



Humane Slaughter Association

Annual Report 2015-2016



Caring beyond the farm gate

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 worldwide 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:

- 1 providing technical information and advice on all aspects of animal handling, transport and slaughter
- 2 training in humane methods of handling and slaughter of livestock
- 3 educational and technical publications
- 4 independent advice to governments, other welfare organisations and the food industry
- 5 regular visits to markets and slaughterhouses
- 6 providing funding for research projects
- 7 development and application of scientific advances
- 8 providing grants towards the improvement of animal welfare during transport, marketing and slaughter



Jade Spence HSA Technical Officer meets rescue boar Mr Duale when visiting KSPCA Nairobi

Photo credit: J Gilchrist

Welcome to the 2015/16 Annual Report for the HSA

This past twelve months has been a time of exciting change for the charity. In April 2016 the Humane Slaughter Association became incorporated as a new charitable organisation and as a result a number of administrative changes took place, including a change of name from the Humane Slaughter Association & Council of Justice to Animals to the Humane Slaughter Association. The HSA remains a registered charity (No 1159690). The charitable objectives remain the same, and the changes made are in line with the legal structure of many modern charities to ensure we run as efficiently as possible.

The charity has also been seeking to expand its international reach through animal welfare activities in countries which farm a large number of animals and where there are opportunities to improve standards of animal welfare research, education and legislation. This year, staff have interacted with organisations in Kenya, Austria, India and China as well as throughout the UK and parts of Europe. Key advice and guidance has also been translated into a number of different languages in order to make the content more internationally accessible.

Over the years, the charity has collaborated with equipment manufacturers and scientists carrying out research. In 1967, for

example, it worked with a firm of electrical engineers and the Houghton Poultry Research Station to produce the first hand-held, low-voltage electric stunner for poultry. This year is no exception, with the HSA supporting research into the development of a new type of humane electrical stunning for adult cattle which has the potential to be compliant with Halal slaughter.

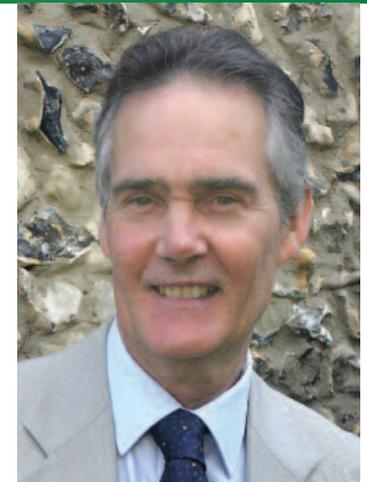
This year we also marked 30 years of the Dorothy Sidley Memorial Scholarships, set up in memory of the charity's late General Secretary and designed to encourage young people to take an interest in animal welfare by providing financial assistance for students to undertake projects on particular aspects concerning the welfare of food animals. It is gratifying to see the progress made as a direct result of these scholarships – from the invaluable knowledge gained to benefit food animals to more humane slaughter methods.

All of our achievements this year have only been possible thanks to our supporters and donors, whose generosity is not only humbling but also deeply appreciated. Everyone who has chosen to donate to the HSA this year, or who has supported our work in some way, is making a real difference. On behalf of all of the Trustees and staff, thank you.

Richard M Bennett



Chairman of Trustees



“The charity has also been seeking to expand its international reach through animal welfare activities in countries which farm a large number of animals...”



“Much of the HSA’s work involves the staff passing on their expertise by providing training, advice or reports on animal welfare. There has been a full programme of training events within the UK”

It has been a busy year for the HSA. Following the vote at the 2015 General Meeting, the charity transitioned in April to a more modern structure, becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) with a new charity number. Unfortunately this means that members of the old HSA need to apply to become members of the new one. We very much want to keep our existing members so we have tried to make this as easy as possible. If you were previously a member of the HSA and have not already done so, please get in touch with the charity’s office to transfer your membership to the new HSA CIO. There has also been a change to the look of new HSA publications and literature as the charity refreshes its branding.

Both the transition and re-branding are important for the future of the charity but, as always, the main focus has been on making practical improvements to the welfare of animals during marketing, transport and slaughter. To this end, the HSA has been expanding its international activities and influence. For example, this year seven online guides were translated into Chinese and made freely available to download, adding to the Spanish translations already on the website. In addition, a French Government Department was so impressed by the new HSA publication on poultry stunning that they translated it into French, and this is also available on the website. In

addition, plans are in place to provide further translations of key HSA information, including a major new resource on poultry stunning.

Much of the HSA’s work involves the staff passing on their expertise by providing training, advice or reports on animal welfare. There has been a full programme of training events within the UK. One member of the HSA staff visited Kenya and provided advice and lectures to veterinary and agriculture students, as well as visiting various slaughter facilities.

Finally, as we reported in our Spring Newsletter, the charity is supporting two major research projects, one aimed at finding acceptable methods of pre-cut stunning of cattle for the Halal market, and the other to find suitable electrical parameters for the stunning of turkeys, ducks and geese.

All of these and the other activities described in this report, which will now also include monitoring and advising on any UK marketing, transport and slaughter regulatory changes as a result of BREXIT, depend on the continuing and generous support of our members through legacies and donations. I would like to express my thanks to all those who have supported the HSA in the past year.

Robert C Hubrecht

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Robert C Hubrecht". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Chief Executive & Scientific Director

CARING BEYOND THE FARM GATE – TRAINING AND EDUCATION

Training

The HSA offers independent training and advice on animal welfare matters at markets, during transport and at slaughter. As an internationally recognised specialist charity, the HSA is well positioned to provide advice and training to industry, government bodies, international food business and academia.

Since the last annual report, the HSA technical staff's activities have included the following:

- emergency slaughter courses to Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) staff at Weybridge, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) staff at Stormont, a goat producer in Oxfordshire, 60 officers from Norfolk Police Wildlife Unit and six crews at Irish Ferries
- lectures to veterinary students at Cambridge University, the Royal Veterinary College, the University of Edinburgh, Liverpool University and to animal science students and trainee livestock auctioneers at Harper Adams University
- lectures in Kenya to the University of Nairobi Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Egerton University Faculty of Veterinary Medicine and Manor House Agricultural Centre
- courses on the safe operation and maintenance of firearms and captive-bolt equipment to Usk Vale Poultry and KEO Films
- in-house animal welfare training to a family butcher/slaughterer in Norfolk and to slaughterhouse staff, meat inspectors and vets in Kitale, Kenya

Education

The charity is internationally recognised for its livestock expertise and provides education and training in the fields of transport, marketing and slaughter in the United Kingdom and around the world. The HSA's education and training courses are designed to suit personnel from food processing plants, regulatory bodies, educational establishments, smallholders



Photo credit: HSA



Photo: HSA

Cattle in Kitale, Kenya

and hobby farmers, enforcement agencies, animal welfare groups, and also members of the general public who have an interest in the subject.

Over the past twelve months, the charity has been seeking to expand its international reach through animal welfare activities in countries where there are opportunities to improve standards of animal welfare research, education and legislation and which farm a large number of animals. As previously reported in the Spring Newsletter, in November 2015 one of HSA's Technical Officers visited Kenya to meet with Animal Care Initiatives Network-Humane (ACIN-Humane) to research whether and how the HSA might help improve farm animal welfare during transport, marketing and slaughter in Kenya. Lectures were also given to students of veterinary medicine and agriculture and bespoke training in animal welfare at slaughter to some 70 slaughterhouse staff, meat inspectors and veterinarians. The HSA also visited the Kenya Society for the Protection and Care of Animals (KSPCA).

In 2016 the charity sent educational materials on farm animal welfare during handling and slaughter to the KSPCA. The HSA hopes that these training publications will assist KSPCA's work when visiting, and providing training at, Kenyan slaughterhouses. The HSA has also informed KSPCA how the charity might be able to assist with KSPCA inspector training and with the supply of stunning equipment in Kenya.

Educational materials in the form of technical posters, guidance notes and UFAW *Animal Welfare* journals were also distributed to veterinary schools, students and those teaching the next generation of animal welfare inspectors by veterinarian John Cooper and his wife Margaret, a lawyer, during one of their regular visits to Kenya.

Offer to Indian Veterinary Schools

Following on from the donation of HSA publications to six African veterinary schools last year, a letter was sent to 30 Indian veterinary schools offering them a portfolio of complimentary HSA publications for their libraries. To date, four of these institutions have

taken up the offer and it is hoped that more will follow. Following the Chinese Veterinary Medical Association's (CVMA) announcement of the launch of a voluntary animal welfare initiative for farm animals across China, a similar offer has been made to the CVMA.

Translation of HSA publications

International outreach has increased partly through translations of HSA educational publications (particularly into languages widely spoken around the world).

Contacts in China (including slaughter equipment manufacturers) requested guidance from the HSA on how to build slaughter systems with animal welfare in mind. The HSA has therefore translated the Guidance Notes No 7 on Electrical Waterbath Stunning of Poultry into Mandarin. The guidance is designed for supervisors of poultry welfare in slaughterhouses and contains technical, detailed information on setting-up electrical waterbath stunners and the types, and design features, of accessory equipment that can be installed to improve bird welfare. In November 2015 a report indicated that vets in China are drawing up proposals for their first voluntary animal welfare standards for slaughter, so there is scope for the HSA to assist by providing translated HSA guidance.

China uses only electrical waterbaths for poultry and the top ten Chinese poultry producers alone slaughtered approximately 3.7 billion birds in 2014. In some parts of the world waterbaths are being replaced by controlled atmosphere stunning (which offers more advantages for bird welfare and product quality) but, worldwide, the waterbath remains the most common method of large-scale stunning for poultry and therefore advice on good practice operation of this method is required.

Guidance Notes No 7 has already made an impact closer to home. In late 2015 the French Government, at their request, translated the Notes into French for their poultry slaughter industry and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) have also praised the Notes for their content.

Technical information and advice

Worldwide, there is also a great need for guidance on effective neck-cutting of poultry, which is essential to ensure a rapid death, to protect poultry welfare at slaughter. The HSA Technical Information Poster on 'Effective Neck-Cutting of Poultry' illustrates the anatomical location of the most critical blood vessels, how to reliably sever them and how to assess the quality of a neck cut. It is aimed at persons who perform the slaughter of birds, whether in a commercial slaughterhouse or on-farm for private consumption.

The poster has been well-received by organisations worldwide and the International Poultry Council, which plans to advertise the poster in their quarterly newsletter, remarked: *"the poster is very informative and easy to understand... it will be very helpful... throughout the world."* Generous donations received as a result of the Spring Appeal will enable the charity to translate the poster into a number of different languages to further promote humane slaughter of poultry as far and wide as possible.

It is planned to provide the poster in 14 languages. The languages are: Spanish, Portuguese, French, Italian, Greek, Polish, Lithuanian, Russian, Japanese, Mandarin Chinese, Thai, Indian (Hindi & Bengali) and Arabic.



Front cover of Guidance Notes No 7 in Mandarin

Photo: HSA



Photo: HSA

Correct restraint of a chicken

New Publications

HSA online guide to electrical waterbath stunning of poultry

Earlier this year, the HSA published a free online guide to electrical waterbath stunning of poultry, accessible at www.hsa.org.uk/publications/online-guides. The new online learning resource is intended for abattoir personnel who work hands-on with live birds, eg shacklers and persons performing neck-cutting. The guide explains how electrical waterbaths work, using illustrations and video, and can be used as a training tool for staff who are undertaking proficiency qualifications in poultry welfare at the time of killing, eg as part of the process of applying for a Certificate of Competence as per EC Reg. 1099/2009 'PATOK'.

Online guide for disease control

Throughout 2016, the HSA has been in the process of developing an online guide to the killing of livestock for disease control. Once completed, the guide will offer practical information on the emergency killing of cattle, sheep, goats, deer, pigs and poultry. It is intended to provide assistance throughout the planning and operation of the emergency killing of livestock during outbreaks of notifiable disease such as Foot and Mouth. The guide is aimed at livestock producers, veterinary surgeons, knackermen and killing personnel, animal welfare inspectors, animal health officers, students and any other people who may be involved with the emergency killing of livestock during an infectious disease outbreak. Topics covered include logistical and biosecurity issues associated with disease control, practical points for the humane killing of animals in emergency situations, killing methods and the disposal of carcasses.

Updated website

To facilitate easier access to the educational materials available, a minor refresh of the website was undertaken during the year and a visual online introduction to the HSA and concepts of humane slaughter was also produced for the website.

PROVIDING EXPERT INDEPENDENT ADVICE

Since 1911, the HSA has built an international reputation for being a reliable, knowledgeable and practical organisation with a sound understanding of livestock and livestock handling. Despite its substantial achievements, outside the scientific, academic/veterinary and professional community relatively few people are aware of the major impact the charity has had on humane transport, marketing and slaughter. The HSA continues to make significant improvements by working constructively with agricultural, meat industry, veterinary and other welfare and professional organisations.

During the course of the year, the charity has provided animal welfare advice to the British Veterinary Association, farm animal welfare auditors, poultry research labs, a film company, an animal welfare NGO umbrella organisation in South Africa and a hatchery in America.

In addition, it has also carried out animal welfare assessments for Randall Parker Foods Ltd, Llanidloes; Fumagalli, Como, Italy; Bernard Matthews Ltd, Great Witchingham; Dalehead Foods Ltd, Spalding; Tulip Ltd, Westerleigh; Dovecote Park Ltd, Skellingthorpe and Stapleton; Round Green Deer Farm, Rotherham; and Weizer Bergland Spezialitäten, Weiz, Austria.

Assisting with the Welfare of Animals at the Time of Killing (WATOK)

Following the success of last year's seminar on the changing role of the animal welfare officer, the charity announced in June that it will be running a similar event for the meat and livestock industry in October 2016 which will look at the impact of WATOK regulations. The title of the seminar is 'WATOK ONE YEAR ON – Meeting the challenges... Where are we now?' and will follow a similar format to last year. The seminar will highlight and discuss those aspects of The Welfare of Animals at the Time of Killing Regulations

(WATOK) to which the industry has had to respond with changes in procedures and the implications, if any, for animal welfare.

HSA Research Project

Throughout 2015/16 the HSA has been assisting with field work and data collection for a Defra-funded project 'Study to investigate a non-penetrating percussive blow to the head as a humane killing method for piglets, kids and lambs up to 5 kg.' This work has now been completed on all species and preliminary results suggest the device investigated is effective on piglets and kids up to five kilograms in weight using the recommended charge. However, a more powerful charge may be required to guarantee consistent, effective results with lambs of a similar weight and more trials with lambs, using stronger charges, have been proposed to complete the study.



Photo: HSA

Attendance at exhibitions and events

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

September

The Association of Meat Inspectors Seminar
Animal Disease Control Seminar, Celle, Germany

November

Veterinary Public Health Association (VPHA) Autumn Meeting
Food & Drink Qualifications (FDQ) Conference
Royal Smithfield Festival, Peterborough

February 2016

National Sheep Association (NSA) Winter Fair
Winterbotham Darby Research Forum

March

Livestock Auctioneers' Association (LAA)
AGM and Dinner
VPHA Spring Meeting
DG SANTE Transport Group meeting at the SRUC/Roslin Institute

April

Animal Welfare Science and Practice Low Atmospheric Pressure Stunning (LAPS) information session in Suffolk

May

British Pig and Poultry Fair (Exhibitors)
National Beef Association (NBA) Beef Expo

June

British Veterinary Association (BVA) Animal Welfare Forum

July

Smallholders & Country Show
The Livestock Event at NEC
NSA Sheep Event (Exhibitors)



Gloucester Old Spot pigs

Pig and Poultry Fair 2016

In May, the HSA returned to its regular position at the British Pig and Poultry Fair held at Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire. Staff met with, and offered advice to, a wide range of show visitors from smallholders to large-scale farmers, producers and processing companies. It was a valuable opportunity for the charity to promote its services and publications, in particular the new technical poster – *Effective Neck-Cutting of Poultry*.

NSA Sheep 2016

The HSA was an exhibitor at the National Sheep Association (NSA) event. It was a busy day with farmers and smallholders visiting the stand for advice on a range of issues including the use of captive-bolt equipment and firearms for the humane destruction of sheep on-farm, the 2015 WATOK regulations and the potential impact BREXIT will have on the welfare of livestock in the UK.

Smallholders & Country Show 2016

In July, staff visited the Smallholders & Country Show at the South of England Showground, Ardingly to re-establish contact with the event organisers and to consider exhibiting there in future years. An independent, family-run show in its 30th year, on average the show attracts up to 10,000 visitors to meet with over 150 exhibitors and traders at the two-day event.

Research into brain structure and function and into how unconsciousness can be painlessly induced has been crucial to the development of modern, science-based humane methods of slaughter and killing. Research has also been crucial in the development of humane, effective and safe methods and technology. The HSA is a leading source of support and funding for essential scientific research within its field and has assisted the application of many advances into the working practices of the meat industry. Research, whilst important, is not enough on its own. The ideas and findings have to be implemented and, over the past year, the HSA has undertaken a number of educational projects, further information on which can be found on pages 5 – 7.

Over the last year, the charity has seen its inaugural Research Training Scholar (RTS) Dr Jessica Martin, complete her three year project and its two 2015 RTS winners, Awal Fuseini and Carlos Rebelo, get underway with their doctoral research into improving animal welfare at slaughter.

Inaugural RTS winner

Dr Jessica Martin graduated from the University of Glasgow with a PhD gained for her research which aimed to design a mechanical device to humanely kill chickens on farm and provide a competitive replacement for manual cervical dislocation. In 2013 cervical dislocation became a restricted killing method under European Council Regulation 1099/2009 on the protection of animals at the time of killing. Each year, billions of poultry worldwide may need to be killed on farm if birds are sick or injured, or for small-scale slaughter.

Dr Martin designed and prototyped four mechanical devices, including a novel mechanical cervical dislocation glove, as a humane alternative to manual cervical dislocation for killing chickens. The glove showed promise in optimising, and reducing inconsistencies in, the cervical dislocation process and Jess is currently investigating how it might be produced commercially. Her study also highlighted the need for refinement of the glove training protocol, to allow for the wide variation in poultry keepers'



RTS 2015 winner Carlos Rebelo

Photo: Carlos Rebelo





Photo: HSA

manual cervical dislocation techniques and experience. In 2016 Jess published her first scientific paper on her research in the journal *Animal Welfare* (VOL 25:227-241) and additional papers will follow. The HSA will disseminate the outcomes from this research to industry through its educational and technical publications.

Two new Research Training Scholarships

In 2015, the charity awarded two RTS scholarships – to Awal Fuseini based at the University of Bristol and Carlos Rebelo at the Royal Veterinary College.

Awal Fuseini

Awal's study aims to develop and implement a new type of humane electrical stunning for adult cattle (Single Pulse Ultra-high Current, or SPUC), which has the potential to be compliant with Halal slaughter. Awal states the most important Halal condition is that animals must be alive at the time of the neck-cut and he is determining the optimum high-voltage electrical parameters, that can be applied across the heads of cattle, to disrupt the function of cell membrane pores in the brain (electroporation) in order to produce immediate and prolonged, but reversible unconsciousness. This will enable the stunning method to be eligible for Halal beef production as well as secular production. SPUC is also expected to reduce or eliminate post-stun convulsions (which can be dangerous for operators and may delay neck-cutting or impair meat quality).

Awal has given presentations on his research to industry and fellow scientists and is already receiving significant interest from key members of the beef industry, regarding the availability of a SPUC device. The potential benefits of SPUC technology for animal welfare, meat quality, throughput and personnel health and safety are likely to interest all slaughterhouses that process bovines and Awal's research may also pave the way for investigation of this novel type of electrical stunning for other species.

Carlos Rebelo

Carlos aims to further develop the design of dry electrical stunning systems used for small-scale, on-farm slaughter of turkeys and waterfowl, with the hope of improving bird welfare by increasing the likelihood of an immediate effective stun, as well as producing acceptable meat quality. Carlos's research may inform gaps in scientific knowledge and

legislation, particularly for ducks and geese. Since 2009 the HSA has advised waterfowl producers to use captive-bolt stunning to preclude the possibility of birds suffering, because of animal welfare concerns when constant voltage devices are used on poultry. Yet, anecdotally, dry electrical stunning appears to be a preferred method for many small-scale producers for reasons of aesthetics, running costs and ease of application. Therefore, Carlos's plan to refine electrode design and the potential development of a constant current electrical stunner for small-scale slaughter of poultry may appeal to producers and may enable more humane use of electrical stunning for all types of poultry.

In the first year of his PhD, Carlos carried out a survey of UK small-scale poultry producers to determine views on the design, and impact on bird welfare and product quality, of existing electrical stunners for turkeys, ducks and geese. Carlos has also begun assessing stunner and electrode design by examining electrical current profiles in individual turkeys, to determine the efficacy of electrical contact.

In June 2016, Carlos presented a poster on his research so far at the UFAW *Animal Welfare Conference 'Recent Advances V'* which was held in York.

Dorothy Sidley Memorial Scholarships

In 2015, the charity awarded a Dorothy Sidley Memorial Scholarship to Emma King. Emma has now completed her project during which she compared the efficacy of two captive-bolt devices used to kill adult turkeys – one powered by blank cartridge and one by compressed air. In December, Emma presented her work at the UFAW Animal Welfare Student Scholarships meeting held in Writtle College, Chelmsford. Emma graduated from the Royal Veterinary College this summer with a BVetMed degree.

In May of this year, the 2016 Scholarship was awarded to Alexandra Bearman at the Royal Veterinary College for her project which aims to assess captive-bolt gun performance and

maintenance in UK cattle abattoirs. A number of studies have shown that captive-bolt stunning is an effective method when used correctly with well-maintained guns but there appears to be little research into whether those that are actually regularly used in abattoirs are maintained to the recommended guidelines and whether they are working to their correct potential.

30 year milestone reached

2016 marks the 30th anniversary of the Dorothy Sidley awards, which were established in 1986 as a memorial to the late Miss Dorothy Sidley MBE, General Secretary of the Humane Slaughter Association for 48 years.

Miss Sidley, who died on the 20th of May 1984, was a dedicated advocate for animal welfare, particularly for food animals, and she built a solid foundation for the HSA's work today. The annual award scheme is a fitting tribute to her outstanding lifetime contribution to animal welfare and is designed to enable students or trainees in the industry to carry out a project which is clearly aimed at improving the welfare of food animals in markets, during transport or at slaughter.

Fifty-two Dorothy Sidley Scholarships have been granted since the award's inception, supporting student research across a diverse range of topics, from the welfare of sheep during sea transport, to links between pre-slaughter handling of cattle and meat quality.

The first memorial award, in 1986, was given to Ms Gillian Weyman of Hatfield Polytechnic, for a study of cattle lorry tailboards and unloading and loading procedures. The idea for this research project came as a direct result of observations Ms Weyman had made whilst working as a Research Assistant with the HSA. She had noticed, on a number of occasions, cattle slipping whilst being moved on and off transporters and felt there was a need for a study in this particular area. For a list all previous winners see our website: www.hsa.org.uk.

The Humane Slaughter Award

In order to give recognition to important contributions made in this field and to promote interest in pursuit of further advances, the HSA runs an award scheme for individuals or organisations worldwide whose work has resulted in significant advances in the welfare of livestock (eg cattle, sheep, pigs, other mammals, poultry or fish) during slaughter, transport or killing for disease control.

The winner of the 2016 Humane Slaughter Award was Professor Neville Gregory in recognition of the advances and technological developments he has made over 37 years which have led to significant and numerous advances in humane slaughter.

As leader of the Animal Welfare Group within the AFRC Institute of Food Research at Bristol, Professor Gregory helped initiate research into improving welfare during transport, stunning and slaughter – a neglected area of research. He was also instrumental in setting minimum standards for stunning – for example, electrical parameters and blood vessels to be severed at slaughter.

Professor Gregory has published hundreds of original scientific papers and several books which are a fitting testament to his contribution to animal welfare science. In addition, he has acted as an expert advisor to a variety of national and international institutions and his research outcomes have been widely used to set standards of welfare in European Directives and slaughter regulations.

As a leader, he has mentored scientists who later became world leaders in their own specialised field, and taught animal welfare to students at all levels and at several institutions around the world – inspiring and encouraging many generations.



Professor Neville Gregory (right) receiving his award from HSA Chief Executive Dr Robert Hubrecht

Photo: HSA

ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

General Meeting 2015

The General Meeting was held at the Old School, Brewhouse Hill, Wheathampstead. 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 notice convening the meeting had been sent to all subscribers and was taken as read. The meeting agreed the Minutes of the GM of 2014 and resolved to receive the Accounts and Auditor's Report for the year ended 31 March 2015. 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 Anthony Joseph & Co Limited, Registered Auditors, be appointed as auditors to HSA and its associated Trusts and their remuneration should be fixed by Council.

Dr J Bradshaw, Ms B Cooper, and Professor N Gregory, stood down under the rules regarding rotation. Dr J Bradshaw had offered himself for re-election. New candidates were proposed, Ms Charlotte Reid, and Dr Andrew Wilson. Dr J Bradshaw was re-elected and Ms Reid and Dr Wilson were elected. The nominations had the full support of Council.

The motion to approve adoption of the new Constitution of the Humane Slaughter Association (number 1159690) Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and proposal that all the assets, liabilities, and operations of the existing charity, Humane Slaughter Association and Council of Justice to Animals (number 209563), be transferred to the newly formed Humane Slaughter Association (number 1159690) in furtherance of the objectives of the existing charity and once the transfer has been completed the existing charity (number 209563) be dissolved, was carried unanimously.

Notice of General Meeting 2016

The General Meeting of HSA will be held at 12.30pm on Wednesday 19 October 2016 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.

Finance and Accounts

The summarised accounts for the Humane Slaughter Association and Council of Justice to Animals (No 209563) set out overleaf have been extracted from the full accounts and have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011, which were approved by the Directors/Council and signed on its behalf on 13 July 2016.

The full accounts have been audited and the auditors' opinion was without qualification. The accounts will be filed with the Charity Commission after the General Meeting on 19 October 2016.

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

Independent Auditors' Statement to the Trustees of the HSA & CJA

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

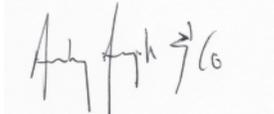
You are responsible as the Trustees for the preparation of the summarised financial statements. We have agreed to report to you our opinion on the summarised financial statements' consistency with the financial statements, on which we reported to you on 13 July 2016.

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 31 March 2016.



13 July 2016

Anthony Joseph & Co Limited, Statutory Auditor, Stevenage, Hertfordshire.

Anthony Joseph & Co Limited is eligible to act as an auditor in terms of Section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006

Summary of Financial Activity Year Ended 31 March 2016

	2015/16 £	2014/15 £
Incoming resources	755,009	240,708
Less:		
Costs of generating funds	63,394	60,438
Charitable activities	443,794	196,167
Other resources expended	90,630	82,324
Total resources expended	597,818	338,929
Net Operational incoming/ (outgoing) resources for the year	157,191	(98,221)
Other recognised gains and losses:		
Net realised gain on investments	90,285	177,337
Unrealised gains(losses) on investments	(281,245)	162,020
Net movement in funds	(33,769)	241,136
Balance brought forward	4,346,878	4,105,742
Balance carried forward	4,313,109	4,346,878

The summarised accounts were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on 13 July 2016



Professor R M Bennett BSc MSc PhD
Chairman

The summarised accounts set out here have been extracted from the full accounts and have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2016

	2015/16 £	2014/15 £
Fixed assets:		
Tangible fixed assets	193,970	195,948
Investments	3,838,602	3,896,811
	4,032,572	4,092,759
Current assets:		
Debtors	42,737	103,760
Term deposits at bank	431,309	185,753
Cash at bank and in hand	17,188	16,574
	491,264	306,087
Current liabilities:		
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(141,440)	(51,968)
Net current assets	349,794	254,119
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	(69,257)	—
Net assets	4,313,109	4,346,878
Funds:		
Unrestricted	4,313,109	4,346,878



C L McCann BSc ACA
Hon Treasurer

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

The Humane Slaughter Association and Council of Justice to Animals

Charity Registered in England No 209563 (until 31 March 2016)
from 1 April 2016 Charity Registered in England and Wales
No 1159690 : Charitable Corporated Organisation

Vice-Presidents:

Professor R S Anderson BVMS PhD MRCVS
Professor P M Biggs CBE DSc DVM FRCPath FRSB FRS FRCVS
L A Brown MBE BVSc BA PhD FRSB MBA FRCVS
Professor P H Holmes OBE BVMS PhD FRCVS FRSE
B R Howard BVMS PhD FRCVS
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J H Pratt BVM&S DVSM FRCVS
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Tracey Woods MCIPR (from 03.08.15)

We were sad to learn of the death of Vice President Ian Lean earlier this year. Ian was a valued supporter and Trustee for many years and his experience and input will be much missed.

Secretary:

Jane Moorman

Office staff:

Samantha Griffin
Wendy L Goodwin
Caitlin Gillespie (from 07.03.16)

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