

AAVDI

Australasian Association of Veterinary Diagnostic Imaging

Sept 2006

www.aavdi.org.au

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**AAVDI Annual General Meeting
November ... 2006**
All members are invited to
participate via teleconference.
Please email with your phone
details to register

The AAVDI website is RELAUNCHED!

After many years of service, the original AAVDI website has been given the complete overhaul, and a new, easy-to-navigate site is now functioning.

www.aavdi.org

This is a site which is easily updated by the committee and is designed to be informative and practical. Features include regularly updated information about upcoming events, access to the latest newsletter and terrific links to other imaging sites. All of the forms used by AAVDI are located on this site (e.g. membership, membership renewal forms, conference registration). It is not terribly useful to talk about it, get out there and use it! See what you think and please feed back information to the website convener.

In the future, all newsletters will be delivered on the web and via email, so now is the time to update your email details. Please email your current, active email addresses to Z.Lenard@murdoch.edu.au
Note: the site follows NSW's strict privacy laws, and private information will not be available on the site.

AAVDI Annual Conference Sydney 2007

Next year's AAVDI conference will be held in Sydney, and is scheduled for MAY. DONALD THRALL is the keynote speaker, a real coup for AAVDI. Thrall is the editor of the definitive veterinary imaging text "Textbook of Veterinary Diagnostic Radiology", the editor of the imaging journal Veterinary Radiology and Ultrasound, and has been an active participant in the profession for 30 years. Keep an eye on the website for more information.

Kiwi Imaging

There have been some changes in the Kiwi imaging scene in the last couple of years. Massey University at Palmerston North is the only uni to offer veterinary science training in New Zealand, and its imaging department has strengthened with the arrival of an American-trained radiologist. Angela Hartman is a board-certified radiologist who moved to Palmerston North about 2 years ago with her family. Angela, who grew up on the southern coast of Virginia and trained in radiology at Davis University in California, decided to make the trans-global trek to NZ in search of a better lifestyle. She has been thrilled with the move, and her partner and children have thrived in the greener, cleaner, less populated environment.

One of the steepest learning curves for Angela has been the adoption of the sports-mad Kiwi psyche. In California, affable pleasant Australasians turned into beasts when it came to world-cup rugby, so Angela did have some idea before the move that sport featured prominently in the NZ lifestyle. Since moving she has attended cricket matches and rugby games and claims to have a tenuous grasp of most of the rules. And she claims that "hooting and hollering" like you did in the US for a grid-iron match does not really cut it in NZ!

Angela has big plans for Massey University over the next few years, including moving to digital imaging and archiving and the installation of a multislice CT scanner in 2007. She also plans to renovate the imaging residency program, and including an alternative program in conjunction with U.C. Davis. Her enthusiasm for imaging, veterinary teaching and New Zealand is infectious, and she is making a fabulous contribution to the profession in our region.

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Mark Owen is a Kiwi and long time resident of Palmerston North. Mark has just been made a Fellow of the Australian College of Veterinary Scientists in Radiology (July 2006). The path to specialty was unusual for Mark, who started in mixed practice in Taranaki, NZ after graduation. His interest was sparked by the Sydney Uni Post-Graduate course in Radiology which he completed as a GP, and this led to a radiology residency at Massey. Mark also completed an alternative residency program for the European College, spending a year at the Royal College in London and a similar amount of time at Tufts University in Boston.

Now that he has finished studying, Mark is trying to resume his "normal" life. He is a self-confessed sports nut, following NZ rugby (and reveling the Kiwi's recent form against the Wallabies) and English football (an Arsenal supporter). In his spare time (!) he competes in Iron Man competitions and triathlons, and states his current weekend hobby as "providing a taxi service for his children".

There are about practicing 2200 veterinarians in NZ. Massey has traditionally had about 60 in each graduating class, however this number has increased to 90 in the last few years following accreditation with the American Veterinary Medical Association. Mark divides his time between research, lecturing undergrads and veterinarians and working in the clinic, and he gets a real buzz out of helping vets interpret their radiographs.

Massey University is indeed fortunate to have these two enthusiastic and dedicated veterinary radiologists.

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AAVDI Annual Conference Perth May 2006

West Australians were the primary beneficiaries of this years' AAVDI conference, "The Peripheral Abdomen: Challenging Diseases at the Edges". About 50 delegates attended the Duxton Hotel in St Georges' Terrace and were entertained and energized by a diverse range of speakers. Conference delegates were mainly from suburban Perth, however some of the regional areas (Bunbury) were represented, and a number of AAVDI members traveled from NSW, QLD, Victoria and South Australia for the meeting.

The aim of the meeting was to cover some of the more tricky regions in the abdomen that are frequently neglected in continuing education meetings. Nola Lester (Murdoch University) spoke on the imaging diaphragmatic disease (did you know that there are nearly 50000 normal variations in the appearance of the diaphragm on a radiograph?) Rebecca Lonsdale (Perth) delivered gems and neat tips about defining the retroperitoneal space and the work-up of prostatic disease. Gordon Corfield (Perth) focused on the recent surgical advances in the treatment of prostatic disease in dogs, and was mostly complimentary about veterinary imaging!

Belinda Hopper (Murdoch) gave an entertaining and informative presentation on peritoneal disease, and Cathy Beck spoke about the newer CT techniques for imaging the abdomen. Zoë Lenard debated pros and cons of converting to digital radiography, and explained how these technologies will affect veterinary general practice in the future. British radiologist Victoria Johnson delivered an excellent talk

about how to find abdominal lymph nodes, and Jenny Richardson (Murdoch) discussed pregnancy imaging techniques for general practice.

The film reading sessions at morning and afternoon tea were popular. A final panel discussion on these films failed to really generate any controversy amongst the speakers, which is probably an indication of their general agreement of the outcomes!

Thank you to all who attended this meeting and assisted in the running of it. The participants were extremely happy with the day and the venue. Dark Room Services provided sponsorship of the meeting, and Richard Malik won the lucky door prize of a single screen cassette, valued at \$250. Henrik Van Neikerk, a local Perth practitioner, won a copy of Thrall's Textbook of Veterinary Diagnostic Radiology, worth about \$270.

Website Watch

University of Pennsylvania Radiology Pages

<http://cal.vet.upenn.edu/radiology/>
A website with great online radiology case resources. Work your way through imaging cases and get all of the answers.

Animal Insides

www.animalinsides.com

Matthew Wright is a Diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Radiology and this is his website. This easily navigated site provides information about improving technique, creating technique charts, positioning secrets and loads of information about the pros and cons of going "digital". His conversational style makes for interesting reading. This site is useful for students and general practitioners who want a bit of a radiology refresher.