

- Mike Christian Belle Vue Vets
- My story starts earlier than most February 2000 here in Carlisle at Hadian House SVS
- Meeting of Senior LVI's on threat of TB & Exotic diseases
- RVO Richard Drummond on TB and how it was spreading
- Dr Kitchin on the threat of FMD & other exotics and how it is a political disease. World expert yet used mathematicians of chief scientist
- An outbreak at Kosovo where large no's of Kosovan cattle had been slaughtered but Pirbright unable to isolate let alone type the FMD supplied by the Serbian authorities.

Animal & human disease is economic & political

In end of Feb I rang the SVS & volunteered to help for 2 weeks on secondment. No idea how much or even if we would be paid. I was there for 6 months

- I was one of this ubiquitous ministry vets in white boiler suits, on the other side. Dealing with press, farmers and policy.
- Crisis management/ phones /desks/ personnel/organisation/ overwhelmed my training was thank goodness you are here you know what you are doing Form A when you arrive B if -ve and make sure you keep the carbon copies.
- Epidemiology 5 days out of touch
- Coast and marshes/ ducks feet/ sheep movement/ rustling etc It was not airbourne
- Facts to fit what London wanted
- Blame? Personnel chosen for peace time
- A lot of people worked long hours beyond their ability.

Painful memories, pyres burning, feeling of despair, long hours and disorganisation

The future?

Drummond report after swine fever no one listened

He has said about TB 1 or 2 a year over 400 now

London better organised

Crisis management will be the responsibility of army at an early stage

But ethos has not changed, bureaucracy has not changed, centralisation has not changed.

And the threat is still there, & Dr Kitchin was so fed up with this govts attitude he has emigrated to Canada.

My future.

Perhaps I may finish with quote from Mr Michael Jack, MP EFRACom parliamentary committee in speaking to the chief scientist.

We are talking about this; we are going through consultation and ministers are making speeches but there does not seem to be any end game in sight. Is that a worry?

1000 case

NZ & India endemic

Fickleness of the press 9 die of RTA vs. train

TB vs. FMD

Risk management

- farms as dc
- c&d
- movements/ inspections/resource
- schools/ post diagnosis/ people movement
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