BVZS GUIDELINES FOR MEETING ABSTRACTS

PLEASE NOTE: From the November 2007 meeting all abstracts and extended abstracts will be linked to CABI. This is an important step in helping the Society and members’ work reach a wider audience. While the society encourages authors to include as much relevant data as possible, it is the author’s own responsibility to restrict their data as necessary in order not to prejudice any future peer-reviewed publications they may have planned. While previous humorous biographies have been included, inline with the links with CABI, please adhere to the biography guidelines and keep these to a professional nature. At present BVZS meetings and abstracts are NOT peer-reviewed.

Submissions should preferably be in word (.doc) format, 12 font Times New Roman, single line spacing, not justified.

Biography: This should include the author’s qualifications and institution/practice/affiliations, as well as a summary of any particular achievements, career, highlights, or relevant current projects. Please keep the biography to a professional nature. Maximum of 100 words.

Title: Submission should include a title of not more than 15 words, and the names, qualifications and affiliation/institution of each author.

Abstracts: Abstracts should be a minimum of 200 words, and a maximum of 750 words. A reference list may also be included. Abstracts, with references should not be longer than 1 page.

Extended Abstracts: These should be in the format: SUMMARY, INTRODUCTION, MATERIALS AND METHODS, RESULTS, DISCUSSION, REFERENCES; or if this is a case report or case series: SUMMARY, INTRODUCTION, CASE REPORT, DISCUSSION, REFERENCES. Review articles should preferably be in the format: SUMMARY, REVIEW, CONCLUSION. This may be altered depending on the reviews nature, but must include a SUMMARY and CONCLUSION. The text should be concise and should be a maximum of 2000 words, and not exceed 4 pages in length, including illustrations and references. The summary should not exceed 200 words.

Tables and Illustrations: Tables should be kept to a minimum and should be created in Word. The legend should clearly explain what data the table is presenting, without the need to refer back to the text. Tables should not duplicate information presented in figures. Digital images should be GIF, TIFF, or JPEG files, at a minimum resolution of 300 dpi. Please label them to correspond with the list of numbered figure captions; for example 'Figure 3.jpg' or 'Figure 7B.jpg', etc.

Style: Measurements should be expressed in the metric system or in SI units. Temperatures should be given in °C. Centrifugation speeds should be given in g. All abbreviations should be spelt out in full the first time they are used in the text. Medicines should be referred to by the generic name (Recommended International Non-Proprietary Name), as used in the sixth edition of The Veterinary Formulary (London, Pharmaceutical Press 2005) and listed on the website of the Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency, followed by the proprietary name and manufacturer in brackets when first mentioned; eg, fenbendazole (Panacur; Intervet). Parasitic infections should be referred to according to the Standardised Nomenclature of Parasitic Diseases (SNOPAD) guidelines, which are summarised by the World Association for the Advancement of Veterinary Parasitology. Spelling should be in British English. Manuscripts should be written in the third person.


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British Veterinary Zoological Society

The BVZS, a non-territorial division of the BVA, represents professionals with interests in exotic, zoo and wildlife species. Benefits of membership include bi-annual Bulletins and Proceedings from meetings. Membership forms and all other details of membership are on the BVZS website (www.bvzs.org) or contact the BVA, 7 Mansfield St, London W7M 0AT (ask for details of the BVZS Administrative Director).

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Mike Brampton, the founder of Thames Medical, was probably the first person to be involved with
monitoring a zoo animal when a pulse oximeter was used successfully on Arthur the Lion in London
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continuing the development of various monitoring technologies such as Doppler and Capnography.

BVZS is greatly appreciative of their generous sponsorship
PROGRAMME

MAIN SESSIONS: SATURDAY (PARALLEL SESSIONS BELOW)

08:00 Registration

08:45 Welcome: BVZS President Simon Girling

09:00-10.30  Session One  Chelonians 1

Chair Edmund Flach

Post-hibernation care of tortoises (30 min.): Kevin Eatwell 13

Non-sutured oesophagostomy tube placement in the tortoise: Mike Jessop 15

Mixed pathogen pneumonia in a tortoise: Bruce Maclean 16

Health and diseases of leatherback turtles (Dermochelys coriacea) in Trinidad: John and Margaret Cooper 17

10:30-11.00 Coffee

11:00-12.30  Session Two  Amphibians

Chair Becki Lawson

Infectious disease threats to amphibians: Andrew Cunningham (invited speaker, 30 min.) 21

Biosecurity in amphibian collections: Richard Gibson (invited speaker) 22

Reintroduction of the pool frog (Rana lessonae): Fieke Molenaar 23

Papillomatosis in Surinam toads (Pipa parva): James Chatterton 24

12:30-13.30 Lunch

13:30-15.00  Session Three  Snakes & Lizards

Chair Neil Forbes

Reptile Lamps and Lighting: Frances Baines (invited speaker) 25

Aspergillosis in snakes: Simon Girling 26

Cryptosporidium in leopard geckos (Eublepharis macularius): Udo Hetzel 27

Skin papillomatosis in a green iguana (Iguana iguana): Sid Knotek 28

Inclusion body disease – the knowns and the unknowns: Matthew Rendle 29

15:00 Tea

15:30-17.00  Session Four  Chelonians 2

Chair Glen Cousquer

Tortoise husbandry: Richard Gibson (invited speaker) 30

How much UVB does my reptile need? Frances Baines (invited speaker) 31

Achieving full osteotomy healing following coeliotomy in the tortoise: Mike Jessop 32

Laser surgery in exotics: Romain Pizzi 33

Fifteen years of reptiles and amphibians admitted to the RSPCA East Winch wildlife centre: Penelope Curtiss 35

PARALLEL SESSIONS

Back to Basics
11.00-12.30  The fish consult: Sue Thornton 36

Masterclass
11.00-12.30  Advanced comparative wound management and reconstruction: Romain Pizzi 37

17:15 BVZS AGM

19.30 Dinner and dancing to Jazz Rag Dixieland Band at the Park Royal Hotel, Stretton
MAIN SESSIONS: SUNDAY  (PARALLEL SESSIONS BELOW)

09:30-11.00  Session Five  **Fish**  Chair Fieke Molenaar
Water quality and related disease of fish: Aidan Raftery 38
Iridovirus infection in Banggai cardinal fish (Pterapogon kauderni): Mark Stidworthy 39
Green teeth in a sand tiger shark (Carcharias taurus): Sue Thornton 40
Steatitis and exophthalamos in a group of silver arawana (Osteoglossum bicirrhosum):
Penelope Curtiss 41
Diseases of aquatic invertebrates: Andrew Routh 42

11:00 Coffee

11:30-13.00  Session Six  **Lizards**  Chair Michael Stanford
Photo-kerato-conjunctivitis in reptiles: Frances Baines (invited speaker) 43
My lizard won’t open its eyes’: a case-study-based illustration of hypovitaminosis A and environmental factors affecting lizard eyes: Molly Varga 44
Chronic liver failure in green iguanas (Iguana iguana): Sid Knotek 45
Microsporidial conjunctivitis in bearded dragons (Pogona vitticeps): Mark Stidworthy 48
Recovery from anaesthesia in green iguanas (Iguana iguana) – the carbon-dioxide conundrum: Matthew Rendle 49

13:00-14.00 Lunch

14:00-16.00  Session Seven  **Open**  Chair Nic Masters
Emerging infectious diseases in Europe – Impact on Zoos: Matt Hartley 50
Development of the ECZM: Neil Forbes 51
Online zoo vaccine database: Anna Meredith 53
An Introduction to VETS.TV: David Catlow 54
Dissecting aortic aneurysm in a L’Hoest’s monkey (Cercopithecus lhoesti):
Nic Masters 55

PARALLEL SESSIONS

Back to Basics
09.30-11.00  The reptile consult: Simon Girling 57

Masterclass
11.30-13.00  Interactive cases - clinical pathology: Michael Waters 72

14.00-16.00  Informal meeting of zoo and wildlife veterinary pathologists:
Chair Edmund Flach

16:00 PRIZE GIVING AND FAREWELL
SPEAKERS

Frances Baines
Frances qualified from the University of Cambridge School of Veterinary Medicine in 1980, with distinctions in medicine and surgery. Retired from veterinary practice, she has spent the last 4 years researching ultraviolet lighting in reptile husbandry. She is author of the website www.uvguide.co.uk and with colleague Andrew Beveridge, independently assesses reptile lamps worldwide, whilst studying the requirements of reptiles for visible and ultraviolet light in their natural environment and in captivity. Frances is currently an advisor to the Reptile and Amphibian Working Group of the British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquaria. Her other interests are as a counsellor with the National Childbirth Trust, working in schools with special needs children; managing several wildlife and conservation projects; and more recently, as a freelance wildlife and landscape artist, mural artist and photographer. Her best-known artistic work is the Abergavenny Town Millennium Mural.

David Catlow
David graduated from Liverpool in 1987 and immediately joined a mixed practice in Lancashire, becoming a partner in 1992. His work is predominantly with horses and farm animals. Before becoming BVA President in 2006, he served on several BVA committees including the Veterinary Services Advisory Committee, and as chairman of the Veterinary Policy Group. His BVA interests include the Young Vet Network and VETS.TV.

James Chatterton
James qualified from the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies in 2000. He worked in mixed practice in Derbyshire and then small animal and exotics practices in Guildford and Manchester. He has worked voluntarily at the RSPCA’s Stapeley Grange Wildlife Hospital in Cheshire. In 2007 he started a three year residency in conservation medicine at Chester Zoo / Liverpool University. He is currently working towards the RCVS Certificate in Zoological Medicine and the MSc in Veterinary Infection and Disease Control at Liverpool University.

John and Margaret Cooper
John and Margaret are a husband and wife team, from the United Kingdom. John E Cooper trained as a veterinary surgeon and is now a specialist pathologist with particular interests in wildlife and exotic species, tropical diseases and comparative medicine. Margaret E Cooper is a lawyer who trained originally as a British solicitor and has made the study of animal and conservation law her special interest. The Coopers have travelled widely and lectured together in many countries. They have spent nearly ten years living in Africa, including a period in Rwanda working with the mountain gorillas. They are currently based at the University of the West Indies in Trinidad and Tobago where they continue to combine their medical and legal backgrounds in the promotion of an interdisciplinary approach to veterinary and biological education, wildlife conservation and forensic science.

Andrew Cunningham
Andrew is an experienced veterinary pathologist, currently reader and Head of Wildlife Epidemiology, Institute of Zoology, Zoological Society of London, who has published over 200 scientific articles, including primary data and reviews on emerging infectious diseases and on disease threats to biodiversity. He discovered a new epidemic ranaviral disease of amphibians in Britain and he published the first definitive report of the global extinction of a species by an infectious disease. He has led several international and multi-disciplinary wildlife disease research projects, including the investigation of vulture declines in South Asia and the international research team that discovered the fungus Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis as a cause of amphibian declines (for which he was awarded a medal by the CSIRO in Australia). His current projects include investigating and mitigating disease threats to the endemic fauna of the Galapagos Islands and the Lesser Antilles, investigating the ecological and genetic determinants of chytridiomycosis emergence, and the impact of anthropogenic environmental change on disease emergence and on parasite biodiversity.
Penelope Curtiss
Penelope qualified from Cambridge Vet School in 2001. After several years in mixed general practice she worked for the Galapagos National Park setting up a health monitoring system for the captive giant tortoise population on the islands. She took the MSc in Wild Animal Health at ZSL in 2007 and then undertook a senior clinical training scholarship in wildlife disease investigation at Cambridge University during which time she worked at RSPCA East Winch wildlife hospital. She is currently working in mixed practice including work with exotic species and at Woburn Safari Park.

Kevin Eatwell
Kevin qualified in 1995 and obtained his RCVS Diploma in Zoological Medicine (Reptilian) in 2006. He subsequently became an RCVS specialist in 2007. He has worked in clinical exotic animal practices, for zoological collections and at RSPCA wildlife centres. He is the current veterinary liaison officer for the British Chelonia Group and has held this position since 2005. Kevin has published and lectured widely on all aspects of zoological medicine.

Neil Forbes
Neil heads the avian and exotic department at Great Western Referrals in Swindon, where he runs the only ECAMS approved residency in the UK. He gained his RCVS Specialist Status in 1992. Neil gained his FRCVS in exotic bird medicine and 1996 and DipECAMS in 1997. He has lectured widely on the international circuit and contributed to over 20 books. Neil received the Mackellar Award in 1991, the Dunkin Award in 2002, the Dr TJ Lafeber Avian Practitioner Award in 2004 and the Hunting Award in 2005. Neil is currently President of the European College of Avian Medicine and Surgery and Vice President of the European Board of Veterinary Specialisation. Whilst Neil holds a part time lecturing post at Bristol University, he is primarily a clinician – doing the job, full time with birds.

Richard Gibson
Richard is currently the Curator of Lower Vertebrates and Invertebrates at North of England Zoological Society, Chester Zoo. After graduating from Nottingham University in 1992, he moved to Jersey where he worked for the Durrell Wildlife Conservation Trust (Jersey Zoo) as Herpetology Department Head. During his ten years there he managed the zoo’s diverse and specialized herpetology collection in achieving many improvements in reptile and amphibian husbandry, world-first reproductions, scientific discoveries and several international filed programmes. In 1998/9 Richard spent nearly 8 months in Madagascar over-seeing the Durrell Wildlife tortoise and turtle conservation centre in Ampijoroa, home of captive breeding programmes for the ploughshare (Geochelone (Asterochelys) yniphora) and flat-tailed tortoises (Pyxis planicauda) and rere (Erymnochelys madagascariensis), and also assisting with field work on the rere. Two years later he left Durrell Wildlife and moved to Mauritius where he worked for the Mauritian Wildlife Foundation as their Fauna Programme Manager, directing the daily operations of the bird and reptile conservation teams and managing multiple field stations both on the mainland and offshore islands, including Round Island. A satellite project during his time in Mauritius was the establishment of a herd of 12 giant tortoises (Geochelone (Dipsochelys) gigantea) on Ile aux Aigrettes as grazers to control invasive weeds. The project has been a huge success and the tortoises now roam freely across the island and are reproducing enthusiastically as well as controlling the weeds. In 2003 the Zoological Society of London appointed Richard their Curator of Herpetology. In this position he focused initially on rationalizing and focusing the herpetological collection and modernizing both husbandry and facilities. Notably, the new Komodo dragon house largely designed and over-seen by Richard has been not only a great success as an exhibit and breeding facility (leading to the co-discovy of parthenogenesis in this species – subsequently published in *Nature*) but more importantly, has catalyzed a series of field expeditions and ultimately an EAZA EEP-supported *in situ* conservation programme for the dragon in Flores. Towards the end of his time at ZSL, Richard took up the additional position of Taxon Officer for the Amphibian Ark – generously supported by ZSL. One of the original zoo/aquarium community representatives at the Global Amphibian Summit and subsequent IUCN CBSG amphibian
conservation workshops, Richard’s key role in the Amphibian ARK is to organize and facilitate the prioritization of amphibian species for *ex situ* conservation and subsequently to guide and support the development of international programmes for prioritized species. This work takes him all over the world running workshops and conducting training in all things amphibian.

**Simon Girling**
Simon graduated with honours from Glasgow Veterinary School in 1994. He has since worked in private referral practice in Carlisle, Edinburgh and Hampshire with a principle interest in exotic species and critical care. Latterly he has worked as Senior Veterinary Surgeon of the Glasgow and Edinburgh branches of Vets Now Ltd (out of hours emergency service). Simon is a RCVS Diplomate in Zoological Medicine, chief examiner for the Diploma in Zoological Medicine and a RCVS recognised specialist in zoo and wildlife medicine. He has lectured widely on exotic species and critical care and authored and co-authored many texts including the many of the BSAVA exotic species manuals as well as being the co-editor of the Manual of Reptiles (2nd Edition). Simon currently divides his time between working for Animal Health (DEFRA) where he is chiefly involved with zoos, animal welfare and rabies quarantine, and private referral and consultancy work including exotic/wildlife species pathology/histopathology. He is currently the President of the BVZS and has been a council member since 2000 and treasurer from 2000-2007.

**Matt Hartley**
Following graduation from the Royal Veterinary College in 1998, Matt has worked in wildlife and zoological medicine throughout the world. This includes wildlife field research, African game capture work, conservation project management, zoo clinical work and university teaching positions. Matt completed a master’s degree in Wildlife Health and Population Management at the University of Sydney in 2002 and gained the RCVS certificate in 2006. In 2005 Matt joined DEFRA as a veterinary advisor to develop the Wildlife Health Strategy and manage wildlife and exotic species surveillance and disease management. Following promotion in 2008 he now has responsibility for wildlife, aquatic animal and zoological health technical advice and policy development and is also lead for rabies, equine exotic diseases, risk assessment, exotic disease surveillance and dangerous pathogens.

**Udo Hetzel**
Udo obtained a degree in zoology/biology before graduating from Hannover as a veterinary surgeon. His first post was as an assistant in the Department of Veterinary Pathology at Hannover, followed by a position in the Department of Veterinary Pathology, Justus-Liebig University, Giessen. Since October 2004, Udo has been a lecturer of veterinary pathology, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Faculty of Veterinary Sciences at the University of Liverpool.

**Mike Jessop**
Mike is a partner in a six-vet companion animal practice based in Merthyr Tydfil, South Wales. He has had a long-standing interest in all exotic species but prefers to avoid feathers. His prime interest is in the field of tortoise medicine and surgery. In 1995 he was invited into a regional committee of BSAVA. Chairing Congress committee from 2000-2003 he was elected onto the Board and served as president 2006-2007. He is currently BSAVA representative at the Union of European Veterinary Practitioners.

**Zdenek (Sid) Knotek**
Sid graduated with honours from Brno Vet University in 1982. He is head of the Avian and Exotic Animal Clinic on University of Veterinary and Pharmaceutical Sciences Brno. His current focus involves medicine and surgery in exotic animals, especially in reptiles. Sid has part of his teaching activities dealing with reptiles at other universities (Utrecht, Vienna, Kosice, Ljubljana). He is currently president of the European Association of Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians (EAZWV), president of the Czech Association of Zoo and Wildlife Veterinarians (CAZWV). Sid supervises the joint teaching projects at Brno and Vienna Vet Universities, clinicaly oriente d programme for students and veterinarians - Summer School for Exotic Medicine and Surgery, and the intensive training course of European School for Advanced Veterinary Studies – Exotic Pets Medicine and Surgery.
Bruce Maclean
Bruce graduated from the Royal Dick (Edinburgh) vet school in 1992. Following graduation, he spent time in the Avian and Exotic department at Utrecht University further studying the veterinary care of birds and exotic animals. On his return to the UK, Bruce spent 6 months in mixed practice and a short period in small animal/exotics practice, before setting up his own dedicated birds/exotics practice 14 years ago. He works full-time and exclusively with birds and exotic animals, both first opinion and referral. He has been keeping reptiles and amphibians for 30 + years, and amphibian medicine is a particular clinical interest. Bruce has contributed chapters to two BSAVA manuals – *Manual of Exotic Pets* and *Manual of Reptiles*.

Nicholas Masters
Nic is a Veterinary Assistant with International Zoo Veterinary Group (IZVG). He graduated from Cambridge in 1999 having completed an elective evaluating the use of a portable draw-over vaporiser system for anaesthetising wild animals in the field. After attaining the Wild Animal Health Master of Science degree at the Institute of Zoology and Royal Veterinary College, Nic joined IZVG in October 2005 and has since worked as the resident veterinarian at Twycross Zoo, one of the most diverse collections of primates in the world. Not surprisingly apes and monkeys comprise much of the caseload. He spends the remainder of his time providing veterinary care for other IZVG clients across the UK and abroad, covering all taxonomic groups, and has an increasing interest in elephants and conservation medicine.

Anna Meredith
Anna graduated from Oxford University in 1986 and in veterinary medicine from Cambridge University in 1991. Since 1992 she has been Head of the Exotic Animal and Wildlife Service at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies, University of Edinburgh, and Head Veterinary Surgeon for the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland. She holds the RCVS Diploma in Zoological Medicine, is an RCVS Recognised Specialist in Zoo and Wildlife Medicine and recipient of the BSAVA Blaine Award. Anna lectures internationally and has published widely in the field of exotic animal medicine and is co-editor of both the BSAVA *Manual of Exotic Pets* and the *Manual of Rabbit Medicine and Surgery*. Her current research interest is emerging infectious disease in UK wildlife.

Fieke Molenaar
Fieke graduated from the University of Ghent, Belgium, in 2001 and started her veterinary career looking after a variety of primates at the BPRC in The Netherlands. After emigrating to the UK in 2002, she spent several years in general practice before completing the MSc Wild Animal Health. She has since worked on conservation and wildlife projects, including a year as Assistant Pathologist at Vic Simpson’s Wildlife Veterinary Investigation Centre in Cornwall, before taking up her current post at the Institute of Zoology, Zoological Society of London, as Veterinary Officer on the Species Recovery Programme, a collaborative project between Natural England and ZSL. Its objective is the conservation of UK native species through habitat restoration, captive breeding and reintroductions of endangered or locally extinct native species. She is a Council Member of the BVZS and of the Zebra Foundation.

Romain Pizzi
Romain qualified as a vet in South Africa, where he was born and grew up. He holds the RCVS Certificate and Diploma in Zoological Medicine, an MSc in wild animal health, MACVSc by examination in small animal surgery, is an elected fellow of the Royal Entomological Society, and is a RCVS recognised specialist in Zoo & Wildlife Medicine.

Aidan Raftery
Aidan graduated from University College Dublin in 1982. He gained the RCVS Certificate in Zoological Medicine in 2000. He is part of the clinical team at the Avian and Exotic Animal Clinic, Manchester. Aidan has written chapters for several of the BSAVA Manuals dealing with exotic
animals as well as contributing chapters to many other publications. He is also an external lecturer at the Royal Veterinary College.

**Matthew Rendle**
Matthew is a Veterinary Nurse at the Zoological Society of London, as well as a guest lecturer for The Royal Veterinary Collage. The Department at ZSL is involved with UK native species programmes, conservation programmes abroad and provides teaching to colleagues on the MSc WAH and WAB. Having working in a very busy veterinary practice before joining ZSL, he has a wide knowledge base in all aspects of veterinary nursing and has a special interest in herpetology, anaesthesia and diagnostic imaging.

**Andrew Routh**
Andrew is Chief Veterinary Officer at the Zoological Society of London. He is the head of a Veterinary Department that has clinical responsibilities for the collections at both the London Zoo and Whipsnade Zoo. The Department is also involved with UK native species programmes, conservation programmes abroad and provides teaching to veterinary colleagues on the MSc WAH. Andrew has a particular interest in aquatic medicine and has previously worked in aquaria in Hong Kong and the USA.

**Mark Stidworthy**
Mark graduated from Cambridge in 1996 (taking pathology as his intercalated degree); received pathology residency training and diagnostic experience at Liverpool and Cambridge Veterinary Schools and holds a Cambridge PhD for experimental studies on repair in the central nervous system. He is a Fellow of the Royal College of Pathologists in the specialty of veterinary pathology. Mark has run the pathology section of International Zoo Veterinary Group since 2003, providing dedicated full-time anatomic pathology services (*post mortem* examinations and histopathology) for zoo, exotic and wildlife species including fish. Cases derive from collections and aquaria served by IZVG’s clinical veterinarians and by referral from specialist practitioners and other pathology laboratories including the Royal Veterinary College.

**Sue Thornton**
Sue is a zoology graduate from the University of Durham, then graduated from the Royal Veterinary College, University of London in 1992. She spent 6 months in mixed practice before becoming the Veterinary Officer at the Zoological Society of London (ZSL). In 1995 she spent a year as Clinical Veterinarian at The Marine Mammal Center, Sausalito, California before returning to ZSL for a further five years. She joined The International Zoo Veterinary Group in 2000 and became a partner in 2003. She is Veterinary Advisor to the Herpetological TAG for the British and Irish Association of Zoos and Aquariums and the European Association of Zoos and Aquaria. Approximately 80% of her time is now taken up with Aquarium medicine.

**Molly Varga**
Molly graduated from the Royal Veterinary College in 1992, and proceeded to spend the next 4 years working in small animal and exotic medicine in Canada. After returning to the UK in 1996 she has worked in both London and the North West, for the last nine years at the Avian and Exotics Clinic in Manchester. Molly gained her RCVS Certificate in Zoological Medicine in 2001 and her Diploma (Mammalian) in 2007.