

Letter from the Editor

In October, I left veterinary nursing. I made this decision just as the expectation was announced that New Zealand was heading towards the biggest recession seen since The Great Depression and that the GDP had dropped by 12.2%. But sometimes, choices are made for you courtesy of the universe and the stars aligning. So, despite the bleak economic outlook, I decided it was time to launch myself into a full-time art career back in Wellington.

My first week was spent watching how a community of strong-willed, committed and enthusiastic veterinary nurses celebrated their peers during Vet Nurse Awareness Week, including social media posts that, I will admit, gave me FOMO. New Zealand Veterinary Nursing Association executive committee member Libby Leader has written about the Vet Nurse of the Year award finalists Emma Blake, Barbara Coles and Michelle Martin, and their award presentations which took place on the final day of Vet Nurse Awareness Week.

Our 2020 Vet Nurse of the Year winner, Michelle Martin, has written the article *Capnography: So much more than a wavy line*, illustrating how important this piece of monitoring equipment is for the safety of our patients while they are under general anaesthetic.

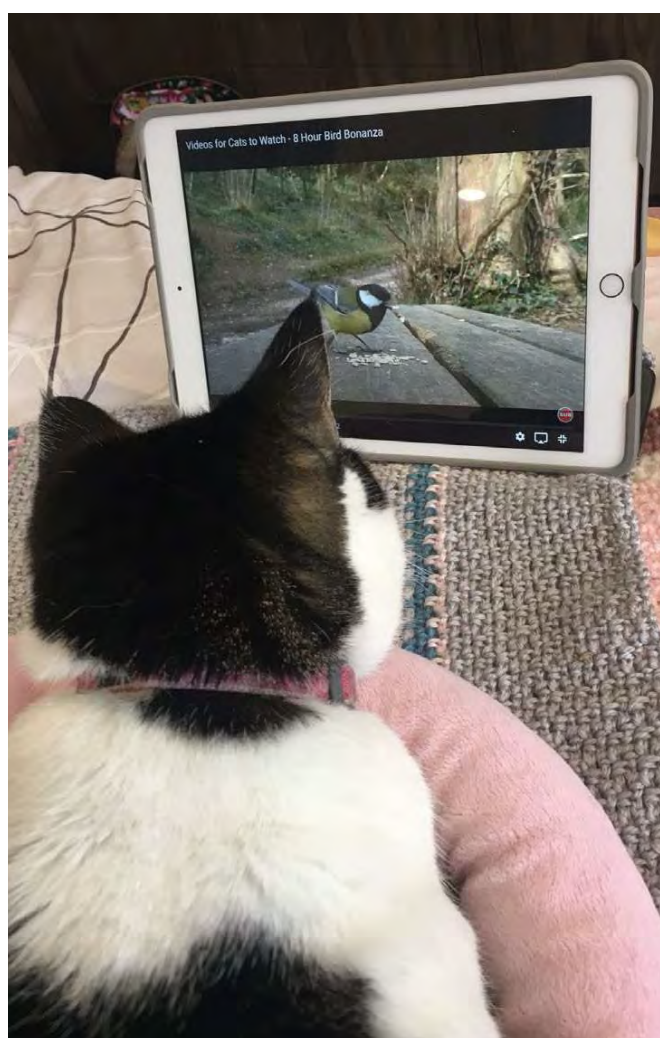
This edition includes an article written by Julie South, which outlines how domestic violence impacts our clinics, and what we can do to support our peers. Statistics have risen post lockdown and the signs to watch for and resources for helping these people in need are something all New Zealanders need to be aware of.

Hannah Ashley produced a mini case study for her Bachelor of Veterinary Technology qualification, on equine fungal keratitis which she kindly submitted to us. Hannah describes what to look for and how the horse was treated for fungal keratitis to get her back to competitive jumping activity.

Losing experienced veterinary nurses is a real problem in veterinary clinics all around the world, and I hope that

The New Zealand Veterinary Nurse journal acts as a way to keep our readership interested in what's going on in their industry while inspiring them to continue their good work in such a unique community. If you have an idea for an article or have had an interesting case study recently, please email me at journal@nzvna.org.nz.

Antoinette



| Above: Cece misses the birdlife in the Wairarapa but thankfully YouTube has eight-hour-long videos for her to watch