



Nose to Tail: MUVSA News

Issue #4 September 2014



Hello Everyone!

Make sure to check out the events on over the weekend and get pumped for some good old class rivalry!

Don't miss out on the notorious milk chug featuring the current MUVSA Exec! Come and support them, they have done such a great job for us this year. Rumour has it that secretary Sarah Stephen is the favourite to take down President Alex Meban. Look out for campaign week next week, in preparation for electing the next MUVSA exec for 2015!

If you would ever like to contact us, our contact email is:

masseyvetnewsletter@gmail.com

Dani & Anna

Get involved this weekend! Skull Cup, Raft Race and Happy Hour

Raft Race: Friday 19th September, **5.15 pm**. Race starting at 5.30pm at the Hokowhitu Lagoon. If you get hungry, bring \$2 for the sausage sizzle.

Skull Cup: Saturday 20th September, **8.45 am** at the Massey sports fields.

Skull Cup Happy Hour: Saturday 20th September, at the Masonic. 9.30pm will feature the MUVSA Milk Chug!

The annual vet school sports tournament Skull Cup is coming up on Saturday held at the Massey Sports fields. We hope all the classes have been putting together some creative t-shirt themes and everyone is looking forward to showing off their sports talent or lack there of! With Touch Rugby, Soccer, Volleyball, Netball (girls only), Rugby (1st, 2nd and 3rd yrs vs 4th and 5th yrs) and our new sport of Bubble Ball there is something on offer for everyone. The day starts at 8:45 am with a free sausage sizzle lunch provided by MAS.

We'd like to take the opportunity to remind everyone that September the 20th is also the Day of the New Zealand elections, so if you haven't yet voted prior to the weekend there will be a voting booth on campus for everyone to take a break from the games and partake in the spirit of democracy

Skull cup will be followed by a happy hour with the theme 'Yoga Hoes and Workout Bros'. Usual start time and venue at the Masonic, you won't want to miss the current MUVSA exec Milk Chug and 2015 nominees Burning of the Bush at 9.30pm. Back by popular demand is the Band who played at Grad week happy hour earlier this year.

With an action packed weekend like this you don't want to miss out! May the best team win.



Tips for Skull Cup...

What we recommend to bring:

- Sunblock if it is hot, warm clothes if it is cold! Games go on regardless of the weather, if it downpours we will move inside the gym.
- Water bottle
- Class t shirts/ dress ups
- Snacks!
- Sensible sporting clothes and shoes + **Your A game!**

What we recommend NOT to bring:

- Sprig shoes or clegs for soccer
- 'Visible Alcohol'. Remember Massey is an alcohol- free campus!

Alex Meban's Presidential Report



Howdy folks. I'm sure everyone is enjoying the warmer weather and longer days and I hope everyone is looking forward to what is left of the rest of the semester. Skull cup and raft race followed by the Happy Hour should be bloody good. My predictions are the fourth years will probably win and the third years will probably sink in the raft race.

I encourage those who are perhaps undecided whether they will come along on Saturday to get involved. It's a great day to get to know your class better and also the rest of vet school whilst competing in "friendly" events.

It's an awesome way to have a final blowout and relax before the upcoming exams too.

Next week we have the MUVSA elections to vote for the executive committee for 2015. The positions available are President, Secretary, Treasurer and Bar Staff. Next week you can expect to hear from the candidates as they campaign for your votes.

I would also like to say a massive congratulations to everyone who competed and supported our fellow students in the Netball, Debate and Rugby. To beat the Aggies in every event was unprecedented and to put it plainly, was f*cking fantastic!! No one can remember the last time we had a clean sweep but it must be well over a decade.

On a more serious note it was sad to hear that our head of institute Frazer Allan, is leaving us but from the students we wish him well in his new role as Deputy Vice-Chancellor at Victoria University.

As always if anyone has anything they wanna have a yarn about feel free to contact me or drop an email to muvsapres@gmail.com.

Co Editor Position Available 2015

We have an upcoming position available next year for a first year student (second year next year), to be a coeditor for the Nose to Tail MUVSA newsletter. If this sounds like something you would be interested in, have a think about it as applications will be opening soon!

If you would like to know more about it, flick us an email at masseyvetnewsletter@gmail.com

Pick of the Pets

Congratulations to this editions winner: Hazel the beautiful bunny, owned by Erin Maessen, BVSc II!

Hazel is a four-year old, male rabbit. Yes, male, you got that right, he was named after a character in Watership Down - but no one ever picks up on that reference! I have had him since he was only a few months old, and used to live wild in our lounge.

Unfortunately his habit of chewing through TV and phone cords, and the curtains, was not popular with my mum, and saw his days as a house rabbit come to an end. Instead he now rampages around the backyard, chasing the cat and chickens whenever he gets a chance - for some reason they are never keen to play with him! His other hobbies include digging extensive tunnels in the garden beds, flopping in the sun, and getting pats, which he will receive for as long as you are prepared to give them to him. He is an extremely laid-back bunny, with a great character.



Hazel and Erin have won a \$15 Voucher, kindly donated by Animates.

ANIMATES *Everything for Pets*

Do you have a cuddly cat or a gorgeous goldfish?

Every newsletter will feature someone's pet, so send in a picture of your pet with a short blurb about their quirky personality into us a masseyvetnewsletter@gmail.com. The featured pet will win a surprise goodie!





The Victorious Vets XV



2014 has been an outstanding season for the Vs with a 12 wins and 4 losses this season. It was first year in a long time that we managed to make it to the final, finishing up second in the Manawatu Rugby Union senior reserve grade. Highlights include playing off against College Old Boys for the challenge cup and coming out on top with a 15-8 win, we now hold the challenge cup until next season.

The following weekend was the grand final against Old Boys Marist played at FMG stadium. This caused a lot of excitement as it was the first time the Vets have made a final since anyone can remember. The final was a tough game against a good team and our errors proved costly, in the end we lost 23-7. A chance to make history and add to our trophy cabinet was missed, but we will come back next year fighting.

The Massey Tri-nations tournament was played recently between the Vets, Ag colts and Blokes teams. All games were played on the same day, which was tough, especially when we had two games in a row with a 10 minute rest between. In both games we had big wins to retain our Tri-nations trophy, beating the Ag colts 41-24 the the blokes 36-10. Another cup for the Cabinet!

The Vs played their last game of the year last week, which was arguably the most important game of the season, the annual Ag vs Vets match. The Vs managed to accomplish something, that hasn't happened in over 10 years, win against the Ags!. It was a close match with the Ags scoring early on in the first half. We were not concerned and remained cool, calm and collected. Jarrod Davey continued to spin glorious passes and Angus Gibb and Michael Catley maintained their consistent great play. Jordan Stayt came to the rescue with a brilliant try. The referee awarded a penalty against us, bringing the score to 10-5 to the Ags. We needed a miracle to happen. This miracle came in the form of Mark Wallace, he managed to have a brilliant run and get across the line bringing our score at half time to 12-10 (vets). The lads looked shattered at half time with many bleeding, especially Kevin Frame. But we carried on knowing that the job was not yet done. We knew the 2 point margin was not enough and Wallace came to the rescue again, scoring a marvellous try. This made the score 19-10 early into the second half. Victory was close and the cameo of our very own Alex Meban, back from a broken angle earlier this year, sent shock waves through the crowd. Once that final whistle blew we knew we had done our job, every single one of us. We were so bloody ecstatic. Well-earned celebrations continued deep into the night. It was a proud and great way to cap off an already brilliant season for our Startect Vet XV. **Written by Angus Gibb and Ryan Philips.**



Fourth Year Calving Experience

Wow, time flies. It was not so long ago that I saw the “wise, old” fourth years headed off on their calving roster and thinking that I had ages to go before getting to that stage. For the past two weeks, the current fourth years have all been out experiencing life as a dairy vet in various parts of the country. I ventured to Southern Taranaki and was lucky enough to fall right in the peak of the calving season. It was such an amazing opportunity to get hands on experience trying to picture the presentation of the calf from just what you can feel, then on to repositioning it and further on to place the fetotomy wire. There are many joys of being a dairy vet including, but not limited to:

- Having your arms (shoulder deep in fact) in a warm cow while the others around, ready to assist you, are freezing their fingers off in the icy wind or sleeting rain.
- Being covered in cow poo and nobody even mentions a thing.
- Being able to remove an emphysematous calf that has swollen to almost double its original size from inside a cow (but let’s not mention having to wear that awful rotten smell for the rest of the day).
- Doing C-sections to remove a five legged schistosome on a standing cow.
- And on the odd occasion that I did see, a live calf, feeling it kick back at you or suck your finger when you try to reposition it, being able to get it out in time and see it getting up by the time you leave - so very exciting.

One of my favourite experiences from the time away did not have to with calving; unfortunately a farm had a number of cows diagnosed with Theileria the day before we finished, but this gave us an opportunity to assist in two blood transfusions just to conclude an amazing 2 weeks. We collected blood from 2 bulls, mixed it in a bucket with sodium citrate and transferred it into weed sprayer (!), in order to pump it into the severely anaemic cow. WOW. Cows. Are. Amazing! And now here I am back from 2 weeks in the Naki energised and enthused to keep persevering on with my studies and excited for all the practical experience that fifth year holds.

Written by Joanna Paine.



First Year Report:

Caroline Thompson and Alex Sinclair



The best way to describe the first weeks of vet school would have to be as a complete whirlwind. From the ridiculous excitement of free overalls on the first day, to the utter bewilderment of our first anatomy lab on the second day, when the imposter syndrome well and truly set in. Thankfully, next up was Vetstart, and the relief that came with the realisation that everyone felt the same! What followed was an awesome three days of learning about ourselves, meeting new people and making friends, such a great opportunity and a programme that we are so grateful for.

Back from Vet start and next up was the mentor-mentee happy hour, where almost everyone managed to find their awesome mentors and squeeze a tequila shot or two out of them! So, with a great night out and the first of many happy hours under our belt the first week was over.

We hardly had time to catch our breath before the 1st year/2nd year party came around, and our first (and potentially last) experience of being drenched with some kind of vodka concoction. Fair to say not many notes were taken in the eight o'clock lecture the next morning, except by the wise souls with the remnants of a cross on their foreheads.

Luckily, we all managed to scrub the permanent marker off our foreheads in time for the ball on Saturday night, and it was great to see everyone dressed up and looking so flash. Thoughts of pretty dresses and make up were far from our minds come initiation day, however, with the stench of all things rotten firmly embedded in our memories for some time to come.

Even with all the fun the social calendar has brought we've managed to find time to battle with anatomy, and although we're not alone in feeling challenged we're also not alone in saying we wouldn't change a thing so far, and there's no place we'd rather be. With a third of the semester already gone we can't wait to see what vet school throws at us next!



Vet Ball 2014 featuring photography by Koid!

