



## CHAIRMAN'S NOTES

Welcome to the 2014 Winter newsletter. In both of the 2013 newsletters I mentioned that the Board was waiting for rectification of an unintended drafting error in the Vet Act and that we were also hoping that a couple of other administrative matters would be dealt with by Parliament. In the lead up to the recent State election, all seemed to have been put on hold in relation to the requested legislative changes, but we have now been contacted and informed that things are moving again. Hopefully, all will be well by the end of 2014.

The inspections of north western practices are near completion. A big thank you to the inspectors for their considerable efforts in carrying out the inspections in all areas of Tasmania over the last couple of years and also to the practices for their co-operation. As with the other regional inspections, there has generally been very good feedback on the standards of the north western clinics.

Disappointingly, however, non-compliance with S8 safe requirements is more common than the Board and Pharmaceutical Services Branch would like. At the risk of sounding repetitive, if you are not sure of your obligations and/or the safe requirements, please check with Pharmaceutical Services Branch (Jim Galloway). As a result of some of the short-comings some practices will have to be re-inspected and this will usually be at their own expense.

The Board is finalising its review of the Standards of Veterinary Premises. We received a number of submissions when the draft was circulated for comment and have been taking these comments into consideration in the process of re-working the original document. This standard is effectively a new one rather than a review of an existing standard so has involved significant time and effort from the Board members.

Hopefully, the final draft will be posted on the Board's website within the next few weeks. Once declared, the new standard will be used to up-date the inspectors' checklists so it would be advisable for all practices to be familiar with the new standard.

An early reminder that it is only a little over 12 months before nominations will be called for the next 3 year term of the Board. I encourage everyone to give serious consideration to nominating and if you have any questions about what's involved please feel free to contact me.

As always, if you have any queries on any other Board related matters please feel free to contact the registrar, Anne Horner or any of the Board members.

Neil Leighton

Chair  
July 2014

### Updated Board Contact Details Ph 6294 6961

Thank you to everyone for their patience with the problems experienced by the registrar following relocation of the Board office into an NBN area. The Board now has a new phone number 03 6294 6961. While the online White Pages entry has been updated, unfortunately the hard copy volumes of the White Pages will not be amended for some time.

Please note that the Board no longer has a fax number. The email address remains unchanged.

### National Recognition of Veterinary Registration update

National recognition of veterinary registration (NRVR) now applies in 4 states: NSW, Victoria, Queensland and Tasmania.

This means that a Tasmanian vet may undertake locum work/part time in Queensland, NSW and Victoria without being required to hold secondary registration in those States. However, if you move there permanently you will be required to register there. Please check with the relevant state as to their time frames for registration.

NRVR will commence in South Australia on 1 January 2015.

## Employing an interstate registered vet

Under NRVR, Tasmania recognises all other States and Territories registration, so interstate registered vets may undertake locum or short term work in Tasmania without being registered in Tasmania.

As an employer, you need to be satisfied that the person holds current registration in an Australian state or territory. You can check a person's registration status on the Register listed on the following Boards' websites.

<http://www.vpb.nsw.gov.au/>

<http://www.vsb.qld.gov.au/>

<http://www.vbsa.org.au/>

<http://www.vetboard.vic.gov.au/>

<http://www.vetboard.nt.gov.au/>

(The WA and ACT Boards do not have online published registers at this stage.)

However, if an interstate registered vet moves to Tasmania, they must be registered in Tasmania within a reasonable time of settling here. If you have employed an interstate vet under NRVR (other than on a locum/short term contract), please ensure that they remember to register in Tasmania within 3 months of arrival (and before their interstate registration expires).

## Letters of Good Standing (LOGS)

If you are moving interstate or overseas for work you will need a Letter of Good Standing (also known as a Letter of Professional Standing) as part of your interstate/overseas registration application. To organise a LOGS, please email or phone the registrar, state where you are moving to and pay the \$44 fee. The LOGS will be then sent directly to the other registration board or licensing body.

## Your Registration Number

The registrar regularly receives calls from vets who need their registration number and can't remember it. While I am happy to provide it to you, it may be quicker to check the extract of the Register on the Board website which lists all registered vets in alphabetical order and sets out your registration number, name, suburb and qualifications.

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

## Rabies Vaccinations?

Dr James Harris is seeking information about vets who are currently vaccinated against rabies, as part of his involvement with an emergency response team. If you are vaccinated, please contact James on 0409 426436 or [jmhdvm34@gmail.com](mailto:jmhdvm34@gmail.com)

## UTAS Animal Ethics Committee

The UTAS Animal Ethics Committee is always interested in hearing from people who may consider joining the Animal Ethics Committee in one of its prescribed membership categories. They are particularly keen to hear from Veterinarians (Category A members of AECs) and Vet Nurses (Category C). For further information, please contact the Executive Officer, Mrs Marilyn Pugsley, on 03 6226 7283.

## Surveys

**Q fever:** Vets were emailed recently a request for assistance with a Q fever research survey being conducted by the Sydney, Charles Sturt and NSW Universities. If you wish to respond, the link to the survey is:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/QFeverQuestionnaire>

**AVA 2014 Workforce survey:** The AVA 2014 Workforce survey was recently distributed by email, but many 'bounced' as bigpond treated it as spam. If you didn't receive it, and would like to complete the 2014 survey, the link is: <http://bit.ly/1sj7GdX>

The *Veterinary Surgeons Act* and Regulations, as well as other relevant legislation, such as the *Poisons Act*, *Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals (Control of Use) Act*, *Animal Welfare Act*, *Dog Control Act* and *Cat Management Act* may be viewed and printed from [www.thelaw.tas.gov.au](http://www.thelaw.tas.gov.au) (go to 'advanced search' and type in the name or part of the name of the Act)

*Finally, if you would like a word version of this newsletter with the various links embedded, please email the registrar.*

## Members of the Board

Dr N Leighton (Chair) AVA nominee  
Dr N Ward (Deputy Chair) AVA nominee  
Ms J Bradley Ministerial appointment (community)  
Dr K Ellard DPIPWE nominee  
Dr T Frazer-Oakley AVA nominee