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DOB 09/09/83

Having graduated in 2007, I spent five years developing the veterinary skills that I had learned at university, before returning to education to follow my passion for wildlife. My time in practice established my interest in population medicine, and a study of epidemiology seemed a natural link between this experience and a role in wildlife studies. I have successfully combined this study with a conservation course to give the theory a relevant grounding. I am now building upon this background carrying out PhD studies on the control of tuberculosis in a meerkat population in South Africa.

Education

- Present: - **PhD Study - Translating Theory into Practice: Targeted disease control in Kalahari meerkats.** I am working with Dr Julian Drewe at the Royal Veterinary College, and Prof. Tim Clutton-Brock at Cambridge University to investigate the practical approach to managing tuberculosis in meerkats. This involves understanding and development of diagnostic tests, design and implementation of a vaccine strategy, and analysis of experimental results. It builds upon my experiences in practice of UK cattle tuberculosis management whilst putting my epidemiological training into practice.
- 2012-2015 I undertook an online **MVetSci in Veterinary Conservation Medicine** with the University of Edinburgh, studying part-time. The course aims to enhance knowledge of interactions between animals, humans and ecosystems, whilst providing veterinary skills for engaging in conservation medicine.
- 2012-2013 Studied on a one year full time **MSc in Veterinary Epidemiology** jointly run by the Royal Veterinary College, and the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of London, gaining a **distinction**, and the **prize for first place** on the course. This course provides training in a range of epidemiological techniques, statistical approaches, an introduction to mathematical modelling of disease, and interestingly, an exposure to human health and the techniques employed in that field. For my dissertation I modelled the spread of canine distemper virus in leopards in order to produce a disease risk analysis for a reintroduction programme.
- 2002-2007 Royal Veterinary College, University of London
Awarded **Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine (BVetMed)**
- 1995-2002 King Edward VI Five Ways School, Birmingham

Employment History

- Jul '09 – Jul '12 Senior Assistant Veterinary Surgeon (Farm animal), Westpoint Veterinary Services (Ashbourne) LLP, Derbyshire
This position involved providing farmer training, and herd health analysis as well as first opinion sheep and cattle vetting. I was also providing mastitis consultancy to both internal and external clients.
- Sep'08 –Jun '09 Assistant Veterinary Surgeon (Farm animal), Wood Veterinary Group, Gloucestershire
In this position I developed my practical skills whilst learning more about farming businesses and agricultural practices.
- Sep '07 –Aug '08 Farm Animal Veterinary Intern, Westpoint Veterinary Services Ltd, Sussex
During the year I completed my RCVS Professional Development Phase (PDP), and developed my early veterinary skills.
- Jul '07 –Sep '07 Assistant Veterinary Surgeon (Small animal), A.K. Duncan Veterinary Clinic, Stourbridge, West Midlands

Professional Memberships

Member of: Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons British Veterinary Association
 British Veterinary Zoological Society Wildlife Disease Association
 European Wildlife Disease Association (currently the UK student representative)
 British Ecological Society (currently the student representative for the BES Conservation special interest group)

Selected Achievements

- Completed London Marathon in 2014
- Qualified as a Level 1 Rugby Union coach through the Rugby Football Union (RFU) in 2010
- Completed the Sports Diver qualification with the British Sub-Aqua Club (BSAC) in 2010
- Various Student Union positions whilst studying at the RVC: **Assistant Social Secretary** 2003-4, **Treasurer** 2004-5, **President** 2005-6, **Senior Vice President** 2006-7. As president I organised the college's first student welfare week, oversaw changes in the union's structure, and represented the largest number of students the union had ever had at the most senior levels of the college.
- Lapland Husky Trail 2009. Completed a 250km husky drive for Veterinary Benevolent Fund

Prizes

- Dogs Trust Prize for First Place in Veterinary Epidemiology 2013 Royal Veterinary College
- Animalcare Final Year Student Award 2007 for "Consistently outstanding contribution to both student and college life during the veterinary degree course".
- Norman Prize 2002 awarded to the student giving the "Greatest Service to the School" King Edward VI Five Ways School

Journal Subscriptions

Cat News (Journal of the IUCN/SSC Cat Specialist Group)
Journal of Wildlife Disease

Academic Prizes

- Animalcare Final Year Student Award 2007 for “Consistently outstanding contribution to both student and college life during the veterinary degree course”
- Dogs Trust Prize for First Place in Veterinary Epidemiology 2013 Royal Veterinary College

Interests

- The role of wildlife diseases in both livestock and human health
- Disease ecology; specifically the importance of wildlife disease control in conservation
- Interdisciplinary communication
- Motivators of human behaviours and the use of these to effect change
- Maximising livestock production system efficiency, whilst maintaining welfare standards