



How it all Started

The College of Animal Welfare was established in 1989 by the animal charity Wood Green Animal Shelters. This important initiative was developed as a direct result of the charity's work and the importance it placed on education. The vision was to inform society of the benefits of knowledge and skills in animal welfare and to provide access to specialist education and training for those working in animal welfare and the veterinary profession.

On 5 March 1996 the College, known at the time as the Wood Green College of Animal Welfare, became independent of the charity as a non for profit organisation in its own right and changed its name to The College of Animal Welfare. At the time there were six employees of the College being three lecturers and three administrators.

To this day the College maintains strong links with the animal welfare sector and the veterinary profession, particularly with Wood Green, Blue Cross, the Royal Society for the Protection of Cruelty to Animals, the Royal Veterinary College and the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons as well as numerous veterinary practices and animal related businesses.



Education and Training

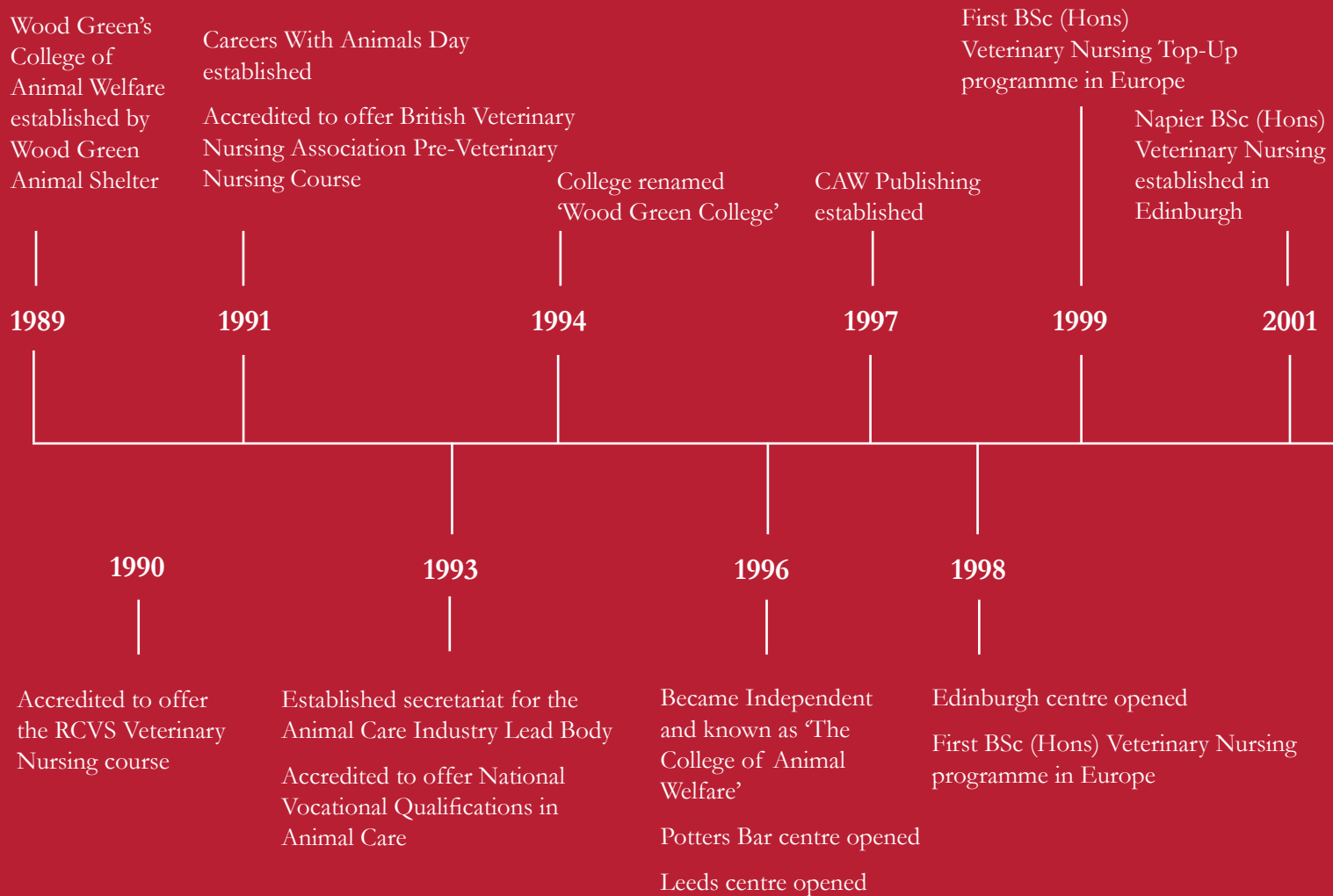
Over the 25 years of its history the College has developed a wide range of successful courses and qualifications ranging from entry level to graduate programmes and specialist seminars beneficial to those wishing to increase their animal knowledge or to pursue a career in animal welfare.

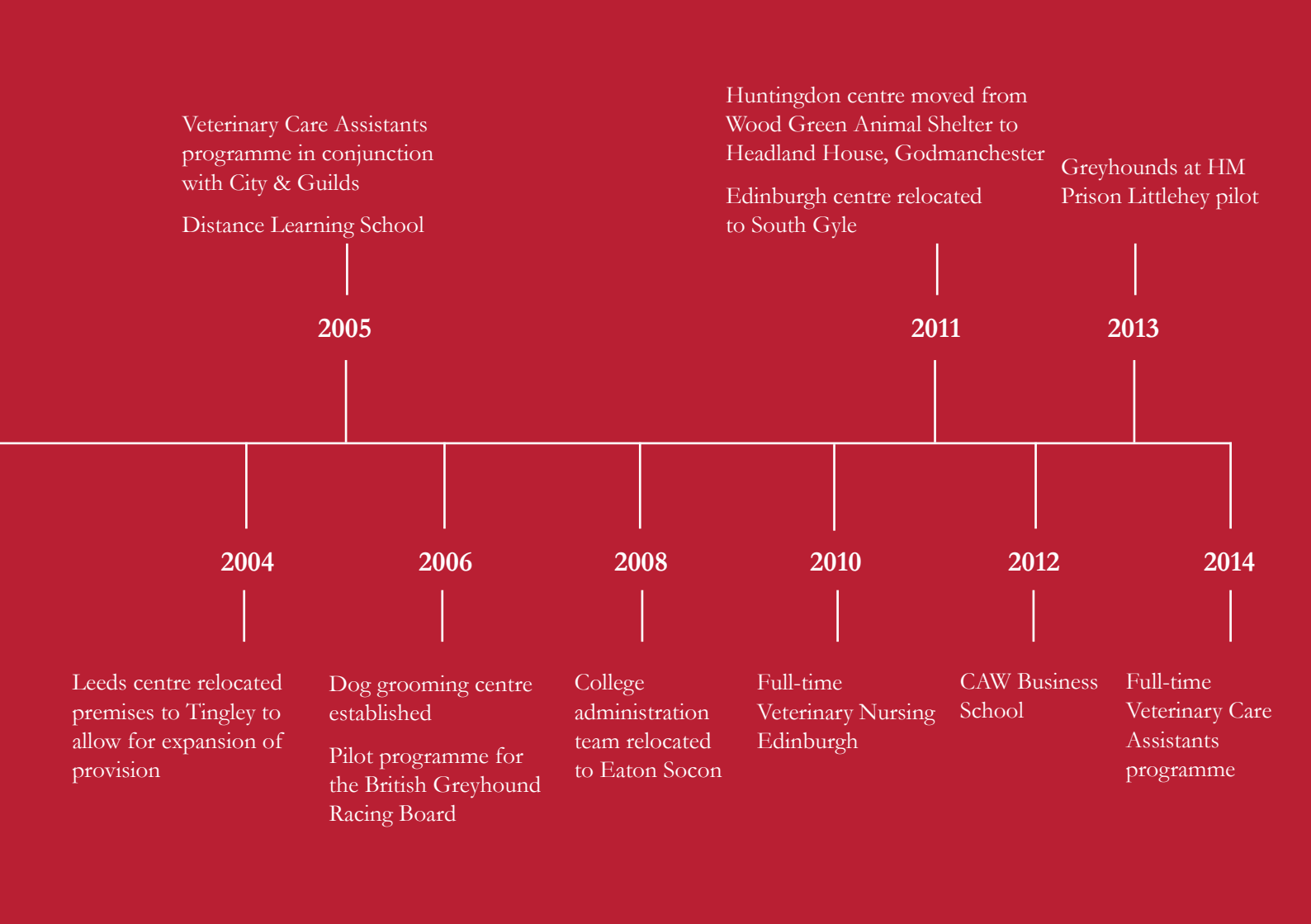
Since its inception, the College has grown from strength to strength working both independently and collaboratively with a number of other educational institutes including the Royal Veterinary College, Huntingdonshire Regional College, Middlesex University, Edinburgh Napier University and City & Guilds.

The College offers a range of courses and qualifications that students can attend at one of the College's centres, undertake as distance learning or even achieve in their place of work. The College's '*learning without limits*' strategy has opened up courses to international students, with students from over 20 countries studying both in the UK and overseas through its online distance learning school.

A number of private, self-funded programmes are run with leading animal welfare charities and specialist employers. In recent years the animal care and veterinary industry has been subject to great change, and bearing this in mind the College has designed programmes to maximise career and learning potential across many animal and veterinary employment sectors.







Veterinary Care Assistants programme in conjunction with City & Guilds

Distance Learning School

2005

Huntingdon centre moved from Wood Green Animal Shelter to Headland House, Godmanchester

Edinburgh centre relocated to South Gyle

2011

Greyhounds at HM Prison Littlehey pilot

2013

2004

Leeds centre relocated premises to Tingley to allow for expansion of provision

2006

Dog grooming centre established
Pilot programme for the British Greyhound Racing Board

2008

College administration team relocated to Eaton Socon

2010

Full-time Veterinary Nursing Edinburgh

2012

CAW Business School

2014

Full-time Veterinary Care Assistants programme

The Team at its Heart

Starting with one person 25 years ago the College now has one hundred and two employees as well as specialist lecturers and other technical experts who support the College's programmes on an ad hoc basis. The College has a superb team of professionals that continue to build on the College's reputation for excellence and innovation. These include veterinary surgeons, veterinary nurses, equine and animal scientists, animal carers, animal behaviourists, groomers, accountants, environmentalists, IT specialists, as well as experts in administration and management systems.

Literally thousands of students have passed through the College, some of which have returned to take up positions as lecturers, support staff and managers whilst others and former staff have joined other education and training providers, making major contributions to animal welfare or their profession in their own right. Others have chosen to make their difference in the front line of their profession or in animal welfare. The College is proud of them all.

All of the College's staff work together to ensure each student's experience is delivered in a professional and appropriate manner whilst seeking to efficiently apply the College's limited resources to deliver excellent programmes to a wide an audience as possible.

At the College's heart lie four central themes which form the framework for the College's future direction of travel. They are:

- ✓ Contributing towards animal welfare
- ✓ Raising standards and aspiration
- ✓ Investing in staff
- ✓ Growing capacity and influence

Interwoven into each of these themes are the College's core activities of teaching, innovation, enterprise and animal welfare.



Local Communities

The College has traditionally supported the local community through its partnerships with colleges, universities and animal welfare organisations.

More recently the College has increased its direct local presence at each of its centres and attends numerous careers conventions, school open days and exhibitions throughout the year as well as offering its own open days and information evenings. College staff are always willing to give talks to schools on the range of opportunities available to school leavers across the sector.

Careers With Animals Day

Held each Spring and now in its 24th year Careers with Animals Day is a heritage event for the College.

The event takes place at the Huntingdon centre and brings together a variety of animal welfare organisations, educators and employers. It offers free access to the eight hundred plus people attending this unique gathering each year the opportunity to speak to those in the know and attend career specific talks.

Many of the exhibitors have been supporting the event for years and offer advice on opportunities in: horse racing, farriery, animal welfare, the Army, university programmes including those for veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses, college courses in animal and horse care and science, animal physiotherapy, wildlife parks and zoos, pet shop management, dog grooming, and working in education, amongst others.



The Schools of the College

The College delivers its programmes through its schools and key areas of activity.

Animal Care - offering full time courses, work based learning and apprenticeships. This is where the College started with the first ever course of the college being for Animal Wardens. It was held in a local pub because the College building was not ready!

Business School - offering accountancy and book keeping qualifications awarded by the Association of Accounting Technicians the school also offers leadership and management qualifications specifically aimed at veterinary practice managers as well as those working in other sectors.



CAW International – A relatively new part of the College with a focus of attracting overseas students to either come to the UK to study or to take advantage of the online distance learning school's programmes. We have 30 international students joining us from 20 different countries.

Distance Learning School – With over 10 students a month starting distance learning courses the school offers students the opportunity of achieving nationally recognised qualifications by '*learning without limits*' and at a time that suits them.

Grooming School – established for about eight years, grooming has been a tremendous success for the Huntingdon centre and is well supported by the local dog owning community. The College has been very pleased to see many of our former students being successful at setting up their own grooming businesses.

Maths and English School – a specialist area of the College that provides support to all including students undertaking distance learning courses.

Veterinary Nursing – the College is the largest veterinary nursing training provider in the UK and receives between 7 to 10 applications for every place available.



Commercial Activities

The College offers a range of commercial services through its wholly owned subsidiary CAW Publishing Limited.

In 1997 work was started with the College and its staff writing a number of books aimed at veterinary nurse students hence the company being named CAW Publishing.

In all, nine books have been written and published by Elsevier Science including Multiple Choice Questions Part I and Part II, Veterinary Surgical Instruments, Portfolio Guidance Notes for Veterinary Nurses, Anatomy and Physiology Multiple Choice Questions, Laboratory Multiple Choice Questions and Radiography Multiple Choice Questions as well as an Anatomy and Physiology text for Veterinary Nurses that was co-written by staff of the College and Edinburgh Napier University.



Other commercial services include the development of bespoke online training courses for employers covering subject areas such as animal first aid, health and safety, equality of opportunity, wildlife, animal assessment, etc. The College has set up and hosted complete bespoke online virtual learning environments that offer low cost and high volume training across multiple venues.

Over the years the College has taken on interesting projects that are to the wider benefit of animal welfare including the development of work books for the animal welfare sector, the greyhound racing industry as well as providing consultancy advice for government agencies and commercial businesses working with animals.

Continuing Professional Development and Specialist Courses

The College offers a wide range of short and continuing professional development (CPD) courses, aimed at those qualified and working in animal welfare and the veterinary profession that amounts to more than a thousand delegate days each year. These include long established courses like animal first aid and microchip implant training to highly specialist dental and management programmes aimed at veterinary surgeons.

The College's facilities have been designed specifically for animal related learning and practical skills development and for this reason they are often hired by other training providers in the sector as well professional associations looking to upskill their members. Local businesses and charities also are encouraged to use the facilities when available.

In 2005 the College launched its own conference called 'TP Congress' aimed at those involved in the training of veterinary nurses. The event is well established in the annual calendar and is the only one of its kind. It has grown to become a two day event and is often the event of choice for major new announcements in the field of veterinary nurse training.





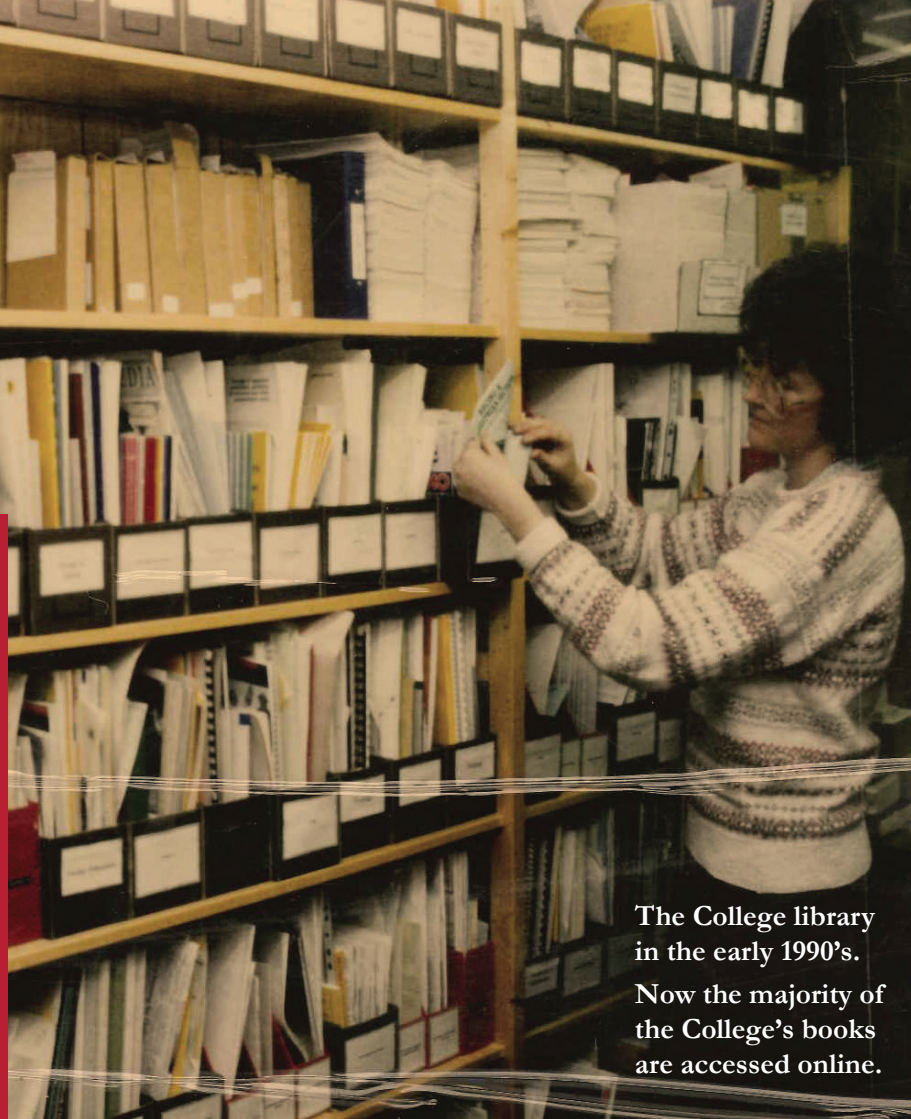
Celebrating
25 Years

The College of Animal Welfare
Headland House, Chord Business Park
London Road, Godmanchester
Cambridgeshire PE29 2BQ

Tel: 01480 422060

Email: admin@kaw.ac.uk

www.kaw.ac.uk



The College library
in the early 1990's.
Now the majority of
the College's books
are accessed online.