

# Curriculum Vitae      Amanda Jean Carson B.V.Sc (Hons) MRCVS

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Date of Birth:      November 15<sup>th</sup> 1956      Place of Birth: Cumbria UK

Higher Education      University of Sydney – Bachelor of Veterinary Science (Hons)  
1984/88  
Sydney college of TAFE – Animal Nursing Diploma  
1982/83  
Certificate Veterinary Acupuncture  
NVQ Livestock Transport

Memberships:      Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons  
British Veterinary Association  
Herdwick Breed Society (Hon Secretary)  
The Sheep Trust (Trustee)  
Sheep Veterinary Society (former committee member)  
Goat Veterinary Society (committee member)  
Association of Government Veterinarians (committee member)  
Yorkshire Agricultural Society Farmer Scientist Network (vice chair)  
Cumbria farmer Network

## Overview of experience

- Comprehensive experience in working with animals of all types,
- In general practice since 1988 and in partnership for 12 years in rural mixed practice.
- Involved in innovative breeding programmes in UK, Australia and Central America
- Experience in scientific research, veterinary sales and teaching.
- Government veterinarian manager to Grade 6 level

## Personal Abilities:

- Enjoy challenges and mental stimulation
- Lateral thinker – able to see things from different angles
- Determined, will persevere until solutions found and implemented
- Self motivated – establish and set own goals
- Enjoy communicating with people.
- Computer literate in MS Word, Excel, Power Point, Publisher, ECDL
- Tolerant and patient

## Personal Details

- Married 37 years no dependants
- Full driving licence
- Conversational in French and Spanish
- Interests include computing, gardening, horse riding, sheep breeding, bee keeping

Responsibilities have included:

**Veterinary Surgeon in Practice**

- Partner in rural mixed practice
- Delivery of Knowledge transfer to farmers and vets
- Government Veterinarian manager
- Published scientific papers on sheep disease and genetics

**Veterinary Technical Adviser**

- Working for an international company in the development and marketing of veterinary diets.

**Breeding and conservation programmes**

- Involved in the early practical implementation of cattle embryo transfer work in the UK and Central America
- Involvement in wildlife management in Australia
- Co-ordinated collection of germplasm for Heritage gene bank during FMD outbreak 2001
- Task and Action Group member of successful World Heritage Site nomination for Lake District

**Teaching**

- Teacher of English, Ecology and Biology in Central America
- Tutor of Animal Health and Welfare module Foundation Degree in Auctioneering
- Development of Government Veterinary Training courses

**Research**

- Genetic variations in Red Blood group factors of sheep.
- Conservation of Farm Animal Genetic resources
- Genetic comparison of sheep breeds to establish distinctiveness
- Member of Farm Animal Genetic Resources committee

**CPD**

- Undertake variety of courses every year in a wide range of topics that fulfil requirements of RCVS. I also participate on several Internet veterinary specialist forums.
- Completed a wide variety of courses offered by Civil Service Learning including media training and leadership courses including Whitehall in Government.

**Contract Management**

- Supplier Liaison Officer for a variety of government contracts including development and assessment of tenders.

**Management**

- Line manager responsibility for veterinary, data analyst and administrative roles
- Management of laboratories with responsibility for quality standards (UKAS) and Health & Safety
- Financial responsibility of APHA budgets up to £1.5 million

## Chronological History

March 2014 to date	Animal & Plant Health Agency
Position	Small Ruminant Species Expert Lead G7

I provide strategic leadership and act as an authority on veterinary technical and scientific matters for small ruminant species (sheep & goats), in support of the development and delivery of robust animal health and welfare policies across GB.

This role requires me to proactively establish and develop effective customer, operational partner, stakeholder and commercial networks and relationships to support the delivery of organisational priorities and objectives.

I monitor disease trends and undertake horizon scanning that enable me to provide alerts and points of information to veterinary surgeons and stakeholders through a variety of publications. I have created a small ruminant species group and through monthly teleconferences we discuss current disease threats and coordinate activities to raise awareness for example through the Veterinary Risk Group who advise the Chief Veterinary Officers of the four administrations.

I support the Head of the Surveillance Intelligence Unit by advising on prioritisation, management and review of deliverables for small ruminants and exotic and miscellaneous farmed species, within the Scanning Surveillance budget.

I lead on contract management of partner organisations undertaking post-mortem surveillance activities on behalf of APHA.

I am a member of the Sheep Health and Welfare Group and sit on the Farm Animal Genetic Resources committee.

I have financial responsibility for a budget of £900,000.

## Position Veterinary Investigation & Surveillance Lead G6

Senior Manager in Veterinary Surveillance managing four Regional Veterinary Laboratories in the North of England and line management of 15 Veterinary Investigation Officers. I assumed national responsibility for UKAS accreditation for veterinary surveillance protocols and was a departmental safety advisor ensuring that Health and Safety was practised to high standard.

I managed these laboratories through a period change which included lab closures and staff redundancies.

I was a member of the Surveillance 2014 governance board.

I took financial responsibility for a budget of £1.5 million.

For the two years I worked at this grade I was awarded a score of excellent in my end of year review.

## Position Veterinary Officer/Veterinary Team Leader G7

To provide leadership and management for the delivery of AHVLA veterinary activities within the North of England region. This included the effective and efficient deployment of veterinary officers ensuring they contribute to achieving regional targets and operate in accordance with AHVLA policies and procedures and auditing of these activities. Line management of 10 Veterinary Officers. Additional lead responsibility for Welfare.

I managed my team through a period of change during the implementation of the SAM computer system becoming a “SAM expert”.

In addition I continued to deliver veterinary officer field work.

June 2008 to June 2010 Animal Health

## Position Veterinary Officer

To provide veterinary operational services to safeguard animal health and welfare and public health, protect the economy and enhance food security through inspection, surveillance, regulation, enforcement and where applicable research, through the application of state veterinary medicine in the delivery of GB Governments' policies. Delivery of cross compliance inspections, welfare investigations and prosecutions, Inspection of Animal by-product sites; veterinary practices; animal breeding centres; markets and animal gatherings. TB testing; training of TB testers; epidemiological investigations into TB breakdowns and participation through detached duty to One Wales TB initiative.

I performed notifiable disease investigations into Avian Influenza and Bluetongue.

I carried out investigations for zoonotic disease and chemical food safety incidents.

Participation in contingency exercise design and delivery for Animal Health and the local Nuclear Contingency planning group (BNFL Sellafield).

April 2006 to June 2008

## Veterinary Laboratories Agency Merrythought Penrith Cumbria

## Position

## Veterinary Investigation Officer

To provide veterinary diagnostic and consultancy services to Defra (including AH&WDG and SVS), the Food Standards Agency, Public Health & local Authorities and for private practice and the farming industry in order to protect public health, prevent farm animal disease and promote animal health and welfare

I performed post-mortem examinations and field investigations for new and emerging diseases. Specific projects included liver fluke and Johnes disease in cattle.

At this time I also sat on the Semen Archive governance board and the National Steering Committee for Farm Animal Genetic Resources representing the charity The Sheep Trust.

March 92 to April 2006

St Bridgets Veterinary Centre Egremont Cumbria

## Position

## Partner Rural Mixed practice

Initially employed as a locum I became a partner in this practice in March 1994  
This 5.5 Vet practice covered the West coast of Cumbria for 35 miles and inland to fells  
and valleys of Ennerdale, Eskdale and Wasdale with a mix of 70:30 LA: SA

I established a loyal client base with small and equine clients and with the farming community and regularly arranged and gave talks to local Equine, WI, and Rotary clubs and at the Lakeland Learning Centre to farmers through the Rural Futures project.

**Local Veterinary Inspector for DEFRA**

I prepared and delivered Animal Health and Welfare module of the Foundation Degree for Auctioneers for University of Central Lancashire.

Involved in training programmes and care of Civil Nuclear Constabulary guard dogs.

During the FMD outbreak I remained at the practice rather than join DEFRA in order to give support to our farm clients. West Cumbria had fewer cases of FMD and surveillance of the animals here was rigorous. This required constant networking between the various agencies and the farmers.

In March 2001 I became involved with the Heritage gene bank collection of germplasm from Cumbrian farms. In what became a race against time my role was to co-ordinate the farmers and livestock and the team of Vets going onto the farms. At the same time I liaised with Page Street officials on a daily basis regarding the development of licences for which there was no precedent. The success of this project has led to the foundation of the Sheep Trust of which I am a trustee.

Sept 91 – March 92                    Pedigree Petfoods, Melton Mowbray, Leics

Position                                Veterinary Technical advisor

On returning to the UK after 10 years in Australia I took a six-month position as one of a team of six vets, working at Waltham to promote the new range of veterinary diets to veterinary surgeons.

My territory covered the North and East of England.

I gained valuable skills in marketing, planning work schedules and business practices.

May 89 - July 91                        Forestville Veterinary Hospital, Sydney, Australia

Position                                Veterinary Surgeon

5 Vet small animal practice including avian specialist Ross Perry

Rotations with other vets in medical and surgical cases with full responsibility for my own case load.

After hours emergency on call

Associated with Australian National Park Wildlife Rescue and Rehabilitation service

Dec 88 – May 89

Immediately following graduation I worked as a locum in various practices in Sydney Australia, all these veterinarians had specifically planned their holidays to coincide with my availability.

Responsible for effective management of small animal practices for the periods of practitioner's holidays, 3 of which were single man establishments.

Feb 84 – Dec 88                        University of Sydney

Attainment of degree necessitated 12 weeks of practical experience in Veterinary surgeries and 16 weeks practical farm experience in different regions of Australia Concurrent with studies worked as veterinary nurse.

Nov 81 – Feb84                    North Manly Veterinary Hospital  
Position                            Veterinary Nurse  
A one-man practice where I was responsible for animal nursing and practice management.  
This practice also provided health care for Manly Aquarium.

I left school at 16 for reasons associated with having to care for disabled relatives. I was conscious that I would be able to attend University as a mature student and aimed to gain as much experience as possible to further my objective of studying Veterinary science. From 1974 - 1980 I travelled extensively throughout the British Isles, Europe, Central and North America. During this period, in addition to 'fill in' positions in hospitality industry and sightseeing I gained invaluable experience through posts in conservation, cattle breeding and teaching that included

## Publications

BOWLES, D., CARSON, A. & ISAAC, P. (2014) Genetic distinctiveness of the Herdwick sheep breed and two other locally adapted hill breeds of the UK. PLoS One 9, e87823

CARSON, A., ELLIOTT, M., GROOM, J., WINTER, A. & BOWLES, D. (2009) Geographical isolation of native sheep breeds in the UK—Evidence of endemism as a risk factor to genetic resources. *Livestock Science* 123, 288-299

CARSON, A., IRVINE, R. & FOSTER, A. P. (2015) Oak processionary moth (*Thaumetopoea processionea*). Vet Rec 177, 79-80

DANIEL, R., PUGH, K., TORRENS, N., CARSON, A. & WESSELS, M. (2015) Intercurrent tickborne fever infection and *Bibersteinia trehalosi* septicaemia in a five-week-old lamb. Veterinary Record 177, 24

DANIEL, R. G., CARSON, A., EVANS, C., COOKSON, R. & WESSELS, M. (2016)  
Pathological observations of tick-borne fever and intercurrent bacterial infections in lambs.  
Veterinary Record Case Reports 4

HUTCHINSON, J. P., CARSON, A. J. & PROCTOR, P. (2009) Predator attacks on sheep in Northumberland. *Veterinary Record* 164, 820

IRVINE, R. M., HATELEY, G., CARSON, A., WILLIAMSON, S., WELCHMAN, D., WESSELS, J., DUFF, P., GLOSSOP, C. & GIBBENS, N. (2016) Changes to the monthly APHA disease surveillance report in Veterinary Record. Veterinary Record 178, 50

LIGDA, C., MIZELI, C., CARSON, A., DUCLOS, D., HAAS, Y. D., KOMPAN, D., BOWLES, D. & GEORGoudis, A. (2010) Inclusion Of The Spatial Dimension Of Population Data In

Developing Policies For The Management Of AnGR &#8211;The Case Of The Heritage Sheep Breeds. In Proceedings of the 9th World Congress on Genetic Applied to Livestock Production (WCGALP), Leipzig, Germany, 1-6 August 2010

MILLAR, M., BELL, S., GILBOA, Y. A. & CARSON, A. (2016) Transient agalactia in ewes. Veterinary Record 179, 21-22