



Australian Veterinary Association Ltd

2016 Annual Conference

The nation's premier veterinary event

Adelaide 22–27 May

2016 Awards Ceremony

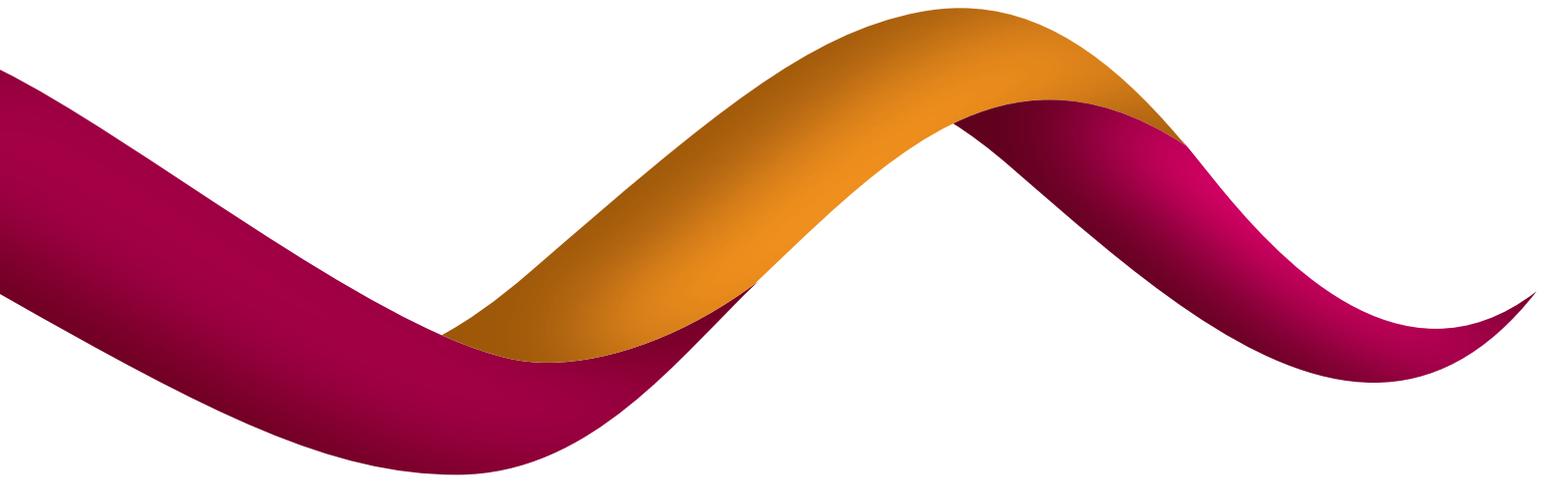
5.00pm Wednesday 25 May 2016
Adelaide Convention Centre, Adelaide, South Australia



Australian Veterinary Association



Professional development
for Australia's veterinarians



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Contents

- 3** Gilruth Prize
- 4** Kesteven Medal
- 5** President's Award
- 6** Don Kerr Student Award
- 7** Fellowship
- 8** Meritorious Service Awards
- 10** Honorary Member
- 11** AVAPM / Hill's Practices of Excellence Award

Gilruth Prize

The Gilruth Prize was established in 1953 and it celebrates veterinary scientists whose work has brought great credit to the profession or made a major contribution to veterinary science in Australia over many years. It is the highest ranking award of the Australian Veterinary Association.



**Professor
Mary Barton AO**

BVSc PhD MBA Dip Bact FACVSC
FASM Hon DVSc

It's difficult to overstate the diversity and depth of Dr Barton's impact on the veterinary profession.

Growing up on a farm with a father who didn't have much time for vets, Dr Barton's early career thoughts rested in zoology. However, with the encouragement of a chemistry teacher, she decided to study veterinary science.

After graduating in 1970, she spent the first two thirds of her career working in diagnostic labs. The other third was spent working for the University of South Australia, including four years as Head of School of Pharmaceutical, Molecular and Biomedical Science.

As the author of more than 150 published papers and having been cited thousands of times, Dr Barton is regarded as one of Australia's leading microbiologists and her expertise has been sought across the globe.

Dr Barton's research expertise, often with a One Health focus, includes: *Rhodococcus equi*., human foodborne disease, antibiotic resistance, zoonotic diseases, and the use of bacteriophage to control bacterial infections and environmental contamination with pathogens.

She is a veterinarian who not only engages in the research, but is active in getting that research out into the world of veterinary practice. Taking a lead role as a communicator, she helps to ensure that clinical practitioners have access to the latest research in the field so they can apply it in their daily work.

Within the AVA and the profession, Dr Barton has been a role model and mentor to countless veterinarians and her work outside traditional clinical practice is a clear example of the impact that veterinarians can have in the wider community.

As for the chemistry teacher, he/she probably deserves at least an MSA for the act of encouragement that started a young Mary Barton on a fascinating journey and career in veterinary science.

Kesteven Medal

The Kesteven Medal was inaugurated by the late Dr K V L Kesteven and first awarded in 1980. It is conferred on Australian veterinarians in recognition of distinguished contributions to international veterinary science in the fields of technical and scientific assistance to developing countries.

The medal is presented alternatively by the AVA and the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists (ACVS).



Dr Joanne Meers

BVSc DVPPath PhD

Dr Meers' career reflects a lifetime commitment to international veterinary science.

Her research has focused on a variety of viruses of veterinary importance including viruses of both domestic and native animal species. Her research interests include viral diseases of livestock in developing countries including Newcastle disease and avian influenza, koala retrovirus, feline immunodeficiency virus and canine parvovirus.

She is passionate about improving the livelihoods of smallholder producers, who are typically of lower socio-economic status, in developing countries. She has made significant contributions to projects that support improved animal health and productivity outcomes for smallholder pig producers in the Philippines, and to the development of practical approaches to the control of Newcastle disease in chickens in a range of countries.

Throughout her career, Dr Meers has demonstrated excellent engagement and collaboration with colleagues in developing countries, including Mozambique, Lao PDR, Vietnam, Myanmar, Indonesia and the Philippines over a sustained period.

Dr Meers has made major contributions to international veterinary science by using her considerable experience as a virologist to address livestock and biosecurity (diagnostic) challenges in developing countries. This work has been in the area of applied research as well as capacity building.

As a highly-motivated and highly-skilled veterinarian, Dr Meers has a remarkable capacity to use her extensive skills and knowledge in the training and upskilling of colleagues in the developing world. She combines excellence as a veterinary virologist with a personal warmth and kindness that her colleagues across diverse cultures recognise and appreciate.

Dr Meers is an accomplished individual, with a unique combination of technical and personal skills as well as professional leadership.

President's Award

The AVA President's Award was established in 2006. This prize is awarded by the President and the AVA Board to a veterinarian who makes an outstanding practical contribution to veterinary science or practice in Australia.



Dr Stephen Page

BSc(Vet)(Hons) BVSc(Hons)
DipVetClinStud MVetClinStud
MAppIsc(Env Toxicol)
MANZCVSc (Pharmacol)

Dr Page completed his Veterinary Science degree (including a BSc(Vet) degree in Pharmacology) at the University of Sydney. He then obtained his Masters degrees in Veterinary Clinical Studies at the University of Sydney and Environmental Toxicology at the University of Technology Sydney. He has also obtained membership of the ANZCVSc in Veterinary Pharmacology.

He has worked in senior roles for pharmaceutical companies in Australia and the US and is currently the director of a pharmacology consulting company. Dr Page is also the co-founder of two start-up companies involved in new drug discovery research and development.

He has initiated research collaborations with a number of Australian universities into novel veterinary medicines including a number of potential new antimicrobial drugs.

Dr Page is recognised worldwide for his expertise in pharmacology and antimicrobial resistance and is regularly invited to speak at international conferences as well as consulting internationally to organisations such as FAO and OIE.

Dr Page provides advice to government and non-government organisations in Australia, including the AVA, with particular emphasis on antimicrobial use, antimicrobial resistance and antimicrobial stewardship.

He also has an excellent publication record spanning peer-reviewed academic journals, advisory reports, practical industry advice and, of course, a number of patents. He is currently also a member of the AVA Antimicrobial Resistance Advisory Group.

Dr Page's recent activities include membership of the steering committee for the recently adopted report on the monitoring and surveillance of antibiotics and antibiotic resistance in Australian animals.

He has received several awards including the University of Sydney faculty teaching award for his contributions to their Veterinary Public Health Management program, and the Centre for Veterinary Education TG Hungerford Award for 'outstanding contribution to continuing veterinary education and in 1992 he was awarded the AVA Meritorious Service Award.

Don Kerr Student Award

The Don Kerr Veterinary Student Award commemorates the work of the late Don Kerr who died in 1992 while serving as President of the Association. Don was an enthusiastic cattle practitioner and dedicated educator of veterinary undergraduates. The Award is conferred on a final year veterinary student from one of the veterinary schools for academic achievement and exceptional commitment to cattle medicine.



Dr Lucy Collins

DVM

Dr Collins grew up in South Gippsland milking cows for her neighbours during school holidays and idolising her local vets. She credits her passion for working with livestock to being raised in a close-knit farming community.

Prior to starting her Veterinary Science degree, Dr Collins studied agriculture at the University of Melbourne, and has worked on several beef and dairy operations in Victoria.

Upon commencing her veterinary science studies, Dr Collins was awarded a Rural Veterinary Student Scholarship for her commitment to rural practice. During her studies, extracurricular activities included presidency of the Melbourne University Bovine Appreciation Group, completing live export stockperson training through MLA/LiveCorp, and co-coaching the University of Melbourne Intercollegiate Meat Judging team. In 2015 Dr Collins received a Norbrook 'Buiatrician in Training' Award to attend the ACV/ASV Conference as a student assistant.

Her enthusiasm for cattle medicine and surgery led her to complete her final year external rotations across numerous rural Australian dairy practices, and she received sponsorship to undertake a specialty livestock medicine and surgery externship at the University of California, Davis. She consistently performed well in university assessments involving livestock, and received exceptional feedback from all extramural placements.

Working as an associate veterinarian at Kyabram Veterinary Clinic since graduating has given Dr Collins the opportunity to gain exposure to a wide range of cattle medicine and surgery cases, and she is thriving in rural mixed practice with a strong dairy focus.

Dr Collins has been a student member of the AVA and ACV special interest group throughout her university studies and looks forward to continuing her involvement with both the AVA and ACV communities throughout her career as a rural practitioner.

Fellowship

Fellowship of the AVA is the Association's most senior award for service to the Association and is only given for truly outstanding service that involves a contribution through the AVA Board, Division, Special Interest Group or representing the AVA in the local community.

Dr Ben Gardiner

BVSc

Completing his Veterinary Science degree at the University of Sydney in 1979, Dr Gardiner first worked in a mixed practice on the outskirts of Sydney before travelling to New Zealand for a conference where he also enjoyed an extended locum position in Matamata.

After returning to Australia, Dr Gardiner found himself working once again in a rural mixed practice in northern NSW, where he developed a stimulating and dedicated production animal clientele. There he provided over 30 years of veterinary services to the districts of Barraba, Manilla and Bingara.

Dr Gardiner has been an AVA member since 1981 and he has actively served the Association as secretary/treasurer of the New England Branch and he has served on the ACV executive committee including as its president. He was appointed by the ACV executive as the convenor of the National Cattle Pregnancy Diagnosis Scheme and he also served on the World Buiatrics Congress 2014 and Bull subcommittees.

He was subsequently elected to the AVA Board and served as treasurer and then president.

Dr Gardiner enjoys engaging with his veterinary colleagues by attending and speaking at conferences, as examiner to the ACVSc and as external examiner for the University of Queensland. He has always expressed a keen interest in the profession's future having employed around 30 graduates and supervised countless final year veterinary students at his practice.

Dr Gardiner has a professional interest in maintaining cost effective and relevant veterinary services to stud and commercial beef producers. To facilitate this goal, he boasts no specialist post-graduate training but many years of local experience and a willingness to seek and share new knowledge or skills and selectively apply them with an honest consideration of client outcomes.

In all aspects of his life and career, Dr Gardiner has shown enthusiasm and commitment.

Dr Kersti Seksel

BVSc (Hons) MRCVS MA (Hons) FACVSc DACVB DECAWBM
Registered Veterinary Specialist, Behavioural Medicine

Dr Seksel has served the veterinary community with commitment and distinction since she joined the AVA in 1986. She has contributed to the development of the Association and the broader veterinary community.

She quickly became a major contributor to the Sydney Metropolitan Practitioner's Branch serving as its president from 1996 to 1998. Dr Seksel joined the AVA Board in 1999 and also became an ASAVA committee member that year.

Dr Seksel was instrumental in forming the Australian Veterinary Behaviour Interest Group (AVBIG) in 2004. She was AVBIG's inaugural president until 2006 and she nurtured, mentored and guided its development. AVBIG has major and regular contributions to the national conference and the continuing education of veterinarians and the broader community in humane scientifically based methods of caring for animals with behavioural problems.

In 2005, Dr Seksel became the president-elect of the AVA and subsequently the president in 2006. She continued to serve as a Board member until 2008. Some of her major contributions during this time included progression towards national registration of veterinarians as well as assessing the behaviour of dogs by looking at the deed of the dog not the breed.

Dr Seksel won the Seddon Prize in 2012 and was also the recipient of the Belle Bruce Reid Medal. She received the AVA Meritorious Service Award, the College Prize of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists for her contributions to veterinary science, veterinary nursing and animal behaviour and she was the ASAVA Small Animal Practitioner of the Year in 1998.

Dr Seksel has and continues to serve on numerous committees and boards outside the Association. She has always been committed to the development, education and motivation of other veterinarians in the field of veterinary behaviour.

Meritorious Service Awards

The Meritorious Service Award is given to members who have rendered special or long-term service to the association, its divisions, branches or special interest groups.

Dr Alan Guilfoyle

BVSc

Throughout his 43-year veterinary career, Dr Alan Guilfoyle (aka Guillie) has been heavily involved with Queensland country racing, served as office bearer of his local AVA branch in Queensland and has been an exceptional mentor, teacher and friend to countless undergraduate veterinary students.

Dr Guilfoyle has been an engaged member of the AVA since his third year of Veterinary Science in 1969. He is a proud member of the AVA, ACV, EVA, Equine Dental Vets and ASAVA.

Dr Guilfoyle is a member of ACV's Bull subcommittee and he was also one of the first 10 people to get his 'cattle tags' as part of the ACV National Cattle Pregnancy Diagnosis Scheme.

Dr Matthew (David) Petersen

BSc BVMS

Dr Petersen graduated in the first group of Murdoch University graduates in 1979 with a Bachelor of Science and a Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery.

He has served the ACV for many years, holding the positions of president and vice president, and has just completed his third and final year as ACV treasurer. Dr Petersen was also a member of the ACV World Buiatrics Congress 2014 committee.

He has been involved with the CSU veterinary campus since its inception and he has mentored, lectured and provided practical advice to the faculty. He is currently an Adjunct Lecturer at CSU and also supplied a son as a student for the inaugural graduating year!

Dr Christine Smith

DVM DipACVS

After migrating to Australia from Canada in 2003, Dr Smith joined the AVA and became an active member of both the Association and EVA.

Dr Smith came to Australia to work as a referral surgeon and senior lecturer in equine surgery at the University of Sydney. She then took on committee roles with EVA, commencing as the NSW state representative, then education committee member, secretary, and EVA president in 2011.

Always dedicated to equine welfare, she became a champion in the field of large animal emergency rescue instruction and training. Dr Smith formed an alliance with Fire and Rescue NSW to deliver training in the required skills Australia-wide. Over 250 veterinarians have now received training in these rescue skills.

Dr Sandra Baxendell

BVSc (Hons) PhD MANZCVS

Since joining the AVA as a student in 1971, Dr Baxendell has held roles on AVA committees and working groups during a veterinary career spanning 40 years.

She is secretary of the Animal Welfare Committee, AVA Queensland, and she has represented the AVA at a number of foot-and-mouth disease workshops and presented at AVA and ASV conferences. Dr Baxendell has also drafted policies for the AVA and initiated AVA policy development to assist producers and veterinarians with whom she has worked.

Highly regarded for her technical expertise particularly in goat husbandry and medicine, Dr Baxendell willingly mentors other veterinarians to develop clinical skills to better serve the goat industry.

Adjunct Professor Philip A Moses

BVSc MRCVS Cert SAO MANZCVS
FANZCVS CMAVA Member AO

Dr Moses is a prominent and well-respected veterinarian throughout Australia and Southeast Asia.

Joining the AVA after graduating from the University of Sydney in 1986, he has worked tirelessly for the Association and has been a committee member of the Brisbane Veterinary Practitioners branch for the past 17 years.

Dr Moses is a founding partner of Veterinary Specialist Services in Brisbane and he completed FANZCVS in Small Animal Surgery and became a registered specialist in 2003. He has an appointment as Adjunct Professor with the University of Queensland.

He has presented at numerous conferences in Australia and overseas and he is published widely.

Dr Moses continues to travel throughout Southeast Asia lecturing, on a voluntary basis.

Dr Philip Stott

MSc PhD DipEd BVSc

From being a quiz master to South Australia Division president and policy councillor, Dr Stott has taken on many roles within the AVA.

He was heavily involved in the Division's work on the dangerous dog's issue. He also helped South Australian veterinarians in countering arguments from some sectors that were concerned about the health risks of microchips.

A mark of his term as Division president was the effort he put into creating ad hoc volunteering opportunities for members. His own volunteering spread wider than his 11 years on the Division executive committee, and he continues to be a source of support for the SA Division.

Honorary Member

Honorary Members are eminent persons (non- veterinarians) who have been appointed to that position as a token of respect for their services to the Association or to the veterinary profession in general. They enjoy all the privileges of membership in the Association and the divisions, except those of voting and holding office.

Elizabeth Lightfoot

BSc(Geography) CertEd

Ms Lightfoot has been nominated in recognition of her contribution to the mentorship of several generations of veterinary graduates from the University of Melbourne.

After graduating from the Queen Mary, University of London with a Bachelor of Science in 1966, Ms Lightfoot then completed a Certificate of Education at the University of Southampton in 1967.

After spending a couple of years teaching, Ms Lightfoot then worked for the British Institute of Management, before coming to Australia as an assisted migrant in 1971. She joined the Faculty of Veterinary Science at the University of Melbourne in 1972 where she took on several roles including secretary, assistant registrar, general manager and academic programs manager. She became one of the longest serving administrative staff members of the faculty having served three deans during a period of 22 years.

While working at the University of Melbourne, Ms Lightfoot managed and oversaw the path of veterinary students from their first enquiry through to graduation. She ensured that examination results were collected, collated and reported to students in a timely manner, that those students who had failed to impress the examiners were handled carefully and efficiently, and that advice was accurate and available to all students. She saw the pastoral care of veterinary students as one of her key responsibilities and attended every graduation to congratulate the newest members of the veterinary profession.

Ms Lightfoot guided the selection of veterinary students at the University of Melbourne for 21 years. She always ensured that the potential of students from less conventional academic backgrounds was recognised.

Throughout her career she displayed commitment, loyalty, efficiency, accuracy, attention to detail, and respect and care for individuals and for the future of the veterinary profession.

AVAPM / Hill's Practices of Excellence Award



The AVAPM and Hill's have developed an annual award to recognise veterinary practices that provide outstanding service to their clients. It rewards and encourages veterinary practices Australia – wide to improve their customer service techniques and overall practice management. The winners for 2016 are:



Best small animal veterinary practice

Wilston Vet – Wilston, Queensland

The winner of this year's Small Animal Practice award was Wilston Vet in Queensland.

Practice owner, Dr Meredith Brothers, says that their aim at Wilston Vet is to provide a positive customer experience from the minute a client walks through the door.

"We have a spacious, lavender-scented waiting room and a place for small children to play and we have a big screen TV that plays a short clip about our staff, philosophy and facilities. Clients coming for an annual vaccine also receive a small gift for their pet, which changes every year," she said.

In addition to providing a pleasant customer experience within the practice, Dr Brothers believes that it's their personal touch that takes their service one step further.

"We take time with each client. We provide half-hour consultations and every visit/consultation receives a follow-up call to check on the pet's progress as well as the client's satisfaction. We also provide patient photos, birthday cards, newsletters, referral gift vouchers, loyalty cards, fun cattery boarding reports, client evenings and wellness check-up reports."

Wilston Vet is also proud to be a one-stop-shop practice allowing the team to anticipate and meet the needs of every client all in the one location.



Best large animal veterinary practice

Gisborne Veterinary Clinic – Gisborne, Victoria

Based in a semi-rural town north-west of Melbourne, Gisborne Veterinary Clinic first opened in 1980.

The practice currently operates with seven veterinarians, eight nurses, a practice manager, an equine nurse coordinator and four administration staff. Founding partner, Dr Russell Dyer, says that a key to their success so far has been their ability to adapt to the changing needs of their clients and develop a veterinary team with a strong mix of skill sets.

"Our focus has always been on our own business, rather than trying to compete with what other clinics are doing. Each one of our vets brings a unique set of skills to the team. This combined with our use of modern diagnostic and treatment paths means we're capable of keeping work in-house that would normally be referred on," he said.

In terms of customer satisfaction, practice manager, Travis Grieve, says that it comes down to a perfect combination of highly trained and knowledgeable staff and an ability to form long-lasting relationships with their clients.

"The truth is that numbers don't always tell the story. Long-term relationships do. Our clients keep coming back and that's the best measure of customer satisfaction," he said.



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Melbourne Convention Centre
Melbourne, Victoria



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