

The Australian Companion Animal Health Foundation



2020 ANNUAL REPORT



THE AUSTRALIAN COMPANION ANIMAL HEALTH FOUNDATION (ACAHF) WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1989 AS A NON-PROFIT TRUST OF THE AUSTRALIAN VETERINARY ASSOCIATION (AVA) TO IMPROVE PET HEALTH THROUGH SCIENCE.

The major aim of the Foundation is to help to fund investigative projects to further our knowledge of the cause, treatment and prevention of clinical diseases of companion animals, mainly dogs and cats.

It raises money through donations from veterinarians and companies associated with the pet industry, pet owners and other concerned members of the public. All gifts and donations to the Foundation are tax deductible to the donor, under the Income Tax Assessment Act. Donations and bequests for 2020 will be used to fund future research grants. The directors would like to thank all those who donated so generously.

Originally governed by a board of honorary trustees, a corporate trustee has been in place since December 2020 with the previous trustees being appointed as honorary directors of the corporate trustee. The directors oversee the operation of the ACAHF and funds donated to the ACAHF are distributed to clinical research projects after careful assessment by a selected Research Committee, consisting of eminent veterinarians from veterinary schools and private practices around Australia.

The Australian Small Animal Veterinarians (ASAV), a Special Interest Group of the AVA, generously donates office space and administrative support to the Foundation. This helps to keep administrative costs to a minimum.

The type of research that is funded is wide ranging and is selected based on the direct benefit to companion animal species. Some examples include investigations into arthritis, heart disease, diabetes and cancer that focus on a better understanding of the basic disorder, and therefore lead to improved methods of treatment and prevention.

The purpose of this report is to publicly acknowledge the generous support that has been given in 2020 to the Foundation by pet owners, veterinarians and industry.

RESEARCH GRANTS FUNDED IN 2020

The list below shows projects continuing or commencing in 2020 that were funded by grants from ACAHF general funds. These grants were assisted by funds from the *Ottie Testa Memorial Fund*, the *Sue Du Val Memorial Fund*, the *Hilda Whitton Trust*, *The Estate of Patricia Williams*, *The Estate of Elizabeth Ruth French* and *The Estate of Eric William Ryan*.

- // Does Australia have a feline injection site sarcoma problem, and do cats vaccinated in the hind leg or tail produce equivalent humoral immunity to traditional 'scruff' vaccination?
Mark Westman, The University of Sydney
- // Determining the humoral immune protection of young dogs following primary vaccination: an evidence-based approach to preventing canine parvoviral infection
Nicolle Kirkwood, The University of Sydney
- // Development of an evidence-based approach to management of coxiellosis (Q fever) in breeding dogs held by guide dogs
Katrina Bosward, The University of Sydney
- // Mefloquine for the treatment of feline infectious peritonitis (FIP). Does a cat's sex affect the rate of mefloquine metabolism?
Merran Govendir, The University of Sydney
- // Circulating microRNAs (miRNAs) as potential biomarkers for diabetes in domestic cats
Bianca Waud, The University of Sydney
- // Monitoring and clinical follow-up of brucellosis seropositive dogs
Cathy Kneipp, The University of Melbourne
- // Dopamine as a new diagnostic tool for horses with pituitary pars intermedia dysfunction and its effect on the equine intestinal microbiota
Carlos Medina-Torres, The University of Queensland

2020 ACAHF TRUSTEES*

Bruce Parry	Phil Brain
Liz Walker	Graham Swinney
Garth McGilvray	Maureen Revington

2020 ACAHF RESEARCH COMMITTEE

Mark Krockenberger	Anne Peaston
Graham Burgess	Anthea Rasis
Martin Combs	Joanne Meers

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FINANCIAL REPORT 2020

	Balance at 01/01/2020	\$2,629,602
REVENUE	Donations	\$24,453
	Bequests	\$364,940
	Sales of Condolence Cards	\$3,420
	Interest & Dividends	\$65,102
	TOTAL REVENUE	\$457,915
EXPENDITURE	Research Projects	\$86,403
	Administration Expenses	\$44,246
	TOTAL EXPENDITURE	\$130,649
	SURPLUS FOR THE YEAR	\$327,266
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	Realised Loss on Sale of Shares	-\$21,059
	Unrealised Gain on Investment	\$67,266
	Other Expenses	-\$355
	Total Comprehensive Income for Year	\$373,118
	Balance at 31/12/2020	\$3,002,720

DONORS TO THE AUSTRALIAN COMPANION ANIMAL HEALTH FOUNDATION 2020

The directors of the ACAHF wish to acknowledge the generous bequest from The Estate of Eric William Ryan and thank the following donors for their kind support in 2020:

\$5000+

The Estate of Eric William Ryan

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Adelaide Vet
Baulkham Hills Veterinary Hospital
Benchimol, Leonie
Cottesloe Vet
Frankston Heights Veterinary Centre
Harbord Veterinary Clinic
Seaforth Veterinary Hospital
West Pennant Hills Veterinary Hospital

\$500 - \$999

Aldgate Veterinary Clinic
Bayview Veterinary Surgery
Blackburn Animal Hospital
Danko, Ron *on behalf of Leonie Benchimol*
Low, Nicole
Stephen Terrace Veterinary Clinic
Swinney, Graham *in loving memory of Amelie*
The Animal Doctors of Pakenham

\$100 - \$499

Allen, Dianne
Bass, Ryan *on behalf of Leonie Benchimol*
Benchimol, Leonie *in loving memory of Abby Stuk*
Busuttill, Maureen *in loving memory of Roxie*
Chatswood Veterinary Clinic
Edwards, David and Kerry *in loving memory of Choc*
Fell, Zandy *on behalf of Leonie Benchimol*
Greenvale Animal Hospital
Hewitt, Miranda
Hodge, Norman *on behalf of Leonie Benchimol*
Lewis, Megan
Lipp, Beverley *on behalf of Leonie Benchimol*
Murray, Helen *in loving memory of Xena*
Stones Corner Vet Surgery
Stuk, Jack *on behalf of Leonie Benchimol*
Terrigal Veterinary Hospital
Walter, Leisa
Weston Creek Veterinary Hospital

Up to \$99

Baytch, Vivienne *on behalf of Leonie Benchimol*
Chen, Jing
Clarke, Yasmin
Diggers Rest Animal Hospital
Harley, Gabrielle
Iaria, Disney
Lockley, Alison
McGuire, Wendy *in loving memory of Claudie Boy & Sam*
Sonenberg, Mrs G. *on behalf of Leonie Benchimol*