From the President – Dr Tess Guilfoyle

Recently I travelled to the big smoke of Brisbane and represented the AVA in various meetings. Robert Hedlefs, Amanda Anstiss and I met with the new agricultural Minister Jon McVeigh. This was an important meeting to establish good communication lines with the new government and to emphasise the role the AVA plays in representing the profession, and as experts in animal health and welfare.

Peter Reid and I represented the AVA Queensland Division at the Hendra Virus Interagency Technical Working Group. This group has representatives from Biosecurity Queensland, Queensland Health, and Workplace Health and Safety Queensland. Progress was made on the ‘Hendra Virus Infection Prevention Advice’ which has important safety and legal implications.

Robert Hedlefs and I also represented the AVA Queensland Division at the recent HBMALG (Horse Industry Biosecurity and Market Access Liaison Group) meeting. A Hendra virus vaccine update was given which was timely as release of this vaccine for field trials is imminent. With another Hendra case reported in the Mackay district recently, the vaccine will be welcomed as part of the solution for keeping vets safe.

Queensland branches have many great events coming up in the next months. There’s something for everyone, from a golf day on the Sunshine Coast to conferences in Cairns and Yeppoon. These events provide important networking and education opportunities and I urge you to come along. I certainly hope to catch up with some of you next month at the North Queensland conference.

Till next time….happy vetting....

Tess Guilfoyle

AVA North Queensland Branch Conference 2012 – REGISTER NOW AT THE EARLY BIRD RATE

Early Bird Closes 25 July

AVA North Queensland Branch Conference

When: Friday 24 and Saturday 25 August 2012

The Sebel, Cairns

REGISTRATION & BOOKING FORM
CLICK HERE
What's news with AVA PetPEP? – Trevor Morrison

Term 3 is now upon us and with 70 school visits already booked it will be a busy time for all involved with AVA PetPEP. The first semester for 2012 witnessed nearly 200 school visits and the challenge for the team is to reach our target of 450 before the school year ends.

With an upcoming trip to visit our supporters in all coastal areas between Mackay and Townsville planned for July, together with the AVA North Queensland Branch Conference in Cairns scheduled for late August, I’ll have the opportunity to meet with many of our fortunate veterinarians and vet nurses applying their profession in the tropics. These regional trips not only provide an opportunity to deliver updated educational resources to our participating veterinarians, visit local councils and other AVA PetPEP supporters, they also provide a forum for the discussion of the links between local community issues and educating our next generation of pet owners.

With the assistance from our AVA Media Relations Manager, Rena Richmond, AVA PetPEP has managed to secure extensive publicity through a range of media outlets across Queensland. Radio interviews, internet news articles and a range of local print newspapers have not only provided the program with valuable exposure, but have also assisted in promoting local veterinary practices who have had their representatives photographed in action during school visits. No doubt we can count on more publicity to come in 2012!

If you would like to join our growing number of participating practices involved with AVA PetPEP, contact Education Officer, Trevor Morrison on (07) 3423 1788 or email petpep@ava.com.au.

Australian Animal Welfare Strategy

New national transport standards to protect livestock welfare

New national standards for the transport of livestock have been developed to protect the welfare of animals, and for the first time these standards will be the same in all states and territories.

The Australian Standards & Guidelines for the Welfare of Animals – Land Transport of Livestock (LTS) was developed by industry, welfare organisations and government through the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy (AAWS). The LTS replaced existing codes of practice.

AAWS is a collaborative program which aims to delivery sustainable improvements in welfare for all Australian animals and across the entire community. The program is being delivered in partnership with state and territory government agencies, industry groups, animal welfare organisation, research bodies and professional associations, with the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) providing coordination and program management.

Click here to read more. More information on the Australian Standards & Guidelines for the Welfare of Animals - Land Transport of Livestock is available at www.livestockwelfarestandards.net.au

AVA Central Queensland Branch Conference 2012

Save the date!

AVA Central Queensland Conference 2012

Friday 19 and Saturday 20 October 2012

The Mercure Capricorn Resort, Yeppoon
Two things in life are certain: death and taxes. A third thing is certain too though: change. Change is inevitable. It happens in our personal lives and in our professional lives. Sometimes it happens when we expect it, other times it is entirely unexpected.

Change isn’t always a negative thing, but it seems that we hear far more often about change for the worse than we do about change for the better. People react to change in different ways: some see it as threatening while others see it as an opportunity. Understanding how you react to change, and why, can be a great help when you’re next faced with change. You can use this self-awareness to stop your automatic reactions, responding instead in a healthy and ultimately more effective way.

If you tend to see change as threatening, or if you generally shy away from change, try remembering these three principles as you respond to change:

1. **Change is fluid**: Try to contribute to the change or influence how it is implemented
2. **Change creates opportunity**: Try to figure out how the change may present you with new opportunities
3. **Change has happened before**: Try to find out how other people have dealt with similar changes in the past

If you’re facing change at the moment and are struggling to see how you’ll come out the other side intact, you might find it helpful to speak with one of our experienced counsellors. To arrange a confidential appointment, call the AVA Telephone Counselling Service anytime on 1800 337 068.

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**Disease WatchDog Update**

**New disease to look out for - Canine Neural Angiostrongylosis**

A disease that you might be aware of, possibly even seen (though it is rare) is Canine Neural Angiostrongylosis. This disease, which results in neurological signs, is caused by the migration of a parasite Angiostrongylus cantonensis, through the neural tissue of dogs (and other species, such as Tawny Frogmouths) following the ingestion of slugs, snails or paratenic hosts.

A thorough literature review of this disease, and examples of 22 cases is available for free download at: [http://www.parasitesandvectors.com/content/5/1/70/abstract](http://www.parasitesandvectors.com/content/5/1/70/abstract).

Logging cases on Disease WatchDog will allow collection of data for contribution to future research.

If practitioners have any questions on this disease, contact us at diseasewatchdog@virbac.com.au or contact Professor Richard Malik at r.malik@vetc.usyd.edu.au.

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**2012 Queensland Branch Events**

*Below are just some of the great events our branches have lined up for the second half of 2012.*

- **3 August**
  - Sunshine Coast Branch Golf Day

- **24-25 August**
  - North Queensland Conference

- **1 September**
  - BVP Race Day

- **12 September**
  - Sunshine Coast Branch Dinner Meeting

- **14 October**
  - Sunshine Coast Race Day

- **19-20 October**
  - Central Queensland Branch Conference

- **17 November**
  - Grads In Practice Seminar

**Save these dates on your calendar now!**

[Click here](#) for the full AVA Events calendar providing you with an up-to-date list of upcoming events.
PPE Rebate Program

Queensland equine veterinarians personal protective equipment – rebate program

Don’t forget you may be eligible to access the personal protective equipment rebate program for equine veterinarians registered in Queensland. Click here for more information or call 1800 623 946.

AVA Queensland Division Conference 2013

Save The Date!

Australian Veterinary Association
Queensland Division Conference 2013

22 - 24 March 2013
Queensland College of Wine Tourism.
Stanthorpe

P.S...

It’s mine I tell you... MINE!!!

AVA Qld Division Supporters

AVA Platinum Supporter

AVA Gold Education Supporter

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