



This is an extra newsletter as several matters have arisen for circulation to vets. Please pass this on to your colleagues if the newsletter is received at a general practice email address.

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Recent Car Theft

It has recently come to the Board's attention that a large animal vet's work vehicle was stolen (and burnt) and there was an attempt to break into another vet's vehicle in a separate incident. Both events occurred on the north-west coast within a few days of each other. The stolen vehicle had been parked overnight at an airport whilst the second vehicle was parked in the staff car park at the clinic in daylight hours.

(Neither vet had breached any legislation or veterinary practice standards in doing so.)

This is a reminder to all vets, but in particular to those who have veterinary signage displayed on their vehicles and to those who are carrying veterinary drugs to take all precautions with vehicles and their contents.

- Keep vehicles, canopies and storage boxes locked at all times
- Do not have any vet drugs etc visible through vehicle windows
- Never leave S8s and lethabarb in vehicles; or if they are being carried for short periods on the way to a job, ensure they are stored safely and securely if you have to leave the vehicle
- If possible, use secure or monitored car parks if leaving vehicles overnight at places like airports, or better still remove all vet drugs prior to travelling. Many large animal vets these days use tray mounted storage units which, in some cases, can be quite easily removed and left securely.

Neil Leighton
Chair

IMPORTANT NOTICE to EMPLOYERS re LOCUMS and National Recognition of Veterinary Registration

NRVR means that interstate vets who hold full registration in another Australian State or Territory may do locum work in Tasmania under that registration.

HOWEVER: Some other States have categories of registration which are **NOT** recognised under NRVR. These include "special" or "limited" registration. These types of registration usually apply to overseas trained vets and are subject to conditions or restrictions, for example, the holder may only work at a particular place or perform certain veterinary acts in that State. This is not transferrable to Tasmania.

The Board recently became aware that the VSB Western Australia grants a temporary form of registration referred to as "non-resident registration" which allows veterinary surgeons from overseas or interstate to register in WA and work for a limited period. This may also appear on the WA register as "interstate" registration. Such registration is **NOT** recognised under NRVR.

Tasmania also does not recognise interstate temporary or honorary registration.

If a vet holds full registration (i.e. not *special* or *limited* or similar), that is subject to conditions, those conditions will also apply in Tasmania.

If you have any questions about a locum vet's registration status, please check with the Registrar or the relevant registration Board.

Each Board has a register on their website, and the AVBC has a national register search function:

<https://avbc.asn.au/>

Employing vets from overseas

If you are employing an overseas vet, please check either the AVBC website or with the Registrar as to whether the vet has a registrable qualification.

Vets who hold degrees from New Zealand, South Africa, the UK, and accredited North American universities (plus the NAVLE) are entitled to registration without further examination.

European vets who are registered with the RCVS under EU rules are not automatically entitled to registration.

Vets may apply for registration before they arrive in Tasmania which may save time. Otherwise, they need to bring with them all the relevant documentation, such as certified copies of their degree and qualifications, as well as organising a letter of good standing (LOGS) from their registration or licensing authority.

(While the RCVS is very prompt in providing LOGS, some US registering bodies seem to be slower.)

2017-2018 Annual Registration Renewal

The good news is that the Board reviewed the annual fees at the March Board meeting and decided there would be no increase in the registration fees for the next registration year.

The renewal notices will be emailed out to all vets in May, with payment due by 30 June 2017. The annual fee remains the same at \$384.

If you are not renewing please advise the Registrar so your registration may be cancelled as of 30 June 2017 (and you won't be sent reminders!).

Letters of Good Standing (LOGS)

If you are moving interstate or overseas to work and need a LOGS, please email the Registrar, state which State/Territory/country you are moving to and pay the \$50 fee to the Board CBA account: BSB 067 008 A/C 2800 0964 with your name as reference.

The LOGS will then be sent directly to the relevant registration board. Please note that a LOGS is current for 3 months from issue.

Meet the Board/Meet the Profession 2017

The first meeting with southern practitioners was held in Hobart earlier this month with good attendance. The next evening meeting is planned for Launceston on 18 May 2017 followed by the north-west later this year.

Looking forward to meeting the northerners soon!

Board website update

The March update of the Register has been uploaded. If you need your registration number, you can check it quickly on the register. If any of your details are incorrect, please advise the Registrar.

Copies of the individual Standards plus sample forms and other useful information are available on the website.

The current AGVet Code has been added and the *Animal Health Act* guideline has also been updated. If you need to find out the latest List A and List B notifiable diseases, please go directly to the DPIPWE website

<http://dpiipwe.tas.gov.au/biosecurity-tasmania/animal-biosecurity/animal-health/notifiable-animal-diseases>

Update on Pentobarbital

The TGA Joint meeting of the Advisory Committee on Chemicals and Medicines Scheduling recently looked into whether pentobarbital needed to be up-scheduled (from S4 to S8). The interim decision released in February is that the current scheduling (S4) of pentobarbital remains appropriate.

The Board supports the decision to maintain the status quo but recommends that vets ensure that their supplies are stored securely, and preferably in the safe or under lock and key.

Meet the Board/Meet the Profession 2017

LAUNCESTON

Thursday 18th May 2017 @ 7:15pm

SAVE THE DATE

Venue to be advised

<http://dpiipwe.tas.gov.au/biosecurity-tasmania/animal-biosecurity/veterinary-board-of-tasmania>