

WCC Business Meeting 2018
Report from the Executive

The last year was more eventful than usual and also extremely busy. The Annual Meeting, held in Las Vegas in April, was a huge success and we congratulate CFA on a wonderful meeting to which their helpers contributed so much. Their generosity and hospitality was truly superb from the brilliant innovation of a hospitality suite to the various excursions such as the Cirque du Soleil and the Hoover Dam to name only two.

Two months later we all met again in La Grande Motte, as the guests of Royal Canin, for the launch of their new Cat Encyclopaedia. This was a great experience with amazing hospitality and the launch itself was spectacular and will be remembered for a long time. We shall all be glad to see Laureline back with us again at this year's meeting and hearing what new ideas Royal Canin has for our partnership.

We also launched a new web site, which is more or less finished although still waiting for more information from certain members. We do urge you all to contribute to the News Pages and support us with the web site where possible.

Unfortunately, it was also an expensive year and we made a financial loss. Prices are going up everywhere and the WCC income remains at the same level that it has been for many years. We shall therefore be suggesting a relatively small increase on the membership fees as well as the amount deemed to be paid by each member for their travel to the Annual Meeting. The cost of the new web site also contributed to our financial deficit but it is, of course, a one-off that we believe is worthwhile.

This year, for the first time ever, our Secretary/Treasurer is not able to be with us as she, as you all know, is having major surgery. We all wish her well and a speedy recovery so that she will be with us again next year. In the meantime, Robbie Walker has very kindly agreed to stand in for her at this year's meeting. Fortunately he lives quite close to her and will be able to bring the flags etc. for the meeting and also to take back your expense sheets so that Penny can reimburse you as soon as she is over the operation. We hope you will understand if this involves a slight delay but she does not anticipate it will be long before she is able to deal with such things.

As always we are indebted to Royal Canin, who have renewed our Partnership Agreement with them for a further two years. Quite apart from their contribution at Seminars and meetings in the past, their support has made it possible for WCC to reimburse part of the delegate's travel expenses to the Annual Meeting and without that financial support, it would no longer be possible.

This year we welcome back two delegates who have not been with us for a few years and we also have a few new faces around the table. Italy is the country where the seed for the World Cat Congress was first planted in the mind of Alva Uddin twenty-four years ago and it is a great pleasure to be here in Milan this year. There have been enormous changes and a lot of progress since that first event in Venice. We hope you will enjoy a friendly and positive meeting.

Eric Reijers
President

Cheryle U'Ren
Vice-President

Penelope Bydlinski
Secretary/Treasurer

