

Wildlife Information Network and Twycross Zoo Associate



The Wildlife Information Network was set up 10 years ago by Yorkshire - born Suzanne Boardman, then a veterinarian at London Zoo who was receiving requests for information and technical support from all corners of the globe. The information existed, but was fragmented and, in emerging countries, very difficult to obtain. WIN was inaugurated as a paper network of newsletters and collated information.

Zoo Outreach Organisation and Wildlife Information Network had much in common and became informally associated from 1991 in Singapore. As some of our readers know, WIN has been generous in giving complimentary memberships in the form of internet passwords or "keys" to their web based wildlife information treasury, WildPro and also CD's with relevant material included.

In the last two years WIN has become very much involved in emerging diseases and has created new web modules on these which include a massive amount of information. ZOOS' PRINT reader-vets appreciated the web module on hoof and mouth disease some years ago

Now, Wildlife Information Network, the UK registered Charity which provides information on wildlife and emerging infectious diseases, has a new Director, a new home and a new focus. Suzie Boardman, founder and long-time director of WIN has taken up the post of Director of one of the very well known zoos in England, the Twycross Zoo. Twycross Zoo is famous for its excellent South East Asian primate collection, among other things. Dr. Boardman is the first vet to serve as Director of Twycross. She has extensive interest and experience in zoos as well as in various aspects of wildlife medicine.

Dr. Boardman's long-suffering husband, Iain Boardman has taken over as Director of the organisation. It is a tribute to modern day marriage that Iain has helped his wife build Wildlife Information Network over the entire period of their marriage and now has even taken on the job of Director. Iain brings a business career to the job and an intense interest in wildlife, thanks to his spouse.

Wildlife Information Network Offices have also moved to Twycross Zoo which is good for the charity and also good for the zoo. Twycross is one of the most respected zoological societies in Britain and will provide the venue and framework for exciting opportunities for collaborative activity. Wildlife Information Network will bring a more formalised scientific bent to the zoo.

Suzie Boardman came to the post of Director when Molly Badham and Natalie Evans decided after 40 years at helm at Twycross to retire. However, Molly Badham will be President and Director Emeritus of the Organisation. Badham and Evans made a name for the Twycross Zoo with their unique work among primates-notably the chimpanzees of Brooke Bond TV advertising fame, but also with hugely successful breeding of gorillas, bonobos, orangutans, and other non-ape primate families.

The Wildlife Information Network was the first non-zoo charity and the first animal welfare organisation to be elected as an Affiliate Member of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums. WIN is dedicated to making information on the health and management of captive and free-ranging wild animals and their habitats readily available to wildlife professionals and decision-makers worldwide and will now focus more on zoos than previously, since it is based in one. WIN publishes Wildpro, an Electronic Encyclopaedia and library, which is made available through its Website www.wildlifeinformation.org to members of WIN: professionals and decision-makers worldwide. It is a user-friendly system providing cross-disciplinary information. Volumes are made available on both a password controlled Website and CD-ROM.

WIN CD-ROMs currently available are:
Waterfowl: Health and management
Managing for Foot - and - Mouth Disease
West European Hedgehog
Chronic Wasting Disease in Deer and Elk
Wildlife: First Aid and Care
Wildlife: Disease Investigation and Management (Birds)
Managing for West Nile Virus Infection USA

Wildlife Information Network plans a variety of new initiatives to enhance their usefulness and association with zoos as well as field biologists. Zoo Outreach Organisation will assist their efforts by continuing to disseminate their material and survey users for its applicability and their further needs.

For more information on Wildlife Information Network, please refer the following page.

A new membership scheme is being developed for South Asian zoo and wildlife professionals who want to have access to Wildlife Information Network materials. If you are interested, please email us at <zooreach@vsnl.com>.



Wildlife Information Network

Wildlife Information Network [WIN] is a registered charity which aims to provide information on the health and management of captive and free-ranging wild animals and emerging infectious diseases to wildlife professionals and decision-makers worldwide.

Volumes are developed by the WIN in-house team of wildlife veterinary surgeons who research the relevant documents and information sources, and collate the heavily referenced information in a user-friendly format. Before publication each new volume is peer-reviewed. WIN created the unique Wildpro® Multimedia system which offers password controlled access to its extensive Website. The WIN Website is increasingly being used as a teaching tool by universities and colleges worldwide, and globally by veterinarians involved with all the different facets of wildlife management. In addition to the Website WIN publishes dedicated CD-ROMs of the volumes for off-line and field work. For further information, e-mail: info@wildlifeinformation.org.

What is Wildpro Multimedia?

Wildpro Multimedia is WIN's unique database system that holds the electronic encyclopedia and library on the WIN Website. It offers:

- A user friendly system providing cross-disciplinary information
- Volumes on both a password controlled Website and CD-ROM
- Direct Web access through user's own local Intranet
- An essential tool for field projects and location work
- Extensive flow-charts for decision makers
- New volumes constantly researched and published
- Fully referenced data

Also, an Electronic Library with hyper-links to the main system for quick easy reference. Texts include:

- Field Manual of Wildlife Diseases (USGS, NWHC)
- Environmental Enrichment Manual
- Zoo Standards (DEFRA)
- Guidelines for Stranded Marine Mammals (BDMLR, RSPCA)
- Wetlands Industry & Wildlife (WWT)
- Ethics and Legal Aspects of Treatment and Rehabilitation of Wild Animal Casualties (BWRC)
- Hazard Assessment of the Organophosphates (EPA)
- Waterfowl Management Guidelines (WWT)
- Environmental Impact Statement of Rules to Eradicate Chronic Wasting Disease from Wisconsin's Free-Ranging White-Tailed Deer Herd (Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources)
- Oil Spills and Marine Wildlife: Guidelines for a Response (Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust)
- British Mammal Factsheets (The Mammal Society)

Species Volumes:

Hedgehogs: Health and Management *Erinaceus europaeus*

An in depth focus on the West European Hedgehog, its natural history, diseases and treatment, along with pharmaceutical information, including published recommendations and dosages. *"The whole volumes is very good and covers everything you need to know about hedgehogs and their habitats. It will be a very useful reference tool for all sorts of people: vets, veterinary nurses, carers, and rehabilitators with differing amounts of experience"*. Dru Burdon, Jersey Hedgehog Preservation Group, Channel Islands

Waterfowl: Health and Management

This volume contains detailed information on all species of ducks, geese and swans, their diseases, treatment and management. *"This is an absolutely invaluable source of information from all those working with waterfowl (zoological collections, wildlife, conservation, rehabilitation, veterinary care, industry), which has been produced at a very reasonable cost. In simple terms it is a must for anyone with an interest or involvement with waterfowl"*. Niel Forbes, The Clockhouse Veterinary Hospital

Disease Volumes:

Chronic Wasting Disease in Deer and Elk

This volume brings together data on the clinical signs, pathology and diagnosis of CWD in deer and experimentally affected species. It provides detailed information on the "prion" diseases, including hypotheses recommended CWD disease surveillance and control measures, and regulations and legislation currently in force in North America.

"Once mastered, the CWD module contains an huge amount of information on the disease that is available from a single point source. Information is supported by appropriate references and links to other useful sites and provided. An excellent tool for anyone dealing with CWD". Terry K Kreeger DVM PhD, Supervisor, Veterinary Services Branch, Wyoming Game and Fish Department

Managing for Foot-and-Mouth Disease

An in-depth focus containing a full literature search and review including full texts of original references not readily available elsewhere.

"Congratulations to all at Wildlife Information Network for putting together such an excellent resume of FMD and the issues surrounding it". Professor Ian McConnell, Professor of Veterinary Sciences, University of Cambridge.

West Nile Virus

This volume is designed to provide information on West Nile Virus and West Nile Virus Disease in the light of the recent appearance of this disease in North America.

"The West Nile Virus electronic format provides rapid and easy browsing and retrieval of information. The information is factual and fully reference, and no decision maker can be without it." Dr. Robert McClean, National Wildlife Research Center, Colorado.

Techniques Volumes:

Wildlife: Disease Investigation and Management - (Birds)

Guidance on dealing with disease outbreaks in wildlife, providing easy access to the USGS Field Manual of Wildlife Diseases and a flow chart leading to overviews on the purpose of disease control.

"This Wildpro volume is key source of information on control and management of wildlife diseases. Its reviews of general wildlife disease investigation and control procedures, together with detailed summaries of selected diseases, provides the wildlife veterinarian and the wildlife manager with invaluable information when managing the health of wild populations." Julie Langenberg, VMD, State Wildlife Veterinarian, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Wildlife: First Aid and Care

A one-stop source of information on the natural history, short-term husbandry and first-aid of all British mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

"It should be in every zoo's bookmarks and is absolutely essential if rehab is part of your work." Peter Dickinson, ZooNews Digest

Coming Soon

River Thames Oiled Wildlife Resource

This volume will contain published information on species, habitat types and all facets of dealing with oiled wild animals. It will incorporate existing oil spill response guidelines, contingency plans and publications and link these to data on species and management techniques.

Pain Management in Ruminants

This volume will provide information and support on the use of analgesics in ruminant species, together with general management advice for pain alleviation and prevention in cattle, sheep and their wild relatives.