



XIIth World Association for Buiatrics Congress
Amsterdam, The Netherlands
September 7-12, 1982

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The XII World Association for Buiatrics Congress, held in Amsterdam, The Netherlands attracted 865 representatives and 325 accompanying persons from 45 countries on September 7-12, 1982.

Dr. Harold Amstutz, President of World Association for Buiatrics (WAB) officially opened the Congress on Tuesday morning, September 7. Dr. J.J. Koopman, chairman, organizing Committee, presided. Others taking part were Dr. S. VanHarren, chairman, Royal Dutch Association for Veterinary Medicine (RDAVM) and Dr. R.J. deWit, Queen's Commissioner in North Holland. Members of the Dutch Buiatrics Association were active in the local organization of the Congress. The RDAVM provided the primary funds to finance the first 3/4 years of preparation for the Congress.

Keynote addresses at the Opening Ceremony were presented by Dr. W.V. Englehardt, Hannover, Germany on "The future of the bovine animal among ruminant herbivores as the food producing animals" and Dr. G.L. Dirksen, Munich, Germany on "The future of bovine practice in Western Europe." Over 250 papers were presented, covering respiratory, digestive, metabolic and central nervous system diseases, herd health management, bovine surgery, infectious skin diseases, tropical bovine medicine and several miscellaneous topics. There were 25 poster presentations.

Several tours of the magnificent clinical facilities at the University of Utrecht were available throughout the week.

Excursions for accompanying persons included guided tours to Floriade 82, Aalsmeer and Haarlem, Castle tour and the picturesque area with a cluster of windmills and old genuine wooden houses in Zaahse Schans and to Volendam, a village on the former Ziderzee where the traditional costume is still worn.

Congress participants enjoyed a magnificent performance at the International Folkloristic Dance Theatre and a reception by the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Burgmaster of the City of Amsterdam. An elegant dinner-dance was held at Lelystand on the final evening.

Prof. Dr. H.J. Breukink, Utrecht, was the Secretary of the National Organizing Committee and chairman of the Scientific Committee. Prof. Dr. M. Stöber, Hannover was the Secretary of WAB.

Pre-convention Tour to the United Kingdom

Dr. Eric and Mrs. Mary Williams, Stillwater, Oklahoma set up a pre-convention trip for AABP members attending the World Buiatrics Congress in Amsterdam in September of 1982. The trip included a visit to Wales, Yorkshire and London. The group of 35 included the current AABP President, Dr. Keith, and five Past Presidents. The tour was arranged by Judy and Dr. Marvin Samuelson, Manhattan, Kansas.

Monday and Tuesday, August 30 and 31: The group left Chicago on August 30, and arrived in London the next morning. They traveled by motorcoach to Cardiff, Wales, where they were greeted by Lord Gordon Parry, Welsh Minister of Tourism at a lunch at St. Fagan's Welsh Folk Museum. Later they traveled to Carmarthen, where they checked into the Ivy Bush Royal Hotel.

Wednesday, September 1: The men visited the MMB Cattle Breeding Centre, the Veterinary Investigation Centre and Carmarthen Cattle Mart in the morning, while the women visited the Carmarthen Produce Market and were entertained at the Mayor's Parlour by the Mayor and his wife. Shortly after noon, they traveled to Werndale, Bancyfelin, for lunch, hosted by the Mayor of St. Clears. Next they visited the Grove Herd of British Friesians as guests of Eric's brother and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. D. Williams and their family. This was where Eric grew up. After touring the farm and pastures of grazing cattle, the group had tea (with abundant accompaniments) inside the lovely historic farm home. Next, the group toured the West Wales coastline.

The evening was spent at the Mt. Plas Glansein Hotel, as guests of the West Wales Veterinary Club, where they were treated to a traditional "Hwyrnos", i.e. Farmhouse Feast, or "Welsh Night." Entertainment included harp music, traditional folk songs, and lots of fun. The menu was garden vegetable soup, poured from large pitchers; Roast Honeyed Legs of Lamb, carved by guests at their

Dr. Robert Keith contributed most of this section.

tables (one leg for each six people), traditional pudding with fresh cream, and measures of wine. Some of the guests were chosen and quickly trained to be clogging soup servers (very poorly trained and hilarious!)

Thursday, September 2: The group left early in the morning to travel through beautiful central Wales via Llandrindod Wells, to Chester and the University of Liverpool Veterinary Field Station at Neston in Cheshire in time for lunch. Dean R.J. Kilpatrick was the host for the group. The ladies visited the Botanical Garden in the afternoon. Late in the afternoon they motored to Harrogate, Yorkshire and checked into the Hospitality Inn.

Friday, September 3: In the morning they were greeted by Dr. Brian Sinclair and his wife, Sheila. Dr. Sinclair was better known as Tristan Farnon, in James Herriot's books. The Sinclairs guided the tour through the beautiful Yorkshire dales, pointing out places of interest from James Herriot's writings. Ed and Roberta Sterner had a field day with their four cameras! They stopped frequently for photo snapping, as well as viewing many points of interest from Herriot's books and his television series. In the late afternoon, the group arrived at Thirsk, hometown of James Herriot.

Early in the evening, the group was greeted at the veterinary practice by James Herriot and his wife Helen (real names are James Alfred "Alf" Wight and wife Joan); Siegfried Farnon and his wife (real names, Donald and Audrey Sinclair); and Tristan and his wife (Brian and Sheila Sinclair).

Later, all went to dinner at the Three Tuns Hotel in Thirsk. Also joining the group were Herriot's children: daughter Rosie, a physician; and son Dr. James Wight, Jr. and his wife, Gill. James Wight, Jr. is a veterinarian in the practice of his famous father. Gill is also a physician.

The evening was the highlight of the entire trip, and will never be forgotten. Each small table was hosted by one or two "Herriot" or Sinclair family member. Following a delicious meal, James Herriot was presented with an Honorary Membership in the AABP, by President, Dr. Bob Keith. (Only one other veterinarian had been so honored up to this time--Dr. Elmer Woelffer, 9 years earlier.)

The AABP also presented logo lapel pins to James Herriot, his son Jim, Tristan and Siegfried. After dinner, the group moved downstairs, where Dr. Keith bought James Herriot a "brew". It was a very happy and effervescent group that headed back to Harrogate on the motorcoach that night.

Saturday, September 4: Early in the morning the group drove south through the English Midlands to London. The afternoon was spent shopping and sightseeing. After a funny performance of "No Sex, Sorry We Are British", in the English Theatre, the group met back at the hotel for a surprise 35th Wedding Anniversary Party for Eric and Mary.

Sunday, September 5: A quick five hour motorcoach tour of the highlights in London preceded a 3 PM departure from Heathrow Airport, followed by a short flight to Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

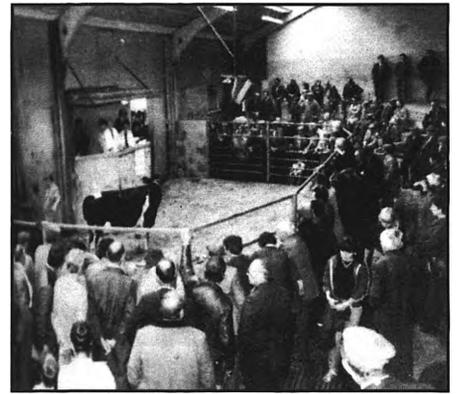
Sunday, September 5 through Saturday, September 11: The group checked into the Novotel Hotel in Amsterdam, and attended the Twelfth World Buiatrics Congress.

*American Association
of
Bovine Practitioners
Honorary Membership
presented to
James Alfred Wight
O.B.E., F.R.C.V.S.*

*who, by the written word, has brought
great prestige to our profession and
happiness to millions across the globe.
September 3, 1982*



Dr. Robert Keith, right, presenting Dr. Wight with honorary membership. Dr. Harold Amstutz, left, AABP Secretary-Treasurer.



Carmarthen Mart



Carmarthen Veterinary Investigation Centre



M. C. and "Waiters"



Grove Farm: Dyfrig Williams, Dr. Morrow and W. J. Hinds, MMB Representative



Left to right: Dr. Rosie Page, Mrs. Joan Wight, Dr. Gill Wight, Mrs. Sheila Sinclair and Mrs. Audrey Sinclair.



At the Mayor's Parlour



Left to right: Mrs. Alfred Wight (Joan), Dr. Alfred Wight, Dr. Rosie Page, Dr. Gill Wight and Dr. James Wight.



Congress leaders



Dr. H. J. Greene, Ireland; Dr. Harold Amstutz, and Dr. C.F.B. Hofmyer, South Africa.



Dr. Koopman, left, and Dr. Keith



Boat trip to the reception by the Minister of Agriculture and the Burgomaster.



Left to right: Dr. Brian Sinclair; Dr. Donald Sinclair and Dr. J. Alfred Wight.



Preconvention Tour Party

**“They didn’t say anything about this in the books, I thought, as the snow blew in through the gaping doorway and settled on my naked back.”
Opening chapter, *All Creatures Great and Small* by James Herriot**