



06/10/10

To whom it may concern:

You may be interested to note that during the past few weeks, the above charity has issued three cheques. Two cheques went to Edinburgh University, one for £19,950 and the second for £6,948. The third cheque for £3,100 went to Liverpool University, for second degree veterinary student's tuition fees. The charity is only able to claim gift aid on a small percentage of that amount but we have pledged £1,760 to a student. Out of the grand total raised, not one penny came from within the veterinary fraternity!

Myself, and the trustees have decided to discontinue with above charity as we are disillusioned and disappointed with the profession. It has been hard work trying to persuade the public to support vet students and in all these years (Veterinary Vouchers commenced in 1992) we have never achieved that with the veterinary establishment.

Remember, all those years ago we wrote to every veterinary practice in the UK trying to encourage each practice to make an annual donation of £50 for bursaries and ending with a total amount of £25 that would not provide prospective students with a cup of tea at interviews! Several years ago we attended the bsava Congress in Birmingham. We had a stand raising awareness and monies for second degree students. We were amazed when the bsava charged us for that stand! It is very disheartening when the veterinary profession show little or no interest. Unfortunately, it also means discontinuing the mechanism the students had for raising funds for their fees, perhaps their future colleagues will realise this and provide an alternative.

If there is an alternative, many students seem unaware as they would not have contacted us and we certainly would not have been needed.

We have now embarked on another project that involves animal welfare, the care of sick and injured animals and conservation. If there are any vets out there that have been helped by veterinary vouchers (and there are many) and would like to become involved by giving time, help and advice, please contact admin@thedigglers.co.uk.

However, myself and the trustees would like to thank members of the aristocracy, the public and the media for their support over the years.

Good luck students, we wish you well!

Kathleen Pearson Chairwoman

cc The Vet Record
bsava
BVA
Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons
The Times
Animal related journals.
The Digglers website