

# Commemorative Symposium on Reptiles and Amphibians

Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2015, 1.00pm - 6.00pm.

at

**Birkbeck College, 43 Gordon Square, London WC1H 0PD**

**ADMISSION FREE**

A half-day Symposium on the health, welfare and pathology of reptiles and amphibians will be held at Birkbeck College, University of London, on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

The meeting is organised in conjunction with the British Herpetological Society (BHS) supported by the British Chelonia Group (BCG) and the British Veterinary Zoological Society (BVZS).

The Symposium marks the 120<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Dr Edward Elkan, pioneer of lower vertebrate pathology. His research and writings on diseases and pathology contributed much to the health and welfare of reptiles and amphibians and influenced a generation of veterinary surgeons, zoologists and herpetologists. The Symposium will mark the end of the series of Elkan Memorial Lectures instigated after Edward Elkan's death in 1983. However, his Reference Collection of Lower Vertebrate Pathology, part of which will be on display at the Symposium (see below), remains available for study by scientists and students - a long-term legacy of this great man.

## Provisional Programme

- 13.00 Arrival and Registration.
- 13.30 Welcome by the President of the British Herpetological Society, Professor Richard Griffiths  
First session – Margaret E Cooper (Chairman)
- 13.40 Background to the Symposium: “The Elkan Legacy” – John E Cooper
- 13.50 Presentation: “Edward Elkan and amphibian-reptilian trematodes” – Peer Zwart
- 14.10 Presentation: “Edward Elkan and the Xenopus pregnancy test”- Jesse Olszynko-Gryn
- 14.30 Presentation: “The chameleon and the microscope - a lesson in
- 14.31 Comparative pathology” – David L Williams
- 14.50 Brief statements about their work by the British Chelonia Group (BCG) and the British Veterinary Zoological Society (BVZS)
- 15.00 Tea and coffee break. Literature and specimens from Edward Elkan's Collection, as well as other material, will be on display.
- 15.45 First session. Short Presentations about the health and diseases of reptiles and amphibians and advances in herpetological medicine, introduced by Martin P C Lawton (Chairman)
- 16.00 “Living with amphibians: A hobbyist and veterinary surgeon's perspective” – Mark Naguib
- 16.20 “Diagnosis and treatment of chytridiomycosis in Cameroon caecilians” – Matthew Rendle
- 16.40 “Reptiles and amphibians; the challenges of modern “exotic animal” veterinary practice” - Faye Bethell
- 17.15 General Discussion.
- 17.30 Closing Remarks. Professors Richard Griffiths and John Cooper
- 18.00 Departure

Those hoping to be present at the Symposium are asked to send an email message to the Co-ordinators of the Edward Elkan Memorial Lectures: Professor John E Cooper, FRCVS and Mrs Margaret E Cooper, LLB, at: [ngagi2@gmail.com](mailto:ngagi2@gmail.com)

