CVA Australian and New Zealand Interest Group Created

We are pleased to announce that a CVA Australian and New Zealand interest group has been created with already over 40 members.

Some of the activities in which the group could potentially be involved include:

- The addition of veterinary equipment and supplies to the already existing CVA book program. Like veterinary textbooks, there is an abundance of unused veterinary equipment and supplies in developed countries such as Australia, which would be gratefully received in the developing world.
- The use of the internet for the provision of CPD, the use of webinars, the formation of discussion groups, the use of social media, and to enhance communications.
- The hosting of a veterinarian through the CVA study fund or the giving of expertise through the CVA guest lectureship program.
- and any other ideas or special interests group members may have which may assist veterinarians and/or animal health and welfare throughout the commonwealth.

This will hopefully lead to a range of small CVA projects, which is part of our vision for the CVA to be relevant and visible to all veterinarians in the commonwealth. Therefore, we welcome you to identify small projects in your respective countries and regions and provide the following information to Dr Jeff Cave jeff.cave@ecodev.vic.gov.au in your request:

- The name of the person or organisation who will benefit
- The specific item(s) or support that is requested
- The reason the item(s) or support are needed

- and when the item(s) or support are received a brief report with photographs is submitted for possible inclusion in the CVA e-newsletter, Facebook page and/or website.

We look forward to seeing the great things the group could potentially be involved with and achieve.

CVA Book Program Finds a New Coordinator

We are pleased to announce that Dr Jim Connah of Hobart, Tasmania is the new coordinator of the CVA book program. The CVA book program is one of the CVA’s longest running, most successful programs.

Books are donated by veterinarians in Australia and New Zealand, all of whom are thanked for their generosity, without which the program would not exist. The books are available for distribution free of charge to graduate veterinarians in CVA member countries in good standing. Because of budgetary constraints and steeply rising mailing costs, the number of books which can be shipped is normally restricted to up to 20 titles for institutions, and up to 5 titles for individual veterinarians in any one year. Individual veterinarians are encouraged to share their books with colleagues in their area if possible.
Requests for books should include the locations, box numbers and titles of the books, along with the mailing address to which the books should be sent. It is suggested that those wishing to submit a request should first obtain a copy of the current inventory of books available by contacting Dr. Connah at jimconnah@bigpond.com. Shipment are made by surface mail, and may take several months to reach their destination. The recipients are requested to acknowledge the safe arrival of their books.

The current inventory in Australia and New Zealand comprises nearly 700 books with over 500 different titles. Most of the books were published during the last 20 years; older texts, for which more recent editions are available, are discarded each year. Most areas of veterinary medicine are covered.

Please let the veterinarians in your respective countries know of the CVA book program to enable them to benefit from the opportunities that it may bring.

**WVA Education Network’s CVA Portal**

The CVA is delighted to be offering a new online education portal for all CVA members.

We are trying to make continuing education easy for our members. As the course materials increase, you will be able to stay up-to-date with the latest veterinary innovations and developments.

Associations, like the CVA, are offered access to a central resource of veterinary education and in turn offer this to members.

University, training organisations and individual experts can upload education to the global pool.

Many courses are free to take. Others have fees ranging from $US5 upwards. There are already hundreds of online courses available.

There is also the ability to have the system track your online courses for you and provide certificates of completion.

Everyone that registers will have their own account and can create their own profile, thereby getting the education that is most relevant to their requirements. The system will allow you to record all continuing education undertaken, both online and live events.


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**Recipes from the world - from the Caribbean**

**Calypso Punch**

This delicious cocktail is often seen enjoyed by many at beaches, lakes, pools and other summertime gatherings.

- 2 cups orange juice
- 1 1/2 cups sweetened pineapple juice
- 1/4 cup of lime or lemon juice
- 2 cups water
- 1/4 tsp freshly grated nutmeg
- 1/4 cup honey
- 6 cloves
- 650ml ginger ale
- And some rum if you like!

In a large bowl mix together all of the ingredients except the ginger ale. Chill then strain and remove cloves. Add the ginger ale when you are ready to serve. Serve over crushed ice.

Website: [http://www.commonwealthvetassoc.org/](http://www.commonwealthvetassoc.org/)