

**Submission
No 85**

**INQUIRY INTO VETERINARY WORKFORCE SHORTAGE
IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

Name: Dr John Wiltjer

Date Received: 14 July 2023

I would like to establish my credibility

graduated 1968 as NSW AG bonded trainee for 5 years but served for 8 then 30 years as sole practise rural practitioner in outer rural area followed by 19 years as sheep and wool producer

Even in my undergraduate years the teachings at Sydney Uni bore no resemblance to the real world of mixed animal clients

at least in those days we were constantly reminded of our failings and encouraged to achieve basic proficiency

We were aware of our embryonic status and emerged from our cocoon eager to become usefull over 30 years of attempting to employ assistants I noticed a steady i decline in their ability matched by an increase in their arrogance and expectations

we now have a cohort unhappy with their income ' or status and not confident about their ability without access to expensive diagnostic aides that the public is unable to afford small town clinics cannot survive this collapse so Tom Hungerfords dream has died

I place the blame purely on the University academics and their number crunching masters

If you select the wrong students and you educate them incorrectly you will achieve our current crisis

even our AVA branches are collapsing under the weight of academic members and social media the public are mourning the demise of their vets and I am sure the problem is solely the fault of our Universities