



# Humane Slaughter Association Annual Report 2018–2019

Caring beyond the farm gate



[www.hsa.org.uk](http://www.hsa.org.uk)

**The Humane Slaughter Association, established in 1911, is an independent charity that works through scientific and technical advances, education and training towards achieving the highest world-wide standards in food animal welfare during transport, marketing and slaughter.**

This report highlights the work undertaken by the charity during the last year which has been possible due to the continued commitment of its members and donors who have supported the charity through subscriptions, donations and legacies. This support is the very heart and life-blood of the charity and enables us to continue to deliver initiatives which have made a difference to millions of animals – for which we thank you.

The HSA's vision is simple – to improve the welfare of food animals between the farm gate and slaughter around the world. It seeks to do this by:

- Providing technical information and advice on all aspects of animal handling, transport and slaughter
- Training in humane methods of handling and slaughter of livestock
- Educational and technical publications
- Independent advice to governments, other welfare organisations and the food industry
- Regular visits to markets and slaughterhouses
- Providing funding for research projects
- Development and application of scientific advances
- Providing grants towards the improvement of animal welfare during transport, marketing and slaughter

**Cover photos:** L-R: Cow: Jan Koetsier Pexels, Fish: Karel Bartik Shutterstock, Goat: Pixabay, Chicken: Skitterphoto Pexels



Photo credit: Pexels

## Welcome to the 2018–19 Annual Report for the HSA

**Since its foundation in 1911, the HSA has led or contributed to major changes in attitudes towards animals, with scientific and technological developments resulting in huge improvements in methods for slaughter or killing. Indeed, the HSA's first major project was aimed at replacing the pole-axe, a crude and inefficient implement used for stunning animals, with the captive-bolt stunner, a humane, mechanically-operated device.**

As I look back over the work of the charity this past year, it is clear that the need for scientific and technological developments is as vital today as it was then. What is also clear is that the HSA has continued to be at the forefront of these developments. This year, the HSA awarded a grant to Dr Claire White to study a system used in New Zealand which enables “demonstration of life” to Halal certification bodies, and the best possible adoption of such a system in the UK as a way to increase the use of stunning during Halal slaughter. Whilst respecting differing religious beliefs, the HSA's position on the pre-slaughter stunning of animals is unequivocal: All animals should be effectively stunned prior to being bled. Potentially, the framework could offer welfare benefits to a large number of animals if it increases the acceptance of stunned Halal meat both in the UK and our export markets and you can read more about this project on page 9.

Elsewhere, the HSA has been busy over the last twelve months promoting the humane slaughter of fish to consumers around the world via a free-to-view video which explains why fish welfare is important and the choices available to consumers. This video has now been translated into nine other languages and promoted to the media in those countries. In a first for the HSA, the video was translated into Korean as South Korea is one of the world's leading farmed finfish producers.

As well as a full programme of lectures, visits and talks in the UK, HSA staff also travelled to China to discuss the potential for new developments in the slaughter of pigs and to work with colleagues in China to advance food animal welfare (see page 6).

As a charity, the HSA relies on your continued support to help us to continue to deliver initiatives which have already made a difference to millions of animals. Every donation does have an impact and none of the work highlighted in this report would have been possible without you. Thank you for your continued loyalty to and support of the charity – which is, as always, deeply appreciated.

**Alick Simmons BVMS MSc MRCVS**  
Chairman of Trustees



**“As I look back over the work of the charity this past year, it is clear that the need for scientific and technological developments is as vital today as it was then. What is also clear is that the HSA has continued to be at the forefront of these developments.”**



***“The HSA has a clear policy that all animals should be effectively stunned prior to slaughter to preclude any risk of suffering. Unfortunately, world-wide for a variety of reasons many animals are either not stunned or are not stunned adequately.”***

**The demand for meat and other livestock produce throughout the world continues to increase – not just for red meat and poultry products, but also for fish and other marine life, either farmed or wild-caught. Unfortunately, this demand raises issues relating to conservation, climate change and welfare. The HSA concentrates its efforts on the last of these, working with those at the sharp end as well as with scientists and technical experts to improve the welfare of animals that we use for food at or around the time of slaughter.**

The HSA has a clear policy that all animals should be effectively stunned prior to slaughter to preclude any risk of suffering. Unfortunately, world-wide for a variety of reasons many animals are either not stunned or are not stunned adequately. Therefore, the HSA is funding a variety of projects aimed at improving this situation, including research aimed at developing a method of stunning cattle that will be more acceptable to the Muslim community, and travel awards to learn from the experiences of other countries. The HSA has a deserved reputation for producing high-quality technical advice and is translating key documents to increase the impact of these world-wide. The HSA has also been working with Chinese professionals to further develop best practice and standards for humane slaughter in China.

There are still areas where knowledge is lacking and the HSA is funding research to improve and develop stunning methods for ducks and geese. The welfare of fish and other marine life at slaughter is an area that has not received as much attention as has been given to other species and, thanks to a generous grant, the HSA is running a funding round for high-quality research on more humane ways of slaughtering various species of fish, crustacea and cephalopods. The HSA's programme of research, education and advice is unique and is helping to improve farmed animal welfare around the world. Please help us to continue to do this.

**Robert C Hubrecht OBE**  
Chief Executive & Scientific Director

### An overview

**The HSA offers independent training and advice on animal welfare matters during transport, marketing and at slaughter. The charity is also internationally recognised for its livestock expertise and produces various print and video guidance publications. HSA technical staff have provided training courses, lectures and talks at a variety of events. These have included:**

Provision of training courses on the use of firearms and captive-bolt equipment for: the Isle of Man Steam Packet crew and Isle of Man Government veterinary staff, RSPCA trainee inspectors, officers and crew of a major ferry company and World Horse Welfare veterinary staff in Spain.

Six animal welfare lectures, including two to students at Harper Adams, one to veterinary students at Cambridge University and two in Wales for the Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) continuing professional development (CPD) programme and Menter Moch Cymru\* CPD for those working with pigs.

Three lectures on the principles of humane slaughter, and new and emerging methods of stunning, for students on the University of Edinburgh's MSc courses in Applied Animal Behaviour and Animal Welfare and the MSc in International Animal Welfare, Ethics and Law.

Presentations on animal handling and behaviour in markets to McCartney's auctioneers and drovers at their mini conference in Ludlow.

\* Menter Moch Cymru is a new initiative, funded by the Welsh Government Rural Communities – Rural Development Programme 2014 -2020, set up to assist and develop the pig sector in Wales.



Photo credit: HSA

### Spreading the HSA message in China

The Senior Scientific Programme Manager recently visited Chengdu in China to give a keynote talk *Humane Slaughter Techniques: An Animal Welfare Perspective* at the World Scientific Conference on Animal Welfare organised by the China Animal Health and Food Safety Alliance. The conference was attended by delegates from the animal welfare, food business and government sectors from across China and featured talks from Chinese and international experts.



Photo credit: China Animal Health and Food Safety Alliance (CAFA)

The presentation was on the general principles of humane slaughter and specifically discussed current best practice and the potential for new developments in the slaughter of pigs, a highly important topic in China given that the country is the world's largest producer of pork. The visit was also a great opportunity to network with Chinese colleagues and to promote the HSA approach to education (including the availability of much HSA material in Chinese) and promotion of humane slaughter.

### HSA October seminar

Following the success of the previous three HSA seminars in 2015, 2016 and 2018, a fourth event will take place on Wednesday 9th October this year at Jurys Inn, East Midlands Airport. Unlike the previous three, this seminar will not cover a single topic, but will update delegates on the latest research and progress in a number of relevant areas. Entitled *Animal Welfare at Slaughter – Hot Topics 2019* the seminar is aimed at all those associated with animal welfare at slaughter, eg animal welfare officers, veterinary surgeons, meat inspectors, food business operators, slaughter personnel, lairage workers, enforcement officers, legislators and researchers. It will feature speakers from the legislature, industry, enforcement, research, certification and training bodies. The presentations will be followed by a discussion during which delegates will be encouraged to share their views on the topics presented, in addition to questioning the speakers.

### Attendance at exhibitions and events 2018/19

HSA Technical Staff have attended the following events over the last twelve months:

#### 2018

##### September

The Association of Meat Inspectors Seminar\*, 15 & 16 September

##### October

Association of Independent Meat Suppliers Conference, 6 October

Livestock Auctioneers' Association AGM\*, 28 October

World Horse Welfare Conference, Royal Geographical Society, 31 October

##### November

Veterinary Public Health Association (VPHA) Autumn Meeting, 3 November

St George's House, Windsor Stakeholder Meeting\*, 8 & 9 November

CIWF Broiler Stakeholder Meeting, 22 November

##### December

British Poultry Council Annual Reception & Awards, House of Commons, 4 December

#### 2019

##### February

APHA Wales CPD Meetings x 2\*, 12 & 29 February

RSPCA Standards Group Meeting\*, 20 February

##### March

Winterbotham Darby Research Forum, 7 & 8 March

VPHA Spring Meeting, 23 March

Demonstration of Life Stakeholder Meeting, 28 March

British Veterinary Association (BVA) Abattoir Working Group Meetings\*

##### May

Smallholding & Countryside Festival, Royal Welsh Showground\*\*, 18 & 19 May

BVA Abattoir Working Group Meetings\*, 23 May

##### June

BVA Animal Welfare Forum, 5 June

Bristol AWO and PWO Courses, 11-14 June

BVA Abattoir Working Group Meetings\*, 20 June

##### July

UFAW Conference, Bruges, 3 & 4 July

The National Egg & Poultry Awards, London, 4 July

Vet Ed Annual Symposium, Rothampstead, 4 & 5 July

BVA Abattoir Working Group Meetings\*, 19 July

\*Denotes speaking at the event

\*\* Denotes exhibitors

## Publications now available in a number of languages

Over the last 12 months the HSA has translated more of its publications into Chinese, including the online guide *Transport of Livestock*, Technical Information Posters, Technical Notes (*Handling Facilities for Abattoirs and Farms* and *Catching and Handling of Chickens and Ducks*) and placed these on the website for the world to view and use free of charge.

## HSA promotes humane slaughter of fish to consumers around the world

In 2018 the HSA published on its website homepage a free-to-view information video explaining why concerns about finfish welfare are becoming more prominent and informing consumers of the availability of stunning equipment for some fish species, and how to identify more humanely-slaughtered farmed finfish products. With the generous support of a grant, the video was translated into nine other languages (French, German, Greek, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Polish, Portuguese and Spanish) to increase awareness of fish welfare around the world. These languages cover countries where fish assurance schemes are available and therefore consumers can look out for these product labels. The languages also cover countries whose industries might be able to adopt stunning relatively soon, and which produce and consume some of the largest amounts of farmed finfish products, globally. This video is the first HSA publication to be translated into Korean and we hope it will provide a useful insight into the possibilities for humane slaughter, because South Korea is one of the world's leading farmed finfish producers, farming some of the largest numbers of species. The HSA received positive comments on the videos from around the world, including South Korea, Japan, New Zealand and Canada.



Photo credit: Pexels

## Special Travel Awards

**HSA recently introduced a Special Travel Award which offers up to £10,000 to support researchers to travel to gain new expertise and knowledge which contributes to better animal welfare.**

In 2017, Dr Ellie Wigham at Bristol University was given an award and has been studying the use of CCTV and remote monitoring of the footage to monitor animal welfare in US abattoirs. Ellie discussed her work on CCTV at the HSA seminar on monitoring animal welfare at slaughter held in May 2018 and has submitted an interim report with a final report due at the end of 2019.



Photo credit: HSA

Dr Troy Gibson at the Royal Veterinary College received an award to facilitate exchange visits and scientific collaboration between the UK and Brazil to study the humane stunning of donkeys as well as on-farm killing for non-viable piglets. Brazilian PhD student Filipe Dalla Costa recently visited the UK for two months to work alongside Troy as part of the project and came to the HSA to present an update on the progress of the projects. Two scientific papers, supported in part by the award, have recently been published. The first paper concerns the use

of pneumatically powered captive-bolts to stun bulls, and suggests that the penetrating captive-bolt may be a more reliable method, with lower risk of inadequate stunning than non-penetrating devices.

Filipe, Troy and co-authors also published a paper concerning on-farm methods to dispatch pigs and the attitudes of stockpeople to the various methods. Potential animal welfare issues with some methods used in Brazil and the need for training in the humane dispatch of pigs on-farm were highlighted. Their final report is due at the end of 2020.

This year's award was made to Dr Claire White of Bristol University to investigate a method used in New Zealand to increase the acceptability of recoverable stunning to the Muslim community (both in the country of production and in export markets).

To be considered Halal (permissible) some Muslims believe animals must be slaughtered without prior stunning; a process which does not result in instantaneous death or loss of consciousness and may allow the animal to experience pain from the cut (the HSA believes that all animals should be effectively stunned before slaughter). However, the majority of animals slaughtered for Halal meat consumption are stunned using an electrical head-only method before slaughter because many Muslims (and some of the bodies which approve Halal slaughter methods) accept stunned meat as Halal provided that the stun is 'recoverable'. A recoverable electrical head-only stun is where the primary cause of the death of the animal is blood loss, and not cardiac arrest induced by stunning - possible when using certain parameters and application methods.

For Halal certification bodies and the wider Muslim community to accept stunned meat it is therefore important to demonstrate that the animals are recoverably stunned, but not killed, by the electrical stunning method. New Zealand has taken a novel approach to this issue by allowing a very limited number of animals to exhibit the early signs of return to consciousness following electrical head-only stunning, thus demonstrating to Halal certification bodies that the stun is reversible and crucially, does not kill the animals before bleeding.

Claire’s grant enabled her to visit New Zealand to observe this process in action and to study how the process is implemented by meeting with regulators and other stakeholders, with a view to considering whether this model could be adopted to increase the use of stunning for Halal production in the UK.

The report which Claire will produce will inform the debate as to whether this method should be adopted in the UK. Claire will be one of the speakers at the HSA’s seminar *Animal Welfare at Slaughter – Hot Topics 2019* in October 2019 and is due to produce her final report in October 2021.

### Alternatives to carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) for stunning

In March 2018, the HSA announced the award of a new two-year programme of research, jointly funded with the Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs (Defra), to determine whether Low Atmospheric Pressure Stunning (LAPS) might be a more humane way to stun pigs during commercial slaughter. The award was made to Dr Dorothy McKeegan and colleagues at Glasgow and Edinburgh Universities as well as Scotland’s Rural College (SRUC).

LAPS is a method for stunning animals by gradually reducing the atmospheric pressure until animals lose consciousness. The method may be more humane than gas stunning methods such as the use of carbon dioxide. LAPS was recently approved by the European Food Safety Authority for the stunning of broiler chickens and could also be useful for stunning pigs. Work on the project has continued throughout 2018–19 and a final report is due in late 2020.



Photo credit: Michaela Wenzler from Pixabay

### HSA Student/Trainee Scholarship 2019

HSA makes small awards to students and trainees to undertake short projects relevant to its objectives of improving animal welfare during marketing, transport and slaughter. This year, an award was made to Kristina Andersson at the Swedish university of Agricultural Sciences to investigate ways of reducing stress experienced by sheep undergoing group stunning, and in particular to examine ways to lessen the stress induced by isolation by the final sheep in a group to be stunned. Kristina will present her results at the UFAW Student Scholars’ meeting in Edinburgh later this year.



Photo credit: Alexas Fotos from Pixabay

### HSA grant helps Sri Lankan vet to learn more about poultry welfare

In 2018, the HSA sponsored Dr Mohamed Ijas, a municipal veterinarian in Sri Lanka, to attend two courses on animal welfare and poultry welfare at the University of Bristol in the UK.

The courses provided in-depth knowledge on the welfare of animals during handling, transport and slaughter, as well as extensive information on different stunning methods for a variety of species.

The visit to the UK was of great value to Dr Ijas as he is a member of a technical committee that is making recommendations on Sri Lankan slaughter legislation. The knowledge he gained from his visit to the UK will be used to promote humane slaughter practices in Sri Lanka.

Dr Ijas said: *“The overall goal of my attendance at these courses was to reduce the animal suffering during transport and slaughter through enhanced capacity and appropriate policies. One outcome has partly been realised through the approval of cabinet ministers to make stunning compulsory prior to slaughter.”*

The visit was part of a project being undertaken by Dr Ijas which aims to minimise pre-slaughter stress and physical injuries during the transport of animals and abate pain at the time of slaughter. Dr Ijas plans to increase awareness of animal welfare practices from farm to slaughter by disseminating the information through fellow veterinarians, abattoir personnel, manufacturers and undergraduates and will be assessing the benefits through both animal-based and resourced-based welfare measures.



Photo credit: Alexas\_Fotos from Pixabay

### 2015 Research Training Scholars update

The HSA's two 2015 Research Training Scholars, Awal Fuseini and Carlos Rebelo, have now produced enough work for their PhDs and have been focussed on writing their theses, with Awal submitting in 2019 and Carlos due to submit in 2020. Both Awal and Carlos will present updates of their HSA-funded research at the HSA *Animal Welfare at Slaughter - Hot Topics* seminar in October 2019.

At the University of Bristol, Awal's project developed a prototype, novel head-only electrical stunning system for adult cattle. This new type of stunner, known as SPUC (single pulse ultra-high current), is intended to improve animal welfare by inducing immediate and prolonged unconsciousness, whilst still technically being reversible, and therefore, may make it acceptable for pre-stunned Halal slaughter. As with any challenge of cutting-edge technological research and development, the last year has involved careful configuration of the prototype stunner. Awal also presented multiple training sessions to highlight which stunning methods are compliant with Halal slaughter, including in Ghana in 2019 where Awal was interviewed for a local TV station regarding humane animal handling and why livestock facilities should adopt stunning. The project team is due to undertake the final work examining the effect of SPUC on cattle welfare at slaughter and we look forward to the results.

During the past year, at the Royal Veterinary College, Carlos has been analysing data collected during his research to further develop the design of dry electrical stunning systems used for small-scale, on-farm slaughter of turkeys. Carlos assessed the effect of electrode design on stun performance, specifically the duration of induced unconsciousness and the current profile (as a means of assessing the quality of the electrical current application and whether it meets minimum legal requirements). Carlos has also measured convulsions to determine if they have any effect on meat quality, and the durability and ease of cleaning different electrode designs.

### First RTS publishes final paper on her PhD research

The HSA aims to use science to inform HSA policies for improving animal welfare and, to commemorate the charity's centenary in 2011, the HSA offered its inaugural Research Training Scholarship (RTS) to encourage scientific advances, and careers, within the research area of transport, markets and slaughter. The award was given to Jessica Martin (née Hopkins) at Scotland's Rural College and the University of Glasgow to study humane mechanical methods for killing chickens, and primarily to develop an easily-used, portable, inexpensive and reliably humane device, as a competitive alternative to manual cervical (neck) dislocation. (Concerns about the humaneness of neck dislocation led to EU legislation limiting the numbers and weights of birds that can be killed this way.)

Jess designed a novel mechanical cervical dislocation tool within a glove that mimicked the technique of manual neck dislocation and was designed to enhance the effectiveness of the hand. Jess's data suggested that brain death for chickens of 2.6 kg (slaughter-age broilers) or 72 weeks of age (end-of-lay hens) is not immediate following manual or mechanical neck dislocation, but that unconsciousness could be achieved within an average of 3.1 seconds. The effectiveness of the gloved tool at killing was similar to that of manual dislocation but it showed promise in optimising (and reducing inconsistencies in) dislocations. After trying out the gloved tool, 50% of experienced stock workers reported they would consider using it instead of manual dislocation. After graduating, Dr Martin worked with an agricultural engineering company to develop a commercial version and the company launched a product in 2019. They are now planning to study whether the new device improves the speed and effectiveness of neck dislocation when used by persons with varying degrees of prior experience and for a range of poultry species up to 5 kg.

Dislocation of the neck of a conscious animal poses risks for welfare at the time of killing (given the speed at which vertebrate nervous systems function), and in the EU it remains a legally-restricted method that should not be used routinely. But it may be possible to improve its efficacy, for use in emergencies where no other methods are available. The HSA will disseminate the outcomes from Dr Martin's research to industry and small-scale producers, via updated HSA educational and technical publications.

At the HSA *Animal Welfare at Slaughter - Hot Topics* seminar in October 2019, Dr Martin will present a review of her PhD research. She has continued working in animal welfare research, building expertise within the area of welfare at slaughter. Indeed, Jess is part of the consortium that was awarded HSA and Defra funding in 2018 to investigate the potential of low atmospheric pressure systems (LAPS) for humanely stunning pigs.

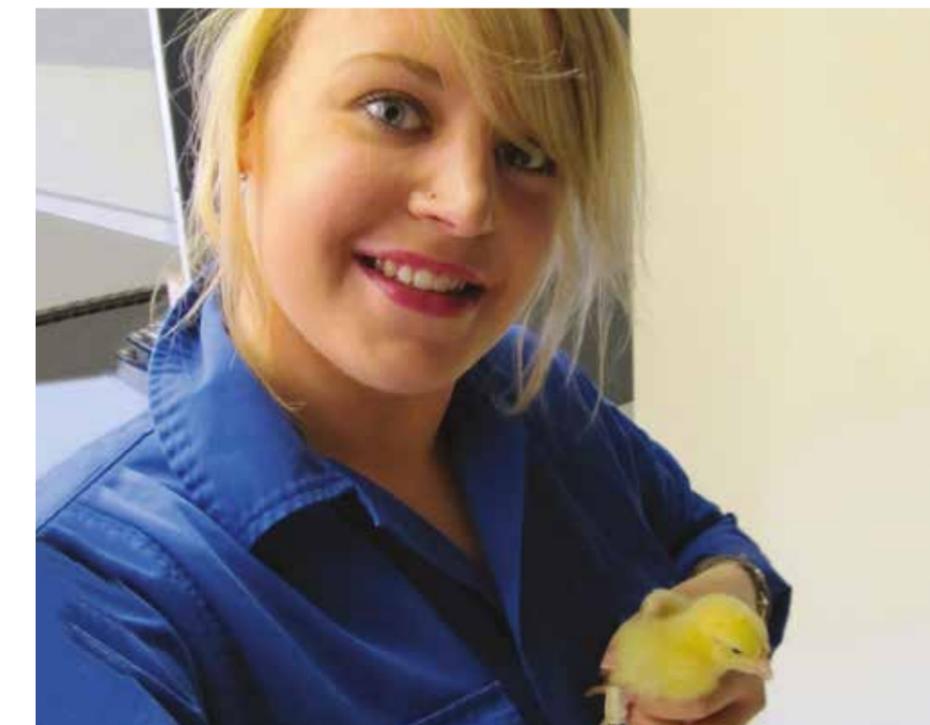


Photo credit: J Martin

## PROVIDING TECHNICAL INFORMATION & ADVICE

### Consultations

During the past year the HSA has responded to UK and European consultations relating to:

- The welfare of goats at the time of killing
- Animal welfare during transport
- The use of CCTV
- Assessment criteria to be used for new or modified stunning methods

The HSA has also provided written and oral evidence to the UK All Party Animal Group on Animal Welfare.



Photo credit: Tim Schenker/Agriphoto

### St George's House consultation

On the 8th and 9th November last, a consultation entitled *On-farm and Local Slaughter* was held at St George's House, Windsor Castle. It was attended by 29 invitees, representing a broad spectrum of stakeholders including industry, government, NGOs, researchers, banking, enforcement bodies and trade associations. Among the speakers were the HSA's Technical Director and an HSA Trustee who was representing the Farm Animal Welfare Committee. The purpose of the consultation was to bring together interested parties to discuss the implications of the decline in 'local' slaughter facilities, especially those providing private slaughter for small, organic and niche-market producers. The HSA's role was to give a presentation entitled *The Brecon Project*, which outlined the concept and development of mobile abattoirs (in which the HSA had played a significant part during the 1990s), and the reasons why there was very little uptake by industry and livestock producers. Other topics covered and discussed included: the current structure of the industry, legislation, animal welfare during transport and slaughter, the slaughter process, the cases for and against on-farm slaughter and the production and marketing of meat and meat products.

These topics were discussed at length in breakout groups and the findings fed back to the assembly. Participants agreed that building new abattoirs is not the solution to the challenges facing the sector. What is needed is wholehearted support for the abattoirs we have, and a good understanding of what factors have contributed to recent successes or failures. More generally, the British public do not understand the vital roles played by abattoirs and particularly small, local abattoirs in their food chain, and so this role and the professionalism of the industry need to be better communicated. A full report of the proceedings can be viewed using the following link: <https://www.stgeorghouse.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/On-Farm-and-Local-Slaughter-Report.pdf>

### BVA Welfare at Slaughter Working Group

Early in January 2019, the HSA was invited to join a new working group, convened by the British Veterinary Association (BVA), to look at all aspects of animal welfare at the time of slaughter. The HSA and BVA believe all animals deserve a humane death free from avoidable pain, distress and fear. Welfare at slaughter begins on farm, including the preparation of animals for transport, and ends at the abattoir. The HSA's major contribution to date has been a presentation about the various slaughter methods used for pigs, including the animal welfare pros and cons for each method when used in conjunction with the various handling systems in current use. The final report and recommendations should be concluded by the end of the year.



Photo credit: Tim Schenker/Agriphoto

### HSA travels to Switzerland

HSA staff recently visited Switzerland to discuss the UK's approach to finding potential replacements for CO<sub>2</sub>, explaining the rationale behind HSA's support for studies examining LAPS as well as other potential alternatives to CO<sub>2</sub>. The HSA also took part in a stakeholder meeting drawing up a research strategy whereby the Swiss Federal Food Safety and Veterinary Office hopes to promote research and eventual practical adoption of methods other than CO<sub>2</sub> - both for stunning livestock species and for humanely killing animals used in scientific research.

### Advice and support

Over the last year, animal welfare assessments have been carried out for: Hendrix Genetics, Rennes; Gressingham Foods, Redgrave and Debach; H R Jasper & Son, Launceston; Joice & Hill, Peterborough and WD Meats Ltd, Coleraine and a turkey slaughterhouse.

HSA staff have also provided animal welfare advice to a number of bodies including the RSPCA Standards Working Group, World Horse Welfare, Compassion in World Farming (CIWF) and Dunbia.

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

**Finance and Accounts**

The summarised accounts set out opposite have been extracted from the full accounts of the Humane Slaughter Association and have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, which were approved by the Trustees and signed on its behalf on 17th July 2019.

In July 2017 the HSA were successful in being awarded two generous grants from the American organisation Open Philanthropy.

A third grant of £200,000, received in March 2019 will be used to fund a scoping exercise looking at the complexities in the development of more humane methods of killing wild-caught fish. A further £230,915 was received to support the administration and technical staffing of the charity.

These substantial grants have been treated as a designated fund, and can be seen clearly in the summarised accounts.

The full accounts have been audited and the auditors' opinion was without qualification. The accounts will be filed with the Charity Commission after the Annual General Meeting on 16th October 2019.

Full accounts and the audit report can be obtained from the Charity Secretary, The Old School, Brewhouse Hill, Wheathampstead, Herts AL4 8AN.

**Independent Auditors' Statement to the Trustees of the HSA**

We have examined the summarised financial statements that comprise the summary statement of financial activities and summary balance sheet.

**Respective Responsibilities of the Trustees and Auditors:** You are responsible as the Trustees for the preparation of the summarised financial statements. We have agreed to report to you our opinion on the summarised financial statements' consistency with the financial statements, on which we reported to you on 17th July 2019.

**Basis of Opinion:** We have carried out the procedures we consider necessary to ascertain whether the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full financial statements from which they have been prepared.

**Opinion:** In our opinion the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full financial statements for the year ended 31st March 2019.



17th July 2019

**S Munday FCA** (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of UHY Hacker Young (East Limited) is eligible for appointment as auditor by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

**HSA Summary of Financial Activity Year Ended 31st March 2019**

|   | Unrestricted Funds<br>2018/19<br>£ | Designated Funds<br>2018/19<br>£ | Total<br>2018/19<br>£ | Total<br>2017/18<br>£ |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Incoming Resources</b>   |                                    |                                  |                       |                       |
| Voluntary Income  | 224,786                            | -                                | 224,786               | 273,771               |
| Charitable Activities   | 22,127                             | 430,915                          | 453,042               | 2,349,052             |
| Investment Income   | 128,562                            | 17,014                           | 145,576               | 135,581               |
| <b>Total Incoming Resources</b>                                   | <b>375,475</b>                     | <b>447,929</b>                   | <b>823,404</b>        | <b>2,758,404</b>      |
| <b>Resources Expended</b>   |                                    |                                  |                       |                       |
| Costs of Generating Funds   | 54,883                             | -                                | 54,883                | 56,182                |
| Charitable Activities   | 245,877                            | 9,500                            | 255,377               | 338,884               |
| Other Resources Expended  | 83,098                             | -                                | 83,098                | 78,808                |
| <b>Total Resources Expended</b>                                   | <b>383,858</b>                     | <b>9,500</b>                     | <b>393,358</b>        | <b>473,874</b>        |
| <b>Net Operational incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year</b> | <b>(8,383)</b>                     | <b>438,429</b>                   | <b>430,046</b>        | <b>2,284,529</b>      |
| <b>Other Recognised Gains &amp; Losses:</b>                       |                                    |                                  |                       |                       |
| Net Realised Gain on Investments                                  | 269,803                            | -                                | 269,803               | 173,761               |
| Unrealised Gains (losses) on investments                          | (68,274)                           | -                                | (68,274)              | (152,673)             |
| <b>Net Movement in Funds</b>                                      | <b>193,146</b>                     | <b>438,429</b>                   | <b>631,575</b>        | <b>2,305,617</b>      |
| Balance Brought Forward   | 4,956,503                          | 2,333,930                        | 7,290,433             | 4,984,816             |
| <b>Balances Carried Forward</b>                                   | <b>5,149,649</b>                   | <b>2,772,359</b>                 | <b>7,922,008</b>      | <b>7,290,433</b>      |



A G Simmons BVMS MSc MRCVS  
**Chairman**

[www.hsa.org.uk](http://www.hsa.org.uk)

**HSA Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2019**

|   | Unrestricted Funds<br>2018/19<br>£ | Designated Funds<br>2018/19<br>£ | Total<br>2018/19<br>£ | Total<br>2017/18<br>£ |
|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>Fixed Assets</b>                                     |                                    |                                  |                       |                       |
| Tangible Fixed Assets                                   | 182,648                            | -                                | 182,648               | 187,242               |
| Investments   | 4,606,221                          | -                                | 4,606,221             | 4,715,419             |
|   | <b>4,788,869</b>                   | <b>-</b>                         | <b>4,788,869</b>      | <b>4,902,661</b>      |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                                   |                                    |                                  |                       |                       |
| Debtors   | 57,800                             | -                                | 57,800                | 114,724               |
| Term deposits at bank                                   | 459,778                            | 2,772,359                        | 3,232,137             | 2,514,854             |
| Cash at Bank and in Hand                                | 13,414                             | -                                | 13,414                | 12,609                |
|   | <b>530,992</b>                     | <b>2,772,359</b>                 | <b>3,303,351</b>      | <b>2,642,187</b>      |
| <b>Current Liabilities</b>                              |                                    |                                  |                       |                       |
| Creditors: Amounts Falling Due within One Year          | (170,212)                          | -                                | (170,212)             | (219,152)             |
| <b>Net Current Assets</b>                               | <b>360,780</b>                     | <b>2,772,359</b>                 | <b>3,133,139</b>      | <b>2,423,036</b>      |
| Creditors: Amounts Falling Due after more than One Year | -                                  | -                                | -                     | (35,263)              |
| <b>Net Assets</b>                                       | <b>5,149,649</b>                   | <b>2,772,359</b>                 | <b>7,922,008</b>      | <b>7,290,433</b>      |
| <b>Funds</b>  |                                    |                                  |                       |                       |
| Unrestricted  | 5,149,649                          | -                                | 5,149,649             | 4,956,503             |
| Designated  | -                                  | 2,772,359                        | 2,772,359             | 2,333,930             |
|   | <b>5,149,649</b>                   | <b>2,772,359</b>                 | <b>7,922,008</b>      | <b>7,290,433</b>      |



C L McCann BSc ACA  
**Hon Treasurer**

Caring beyond the farm gate **17**

## Annual General Meeting 2018

The AGM was held at the Old School, Brewhouse Hill, Wheathampstead on 17th October 2018. As in previous years this was held in conjunction with the Annual General Meeting of the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW). The members of UFAW Council also act as Trustees for the HSA. Joint meetings are held to save time and money.

The meeting agreed the Minutes of the AGM of 2017 and resolved to receive the Accounts and Auditor's Report for the year ended 31st March 2018. Questions on the Report of the year's work were answered by the officials present and the meeting resolved that the Report and Accounts be received.

It was resolved that UHY Hacker Young, Registered Auditors, be appointed as auditors to HSA and their remuneration should be fixed by Council.

Ms C McCann, and Mr D Pritchard, stood down under the rules regarding rotation, both offered themselves for re-election, and were re-elected. Following the resignation of Dr J Bradshaw, Dr S Abeyesinghe a new candidate was proposed, her nomination had the full support of Council, and she was duly elected.

## Notice of Annual General Meeting 2019

The Annual General Meeting of the HSA will be held at 12.30pm on Wednesday 16th October 2019 at The Old School, Brewhouse Hill, Wheathampstead. The formal notice and agenda have been sent to all members and are available from the Secretary at the registered office.

### Vice-Presidents

Professor R S Anderson BVMS PhD MRCVS  
 Professor P M Biggs CBE DSc DVM FRCPath FSB FRS FRCVS  
 L Brown MBE BVSc BA PhD FSB MBA FRCVS  
 Professor P H Holmes OBE BVMS PhD FRCVS FRSE  
 B R Howard BVMS PhD MRCVS  
 Professor J E T Jones PhD MRCVS FRCPath  
 J H Pratt BVM&S DVSM FRCVS  
 G D Sales BSc PhD AKC MSB DipTCDHE

### Trustees

#### Chairman

A G Simmons BVMS MSc MRCVS <sup>1 2 3</sup>

#### Vice-Chairman

M Radford OBE LLB <sup>1</sup>

#### Honorary Treasurer

C McCann BSc ACA <sup>1 3</sup>

S Abeyesinghe BSc MSc PhD PGCertEd FHEA  
 Professor R M Bennett BSc MSc PhD <sup>1 2</sup>  
 J Downs BVSC MRCVS  
 Professor A Nolan OBE MVB DipECVA DipECVPT DVA MRCVS  
 B North MBA MSc PhD <sup>1</sup>  
 A Olsson MSc PhD <sup>3</sup>  
 D Pritchard BSc BVetMed MPH MRCVS <sup>2</sup>  
 C Reid <sup>2</sup>  
 D R Sargan MA PhD <sup>2 3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Member of the Finance Panel

<sup>2</sup> Member of the Fundraising Panel

<sup>3</sup> Member of the Grant Panel

### Staff

**Chief Executive & Scientific Director**  
 Robert C Hubrecht OBE BSc PhD FRSB

### Charity Secretary

Jane Moorman

### Technical Director

Charles Mason HND MInstM ARAgS

### Senior Scientific Programme Manager

Huw Gollledge BSc PhD

### Technical Officers

Jade Spence BSc (Hons) MSc AMRSB  
 Susan Richmond BSc MSc PhD

### Fundraising/Communications Manager

Tracey Woods MCIPR

### Office staff

Samantha Griffin  
 Wendy L Goodwin  
 Tina Langford

If you no longer wish to receive information about the charity's activities or support, then please contact the HSA office. (Members should be aware that notification of future Annual General Meetings is provided in the Annual Report).

### Registered Auditors

UHY Hacker Young, PO Box 501, The Nexus Building,  
 Broadway, Letchworth Garden City, Hertfordshire, SG6 9BL

### Bankers

HSBC Bank plc, 31 Chequer Street,  
 St Albans, Herts, AL1 4YN

### Solicitors

Withers LLP, 16 Old Bailey,  
 London, EC4M 7EG

Wilson, Summerlock Approach,  
 Salisbury, Wiltshire, SP2 7RJ

### Investment Advisers

Smith & Williamson Investment Managers,  
 25 Moorgate, London EC2V 5NS

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