



**BVA ANIMAL  
WELFARE  
FOUNDATION**

# Annual review 2010–2011

**BVA ANIMAL WELFARE FOUNDATION**

*Improving the welfare of animals through veterinary science, education and debate*

Registered charity 287118

*Our mission...*



**BVA ANIMAL  
WELFARE  
FOUNDATION**



*...to improve the  
welfare of animals  
through **veterinary  
science, education  
and debate***



# Contents

---

Who we are .....	5
Chairman's report .....	6
Supporting animal welfare education .....	7
Encouraging responsible pet ownership .....	8
Welfare Discussion Forum .....	10
Research funding .....	11
Our finances .....	12
Looking ahead .....	13
Our people .....	14
Help us to continue our work .....	15



# Who we are

---

The BVA Animal Welfare Foundation was established by members of the veterinary profession with the proceeds of a generous legacy. Today's trustees continue to be drawn from the profession and are all qualified veterinary surgeons. We believe that this makes us ideally placed to identify animal welfare problems and propose practical solutions.

*Our work:*

1. We fund research projects that have a practical and positive impact on raising standards in animal welfare and which are based on sound scientific veterinary principles.
2. We stimulate debate on animal welfare issues.
3. We promote and develop welfare education and enhance welfare-related teaching in the UK veterinary schools and work with students entering the profession to improve their knowledge of animal welfare issues.
4. We produce and promote evidence-based information for the general public to encourage responsible pet ownership and high standards of animal welfare.
5. We influence and contribute to the development of the British Veterinary Association's welfare policies.



# Chairman's report



This is my last annual review. I will be stepping down as Chairman in November 2011, when my term of office comes to an end. I am delighted however that I will still be involved with the Foundation during my tenure as BVA President, as the position is granted a place as a trustee.

I was appointed as a trustee in 1998 and elected Chairman in 2006.

One of the projects which I am really proud that we supported during my tenure is the funding of four-year lectureships at the universities of Bristol, Glasgow and Liverpool in 2004. These were all continued by the Universities after our funding ceased and I really believe that they have had a positive effect on strengthening the welfare element of the veterinary curriculum.

We are a small charity trying to accomplish big things so there are challenges every year as we stretch our limited resources to achieve our objectives. The main challenge in 2010 was financial and we saw a fall in general donations. We were fortunate that this was offset by an increase in legacies but we cannot take these for granted and in 2011 and beyond we will be looking for ways to diversify our income sources.

We spent some time during the year reviewing our operations and objectives in order to

make the Foundation as efficient and effective as possible. Trustees agreed to adopt a new overarching strategic objective for the Foundation of 'Facilitating practical improvements to animal welfare by the advancement and exchange of knowledge'. The twin pillars on which the objective rests were also agreed: 'Science: advancement of knowledge' and 'Education: exchange of knowledge.'

We spent just as much time looking outward. We have been working on projects like the development of a puppy contract with the RSPCA which is nearing completion. We continued to improve our flagship events the Discussion Forum and the Welfare Forum for students.

Trustees Nicky Paull and Andrew Trawford completed their terms of office in 2010 and we will miss their contributions. We were delighted to welcome Elaine Watson, Dean of the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies at the University of Edinburgh as a new trustee.

The BVA AWF could not do any of its work without the support of generous donors and it is fitting that my final words are a thank you to them.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'C. Padgett'.

Carl Padgett BVMS CertCHP MRCVS  
**BVA AWF Chairman of Trustees**

# Supporting animal welfare education

We aim to support welfare-related teaching in the UK veterinary schools.

## Animal Welfare Forum

Students from each of the UK veterinary schools and their colleagues from University College Dublin were invited to attend our annual Animal Welfare Forum at Lancaster University. The Forum explores a range of ethical dilemmas that students will encounter when they enter the profession.

How would you tackle an owner's request to euthanize their physically healthy Border collie for the sake of convenience? Or how would you approach the owner of a rabbit who has been brought into your practice on numerous occasions for issues that are caused by a lack of care? These are examples from case studies that students consider at the Forum. Working in small groups students review scenarios relating to animal welfare, client relations, practice politics, relevant legislation and individual ethical responsibilities.

The case studies are written by vets based on real situations that they have experienced in practice. In addition to applying knowledge acquired at veterinary school the students are also encouraged to consider current legislation, client communication skills and professional guidelines in discussing the cases.

The Forum tutors come from a range of veterinary backgrounds, but they share a wealth of experience in veterinary practice and the generosity to give their time free of charge to support the professional development of the next generation of veterinary surgeons.



We would like to thank our 2010 tutors:

- Judith Charnley
- Emma Goodman-Milne
- Robin Hargreaves
- Chris Laurence
- Carl Padgett
- Nicky Paull
- Paul Roger
- Freda Scott-Park
- Des Thompson
- Sean Wensley

# Encouraging responsible pet ownership

We produce and promote a range of informative, evidence-based information for the general public to encourage responsible pet ownership and good animal welfare. We regularly review our range of resources to reflect changing pet ownership patterns and welfare concerns.

## New resources

Our chicken welfare e-leaflet was produced in response to the increasing popularity of keeping chickens as backyard pets. The availability of relatively cheap and compact chicken housing means that many small urban gardens are now home to a couple of chickens. Our e-leaflet includes advice on housing, choosing a breed and sourcing chickens, feeding and general welfare.

They may not be considered trendy or part of a lifestyle choice which harks back to the 1970s BBC programme *The Good Life* in the way that chickens are, but rabbits are enduringly popular

pets in the UK. Our rabbit care information was the most visited page on our website in 2010, so we decided to update it to ensure that we were still giving the best possible advice.

## An old favourite

We all know that chocolate can be dangerous for human waistlines but many pet owners still don't know that it can be harmful for their pets and should not be given as a 'treat'. Our *Pets and poisons* leaflet is an easy reference guide for owners to keep their pets safe from harmful substances in the home. In 2010 *Pets and poisons* retained its number one spot as the leaflet most requested by vets to display in their practices.

Looking ahead we will update our *Taking your pets abroad* leaflet to take into account changes in pet travel regulations that will come into effect in 2012.

► **These and all of our other leaflets can be downloaded from our website: [www.bva-awf.org.uk](http://www.bva-awf.org.uk). To request printed leaflets contact us at [bva-awf@bva.co.uk](mailto:bva-awf@bva.co.uk)**





**Caring for rabbits**

Produced by the  
**BVA Animal Welfare Foundation**  
[www.bva-awf.org.uk](http://www.bva-awf.org.uk)

The BVA Animal Welfare Foundation is a registered charity (No. 262819) and a company limited by guarantee (No. 02069894) registered in England. Registered office: 100, The Quadrant, London W1 8PF. Tel: 020 7492 2000. Fax: 020 7492 2001. Email: [info@bva-awf.org.uk](mailto:info@bva-awf.org.uk)



**Keeping pet chickens: a prospective owner's guide**

Produced by the  
**BVA Animal Welfare Foundation**  
[www.bva-awf.org.uk](http://www.bva-awf.org.uk)

The BVA Animal Welfare Foundation is a registered charity (No. 262819) and a company limited by guarantee (No. 02069894) registered in England. Registered office: 100, The Quadrant, London W1 8PF. Tel: 020 7492 2000. Fax: 020 7492 2001. Email: [info@bva-awf.org.uk](mailto:info@bva-awf.org.uk)

# Welfare Discussion Forum

---

Our Discussion Forum uses the expertise of the audience to generate practical suggestions to improve animal welfare. Expert speakers deliver topical presentations to an invited audience from the veterinary world and organisations with an interest in animal welfare. Emphasis is placed on audience interaction and sharing of views.

As an alternative way of engaging with delegates and providing a chance for everyone to offer a view on some of the issues debated during the day the format of the Forum was changed to incorporate voting into two sessions.

The opening session “A life worth living” began with delegates being asked for their opinion as to whether the Animal Welfare Act was working. 25% said yes; 22% said no and 53% said that they didn’t know. Delegates then heard three presentations on current issues in animal welfare which led to a lively debate. To test whether their opinions had been changed by what they had heard delegates were asked to vote again. The result

of the second vote was yes 31%; no 45% and don’t knows 23%; indicating a hardening of the ‘no’ position in particular.

In the Forum’s final session delegates were presented with a number of topics and asked to select which animal welfare issue they would most like to raise with a minister in the incoming government. The speakers each gave a spirited presentation of ‘their’ issues and in a vote almost as tight as the 2010 General Election, the welfare of exotic pets was first past the post with support from 43% of delegates.

## House of Commons Reception

We would like to thank Roger Williams MP for hosting the House of Commons Reception that we held jointly with the BVA. Roger is the MP for Brecon and Radnorshire and a BVA Honorary Associate.

The reception offers delegates a chance to continue discussions from the Forum with parliamentarians and other guests. For those delegates who feel that they have done enough talking, it provides a chance to simply enjoy this historic venue. In 2010 Roger sponsored the event for the first time and he proved a knowledgeable and amiable host.



# Research funding

---

**We fund research projects that have a practical and positive impact on raising standards of animal welfare and which are based on sound scientific veterinary principles.**

In the last five years BVA AWF has awarded more than £800,000 in research grants. Our grants have supported a diverse range of animal welfare projects from the development of animal welfare lectureships at three universities to the development of an integrated surveillance system to record and investigate causes of garden bird mortality associated with their feeding.

In 2010 most of the funds that we had available for grant making came from the Norman Hayward Fund, which was established in 1995 with the purpose of providing funding for research into the welfare of sheep, cattle and horses.

Trustees were delighted to receive encouraging progress reports from two current Norman Hayward projects. Bristol and Glasgow Universities are running a project aimed at ensuring that the maximum benefits to students, farmers/horse owners and animals are gained during extra-mural study (EMS) placements with cattle, sheep and horses.

Another team at Bristol, headed by Dr Emma Love, is conducting an investigation into the use of facial expressions as a means to assess pain in horses. The team is using analysis of facial movements with the aim of developing a 'Horse Grimace Scale' which could be used by owners and vets to identify pain in horses.





# Our finances

This summary has been extracted from the audited accounts for the year ending 31 December 2010, approved by the Trustees for submission to the Charity Commission. To view our full audited accounts visit [www.bva-awf.org.uk](http://www.bva-awf.org.uk).

	2010	2009
	£	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>		
Legacies	110,849	94,023
Donations (including Gift Aid)	4,278	14,167
Investment income and interest	42,014	51,012
Other income*	432,168	1,828
<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>589,309</b>	<b>161,030</b>
<b>Resources expended</b>		
Cost of generating funds	29,033	31,952
Charitable activities	80,140	101,791
Governance costs	29,478	29,847
<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>138,651</b>	<b>163,590</b>
Net incoming resources before investment gains	450,658	(2,560)
Gains on investments		
Realised	8,185	10,403
Unrealised	93,225	104,425
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>552,068</b>	<b>112,268</b>
Funds brought forward 1 January 2010	2,309,300	2,197,032
Funds carried forward 31 December 2010	2,861,368	2,309,300

\*The Norman Hayward Fund includes a number of parcels of land in Broughton, Northamptonshire. In 2006 we sold an option on part of this land to a property developer. In 2010 the developer decided not to extend the option. As a result the ownership of the land reverted to BVA AWF and the estimated value of the land of £430,000 was included as an asset in our balance sheet and as other income in the statement of financial activities.

# Looking ahead

---

## **Strategic direction**

Trustees adopted a new overarching strategic objective for the Foundation of ‘facilitating practical improvements to animal welfare by the advancement and exchange of knowledge’. This formed the basis for a new strategic plan and operational objectives for the year. The plan will underpin the work of the Foundation over the next 12 months.

## **Grant making**

In 2010 we received the highest number of applications to our funds. To ensure we continue to allocate funding in an efficient, effective and transparent way a full review of the grant making process will be carried out in 2011–12. The aim of the review is to improve the experience for applicants whilst ensuring that we continue to fund high-quality research with a clear benefit to animal welfare.

## **Collaborations**

We will continue to work with other animal welfare organisations on a range of initiatives. The most high profile of these currently is our collaboration with the RSPCA on the development of a puppy contract and puppy information pack. This project is a cornerstone of our work to tackle welfare problems in dog breeding and the promotion of responsible dog ownership.



# Our people

## Chairman

Mr Carl Padgett BVMS CertCHP MRCVS

## Trustees

Mr David Chennells VetMB MA CertPM MRCVS

Ms Joanne Fielder MRCVS

Dr Pete Goddard BVetMed PhD MRCVS

Mrs Emma Goodman-Milne BVSc MRCVS

Mr David Harwood BVetMed MRCVS

Dr Tiffany Hemming BVMS MSc PhD DACVPM  
(epidemiology) CertWEL MRCVS RAVC

Professor Andrea Nolan MVB PhD MRCVS

Mr Pete Southgate BVetMed MSc MRCVS

Professor Elaine Watson BVSc MSc MRCVS CVMA

Mr Sean Wensley BVSc MSc Grad.DMS MRCVS

Mr Harvey Locke BVSc MRCVS  
*BVA President*

Professor William Reilly BVMS BSc DVSM HonFRCVS  
*BVA Past-President*

## Trustees retired 2010

Mrs Nichola Paull BVSc MRCVS

Mr Andrew Trawford BVSc MSc MRCVS

## Staff

Mrs Florence Bowman  
*BVA AWF Administration Manager*

## Advisers

### Auditors:

Crowe Clark Whitehill LLP  
St Bride's House  
10 Salisbury Square  
London EC4Y 8EH

### Bankers:

Coutts & Co  
440 Strand  
London WC2R 0QS

### Investment advisors:

UBS Wealth Management  
1 Finsbury Avenue  
London EC2 2AN

### Solicitors:

Reynolds Porter Chamberlain  
Tower Bridge House  
St Katherine's Way  
London E1W 1AA

### Land agent:

John Drake & Co  
Chartered Valuation Surveyors  
Land Agents and Planning Consultants  
5 Park Farm  
Tyringham MK16 9ES



# Help us to continue our work

The BVA Animal Welfare Foundation (BVA AWF) was established in 1984. We aim to apply the knowledge, skills and compassion of veterinary surgeons through the projects and initiatives we support.

The BVA AWF is the profession's own animal welfare charity. We believe that the involvement of vets as trustees of the Foundation makes us uniquely effective; veterinary surgeons are ideally placed to identify animal welfare problems and propose practical solutions.

The Foundation is supported entirely by voluntary contributions and the trustees are grateful to those of you who already support our work.

If you are not already a supporter then we hope you will consider helping us by making a donation using the form below.

You can also donate online securely at [www.bva-awf.org.uk/support](http://www.bva-awf.org.uk/support)

## Gift Aid

If you are a UK tax payer, Gift Aid increases the value of donations by allowing us to reclaim tax on your gift. For every £1 you give, the Government will add 25p. It doesn't cost you anything so please remember to tick the Gift Aid box so that all your future donations will be topped up.

## Becoming a supporter

If you'd like to support our work then please complete this form and post it to: BVA AWF, 7 Mansfield Street, London, W1G 9NQ

### Personal details

Name (inc. title): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

### Your donation

I would like to make a one-off donation and have enclosed a cheque (payable to BVA AWF) for £ \_\_\_\_\_

To make a regular donation please complete your bank details (opposite).

### Your bank details (for regular donations)

Account name: \_\_\_\_\_

Account number:

Sort Code:

To the Manager: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Postcode: \_\_\_\_\_

Please pay:

BVA Animal Welfare Foundation, Coutts & Co, Strand  
(Account: 59615210, Sortcode: 18-00-02)

£10  £20  £50  Other  £ \_\_\_\_\_ every month/  
quarter/year with effect from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_  
or until further notice (delete as appropriate).

This cancels any existing instruction to the payee

Make every £1  
you give worth  
£1.25 with Gift Aid

*giftaid it*

I am a UK Tax Payer, and I would like the BVA Animal Welfare Foundation to reclaim the tax on all donations I have made as well as any future donations.  Yes  No

I understand that I must have paid an amount of tax or capital gains tax at least equal to the amount of tax that the charity will claim in the tax year.

Please tell us if you:

- want to cancel this declaration
- change your name or address
- no longer pay sufficient tax on your income or capital gains for your gift to be eligible for Gift Aid

**BVA Animal Welfare Foundation**

7 Mansfield Street  
London W1G 9NQ

Tel: 020 7908 6375  
Fax: 020 7908 6349  
Email: [bva-awf@bva.co.uk](mailto:bva-awf@bva.co.uk)

**[www.bva-awf.org.uk](http://www.bva-awf.org.uk)**

Registered Charity 287118