50 years of Veterinary Nursing
– How did it all begin?

Jean Turner RVN
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1908 Canine Nurses Institute
1913 Ruislip Dog Sanatorium
  • Mr William Kirk MRCVS
1938 Mrs Florence Bell, RVC Head Nurse
  • On cigarette card!
Mid 1930s Sewell and Cousins approached
RCVS for recognition of canine nurses
50 years of Veterinary Nursing

- 1957 BSAVA inaugurated
- 1961 Animal Nursing Auxillary (ANA) training started
- 1962 first ANA examinations in September
50 years of Veterinary Nursing

- 1965 BVNA inaugurated
- 1966 BVNA became BANAA (British Animal Nursing Auxiliary Association)
- 1984 BVNA re-instated as Veterinary Nurses renamed
50 years of Veterinary Nursing
50 years of Veterinary Nursing

Veterinary Nurses post qualifying
50 years of Veterinary Nursing

Veterinary Nurses post qualifying
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[Images of badges]

Veterinary Nurses post qualifying

[Images of badges]
Veterinary Nurses post qualifying

- Early duties
  - Reception
  - Assisting anaesthesia
  - Kennel cleaning
  - Basic first aid

- Forward thinking
  - RANAs made progress
    - First RANA veterinary representative was Julie Gaymer (nee Sansom)
    - Many VNs were (& still are) the first point of contact with veterinary representatives
Veterinary Nurses post qualifying

- Natural progression of nurse roles
  - Head nurse
  - Practice manager
  - Now even practice owners

Veterinary Nurses post qualifying

- Triage
- Medicating patients
- Health Checks
Veterinary Nurses post qualifying

- Nurse training
- Initially only VS acted as RCVS examiners for the RANA/VN scheme
- First nurse examiners about 1979-80
  - Rita Hinton first VN examiner
  - Berkshire College of Agriculture
  - Nurses teaching at colleges

Veterinary Nurses post qualifying

- Diplomas
  - Enrolment 1989, exams 1992
  - Advanced Veterinary Nursing (Surgical) and (Medical)
  - New style Diplomas reinstated
- Degree in Veterinary Nursing
- VN Register started 2007 - RVN
- Specialist Equine Nursing (REVN)
- Nurse Physiotherapy
Diploma Nurses

Male Nurses
Equine Nurses

Even Exotic Nurses.....(sorry Mattie!)
Veterinary Nurses post qualifying

- Closer involvement with RCVS committees
- Now, finally, a place on RCVS Council

- Congratulations to Andrea Jeffrey