

COLLEGE COURIER



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- Chief Examiner**
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- Honorary Treasurer**
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- Councillors**
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Dr Jennifer Sinclair
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COLLEGE MERCHANDISE

- Polo Shirts** \$35.00
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To place your order or for information on measurements, please contact the College Office.

Note: All prices are in AUD and include GST.
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EDITOR'S NOTE

We are truly delighted to witness so many Chapters embracing the Chapter SharePoint portals this year. Whether it's for conducting group mentorship for Membership Candidates or providing extra benefits to current Chapter Members, the enthusiasm is encouraging.

The nominations for the College Award have now closed, and the Award Panels are in the process of reviewing these submissions. However, don't wait for the College Awards each year! If you know of a College member deserving of recognition, reach out to the College Office. We would love to recognise them and their efforts in the upcoming College Courier or eNewsletter.

Additionally, did you know that as a College Member, you are entitled to a complimentary Microsoft 365 (A1) online license linked to your personal ANZCVS email address? For more information, contact the College Admin Team!



CEO REPORT

The year has started well for the College. This is due to the generosity, commitment, and teamwork of our community. As a volunteer-led organisation, we rely on members who share their time, knowledge, and experience to help the College and the profession grow.

We are also seeing another significant year for examination participation. Over 400 Membership candidates are preparing for examinations. It is wonderful to see so many veterinarians working towards these important certifications in their careers. At the same time, 38 Fellowship candidates are preparing for their examinations. Their efforts demonstrate the many years they have invested in pursuing Fellowship certification through training and an unwavering commitment to excellence. It's encouraging to see both the breadth and depth of candidates this year. This highlights the enduring value of College certification.

My sincere thanks go to our examiners, Board of Examiners members, Chapter committees and the Office Examinations team who make this work possible. This year, 170 Members volunteered for examination roles, demonstrating the community's values and commitment to giving back. The preparation and delivery of examinations is a significant undertaking, and it is only through the generosity of our volunteers that we can maintain the high standards expected of the College. Your contribution continues to shape the profession's future in a very real and meaningful way.



**Have a brain tickling MCQ?
We are always on the lookout
for high-quality, robust exam
content.**

Contact Rachel at po@anzcvs.org.au
to submit your questions

A highlight in February was the Examiners Workshop. It brought together dedicated groups of Membership and Fellowship examiners. Over an intensive weekend, participants focused on developing components for 2026 examinations. Members of the Board of Examiners worked closely alongside them to provide guidance and support. The energy and common purpose in the room were evident. Their efforts directly strengthen the rigour of our examinations.

Vet Science Week registrations open this month, and once again, we have an outstanding program thanks to the efforts of our convenors and contributors. The program is a sign of the depth and generosity of expertise across our community, creating great opportunities to learn, connect and share experiences. I encourage you to take advantage of early bird registration and secure your place.

I invite all Members and Fellows to stay engaged, whether through attending Vet Science Week, contributing to examinations, or connecting with your Chapter. If you are interested in becoming more involved, please contact the College Office or your Chapter Executive to explore how you can contribute.

Thank you for the care, dedication and professionalism you bring to the veterinary profession. I look forward to catching up with many of you in the months ahead.

~Stephen Alderman

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Dr David Tabrett



There are moments in the College calendar that remind us how much thoughtful effort sits behind each outcome we often take for granted. The in-person Examiners Workshop in Brisbane in early February was one of those moments, bringing together a committed group of volunteers to refine, test, and strengthen our examination processes.

I want to acknowledge the work of our examination teams and the leadership from the Board of Examiners. Over recent years, we have seen a steady progression in how examinations are constructed and delivered, with clear frameworks, careful calibration, and systems that support consistency across Chapters. These gains reflect sustained, disciplined effort from colleagues who care deeply about standards.

As we move closer to the examination period, my thoughts turn to our residents in training. Many are now approaching the final phase of preparation - balancing clinical responsibilities with focused study, often over extended periods. Their commitment to scientific excellence speaks not only to personal ambition, but to a wider professional responsibility.

As John Dewey observed, "Since growth is the characteristic of life, education is all one with growing; it has no end beyond itself." ¹ Within the College, this idea is lived daily. Learning shared across a community, tested through structured assessment, and carried forward into practice.

Looking ahead, I encourage those who have not yet been involved in examination teams to consider stepping forward. Participation offers a deeper appreciation of subject standards and builds practical skills in assessment design, rubric development, and consistent application of structured evaluation frameworks - capabilities that translate directly into clinical and leadership roles.

With the year gathering pace, I also invite all Members and Fellows to turn their attention to Vet Science Week in July 2026. The program is now available, and early planning will make the most of what is shaping as a significant event for our profession. I encourage you to explore the program at <https://vetscienceweek.com.au/> and consider how you might participate in what remains the premier veterinary conference in Australasia.

Thank you to all who contribute to our two primary events - examiners, supervisors, Chapter teams, Convenors and College staff. Together, we continue to shape a College defined by both rigour and generosity.

David Tabrett

¹ John Dewey, Democracy and Education (1916), Chapter 4: "Education as Growth."

Shining the Spotlight

Is there someone in your Chapter who has selflessly stepped forward year on year, or has done an exceptional job recently that deserves recognition for their contributions "behind the scenes"?

Reach out to the College Office to have them featured in the next edition of the Courier!



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

COLLEGE COUNCIL

The College Council is the body that administers the College on behalf of the Membership. Council, as the Board of Directors of the College, manages the strategic objectives of the College and therefore significantly influences the future of the veterinary profession in Australia and New Zealand.

Your involvement is essential, either by nominating for a role or by voting for your preferred Council representatives. Three places on Council are available for election this year, with nominations for these positions currently being called.

Following a 1-year interim term on Council, **Dr. Francette Geraghty-Dusan** has announced her intention to run for re-election to the Council this year. Dr Geraghty-Dusan is well experienced within Chapter roles, having served as Epidemiology Chapter Science Week Co-Convenor and Chapter Treasurer.

Dr. David Tabrett has announced his intention to run for re-election to the Council this year. He has been a member of the College Council since 2019 and has held the position of Honorary Treasurer between 2021-2023 and College President from 2023-present.

All members should consider nominating for Council if you have an interest in the future and objectives of the College and a desire to make a significant contribution to the veterinary profession. Councillors are offered directorship training and extensive support from the College Office and find the experience of serving on Council to be a most rewarding and enjoyable one. All financial Members and Fellows of the College are eligible for nomination and election for Council. [A nomination form is available here.](#)

Why Become a College Councillor?

Make a Real Impact

- Influence the College's strategic direction by engaging with key decisions and governance matters.
- Actively participate in shaping the future of the College through Council meetings and key decision-making processes.

Professional Development

- Enhance your strategic thinking, decision-making, and advocacy skills in a high-level leadership role.
- Gain valuable experience in corporate governance and leadership, with training and support provided.

Champion our College Community

- Promote membership and encourage professional fellowship within the veterinary community.
- Serve as a vital link between the College and its Chapters, providing guidance, support, and leadership.
- Represent the College at events and act as an ambassador for its purpose and values.

Support and Recognition

- Receive full financial support for travel, accommodation, and meals when attending in-person Council meetings and the Annual General Meeting.
- Benefit from extensive assistance from dedicated College staff.
- Enjoy the personal and professional satisfaction of playing a key role in the leadership of the College.

To nominate for Council, please download and complete the online form [available here.](#)

Nominations close 1 June 2026



CHIEF EXAMINER'S REPORT

A/Prof Jennifer Carter



Greetings from cool and rainy Melbourne. As always, I want to begin by sincerely thanking our College office staff, Council members, Board of Examiners members, and examiners and observers for their incredible contributions to the College examinations process. We have hit the ground running in 2026 preparing for another large cohort of examinations and examining teams are busily working on their exams. As of writing this column, we are currently preparing examinations for 22 different Membership subjects and 12 different Fellowship subjects for over 400 candidates!

The Board of Examiners hosted the annual examiners workshop in Brisbane from 31 January to 1 February with attendees from a breadth of both Membership and Fellowship subject examining teams with examiners from 16 of the 34 different examining groups present. The weekend consisted of some brief presentations alongside high-impact collaborative writing and revision sessions facilitated by BOE members. It was a successful weekend for all involved with some teams staying on for a while after the Sunday session ended to take advantage of the space to collaborate in person with their fellow examiners.

An interesting point to celebrate from the weekend was my reflection that the examiners in attendance were, overall, the most prepared with respect to exam drafting, of any workshop in my memory.

Additionally, we noted an increase in the use of multiple-choice questions in examinations for this cycle – an important step towards sustainability of the exams processes.

In addition to all the examinations business of the weekend, attendees enjoyed a joint dinner together – a lovely social experience for our College community. I would like to personally thank all the attendees at both workshops for their diligent efforts in making the weekend a true success. I would also, of course, be remiss in not thanking the College staff and Board of Examiners members in attendance for their support and contributions.

I'd also like to extend my best wishes to all our Membership and Fellowship candidates in your endeavours this year!

~ Jen



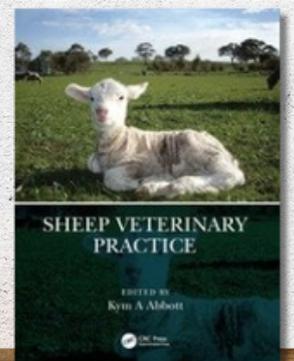
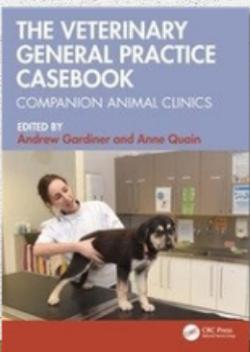
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**INTENTION TO SIT DEADLINE
FOR
2027 FELLOWSHIP CANDIDATES**



**Are you a Fellowship Candidate ready to sit
your Fellowship exam?**

**The deadline to register your intention to sit
2027 Fellowship Examinations is**

30 JUNE 2026

No applications will be accepted after this date.

Fellowship Candidates wishing to sit Fellowship examinations in 2027 should note that it is mandatory to register their intention to sit with the College office before 30 June 2026.

No applications to sit the Fellowship examinations will be accepted after this date.

Candidates who register an intention to sit, but do not comply with current credential guidelines will be able to withdraw their application before 31 October 2026.

Please note that the Credentials date of 31 October remains the same, and by this date, all requirements outlined in the training guidelines must be completed.



NOMINATIONS BOARD OF EXAMINERS

The Board of Examiners is seeking new Members or Fellows of the College to join the Board of Examiners.

In order to join the Board, you must have previously served as an examiner for the College, and have an interest in examinations, assessment, education and the College generally. Expertise in assessment practice and/ or managing training programs is highly desirable.

Interested persons must be available for Board of Examiners meetings, the Examiners Workshop in February annually and examination duties during the examination period, and must be enthusiastic and willing to contribute to Board activities. Successful applicants will be selected by Council following recommendation made by the BoE. It is desirable that within the Board there be representation from a wide breadth of subject backgrounds and working experiences, a mixture of Members and Fellows, a gender balance, and some representation from New Zealand.

Board of Examiners members join either the Training and Credentials Committee or the Examinations Committee. They are expected to attend College examinations to act as observers during the examinations, and attend Board meetings.

These are currently held via Zoom, however there are usually two face-to face meetings, in addition to videoconference meetings as required during the year. BoE members should be able to devote at least five-seven hours per week to duties associated with the Board of Examiners. They are valuable members of a progressive and dynamic team, ably supported by College staff.

For further information please contact the Examinations Team. [A link to the application form can be found here.](#) Completed application forms should be forwarded to the College office by email or post by Thursday 30 April 2026.

HOW TO APPLY

Download the application form, available online here.

Submit completed application form to the College office by post or email (preferred) to maryanne.hiscutt@anzcvs.org.au by Thursday 30 April 2026.

Questions? Please contact the Examinations Team at examinations@anzcvs.org.au or phone (07) 3423 2016.



Project Officer Report Dr Rachel Tan

Vet Science Week 24-26 July 2026

We're only 4 months away from VSW26 with 19 participating Chapters this year – over 250 presentations across the 3 days! The exciting collaboration with the Pathobiology Chapter, Australian Society for Veterinary Pathology and Davis-Thompson Foundation for their Annual Scientific Conference will allow any delegates purchasing a general VSW ticket to attend any of these sessions.

The full preliminary program can be viewed [here](#).

Pre-conference Workshops scheduled for Thursday, 23 July 2026 include:

- Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation: Manual Therapy Techniques for Canine Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation
- Small Animal Medicine and Veterinary Oncology: Changing Paradigms in Small Animal Medicine and Oncology.

We have doubled exhibition hall space for 2026 as a new initiative to encourage greater interaction between delegates and industry. This new space will include a demonstration stage and 4 lounges, including the "Recharge Lounge" brought to you by VIN.

Early bird registration is now open, so purchase your tickets at a discounted price to support our annual scientific meeting. The College is a not-for-profit organisation, so pricing is set at cost recovery to allow as many people as possible to attend. This is consistent with the College Charter to "Educate and Share".

Keep your eye out for information on our social media and please follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter or Instagram for the latest news. The college will be heavily utilising digital media and advertising moving forward to keep members up to date on all the latest VSW news.

Fellowship Review Project

This project seeks to review all aspects of Fellowship training across the breadth of disciplines and settings, including entry and eligibility requirements, educational framework, learning environments, assessment

approaches, feedback processes and supervisor training and support. The team from Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) have completed the draft report which has undergone internal and external review. The final report with recommendations is in progress for completion by mid-year.

If you have any questions, please contact me at po@anzcvs.org.au. Thank you once again for your support.



SAVE THE DATE



Friday 24 - Sunday 26
July 2026

vetscienceweek.com.au



ANZCVS
VET SCIENCE
WEEK 2026

SAVE THE DATE



ASVP
Australian Society for
Veterinary Pathology

Davis-Thompson
Foundation

ASVP & DTF
Annual Scientific
Conference

Special Event hosted at ANZCVS Vet Science Week

Friday 24 - Sunday 26 July 2026



ANZCVS
VET SCIENCE
WEEK 2026

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VET SCIENCE
WEEK 2026

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Early Bird closes 25 May 2026



Chapter Resource Portal



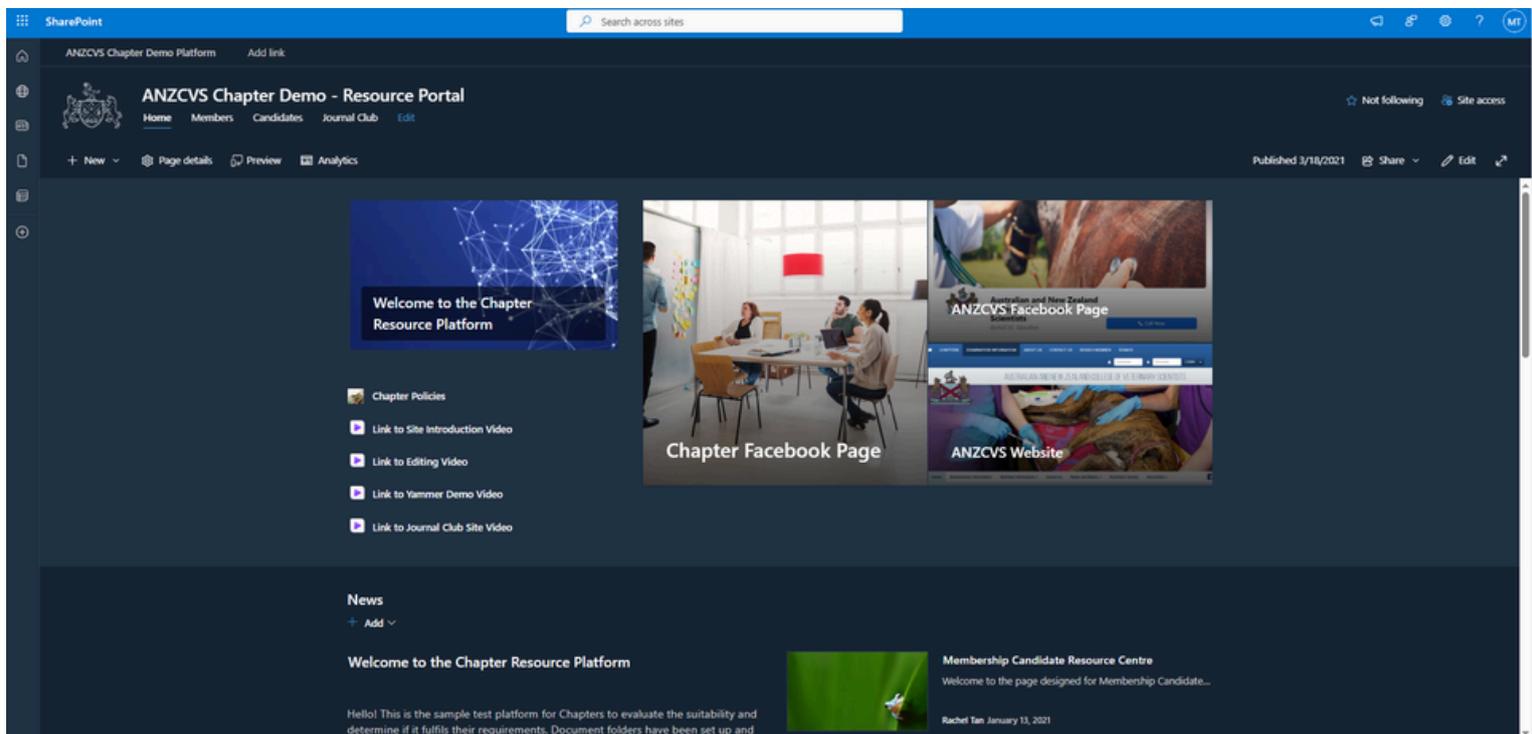
Did you know that every chapter can utilise their Chapter Resource Portal to encourage, engage, and enhance current and future member participation?

Chapters can create multiple channels available to specific groups, as well as a whole of Chapter channel which all Chapter members access.

Whether you're looking to create a mentorship program for group membership candidates; improve member benefits with storage facilities for CE webinars, journal clubs, and articles; an area where members can chat and engage with each other; or streamline the onboarding and offboarding processes for various committees, this portal can be immensely helpful.

If you have valuable content, the Chapter Resource Portal is an ideal place to store and present it to your Membership.

Interested? Reach out to the College Office to explore how it can be customised to fit your Chapter's goals.



The screenshot shows a SharePoint page for 'ANZCVS Chapter Demo - Resource Portal'. The page has a dark blue header with the SharePoint logo and a search bar. Below the header, there's a navigation bar with 'Home', 'Members', 'Candidates', 'Journal Club', and 'Edit'. The main content area features a large blue banner with the text 'Welcome to the Chapter Resource Platform'. Below the banner, there's a section titled 'Chapter Policies' with four links: 'Link to Site Introduction Video', 'Link to Editing Video', 'Link to Yammer Demo Video', and 'Link to Journal Club Site Video'. To the right of the banner, there are three smaller images: 'Chapter Facebook Page', 'ANZCVS Facebook Page', and 'ANZCVS Website'. At the bottom, there's a 'News' section with an 'Add' button and a 'Welcome to the Chapter Resource Platform' section with a green image and text: 'Hello! This is the sample test platform for Chapters to evaluate the suitability and determine if it fulfils their requirements. Document folders have been set up and...'. The footer includes 'Membership Candidate Resource Centre' and 'Rachel Tan January 11, 2021'.

CHAPTER REPORTS

Animal Welfare

Chapter-led position statement: Recognising Animal Sentience

In February the ANZCVS Council has approved the Animal Welfare Chapter-Led Position Statement – Recognising Animal Sentience. The Position Statement, written by Professor Paul McGreevy and Dr Di Evans, incorporated feedback from Animal Welfare Chapter and ANZCVS fellows and members. The Position Statement, background and references are [available here](#).

Introducing the teleome: a framework for understanding animal welfare

Cristina Wilkins and colleagues introduce this concept in a recently published paper in *Frontiers of Animal Science*. It challenges our current thinking in animal welfare science and promises to lead the way forward by providing a framework which focuses strongly on the importance of affective experiences and biology. The paper will be presented for the first time at Vet Science Week 2026.

Wilkins, C.L., Henshall, C., Lykins, A.D., Mellor, D.J., Fillios, M. and McGreevy, P.D. (2026). The teleome: a framework for understanding animal welfare integrating adaptive capabilities, affective regulation, agency, and environmental affordances. *Front. Anim. Sci.* 7:1768519. doi: <https://doi.org/10.3389/fanim.2026.1768519>

Science week program finalised

We are looking forward to seeing as many chapter members as possible at Vet Science Week 2026. Please view the preliminary program here: [Program | ANZCVS Vet Science Week 2026](#)

Dentistry

Hello to our Dentistry members!

Firstly, we want to wish all of the current membership candidates sitting their examinations later this year in Small Animal Dentistry and Oral Surgery and Equine Dentistry all the very best for their final push towards the upcoming examinations. Huge thanks also to the examination committees who are working tirelessly behind the scenes to prepare for this. It's a tough time of year for those on both sides of the examination fence, and we appreciate everyone working so hard to improve the level of knowledge in this important area of veterinary practice.

Secondly, the Science Week Committee, in particular Dr Bec Tucker and Dr Aaron Forsayeth, have been busy assembling this year's Science Week program - the preliminary program is now available on the College website and, while there will be a few minor adjustments between now and July, it is shaping up

Dentistry continued...

to be our best program yet. As Vet Science Week coincides with Bain Fallon, we are not offering an Equine program this year.

We have two full days of small animal dentistry sessions covering a wide range of topics that are immediately applicable to both the general practice vet and those in referral or specialist practice. We are collaborating with other Chapters such as Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia, Medicine and Surgery of Unusual Pets and Ophthalmology to address some of the big issues that cause concern for those of us in all styles of small animal dental practice.

Hot topics such as the pros and cons of staged dentistry, evidence-based management of feline chronic gingivostomatitis, antibiotic stewardship in dentistry and ophthalmological complications during dental procedures, will be explored. We will be discussing the latest updates in the use of new products such as periosteal gels and antiviral medications, as well as advances in dental imaging. A session devoted to greyhound dental issues, including their special surgical and anaesthesia considerations, is a must for anyone doing dental or oral surgery on this breed. There will also be plenty of tips and tricks, from dealing with those tricky rabbit dental abscesses, when and how to perform full mouth extractions, through to sorting through the local anaesthetic agents and doses and performing local nerve blocks as safely as possible. If all of this doesn't answer your burning questions, we will be topping it all off with our inaugural Ask Me Anything Dental Panel - bring your questions, nothing is off limits (dental questions, of course)!

To top it off, for our Members, Specialists and those with similar qualifications, we have a full day Pre-Conference workshop on Thursday, 23 July on All Things Endodontic. We are extremely fortunate to have Associate Professor William Ha, Head of Endodontics at the University of Sydney, taking us through the latest on endodontic therapy. He has worked alongside (and published with) veterinary dentists for several years so he is readily able to apply both his cutting edge human dental research and extensive clinical experience to our small animal patients. William is a fantastic teacher and this is a rare opportunity not to be missed. [You can check out his bio here](#).

We are excited about this amazing program, and hope to see you there!

Dr Christine Hawke
Secretary
Veterinary Dentistry Chapter

CHAPTER REPORTS

Emergency and Critical Care

Examinations Update

- We have 75 candidates sitting the membership exam this year.
- Thank you to the Examination committee and Examiners for your ongoing work maintaining high standards.
- All the best wishes to the examination candidates!!



- Webinar on [Preparing for ECC Membership exams by Dr Katy Craig](#)

We have many more FREE CPD webinars including Antimicrobial stewardship, Heat stroke, Acid Base Analysis and Fluid Therapy on our [VECC Events webpage](#).



BITES & INSIGHTS

Emergency and Critical Care Chapter's
Webinar Series



Science Week Program Update

- 3 Core Themes this year - Advanced respiratory support, Snake Envenomation & Tick Paralysis
- Keynote speakers
 - Professor Elizabeth Rozanski DVM DACVIM(SAIM), DACVECC from Cumming's School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University, Massachusetts, USA
 - Associate Professor Claire Sharp BSc BVMS MS DACVECC, The School of Veterinary Medicine, Murdoch University
 - Dr Ellie Leister BVSc FANZCVS(ECC), Director of Pet ICU in Queensland

- Discussion panels on each topic with numerous additional ECC specialists and topic experts from around Australia.



Emergency and Critical Care continued...

Financial Update

- Chapter Treasurer has been very busy creating a VECC annual sponsorship prospectus, a new concept!
- This means sponsors support the chapter throughout the calendar year while gaining sponsor visibility.



EOI Website Administrator

- Our chapter is seeking a member with a keen interest in developing and maintaining our ECC chapter webpage and SharePoint platform.

The role will focus on:

- Expanding the chapter webpage to enhance member access, education, and community news
- Developing SharePoint resources to support committees, exam candidates, and shared chapter information
- This is a great opportunity to contribute to the growth of our chapter's online presence and member resources.
- Please email secretaryecc@anzcvs.org.au for more information.

Warmest

Natsuko – President ANZCVS ECC Chapter

WE ARE LOOKING FOR YOU!

THE ECC CHAPTER ARE SEEKING EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR A WEBSITE ADMINISTRATOR

CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO
SecretaryECC@anzcvs.org.au



CHAPTER REPORTS

Epidemiology

Join us for Vet Science Week 2026 at the Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre, 24-26 July 2026.

The Epidemiology and Veterinary Public Health Chapter warmly invites members to attend our 2026 Science Week program. This year, we are collaborating with the Zoo and Wildlife Chapter to bring you a series of unique and exciting topics on epidemiology and One Health.

Some highlights include presentations on:

- Current ecotoxicology research in wildlife
- The role of universities in wildlife disease and One Health surveillance
- Wildlife disease outbreaks around the globe

We will kick off the program with a **pre-conference workshop** focused on the applied, non-mathematical interpretation of research results. This workshop is designed for members from a wide range of disciplines and aims to strengthen participants' ability to analyse and critically evaluate research beyond just statistical results.

The program will also feature engaging discussions on **machine learning**, as we march into an era where artificial intelligence is likely to transform our profession

Thank you for your abstract submissions.

We would like to thank all presenters who have submitted abstracts or accepted invitations to participate in the conference. We greatly appreciate the time and expertise our speakers generously contribute.

If you have any queries or require further information, please contact your Chapter Convenors:

- Tiffany O'Connor & Tian Chen – swconvenorepi@anzcvs.org.au
- Allen Petrey – swconvenorvph@anzcvs.org.au

We look forward to seeing you on the Gold Coast in July!

Feline

Dear Feline Chapter members,

I am pleased to introduce myself as the incoming Secretary of the Feline Chapter. It is a privilege to take on this role, and I look forward to supporting the Chapter Executive and our members over the coming years.

Planning is well underway for the 2026 Medicine of Cats membership examinations. Our examiner team recently attended the Examiners Workshop in February in Brisbane, which provided valuable updates and shared approaches to help ensure our examinations remain robust, fair, and consistent.

Looking ahead, our Science Week convenors are already working hard behind the scenes to develop an outstanding feline stream. We are very grateful for their time, creativity, and commitment, and we look forward to sharing program details as soon as they are confirmed.

Finally, we have been asked to circulate a call for cases for an exciting research collaboration. The FeLiChe (Feline Liver Cancer and Hepatitis) study, led by Professor Joerg Steiner and Professor Julia Beatty through the Gastrointestinal Laboratory at Texas A&M University, aims to improve our understanding of viral liver disease in cats, including whether Domestic cat Hepatitis B virus is an unrecognised cause of feline hepatitis. Veterinarians and pathologists with feline cases of acute hepatitis, chronic hepatitis, or hepatocellular carcinoma are encouraged to make contact or consider submitting archived samples.

Further information is [available via the study page](#).

With best regards,

Dr Cecilia Muller
Secretary, Feline Chapter, ANZCVS

Are you brilliant at balancing the books?

A trivia trickster?

Know your Tags from your Tweets?

Your Chapter needs your help with some Chapters looking for a social media administrator or shadow Executive roles.

Learn the ropes from the best!

Reach out to your Chapter Executives or the College Office to get involved.



CHAPTER REPORTS

Ophthalmology

The Ophthalmology Chapter would like to wish our candidates who are preparing to sit their fellowship examinations in June all the very best. We also wish to thank our examiners who are tirelessly working on the creation of these examinations.

The 31 March 2026 closing date is fast approaching for submissions for our \$4,000 Ophthalmology Chapter Memorial Research Grant. We continue to welcome residents and interns with an interest in pursuing research in ophthalmology to apply for this grant prior to the closing date. To help strengthen their research, all applicants are fortunate to receive feedback on their research proposals following review by the Grant Committee. More details can be found on our chapter website.

We are really looking forward to our Vet Science Week 2026 meeting. We are holding a two-day program on Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th July, including an exciting collaboration with the Oncology Chapter. We are excited to learn more about intraocular and periocular neoplasia, novel grafting options in ophthalmic oncology, ciliary body tumour removal, medical and surgical therapy options for peri-ocular and orbital neoplasia including radiation, electrochemotherapy and globe sparing surgeries. There will also be a panel discussion on management of periocular neoplasia amongst other things.

We will also hear talks on topics other than oncology, including systemic antibiotic use in ophthalmic surgery, unilateral extraocular myositis/optic neuritis, cataract surgery in French Bulldogs, canine inherited eye disease and Australian Canine Eye Scheme (ACES) examinations and the evolution of residency training programs.

The Ophthalmology Chapter will be holding their Chapter Dinner on the Friday evening, 24th July.

Plans are underway for a New Zealand interim meeting next year featuring Pediatric Neuroophthalmologist Creig Hoygt. More details to follow.

Ngā mihi | Kind regards
Dr Petra Price & Dr Helen Mather
Ophthalmology Chapter Secretaries

Pig Health and Production

This is a break year for the biannual Pig Health & Production membership examination & we are not planning to run any sessions at Vet Science Week this year, but we are open to collaborating with other Chapters if there is a need for a speaker in any pig-related area.

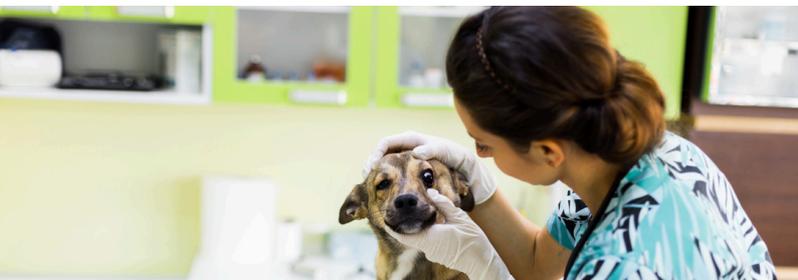
On a more personal note, we continue to send our well wishes to Dr John Carr who has been a brilliant mentor to candidates as he continues to recover from health issues.

Key events for swine veterinarians this year include the Australian Pig Veterinarians conference (date TBC) and the International Pig Veterinary Society Congress to be held in Vietnam, 16-19 June. So far this year our members have been strong contributors to the review of the standards and guidelines of the Model Code of Practice as we strive for continuous pig welfare improvement on Australian farms.

We also continue to monitor Japanese Encephalitis Virus (JEV) which became endemic to Australia in 2022. While there has not yet been any confirmed diagnoses of JEV in pigs this season, surveillance activities across the pig industry and public health systems have provided evidence of ongoing JEV activity. These surveillance activities include serological surveillance of domestic pigs, piggery effluent, feral pigs, mosquitoes and surveillance of sentinel chicken flocks. Vaccination against JEV is recommended for all people working at, residing at or providing services to pig farms and abattoirs. This includes veterinarians working with pigs. Prevention remains focused on mosquito control and guidance is available in the Integrated Mosquito Management Principles for Piggeries publication. Other news is the advancement of needle free vaccine options becoming more commercially available (orally or via intradermal high pressurised air devices), which offers improved pig welfare, meat quality and human WHS benefits.

We encourage anyone interested in sitting the exams to talk to myself (Molly.Dunstan@anzcvs.org.au) or one of our current members about the benefits of Chapter membership, and to start their preparation early.

Molly Dunstan
PHP Treasurer and Secretary



CHAPTER REPORTS

Small Animal Medicine

Dear Members,

I hope 2026 has started well for you all and that you've found moments to pause and recharge amid busy clinical schedules. The SAM Chapter Executive has been working diligently behind the scenes to deliver meaningful education, strengthen our profession and ensure the long-term sustainability of our Chapter.

This year's SAM Urinary Masterclass CE Weekend brought us together over 6-7 March in picturesque Hobart, Tasmania for a focused deep dive into all things urinary. The program delivered robust, practical and evidence-based discussions led by our outstanding speakers Mary Thompson, Dennis Woerde and Jane Day. Alongside high-quality CPD, the weekend held plentiful opportunities to reconnect with colleagues, discuss cases and strengthen the collegial relationships that define our Chapter. We are proud to deliver events of this calibre and look forward to seeing more of you at 2027's SAM CE Weekend!



VSW26 is also firmly on the horizon. Planning is well underway and it is shaping up to be another exceptional meeting. Keep an eye out for program announcements and pre-congress details in the coming months. It promises to be an inspiring and intellectually stimulating event.

A key focus this year has been building and nurturing relationships with our international colleagues, including closer engagement with organisations such as ECVIM and ACVIM. Strengthening these connections fosters collaboration, shared standards and global dialogue in small animal medicine. At the same time, we are actively working on initiatives that support the long-term sustainability and relevance of the Chapter, ensuring we continue to meet the evolving needs of our members. Put simply: we are working for you.

A reminder to continue supporting colleagues preparing for Membership and Fellowship examinations. The exam journey demands persistence, vulnerability and resilience.

Small Animal Medicine continued...

Your encouragement, case discussions and practical support can make a tangible difference. We also extend our sincere thanks to our examiners, whose thoughtful work and commitment uphold the integrity and high standards of our College.

As always, we encourage members to consider becoming more involved in Chapter activities. Contributing to working groups, education initiatives or Executive roles is a rewarding way to shape the future of our profession while building meaningful professional connections.

Thank you to everyone who contributes time, expertise and energy to our Chapter. Our strength lies in our collegiality, curiosity and commitment to this fabulous industry and our SAM patients.

Keep learning, keep questioning and keep advancing small animal medicine.

Warm regards,
Elizabeth Thrift
SAM Chapter President

Small Ruminant

The President gave a free webinar for veterinarians on the learnings she took away from the International Sheep Vets Congress which was well attended. Even some veterinarians who actually attended the Congress found it interesting as we attended different streams and considered different messages from speakers as critical learning. If any veterinarians missed it they can contact the President and she will send a link to the recording.

Sales of FAMACHA® cards are continuing to fund our chapter especially with the NSW Local Land Services running free training and selling cards. Sales have also been made to Universities and thanks to the college staff who sorted out some difficulties getting these University payments made. Due to the agreement with the copyright holders the Small Ruminant Chapter is the sole distributor to Australia NZ and the Pacific. FAMACHA® cards give a score for the redness of the conjunctival mucous membranes and give a decision guide for whether a small ruminant needs to get a worm drench or not in Haemonchus areas. This discourages over drenching and allows for the selection of more Haemonchus resilient animals for breeding.

The President will be presenting a month-long Centre for Veterinary Education Online course on goat medicine & husbandry. This is run this every year and would be useful to anyone considering doing their College exam in goats. [Link for more information here.](#)

CHAPTER REPORTS

Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia

For the fourth year in a row, we are running our successful Anaesthesia Monitoring Course. This is a fully online, 6-month course, led by Dr Eleanor Holden (MANZCVS, Dipl.ECVAA) and Dr Jennifer Davis (MANZCVS, Dipl.ECVAA). The course was designed to equip veterinarians and experienced veterinary nurses with the relevant skills and confidence to enact our Chapter's 2024 Position Statement regarding Monitoring of Anaesthetised Dogs and Cats¹.

A 10% discount is offered to all ANZCVS members. While registrations for 2026 have closed, late registrations can be facilitated up until the end of March by [clicking here](#) or contacting the ANZCVS College Office.

As well as the monitoring course, our Chapter have been busy preparing for College Examinations. As of 2026, we now offer Memberships in Veterinary Anaesthesia & Analgesia annually (previously biennial). Based on feedback from previous candidates, we are currently trialling a webinar series for our Memberships candidates to help them prepare for the examinations.

Planning for our Chapter program for Vet Science Week is well underway. Expect exciting content on wildlife anaesthesia and the interplay between behaviour medicine, anaesthesia, and pain management.

We continue to plan our Chapter Member webinar series and thank our members for their patience while we roll out our 2026 program.

1. Musk, G.C., Bass, L., Best, P., Bradbury, L., Davis, J., Lehmann, H., Neck, D., Santos, L.C.P., Goodwin, W. (2024) Monitoring of Anaesthetised Dogs and Cats: Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia Chapter Position Statement. Australian Veterinary Practitioner. Vol 54 Issue 2 June 2024.

Last days!
2026 VAA Monitoring Course
Registration



Veterinary Behaviour

Dear colleagues,

We're pleased to be kicking off the Veterinary Behaviour Chapter Webinar Series for 2026, with monthly webinars running from April through November. A big thank you to Dr Sally Nixon, who has been coordinating the series and bringing together a fantastic line-up of speakers and topics.

Our first webinar will be presented by Dr Sagi Denenberg DVM MRCVS CCAB on **Cognitive Dysfunction Syndrome in Cats** - on Wednesday, 8 April 2026:

- AEST: 9:30 am
- ACST: 9:00 am
- AWST: 7:30 am
- NZST: 11:30 am

Further details and registration information [can be found here](#).

Dr Denenberg will be available for questions following the presentation, and as always a recording will be available afterwards in the Education Hub for anyone who can't make it on the day.

Looking ahead to Vet Science Week 2026, Conference Convenors Dr Renee Jackson and Dr Rhea Hurley have been busy putting together what promises to be a really engaging program with collaborations with the Animal Welfare, Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation, and Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia Chapters.

Together we'll be covering a wide range of topics across behaviour, welfare, pain, and learning, including behavioural indicators of pain, environmental optimisation for companion animals, advances in animal learning science, welfare assessment, and multidisciplinary approaches to behavioural and pain-related presentations.

It has been 12 years since the Chapter last welcomed a new Fellow in Behavioural Medicine. We are pleased to formally announce that **Dr Sally Nixon** successfully completed Fellowship examinations in 2025.

She will be officially acknowledged at the 2026 College Awards Ceremony; Chapter Members attending VSW26 are invited to join us in recognising this significant achievement and celebrating this important milestone for the Chapter. Let us know if you will be attending.

We hope to see many of you online for the webinar series and in person at Science Week!

Ngā mihi maha / Warmest regards,
Dr Lucy Scott

President – Veterinary Behaviour Chapter

CHAPTER REPORTS

Veterinary Practice Small Animal

Wound CPD

On the 24th March 2026, we were proud to bring Dr Lincoln Chau online for CPD to present on Acute Traumatic Wound Management, recording of this webinar is available on the [VPSA Chapter's Events page](#). Thanks are extended to SASH for their kind sponsorship for this event.

Philip Moses Memorial Lecture

The loss of Philip Moses has been felt deeply across the College, and especially within our Veterinary Practice Small Animal chapter. Philip was critical to the formation of our Chapter. Philip was a man passionate about Continuing Professional Development, and about sharing knowledge, especially between General Practitioners and Specialists. Two topics close to his heart were brachycephalics and animal welfare. Philip changed the lives of many patients and people. As such, for the second year we are proud to introduce the Philip Moses Memorial Lecture, and invitations are open for consideration.

Speakers are invited to submit a one page synopsis of their talk for consideration by a panel. Themes should include brachycephalics and/or animal welfare. The talk can be presenting research or a knowledge summary. The target audience should be general practitioners. The presentation is ideally to be given in person, although presentation via audiovisual link will be considered to enhance accessibility and opportunity for the speaker.

The primary goal is to promote the knowledge base within the professional about the topics. A bursary of up to \$1500 (inclusive of speaker fee) can be provided to assist the speaker with costs incurred presenting in person, for example, flights and/or accommodation.

Please forward your synopsis and contact details to presidentvetpracs@anzcv.org.au with the heading 'Philip Moses Memorial Lecture' by 10th April 2026 for consideration.

GOVAs 2026

On 6th March, GapOnly hosted their Veterinary Awards in Sydney. It was clear that the ANZCVS College was held in high regard, with representatives from the Veterinary Practice Small Animal, Veterinary Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine, and Animal Welfare Chapters, among others, represented for glitzy and glamorous night.

Congratulations to all of the worthy recipients.



Veterinary Practice Small Animal continued...

Vet Science Week 2026

Preparations are under way to bring an exciting Vet Science Week offering. Taking into account feedback from previous years, each year Science Week strives to improve for attendees. Book your CPD leave, check out the workshops and secure accommodation now!

2026 Examinations

The examinations team has been working hard to deliver high calibre examinations as always. Similarly, mentors and candidates are working together to realise potential. Within the chapter, this is an exciting time seeing the very best of collegiality.

Veterinary Public Health

Vet Science Week 2026

The Chapter is mounting a two and half day joint program with the Epidemiology and Zoo and Wildlife Chapters. Additionally, VPH is supporting a pre-conference workshop with our Epidemiology colleagues. While details of both will be available 27 April, the following is a taste of what will be addressed:

- *Animals in the Machine: AI and Animal Ethics*
- *The use of AI and other technologies to monitor and inspect animals at processing establishments, and in the workshop*
- *Leaving P<0.05 behind - towards more thoughtful interpretation of results from controlled trials and observational studies*

The workshop is for those aiming to build their skills in interpreting results from comparative studies, including clinicians, new and experienced researchers, intending Fellowship candidates and their advisers. No prior statistical knowledge is required - all concepts will be sequentially introduced assuming no prior knowledge.

Attendance for the Pre-Conference Workshop and main Scientific Conference can be registered for separately.

Membership Exams 2026

We have candidates for membership examination in June. The chapter executive and committees wish them well and look forward to their active contribution to the future of the Chapter.



CHAPTER REPORTS

Veterinary Public Health continued...

Farewell to John Tulloch BVSc Dip Tech FANZCVS (VPH)

*****No, not an obituary!*****

John's membership of VPH goes back to its original establishment in 1972 and was the Chapter's first Fellow by examination in 1992 and he was closely involved with its administration until it went into abeyance in 1995.

Since the re-establishment of the Chapter in 2018 John acted as its Honorary Treasurer. Back in 2018 he gifted the Chapter \$10.00 to open our bank account. A bank account was one of the necessities for re-establishment.

Since then John has tirelessly kept the VPH budget in order and offered ongoing sound advice to our financial wellbeing. He has decided not to continue in this role.

A Massey Veterinary School graduate, John worked for the then NZ Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. He later successfully gained Massey's postgraduate Diploma in Technology from the University's Department of Food Science and Technology.

A short hop across the Tasman saw him taking up a senior appointment with the Victorian State meat inspection service. Subsequent subsumption of state inspection services by the Australian Commonwealth Government saw him working with the then Department of Primary Industry (now the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry).

After his departmental work, John established The Tulloch Quality Management & Veterinary Consultants Pty Ltd, involved in biosecurity and livestock exports. As a shipboard veterinarian he accompanied livestock to the Middle East. This ceased when his wife learnt that his last ship came under fire from pirates.

We wish him all the best in the adventures ahead of him.

Kevin Crews
VPH President

Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation continued...

In the lead-up to Science Week, the 2026 examination period will have a Canine focus, with Equine VSMR examinations expected to be scheduled for 2027.

Science Week 2026: Sponsors & Support

We are grateful for the generous support of our three major workshop sponsors—Interpath (4Cyte), Paw Prosper, and Vets1Laser—whose contributions help us deliver high-quality, practice-ready training to Chapter members. In addition, the Veterinary Nutrition Group will provide “Hey Bird” dog treats for our demonstration dogs, ensuring our canine assistants are well supported throughout the practical sessions.

VSW26 Program at a Glance

Thursday, 23 July — Workshop (Full Day):

Ellen Martens, DPT, CCRT (Belgium) will lead an intensive Manual Therapies in Canine Rehabilitation workshop. Attendees will have ample supervised time to practice soft-tissue techniques and joint mobilisations.

Friday, 24 July — Lecture Stream (Full Day):

A comprehensive lecture day featuring keynote speaker Ellen Martens, with additional presentations by radiologist Dr. Katharina Flatz on Diagnostic Ultrasound and physiotherapist Madeline Brown on the application of Extracorporeal Shock Wave Therapy (ESWT). The day will also include a session on insights from the human sports medicine field and their translation to veterinary practice. The Chapter AGM is tentatively planned for the lunch break on Friday.

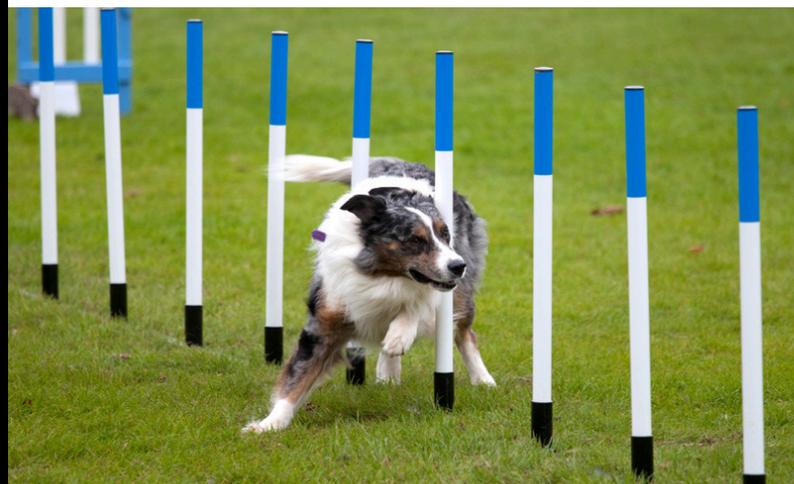
Saturday, 25 July — Joint Lecture Stream (Full Day):

Delivered in collaboration with the Behaviour Chapter, this stream will span topics from the diagnosis of pain-related impairments to behavioural support strategies during rehabilitation. The day will conclude with a panel discussion: “The Team Approach to Managing Pain, Behaviour, and Rehabilitation Cases,” featuring Naomi Boyd, Ah Young Kim, and behaviourists Isabelle Resch, Sally Nixon, and Findy Wills.

Veterinary Sports Medicine & Rehabilitation

Overview

The VSMR Chapter is gearing up for a strongly collaborative and hands-on program at Science Week 2026, with a mix of practical workshops, cutting-edge lectures, and multidisciplinary discussion designed to advance best practice across companion animal rehabilitation and performance care.



CHAPTER REPORTS

Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation continued...

Why This Matters for Members

Direct skill translation: The manual therapies workshop is designed for immediate clinical impact—refining palpation, soft-tissue release, and joint mobilisation techniques under expert guidance.

- Imaging and modalities you can use Monday morning: Sessions on diagnostic ultrasound and ESWT provide practical frameworks for case selection, protocol refinement, and integration alongside exercise therapy and pharmacologic pain management.
- Truly multidisciplinary care: The joint stream with the Behaviour Chapter emphasises coordinated case management to optimise patient welfare and client satisfaction.

Acknowledgements

Our sincere thanks to Interpath (4Cyte), Paw Prosper, Vets1Laser, and the Veterinary Nutrition Group for their support of the program and our demonstration dogs. We also acknowledge the expertise and contribution of our speakers and collaborators, including Ellen Martens, Dr. Katharina Flatz, Madeline Brown, Naomi Boyd, Ah Young Kim, Isabelle Resch, Sally Nixon, and Findy Wills.

How to Get Involved

- Attend all three days to gain the full breadth—from hands-on skills to imaging, modalities, and behavioural integration.
- Join the AGM (planned for the Friday lunch break) to contribute to Chapter governance, priorities, and future programming.



Looking for a new job or curious to see what's out there?

Check out the ANZCVS [Positions Vacant page](#) Updated regularly!

Zoo and Wildlife

2026 is shaping up to be a record-breaking year for our Chapter!

Our Examination Committee has been working tirelessly to prepare for an unprecedented number of membership candidates across both subject areas: Australasian Wildlife Health Management and Zoo Animal Health Management.

This surge reflects a desire for advancing standards of practice in our disciplines and the Chapter's growing leadership within the profession. We are grateful to the examiners for their commitment to ensuring a robust and fair process.

Additionally, for the first time our Vet Science Week presentations in 2026 will extend across all 3 days of the Vet Science Week (VSW) program. This demonstrates the breadth of members' interests and has been made possible thanks to the strength of a number of valuable cross-disciplinary collaborations.

- **Friday:** We open with a joint session alongside the Medicine and Management of Laboratory Animals Chapter, focusing on a range of species used in different research settings and the ethical frameworks that underpin this work.
- **Saturday:** We partner with the Veterinary Public Health and Epidemiology Chapters to explore themes such as surveillance, emerging threats, and One Health.
- **Sunday:** We host a dedicated Zoo and Wildlife Chapter program featuring diverse talks from clinical case studies in zoo and wildlife rehabilitation practice to updates on novel diseases in free-ranging species, delivering actionable insights for practitioners and researchers alike.

We hope to see you there!

Michelle Campbell-Ward, Chapter President
and
Stephanie Shaw, Chapter VSW Convenor



COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

Vet Science Week 2026
Early Bird Registration
open now
through to 25 May 2026
www.vetscienceweek.com.au

HAVE YOU
RENEWED YOUR
2026/27 COLLEGE
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YET?

Use of College brand assets, including name and logos:

Please refer to the [College Style Guide](#)
for the correct use of College branding
and logos.

The use of the College Coat of Arms is
granted to members only for the purpose
of displaying, communicating and
promoting their membership in ANZCVS and
alongside the Member's name and
postnominals (in official College font,
Fira Sans).

See example below.



Reminder:

We have seen a significant increase in phishing and scam attempts in recent weeks, with several spoofing the names of Chapter Executives' and appearing to come from known contacts.

Stay alert to scams and phishing attempts, as scammers are always devising clever tactics to deceive. They may even appear to come from a fellow College member or someone you know.

Is the sender's email address their usual email address? A quick phone call can help verify the legitimacy of a request and protect your valuable finances or data from being compromised.

If you find yourself a recipient of a scam email or phishing attempt, report the email by right-clicking on the email, hover the cursor over Report and click on Report Phishing.

CHECK | REJECT | PROTECT

A reminder to members on the correct use of postnominals:

If awarded in or before 2010:

Use of the initials MACVSc or MANZCVS for
Members / FACVSc or FANZCVS for Fellows;
followed by the subject(s) in brackets.
Example: FACVSc (Veterinary Radiology)

If awarded in or after 2011:

Use of the initials MANZCVS for Members /
FANZCVS for Fellows;
followed by the subject(s) in brackets.
Example: MANZCVS (Animal Welfare)

ANZCVS 2026 KEY DATES



If you would like to contribute or request an article to be included in future College Couriers, please reach out to the College Office team!



Certifying excellence
in veterinary science

CONTACT US

Building 3, Garden City Office Park
2404 Logan Road
EIGHT MILE PLAINS QLD 4113

Phone: +61 7 3423 2016
Email: admin@anzcv.org.au
Web: www.anzcv.org.au

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