



Mr David Raymond Franklin BVM&S MRCVS

Honorary Fellowship

David Franklin is a talented equine veterinarian who has far exceeded the high personal, clinical and professional standards he has set himself throughout his career, both as a practising vet and in his work with the Veterinary Defence Society. He has demonstrated enthusiasm and professionalism at all levels and is an exemplary ambassador for the veterinary profession.

After graduating from the Royal Dick School of Veterinary Studies in 1972, David joined his father's veterinary practice as a partner, and soon established the West Midlands' premier dedicated equine clinic, serving both the practice's clients and also providing expert and second opinion for others. He was closely involved with the establishment of the veterinary nurse training course and the development of equine courses at Staffordshire College, teaching students in both areas.

During his time in practice, David was much in demand, speaking regularly and enthusiastically at a huge number of professional meetings, as well as local riding and pony clubs. His great sense of humour and skills as a communicator made him extremely popular, and his name on the bill could always guarantee a full house. David's entertaining and charismatic way of engaging with people meant that it was inevitable that his knowledge and enthusiasm rubbed off on a very large number of veterinary surgeons throughout his career.

David has been a fantastic mentor for young vets, never too busy to give advice or help with difficult cases. He regularly advised vets from many local practices over difficult situations, a role he excelled in subsequently in his work with the Veterinary Defence Society.

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David was appointed as a Claims Consultant to the VDS in 1997 and he was a director from 1997 until 2009. He radically increased the VDS involvement in the British Equine Veterinary Association's Prior to Purchase workshops, and worked with the RCVS on redesigning the PPE certificate, which is recognised as being a great advancement and benefit to the equine profession. His sensible and clear input has been invaluable.

Over the years David has given support and help to numerous veterinary surgeons in the fearful situation of litigation. This support extended to disciplinary matters where, for many years, he provided pastoral care and advice to members of the profession who found themselves in a Disciplinary Hearing, or being interviewed by the Preliminary Investigation Committee of the RCVS.

He is a great communicator, treating all individuals with the same empathy, fairness, wisdom and professionalism. This is a difficult blend of qualities, and it has been present in David's work in simply exceptional measure.