



Veterinary Association of Namibia

OFFICIAL  
NEWSLETTER  
OF THE VET-  
ERINARY  
ASSOCIA-  
TION OF NA-  
MIBIA

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# THE MANGA

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## Presidents Desk

We had a successful congress from 12 to 14 October 2017 at Heja Lodge. This year a lot of hick-ups had to be handled: speakers had to be replaced due to health problems. Another speaker missed his aeroplane and came half a day later. Therefore some topics were not according to the program. This was quite an inconvenience for those vets who could not attend the whole congress and had selected certain times to attend. We apologise for that! We did the best we could to solve the problems beyond our control. The speakers gave high quality talks and the topics were very interesting. A big thank you to the whole committee for your enormous input!

Elections of the Namibian Veterinary Council took place, Dr Anna Marais and Dr Mike Beggs represent VAN on Council. Our thanks go to Dr Jessey Kamwi and Dr Mike Beggs for serving the previous term.

VAN is investigating the possibility of adding a special section to the website, where only paid up members have access to additional relevant information.

The future of our profession is very important to us and thus we try to keep in contact with UNAM through attending meetings and getting into contact with the veterinary students. The final year students were invited to congress on Friday afternoon and during the social function in the evening.

Three members of VAN Exco attended the official launch of the Clinical studies at the School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Namibia on 03 March 2017.

During 2018 we plan to hold a mini-congress where we will use local speakers and if Dr Tony Shakespeare's health allows, we hope to have him there as well. Our annual congress is planned for middle November 2018.

Kind regards

*Beate Voigts*

# Congress 2017 at Heja Lodge



# Lymphoma of a Bull (Dr. Stefan Beukes)

**Patient:**

Young (3-4 yrs) Brahman show bull.

Good body condition and overall appearance.

**Presenting complaint:**

The bull was presented to me on Monday the 21<sup>st</sup> of August. The owner had the bull at an exhibition and from then onwards he was anorexic and had diarrhoea.

**Clinical presentation:**

On clinical he looked normal – He was slightly lethargic, gut sounds mildly decreased, no fever and he had sufficient rumen fill. He however had a very watery dark green diarrhoea. He was also mildly dehydrated.

He only ate small amounts of hay in his camp.

**DD's:**

Because of the background of the show and the diarrhoea, I suspected rumen acidosis. There was also a lot of pneumonia in the area, so that was also one of the DD's.

**Treatment:**

I dosed an anti-acid and electrolyte-probiotic combo via stomach tube and injected antibiotics and Vit B-complex.

**Progression:**

He stayed anorexic and only showed mild interest in his hay during the course of the week. On Thursday the 24<sup>th</sup> he started salivating a bit and seemed to be in discomfort. I therefore suspected secondary complications due to the acidosis. Shortly after I observed him, I was informed that the bull had died acutely.

**Post mortem:**

On external observation nothing seemed out of the ordinary. I opened up the carcass expecting an abscessed liver and rumenitis. However, everything looked normal in the abdomen. On puncturing the diaphragm, a large amount of whole blood came rushing out of the thorax. I could feel a large mass cranial to the heart and also a bunch of smaller masses surrounding it. After opening the thorax a massive mass was apparent, lying just cranial to the heart. It was more than twice the size of the heart. On incision it was a milky color, with some necrosis in the center of the mass. A number of lymph nodes surrounding it were also involved. The right cranial lung lobe was adhered to the mass.

**Conclusion:**

Due to the appearance and location of the mass I suspect it to have been a massive lymphoma and that one of the blood vessels supplying the mass had ruptured and caused the sudden death and haemothorax. DD - EBL



# VAN News

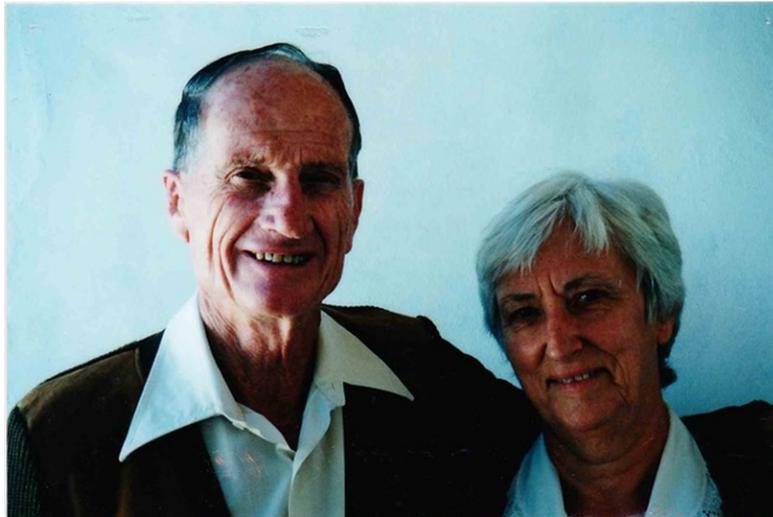
VAN would like to welcome their new members:

- Dr Griselda Hanstein
- Dr Andrea Klingelhoefter
- Dr Fadzaï Charity Chisango

VAN is no longer renting an office at the Meat Board, but is sharing an office with NVC (Namibian Veterinary Council) at Mearua mall now.

## Oldest Life Time Member of VAN

Today it is my honour to introduce to you our oldest member of the Veterinary Association: Dr Piet Basson.



Dr Piet Basson and his wife Heidi

I had the privilege to work with him in Grootfontein for 2 ½ years and experienced him as a very humble and knowledgeable man.

He was born 20.05.1931 in Grootfontein, Namibia.

1954 he qualified as veterinarian at Onderstepoort.

1955-1963 he worked in Namibia.

1963-1972 he worked at the South African Veterinary Institute at Onderstepoort. There he held the position of Assistant Director from 1970-1972.

1972 he requested to be transferred to Namibia. There he was employed as State Veterinarian and built up the Regional Veterinary Laboratory in Grootfontein from 1972-1995.

His special fields of interest were mainly research and diagnostics especially pathology, toxicology and wildlife. He was also involved in developing production programs for farmers.

He was involved in Foot and Mouth Disease campaigns in Namibia:

1959-1960 Ovambo

1961-1962 Omitara, Gobabis

1962-1963 Ovambo

He produced more than 80 publications. Some other research was not published like "The role and pathogenicity of *Enterococcus casseliflavus* in outbreaks of abortions in ruminants in Namibia during 1991-1992." The published articles are now at the Namibia Scientific Society and have valuable information on Namibian disease conditions.

For his extraordinary work he received several rewards like Senior Captain Scott memorial medal of the South African Biological Society (1978), gold medal from the South African Veterinary Association (1995), Certificate of Merit: Veterinary Association of Namibia (1994) and Lycaon reward of the South African Veterinary Association: Game group (208).

He is still on his farm Varianto near Tsumeb where his son Eckart is farming with Bonsmara cattle. We are proud to have Dr Piet Basson as a life member in our association.

### Beate Voigts

So you know my sister is a veterinary student

She said a little girl brought her hamster in bc it hadn't moved for 3 days and was just sat at the side of the cage and wouldn't eat or drink or anything

So she asked her if anything had happened that may have caused it, the girl says yeah he escaped for a bit but we found him under the fridge

So they have a look at this hamster, put him on the table and he's walking round, eating & drinking etc. All fine

Which is really weird

Then they notice there's something in his cheek pouch

So they look inside, and find a fridge magnet

Turns out the only thing wrong with this hamster is that it had a fridge magnet in his cheek pouch and was stuck to his metal cage