

NEWSLETTER

Faculty of Veterinary Science
University of Pretoria
November 1991

EDITORIAL

Groete!

Hierdie is ons 4de nuusbrieff en die laaste uitgawe waarvan Koos assistent-redakteur was. Sy bydrae oor die afgelope twee jaar was van onskatbare waarde. Van ons by die Fakulteit, baie dankie Koos. Dit sal nie vir iemand anders maklik wees om jou plek vol te staan nie.

Achievements and honours often have a side of humour or human interest. To the correspondents, keep your ears open to the "colourful stories" behind the congresses, meetings, courses, etc. (see: "The real colour!") We would also like that input for our newsletter.

As the news trickled in, it was evident that the stork has been very busy in our faculty. Eight babies and still counting!!! Also obvious were the back ailments amongst our staff, so take note of the "Rugseksie" and their advice to those of us more fortunate.

I feel it was only yesterday that we were wishing one another a happy Christmas and holiday season for 1990. That time is again nearing. Go safely and we'll all meet again in 1992. 'n Geseënde Kersseisoen vir almal! Re le lakaletsa mahlatsi le mahlogonolo matsatsing a boikhutso.

Best wishes from Esther, Koos and myself.

Tammi Krecek**Editorial Committee:**

Dr Tammi Krecek (Editor)
Mr Koos van Rensburg (Assistant)
Miss Esther Mahlaole (Correspondent)



FROM THE DEAN'S DESK

Patience is a virtue, or so they say! For those of us who have spent the past ten years (yes, believe it or not the physical planning of the new Veterinary Academic Hospital started in 1982!) "living, sleeping and eating" the "big one" this saying is a particularly germane one. In the November 1990 Faculty newsletter I confidently stated that "the building would be complete in February 1991, that it would be commissioned in May/June and that the official opening would be in September/October 1991!" Little did we know what lay in store for us when those words were written.

Gedurende die oorhandigingsinspeksies, wat eers in Maart 1991 'n aanvang geneem het, is 'n paar ernstige tekortkominge waargeneem. Veral die dak (verseëling) en die terrazzovloere was sub-standaard en later het dit geblyk dat die sluitsteenvloere in die grootdierafdelings en die pad noord van die hospitaal ook probleemareas was. Intussen is die dak grootliks herstel en is daar tot dusver geen ernstige lekkasie waargeneem nie! Verbrokkelde areas in die pad is ook herstel en 'n nuwe teerlaag is opgesit. Daar word gewerk aan die valle en dreinerings van die sluitsteenvloere by grootdiere. Dus, vordering! Behalwe vir een area, die terrazzovloere. Those of you who have walked through the hospital would have seen that many terrazzo panels, if not all, have developed cracks. Some of these cracks extend over a number of panels and are associated with cracks in the concrete slab of the structure (the latter are clearly visible from the cellar where the under surface of the slab can be visualised). Other panels have myriads of fine cracks radiating through that one panel. We presume that the latter have something to do with the materials and methods used to lay the terrazzo. At this moment, however, these presumptions remain just that since even now, six months plus down the line, no independent analysis of the terrazzo panels in the VAH have been performed! Mind boggling isn't it?

So as I said in the beginning, patience is a virtue. Since we still don't have a conclusive "diagnosis" as to the cause of the majority of the cracks we cannot make decisions on "treatment" and "prognosis". And until we know what has to be done to repair these floors and therefore guess how long this process will take we cannot predict when we shall actually move into the new VAH in full force.

En die gevolge? Wel op die oomblik het ons 'n gebou van R50 miljoen (as toerusting bygetel word) wat nie benut word nie. Sekere uiters duur toerusting soos Radiografie-apparatuur loop die gevaar om deur ongebruik agteruit te gaan. Daar is 'n sekuriteitsprobleem met baie ander toerusting en meubels wat reeds afgelewer is. En die ergste van alles is dat die hele verdere bouprogram van die res van die Fakulteit nou vertraag is. Totdat Buitepasiënte, Geneeskunde en Chirurgie oorgeskuif het kan die herindelings van die ou hoofgebou, die Geneeskunde/Chirurgie-gebou en die Geslagskunde kliniek / stalkompleks nie voortgaan nie. Ses departemente en die Kuddegesondheidsafdeling word hierdeur geraak!. For the third time, patience is a virtue.

1991 was a tough year! Add to our building woes the implementation of new teaching and learning methods, the ongoing struggle to balance workloads with stable staff numbers and the general feeling of uncertainty within our university and throughout the country then we can categorically state that it has been "tough". But, we are a resourceful bunch and we don't give up easily. With the prospect of a break in December to recharge our batteries I am confident 1992 is going to be a year in which many of our current frustrations will be eliminated and morale and motivation restored.

Aan almal van julle wat soveel in die Fakulteit ingesit het oor die afgelope jaar, ons innige dank. Mag die Kersfeesreses 'n tyd van vrede, vreugde en hernuwing vir julle en julle gesinne wees en mag 1992 vir ons almal 'n goeie jaar wees.

P Bland-van den Berg

Adjunkdekaan : Fakulteit Veeartsenykunde

SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM THE DEAN

Namens my vrou en myself, seënwense aan u en u familie vir die Kersgety. Mag die vreugde, vrede en plesier van hierdie welwillendheidseisoen u lewens vul.

Thank you to you all for everything you have contributed to our Faculty over the past year. It is sincerely appreciated. Pauline and I wish you and your families a blessed Christmas and a wonderful 1992!

Prof R I Coubrough
Dean



WHO'S NEW?

A warm welcome to:

Administration:

Mr Samuel Molapo (Terreine); Mr Simon Sibanyoni (Terreine); Mr Annaias Mojela and Mr Alpheus Ratlau and Mrs Cathrine Papola.

Equine Research Center:

Miss Valerie Killeen as Senior technician.

Geneeskunde:

Mrs Heleen Odendaal, typist; Drs Trudi Dippenaar and Philip Sacks, clinical assistants.

Parasitology:

Mrs Arina Lubbe, our new secretary.

Theriogenology:

Dr Danie Odendaal wat by Kuddegesondheid begin het, and Sr Michelle Cruywagen as stable manager.

Veterinary Academic Hospital (VAH):

Mev Ansie Botha, Apteek; Mev Ronel Nowers as Ontvangsdame, Buitepasiënte; Mnr Ben Roos, Perdekliniek; en Sr Linda Wilson as verpleegkundiges, Perdekliniek.

Veterinary Ethology:

Mr William Neele.

IN MEMORIAM

Mr Kleinbooi Romaila retired from our faculty last December and passed away early this year. Our heartfelt sympathy is with his family and friends.

WHO'S LEFT US?

Chirurgie:

Dr Peter Turner, Kliniese Assistent; Sr Hannelie van der Merwe van die Perdekliniek.

Grafiese Kuns:

Mrs A Kotzé will be away on maternity leave until early next year.

Library:

Mrs Lourina de Beer, librarian who is now in a full-time post at Lyttleton Engineering Works.

Parasitology:

Mrs Sarie Jacobs, as secretary. Sarie's new venture was to buy McJohn's Fast Foods (515 Frederika Street, Gezina Tel: 335 7164). If you're in her "neck of the woods" pop in and buy "*een van die lekkerste toebroodtjies*" in town!

Pathology:

Our sympathy is with Mr Piet Mahosi whose father passed away in August.

VAH:

Sr JC Lubbe na baie jare diens in die Apteek; Mev Ria Kruger, as Ontvangsdame, Buitepasiënte; Sr Tracey Roberts as verpleegkundige, Perdekliniek; Sr Hettie Geldenhuys en Sr Sandra van Zyl as verpleegkundiges, kleindiergeneeskundekliniek.

Veterinary Ethology:

Mrs Loekie Wynja retires at the end of November after 17 years of service. All the best to you, Loekie; we will miss you! Mr Petrus Mahoai and Mr Joseph Kgosana have resigned; Mr Bethuel Maphologela transferred to Plantkunde, Main Campus.

PERSONAL NEWS

The Stork has been very busy at our Faculty! A warm congratulations to:

Administration:

John Wise and his wife on the birth of their baby boy.

Chirurgie:

Roy Gottschalk en sy vrou met die geboorte van 'n seun.

Geneeskunde:

Wayne Berry and his wife on the birth of their son, Christopher born in June.

Infectious Diseases:

Anwen and Gerhard Stevenage on the birth of their baby girl born in September.

Theriogenology:

Mr Samuel Khoza and his wife whose daughter was born in September.

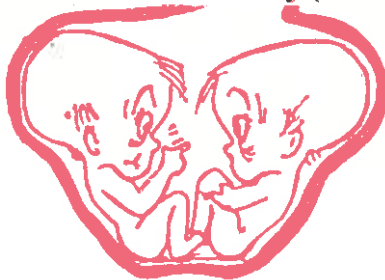
VAH:

Sr Janet Smith met die geboorte van 'n seun, Deon.

Veterinary Public Health:

Duncan Gray and his wife, a son; to Charlotte and Barry Kruger on the birth of their son.

"Every baby born into the world is a finer one than the last"
Charles Dickens, *Nicholas Nickleby* (1838 - 1839)



OTHER PERSONAL NEWS

Veterinary Public Health:

All the best to Vincent and Pam Turner in their recent marriage!

PROMOTIONS

Gelukwense aan die volgende mense met hul bevorderings!

VAH:

Srs Hettie Geldenhuys en Ria van Schalkwyk as Veterinêre Verpleegkundiges.

ACHIEVEMENTS ACROSS THE FACULTY

Anatomy:

A very warm congratulations to Dr Marius Hornsveld for Lecturer of the Year!



V.l.n.r: Mnr Mike Hagemann, Hoof Uitvoerende Direkteur, SmithKline Beecham; Dr Marius Hornsveld, Dosent van die Jaar; Mnr Nico Hendrikz, Voorsitter: OPVSK.

Chirurgie:

Drs A Olivier, N Lambrechts en LW Langlands is besig met hul finale eksamens vir hul meestersgrade in chirurgie. Sterkte!

Gedurende September het Prof F Verstraete 'n referaat by 'n kongres in Johannesburg gelewer. In Oktober sal Frank 'n kongres in Europa bywoon en hy sal ook opleidings lesings aan die Reijks Universiteit in Gent, België gee.

Prof SS van den Berg is uitgenooi om 4 voordragte by kongresse te lewer.

Dr Langlands has been invited to Switzerland to run a course in Internal Fixation in Small Animals in December. This is the 21st year Dr Langlands has been invited which is certainly an honour.

Farmakologie:

In Prof Naudé se afwesigheid het Dr Fanie Kellerman met die hulp van Dr Neil Fourie, albei van die Seksie Toksikologie van die Navorsingsinstituut, grootliks sy lesings waargeneem. Dr Kellerman was so populêr by die studente dat hy die kortlys van die kandidate vir dosent van die jaar gehaal het. Ons baie hartlike dank aan hierdie twee kollegas vir die besonder toegewyde wyse waarop hul ons uitgehelp het. Prof. Naudé het ook die eer te beurt geval om verkies te word as een van die eerste erelede van die Noord Transvaaltak van die SA Veterinêre Vereniging.

Prof GE Swan en Dr CJ Botha het van 7-9 Oktober die jaarlikse kongres van die SA Farmakologiese Vereniging en die werkswinkel van die Neurowetenskap groepe te Sanlammeer bygewoon. Gedurende Julie 1991 het albei 'n werkswinkel oor die kardiaale en Neurotoksiese effekte van hartglikosiede by die PU vir CHO, Potchefstroom bygewoon.

Library:

Miss Sanah Mpage and Mr Johannes Moropotli each received a certificate in Consumer Law from our Faculty.

Infectious Diseases:

Miss Jenni Spencer attended the Veterinary Congress in Zimbabwe during September, presenting 2 papers and 1 poster. Jenni was also the recipient of the Dean's Award for the best poster at Faculty Day.

Medicine:

The folks in this department have been active in presentations across southern Africa. These include lectures by:

Prof Sarel van Amstel to the East Cape Branch of the SAVA; Prof Fred Reyers to the East Transvaal and Lowveld Branch of the SAVA and to the Namibian Veterinary Association Annual Congress held in Swakopmund;

Dr Shakespeare to congresses of the Oranje Vaal and Eastern Transvaal Branches of the SAVA;

Dr Berry presented a CE course to the congresses of the following branches of the SAVA; Oranje Vaal Congress, Western Cape, Northern Transvaal. Wayne also addressed the Veterinary Nurses Association on Emergency Management and has been appointed as a representative to the OPSVK (Students Rep. Committee).

Drs Berry, Leisewitz, Schroeder, Jacobson, van Zyl and Sacks all attended a CE course in Gastroenterology.

Parasitology:

Prof Woody Meltzer and Mrs Elize Schutte had a successful trip to Cuba where Woody was invited to develop a cheetah breeding programme.

The Parasitological Society of Southern Africa (PARSA) hosted a very successful international congress at Berg-en-Dal in August. Profs Meltzer, Verster, Penzhorn and Horak, Dr Krecek, Miss R Hartman, Mr Johan Louw and Mr Louis van Niewenhuizen attended and contributed 10 papers and posters and chaired 3 sessions.

Prof Anna Verster was elected as the incoming PARSA President and Dr Tammi Krecek as Vice-President.

Some of the overseas delegates who were guests of this department were Dr Peter Hudson of Scotland and Prof and Mrs Gerry Schad from University of Pennsylvania USA. These overseas visitors contributed two papers to the Congress. Prof Schad spoke to the BVSc III class, Faculty, and VRI on Trichinosis. Dr Hudson gave a seminar to the Department of Zoology, UP, on ecological studies on grouse. Both of these seminars were received well.

Prof Richard Reinecke received the prestigious Elsdon-Dew Medal from PARSAs for his contributions to parasitology in Africa.

Louis van Niewenhuizen is preparing his MSc thesis on soil mites for submission. Keep up the good work, Louis!

Pathology:

Dr Mark Williams attended the Conference of the International Academy of Pathology, Warmbaths and the Leica Scientific Photography Course in July.

Physiology:

Miss Jenny Sneddon has submitted her PhD thesis on the Namib horses to her examiners. Well done, Jenny!

Dr Jonathan Taylor received the Dean's Award for the best presentation at Faculty Day.

Theriogenology:

Prof H Bertschinger was a guest speaker at the meeting of the Reproductive Biology Society. Congratulations are due to Dr Gavin Staley for receiving his MMed Vet. Dr Lillian Westlin delivered a paper at the Annual Conference of the Society for the Study of Fertility and also visited research institutions in London and Edinburgh.

VAH:

Srs Amanda Hamman en Bessie Kok het ook die kursus in "Kommunikasie" bygewoon.

Srs Sandra van Zyl en Hettie Geldenhuys het die "Veterinary Nurse in Practice" simposium, aangebied deur die Human/Animal Interaction Group in September bygewoon. Srs Retha Stadler, Amanda Hamman, Bessie Kok en Andriette Whittal het die kursus in "Onderhoudvoering", aangebied deur die Departement Personeel van die Universiteit van Pretoria, bygewoon.

Sr Corrie van den Berg het die "Basic Course in Microsurgical Technique", aangebied deur die Fakulteit Geneeskunde van Medunsa, voltooi.

Mev Avonia van Rooyen het 'n sekretariële simposium, aangebied deur die Pretoria Kinder- en Gesinsorgvereniging in September bygewoon.

Veterinary Ethology:

Prof J Odendaal was invited to address the 2nd National Working Dog Seminar in S. Africa, and was appointed as international consultant of the Delta Society, USA. Johannes' book, "Dogs and cats - a health guide" will soon be available in Brazil. It is presently being translated into Portuguese.

Dr E van Dyk's blood group lab scored another double 100% during a mini international test.

Veterinary Public Health:

Prof Vincent Turner who is away on sabbatical leave until mid 1992 is working on a mastitis project in conjunction with Smith-Kline Beecham.

Congratulations, Tubby, on receiving your MMed Vet. Well done! Prof Veary was also invited to give the opening address at the September Workshop on Rural Abattoirs at Badplaas.

A special thanks to Miss Reinette Hartman for assisting with the initial typed draft of this newsletter.

CANINE BABESIA INTEREST GROUP (CBIG)

On the 19th March 1991, a number of colleagues from the Onderstepoort Faculty, Medunsa and the Veterinary Research Institute met to discuss canine biliary fever research. A number of existing research projects and avenues for future research were identified. Because of the large amount of interest in this disease and in order to attempt to avoid duplication of research, Prof Mark Collett and Dr John Jardine agreed to co-ordinate the Canine Babesia Interest Group.

About a dozen B. canis-related projects have been identified - some in progress and some still in the process of protocol preparation!! John Jardine has created a computerised bibliography of more than 130 articles.....

They now have 28 people on the mailing list and the second newsletter has gone out. Anyone who is interested in this disease and who would like to get onto the mailing list and/or get involved is very welcome to contact either Mark (X355) or John (X375). The next meeting will be on 27th November 1991 at 13:30.

THE REAL COLOUR!!!!

Infectious Diseases:

Jenni Spencer and Paul Guanane were on Telefun Quiz "and made out like bandits"! The list of prizes they won was impressive! After being selected from 4000 couples they appeared on this TV show and won almost R8000 of goods and seven day holiday at any Holiday Inn. Well done to the two of you!

Therigenology:

Prof H Bertschinger went white-water rafting in Zambia, trailing in the Luangua Valley and canoeing in the lower Zambesi River. His department was glad the crocs were not too hungry!

VAH:

Srs Maryke Hartevelt en Sandra van Zyl het sertifikate verwerf vir die suksesvolle voltooiing van 'n voëlkursus by die Pretoria Dieretuin.

DIE "RUGSEKSIE"

We wish speedy recoveries to those who have had back ailments and surgeries.

Farmakologie:

Prof Naudé is na afwesigheid van bykans 5 maande weens 'n rugoperasie vanaf begin September weer op kantoor en het weer die laaste 16 lesings van die semester in Toksikologie gegee. Alle indikasies is dat die operasie suksesvol was en hy sterk goed aan. Welkom terug, Prof!

Geneeskunde:

Welcome back to Shirley Yeates after her surgery.

Infectious Diseases:

To Stan Miller who will be recuperating until the end of the year.

Theriogenology:

It's good to have Prof Dietrich Volkmann "back" after back problems.

PEARLS OF WISDOM

Our colleagues above have some advice for those of us more fortunate.

Take care of your back now, it will take care of you later. Lift with your legs, not your back. This goes for the ladies too.

SPEEDY RECOVERIES TO:**Administration:**

Mr Elias Makama who was involved in a car accident in August and is currently at Ga-rankuwa Hospital.

Pathology:

Mr Phineas Monobe who is also at Ga-rankuwa Hospital.

**BUITENGEWONE PROFESSOR:**

Prof John Bleby is currently visiting the Faculty as "Professor Extraordinaire" in the Department of Veterinary Public Health. Prof Bleby is Director of the Laboratory Animal Science Unit, The Royal Veterinary College, University of London. He is world renowned in the field of laboratory animal science and we are most grateful for the time he has given to share his expertise with us. We hope that he has a pleasant and rewarding stay with us.

GENEROUS BOOK SPONSORSHIP

Over the past 2 years, the Professional Provident Society (PPS) has most generously made an amount of R5 300 available to subsidise 106 students at R50 each for buying the book "*Plant Poisonings and Mycotoxicoses of Livestock in Southern Africa*" by Kellerman, Coetzer and Naudé.

This book, which retails at about R200 is presented for the Toxicology 300 course. Each book subsidised has a permanently fixed fly leaf stating that it was "...sponsored by the PPS in the interest of veterinary education.."

At a luncheon sponsored by the Dean on 24 September, the cheques were officially handed over by Mr E. Huggett, General Manager of the PPS to the class captain for 1990, Mrs Kim Tutt and the representative for 1991, Mr Lance Bainbridge



F.l.t.r.: Prof Koos Coetzer, Dr Fanie Kellerman, Dr RD Sykes, Prof Coubrough, Prof Theuns Naudé, Mr Huggett and Mr Holtzhausen.