

COURIER





COURIER

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A/Prof Jennifer Carter

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Dr Jennifer Sinclair

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EDITOR'S NOTE

Spring is just about to...spring, and at this time of year, almost all Chapters have conducted their AGMs. It was truly inspiring to witness so many members stepping up to contribute to their Chapter in various capacities, ranging from Executive positions to Examiner roles and everything in between. If you've ever considered volunteering but would like more information first, feel free to reach out to the College Office or your friendly Chapter Executives!

We also want to take a moment to announce that the wonderful Sharyn Logan has transitioned to the Examinations Team. Sharyn's in-depth understanding of the Membership administrative processes will enhance and support our Examination procedures.

With Sharyn's move, we are excited to welcome Yi Yang to the Administration Team. With a background in paralegal administration and translation services, Yi's extensive experience in Administration will undoubtedly strengthen our already capable team.



CEO'S COLUMN

September marks the completion of the most intensive period of the College year, highlighted by Examinations and Vet Science Week taking place from June to August. This is an ideal time to reflect on our shared achievements and the strong community spirit that is at the core of our College. Congratulations to all the new Members joining us. As you begin your College journey, I encourage you to engage with your Chapter, connect with fellow professionals, and explore opportunities to get involved.

To our new Fellows, beyond the recognition that you have achieved specialist-level certification, I want to acknowledge and thank you for the many years of commitment, dedication, and sacrifice that were required for you to become College Fellows. The veterinary sector will be enriched by your knowledge and expertise, and the College takes great pride in recognising you as a College Fellow.

Our College has also grown to more than 3,700 Members, and the steady increase each year reinforces the value veterinary professionals and the broader sector place on continued education and our certifications.

This year's Vet Science Week was a tremendous success, attracting over 1,000 delegates and exhibitors on the Gold Coast. With 230 speakers presenting a total of 245 scientific sessions, the event once again showcased the depth and breadth that consistently draws veterinary professionals from across the sector.

FOR AWARENESS Vet Science Week 2026

Workshops: Thursday 23 July 2026

VSW - Day 1: Friday 24 July 2026

VSW - Day 2: Saturday 25 July 2026

VSW - Day 3: Sunday 26 July 2026

The reputation of Vet Science Week continues to expand beyond the College, with approximately 50% of attendees not members of the College (Yet!).

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to our dedicated volunteers, which include hundreds of members involved in examinations, committees, chapter executives, Vet Science Week, and many other volunteer roles within the College community. Your tireless efforts and constant support are vital to the success and experiences that the College provides. Thank you.

Looking ahead, if you or a colleague is considering a Membership certification in 2026, now is the time to review those subject guidelines and submit an application before they close at the end of October.

Did you know that online learning is now available to all members who want to acquire or update their skills for examinations? This is a great opportunity to understand examining roles and develop skills that can be applied in various areas of your career.

Our team in the College Office is always here to assist you. Please contact us with any enquiries or to discuss ideas and initiatives for your Chapter.





PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dr David Tabrett

The 2025 cycle of Science Week has now concluded, and what a remarkable few days it was. The Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre once again played host to a gathering of professionals from across Australasia and beyond—scientists, clinicians, researchers, educators, and friends of the College. We shared knowledge, celebrated excellence, and strengthened the ties that make this community of veterinary specialists so strong.

A special highlight, as always, was our College Awards Ceremony and Dinner, held this year in the Sofitel Broadbeach. This year we celebrated not only the achievements of our College award recipients but also the courage, dedication, and persistence of all candidates who undertook Membership and Fellowship examinations. To the new Members and Fellows admitted this year: welcome. You now join a College with over five decades of history, and a future shaped by your ongoing contribution.

Behind the scenes, the work continues. The Board of Examiners is already reviewing candidate and examiner feedback from the 2025 cycle, with early planning underway for 2026. Our examination processes are built on multiple layers of peer review, quality assurance, and improvement. It is thanks to our volunteer examiners, writers, reviewers, and Chapter Subject Examination Committees that this cycle remains credible, fair, and relevant to the clinical environments in which we all operate.



We continue to rely on the extraordinary volunteerism that is the backbone of the College. To those giving their time and energy to produce examination material, coordinate assessments, or support candidates in preparation — thank you. Your efforts matter.

Council also met in person during Science Week and again last week to continue its work now heading to the 2026 cycle, including the governance of our working groups, the Fellowship program reviews, and liaison to Chapter teams. The College Council welcomed new Councillor, Dr Francette Geraghty-Dusan, who joins with a wealth of government and association experience with a background in epidemiology and public health.

With another major milestone behind us, we look ahead with renewed focus. The work we do today supports the next generation of veterinary scientists. It is a privilege to be part of these College efforts.

Thank you for your continued support of our College.

"Every person can make a difference, and every person should try." – John F. Kennedy

David Tabrett

Shining the Spotlight

Is there someone in your Chapter who merits recognition for their exceptional contributions "behind the scenes," whether recent or longstanding?

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





Are you ready to press play on your next educational journey? Membership Examination subjects available in 2026

Avian Health (Poultry)

Avian Medicine and Surgery

Animal Welfare

Equine Dentistry

Medicine of Cats (inc. MoC UK)

Medicine and Management of Aquaculture Species

Medicine and Management of Laboratory Animals

Australasian Wildlife Health Management

Zoo Animal Health Management

Small Animal Dentistry and Oral Surgery

Small Animal Medicine



Small Animal Surgery

Surgery of Horses

Veterinary Behaviour

Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care

Veterinary Epidemiology

Veterinary Parasitology and Parasitic Diseases*

Veterinary Pathology

Veterinary Pharmacology

Veterinary Practice (Small Animal)

Veterinary Public Health

Veterinary Radiology (Small Animal)

Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation (Canine)







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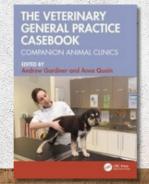
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CHIEF EXAMINER'S REPORT

A/Prof Jennifer Carter

Happy September everyone!

I hope this report finds us all enjoying longer daylight and maybe even some improved weather...well, unless you are in Melbourne!

This report finds us reflecting on the 2025 examinations cycle and looking forward to next year. This year the College delivered Membership and Fellowship exams to over 300 candidates. While most candidates reside in the Australasian region, there were quite a few international candidates as well. The latter is important to highlight as this necessitated the College Office liaising across not only many venues, but many time zones as well.

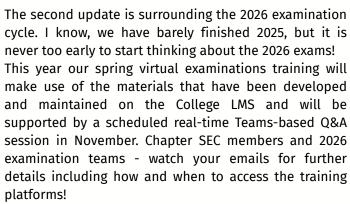
The office staff worked tirelessly in the background to ensure another year of successful examination delivery and deserve a round of applause from all our College membership. I would also like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of all of our volunteer-based examiner teams. We are very appreciative of your efforts, and you should feel very proud of the examinations you produced.

Lastly, I want to thank my colleagues on the Board of Examiners and, in particular, the Assistant Chief Examiners, Ruth Sutcliffe and Jana Leshinsky, for their herculean efforts across the year.

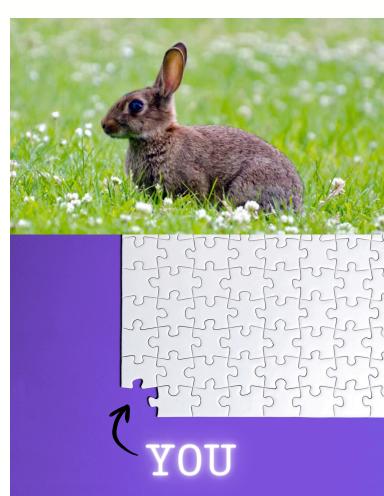
A few updates to bring to the membership this month:

The first is to update some changes to the Board of Examiners – first, a grateful farewell to Board members Linda Abraham and Lydia Hambrook who have both rotated off the board at the end of the 2025 exam cycle. We are very thankful for their contributions over the years!

A call for nominations for new BOE members went out to the College membership in mid-August with an end of September closing date. As a reminder, College members who have previously served as an examiner are eligible for nomination to join the BOE. If you have an interest in assessment or managing Fellowship training programs, we strongly encourage you to consider joining us!



~ len



are the missing piece your Chapter needs!

Reach out to your Chapter Executives, or the College Office, to see where your skills fit.







Hello!) to your new Councillor... Francette Geraghty-Dusan



Dr Francette Geraghty-Dusan graduated from the University of Sydney with a Bachelor of Agricultural Science in 1994, a Bachelor of Veterinary Science in 2000 and a Master of Veterinary Public Health Management in 2008. She attained membership of the Epidemiology Chapter in 2013 and is currently a member of both the Epidemiology and Veterinary Public Health Chapters. She previously served the Epidemiology Chapter as Science Week Co-Convenor and Chapter Treasurer.

Francette has over 25 years of experience working in different country contexts and across clinical practice, universities, international NGOs and government. Her most recent role was with Australia's Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's Indo-Pacific Centre for Health Security as Senior One Health Advisor and Program manager for a \$30 million Applied Research and One Health Program. Currently undertaking a One Health PhD at Charles Sturt University, Francette is committed to promoting member excellence, enhancing cross-chapter collaboration, and supporting Science Week's continued relevance.

WANTED

Do you have strong leadership, strategic thinking, exceptional organisational skills, and the ability to engage and manage diverse stakeholders?

Expressions of Interest are now being accepted for the overall Vet Science Week Convenor - Scientific Program.

For more information and the job description, <u>please click here.</u>

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Project Officer's Report Dr Rachel Tan

Vet Science Week

Vet Science Week continues to be the premier scientific and educational veterinary gathering in Australasia, attracting over 1,000 delegates from across the globe.

The 2025 edition marked the 24th annual conference, building on a legacy of excellence in veterinary science. Delegates continue to have the opportunity to engage with international experts to foster collaboration and knowledge exchange across academia, clinical practice, and industry.

Thank you to all that either attended or spoke at VSW25. To view and download the speaker proceedings, please visit this link: Vet Science Week 2025 - Proceedings. The proceedings are available as single or multiple downloads. Please use the search bar that filters key words using the title and subject fields only. Note that some speakers have not provided full proceedings or were unable to provide abstracts due to publication/proprietary conflicts.

Save the date for our 25th anniversary of VSW in 2026!



Exam Question Writers needed!

If you are interested in writing questions for your Chapter as part of their Question Bank or would like to become involved in the next or following years examinations, please contact <u>Mary Anne Hiscutt</u>. Our team will organise access to our Online Examination Series hosted on the <u>College's LMS</u>, which will provide information on the examination processes and question structure. The series includes live question and answer session recordings, which are structured as follows:

	Duration	Item	Presenter
	30 min	Introduction to College examination processes	Dr Lydia Hambrook
Session 1	45 min	Using Learning Outcomes to define the testing point Question construction, designing higher order questions	Dr Lydia Hambrook
Session 2	90 min	Writing effective MCQs for Higher Order Thinking: How to design better multiple-choice questions effectively and avoid common flaws	Mr Neville Chiavaroli (ACER) Dr Cathy Beck
Session 3	45 min	Modifying Marking Rubric templates to suit your subject and application	Dr Jen Carter
	30 min	Common issues and questions	Dr Lydia Hambrook



ANZCVS 2025 BY THE NUMBERS



900+

Exhibitors

50

Workshops

4

Sessions

245

Sponsors

58

Participating Chapters

20

Speakers

230

Delegates String Delegates



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VetExpo 2025

A shout out to our Members who presented and/or exhibited at Vet Expo at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre 3-4 September 2025. It was great to see some of you who dropped by the ANZCVS stand. There was strong interest in our organisation from non-members who wanted to find out more information on our examinations, particularly on how to prepare. A large number of those inquiring are in private practice and are seeking mentors at Membership level.

If you have the interest and time in helping mentor candidates, please see the information on our website (https://www.anzcvs.org.au/mentoring/) and contact our Examinations Team.



Fellowship Review Project

The project examining the current structure of Fellowship Programs is ongoing and entering the second phase of interviews and investigation. The review seeks to cover 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 review is expected to be complete at the end of 2025 with stakeholders to be updated of the results shortly thereafter.

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









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Vet Science Week 2026 24 - 26 July 2026

Gold Coast Convention and Exhibition Centre

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To this year's veterinary professionals who were committed to advancing their education and enhancing their knowledge and skills, we extend our heartfelt congratulations.

We would like to present to you 2025's successful Membership candidates!

Membership Subject	Name
Animal Nutrition (Ruminant)	Georgina Campbell
Animal Nutrition (Ruminant)	Frances Collett
Animal Nutrition (Ruminant)	Holly Hofmans
Animal Nutrition (Ruminant)	Katrina Martin
Animal Nutrition (Ruminant)	George Watson
Animal Reproduction	Jennifer Attridge
Animal Reproduction	Elizabeth Barter
Animal Reproduction	Kate Dugher
Animal Reproduction	Emily Lukas
Animal Reproduction	Tanisha Mian
Animal Reproduction	Heidi Niland-Rowe
Animal Reproduction	Jodilee Penn
Animal Reproduction	Stacey Rae
Animal Reproduction	Deepti Ramachandra
Avian Medicine and Surgery	Emily Drayton
Avian Medicine and Surgery	Brock Warren

Membership Subject	Name
Medicine and Surgery of Unusual Pets	Brandon Arnell
Medicine and Surgery of Unusual Pets	Teela Brown
Medicine and Surgery of Unusual Pets	Shelby Chew
Medicine and Surgery of Unusual Pets	Wing Lam
Medicine and Surgery of Unusual Pets	Kathy Le
Medicine and Surgery of Unusual Pets	Stefanie Ramsey
Medicine and Surgery of Unusual Pets	Rebecca Teoh
Medicine and Surgery of Unusual Pets	Simon Wai-Shing
Medicine and Surgery of Unusual Pets	Holly Yang
Medicine and Surgery of Unusual Pets	Linda Yang
Medicine of Beef Cattle	Ashley Phipps
Medicine of Beef Cattle	Kristine Rayner
Medicine of Dairy Cattle	Anna Gourley
Medicine of Horses	Indiana Conway
Medicine of Horses	Curtis Alexander Goding
Medicine of Horses	Naomi Good





Membership Subject	Name	Membership Subject	Name
Medicine of Horses	Evelyn Hodgson	Small Animal Medicine	Amber Jurek
Medicine of Horses	Jane Nelson	Small Animal Medicine	Sherilyn Kee
Medicine of Horses	Francesca Nossell	Small Animal Medicine	Hannah Lee
Medicine of Horses	Marthe Thirouin	Small Animal Medicine	Brydee Maroney-Vita
Medicine of Horses	Bridgette Young	Small Animal Medicine	Andrew Michaels
Medicine of Sheep	Amy Masters	Small Animal Medicine	Ellen Mighell
Pig Health and Production	Chrissie Kracht	Small Animal Medicine	Kirsten Sharbine
Small Animal Medicine	Ting Chan	Small Animal Medicine	Hamish Stafford
Small Animal Medicine	Katrina Couttie	Small Animal Medicine	Helen Todd
Small Animal Medicine	Mitchell Dodds	Small Animal Medicine	JueJun Wang
Small Animal Medicine	Mary Dwyer	Small Animal Medicine	Kettie Yu
Small Animal Medicine	Monique Einsiedel	Small Animal Surgery	Nial Bell
Small Animal Medicine	Greg Feng	Small Animal Surgery	Max Clout
Small Animal Medicine	Gianne Ficatas	Small Animal Surgery	Oliver Craig
Small Animal Medicine	Jordan Fletcher	Small Animal Surgery	Samuel Fong
Small Animal Medicine	Mikayla Foruria	Small Animal Surgery	Ce Xi Foo
Small Animal Medicine	Alice Hicks	Small Animal Surgery	Alexandra Harris
Small Animal Medicine	Dilini Ilangaratne	Small Animal Surgery	Kathryn Harvey





Membership Subject	Name	Membership Subject	Name
Small Animal Surgery	Jonathan Hoong	Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia	Hilda Yan Ting Li
Small Animal Surgery	Fiona Krait	Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia	Chloe Nugent
Small Animal Surgery	Yuanliang Liu	Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia	Jessica Panetta
Small Animal Surgery	William Moses	Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia	Rebecca Weight
Small Animal Surgery	Tesheena Nash	Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia	Lorraine Yip
Small Animal Surgery	Mun Yee (Vanessa) Ng	Veterinary Behaviour	Linda-Jane Bowden
Small Animal Surgery	Sam O'Brien	Veterinary Behaviour	Olivia Bury
Small Animal Surgery	Christopher Tan	Veterinary Behaviour	Bryana Clisby
Small Animal Surgery	Sophie ter Kuile	Veterinary Behaviour	Priyanka Kulkarni
Small Animal Surgery	Gia Truong	Veterinary Behaviour	Junyuan Liang
Small Animal Surgery	Zhihan (Henry) Xue	Veterinary Behaviour	Amy Madden
Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia	Magnolia Bell	Veterinary Behaviour	Amber Miller
Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia	Chun Hoi (Matthew) Chan	Veterinary Behaviour	Jessica Pickett
Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia	Laura Downes	Veterinary Behaviour	Cassandra Simpson
Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia	Becky Dubowitz	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Wing Yan Ruby Cheng
Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia	Josephine Ginty	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Amy Cherico
Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia	Taylah Johnston	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Pia Clapham
Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia	Kavya Katta	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Sophie Clarke





Membership Subject	Name	Membership Subject	Name
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Micaela Elphick	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Tsz Yan (Tiffany) Pang
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Samantha English	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Josie Sinclair
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Emily Fell	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Kang Jun (Benjamin) Soh
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Alexandra Garson	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Emily Stone
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Laura Girolamo	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Phillippa Suter
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Maija-Leena Hagman	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Chloe Tan
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Whitney Hansen	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Karyn Tan
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Elvira Hsu	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Timothy Tan
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Kayla Jackson	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Yew-Ping Tan
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Alona Kalamanova	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Zien Tay
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Madeleine Larsen	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Samuel Tillack
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Cheuk Yee (Tiffany) Law	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Danny van Lith
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Molly Leggett	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Nicole Wang
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Zoe Zhi Yi Li	Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Kate Waterhouse
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Xiao Jin Ling	Veterinary Epidemiology	Thomas Dumond
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Wen-Meng Liu	Veterinary Epidemiology	Chun Ting Lam
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Jolyn Low	Veterinary Epidemiology	Caitlin McFadden
Veterinary Emergency and Critical Care	Montana Lui	Veterinary Epidemiology	Jennifer Voss



Membership Subject	Name
Veterinary Practice (Equine)	Samantha Duigan
Veterinary Practice (Equine)	Caley Knox
Veterinary Practice (Equine)	Hayley Lia
Veterinary Practice (Small Animal)	Liam Brown
Veterinary Practice (Small Animal)	Caitlin Friedrichs
Veterinary Practice (Small Animal)	Ki Yui Ko
Veterinary Practice (Small Animal)	Tien Le
Veterinary Practice (Small Animal)	Elizabeth Pagan
Veterinary Practice (Small Animal)	Sara Pitts
Veterinary Practice (Small Animal)	Mark Walczak
Veterinary Radiology (Large Animal)	Chani Barrett
Veterinary Radiology (Large Animal)	Jonathan Furlong
Veterinary Radiology (Large Animal)	Lianne Wright
Veterinary Radiology (Small Animal)	Kwok Choi
Veterinary Radiology (Small Animal)	Cooper Crimmins
Veterinary Radiology (Small Animal)	Patrick Finlayson
Veterinary Radiology (Small Animal)	Alexander Hamilton
Veterinary Radiology (Small Animal)	Wai-Kiu Ryan Lam

Membership Subject	Name
Veterinary Radiology (Small Animal)	Claudia Leung
Veterinary Radiology (Small Animal)	Shuo Li
Veterinary Radiology (Small Animal)	Matthias Lim
Veterinary Radiology (Small Animal)	Stephanie Middlemast
Veterinary Radiology (Small Animal)	Jessica Montgomery
Veterinary Radiology (Small Animal)	Danvy Nguyen
Veterinary Radiology (Small Animal)	Jack Reid
Veterinary Radiology (Small Animal)	Brianna Whitlock
Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation (Equine)	Agustin Buron Leoz
Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation (Equine)	Lance Redman







INTRODUCING OUT NEWEST...

FELLOWS

Fellowship is the College qualification required by those pursuing veterinary specialist registration. This journey demands several years of commitment and perseverance, balancing rigorous academic studies, professional responsibilities, and personal commitments.

Congratulations to our newest Fellows of 2025!

Fellowship Subject	Name
Avian Medicine and Surgery	Kiara Simonis
Avian Medicine and Surgery	Akshata Taggers
Equine Surgery	Alannah Norton
Small Animal Medicine	Briannan-Kym Kane
Small Animal Medicine	Anjie Storrer
Small Animal Medicine	Sophia Wyatt
Small Animal Surgery	Lincoln Chau
Small Animal Surgery	James Crowley
Small Animal Surgery	Vaughan Moore

Fellowship Subject	Name
Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia	Shaun Pratt
Veterinary Emergency Medicine and Critical Care	Suzanne Tso
Veterinary Oncology	Albert Thomas
Veterinary Ophthalmology	Andrea Kashani-Carver
Veterinary Ophthalmology	Helen Mather
Veterinary Ophthalmology	Petra Price
Veterinary Ophthalmology	Gemma Turner
Veterinary Behavioural Medicine	Sally Nixon

Learn more about some of our newest Fellows on the next page!



New Fellows' Biographies



JAMES CROWLEY SMALL ANIMAL SURGERY

James graduated from the University of Sydney in 2012 and has since worked in small animal clinical practice and preclinical research, with a strong focus on surgery. After four years in general practice, he completed a rotating internship at the University of Sydney (2017), a specialist surgical internship at Murdoch University (2019), and a three-year small animal surgery residency at the Small Animal Specialist Hospital (2022–2024). In 2025, James successfully passed both the European College of Veterinary Surgeons (ECVS) and Australian and New Zealand College of Veterinary Scientists (ANZCVS) specialist examinations.

Since 2018, James has also held the role of surgeon and research fellow at the Surgical and Orthopaedic Research Laboratories (SORL) at UNSW Sydney. He is currently completing a PhD focused on intervertebral disc disease (IVDD). He has published extensively in both veterinary and human peer-reviewed journals and has presented at national and international conferences. James is passionate about contributing to clinical research and is particularly interested in neurosurgery, fracture biomechanics, and minimally invasive surgical techniques.



HELEN MATHER VETERINARY OPHTHALMOLOGY

Helen graduated from Massey University, New Zealand at the end of 2011. She enjoyed several years working in rural mixed practice in New Zealand before completing a small animal rotating internship at Massey University. Helen then relocated to the UK to commence an ophthalmology internship at Eye Veterinary Clinic in Herefordshire, England where she studied towards a Postgraduate Certificate in Veterinary Ophthalmology. Following her ophthalmology internship, she moved to Melbourne for her residency in ophthalmology at Animal Eye Care, under the supervision of Drs Robin Stanley, Matt Sanders and Marnie Ford. Helen attained MANZCVS (Small Animal Medicine) in 2023, completed her ophthalmology residency in 2024 and attained Fellowship in 2025.

With sincere gratitude to those who supported her on the road to Fellowship, she now looks forward to encouraging and guiding the veterinarians who will follow.



SALLY NIXON

VETERINARY BEHAVIOURAL MEDICINE

Sally graduated from the University of Melbourne in 2000 and finished an alternative training programme with Dr Jacqui Ley at the Melbourne Veterinary Specialist Centre in 2024. She recently passed her Fellowship examinations in August 2025, making her the fourth Fellow of the Veterinary Behaviour Chapter.

Sally provides behavioural medicine services from her behavioural medicine practice, Animal Progress, based in northeast Victoria. She is looking forward to developing the practice now that she has finished residency and passed exams.

Sally has a keen interest in progressing the veterinary behavioural medicine field. She is looking forward to helping other vets learn the importance of:

- Considering the health impacts of stress
- How an animal's behavioural change can help guide decisions related to veterinary investigations and treatments
- How physical health impacts behaviour
- How our behaviour affects our patients, and what can be done to prevent animals from becoming difficult to handle

Sally also looks forward to the opportunity to conduct research. She is interested in how human psychology affects our understanding (and misunderstanding!) of animals. Sally also hopes to increase interest in residency among members of the Veterinary Behaviour Chapter.





New Fellows' Biographies



ALANNAH NORTON

EQUINE SURGERY

Alannah graduated from Glasgow University in 2015. She completed an 18-month internship at Goulburn Valley Equine Hospital before pursuing a residency there in equine surgery under Dr Jim Vasey. After residency, Alannah went on to work as a surgeon at Agnes Banks Equine Clinic and then Avenel Equine Hospital. She passed the fellowship examinations in equine surgery in 2025 and is now based in Bathurst NSW with a focus on lameness and respiratory issues, particularly in standardbred racehorses.



SHAUN PRATT

VETERINARY ANAESTHESIA AND ANALGESIA

Shaun graduated from The University of Queensland in 2018 before completing an anaesthesia internship at the University of Sydney. He then worked in general practice in northwestern Sydney, before returning to UQ to complete a residency in anaesthesia and analgesia, as well as a doctorate in traumatic haemorrhagic shock. Shaun's thesis focused on the approach to anaesthesia in animal models of human trauma, aiming to examine current standards of anaesthesia practice and to define its influence on translational relevance, model refinement and animal welfare. After passing his Fellowship exams in 2025, Shaun is committed to providing anaesthesia and analgesia care services to patients across general and referral practice. Shaun currently consults with the team at Veterinary Cardiologists Australia in Underwood and is excited to join the SASH Robina team in their new hospital.



PETRA PRICE

VETERINARY OPHTHALMOLOGY

After graduating from Massey University in 2011, Petra began her veterinary career as a mixed animal veterinarian at VE Vets in Te Awamutu. During her Master of Veterinary Medicine, she completed training in ophthalmology, which sparked a deep interest in the field and ultimately led her to undertake New Zealand's first veterinary ophthalmology residency.

Petra was privileged to train under two of the country's veterinary ophthalmologists, Dr Craig Irving and Dr Kellam Bayley. In 2025, she successfully earned her Fellowship in Veterinary Ophthalmology.

Now based at Totally Vets in Feilding, Petra operates a dedicated ophthalmology service in the referrals team. She is eager to support the growth of veterinary ophthalmology in New Zealand and enhance the eye care for animals across the lower North Island.



KIARA SIMONIS

AVIAN MEDICINE AND SURGERY

Kiara graduated with a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from the University of Melbourne in 2018. After spending some time in general practice, she soon made the switch to exotics and commenced a residency in Avian Medicine and Surgery in 2021. During her residency she also completed an externship at the Dubai Falcon Hospital.

Kiara passed her Fellowship exams in 2025. She has a particular interest in avian surgery, including endoscopic surgery, and is passionate about teaching.



New Fellows' Biographies



AKSHATA TAGGERS AVIAN MEDICINE AND SURGERY

Akshata graduated with a BVSc from The University of Sydney in 2016. She spent time in general practice in Sydney and the UK until 2019. Akshata returned back to Australia to complete an avian, exotic and wildlife internship offered at the University of Queensland, Gatton. Under the supervision of Professor Bob Doneley and secondary supervisor Dr Deborah Monks, she commenced a residency in avian medicine and surgery in 2020. Akshata completed her residency with Dr Hamish Baron at Unusual Pet Vets in Frankston, Melbourne. Akshata obtained fellowship in 2025 and has returned to her home city of Sydney to continue clinical practice.



ALBERT THOMAS VETERINARY ONCOLOGY

Albert graduated from The University of Queensland in 2018 and went on to complete an internship in oncology at the Animal Referral Hospital in Brisbane. He then undertook a residency in oncology at Perth Veterinary Specialists, training under Dr. Ken Wyatt and Dr. Jessica Finlay, and completed the program in December 2023. Since achieving fellowship, Albert has been dedicated to building a new oncology clinical service and shaping a formal oncology curriculum for students at Murdoch University. He is passionate about advancing veterinary oncology through education and clinical innovation and hopes to begin a PhD in the near future.



SUZANNE TSO

VETERINARY EMERGENCY MEDICINE AND CRITICAL CARE

Suzanne graduated from the University of Sydney in 2014 with a Bachelor of Veterinary Science. She spent her early career in general practice before completing a rotating internship at Eastside Veterinary Emergency & Specialists in Sydney, followed by emergency roles at Sydney Veterinary Emergency & Specialists.

She undertook a residency in Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care at the Veterinary Referral Hospital, Melbourne, and later at Pet ICU/ AES in Brisbane, before moving to The Animal Hospital at Murdoch University, where she is currently a Senior Registrar.

She has a strong interest in advancing research and clinical practice within Small Animal Emergency and Critical Care, with a particular focus on mechanical ventilation and extracorporeal therapies.



GEMMA TURNER VETERINARY OPHTHALMOLOGY

Gemma graduated from the University of Adelaide in 2014. She joined a busy general practice clinic in greater Adelaide for 2 years before embarking on a rotating internship at the Small Animal Specialist Hospital in Sydney. Gemma then moved to Melbourne where she completed an ophthalmology internship and residency at Melbourne Eye Vet.

Gemma passed her Fellowship exams in 2025. Gemma now resides in London and continues to enjoy developing her skills, with a particular interest in glaucoma and vitreoretinal surgery.



SOPHIE WYATT SMALL ANIMAL MEDICINE

Sophie graduated from the University of Queensland in 2016. Following this, she completed a rotating internship at Veterinary Specialist Services, before spending several years in general practice. She obtained her membership in Small Animal Medicine in 2021, and shortly after returned to Veterinary Specialist Services to commence her residency in Internal Medicine. During her training program, supported by her supervisors Dr Ann Thompson and Dr Joshua King, she developed her love for gastroenterology, endocrinology and immunology. She completed her residency in 2024, and passed her Fellowship examinations in 2025.





THE COLLEGE PRIZE

Dr Tracey Bradley

IAN CLUNIES ROSS AWARD

Dr Chris Whitton

FELLOWSHIP TRAINING SCHOLARSHIP

Dr Dinithi Hapukotuwa

THE GEOFF ROBINS RESEARCH GRANT

Dr Kelly Yates

MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD

Dr Kath Briscoe

KESTEVEN MEDAL

Professor Jenny-Ann Toribio

HONORARY FELLOWSHIP

Dr Daniel Lewis Dr Alison Small

MOST COMMENDABLE PAPERS 2024

AVJ: A survey investigating owner perceptions and management of firework-associated fear in dogs in the Greater Sydney area

Authors: A. S. Mann, E. Hall, C. McGowan & A. Quain

NZVJ: The prevalence of damaged tails in New Zealand dairy cattle

Authors: E. L. Cuttance, W. A. Mason, S. Y. Hea, M. A. Bryan & R. A. Laven

International journal - The Journal or Endocrinology: The GLP-1 agonist, exendin-4, stimulates LH secretion in female sheep

Authors: E. M. Simpson, I. J. Clarke, C. J. Scott, C.P. Stephen, A. Rao and A. J. Gunn



COURIER







AN CITIMIES DOOS

IAN CLUNIES ROSS AWARD Dr Chris Whitton



GEOFF ROBINS RESEARCH GRANT

Dr Kelly Yates



AVA and ANZCVS KESTEVEN MEDAL Prof. Jenny-Ann Toribio



MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARD Dr Katherine Briscoe



HONORARY FELLOWSHIP
Dr Daniel Lewis



Most Commendable Paper - AVJ Drs Chantelle McGowan, Arpan Mann & Anne Quain











Animal Reproduction

Dear Animal Reproduction Chapter Members,

We're pleased to provide a summary of Science Week 2025 and our recent Annual General Meeting held on 21 August 2025 via Zoom. The meeting was well-attended, with 15 members present, including College members Maureen Thie, Stephen Alderman, and Mary Anne Hiscutt. This good turnout is in line with our continuous membership growth. Our chapter membership stands now at 52.

We warmly welcomed nine new members this year. Congratulations on passing your membership: Jennifer Attridge, Elizabeth Barter, Kate Dugher, Emily Lukas, Tanisha Mian, Heidi Niland-Rowe, Jodilee Penn, Stacey Rae and Deepti Ramachandra.

The Committee Roles were determined by vote as follows

- President: Natali Krekeler
- Vice Presidents: Carolynne Joone & Laura Good
- Treasurer: Xavier Schneider
- Secretary: Jasmin Hyatt

Examination Committees:

- Subject Examinations Committee (SEC) Chair: Carolynne Joone (assisted by Anne Barnes)
- Subject Standards Committee (SSC) Chair: Allan Gunn

Science Week 2025 was a resounding success, thanks to convenor Rory Nevard. For 1.5 days we had a Reproduction Chapter stream and one day we shared a stream with the Equine chapter. We had 68 unique attendees over three days, which is great turnout for our small chapter and a testament to Rory's carefully curated program.

Congratulations to Dr. Deepti Ramachandra, this year's Dave Hanlon Memorial Scholarship award recipient. Thanks to Minitube for ongoing sponsorship of this scholarship. We also thank RandLab, Pacific Vet and Virbac for their support during Science Week.



Photo: Deepti Ramachandra receiving the Dave Hanlon Memorial Scholarship award from Jasmin Hyatt. Animal Reproduction CHapter continued...

Please save the date! We are planning a small animal research strategy workshop on November 21st in Melbourne.
Invitations have been sent out by email.



Feel free to reach out to presidentanimalreproduction@anzcvs.org.au to send suggestions or if you haven't received an invitation.

We encourage all members, especially new ones, to get involved in chapter activities. Your participation is vital for our continued growth and relevance in the field of animal reproduction.

Thank you for your ongoing support and engagement. The next AGM will be held in 2027.

Your Chapter Executives

Animal Welfare

2025 Office Bearers

We're pleased to announce the incoming Chapter Executive for 2025. All positions were filled unopposed, reflecting a shared confidence in the leadership and direction of the Chapter.

- President: Dr Carolyn Guy
- Secretary: Dr Anne Quain
- Treasurer: Dr Shari Cohen

We thank these dedicated members for stepping into these roles and look forward to a productive year ahead.

2025 Science Week Highlights

Science Week 2025 was a resounding success, marked by insightful presentations, collegial exchange, and a strong sense of shared purpose. Special thanks to our convenor, Dr Fiona Esam, whose tireless efforts ensured a seamless and engaging program. We also extend our gratitude to all contributors—especially our speakers—whose generosity and expertise enriched the experience for all.

Award of Excellence – Emeritus Professor David Mellor

This year, the Animal Welfare Chapter was honoured to present its Award of Excellence to Emeritus Professor David Mellor. David's keynote, "A Hidden Gift – A Source of Great Ideas," captivated attendees from both the Animal Welfare and Veterinary Behaviour Chapters. His reflections offered a rare, moving glimpse into the personal and professional journey of a scholar whose work has profoundly shaped our understanding and practice of animal welfare across species and contexts.





Animal Welfare Chapter continued...

David's legacy is one of dedication, resilience, inclusivity, and enduring enthusiasm. His contributions exemplify the very best of our field, and we are deeply grateful for the inspiration and mentorship he continues to provide.



Photo: Emeritus Professor David Mellor receives his Award.

Welcome to Our New Affiliate Member - Dr Bidda Jones AM

We are delighted to welcome Dr Bidda Jones AM as an affiliate member of the Animal Welfare Chapter. Bidda's decades-long commitment to animal welfare spans research, advocacy, education, and strategic collaboration.

As a co-founder and Director of Strategy at the Australian Alliance for Animals, and an honorary associate at the University of Sydney School of Veterinary Science, Bidda brings a wealth of experience to our Chapter.



Photo: Drs Bidda Jones and Di Evans

Avian Health

And just like that, it's September. Many of our members have had a chance to catch their breath over the past couple of months before the busy spring breeding season begins, while others have been working hard — studying for membership and fellowship exams, or even preparing and running the examinations themselves.

We'd like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to Dr Kiara Simonis and Dr Akshata Taggers, who both successfully passed their Avian Medicine and Surgery Fellowship examinations this year and are now registered Avian Specialists. Anyone who has known or worked alongside a resident will understand that this is no small feat; passing these exams is a testament to their dedication, commitment, and service to our profession. It is with great joy that we welcome them to our Fellowship group, and we look forward to their positive contributions—not only to our chapter but also to our profession in the future. Congratulations to you both!

Avian Health Chapter continued...

We also warmly welcome our new Avian Members, including Dr Brock Warren and Emily Drayton, congratulating them on passing their Membership examinations and demonstrating a level of knowledge in Avian Medicine and Surgery that sets them apart from everyday general practitioners.

Heading into November, we will be holding our **Annual General Meeting** (AGM). Please keep an eye on your emails for details, including the date, time, and link to join. This year, for the first time, our AGM will be held virtually rather than alongside the AAVAC Conference. This change will allow 100% of our membership to attend, enabling greater engagement and reach across our chapter. We encourage anyone interested in volunteering for the chapter or supporting examinations to put their hand up—these are rewarding and fulfilling roles, and as the old adage goes, *many hands make light work*.

Behind the scenes, the ANZCVS Avian Health Chapter has been working with various government organisations and Wildlife Health Australia to advocate for private practitioners and their avian patients to have a voice at the decision-making table regarding avian influenza outbreaks. This includes the potential role of private avian practitioners should an outbreak occur this year. This work is ongoing but represents an important step forward for practitioners who not only see pet birds but also share the burden of wildlife care.

We hope to provide an update on this progress in the next edition of this newsletter.

We look forward to seeing you all soon. Hamish







Emergency and Critical Care

New members growing our ECC Chapter

A warm welcome to our new ECC Chapter members! We have 36 new Members and 1 new Fellow joining our growing Chapter in 2025.

Membership:

Drs R Cheng, A Cherico, P Clapham, S Clarke, M Elphick, S English, E Fell, A Garson, L Girolamo, M Hagman, W Hansen, E Hsu, K Jackson, A Kalamanova, M Larsen, T Law, M Leggett, Z Li, X J Ling, W Liu, J Low, M Lui, T Pang, J Sinclair, B Soh, E Stone, P Suter, C Tan, K Tan, T Tan, Y P Tan, Z Tay, S Tillack, C van Lith, N Wang, K Waterhouse.

Fellowship:

Dr S Tso

Congratulations to all of you!

This is an immense accomplishment, and we are all excited to have you join us!

Our chapter now consists of 360 active members including yourself and growing every year. Wow!

Science Week 2025

We had another highly successful Science Week with keynote speakers **Dr Dana Levine**, **Dr Corrin Boyd** and **Dr Kerry Doolin**.

Our theme this year was 'Haematology and Immunology', with speakers presenting topics such as transfusions, haemorrhagic shock, blood bank management, immune-mediated haemolytic anaemia (IMHA) and many more.







Photos (Clockwise from top-left): Drs Ivan Moses, James Cooper, Sophie Border and Rebekah Donaldson

Emergency and Critical Care Chapter continued...



Photo (L-R): Drs Corrin Boyd, Katie Nash, Kerry Doolin and Claire Sharp

Excellent speakers and programs were made into reality by our dynamic Convenor duo; **Dr Rebekah Donaldson** and **Dr James Cooper.** Thank you so much for the work that you have done.

We would also like to thank the sponsors of our Science Week ECC Chapter Program:

- Vets Choice Radiology
- ARH (Animal Referral Hospital)
- VIN (Veterinary Information Network)
- QVS (Queensland Veterinary Specialists)
- VSoS (Veterinary Specialists of Sydney)



Abstract Winners 2025

Congratulations to all the presenters who kept the attendees wowed with wonderful Abstract Presentations this year. A great amount of work has gone into each of your work!

Our prize winners this year were:

 1st Prize: Dr Tracy Tang presenting "Neonatal Survival Following Immediate Surgical Management of Canine Dystocia"







Emergency and Critical Care Chapter continued...

 Runner up: Dr Vanessa Yap presenting "Interruptions in Veterinary Emergency and ICU Settings: A Pilot Study"



ECC Chapter Dinner

Our 3 full day program came complete with a social event, ECC Chapter Dinner at Hideaway Bar & Kitchen, Broadbeach.



Thank you again to our sponsors Vets Choice Radiology and Animal Emergency Australia for supporting this event of fun, sharing stories, reuniting, and networking.





Emergency and Critical Care Chapter continued...

Executive & Convenor Team Update

We would like to introduce new faces to our Executive and SW Convenor Teams for 2025/2026

- o Chapter President: Dr Natsuko Druery
- o Chapter Treasurer: Dr Taleta Hompas
- o Chapter Vice-President: Dr Katie Nash
- Vice-Science Week Convenor: Dr Katie Craig
- Pre-Conference Workshop Convenors: Drs Rebekah Donaldson and Sarah Purcell

Exam Committee member Update Subject Standards Committee

We welcome to the SSC **Drs Corrin Boyd, Rob Webster** and **Kerri Doolin**, in addition to Drs Penny Seet and Sureiyan Hardjo who are led by Dr Leah Wright as SSC Chair.

Subject Examination Committee (Fellowship)

We welcome to the SEC **Drs R Donaldson** and **J Cooper** to the existing team of Drs Trudi McAlees (Head subject examiner) and Dr Sarah Purcell (Chair).

Subject Examinations Committee (Membership)

We welcome to the SEC **Drs Xanthe Ward** (Head subject examiner), **S Wiltshire**, **P Williams**, **K Binnie**, **K Craig**, **A Brown**, **S Cory**, **M Rebelo**, **A Wester**, **S Huxley**, **C Romeo**, **C Lau**, **J Sinclair**, **P Clapham**, **S Mullaney**, **V Russell**, and **A Webster** to the existing team led by Dr Ivan Moses (Chair)

Moving forward the Chapter executives and Convenors are working hard to plan for Science Week 2026 including Preconference event. So stay tuned!

The ECC Chapter Execs & Convenor Team



Photo (L-R): Drs Natsuko Druery, Sarah Purcell, Katie Nash, Rebekah Donaldson, James Cooper



Feline

Another year of Vet Science Week has passed, and with it another brilliant program of cutting-edge cat content. With talks from a fantastic line up of speakers and the second-ever Feline Chapter dinner, Vet Science Week 2025 was a huge success! The chapter executive would like to thank convenors Michael Linton and Natalie Lloyd for their incredible work in putting it all together.

We'd also like to welcome Andrea Harvey, who was voted in as the new president earlier this year, taking over from Rachel Korman. First, we'd like to formally acknowledge Rachel's contribution to the Feline Chapter. She was an absolutely brilliant president and will be sorely missed!

Second, we'd like to welcome Andrea, our new president, who has already brought so much enthusiasm and an abundance of ideas for future chapter directions. Welcome, Andrea!

We would also like to congratulate Katherine Briscoe, previous president, for winning the 2025 Meritorious Service Award. This is an award bestowed upon an individual who has contributed greatly to the veterinary profession, and we could not think of a more worthy recipient.

We're currently busy preparing for the upcoming AGM, which we plan to hold on the 22nd of October at 7pm AEDT via Zoom. Please keep an eye out for an email with more details, which we will be sending out shortly. At this year's AGM, we will be voting for a number of executive and executive-adjacent positions in the Feline Chapter, including:

- Secretary
- ISF/European liaison officer
- General committee member

We are also busily recruiting examiners for the 2026 membership and fellowship exams. We encourage anyone who is interested in nominating for one of these positions to reach out to Andrea Harvey at presidentfeline@anzcvs.org.au.

Lastly, we'd like to highlight a specific feline workshop being held this year at the 50th WSAVA congress. It is a world first 'International Workshop on Breeding & Genetics of Healthy Cats' and is being held on Wednesday, 24 September in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. We'd encourage anyone who is already attending the WSAVA Congress to consider attending the workshop, which has limited places available.

That's it for this month. Thank you, as always, for your ongoing support!

Keshuan Chow Secretary, Feline Chapter

Medicine and Management of Laboratory Animals

It has been a great 2025 for MMLA with a fabulous finale in Science Week. It was **EPIC!**

With our longest program yet, at two and a half days., we managed to squeeze in three international speakers and several speakers from around Australia and New Zealand. And of course, we had a lovely chapter dinner on Thursday evening, which saw over 20 of us enjoy great food and company. We'd like to thank all the speakers, our sponsors, and everyone who was able to come along. For a little Chapter, we certainly do big things!



Photo: The fabulous company we enjoyed at the MMLA Chapter



Photo: our Executive team with some of the speakers we hosted enjoying happy hour

With 2025 quickly slipping away, we are now focusing on the future of MMLA. We have had some changes in our Executive team with Mandy Errington hanging up her Science Convenor role and exchanging it for the Treasurer role as Lorna Rasmussen steps away. The Science Convenor role has been filled by Mitzi Klein, who is very excited and already has some fantastic ideas (stay tuned). Our exam committees are also getting prepared for hopefully a record number of membership candidates. We encourage anyone who is even just thinking about sitting the 2026 exam to get in touch and ask any questions that may be holding them back. We'd love to grow our little chapter!

Finally, as we've done for several years, we will be offering Journal Club participation to our members and exam candidates. The first one will be in November and a call for participation will be in October. If you have a great topic you'd like to present, don't hesitate to get in touch. We hope to see you all virtually soon!

Dr Emily Barrick Chapter President



Ophthalmology

The Ophthalmology Chapter are proud to announce the addition of four new Fellows this year. We extend a warm welcome to Dr Andrea Kashani-Carver, Dr Gemma Turner, Dr Helen Mather and Dr Petra Price. Congratulations on your achievement.

A wonderful Science Week program saw ophthalmology combined with the behaviour chapter this year. Thank you to our esteemed guest speakers Dr Ron Ofri and Dr Sara Bennett for their stimulating talks on vision, visual behaviour and ocular diseases. As ophthalmologists we especially gained a new appreciation for the ways in which a behaviourist can add value to our ophthalmic practices, and lots of helpful tips and tricks were gleaned.

Options for our next Ophthalmology Chapter Interim Meeting were discussed at the AGM. Details are yet to be confirmed but possible locations are Queenstown New Zealand or Kangaroo Island. Keep a look out for more information, coming soon.

A Chapter Research Grant was not awarded this year, however lots of valuable feedback was provided to the candidates and we encourage them and other to apply again next year. Please see our chapter website for more information. Dr Kellam Bayley has developed a questionnaire for residents to submit for advice regarding research proposals. This initiative aims to provide feedback to improve study design at an early stage.

There have been some minor changes to the Ophthalmology Executive Committee this year, Dr Kate Hindley remains as our president, and Dr Sarah Richardson as our treasurer. Dr Matt Sanders and Dr Yvette Crowe are outgoing secretaries - thank you very much for your efforts during your time in these roles. Dr Helen Mather and Dr Petra Price are stepping in as the new co-secretaries.

Special thanks to our fellowship examiners for 2025 - Dr Johana Premont, Dr Jess Nevile, Dr Sarah Coall, Dr Vicki Liddle and Dr Yvette Crowe. Dr Zoe Anastassiadis, Dr Matt Annear and Dr Kate Hindley continue in their roles of Subjects Standards Committee. Dr Jonathan Wood keeps our chapter website updated, so please contact him (or the secretary) if there is anything you think we should add to our page.

Thank you to everyone volunteering their time to keep our ophthalmology chapter ticking along.

Dr Petra Price and Dr Helen Mather Ophthalmology Chapter Secretaries

Small Animal Medicine

Welcome to our new Members and Fellows!! Your hard work and dedication have paid off. Your commitment to excellence is truly admirable.

Vet Science Week 2025 was such a success. It was an excellent program curated by Dr. Gemma Birnie and a big congratulations to all who presented in the SAM Abstract session! We were able to celebrate VSW25 as a Chapter at the SAM Chapter dinner, along with our dinner sponsor, Hill's Pet Nutrition. It was an absolute blast and a great opportunity to catch up with friends and network with new colleagues.

Thank you to all those who contributed to the chapter AGM at VSW25. There were some great thoughts and discussion points, which we will continue to explore over the coming months. I strongly encourage our members to attend the next AGM in 2026. It really does provide great insight into the performance and direction of the chapter.

There are a few changes to the executive committee and we anticipate a voting process to be rolled out over the coming weeks for the position of Vice President. We warmly welcome a number of new volunteers to positions across the chapter.

We are currently in the planning stages for another Internal Medicine Masterclass weekend conference in 2026 as well as other CE opportunities for our members. Watch your inbox!

The Chapter is managed by Chapter members, for Chapter members. Thanks again for everyone's ongoing input, participation, and investment in the chapter.

Dr. Elizabeth Thrift Chapter President







Curious on current vacancies?

Check out the ANZCVS

Positions Vacant page

Updated regularly!

Small Animal Surgery

Hello to all the Members and Fellows of the Surgery Chapter, and a special welcome to all the new Members that will be reading this as their first Courier report.

This year we welcomed 18 new Members and three new Fellows to the surgery chapter. Well done to all the successful candidates, your efforts and sacrifices will yield great successes in the future. I would also like all chapter Members to reach out to any unsuccessful candidates and support them in the coming year.

Our SSC and SEC committees manage to put together a product that seems so monumentally daunting in the beginning, so it always surprises me when things run so smoothly for so many candidates. It is a credit to all our examiners, SEC Chairs, Head subject examiners and the members of the Subject Standards Committee that bring everything together, aided ably by the College Board of Examiners. In the coming weeks, we will be releasing expressions of interest for all of these committees, so I would like to invite every Member to read through these EOIs and consider if and how you would like to contribute to the College and Chapter.

Science week went off without an obvious hitch this year, with the programme being put together masterfully by our science week convenors on the surgery chapter committee. This is a voluntary role, but the opportunity that these convenors get to form strong professional bonds between themselves, the college, and world-renowned surgeons and industry leaders is invaluable to us in the Chapter. So, I would like to thank all the members of the committee for this year.

Small Animal Surgery Chapter continued...

Our Science Week program was second-to-none with amazing speakers including Drs Brian Beale, Loic Dejardin, Sean Sanders, Mark Glyde, Lucas Beierer & Abbie Tipler. More importantly, it was amazing to see the social and collegiate environment between sessions, and the extraordinary quality of abstract presentations. We also had a fantastic attendance of our pre-conference ILN workshop, and it was great to see that we had absolutely no issues in the more inclusive all-members preliminary day format.



Looking forward to the next year, I am very keen to push forward with some initiatives to boost the support of Membership Mentors and Fellowship Supervisors so that we can take some pressure off candidates and their mentors as the exams approach next year.

As ever, I am very keen to hear from every single Member of our Chapter about what we can do better now and, in the future. So please contact me with any questions, suggestions or if you would like to be considered for any chapter positions or roles. Thank you everyone and I hope you all have a great year! Regards,

Blaine McCracken BVSc MVS MVS MVSc MAAL GCUT FANZCVS (Surgery) Surgery Chapter President





Small Ruminant

The Small Ruminant chapter only holds exams every second year and 2024 was an exam year and we welcome Dr Amy Masters as a new member after successfully passing her written and oral exam for Medicine of Sheep. Many thanks to all those involved in the examination processes.

The AGM was held via Zoom on the 27th July with the current executive remaining the same, but we have a new President elect, Dr Sophie Hemley. All the AGM papers are on the Chapter's website. Our financial position is strong, due to sales of FAMACHA© cards like the one shown below.



If you would like to purchase one, please contact PresidentSmallRuminant@anzcvs.org.au.

Local Land Services has started FAMACHA© training again. Recently Kylie Greentree, LLS vet for the Hunter region and a College Small Ruminant Chapter member, trained 29 participants. There will be another course run in late October.

Unusual Pets

Our chapter continues to thrive thanks to the dedication and hard work of our members, particularly those involved in the membership examinations. This year's examination team has gone above and beyond to maintain our high standards and support the next generation of members.

Special thanks to our 2025 Examination Team:

- Exam Chair: Tristan Rich
- **Head Examiner:** Olivia Clarke
- Examiners: Jaclyn Gatt and Tegan Stephens

We also recognise the invaluable contributions of our committee members, whose behind-the-scenes work keeps everything running smoothly. A particular acknowledgement goes to Emma Sciacca, our Treasurer, for her exceptional financial stewardship and for co-leading our membership training program alongside Courtney Dunne.

Unusual Pets Chapter continued...

With the exams now complete, we are excited to welcome **10 new members** to the Unusual Pets Chapter:

- o Dr Brandon Arnell
- o Dr Teela Brown
- o Dr Shelby Chew
- o Dr Lucinda Lam
- o Dr Kathy Le
- Dr Stefanie Ramsey
- o Dr Rebecca Teoh
- o Dr Simon Wai-Shing
- o Dr Holly Yang
- o Dr Linda Yang



Congratulations to all! Your achievement is a testament to your dedication to the field of unusual pet medicine.

We look forward to your contributions to our vibrant and growing chapter.

James Haberfield Unusual Pets Chapter President

Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia

Celebrating a Milestone

When the Veterinary Anaesthesia & Analgesia Chapter welcomed our new Fellows and Members this year, we hit the milestone of 100 members!

This is a significant achievement, growing from the small group of around 40 members we started with in 2016 when the Chapter was formed (previously combined Emergency, Anaesthesia, and Critical Care).

Congratulations to **Dr Shaun Pratt**, now a Fellow in Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia.

A warm welcome also to our 12 new Members:

- Dr Josephine Ginty (recipient of VAA Chapter Award for highest marks in the Membership Examinations - congratulations!)
- Dr Magnolia Bell
- Dr Matthew Chan
- Dr Laura Downes
- Dr Becky Dubowitz
- Dr Taylah Johnston
- Dr Kavya Katta
- Dr Hilda Li
- Dr Chloe Nugent
- Dr Jessica Panetta
- Dr Rebecca Weight
- Dr Lorraine Yip







Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia Chapter continued...

Science Week Highlights

It was wonderful to see new and familiar faces at **Science Week**. Our program had a neurology focus, featuring a collaboration with the Veterinary Sports and Rehabilitation Medicine Chapter on **rehabilitation and analgesia for spinal patients**, and a morning dedicated to **neuroanaesthesia and pain mechanisms**.

The **abstract session** showcased a wide range of topics. Congratulations to **Emily Drayton (RSPCA)**, winner of the abstract prize, for her fabulous presentation on "Epidural Anaesthesia in Koalas".

We were delighted to welcome **Dr Jen Carter** for a practical and informative workshop on **MCQ writing** during Science Week. All members are encouraged to contribute to our Chapter's growing **question bank**. Developing MCQ-writing skills is valuable, and ANZCVS offers training and support. If you can assist, please contact Gabrielle.Musk@anzcvs.org.au.

Chapter Leadership

Following the AGM, there have been some changes to our executive and supporting committees.

Your 2025-26 Committee is as follows:

• President: Dr Jen Davis

• Treasurer: Dr Laurie Steinier

• Secretary: Dr Eleanor Holden

 $\circ~$ Chair of Subject Standards and Subject Examination

Committees: Dr Gabrielle Musk

• Ordinary Members: Drs Heidi Lehmann & Christopher Sun

Supporting Committees:

- Science Week Committee: Drs Shaun Pratt (Convenor), Christopher Sun & Wendy Goodwin
- Membership Engagement Committee: Drs Wendy Goodwin & Laura Downes
- Website & Social Media Administrator: Dr Laura Downes

There is always room for more volunteers. If you'd like to join our friendly group, please contact secretaryvaa@anzcvs.org.au.

Chapter Webinars

Last year we launched a **Chapter webinar series**, which has been well attended and covered a range of fascinating topics. We will continue this into next year, alternating webinars with **journal club/topic rounds** sessions.

We encourage members to present on a subject of your expertise or interest. Please contact Wendy.Goodwin@anzcvs.org.au if you'd like to contribute. Look out for details of our next webinar on anti-NGF medications.

Veterinary Anaesthesia and Analgesia Chapter continued...

Shaping the Future of Our Chapter

We value input from our membership on the direction and ventures you'd like us to explore, including:

- Science Week topics and keynote suggestions
- Webinar or rounds discussion topics
- Other initiatives that align with our Chapter mission statement:

"Our mission is to practice and promote excellence in veterinary anaesthesia and analgesia and improve animal welfare in veterinary clinical practice and animal research. Through education, training, outreach, and engagement we will empower veterinarians and veterinary professionals to safely and skilfully work in this discipline with pride, confidence, and acumen."

A survey will soon be sent to all Members to gather feedback. Please take the time to respond and help us ensure you get the most from your Chapter membership.

~ Jen Davis VAA Chapter President

Veterinary Behaviour

Dear Colleagues,

We are proud to celebrate **Dr Sally Nixon**, who was awarded **Fellowship in Veterinary Behavioural Medicine** in 2025. Fellowship is the highest level of recognition within the College and reflects Sally's outstanding dedication to excellence, leadership, and advancement in our specialised field. Congratulations, Sally! We deeply appreciate your continued contribution to Veterinary Behavioural Medicine.

We're also delighted to welcome nine new Members to the Chapter this year. Becoming a Member of the College is a significant professional milestone, and it's inspiring to see continued growth in our community. A special congratulations to **Dr Junyuan Liang**, recipient of the Robert Holmes Award for the highest combined score in the 2025 Membership examinations.

Sincere thanks to our Examinations Committee — **Dr Jake Lin** (Head Examiner), **Dr Rimini Quinn, Dr Frederique Hurly**, and **Dr Louise Rourke** — for their dedication and support of this year's candidates.

We also warmly congratulate member **Dr Chantelle McGowan** and her co-authors, whose insightful study "A survey investigating owner perceptions and management of firework-associated fear in dogs in the Greater Sydney area" was recognised with the Most Commendable Paper Award at the awards dinner- a valuable acknowledgement.





Veterinary Behaviour Chapter continued...

Our Science Week 2025 theme, Collaborating for Patient Care, brought together a merged stream with the Animal Welfare, General Practice, and Ophthalmology Chapters. It was a pleasure to welcome **Dr Sara Bennett** (DACVB) as keynote speaker, alongside an outstanding line-up including **Drs Jacqui Ley, Kersti Seksel**, and **Ron Ofri**. Thank you to everyone who joined us on the Gold Coast and to all who helped make the event a success behind the scenes.

At Science Week, we farewelled **Dr Melanie Rockman** (Education Coordinator) and **Dr Bronwyn Sharman** (Conference Convenor). Their energy and commitment have been instrumental this year, especially in delivering our popular webinar series and Science Week programme. We thank them both sincerely for their service, and we're thrilled to welcome three new members to the education team, **Drs Renae Jackson** & **Rhea Hurley** (Conference Convenors) and **Dr Isabelle Resch** (Education Coordinator).

We're excited to see the new energy, perspectives, and ideas they bring.

In the coming year, we'll continue delivering regular webinars, support the 2026 exam cycle, and begin work on a Chapter Ethics Charter — a values-based document to guide our shared professional standards and identity.

We'd love to hear from you if you're interested in joining a working group or getting more involved in Chapter initiatives. Even a small contribution can make a big difference.

Thank you to all our members, whether you've volunteered your time, attended events, sat exams, or simply stayed connected, I look forward to connecting with you at the next Conference.

Warmest regards, Dr Lucy Scott President, Veterinary Behaviour Chapter

VET BEHAVIOUR WEBINARS

Treatment of Acute Phase Anxiety **Dr Karen Overall**

Post-Surgical Management of Physical, Emotional and Behavioural Health

Dr Gabrielle Carter

Diet, Behaviour and the Gut: Should we Care? Dr Isabelle Resch

An Insider's Guide to Writing Case Reports for Publication **Dr Anne Jackson**

Separation Anxiety Syndrome **Dr Jill Sackman** Feather Picking in pet birds What's Going on? Dr Bronwen Bollaert

Sleep and its role in Physical and Mental Health **Dr Kersti Seksel**

The First 18 Weeks

Dr Jacqui Ley

Veterinary Public Health

Science Week

VPH actively participated in a two-and half-day science week program along with colleagues in Veterinary Epidemiology, Pharmacology and Animal Welfare.

Twenty well-attended presentations were contributed to the conference. These ranged from the impact of veterinary antimicrobial usage on human health, pathogen dynamics in feedlot cattle, antimicrobial resistance risk - across water, waste and food systems; insights into dog attacks; veterinary care access for vulnerable pet owners. Additionally, from Veterinary and Community Care, a charitable organisation in Western Australia a thought-provoking presentation titled Veterinary Science is a Social Science.

Member award

At the conference's Awards Dinner, chapter member, Professor Jenny-Ann Toribio was congratulated on her joint AVA/ANZCVS award of the Kesteven Medal in recognition of her distinguished contribution to international veterinary science.



Photo: College President Dr David Tabrett congratulating Prof Jenny-Ann Toribio on her award of the Kesteven Medal

At Sydney University, Jenny-Ann has taught nearly 3,000 veterinary students and

supported 134 graduates through the former Master of Veterinary Public Health program. Her mentorship extends globally, having supervised 37 PhD students from Australia and abroad.

Chapter AGM

The Chapter AGM was held on Saturday 23 August via Zoom. The meeting was recorded and once the meeting's minutes are received, they will be forwarded to the membership.

Elections

The following were elected as Officers and Committee Members at the AGM.

Officers

President: Dr Kevin Crews Treasurer: Dr John Tulloch Secretary: Dr Allen Petrey Committee members

Membership Subject Standards Committee: Drs Nick Rush and

Alissa Hampton

Chief Examiner: Assoc Prof Leo Foyle

Membership Examination Committee: Drs Bob Biddle (chair),

Elizabeth Parker and Prof Nigel French

Fellowship Subject Standards Committee: Drs Michael Reichel and Elizabeth Parker

Fellowship Examination Committee: TBD Science Week Convenor: Dr Allen Petrey Website administrator: Dr Allen Petrey





Veterinary Public Health Chapter continued...

Drs Mark Schipp and Jake Kim are stepping down from their respective committees. The Chapter thanks both for their contributions over the past 12 months.

Membership and Fellowship Subject Guidelines

<u>Membership</u>

The Chapter's Membership Subject Guidelines have been revised and approved by the Board of Examiners and can be viewed here. The Chapter thanks Assoc Prof Foyle, and Drs Rush, Hampton and Kim for their efforts in revising the guidelines through 2024-25.

Fellowship

The College approved VPH's Fellowship Subject Guidelines in November 2024 and can be <u>viewed on the College website</u>.

In our submission to the College Board of Examiners (BOE) it was proposed that VPH use the fast-track mechanism as permitted in the College Constitution. "Fast- tracked or fast-tracking" means for approved candidates dispensing with the requirement to complete a Membership examination or any College approved training program before advancing to Fellowship.

Details on fast track and the Board of Examiners commentary on VPH's guideline submission were outlined in the December 2024 College Courier. The Chapter secretary would be delighted to discuss these details with potential applicants, at any time, secretaryvph@anzcvs.org.au

2026 Membership Examination Round

In accordance with College policy the VPH Chapter runs biennial membership exams. VPH Membership exams will be held in 2026. Applications are now open with details at https://www.anzcvs.org.au/membership.

The Chapter has an active Trans-Tasman membership study group, details of which can be obtained from the Chapter Secretary at secretaryvph@anzcvs.org.au

Member Election to Council- A personal note from Chapter member Dr Francette Geraghty-Dusan

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the VPH Chapter Secretary who, alongside the Epidemiology Chapter President, supported my nomination for ANZCVS Council. With thanks also to wider support from the College membership, whilst not successful in attaining election for a 3-year term, with the passing of the changes to the ANZCVS Constitution, particularly removal of Chief Examiner from automatic appointment to Council and the desire to still have 7 people serve on the Council, I have been granted an appointment for one year from the date of the College AGM. Standing for re-election to Council for a three-year term is then an option from next year.

Veterinary Public Health Chapter continued...

As noted on the election form, I'm committed to promoting member excellence, enhancing cross-chapter collaboration, supporting Science Week's continued relevance and working to ensure your college qualifications are recognised appropriately by the profession and employers. I'm also very approachable and would be delighted to hear from any Chapter members about your ANZCVS-related joys or frustrations.

Francette may be contacted at <u>francette.geraghty-dusan@anzcvs.org.au</u>

Kevin Crews Chapter President

Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation

The Chapter welcomed two new VSMR (Equine) Members following this year's equine exam. Congratulations to **Drs Agustin Buron Leoz** and **Lance Redman** on this achievement! Thank you for your commitment in taking this step and to the examiners for making the exam possible.

The canine exam will be held next year and the examiners and mentors are already working hard on making this possible.

Thank you also to the outgoing chapter executives for your contributions over the past year(s).

Science Week in July was well attended and offered excellent lectures from both local and international speakers across 3 days. Attendees enjoyed catching up with friends and colleagues from across the country as well as abroad. The pre-conference canine workshop saw participants getting both hands on and lecture-based guidance on neurologic rehabilitation techniques and the volunteer dachshunds and their owners were happy participants for the day of learning.

Conference happy hour on both Thursday and Friday evening, the trade fair, the plenary session as well as the dinner on Saturday evening were all extra fun. The many sponsors for the VSMR workshop and the rest of the weeks lectures made this fantastic 3 days possible and we would like to extend our sincere thanks once again.

As always, the conference was an overall outstanding event to travel to, and we hope to see many more attending next year in 2026!





In Memoriam

It is with profound sadness that we announce the recent passing of the individuals listed below.

Dr Alan Campbell Hunter DVSc MACVSc (Rad) HonMNZIMRT

b. 4 September 1938; d. 17 July 2025

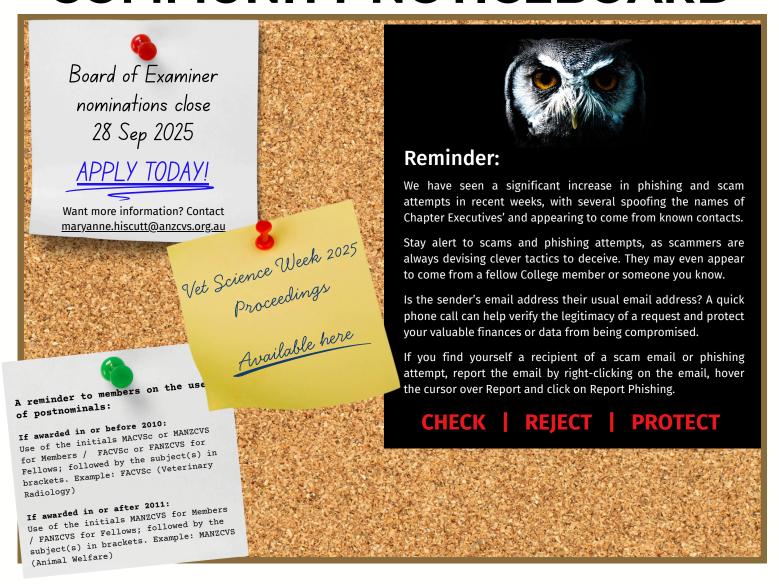
Alan was a career vet in the Canterbury Region of NZ including as a teacher of radiology and an active member of the NZ Veterinary Association and Canterbury Genealogy Society.

Assoc. Prof. Andrew David James Watson BVSc (Hons) PhD MACVSc (Feline) d. 15 July 2025

David was a highly regarded senior academic with the School of Veterinary Science, University of Sydney, teaching and researching at universities around the globe, including the US, France and the UK.



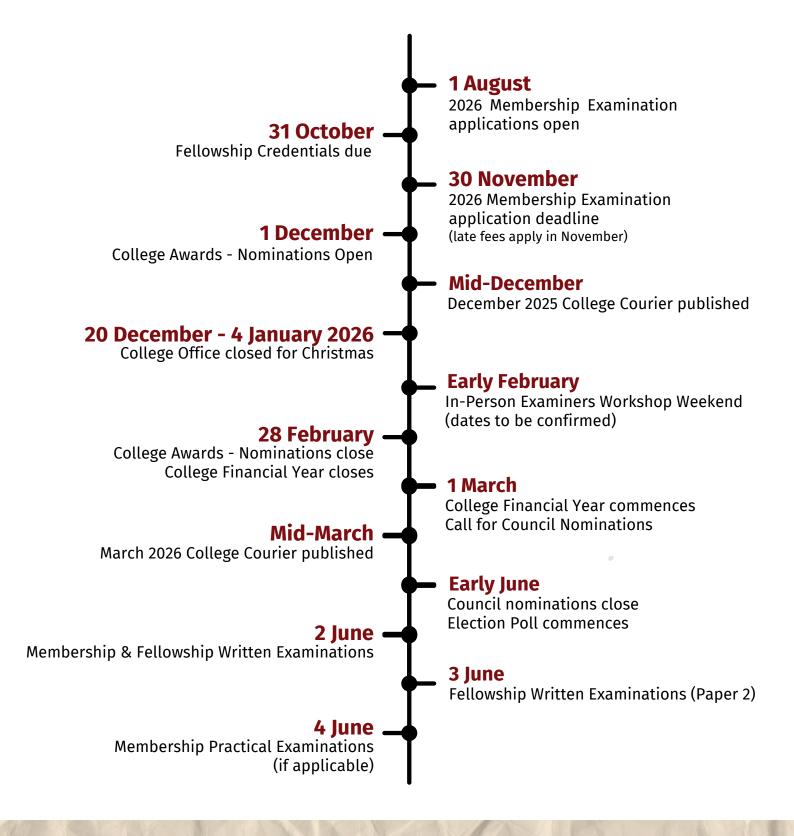
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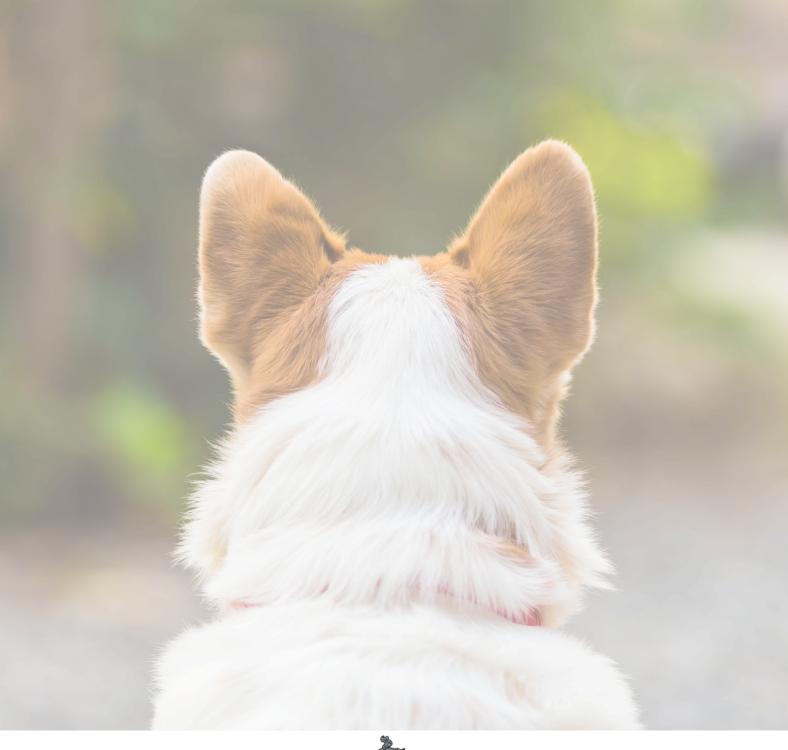


ANZCVS 2025/26 KEY DATES





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





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