

# A British associative model of Osteopathic synergy in Animal Practice

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#### Introduction

- Documented history of osteopaths treating animals in UK date back to 1946
- Osteopathic profession has doubled in the last 15 years (UK)
- Interest in animal work has rapidly increased
- GOsC became worried about governing this facet of osteopathy
- 2004 SOAP was created to support osteopathic care of animals in the UK<sup>1</sup>

#### Aims

- Bring together all of the most experienced osteopaths in animal care
- Create a solid base for post graduate training
- Introduce under graduate osteopathic students to animal care within the profession
- Provide a point of contact between GOsC and the osteopathic profession

## Providing post graduate lectures



### Objectives

- Encourage evidence based research projects at under and post graduate levels
- Provide introductory courses for osteopaths
- Create university validated post graduate courses
- Create a point of contact for inter profession liaison
- Provide a body of osteopaths capable of giving professional advice and support to GOsC

#### Achievements so far

- MSc Animal Manipulation Osteopathic Pathway, 2 year part time course. Several graduates to date<sup>2</sup>
- P.G. Cert Animal Osteopathy. 1 year part time course<sup>3</sup>
- GOsC recognition
- BEVA Allied profession recognition
- SOAP actively represents osteopaths treating animals, and acts as a point of contact for members of the public
- Has raised the profile of Animal Osteopathy in the UK
- SOAP represent osteopaths at major conferences and congress

## CPD



# Unique workshops



#### Conclusions

- SOAP offers access to research material data base
- Provides a point of contact for osteopaths and public
- Liaises closely with UK under graduate osteopathic training establishments
- Provides CPD seminars and workshops
- Represents osteopaths at veterinary congresses
- Offers member support, and help to overseas osteopathic organisations
- Is recognised and respected by the leading UK veterinary organisations<sup>2</sup>

#### References

- <sup>1</sup>Minutes from an extra ordinary meeting held at the General Osteopathic Council headquarters, Tower Bridge Road, London. (2004). Available from <a href="http://www.osteopathy.org.uk">http://www.osteopathy.org.uk</a>
- <sup>2</sup>Henson F. British Equine Veterinary Association (BEVA) Congress (2011), Liverpool, UK. Available from <a href="http://www.beva.org.uk">http://www.beva.org.uk</a>