Creature Features
Summer 2016

Ultrasound Appeal

Having completed the Camvet Campaign we are now embarking on a fundraising appeal for a new ultrasound machine for our Small Animal Hospital.

The wonderful fundraising efforts of our 2016 London Marathon runners (page 7) resulted in a gift of £13,000 which, together with the £880 raised by Edwina Parker from her amazing cycling challenge (page 8), has been used to start the appeal.

At a cost of £70,000 the new machine will greatly enhance the work of the Hospital by benefiting our patients and assisting with teaching our veterinary students.

When asked why the new machine was so desperately needed Prof Mike Herrtage, Dean of Cambridge Veterinary School and Head of Imaging, said ‘Our current ultrasound machine is now over 12 years old and has unfortunately reached the point where some of the parts are no longer available to service and repair it. The ultrasound machine is a valuable diagnostic tool. It is the main workhorse of the imaging department for examinations of the abdomen, heart, thorax, musculoskeletal system and smaller body parts such as eyes and thyroid. Our current machine has been used on over 12,000 small animal patients.’

Mike went on to explain ‘Technological advancements now mean that image quality and processing have greatly improved and models are now able to view radiographs, MRI or CT images at the same time as the ultrasound examination is being performed, which will allow our veterinary team to gain optimal diagnostic information from a case. A new machine will also have the ability to produce 3D and 4D constructs, which again help to improve our imaging team’s diagnostic capability and, being completely digital, static images and videos of examinations can be downloaded directly into teaching materials as well as being added to our teaching library.’

By supporting our Ultrasound Appeal you will be helping us to continue to provide first class diagnostic services to many more dogs and cats in the future. Your help will greatly benefit our small animal patients for many years to come.

Send your cheque donation (made payable to Camvet) to the Trust Office (address on page 12), or you can donate using your credit or debit card on our Appeal webpage at https://campaign.justgiving.com/charity/ucvst/ultrasound/. Alternatively complete and return the Banker’s Order Form on page 12. The Form can be used for one off gifts, or multiple donations.

If you would like further information please contact Liz or Katy in the Trust Office on 01223 337630.

Donor recognition
Throughout the history of The University of Cambridge Veterinary School Trust, gifts from generous benefactors have been vital to Cambridge Veterinary School’s development.

We welcome the chance to acknowledge the generosity of our supporters and we would be pleased to discuss recognition opportunities with you individually.

Donor recognition will be subject to donor wishes as to confidentiality and donors requesting anonymity shall, of course, have their wishes respected.
When we published the last edition of Creature Features we still had £60,000 left to raise to complete our Camvet Campaign to equip the Pauline Brown Clinical Skills Centre and kit out the new consulting rooms in the Marguerite Price Consulting Wing. I am delighted to report that within the last few months this target has been reached and we can now officially draw a close the Campaign. It is thanks to our supporters that this has been possible and without your help our job would be made very difficult indeed.

Having completed the Camvet Campaign we are now embarking on a £70,000 fundraising appeal for a new ultrasound machine for our Small Animal Hospital. You can read all about this new appeal and the benefits that a new machine will bring to our imaging team on page 1. I hope that we can count on your support.

You will also read in this edition of some of the wonderfully inventive ways people assist our fundraising. We are always keen to encourage and help you in any way that we can so if you are thinking of undertaking a challenge to raise some money for Cambridge Veterinary School please get in touch!

Liz Smith
Fundraising Executive and Newsletter Editor

Camvet Campaign Completion

In summer 2015 we finally reached the £3million fundraising target for the Camvet Campaign. With the new areas now fully up and running the Campaign has provided Cambridge Veterinary School with a total of nine new consultation rooms (with an additional Student Teaching Consultation Room), the Pauline Brown Clinical Skills Centre, refurbished offices for veterinary staff, a new clinical pathology laboratory within easy reach of the consulting rooms plus a new pharmacy, while the Trust Office has been relocated to a central position within the Hospital. The new and refurbished areas are making a huge difference to patients, clients, staff and students and are a welcome addition to the School and The Queen’s Veterinary School Hospital.
Mike Herrtage, Professor of Small Animal Medicine and Dean of Cambridge Veterinary School, has seen the effect that the new Marguerite Price Consulting Wing is having and said ‘The new consultation rooms are fantastic. It is so much more convenient having them in the same place within the Hospital. They are of a really high standard, well equipped, easy to keep clean and are a great advertisement for the Hospital.’

Jackie Brearley, Clinical Skills Academic Lead, is delighted with how the Pauline Brown Clinical Skills Centre has taken shape and, just a year after it opened, the difference it is making to our students. Jackie says ‘I have the best job in the world thanks to the new Clinical Skills Centre. It is so rewarding to have these new facilities in which the students are able to explore the skills they need in a relaxed environment. With the addition of Catherine Wager our new Clinical Skills Facilitator the Centre has really taken off. Because of her background in veterinary nursing and education Catherine has been able to take the bare bones of our ideas and make them something truly remarkable. Not only do we have the physical centre we have now developed a virtual centre online and these work in harmony to enhance the student experience.’

Joy Archer, Senior Lecturer in Clinical Pathology, said of the new clinical pathology laboratory ‘Close to Christmas we celebrated one year in our wonderful new facilities. We are all very happy to be in the middle of the activities with all our different laboratories now within the same unit, along with a very pleasant reception area and a teaching area with a state-of-the-art combo microscope, camera, and screen for our clinical students, interns, and residents. There is also a dedicated small lab used by clinical staff at night and at the weekend to aid with care of emergency and critical care cases when we are not available. Most of all we welcome the increased visits by staff and students and the ability to provide lab results faster and to discuss them and the animals in their care.’

After moving into her new surroundings Julie Milner, Senior Pharmacy Clerk, said ‘It’s wonderful for the pharmacy to be centrally located in the Hospital. I feel more integrated with the clinical team and really feel a part of things. It’s made a huge difference!’

Our thanks go to the many individuals, clubs and organisations who generously supported the Camvet Campaign and enabled these wonderful new facilities at Cambridge Veterinary School to be built and equipped to such a high standard.
Veterinary School Participates in BBC Countryfile

Clinical Farm Animal Veterinarian Paul Wood along with farm interns and 5th year students, participated in filming for the Cambridgeshire episode of Countryfile which aired on the 8th November 2015.

The filming focused on how the Department of Veterinary Medicine utilises the University Farm to train veterinary students in a variety of tasks, and to teach the importance of good handling and husbandry skills which they can use to train farmers once they are vets.

Cambridge Farm Animal Veterinary Services

The Farm Animal Unit at Cambridge Veterinary School has been providing veterinary services to the University’s farm animals and local clients for a number of years. The focus of the Unit has always been on teaching and using a number of local clients to provide the best demonstration of quality farm clinical services to clients and students. In 2013 the Farm Animal Unit’s services were expanded to extend the client base of local farmers and livestock owners under the new name of Cambridge Farm Animal Veterinary Services (CFAVS).

CFAVS now provides the highest level of veterinary services to farms throughout Cambridgeshire and neighbouring counties and achieves this through a growing team of dedicated farm animal vets. The Farm Animal Ambulatory Service is supported by the full range of specialist expertise on offer at The Queen’s Veterinary School Hospital and Cambridge Equine Hospital allowing the Service to offer a greater range of diagnostic, surgical and medical care.

There is a dedicated team of three Farm Animal Clinicians, as well as two Junior Clinical Training Scholars (interns), all of whom are focused on providing the best farm animal services to all clients, big or small. There is also a dedicated Farm Animal Technician who, not only holds a Diploma in cattle foot care, but has also worked within the farming industry in a range of roles and is experienced with handling, movement and restraint of all species.

CFAVS aims to promote a whole farm approach to animal health, production and welfare, emphasising preventative medicine as the key to profitable, healthy livestock however they are also aware of the importance of the individual animal and are happy to treat a single pet goat or pig as they are dealing with a herd of dairy cows!
Back to school

On Tuesday 1st December 2015
Liz and Katy from the Trust Office, along with Catherine Wager, Clinical Skills Facilitator at Cambridge Veterinary School, were delighted to accept an invitation to address a year 5 and year 6 assembly at Greneleese School, Royston.

The invitation was extended after Daisy Brothwell, a two year old Cavalier King Charles Spaniel cross Toy Poodle and a former patient of The Queen’s Veterinary School Hospital, had starred as Toto in the School’s production of The Wizard of Oz.

With many willing volunteers to choose from the 200 strong audience Liz, Katy and Catherine recruited pupils to play the part of veterinary surgeons and nurses and used some of the new models from the Pauline Brown Clinical Skills Centre to explain the stages of Daisy’s treatment, from the initial consultation and investigation through to her operation and recovery. The highlight for the pupils, teachers and speakers alike was undoubtedly the surprise arrival of Daisy at the end of the talk.

It was a great pleasure to be invited to speak to a group of such incredibly well behaved children who posed some very interesting and well thought out questions which, luckily, the speakers were able to answer!

Daisy’s full story was featured in the last edition of Creature Features. If you didn’t receive this newsletter and would like to read Daisy’s amazing story please contact the Trust Office on 01223 337630 for a copy.

SOLENT AND DISTRICT DOG TRAINING CLUB

Following another spectacular year of fundraising, members of the Solent District Dog Training Club and Display Team presented Liz and Katy from the Trust Office with an amazing cheque for £7,000 at their Christmas Party on Friday 11th December at Titchfield Community Centre in Hampshire.

This most recent donation is being used to purchase some much needed equipment for both our Small Animal Theatres and our Imaging Department, namely an arthroscope which will be used to perform minimally invasive surgical procedures on joints; a thoracoscope to enable internal examination, biopsy, and resection of disease or masses within the pleural cavity and thoracic cavity; and a dental stand, 3D joint and head support to help position patients during X-ray to give more accurate images.

During the year members of the Club and Display Team generously support the fundraising activities for the Trust in many different ways. From providing bacon butties, scones and other goodies at training nights through to taking part in displays and shaking buckets at shows, selling cards and gifts, and contributing to the weekly and Christmas raffles – it all makes a huge difference.

In August 2015 we were delighted to welcome members of the Club and Team to Cambridge Veterinary School for a tour of the Hospital. While some of our guests had visited the School in the past, for many it was the first opportunity to see what a difference their on-going support makes to us and, we hope, they were justly impressed with their achievements!
Friends and colleagues gathered in the Department of Veterinary Medicine on 9th February 2016 to celebrate Dr Tony Palmer’s 90th birthday and his pioneering work in veterinary neurosurgery. Professor Robin Franklin and Professor Mike Hertridge gave a brief address and conveyed the very good wishes of the Department to Tony and his wife Shirley. Tony has taught, collaborated with and above all inspired very many colleagues, both veterinarians and scientists, past and present, in the course of his landmark career.

CAMVET QUIZ NIGHT AND AUCTION

On Thursday 11th February 2016 fourteen teams from the Department of Veterinary Medicine gathered at Cambridge University’s Wilberforce Road Sports Ground for the annual Camvet Quiz Night and Auction. The evening of healthy inter-departmental competition, organised by Small Animal Nurse June Peacock, raised an amazing £1,100 for equipment for the new Pauline Brown Clinical Skills Centre. The fiercely fought contest eventually led to a tie-break situation between four teams and, for the third year running, the Surgery Team were the victors and the lucky recipients of the much coveted Camvet Cup.

Mark Reading, Clinical Physician in Small Animal Medicine, made an excellent auctioneer and, with some wonderful lots on offer, ably parted the audience from their money. The items which fell under the hammer were: four Premier Enclosure badges for the Darley July Cup Day at Newmarket Racecourse; a batch of chocolate and vanilla cupcakes; a sitting whippet sculpture ‘Lily’ by John Douglas Piper; four hours of gardening help; a pet portrait; a dry-point limited edition print of a ‘Floating Wigeon Feather’ by John Douglas Piper; animal tea towels; and a weekend stay at Nooky House, Cley-Next-The-Sea, Norfolk, for four people.

Our thanks go June, Mark, all our auction lot donors and bidders, everyone who bought a sweepstake square and all of those who supported the event and came along.
A record number of runners took part in the Virgin Money London Marathon 2016 on Sunday 24th April on behalf of the Trust. Each year the Trust has five guaranteed places for the London Marathon through the charity Gold Bond Scheme. Places, either because of injury or not being allocated, can be carried over to following years. We were therefore delighted when nine runners took to the streets of London to run the 2016 race and raise money for the Trust.

So far our runners have raised in excess of £15,000 which, along with actually running the Marathon, is a remarkable achievement. £13,000 of this is going to our Ultrasound Appeal, while Sam’s £2,000 will go towards purchasing field shelters for our teaching cows and horses. We would like to thank all of our runners, and their amazing supporters, who have made this incredible donation possible.

The Trust has five Gold Bond Places available for the 2017 London Marathon which is taking place on the 23rd April. To register your interest to run for the Trust, either using one of our places or your own ballot place, contact us on 01223 337630.
With thanks to Edwina and her generous sponsors the £880 raised will be put towards our Ultrasound Appeal.

London to Paris Bike Ride

On Wednesday 8th June 2016 Edwina Parker, Client Services Administrator at The Queen’s Veterinary School Hospital, and her husband Garry embarked on a gruelling four day cycle ride from London to Paris to raise money for their respective charities.

Edwina said ‘This year I wanted to do something crazy, challenging and completely out of my comfort zone so I decided to cycle over 300 miles in four days from London to Paris. Being a massive animal lover and working where I do it was the natural choice to ride for Camvet.’

Edwina said that had the ride not been for charity she would have quite happily given up after a punishing first day, but knowing how many people had sponsored her drove her on and, once in France, she actually began to enjoy herself! Edwina said ‘Arriving in Paris and cycling in a peloton around the Arc de Triomphe is something I will never forget. It was an amazing experience.’

Saving Noah

In the last edition of Creature Features we ran a story about one of our 2015 London Marathon runners Jeff Whitlam and the training that he and his colleagues at Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service take part in at Cambridge Veterinary School. Jeff and his team work with the School’s resident horses and cows to learn how to deal with incidents involving horses and other large animals.
Members of the Greene King Baldock Darts League raised an amazing £181 for the Trust at their end of season finals night. Mother and daughter Joanna and Annabelle Warner presented Sharon Chandler, Director of Nursing at The Queen's Veterinary School Hospital, with the cheque when they visited Cambridge Veterinary School in September.

Our thanks go to everyone involved with making this gift possible. It is a great boost to our funds.

Jeff, a Crew Commander of Cambridge Black Watch, and his team demonstrated the importance of this training when they were called to rescue a 5 year old donkey who had fallen into a water-filled storm drain in his field after thieves had stolen the metal cover. Noah, who was owned by All Saints’ Church in Melbourn, Cambridgeshire, fell into the 7ft (2m) drain on Monday 17th August 2015 and it was thought that he could have been trapped for as long as 2 hours. Noah was forced to tread water before he was spotted and obviously harnessed some of his natural stubbornness to survive the ordeal.

During the five-hour rescue Noah’s head had to be held above water level while fire crews pumped water out to stop it rising any higher. Rescuers called in a digger to help clear concrete and earth from around the drain and Catherine Seagroatt, Equine Clinician at Cambridge Veterinary School, was called out to tend to Noah’s medical needs. Catherine was lowered into the storm drain to sedate Noah before he was finally winched to safety using the Fire Service’s specialist large animal rescue equipment. Jeff said ‘It was a long and difficult rescue and a great team effort. We’d like to thank everyone who came to help, particularly the machine driver and veterinary staff for all their great work and support.’

After his rescue it was initially thought that, although exhausted, Noah had suffered just scrapes and bruises, but two days later he stopped eating and his heart rate doubled. Catherine was again called and she confirmed that Noah had gone into shock and for a donkey this can be fatal. Noah was immediately rushed to The University of Cambridge's Equine Hospital where he was further diagnosed with an infection and pneumonia and it was thought that he would be very unlikely to survive. After a tense weekend with round the clock care Noah started to show signs of improvement. Steadily, Noah continued to make progress and he was finally able to return home two weeks later.

The firefighters that rescued Noah came to visit him in Hospital during his recovery. They also presented the team at the Vet School with a homemade carrot cake to say thank you for such fantastic partnership working. Cambridge Black Watch won a PETA award for the rescue.

Elaine Fisher, who runs Lovely Views Stables, in Barley near Royson, with her dad said Noah has now made a full recovery – and is back to his bolshie ways. She said “You could tell when he started feeling himself again because he began trying to bite people!” In November the ownership of Noah was signed over Elaine and Tina Pankhurst, Office Manager of Equine and Farm Animal Unit at Cambridge Veterinary School, so that cohesive decisions regarding his care and any future veterinary treatments can be made, though Noah still fulfils his ecclesiastical duties for the Church.
We are delighted to announce an exciting new initiative between Cambridgeshire artist John Douglas Piper and the Department of Veterinary Medicine. John has been appointed as the first ever honorary Artist-in-residence at the Vet School and it is hoped that the collaboration will explore and develop a series of creative directions and artworks based on the current areas of interest within the Department.

John studied drawing at the Wimbledon School of Art and then went on to pursue a BA in product design at Kingston University, a field in which he subsequently worked for more than a decade. He moved from London to Cambridge in 2005 and this relocation and change of pace of life heralded a return to his creative roots and to his first true passion: that of drawing and sculpture.

John teaches Art and Design at Loughborough University, and has a studio locally in Toft, Cambridgeshire, where he works with intaglio printmaking and sculpture. His original art works are widely exhibited within a network of galleries throughout the UK and are now becoming popular in New York. He is currently exploring themes surrounding animal motion and is developing a range of interior furnishing products based on his artwork.

John is based in the Surgical Discovery Centre at the Department of Veterinary Medicine and is working closely with Professor Matthew Allen, Professor of Small Animal Surgery, and his group to expand his understanding of surface anatomy in animals. He is keen to explore opportunities for collaboration across the Vet School.

You can find out more about John and his work at http://www.johndouglaspiper.com

Artist-in-residence
New Director of Small Animal Surgery

We are delighted to announce that Richard Whitelock will be joining our team as the Clinical Director of Small Animal Surgery at the end of August.

Richard is an internationally respected orthopaedic surgeon, and brings with him a wealth of experience. He has been an RCVS recognised specialist in orthopaedic surgery for the last 18 years and has served on the examination boards of both the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) and European College of Veterinary Surgeons (ECVS). He is a former President of the ECVS.

Richard trained under the mentorship of John Houlton during his surgical residency at The Queen's Veterinary School Hospital, University of Cambridge, and is excited to be “coming home”. After leaving Cambridge in 1998, Richard was one of the founding directors of the highly respected and successful Davies Veterinary Specialists, where he ran the orthopaedics department.

Richard has an interested in all aspects of small animal orthopaedics. In this new position, he will lead the surgical teams in both soft tissue and orthopaedic surgery. The expanded small animal surgical service will have a particular emphasis on the integration of clinical studies and clinical trials into the surgical caseload, ensuring that clients and referring vets have an opportunity to participate in, and benefit from, the latest advances in veterinary medicine.

Forthcoming Events...

Rotary Club of Cambridge South Charity Car Parking
December 2016 and January 2017
Support local charities by using one of the three charity car parks in Cambridge during the run up to Christmas and for the January Sales. Sites operated at the Downing Site in Tennis Court Road, the Department of Chemistry on Lensfield Road and Cambridge Assessment Centre in Park Terrace. Sites open on Saturdays and Sundays in December and early January.

Virgin Money London Marathon
Sunday 23rd April 2017
The Trust has five places available for the 2017 London Marathon. If you, or your family or friends, would like to be considered for a place, or you have a place of your own and want to use it to raise funds for the Trust, contact the Trust Office on 01223 337630 for details. There is no registration fee, however we ask all those who are successful in receiving one of our charity places to commit to raising a minimum of £1,000 in sponsorship.

Global Adventure Challenges
Year round
Have you ever dreamt of doing something amazing for your favourite charity? Have you ever wanted to push yourself and give something back for a cause close to your heart? Or do you just want to undertake one of the most amazing physical challenges of your life?

Global Adventure Challenges have been organising worldwide charity challenges since the year 2000. Their events, both in the UK and abroad, have helped raise well in excess of £15million for a whole array of charities. Over the years, they have taken tens of thousands of people on exciting adventures all over the world, helping them realise their dreams and fulﬁl lifetime ambitions. You can see the challenges they have on offer at http://www.globaladventurechallenges.com and by undertaking one of these exciting challenges for the Trust you can help raise valuable funds, while having the adventure of a lifetime. For further information, or to discuss a particular challenge, please contact the Trust Office on 01223 337630.

Veterinary CPD Courses
The Trust Office is putting together a programme of CPD courses for veterinary surgeons and nurses.

Tips and Tricks for Practical Gastrointestinal Surgery
Autumn 2016, date TBC
Seminars and practical sessions covering the current thinking on the management of gastric dilation and volvulus, septic peritonitis and small intestinal repair and anastomosis. This course is designed for general practice vets with an interest in gastrointestinal surgery. In addition to covering general principles we will be discussing the latest advice in managing these conditions.

For more information on this course, or if you would like to be added to the mailing list for future CPD courses, please call the Trust Office on 01223 337630 or email trust.office@vet.cam.ac.uk.

The Trust is also keen to discuss tailor-made courses for individual veterinary practices or veterinary groups.
Creature Features

Thank you!

While we like to thank each of you in writing for your generosity sometimes, if you only send a cheque or items for recycling in the post, it is difficult to trace you with just a name and postmark.

If you have donated to us and haven’t received a thank you it isn’t because we are not grateful, we are!

If you shop online, you can raise money for Camvet at no extra cost to you!

We have recently partnered with savoo.co.uk on a new and exciting fundraising project which, purely by searching or shopping online, will raise money for Camvet.

Simply use Savoo Search as your default search engine (the same way you would your current search engine) and Savoo will donate 1p to us for every search. If you are looking to do some online shopping and want to get a great deal, Savoo has thousands of voucher codes for all your favourite shops and deals that will help you save money, and they will donate to Camvet at the same time.

All you need to do is go to http://www.savoo.co.uk/#camvet and sign up. Once you have signed up, click on ‘Find a Charity or Community’ from your quick links box, and choose Camvet and then you can start searching, saving and raising today!

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