pleasing aspect of the latter case was the manner in which previous beneficiaries of the Fund, who, when approached, were willing to provide emotional support to their colleague, in addition to the financial support the Trustees provided on behalf of the profession.

Overall, \$46,794.20 was provided in both direct and indirect financial assistance to beneficiaries during the interval between annual meetings of the Fund.

At 30 September 2010 the Benevolent Fund balance was \$191,701.52.

On 1 February, a meeting was held between the Trustees and AVA executive staff to discuss the Fund's financial reporting, the cost of supporting the Wellness Room at the AVA Annual Conference, and ways in which we could increase our exposure and financial support.

The Trustees urge members to support the Wellness Room by attending the next one in Adelaide and to support the Fund by enlightening newer members of the profession about the ideals and work of the AVA Benevolent Fund.

At the Fund's 2010 annual meeting in November, Ron Hyne announced his intention not to seek a further four-year term as a Trustee. Ron has been a Trustee of the Fund for 35 years and was a member

of the working party that initially proposed and then brought to fruition the functioning Benevolent Fund. The profession owes him a great deal for the hours of work he has contributed to this particular cause.

Brian McErlean was approached to act as a Trustee and he has accepted the position. Brian has been unrelenting in his pursuit of raising awareness about the issue of depression among our colleagues, which, sadly, can sometimes end tragically.

The Trustees would like to thank all the Fund's donors, without whom the Benevolent Fund would become an impractical ideal, as well as those colleagues who have helped deliver both practical and emotional support to beneficiaries.

**Randall Lemin**  
Secretary and Trustee



# DIRECTORS' REPORT

Your Directors present their report together with the financial statements of the Australian Veterinary Association Limited (the Company) and Controlled Entities (economic entity) for the financial year ended 31 December 2010.

## DIRECTORS

The name of each person who has been a Director during the year and to the date of this report are:

Barry Smyth	
Peter Gibbs	
Mark Lawrie	
Kevin McGrath	Resigned May 2010
Steve Atkinson	
Ben Gardiner	
Michele Cotton	
Pam Short	Resigned November 2010
Julia Nicholls	
Ronald Harris	Appointed May 2010
Adele Feakes	Appointed February 2011

Directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

## INFORMATION ON COMPANY SECRETARY

G Catt, MA, MBA, Grad Dip Business  
Company Secretary since 16 April 2008.

J Robb, B Ec(Hons), LLB  
Company Secretary since 10 March 2009.

## PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES

The principal activities of the Company during the financial year focused on the advancement of veterinary and allied sciences and included:

- operation as an association representing veterinary professionals in Australia
- promotion of the value of the profession to the community, industry and government

- providing a forum for veterinarians to exchange ideas and access member services
- assisting members to strive for professional excellence
- providing high standards of continuing education and professional development
- publication of the *Australian Veterinary Journal* and other scientific veterinary journals and materials
- providing leadership and expert advice in animal science, health, welfare and production
- stimulating informed debate on issues within the areas of professional competence
- developing technical policy on animal health and welfare issues.

There were no significant changes in the nature of the Company's principal activities during the financial year.

## OPERATING RESULTS

The consolidated deficit from operations for the year was \$270,556 (2009: consolidated deficit of \$1,180,903).

## REVIEW OF OPERATIONS

A review of the operations of the Company during the financial year is contained in the national President's report.

The economic entity comprises the Company, including 8 divisions, 21 special interest groups (SIGs) and 37 branches in addition to the AVA national group and 6 trusts. All groups operate within their own budgetary control, but within financial operating guidelines promulgated by the Board of Directors. Being a not-for-profit entity, the Company does not seek to maximise profits but to provide member services compatible with possible income. On the foregoing basis, it is expected that the Company will generate surpluses in some years (to be carried forward for future use) and deficits in some years (representing the expenditure of past or future surpluses).

## SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN STATE OF AFFAIRS

No significant changes in the Company's state of affairs occurred during the financial year.

## EVENTS SUBSEQUENT TO REPORTING DATE

No matters or circumstances have arisen since 31 December 2010 that significantly affected or may significantly affect:

- the operations of the Company or economic entity
- the results of those operations
- the state of affairs of the Company or economic entity in the financial years subsequent to 31 December 2010.

## LIKELY DEVELOPMENTS

No information is included in this report as it is the opinion of the Directors that the disclosure of this information would prejudice the interests of the Company.

Likely developments in the activities of the Company are noted elsewhere in the annual report, with the Company continuing to work towards the achievement of its objectives.

## DIVIDENDS

The Company's constitution precludes the payment of dividends. Accordingly, the Directors do not recommend the payment of a dividend. No dividend has been paid or declared since the commencement of the financial year.

## DIRECTORS' BENEFITS

Since 31 December 2010 no Director has received or become entitled to receive any benefit by reason of a contract made by the Company or a related corporation with the Director or with a firm of which he or she is a member, or with a company in which he or she has a substantial financial interest. However, the President and Directors who serve in an honorary capacity, are entitled to receive a reimbursement for actual expenses incurred as well as an honorarium for their services as Directors of the Company.

## Information on Directors

**Barry Smyth**, BVSc, MBA, PhD, GAICD, FACVSc, Diplomate ACVS, Registered Specialist Equine Surgery

AVA member since 1984, AVA Director since May 2007. President EVA 2006–2007, Secretary AEVA 2004–2006. Director Australian Horse Industry Council Inc. (AHIC) 2006–2009, President AHIC 2006–2009. Director private companies. Clinical veterinary practice Australia and overseas. Research Australia and USA. University teaching Australia and overseas.

**Peter Gibbs**, BVSc, MACVSc (Anaes & IC), CMAVA, MAICD

AVA member since 1970, AVA Director since May 2008. NSW Division committee member 2002–2008, President NSW Division 2006. Policy Advisory Councillor 2007–2008.

**Mark Lawrie**, BVSc, MACVSc (Animal Welfare), GCM (Vet Practice), GAICD, CMAVA

AVA member since 1995, AVA Director since 2006, AVA President 2008–2010. NSW Division President 2005–2006. Chief Veterinarian RSPCA NSW 1993–2008. Secretary Animal Management in Rural and Remote Indigenous Communities (AMRRIC) 2003–2007. Consultant Veterinarian in Australia and Asia (animal welfare, practice management and design, companion animal management, new products).

**Kevin McGrath**, BVSc

AVA member since 1988, AVA Director 2007–2010. ACV executive committee member 2000–2007, President ACV 2005–2006.

**Steve Atkinson**, BVSc, MACVSc (Animal Welfare), DipContEd, CMAVA

AVA member since 1994, AVA Director since May 2007. AVAWE President and Policy Advisory Councillor 1997–2007. Chair AVA Animal Welfare Trust. Chair AVA AWAC. Industry Fellow University of Queensland Veterinary School. Teaching at University of Queensland Veterinary School. Chair NSW Minister's Animal Welfare Advisory Council.

**Ben Gardiner**, BVSc, CMAVA

AVA member since 1982, AVA Director since May 2008. Various AVA branch committee positions. ACV executive committee member since 1989, President ACV 2003–2004. Elected member local government 1995–1999.

**Michelle Cotton**, BSc(Vet)(Hons), BVSc, MVPHMgt, CMAVA

AVA Member since 1968, AVA Director since May 2009. AVPMA committee member 2008–2009, Secretary AVPMA 2009. AVBIG committee member 2008–2009. Policy Advisory Councillor 2008–2009. AVA Education Taskforce 2009. AVA Risk and Audit Committee 2009. Director Postgraduate Foundation in Veterinary Science 2002–2007. General and zoo veterinary practice. University laboratory services and undergraduate teaching, Australia and overseas. Currently on the governing boards of various not-for-profit organisations.

**Pam Short**, BVSc(Hons), Dip Vet Clin Studs, IVAS Cert, MVS

AVA member since 1985, AVA Director since May 2009. Secretary and Treasurer AVAG 1995–2000, President-Elect AVAG 2009–2010. Lecturer International Veterinary Acupuncture Society course 2008 and 2010. Principal Gladesville Veterinary Hospital 1985 to present.

**Julia Nicholls**, OAM, BVMS, PhD, MACVSc (Feline Medicine), CMAVA, GAICD

AVA member since 1980, AVA Director since October 2009. Director Adelaide Animal Emergency Centre. Meritorious Service Award 1992. SA Division President 1986–1987, SA Division committee member 15 years. ASAVA Accredited Hospitals Convenor 5 years. Animal Welfare Officer University of South Australia. Member Animal Ethics Committees. Member Veterinary Surgeons Board South Australia 1987–1993 and 2002–2005. Australasian Veterinary Boards Council member 2002–2008.

**Ronald Harris**, BVSc

AVA member since 1973, AVA Director since May 2010. President Tasmania Division 1998. Policy Advisory Councillor Tasmania Division 1999–2005. Owner of mixed practice for 31 years.

**Adele Feakes**, BVSc (Hons) (Melb) Cert WAT

AVA Member since 1983, AVA Director since February 2011. Rural practice owner for 24 years. Experience in MID AQIS and the Army Reserve. Teacher, University of Adelaide. Co-founder Australian Camelid Veterinary Network.

## DIRECTORS' REPORT CONTINUED

### MEETINGS OF DIRECTORS

During the financial year, eight meetings of Directors were held. Attendances were:

#### DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

	Number eligible to attend	Number attended
Dr Barry Smyth	8	8
Dr Peter Gibbs	8	8
Dr Mark Lawrie	8	8
Dr Kevin McGrath	3	3
Dr Steve Atkinson	8	6
Dr Ben Gardiner	8	6
Dr Michele Cotton	8	8
Dr Pam Short	6	6
Dr Julia Nicholls	8	8
Dr Ronald Harris	4	4

### INSURANCE FOR COMPANY OFFICERS

During and since the financial year the Company has paid, or agreed to pay, premiums in respect of contracts insuring persons who are, or have been a Company Officer, against certain liabilities incurred in that capacity.

Company Officer for this purpose means any Director or Secretary of the Company and includes any other person who is concerned, or takes part, in the management of the Company, including Trustees of the six AVA Trusts, Australian Veterinary Association Benevolent Fund, Australian Companion Animal Health

Foundation, Australian Veterinary Association Animal Welfare Trust, Animal Welfare and Crisis Response Trust, Veterinary Emergency Support Trust and AVA Animal Welfare Institute Trust.

The insurance contracts prohibit disclosure of the nature of the liabilities insured by the contracts and the amount of the premiums.

### INDEMNITY AND INSURANCE OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

The Company has, to the extent permitted by law, entered into agreements to indemnify its Directors and officers for all losses or liabilities incurred as an officer of the Company or a related Company. This includes losses or liabilities incurred as an officer of a Company where such office is held for the benefit of the Company.

No claim has been made against or by the Company in relation to any such indemnities or insurance policies during the financial year ended 31 December 2010.

### ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

The Company's operations are not subject to significant environmental regulation under the law of the Commonwealth or any State or Territory.

### PROCEEDINGS ON BEHALF OF THE COMPANY

No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the Company or intervene in any proceedings to which the Company is a party for the

purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the Company for all or any part of those proceedings.

The Company was not a party to any such proceedings during the financial year.

### AUDITORS' INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

A copy of the Auditors' Independence Declaration as required under Section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001* is set out on page 76.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



**B Gardiner**  
Director and Honorary Treasurer



**B Smyth**  
Director and President

Dated at Sydney this 31st Day of March 2011.

## STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

For the year ended 31 December 2010

	Notes	2010 \$	2009 \$
Revenue from ordinary activities	2	9,701,210	8,893,224
Gain/(Loss) from non-operating activities	2	34,513	(22,871)
<b>Total revenue</b>		<b>9,735,723</b>	<b>8,870,353</b>
Service expenses		(658,660)	(708,586)
Sponsorship, marketing and promotions expenses		(296,496)	(323,390)
Conferences and continuing education expenses		(3,362,752)	(3,149,553)
Communications and publications expenses		(1,454,539)	(1,448,848)
Occupancy expenses		(204,140)	(192,316)
Policy and advocacy expenses		(507,275)	(503,669)
Administration expenses		(3,057,651)	(2,911,344)
Write-down of furniture and equipment		-	(3,508)
Other operating expenses		(464,766)	(810,042)
<b>Deficit from ordinary activities before income tax expense</b>		<b>(270,556)</b>	<b>(1,180,903)</b>
Income tax expense relating to ordinary activities	1(b)	-	-
<b>Deficit from ordinary activities after income tax expense</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>(270,556)</b>	<b>(1,180,903)</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income/(loss)</b>			
Change in fair value of property		-	(52,490)
Unrealised gain/(loss) on available-for-sale financial assets		(19,485)	312,317
Reversal of unrealised (gain)/loss on available-for-sale financial assets in prior year which were realised this year		(34,005)	40,624
<b>Total other comprehensive income/(loss)</b>		<b>(53,490)</b>	<b>300,451</b>
<b>Total comprehensive (loss) for the year</b>		<b>(324,046)</b>	<b>(880,452)</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 31 December 2010

	Notes	2010 \$	2009 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	1(h),14	2,072,362	3,558,125
Financial assets	6	1,660,000	646,034
Trade and other receivables	4	470,353	870,015
Inventories		56,398	65,383
Other current assets	5	359,138	310,454
<b>Total current assets</b>		<b>4,618,251</b>	<b>5,450,011</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Financial assets	1(e), 6	2,152,311	1,576,814
Property and equipment	7	5,417,454	5,569,965
<b>Total non-current assets</b>		<b>7,569,765</b>	<b>7,146,779</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>12,188,016</b>	<b>12,596,790</b>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	8	817,640	736,141
Other liabilities	9	1,103,038	1,323,826
Provisions	10	207,180	202,895
<b>Total current liabilities</b>		<b>2,127,858</b>	<b>2,262,862</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Provisions	10	99,140	48,864
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>		<b>99,140</b>	<b>48,864</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>2,226,998</b>	<b>2,311,726</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>9,961,018</b>	<b>10,285,064</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Retained earnings	11	6,071,003	6,334,052
Reserves	12	3,890,015	3,951,012
<b>Total equity</b>		<b>9,961,018</b>	<b>10,285,064</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

For the year to 31 December 2010

	Retained Earnings \$	Asset Revaluation Reserve \$	Capital Profits Reserve \$	Total \$
<b>Balance at 1 January 2009</b>	<b>7,514,955</b>	<b>22,006</b>	<b>3,628,555</b>	<b>11,165,516</b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>				
Deficit from operating activities	(1,180,903)	-	-	(1,180,903)
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>				
Change in fair value of property	-	(52,490)	-	(52,490)
Change in fair value of available-for-sale financial assets	-	352,941	-	352,941
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>(1,180,903)</b>	<b>300,451</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(880,452)</b>
<b>Balance at 31 December 2009</b>	<b>6,334,052</b>	<b>322,457</b>	<b>3,628,555</b>	<b>10,285,064</b>
<b>TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>				
Deficit from operating activities	(270,556)	-	-	(270,556)
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>				
Change in fair value of property	-	-	-	-
Change in fair value of available-for-sale financial assets	-	(53,490)	-	(53,489)
<b>Total comprehensive income</b>	<b>(270,556)</b>	<b>(53,490)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(324,041)</b>
Transfer of depreciation on appraisal of property from retained earnings to asset revaluation reserve	7,507	(7,507)	-	-
<b>Balance at 31 December 2010</b>	<b>6,071,003</b>	<b>261,460</b>	<b>3,628,555</b>	<b>9,961,018</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the year ended 31 December 2010

	2010	2009
Notes	\$	\$
<b>CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Receipts from members' subscriptions	2,674,616	3,373,193
Receipts from other ordinary activities	7,371,918	6,583,325
Payments to suppliers and employees	(10,134,388)	(10,278,556)
Net payments to Australian Taxation Office for GST	(300,366)	(328,885)
Investment income received	99,314	137,855
Interest received	177,116	217,452
<b>Net cash used in operating activities</b>	<b>(111,790)</b>	<b>(295,616)</b>
<b>CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Proceeds from sale of available-for-sale financial assets	863,188	429,114
Payments for purchases of available-for-sale financial assets	(1,146,711)	(24,933)
Net (investments)/maturities of short-term placements	(1,013,966)	1,813,966
Payments for purchases of property and equipment	(76,484)	(64,723)
<b>Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities</b>	<b>(1,373,973)</b>	<b>2,153,424</b>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash held</b>	<b>(1,485,763)</b>	<b>1,857,808</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year</b>	<b>3,558,125</b>	<b>1,700,317</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of the financial year</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2,072,362</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Note 1. Statement of significant accounting policies

The general purpose financial statements cover the consolidated group of The Australian Veterinary Association Limited as an individual parent entity (the Company) and The Australian Veterinary Association Limited and the controlled entities as a consolidated group (the Group). The Australian Veterinary Association Limited is an unlisted public company limited by guarantee, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The Australian Veterinary Association Limited has adopted AASB 1053 – Application of Tiers of Australian Accounting Standards and AASB 2010–2 – Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards arising from Reduced Disclosure Requirements to the annual reporting period beginning 1 January 2010.

In accordance with the Corporations Amendment (Corporate Reporting Reform) Act 2010, parent entity columns are no longer required to be presented in the consolidated financial statements with summarised parent entity financial information to be provided in a note as disclosed in Note 22.

### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, including Australian Accounting Interpretations other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB) and the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Australian Accounting Standards set out accounting policies that the AASB has concluded would result in a financial statements containing relevant and reliable information about transactions, events and conditions to which they apply. Material

accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below. They have been consistently applied unless otherwise stated.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accrual basis and are based on historical costs modified by the revaluation of selected non-current assets, and financial assets and financial liabilities for which the fair value basis of accounting has been applied.

### Accounting policies

#### (a) Principles of consolidation

An entity is consolidated when the substance of the relationship between an entity and the Company indicates that the entity is 'controlled' by the Company. The power to appoint or force resignation of trustees in accordance with the Trust Deed is an indication of this control.

The controlled entities are:

- Australian Companion Animal Health Foundation
- Australian Veterinary Association Benevolent Fund
- Australian Veterinary Association Animal Welfare Trust
- Animal Welfare and Crisis Response Trust
- Veterinary Emergency Support Trust
- AVA Animal Welfare Institute Trust.

All controlled entities have the same financial year-end as that of the Company.

All inter-company (Company-Trust) balances and transactions between entities in the Group, including any unrealised profits or losses, have been eliminated on consolidation. Accounting policies of the controlled entities have been changed where necessary to ensure consistency with those policies applied by the Company.

Where controlled entities have entered or left the economic entity during the year, their operating results have been included/

excluded from the date control was obtained or until the date control ceased.

#### (b) Income tax

No income tax is payable by the Company as it has been advised on 30 October 1981 by the Deputy Commissioner of Taxation that it is exempt from income tax under the terms of section 50(5) of the *Income Tax Assessment Act*. As part of the self assessment regime the Company sought professional advice during 2004 which affirmed that there had been no substantial change in purpose of the Company since October 1981 and that the Company could continue as a tax exempt entity.

#### (c) Inventories

Inventories comprise primarily of forms, publications, clothing and membership insignia which have been included in the accounts at cost on a first-in first-out basis. All inventories are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

#### (d) Property and equipment

Each class of property and equipment is carried at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation.

### Property

Freehold land and buildings are measured on the fair value basis, being the amount for which an asset could be exchanged between knowledgeable willing parties in an arm's length transaction. It is the policy of the Company to have an independent valuation every three years, with annual appraisals being made by the Directors. New independent valuations of all properties as at 31 December 2009 have been obtained and provide the basis of property valuations in the financial statements. Newly acquired properties are valued at cost, in the period preceding the next round of external valuations.

Increases in carrying amount arising on revaluation of buildings are credited to

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

asset revaluation reserve in the statement of changes in equity. Decreases that offset previous increases of the same asset are charged against the asset revaluation reserves directly in the statement of changes in equity. All other decreases are charged to comprehensive income. Each year the difference between depreciation based on the revalued carrying amount of the asset charged to the comprehensive income and depreciation based on the asset's original cost is transferred from the retained earnings to asset revaluation reserve.

Any accumulated depreciation at the date of revaluation is eliminated against the gross carrying amount of the asset and the net amount is restated to the revalued amount of the asset.

The buildings, which are a component of the total valuation of each property, are isolated from the land component and depreciated over expected life of 40 years, consistent with AASB 116 – Property, Plant and Equipment.

#### Office furniture, fittings and equipment

Office furniture, fittings and equipment are measured on the cost basis less depreciation and impairment losses.

The carrying amounts of office furniture, fittings and equipment are reviewed annually by Directors to ensure they are not in excess of the recoverable amount from those assets. The recoverable amount is assessed on the basis of the expected net cash flows which will be received from the assets' employment and subsequent disposal. The expected net cash flows have not been discounted to present values in determining recoverable amounts.

#### Depreciation

The depreciable amount of all property and equipment, excluding freehold land, is depreciated on a straight line basis over

their estimated useful lives to the Company commencing from the time the asset is held ready for use. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of either, the unexpired period of the lease, or the estimated useful lives of the improvements.

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable assets are:

Class of depreciable asset	Depreciation rate
Buildings	2.5%
Office furniture and fittings	5–10%
Equipment	25–33%
Leasehold improvements	10%

The assets' residual values and useful lives are reviewed and adjusted if appropriate at each statement of financial position date.

An asset's carrying amount is written down immediately to recoverable amount if the asset's carrying amount is greater than its estimated recoverable amount.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount. These gains and losses are included in the comprehensive income and transferred to capital profits reserve. When revalued assets are sold, amounts included in the asset revaluation reserve relating to the asset sold are transferred to capital profits reserve.

#### Impairment of assets

At each reporting date, the Group reviews the carrying values of its tangible assets to determine whether there is any indication that those assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less cost to sell and value in use, is compared to the asset's carrying value. Any excess of the asset's carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the statement of comprehensive income.

#### (e) Financial instruments

##### Recognition and initial measurement

Financial instruments, incorporating financial assets and financial liabilities, are recognised when the Company becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument. Trade date accounting is adopted for financial assets that are delivered within timeframes established by marketplace convention.

Financial instruments are initially measured at cost on trade date, which includes transaction costs, when the related contractual rights or obligations exist. Subsequent to initial recognition these instruments are measured as set out below.

##### Derecognition

Financial assets are derecognised where the contractual rights to receipt of cash flows expires or the asset is transferred to another party whereby the Company no longer has any significant continuing involvement in the risks and benefits associated with the asset.

##### Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets include financial assets not included in the following categories:

- Financial assets at fair value through profit and loss
- Loans and receivables
- Held to maturity investments.

Available-for-sale financial assets are reflected at fair value. Unrealised gains and losses arising from changes in fair value are taken directly to asset revaluation reserve in equity unless the assets are impaired.

##### Loans and receivables

Loans and receivables are non-derivative financial assets with fixed or determinable payments that are not quoted in an active market and are stated at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

#### Fair value

Fair value is determined based on current bid prices for all quoted investments. Valuation techniques are applied to determine the fair value for all unlisted securities, including recent arm's length transactions, reference to similar instruments and option pricing models.

#### Impairment

At each reporting date, the Company assesses whether there is objective evidence that a financial instrument has been impaired. In the case of available-for-sale financial instruments, a prolonged decline in the value of the instrument is considered to determine whether impairment has arisen. Impairment losses are recognised in the statement of comprehensive income.

#### (f) Employee benefits

Provision is made for the Company's liability for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to financial position date. Employee benefits expected to be settled within one year, together with benefits arising from wages and salaries, annual leave and sick leave which will be settled after one year, have been measured at the amounts expected to be paid when the liability is settled plus related on-costs. Other employee benefits payable later than one year have been measured at the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made for those benefits.

Contributions are made by the Company to employee superannuation funds and are charged as expenses when incurred.

#### (g) Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Group has legal or constructive obligation, as a result of past events, for which it is probable that an outflow of economic benefits will result and that outflow can be reliably measured.

#### (h) Cash and cash equivalents

For the purposes of the statement of cash flows, cash includes cash on hand and at call deposits with banks or financial institutions, investments in money market instruments maturing within less than three months and net of bank overdrafts.

#### (i) Revenue

Revenue is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits will flow to the Company and the amount of the revenue can be reliably measured. The following specific recognition criteria should also be met before revenue is recognised:

- Membership subscriptions are brought to account as income at the time these are received, except that where members' subscriptions are received in respect of a future financial period, the income is deferred and subsequently recognised in that future period.
- Interest revenue is recognised on a proportional basis using the effective interest method applicable to the financial assets.
- Affinity commission is recognised when the right to receive the income has been established.
- Conferences and events revenue, which includes sponsorships and delegates fees, are recognised upon commencement of the said conferences and events.
- Advertising revenue for the publishing activity of the Company is recognised when the particular article is due to be published.
- Dividend and distribution revenue are recognised when the right to receive the income has been established.

All revenue is stated net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST).

#### (j) Goods and services tax (GST)

Revenues, expenses and assets are recognised net of the amount of GST, except

where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Tax Office. In these circumstances the GST is recognised as part of the cost of acquisition of the asset or as part of an item of the expense. Receivables and payables in the statement of financial position are shown inclusive of GST.

Cash flows are presented in the statement of cash flows on a gross basis except that the GST component of investing and financing activities, which are disclosed as operating cash flows.

#### (k) Comparative figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform with changes in presentation for the current financial year.

#### (l) Critical accounting estimates and judgments

The Directors evaluate estimates and judgments incorporated into the financial statements based on historical knowledge and best available current information. Estimates assume a reasonable expectation of future events and are based on current trends and economic data obtained both externally and within the Group.

The Directors assess impairment at each reporting date by evaluating conditions specific to the Group that may lead to impairment of assets. Where an impairment trigger exists, the recoverable amount of the assets is determined. Value in use calculations performed in assessing recoverable amounts incorporate a number of key estimates. At 31 December 2010 there are no impairments.

#### (m) Leases

Lease payments for operating leases, where substantially all the risks and benefits remain with the lessor, are charged as expenses in the period in which they are incurred.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

<b>Note 2. Revenue from ordinary activities</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Subscriptions	2,664,336	2,605,288
Affinity commissions	1,017,419	1,001,544
Interest	231,191	193,149
Investment income	99,314	137,855
Rental income	24,396	20,494
Other revenue (incl. conferences and publications)	5,664,554	4,934,894
	<b>9,701,210</b>	<b>8,893,224</b>
<b>NON-OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>		
Gain/(Loss) on disposal of investments	34,513	(22,871)
	<b>34,513</b>	<b>(22,871)</b>
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>9,735,723</b>	<b>8,870,353</b>

## Note 3. Profit from ordinary activities

Profit from ordinary activities has been determined after:

<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
Depreciation and amortisation	228,995	218,061
Provision for employee entitlements	191,550	158,450
Loss on write-off of office furniture and equipment	-	3,508

## Note 4. Trade and other receivables

<b>CURRENT</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
Trade receivables	227,557	346,324
Other receivables	242,796	523,691
	<b>470,353</b>	<b>870,015</b>

## Note 5. Other current assets

<b>CURRENT</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
Prepayments	359,138	310,454
	<b>359,138</b>	<b>310,454</b>

<b>Note 6. Financial assets</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Short-term placements	1,660,000	646,034
<b>NON-CURRENT</b>		
Available-for-sale	-	-
Managed funds	1,038,633	1,277,215
Listed shares	1,113,678	299,599
	<b>2,152,311</b>	<b>1,576,814</b>

## Note 7. Property and equipment

Land and buildings		
Freehold land at:		
Independent valuation December 2009	776,189	776,189
Buildings at:		
Independent valuation December 2009	4,303,811	4,303,811
Less accumulated depreciation	(108,131)	-
	<b>4,971,869</b>	<b>5,080,000</b>
Office furniture and equipment at cost	1,281,940	1,237,142
Less accumulated depreciation	(836,355)	(747,177)
	<b>445,585</b>	<b>489,965</b>
<b>Total property and equipment</b>	<b>5,417,454</b>	<b>5,569,965</b>

### (a) Movements in carrying amounts

Movements in the carrying amounts for each class of property and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year.

	<b>Freehold Land</b>	<b>Buildings</b>	<b>Office furniture and equipment</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
Balance at the beginning of the year	776,189	4,303,811	489,965	5,569,965
Additions	-	-	76,484	76,484
Depreciation expense	-	(108,131)	(120,864)	(228,995)
<b>Carrying amount at the end of the year</b>	<b>776,189</b>	<b>4,195,680</b>	<b>445,585</b>	<b>5,417,454</b>

Independent valuations of all land and buildings were carried out on 31 December 2009, by registered valuers in each state or territory, of the fair market value of land and buildings based on existing use and the values advised have been included in these financial statements.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

<b>Note 8. Trade and other payables</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
	\$	\$
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Sundry creditors	817,640	736,141
	<b>817,640</b>	<b>736,141</b>

## Note 9. Other liabilities

<b>CURRENT</b>		
Income received in advance		
Membership subscriptions	607,941	864,095
Annual conference income	411,041	380,875
Other income in advance	84,056	78,856
	<b>1,103,038</b>	<b>1,323,826</b>

## Note 10. Provisions

<b>CURRENT</b>		
Employee benefits	207,180	202,895
<b>NON-CURRENT</b>		
Employee benefits	99,140	48,864
<b>Total</b>	<b>306,320</b>	<b>251,759</b>

<b>Number of employees at year end</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>50</b>
--	-----------	-----------

A provision has been recognised for employee entitlements relating to long service leave. In calculating the present value of the future cash flows in respect of long service leave, the probability of long service leave being taken is based on historical data. The measurement and recognition criteria relating to employee benefits have been included in note 1.

<b>Note 11. Retained earnings</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
	\$	\$
Balance at 1 January	6,334,052	7,514,955
Transfer of depreciation on appraisal of property to asset revaluation reserve	7,507	-
Deficit from operating activities	(270,556)	(1,180,903)
<b>Balance at 31 December</b>	<b>6,071,003</b>	<b>6,334,052</b>

<b>Note 12. Reserves</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>
	\$	\$
<b>ASSET REVALUATION RESERVE</b>		
Balance at 1 January 2010	322,457	22,006
<b>OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME</b>		
Change in fair value of property	-	(52,490)
Change in fair value of available-for-sale financial assets	-	-
Unrealised (loss)/gain	(19,485)	312,317
Reversal of unrealised (gain)/loss in prior year which were realised this year	(34,005)	40,624
	<b>(53,490)</b>	<b>300,451</b>

	268,967	322,457
Transfer of depreciation on appraisal of property from retained earnings	(7,507)	-
<b>Balance at 31 December 2010</b>	<b>261,460</b>	<b>322,457</b>

<b>CAPITAL PROFITS RESERVE</b>		
Balance at 1 January	3,628,555	3,628,555
Transfer from retained earnings	-	-
Transfer from asset revaluation reserve	-	-
<b>Balance at 31 December</b>	<b>3,628,555</b>	<b>3,628,555</b>
<b>Total reserves balance at 31 December</b>	<b>3,890,015</b>	<b>3,951,012</b>

## Note 13. Capital and leasing commitments

### CAPITAL COMMITMENTS:

As at 31 December 2010 the Group did not have any capital commitments.

### PAYABLE – MINIMUM LEASE PAYMENTS:

Not later than 1 year	32,715	24,881
Later than 1 year but not later than 5 years	39,421	45,415
	<b>72,136</b>	<b>70,296</b>

## Note 14. Cash flow information for cash and cash equivalents

Cash on hand and cash in bank	752,015	1,000,190
Short-term placements	1,320,347	2,557,935
	<b>2,072,362</b>	<b>3,558,125</b>

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Note 15. Members guarantee

The Company is limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the Constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$50 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the Company. At 31 December 2010 the number of members was 6,567 (2009: 5,674).

## Note 16. Remuneration of the auditor

	2010	2009
	\$	\$
<b>AMOUNTS RECEIVED OR DUE AND RECEIVABLE BY THE AUDITOR OF THE COMPANY:</b>		
Audit of the financial statements	31,900	33,111
Other services	3,176	1,585
	<b>35,076</b>	<b>34,696</b>

## Note 17. Key management personnel compensation

Total compensation	1,720,820	1,281,992
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The increase in compensation in 2010 is the result of a greater number of persons being classified as key management personnel.

## Note 18. Related parties

**Directors:** The names of persons who were Directors at any time during the year are set out in the Directors' report on page 58.

Information relating to the remuneration of Directors is included in Note 17 as part of remuneration provided to key management personnel. There were no other transactions between Directors and the Company during the year.

There were no transactions with related parties, other than Directors.

## Note 19. Financial instruments

The Group's financial instruments consist mainly of deposits with banks, short-term investments, accounts receivable and payable, and available-for-sale financial assets.

### (a) Net fair value

The net fair value of:

Listed investments have been valued at the quoted market price at financial position date, adjusted for transaction costs expected to be incurred. For unlisted investments where there is no organised financial market the net fair value has been based on a reasonable estimation of the underlying net assets or discounted cash flows of the investment.

Other assets and other liabilities approximate their carrying values.

## Note 20. Company details

The registered office of the Company is:

Unit 40  
6 Herbert Street  
St Leonards  
NSW 2065

## Note 21. Subsequent events

No matters or circumstances have arisen since 31 December 2010 that significantly affected or may significantly affect:

- (a) the operations of the Company or economic entity
- (b) the results of those operations

(c) the state of affairs of the Company or economic entity in the financial years subsequent to 31 December 2010.

## Note 22. Parent entity disclosures

In accordance with the Corporations Amendment (Corporate Reporting Reform) Act 2010 and the *Corporations Act 2001* the following summarised parent entity information is set out below. As at, and throughout, the financial year ended 31 December 2010 the parent company of the Group was the Australian Veterinary Association Limited.

	2010	2009
	\$	\$
<b>PROFIT OF THE PARENT ENTITY</b>		
Deficit for the year	(293,014)	(1,241,497)
Total comprehensive (loss) for the year	(346,504)	(941,046)
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE PARENT ENTITY AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2010</b>		
Current assets	4,538,724	5,388,376
Total assets	12,108,488	12,535,155
Current liabilities	2,976,888	3,107,328
Total liabilities	3,076,029	3,156,192
<b>Net assets</b>	<b>9,032,459</b>	<b>9,378,963</b>
<b>TOTAL EQUITY OF THE PARENT ENTITY COMPRISING OF</b>		
Issued capital		
Capital profits reserves	3,628,555	3,628,555
Asset revaluation reserve	261,460	322,457
Retained earnings	5,142,444	5,427,951
<b>Total equity</b>	<b>9,032,459</b>	<b>9,378,963</b>

# DIRECTORS' DECLARATION

The Directors of the Company declare that:

1. The financial statements and notes as set out on pages 61-73, are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*:
  - (a) comply with Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001; and
  - (b) give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 31 December 2010 and of the performance for the year ended on that date of the Company and economic entity.
2. In the Directors' opinion there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.



**B Gardiner**  
Director and Honorary Treasurer

Dated at Sydney this 31st Day of March 2011.



**B Smyth**  
Director and President



# AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

## AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE AUSTRALIAN VETERINARY ASSOCIATION LIMITED

In accordance with the requirements of section 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001*, as lead auditor for the audit of Australian Veterinary Association Limited and its controlled entities for the year ended 31 December 2010, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit; and
- b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



Moore Stephens Sydney  
Chartered Accountants



Jenelle Webster  
Partner

Dated in Sydney this 31st day of March 2011.

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# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE AUSTRALIAN VETERINARY ASSOCIATION LIMITED

### REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL REPORT

We have audited the accompanying financial report of The Australian Veterinary Association Limited (the Company) and its controlled entities (the Consolidated Entity), which comprises the statements of financial position as at 31 December 2010, the statements of comprehensive income, the statements of changes in equity and the statements of cash flows for the period then ended, notes comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information, and the Directors' Declaration of the Company and the Consolidated Entity comprising The Australian Veterinary Association Limited and its controlled entities at the year's end or from time to time during the financial year.

### *Directors' responsibility for the financial report*

The Directors of the Company are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001* and for such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### *Auditor's responsibility*

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Those standards require that we comply with relevant ethical requirements relating to audit engagements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report is free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial report. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the Directors, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial report.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

### *Independence*

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

### *Opinion*

In our opinion:

- a) the financial report of The Australian Veterinary Association Limited and its controlled entities is in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, including:
  - i. giving a true and fair view of the Consolidated Entity's financial position as at 31 December 2010 and of its performance for the period ended on that date; and
  - ii. complying with Australian Accounting Standards and the Corporations Regulations 2001.

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Moore Stephens Sydney  
Chartered Accountants



Jenelle Webster  
Partner

Dated in Sydney this 31st day of March 2011.

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Annual Report 2010

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