



Issue 25, September 2014 **News Bulletin** <http://www.aasg.org.au>

CONTENTS

AASG News.....	2
National News.....	5
Regional News.....	5
Conferences, Symposiums and Workshops.....	7
Groups, Institutes and Networks: Fellowships, programs, scholarships, employment, grants...	16
Special Feature: An interview with Carol Freeman.....	18
New Books: Summaries from publishers' websites	21
Call for Submissions	26
Awards.....	3
Journals: Human-animal related journals, special issues and articles	4
Publications: New publications by members	6
Exhibitions: Current and past, projects, calls for submissions	7
Australian Animal Scholars in the News	8
Audio and Video.....	9
Links: Resource pages, blogs, organizations	10
Profiles: Animal practitioners, activists, and animal studies scholars.....	11
AASG Members.....	1

AASG News

Breaking News

The Annual General Meeting was held on 16 September at which the decision was made to change the name of the association to the **Australasian Animal Studies Association Inc.** This more inclusive name allows scope for future growth in the region, and will enable stronger partnerships and connections across local borders in order to foster the long-term development of Animal Studies. In more closely reflecting our membership structure and incorporation under the Associations Incorporation Act (1987), the revised name also brings us in line with academic disciplinary associations. This is appropriate given the growth in Animal Studies in the academy over the past decade and our activities such as the biennial conference and refereed journal.

The meeting also elected the following committee members unanimously:

Melissa Boyde	Chairperson
Fiona Probyn-Rapsey	Vice Chair
Yvette Watt	Treasurer
Jennifer McDonnell	Secretary
Clare McCausland	Committee Member
Sally Borrell	Committee Member
Christine Townend	Committee Member

Stay tuned for more information and updates as we make changes to reflect our new identity.

Call for Papers: Australian Animal Studies Group (AASG) 2015 Conference

Animal Publics: Emotions, Empathy, Activism

Convened by the Australian Centre and the Human Rights & Animal Ethics Research Network (HRAE)

University of Melbourne July 12-15, 2015.

The human/nonhuman animal relationship is continually in flux. In the twenty-first century our relationship with other species is more complex than ever. Images of animals dominate advertising and the internet. Many people feel a profound connection with their companion animals, consider them part of the family, and grieve when they die. At the same time almost all the species we breed for consumption are processed through the animal industrial complex, and are neither seen, nor heard, nor touched in a living state. Animal exploitation and commodification is increasingly hidden from public view.

The predominance of some species and the complete absence of others in our relationships with animals raises important questions about how we understand and empathise with others. Why do so many people have such an emotional response to animals? Why do children bond with animals? What have we lost by excluding so many animals from the public domain – from our cities and day-to-day lives?

New advances in science indicate that we are only beginning to understand the complex nature of the emotional and ethical lives of animals. Philosophers have begun to re-think the way in which they have theorised some form of 'essential' divide between human and nonhuman animals in order to define what it means to be 'human'. Political scientists have begun to discuss the issue of social justice for animals. Artists, writers and filmmakers now question the validity of an anthropocentric viewpoint in their creative works.

In this interdisciplinary conference, Animal Publics, we ask: How can the lives of animals be made visible - brought into the public domain? How might they be transformed? What roles might direct engagement,

academic discourse, bearing witness, the arts, or community debate take? What part do emotions play in the changes taking place across a range of key discourses and in our relationships with nonhuman 'others'? How should we understand our emotional response to animals and how important should the emotional lives of animals be to us? How might the emotions, empathy and activism be brought to bear on making the lives of animals visible in the public domain?

We seek abstracts that address the theme **'Animal Publics: Emotions, Empathy, Activism'** in relation to humans and other species:

- In what sense can we 'know' nonhuman animals?
- What role does empathy play in the human/nonhuman relationship?
- How might the emotions help us to rethink the boundary between human and nonhuman?
- How does anthropomorphism influence the human/nonhuman relationship?
- Why is the human species so fascinated with nonhuman species?
- How can the lives of animals be made visible – brought into the public domain?
- How can we use the law to regulate the lives of animals when most animals are absent from our lives?
- Why are some species rendered invisible to the public while others enjoy a privileged status?
- Why are animals so frequently omitted from discussions about sustainability & the future of global food production?
- Why does the human species 'deny' its animal origins?
- What role should emotions play in ethical responses to animals?
- How has science influenced the human nonhuman relationship?
- What role do emotion and empathy play in response to species extinction and climate change?
- Why do we care more about some creatures than others?
- What impact do representations of animals have on the human/animal relationship?
- Is ethical consumerism an adequate response to species with whom we do and do not empathise?
- What can the 'othering' of animals teach us about ourselves?
- What role should animal welfare science play in teaching us about the needs of nonhuman animals and other species?
- What has the animal protection movement contributed to our understanding of nonhuman animals?
- How should we live ethically and emotionally with other species in the era of the Anthropocene?

Submissions are not limited to the suggestions above. Contributions from all disciplines are welcome.

Word Limit: Conference abstracts should be no more than 250 words, for 20 minute papers.

Due Date: The call for papers closes on Monday November 17.

Submission instructions: Please email your abstract to: aasg-conference@unimelb.edu.au

Please include the paper title, abstract, your name and your institutional affiliation.

Inquiries: Please email inquiries to: aasg-conference@unimelb.edu.au

More information: <http://australian-centre.unimelb.edu.au/news/animal-publics-emotions-empathy-activism-conference-call-papers-now-open>

A flyer you can download and distribute is also available at <http://www.aasg.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/AASG-2015-Conference-Call-for-Papers-31-September-1.pdf>

JOIN AASG

Has your membership expired?

Membership fees support and improve the initiatives of the AASG. They ensure we can continue to provide you with services such as the bulletin and the website – where you can access information about animal studies, find funding opportunities, and access past issues of this publication. Membership will also ensure listing of your profile on the website.

All our members are entitled to a profile at www.aasg.org.au/member-profiles. This is your public presence as an AASG member where you can list your bio, research interests, publications and any areas for collaboration or supervision. You can list your own websites, blogs, twitter or facebook, or link to your online gallery.

New: there is now an image option for a photo, logo or artwork to represent yourself or your work. Have a look at your profile and please send us whatever you would like to include!

Pay fees by EFT, accessible by hitting the **membership** link on the group's website:
<http://www.aasg.org.au/>

Or scan, fax or email a completed membership form, available online or at the bottom of this *Bulletin*, with your payment to: yvette.watt@utas.edu.au, fax: 6226 4308 or post to:
Dr Yvette Watt, Treasurer, Australian Animal Studies Group, Box 4648, Bathurst St PO, Hobart TAS 7001

Annual membership fees: \$50 for waged applicants, \$25 for student, concession, or unwaged members

National News

Skills for Conversations that Matter

Full-day skills workshops on effective communication and managing strong emotions during difficult conversations when advocating for animals

Melbourne: 6 September

Sydney: 20 September

Brisbane: 1 November

More information: <http://skillsforconversationsmatter.com/>

Regional News

NEW SOUTH WALES

Animal Activists Forum 2014

18-19 October 2014, The Portside Centre, Sydney

The Animal Activists Forum occurs each year and its aims are:

- to increase the skills and effectiveness of Australian activists;
- to increase networking between activists;
- to inspire activists to continue their work;
- to showcase effective campaigns;
- to give an opportunity to hear international speakers.

More information: <http://www.activistsforum.com/aaf2013/>

VICTORIA

The University of Melbourne

Human Rights and Animal Ethics Research Network

29 September at 5.30pm. Linkway, Level 4, John Medley Building, University of Melbourne.

Alvin W.L. See, (2013), 'Animal Protection Laws of Singapore and Malaysia', Singapore Journal of Legal Studies, 125 - 157. Research Collection School of Law

Previous meetings:

25 August. The meeting considered J.N. Goodwin and C.W. Shoulders (2013), 'The future of meat: A qualitative analysis of cultured meat media coverage', Meat Science 95 (2013) 445–450.

28 July. The meeting considered Wrenn, C. and Johnson, R. (2013), 'A Critique of Single Issue Campaigning and the Importance of Comprehensive Abolitionist Vegan Advocacy', *Food, Culture and Society*, 16:4.

La Trobe University

Philosophy Seminar

Dr Norva Lo 'Animal Ethics: Reason, Passions, and the Sublime'

24 September 4pm, SS 330 La Trobe University Bundoora

QUEENSLAND

Voiceless Rethinking

Voiceless Rethinking is an exciting new seminar series which will investigate common animal protection issues from new, and sometimes challenging, perspectives.

The series aims to create new dialogues around some of the most talked about animal issues in Australia, bringing a new topic to different locations around the country.

Why do we treat some animals like they matter and others like they don't?

Our first Rethinking seminar will look at the concept of "speciesism" – namely, giving preference to some animals, including humans, based solely on their species.

The seminar will feature a panel of renowned speakers who will consider the psychological and ethical underpinnings of speciesism, the laws that regulate our relationship with animals and how these laws facilitate discrimination on the basis of species.

Date: Thursday 16 October 2014

Time: 6.00 – 7.30pm

Venue: University of Queensland, Abel Smith Lecture Theatre, Brisbane

Australian-New Zealand Intersivity Moot on Animal Law

This October, Voiceless will be holding Australia's first animal law moot.

The Australian-New Zealand Intersivity Moot on Animal Law (ANIMAL) is open to all Australian and New Zealand law students and will be hosted at Bond University over the weekend of **18-19 October 2014**.

An important part of Voiceless's work to build animal law in Australia, the moot will provide law students from across the country with the opportunity to develop their knowledge of animal law while honing their written and oral advocacy skills.

As part of the program, there will also be a range of optional Q&A forums with senior animal law academics from around Australia and panel discussions from legal experts in the field. View the full program.

Law students are welcome to register as individuals or as a full team here. If you're not a law student, you can go along and watch the action at Bond University.

More information: <https://www.voiceless.org.au/voiceless-intersivity-moot-animal-law-2014>

TASMANIA

Book launch at The Hobart Bookshop

On Thursday 28 August, Yvette Watt, animal advocate and Lecturer in Painting at the Tasmanian College of the Arts launched Carol Freeman's new book *Paper Tiger: How Pictures Shaped the Thylacine* (Forty South Publishing, 2014). Yvette pointed out that September 1st was the 100th anniversary of the death of Martha, the last Passenger Pigeon, a species which once numbered in the billions and was the most abundant bird in the world. The passing in 1936 of the last known thylacine, at the Beaumaris Zoo on the Queens Domain, is recognised as part of Australia's National Threatened Species Day on 7 September. Yvette read a passage from Carol's book about how the thylacine did not live up to the expectations of zoo visitors in the early twentieth century, partly because the species was nocturnal and their behaviour was considered 'sluggish'. Yvette stressed the messages the book conveyed and how important they are in this age of endangered species.

For more information about the book see page **xx** of the Bulletin and visit www.carolfreeman.net

Conferences, Symposiums and Workshops

One Health - Indigenous Community Animal Management

23-25 September 2014

Darwin, Double Tree Hilton

Join us in September 2014 at the 10th Anniversary AMRRIC Conference. We invite you to be a part of this highly anticipated event in the animal management sector and expand your network in the one health community. Our conference is unique, being the only event specifically focussed on animal management in Indigenous communities, and is expected to attract approximately 250 delegates from around Australia and the world. This is a "must attend" event for all those involved in global indigenous companion animal and community health, policy and practice - including those working in community, all levels of government, the not-for-profit welfare, research, veterinary, and pet industry sectors. The conference is an excellent opportunity for delegates to engage and share information and walk away with new insights, strategies and practices relating to the health and welfare of Indigenous communities and the animals that are so important to their culture and social fabric.

The event will feature an array of local and international authorities who will provide insights on how the challenges of the One Health approach to animal management are being addressed here at home and around the world.

International Keynote Speakers include:

Dr Frank Ascione - Scholar-in-Residence at the University of Denver's Graduate School of Social Work.

Kate Natrass Atema - Program Director, Companion Animals, International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW).

Dr Ganga de Silva - External Liaison Officer for Blue Paw Trust, Sri Lanka

More information: <http://amrric.org/conference2014>

Call for Papers: Food and Sustainability: Towards a Culinary Ecology

Northeast Modern Language Association 46th Annual Convention, Toronto, Ontario

30 April – 3 May 2015

Interest in the fields of food and sustainability studies within the humanities is rapidly growing, in part due to their ability to investigate our perceived relationship with ecology. Food is a text that conveys identity, reflecting historically grounded or socially constructed attitudes through what is produced and consumed, both gastronomic and printed. Likewise, the connection between nature and culture as manifested in narratives allow us to recognize the discourse and disconnect between society and our environment, marking us through this relationship. Central to both fields is the interplay of humanity and environment, depicted in rural and urban ecologies, e.g. food deserts versus urban food jungles. We're seeking abstracts that engage with the intersection of food and sustainability studies that address questions such as:

- How are food and place at play in texts, e.g. American Dust Bowl narratives?
- How are cosmopolitan or rural landscaped portrayed in "eco" or "gastronomic" memoirs?
- How are food and ecology intertwined?
- How is the kitchen represented as space in which sustainable practices are negotiated?
- Is there a link between the popularization of ethnic foods through cookbook publishing and unsustainable farming and food distribution practices?
- Does food blogging and other highly visual online recipe sources contribute to the dematerialization and objectification of food and the environment? And are these practices viewed as constitutive of modern identity?

**Submit
now!**

The organisers envisage many promising ways to explore this from an animal studies perspective and encourage wide interpretation of the themes of food and ecology.

Abstracts should be no longer than 250 words and submitted by September 30, 2014.

To submit an abstract, please visit www.nemla.org. Follow the instructions there to create a user account, and submit abstracts directly to the session.*

The session link is <https://nemla.org/convention/2015/cfp.html#cfp15156>

Please include your name, affiliation, and email address.

*Note: Although you have to create a sign in you don't need to pay or become a member to submit an abstract.

Call for Abstracts: Workshop on Behaviour Coordination between Humans, Animals and Robots

Genoa, Italy

13 October 2014

<http://icdl14.bplaced.net/wordpress/>

<http://www.icdl-epirob.org/>

This workshop intends to bring together specialists investigating one or more aspects of behaviour coordination in three different research domains: human-human interaction, human-animal interaction, human-robot interaction.

The aim is to develop an interdisciplinary dialogue directed towards cross-fertilization between these fields, and to stimulate front line research engaged in (a) deepening the scientific understanding of the natural mechanisms underlying behavioural coordination through their robotic modeling; (b) facilitating and enhancing human-robot cooperation on the basis of the implementation of these mechanisms in human-robot interaction.

The workshop aims at involving in this bi-directional transmission of knowledge between the domain of the 'natural' and the domain of the 'artificial' all the disciplines included in the traditional and in the synthetic study of behaviour coordination: cognitive sciences, developmental psychology, developmental anthropology, developmental robotics, primatology, the sciences and the epistemology of self-organization, the sciences and the epistemology of complex systems, social robotics, HRI, etc.

The interdisciplinary discussion on behaviour coordination that will take place during the workshop will focus on dyadic behaviour, conceived as the basic systemic unit of coordinated behaviour, and on some of the key mechanisms for effective coordination currently under exploration, such as joint attention, action observation, task-sharing, action coordination, perception of agency, motor synchronization.

Some of the questions on which the forum will focus are:

- What are the differences and similarities between human-human and human-animal behaviour coordination?
- What are the underlying mechanisms for behaviour coordination?
- Which aspects of behaviour coordination influence human social perception?
- How can aspects of natural behaviour coordination be productively used to facilitate naturalistic Human-Robot Interaction?

The workshop is directed not only to researchers studying behaviour coordination, but also to specialists from other fields who want to learn more about trans-species and technology behaviour coordination. The idea is to stimulate the development of a highly interdisciplinary research community working on this topic. We think that the interaction of specialists exploring different aspects of natural and/or artificial behaviour coordination could be the starting point for productive collaborative research on communication between biological and artificial systems, and for the development of a reflected and sustainable process of introduction of artificial social partners into our social environments.

All proposals for presentations will be peer reviewed in order to ensure that the work is original, of a high quality, and relevant to the purposes of the workshop. In particular, we will be looking for papers focusing on:

- Recent investigations on behaviour coordination between human-human and human-animal interaction and their implications for HRI;
- Recent investigations on behaviour coordination between animals and their implications for social technology development;
- Paradigms of behaviour coordination and their implications for the different fields involved;
- Examples of applications of mechanisms of behaviour coordination in HRI.

How to submit an abstract

If you would like to contribute to the workshop "Behaviour Coordination between Humans, Animals and Robots", please send an email to artificial.empathy@developmentalrobotics.com (cc: hagen.lehmann@iit.it) with:

- Title of the talk you intend to propose;
- Abstract of the talk (min 800, max 1000 words, references included).

All the abstracts will be peer-reviewed.

NEW DEADLINE: September 15 2014

Notification of acceptance: September 17 2014

The Human-Animal Boundary: Exploring the Line in Philosophy and Fiction 10-11 April 2015

University of Puerto Rico – Mayaguez

10-11 April 2015

The boundary between humans and non-human animals has been an integral part of philosophic discourse since antiquity, with mounting evidence of language, tool use and general cognitive abilities now leading scientists to contest its impermeability. These lines have been drawn and re-drawn in innumerable ways in imaginative literature, and the various ways in which humans perceive non-human animals have become the subject of study in various disciplines. Attempts to draw a boundary between human and nonhuman animals have involved the artistic imagination as well as philosophical reflection. Throughout the centuries philosophers and poets alike have defended an essential difference – rather than a porous transition – between what counts as human and what as animal. The attempts to assign essential properties to humans (e.g. a capacity for language use, reason and morality) often reflected ulterior aims to defend a privileged position for humans with regard to animals (which were, in turn, interpreted as speechless, irrational and amoral). While this form of humanism has come under attack through animal rights initiatives in recent decades, alternative ways of engaging the human-animal relationship from a philosophical and poetic perspective are rare. The conference thus aims to shift the traditional anthropocentric focus of philosophy and literature by replacing the question "what is human?" with the question "what is animal?"

The conference will be held in Mayaguez, Puerto Rico 10-11 April 2015. Selected papers presented at the conference will be considered for inclusion in a book project to be submitted to Lexington Books' Ecocritical Theory and Practice series.

We welcome papers from several disciplines, including literature and philosophy.

Please send proposals for a 20-minute paper to Nandita Batra (nandita.batra@upr.edu) and Mario Wenning (mwenning@umac.mo) by **31 October 2014** with the subject line: HUMAN-ANIMAL SYMP PROPOSAL.

Call for Papers: Childhood and Pethood: Representation, Subjectivity and the Cultural Politics of Power

Abstracts (500 words) due November 1, 2014

Articles (7,000 words) due July 1, 2015

While scholars of children's literature and childhood studies frequently discuss representations of animals in children's texts, there is little discussion of the often parallel ways in which these texts construct animal and child subjectivity. At the same time, while critics in the field of animal studies have remarked upon the cultural tendency to think of pets as children, there is little scholarly work on the larger implications of understanding pets as children and vice versa. Even though children and pets are similarly constructed, represented, and dominated in Western culture and society, scholars have largely neglected to interrogate childhood and pethood together.

This collection of essays will investigate the political implications of understanding pets as children and children as pets, specifically in the ideological construction of both as subordinate to and dependent on adults, and examine the cultural connections between domesticated animals and children. We further aim to use the frequent social and cultural alignment between children and pets as an opportunity to analyze institutions that create pet and child subjectivity, from education and training to putting children and pets on display and using them for entertainment purposes. Current constructions of childhood and pethood have developed alongside the emergence of the modern nation-state, relegating children and pets to marginalized spaces in contemporary Western society. In what ways, then, have the modern concepts of “the child” and “the pet” emerged together, and how have these concepts been linked to the project of nation-building? How much institutionalized power should adults have over children and domesticated animals, and how is their lack of rights justified rhetorically? How does understanding pets as children illuminate unequal power relations, and what do such relations look like? What kinds of connections between childhood and pethood do we see historically and today, and what are their implications?

We will draw on recent work in childhood studies, animal studies, and cultural studies to examine how together these disciplines can productively interrogate the cultural politics of power over subjects society collectively views as needing to be trained and schooled in order to become “proper” members of society and the nation. We hope to gather a diverse range of essays that examine cultural and historical constructions and alignments of the child and the pet, theoretical understandings of childhood and pethood, and literary representations of children and pets.

Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- The exploitation of children and pets through cultural constructions of childhood and pethood, as well as through the connections between them
- The commercialization of children and animals: pet products, children’s toys, advertising
- Tricks and Talents: putting children and animals on display, zoos, pet shows, child beauty pageants
- Cuteness and the politics of affection
- Fear of wildness, the instinctual, the uncivilized; containing wildness in children and pets
- Training pets and schooling children
- The biopolitics of childhood and pethood
- Disney’s portrayal of pets and children
- How much agency do children and pets have? How much do we pretend they have?
- The Internet and online videos: funny pet and child videos; pet- and child-shaming online
- Child/pet, child/adult, and pet/adult relationships in literature
- Subject construction and nation-building
- Child-pet relationships vs. adult-pet relationships: Are pets “children” for children? Does pet keeping help turn children into adults by teaching them responsibility and caretaking?
- Pets and education: how do pets in schools and pets as vehicles of education contribute to a child’s learning, and what lessons are being taught?
- Children and pets in philosophy; philosophies of childhood and pethood

- Animals and children across cultures; non-Western conceptions of pets and children; what connections do non-Western cultures draw between pets and children?
- The perceived (and forced) asexuality of children and pets: containing sexuality in children and pets
- Depictions of the slave figure and the “noble savage” as analogous to the pet/child
- Baby voices: talking babies and talking animals; projecting voices onto babies and animals; communicating with pets and children
- Infantilizing pets; breastfeeding pets; dressing up pets as children; throwing birthday parties for pets
- Children and pets in visual culture

Please send abstracts of up to 500 words, or any questions, to Anna Feuerstein and Carmen Nolte-Odhiambo at childhoodandpethood@gmail.com **by November 1, 2014**. Full essays (5,000-7,000 words) will be due July 1, 2015.

Mostra Animal International Animal Film Festival.

Simone de Lima is directing an animal rights non-profit in Brazil (ProAnima) and volunteers for the Brazilian Vegetarian Society, which hosts the annual *Mostra Animal* International Animal Film Festival.

The festival is free to the public and offers a wide selection of movies on animal-human relationships. Vegan food and literature is made available during the event.

Three of the movies are chosen by the public to receive an Oscow (our version of the oscar - he has a cow head!), More than 300 people attended last year's event, in Curitiba. The outreach project then takes the movies across the country, making them available to hundreds more.

This link has details in English: <http://www.mostraanimal.com.br/index.php/inscricoes/30>

If you are interested in showing your animal-related movie in *Mostra Animal*, please send your enrollment form and two NTSC DVDs or blu-rays, to:

"Raphael Semchechen Neto - Rua Carlos Pioli, 133 - SUPDE #8786 - CEP 80520-170 - Centro Cívico - Curitiba, PR"

If you have publicity material (posters, images, etc), please send them along too.

Call for Papers: 2nd Biennial Conference on Living with Animals: Interconnections

Eastern Kentucky University

19-21 March, 2015

“Living with Animals 2” is a reprise of the first “Living with Animals” conference that took place at Eastern Kentucky University in 2013. Eastern Kentucky University, located in Richmond just south of Lexington, “The Horse Capital of the World”, began offering the first undergraduate degree in Animal Studies in 2010. As our conference title suggests, we are planning to offer a Living with Animals conference every 2 years.

A three-day conference: March 19-21, 2015, with optional excursions (TBA) on March 22. Crabbe Library, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY, 40475

Drs. Robert Mitchell, Radhika Makecha, and Michał Pręgowski

Email contact: livingwithanimals@eku.edu

In this second time around, we are hoping to retain the strong arts and humanities perspectives we enjoyed so much in the first conference, as well as including some more scientific and applied perspectives for general audiences. Consistent with the conference theme, we are looking for interconnections: not only between and across diverse humans and diverse animals, but also between and across disciplines.

There will be continuity with the first Living with Animals conference. Artist and art historian Julia Schlosser, 2013's co-organizer, will be having a display of her photographic work on pet-human interaction, and will also provide a keynote address about her work. We are planning to continue our Horse theme, but with a shorter half-day session selected and chaired by Dr. Gala Argent who organized the Horse session at the first conference. We also plan to devote time (breakout sessions and talks) to issues surrounding teaching the animal. Although topics will depend on the abstracts about teaching we receive, we plan to have a panel discussion about standardized curricula for Animal Studies/Anthrozoology programs— an offshoot of the International Society for Anthrozoology (ISAZ) conference in Vienna this summer.

There are some new foci as well. Co-organizer Radhika Makecha is organizing sessions around conservation, human-animal conflict, and elephants, and co-organizer Michał Pręgowski is organizing sessions around dogs and dog-human interaction, including topics such as training, memorials, and shelter work.

Abstracts of 200 to (approximately) 400 words should be sent to livingwithanimals@eku.edu. The first line of the abstract should be the title of the talk, and the next line(s) should be the authors' names, positions, affiliations, and email addresses. Following this should be a blank line, followed by the text of the abstract. All should be single-spaced. Reference to existing bodies of work might be made.

In addition, provide a one-page CV of your most relevant work and experience.

Individual paper presentation time will be 20 minutes. Panels of up to 3 speakers are welcome. All presentations and panels will be reviewed by the organizers and/or chairs.

We are also looking into offering poster presentations. Posters are especially helpful for presenting scientific research.

Abstract submission deadline: December 5, 2014

Author notification due: December 16, 2014

Conference begins: March 19, 2015

Conference ends: March 21, 2015

Optional excursions: March 22, 2015

We recommend that participants arrive on March 18, and depart no earlier than the evening of March 22, to enjoy the conference fully.

The address of the conference website will be announced soon. It will contain more information about registration, hotels, excursions, dinners, food issues, and the other keynote speakers.

2014 Nature-Based Therapeutics Conference: Speak! The Quality of Interactions Between Humans and Animals

*Coming
up*

Friday, September 26, 8:30 a.m.–8:30 p.m. at the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

Presented by the University of Minnesota's Nature-Based Therapeutic Services, a shared initiative with the Minnesota Landscape Arboretum and the Center for Spirituality and Healing to further the understanding of how nature heals.

Highlights:

- Evening conversation with Minnesota playwright and storyteller Kevin Kling
- Keynote address by Suzanne Clothier, renowned expert on human-animal relationships
- Art as Translation – discussion with Emilie Buchwald, Mary Luddington, Kari Maxwell, and Kristy Walker
- Sessions on Integrative Healthcare and Animal-Assisted Interactions; Ethical Considerations in Animal-Assisted Interactions; Partnerships in Animal-Assisted Interactions; and Animal-Assisted Interactions in Practice
- Exhibit on human-animal relationships – photographs by Gina Kelly, Mary Luddington and Kristy Walker
- Arboretum's new 65-acre Dog Commons with on-leash trail

More information at: www.arboretum.umn.edu/Speak2014.aspx

For the Love of Animals: Animals, Human Wellbeing and Community Services

The workshop will bring together those researching human-animal relations in the community and community service practitioners who have an interest in how animals contribute to community health and well-being. Anyone interested in understanding more about how human-animal bonds can be recognised, valued and supported in a range of community services is welcome to attend.

Where: Function Centre, Flinders University Campus, Bedford Park, Adelaide.

Registrations: \$30 waged; \$10 student/unwaged. Morning and afternoon tea and a buffet lunch will be provided.

Queries can be directed to animalsinsociety@flinders.edu.au

More information available at <http://animalsinsocietygroup.wordpress.com/events/>

Conference "From Animal Self to Human Self"

Animals are conscious creatures with a subjective perspective on the world. They perceive their surroundings and are moved by desires. In this sense, they have a self. Humans are conscious, too. But in them, consciousness takes on a new quality. Humans not only have perceptions and desires, but are aware of and take a stand on them. They are self-conscious creatures with selves of a distinctive kind. The conference brings together philosophers and developmental and comparative psychologists in order to explore the continuities and differences of animal selves and human selves.

Presentations by Josep Call, Matthias Haase, Thomas Khurana, Christian Kietzmann, Henrike Moll, Jan Müller, Kristina Musholt, Philippe Rochat, Christian Steiner, Michael Thompson.

The conference is jointly organized by Andrea Kern, Christian Kietzmann and Henrike Moll. It takes place as part of the research project "The Anthropological Difference".

Venue: Neuer Senatsaal, Ritterstr. 26, 04109 Leipzig

Time: September 19-21, 2014

Further details can be found here:

<http://www.sozphil.uni-leipzig.de/cm/philosophie/veran/from-animal-self-to-human-self/>

Call for Papers: Advancing Zoo Animal Welfare Science and Policy

Detroit Zoological Society Center for Zoo Animal Welfare

November 21-22, 2014

This symposium will include presentations and panels focusing on the following primary topic areas: (1) Presenting frameworks for institution- and profession-wide zoo animal welfare. This unveils and further refines what can be done systematically. (2) Major developments and advances in animal welfare science and policy.

More information: <http://czaw.org/advancing-zoo-animal-welfare-science-and-policy-symposium>

The deadline for abstracts is October 1, 2014.

Call for Papers: Animals in Rural, Agricultural, and Environmental History

Agricultural History Society

June 3-6, 2015

Located in the Horse Capital of the World, Lexington, Kentucky, the 2015 annual meeting of the Agricultural History Society will explore the theme of animals in rural, agricultural, and environmental history. For thousands of years, people have fostered profound, often contradictory relationships with animals. Nowhere is this relationship more evident and complicated than in its agricultural context, where animals have served as labor-saving machines, companions, capital, food, and proxies for societies' larger relationships, whether human, spiritual, or material. Kentucky's Bluegrass Region offers an excellent location to consider that historical relationship, given its longstanding place at the center of the international business of thoroughbred racing, horse breeding, veterinary science, and ancillary industries like bourbon distillation. The committee especially encourages proposals on the place of animals in rural, agricultural, and environmental history, but also welcomes panels that are not related to the conference theme.

The program committee prefers complete session proposals, but individual papers will be considered. Please submit an abstract (200 words) for each paper and a CV (1 page) for each author to Mark Hersey.

More information: <https://networks.h-net.org/node/16560/discussions/33571/cfp-animals-rural-agricultural-and-environmental-history>

The deadline for abstracts is October 1, 2014

Hydra Mule and Donkey Conference

Friday 10 to Sunday 12 October 2014

The fourth Hydra Mule and Donkey Conference will be held on the Island of Hydra on Friday 10 to Sunday 12 October.

The conference is open to all members of the general public.

The island is just to the south of Athens, and is easily reachable by a regular ferry service from the port of Piraeus. Since our dates are off-season, there will be a ready availability of hotel rooms which can be booked upon arrival.

In addition to the programme of speakers and films (see below), there will also be a visit by the veterinarians of Greek Animal Welfare, to care for the island's equids. And there will be the opportunity for mule trekking on the island.

Registration for the conference costs 25 euros, and can be paid upon arrival.

Admission is free for residents of the Island of Hydra.

For registration, and for further information, write to the conference organiser:

ed.emery@soas.ac.uk

More information: <http://www.hydraislandgreece.com/hydra-mule-and-donkey-conference/>

Groups, Institutes and Networks: Fellowships, programs, scholarships, employment, grants

2014 WOLFoundation Essay Competition

The Web of Life Foundation (WOLFoundation) is pleased to announce that entries are now open for the 2014 WOLFoundation essay competition. The WOLFoundation is dedicated to stimulating new thinking in the field of sustainability and socio-environmental issues. The theme of this year's competition is Leadership: What are the characteristics of effective leadership for the 21st century? Whether it relates to environmental degradation, personal privacy, the functioning—or otherwise—of our democratic processes, or many other issues, many people feel that we are suffering from an almost global crisis of leadership: an inability to break out of the status quo to enable societies to address some of the growing social and environmental issues that we all face. We encourage entrants to focus on the nature of leadership itself rather than the specific issues that leaders should be addressing.

More information: <http://www.wolfoundation.org/guidelines/>

Deadline for submissions is September 30, 2014.

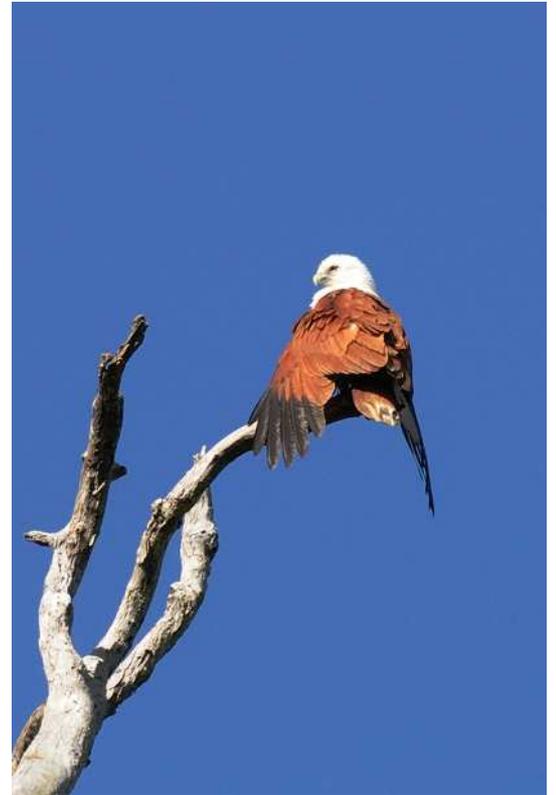
Animal and Humane Studies Summer Retreat Program

The 300-acre Camp Muse at Shin Pond, Maine, is the site of a summer retreat program for writers, scholars, artists, educators, and other cultural producers and knowledge workers focusing on animals and/or their humane treatment. The program, operated by The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), invites all interested parties to apply for a residency at the property, which is open from July 1 to early October each year. Camp Muse, a wooded retreat at the edge of a pristine and peaceful pond just ten miles from the northern entrance to Baxter State Park, offers an idyllic atmosphere for research, contemplation, writing, and other creative work. The purpose of the program, operated through the generosity of longtime HSUS board member K. William Wiseman and his wife Madge, is to encourage

scholarly, cultural, and practical projects relating to animals, and to provide a site for enhanced productivity on such projects.

More information: http://www.humanesociety.org/about/departments/shin_pond_retreat.html

Applications will be received on an ongoing basis beginning immediately.



*Brahminy Kite (Haliastur indus), Malanda, QLD
Photographer : John Manger*

Special Feature: An interview with Carol Freeman

Carol Freeman is a writer and Adjunct Researcher in the School of Humanities at the University of Tasmania. Her book *Paper Tiger: A Visual History of the Thylacine* considered the role of illustrations in the demise of the thylacine or Tasmanian ‘tiger’. A new edition, subtitled *How Pictures Shaped the Thylacine* was launched last month. Carol compiled and edited the Australian Animal Studies Group News Bulletin from 2008 to 2014.



Why the thylacine?

When I moved to Tasmania in 1988 I was enthralled by images of the thylacine in everyday life. The figure appeared on cricket club logos, on potato bags and the state coat of arms, then emerged as a government icon eventually stamped on number plates. I think the nineties were the heyday of thylacine images—they seemed to be everywhere. Then my first job in Tasmania included working in the Royal Society Library at the University—an invaluable collection of the earliest books in the colony of Van Diemen’s Land—where I saw nineteenth century engravings and lithographs of the thylacine . . . and there were errors, as well as interesting details, about the species that intrigued me. The culmination of this fascination occurred at my Honours graduation ceremony, where the Vice-Chancellor carried the University of Tasmania’s ceremonial mace with four bronze thylacines at its head. But another indelible image for me around this time was a thylacine walking across my computer screen. There are a number of short films taken while the species still existed. This film of the ‘last’ thylacine, playing on a loop, showed the figure walking endlessly across my screen as if wanting to escape cultural interpretations or modes of production. One of the results of this filmic encounter was that I decided to focus my research on the animal behind the images and the attitudes encouraged by pictures.

Are they really extinct or are they just in hiding?

Unfortunately, the species is most unlikely to have survived. It’s been nearly 80 years since the last thylacine in captivity died in Hobart Zoo and there have been no verified sightings since then. Recent photographs claiming to be genuine have proved hoaxes, or are so blurry they could be anything. In 2005 *The Bulletin* magazine offered \$1.25 million for a photograph of the species, but no one could supply one. If any were hiding out there, I reckon someone would have found them. A considerable number of animals are required for a viable population to exist in the wild.

What’s new about the latest edition of Paper Tiger?

The 2014 edition of *Paper Tiger*, sub-titled *How Pictures Shaped the Thylacine*, has been designed for general, rather than academic, readers. The book is a different size and shape to the original edition and printed on glossy paper. It has a double column layout with images spread throughout, a brilliant new cover image that conveys the constructed nature of representations, and a different sub-title. There are twenty additional illustrations including a lost photograph taken in London Zoo in the 1800s that was discovered only last year. The text has been slightly pared back and simplified, but the full documentation—bibliography and detailed list of illustrations—has been retained. I have always wanted to see *Paper Tiger* in bookshops in Australia and it’s been a great thrill to see it on display in a prominent position in Dymocks Bookstore, the largest commercial franchise in Australia, and other booksellers in Hobart.

What does the expression 'paper tiger' evoke for you?

As far as my book's title is concerned, it has a double meaning. The essence of the expression is the idea that something that seems threatening is, in fact, timid or 'all show'. It is a literal translation of an ancient Chinese phrase, used most famously by Mao Tse-tung in reference to American imperialism: "In appearance it is very powerful but in reality it is nothing to be afraid of; it is a paper tiger". Many images of the thylacine or Tasmanian 'tiger' show a dangerous, wolf-like animal in a predatory position, but current research suggests that thylacines were shy, elusive marsupials who avoided humans. Photos of the species in zoos reinforces this. And the pictures of the thylacine that I analyse are illustrations on paper—published images from zoological and natural history books, journals, encyclopaedias, newspapers and magazines from 1808, when the first image was published, to 1936 when the last captive thylacine died in Hobart Zoo. This is the kind of material people at the time would have accessed to find out about an animal's appearance and how a species behaved.

In 2005 you revealed that a famous photograph of a thylacine holding a chicken had been staged. How did people respond and do you see any similar phenomena happening today in the way we represent animals?

Responses to my article "[Is This Picture Worth a Thousand Words](#)" (*Australian Zoologist* 33.1, 2005) varied, and it still seems to be attracting debate, which is good. Discussion revolves around two ideas—first that the photo was staged and second that it shows a taxidermy specimen. Most critics agree the photograph was staged and significantly cropped to hide many details of the scene, but several disagree with my argument that it shows a taxidermy specimen. An animal that was kept in Beaumaris Zoo in Hobart is claimed to have had the same stripe markings, although living animals, of course, routinely ended up as specimens and it seems stripe markings can be interpreted in a number of ways. The most significant resistance to the idea of staging came from the science community. One wrote a personal email to me saying it was unfair to besmirch the reputation of Harry Burrell, who took the photo, although I made clear that I could understand Burrell's actions in the milieu of contemporary attitudes and his



Tasmanian Tiger or Wolf in *Australian Museum Magazine*, 1921

motivation in the context of his position as an amateur naturalist. My correspondent also said he preferred to take photos at face value . . . for me, a much more worrying remark!

Today, it's the selection of photos for publication that concerns me, although I feel this is improving as the idea that representations have an impact on animals becomes acknowledged. Take the Tasmanian devil, for instance. Pictures of the species in the media almost invariably show animals with open, snarling mouths, as if they spent their entire lives fighting with each other. It's not a particularly

attractive representation for a species under threat. The devils I've seen (admittedly in captivity) exhibit a variety of behaviours: they sit on their haunches and fastidiously clean their whiskers after a meal and light shines through the delicate skin of their deep pink ears. Some surveys have been done on animal representation, but there needs to be more systematic research, especially in the case of threatened species. Consider the amount of market research that goes into discovering how advertising and packaging can encourage buyers to purchase everyday supermarket items. How much more important it is discover ways to ensure the survival of a species through clever and positive representation.

Is the interest in thylacines related to a fondness for so-called cryptids – for other mystery animals, such as bunyips and yowies? What can you say about the representation of these creatures in popular culture?

Strangely, fascination with cryptids—mythical or ‘unknown’ animals— often seems to include thylacines, even though details of their existence and demise are well-known. The species also has a cult following, a band of ‘believers’ who think thylacines still exist and conduct searches, such as recent attempts by The Centre for Fortean Zoology in north western Tasmania. It’s not helpful, as it sidelines the idea that this animal was exterminated largely by human actions and so discourages feelings of responsibility. Cloning is another problematic area. I would rather see money spent on preserving species that are presently endangered, than on searching for, or recreating, thylacines.

You’ve looked at the representation of animals in popular culture and wildlife documentaries. What do you think about the primetime popularity of shows like “Meerkat Manor” and David “Atten-bro,” as he’s now styled?

In the wider perspective of the BBC’s Blue Chip documentaries and animal studies, I find the way wildlife series have changed over the last decade or so extremely interesting. I’ve written about the emergence of the animal ‘soapie’ *Big Cat Diary*, which blurred the boundaries between animal and human (narrator/filmmaker) and placed them in the visual field as ‘co-producers’ of a story. The distance between viewer and animal also shrunk as audiences commented online about the ‘real life’ drama and the fate of individual animals. The old tendency to interpret animal lives for the audience (as Attenborough did in his early series), to conflate individuals into species and fabricate situations is rarely seen in this series, although sometimes other issues and problems emerge. *Meerkat Manor* combines science, drama and personal narrative to create family stories so attractive to audiences. To my mind, as long as animals accept or are not adversely affected by the presence of humans in their territory, and filmmakers are sensitive to the animal’s point of view (as far as that can be imagined), the kind of discussion, compassion and empathy these series seem to engender can only be good for audiences and for animals.

Lastly, where will your next line of research take you?

It may not necessarily focus on animals, although they will always have some kind of presence in anything I do. I have three writing projects that I’ve had in my mind for some time—a novella, an account of a trial, and the history of a seaside hotel. I may never finish them, but the more time I have available the more likely I am to actually make some headway!

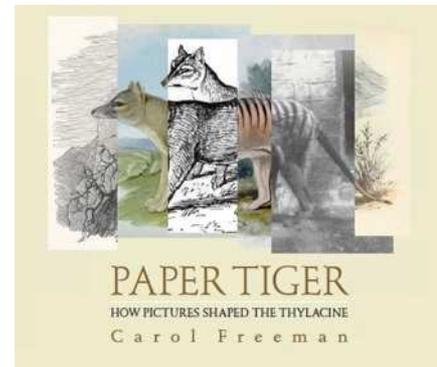


New Books: Summaries from publishers' websites

Paper Tiger: How Pictures Shaped the Thylacine

By **Carol Freeman**

Paper Tiger: How Pictures Shaped the Thylacine is an exciting new history of the thylacine, or Tasmanian tiger, that draws us closer to the animals who served as models for illustrations. It takes the reader on a journey behind artists' brushstrokes and photographers' lenses into the world of science, printing processes, publishing entrepreneurs, circulating libraries and bounties and reveals how inaccurate published images were ... and how profoundly they affected attitudes toward living thylacines. Written with sensitivity and an eye for detail, *Paper Tiger* uncovers forgotten drawings and lost photographs from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, telling a story full of mystery and revelations. It demonstrates how pictures and words have a vital influence on a species' survival. As the rate of extinctions escalates, we are also reminded that sympathetic pictures have the power to provide hope for endangered animals.

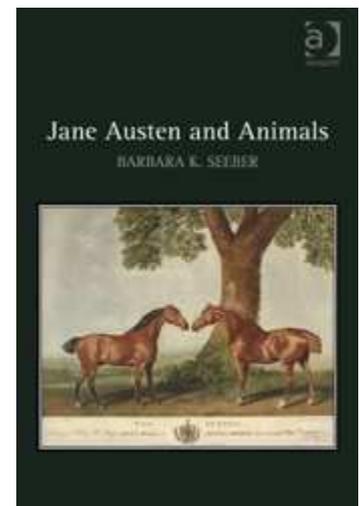


Carol Freeman is a writer and Adjunct Researcher at the University of Tasmania and co-editor of a collection of essays *Considering Animals: Contemporary Studies in Human-Animal Relations*. Carol has published in journals such as *Society and Animals*, *reCollections: Journal of the National Museum of Australia*, and has an essay in the collection *Leonardo's Choice: Genetic Technologies and Animals*.

Jane Austen and Animals

By **Barbara K. Seeber**

The first full-length study of animals in Jane Austen, Barbara K. Seeber's book situates the author's work within the serious debates about human-animal relations that began in the eighteenth century and continued into Austen's lifetime. Seeber shows that Austen's writings consistently align the objectification of nature with that of women and that Austen associates the hunting, shooting, racing, and consuming of animals with the domination of women. Austen's complicated depictions of the use and abuse of nature also challenge postcolonial readings that interpret, for example, Fanny Price's rejoicing in nature as a celebration of England's imperial power. In Austen, hunting and the owning of animals are markers of station and a prerogative of power over others, while her representation of the hierarchy of food, where meat occupies top position, is identified with a human-nature dualism that objectifies not only nature, but also the women who are expected to serve food to men. In placing Austen's texts in the context of animal-rights arguments that arose in the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, Seeber expands our understanding of Austen's participation in significant societal concerns and makes an important contribution to animal, gender, food, and empire studies in the nineteenth century.



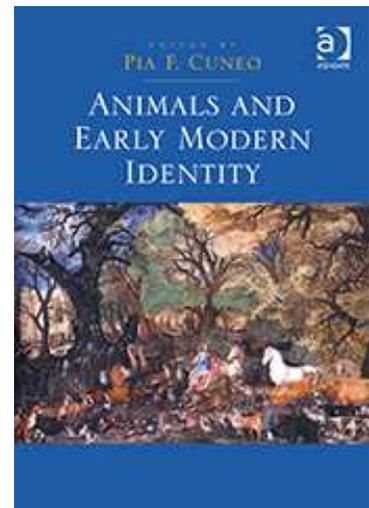
Barbara K. Seeber is Associate Professor of English at Brock University, Canada. She is the author of *General Consent in Jane Austen: A Study of Dialogism* (2000).

Animals and Early Modern Identity

Edited by **Pia F. Cuneo**

Animals were everywhere in the early modern period and they impacted, at least in some way, the lives of every kind of early modern person, from the humblest peasant to the greatest prince. Artists made careers based on depicting them. English gentry impoverished themselves spending money on them. Humanists exercised their scholarship writing about them. Pastors saved souls delivering sermons on them. Nobles forged alliances competing with them. Foreigners and indigenes negotiated with one another through trading them.

The nexus between animal-human relationships and early modern identity is illuminated in this volume by the latest research of international scholars working on the history of art, literature, and of sixteenth- and seventeenth-century Germany, France, England, Spain, and South Africa. Collectively, these essays investigate how animals - horses, dogs, pigs, hogs, fish, cattle, sheep, birds, rhinoceroses, even sea-monsters and other creatures - served people in Europe, England, the Americas, and Africa to defend, contest or transcend the boundaries of early modern identities.

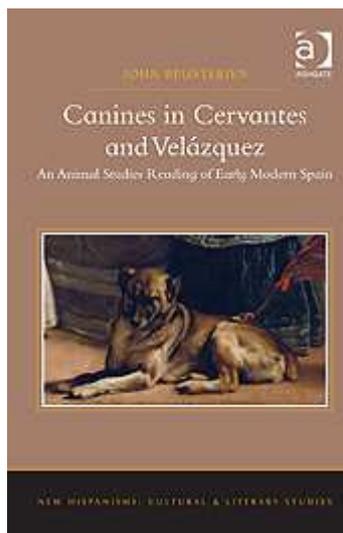


Developments in the methodologies employed by scholars to interrogate the past have opened up an intellectual and discursive space for - and a concomitant recognition of - the study of animals as a topic that significantly elucidates past and present histories. Relevant to a considerable array of disciplines, the study of animals also provides a means to surmount traditional disciplinary boundaries through processes of dynamic interchange and cross-fertilization.

Pia F. Cuneo is Professor of Art History at the University of Arizona, USA. Her current work focuses on sixteenth- and seventeenth-century hippology, and she competes locally in dressage.

Canines in Cervantes and Velázquez: An Animal Studies Reading of Early Modern Spain

By **John Beusterien**



The study of the creation of canine breeds in early modern Europe, especially Spain, illustrates the different constructs against which notions of human identity were forged. This book is the first comprehensive history of early modern Spanish dogs and it evaluates how two of Spain's most celebrated and canonical cultural figures of this period, the artist Diego Velázquez and the author Miguel de Cervantes, radically question humankind's sixteenth-century anthropocentric self-fashioning. In general, this study illuminates how Animal Studies can offer new perspectives to understanding Hispanism, giving readers a fresh approach to the historical, literary and artistic complexity of early modern Spain.

John Beusterien is Associate Professor of Spanish and Director Comparative Literature Program in the Department of Classical and Modern Languages and Literatures at Texas Tech University, USA.

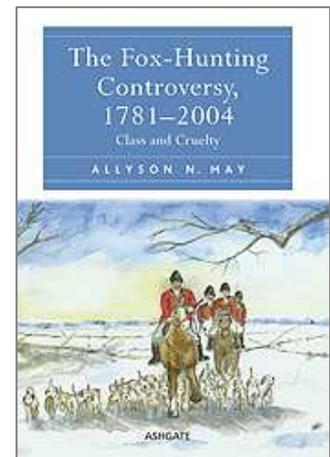
The Fox-Hunting Controversy, 1781–2004: Class and Cruelty

By **Allyson N. May**

August 1781 saw the publication of a manual on fox hunting that would become a classic of its genre. Hugely popular in its own day, Peter Beckford's *Thoughts on Hunting* is often cited as marking the birth of modern hunting and continues to be quoted from affectionately today by the hunting fraternity. Less stressed is the fact that its subject was immediately controversial, and that a hostile review which appeared on the heels of the manual's publication raised two criticisms of fox hunting that would be repeated over the next two centuries: fox hunting was a cruel sport and a feudal, anachronistic one at that.

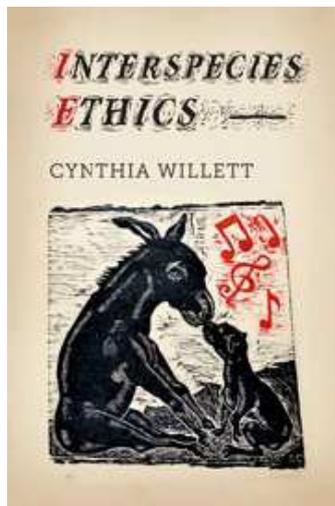
This study explores the attacks made on fox hunting from 1781 to the legal ban achieved in 2004, as well as assessing the reasons for its continued appeal and post-ban survival. Chapters cover debates in the areas of: class and hunting; concerns over cruelty and animal welfare; party politics; the hunt in literature; and nostalgia. By adopting a thematic approach, the author is able to draw out the wider social and cultural implications of the debates, and to explore what they tell us about national identity, social mores and social relations in modern Britain.

Allyson N. May is Associate Professor in the Department of History at The University of Western Ontario, Canada.



Interspecies Ethics

By **Cynthia Willett**



Interspecies Ethics explores animals' vast capacity for agency, justice, solidarity, humor, and communication across species. The social bonds diverse animals form provide a remarkable model for communitarian justice and cosmopolitan peace, challenging the human exceptionalism that drives modern moral theory. Situating biosocial ethics firmly within coevolutionary processes, this volume has profound implications for work in social and political thought, contemporary pragmatism, Africana thought, and continental philosophy.

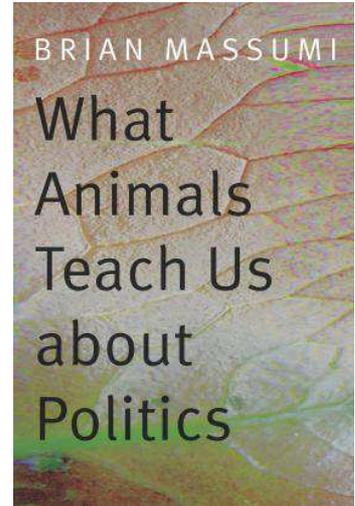
Interspecies Ethics develops a communitarian model for multispecies ethics, rebalancing the overemphasis on competition in the original Darwinian paradigm by drawing out and stressing the cooperationist aspects of evolutionary theory through mutual aid. The book's ethical vision offers an alternative to utilitarian, deontological, and virtue ethics, building its argument through rich anecdotes and clear explanations of recent scientific discoveries regarding animals and their agency. Geared toward a general as well as a philosophical audience, the text illuminates a variety of theories and contrasting approaches, tracing the contours of a postmoral ethics.

Cynthia Willett is a professor of philosophy at Emory University. Her books include *Irony in the Age of Empire: Comic Perspectives on Freedom and Democracy*; *The Soul of Justice: Racial Hubris and Social Bonds*; and *Maternal Ethics and Other Slave Moralities*. She has also edited the anthology *Theorizing Multiculturalism* and is a coeditor for *the Symposia on Race, Gender, and Philosophy*.

What Animals Teach Us about Politics

By **Brian Massumi**

In *What Animals Teach Us about Politics*, Brian Massumi takes up the question of "the animal." By treating the human as animal, he develops a concept of an animal politics. His is not a human politics of the animal, but an integrally animal politics, freed from connotations of the "primitive" state of nature and the accompanying presuppositions about instinct permeating modern thought. Massumi integrates notions marginalized by the dominant currents in evolutionary biology, animal behavior, and philosophy— notions such as play, sympathy, and creativity—into the concept of nature. As he does so, his inquiry necessarily expands, encompassing not only animal behavior but also animal thought and its distance from, or proximity to, those capacities over which human animals claim a monopoly: language and reflexive consciousness. For Massumi, humans and animals exist on a continuum. Understanding that continuum, while accounting for difference, requires a new logic of "mutual inclusion." Massumi finds the conceptual resources for this logic in the work of thinkers including Gregory Bateson, Henri Bergson, Gilbert Simondon, and Raymond Ruyer. This concise book intervenes in Deleuze studies, posthumanism, and animal studies, as well as areas of study as wide-ranging as affect theory, aesthetics, embodied cognition, political theory, process philosophy, the theory of play, and the thought of Alfred North Whitehead.



Brian Massumi is Professor in the Communication Department at the University of Montreal. He is the author of *Semblance and Event: Activist Philosophy and the Occurrent Arts* and *Parables for the Virtual: Movement, Affect, Sensation*, which is also published by Duke University Press.

Critical Animal Geographies: Politics, Intersections and Hierarchies in a Multispecies World

Edited by **Kathryn A. Gillespie, Rosemary-Claire Collard**

Critical Animal Geographies provides new geographical perspectives on critical animal studies, exploring the spatial, political and ethical dimensions of animals' lived experience and human-animal encounter. It works toward a more radical politics and theory directed at the shifting boundary between human and animal. Chapters draw together feminist, political-economic, post-humanist, anarchist, post-colonial, and critical race literatures with original case studies in order to see how efforts by some humans to control and order life – human and not – violate, constrain and impinge upon others. Central to all chapters is a commitment to grappling with the stakes – violence, death, life, autonomy – of human-animal encounters. Equally, the work in the collection addresses head-on the dominant forces shaping – and dependent on – these encounters: capitalism, racism, colonialism, and so on. In doing so, the book pushes readers to confront how human-animal relations are mixed up with overlapping axes of power and exploitation, including gender, race, class, and species.

Rosemary-Claire Collard is an assistant professor in geography at Concordia University in Montreal. Her research looks at capitalism, environmental politics, science, and culture, especially film, with an eye to how they depend on and engender certain human-animal relations.

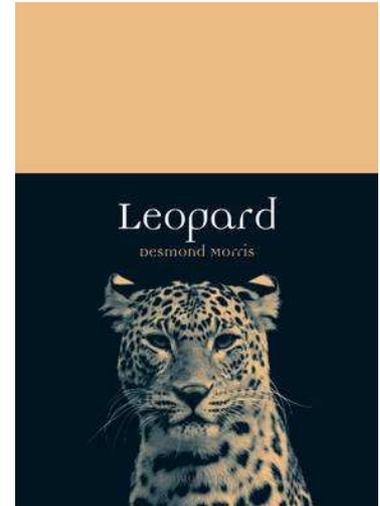
Kathryn Gillespie is a part-time lecturer in Geography, the Honors Program and the Comparative History of Ideas Program at the University of Washington in Seattle, Washington. Her research focuses on the lived experience of animals in spaces of commodity production (e.g., farming, breeding, sale, and slaughter), with a particular emphasis on those animals humans use for food.

Leopard

By **Desmond Morris**

The leopard is the ultimate cat. It makes the lion and the tiger appear overblown and all the other members of the cat family look puny. Whereas lions hunt in the open and then share their kill, the leopard is solitary, stealthy and selfish. This cat ambushes its prey and then carries it high into a tree where it can dine alone. The leopard has commanded respect and awe in mankind for centuries, and is called the 'perfect predator', capable of frustrating the most dedicated big game hunter. Leopards are known to attack humans, and the book contains some compelling images of this amazing animal in action.

In *Leopard*, renowned zoologist Desmond Morris shows all sides of the animal's character: its athletic elegance, its predatory skill, its wary shyness, its cunning intelligence, its parental devotion and its preference for solitary living, even its capacity to seek revenge. Morris traces the evolution of leopards, their role in circuses, and how we are now making strides in their conservation. He also describes their rich symbolism, and looks at the leopard print in fashion, both haute couture and downmarket, as well as the leopard in art, literature, film and popular culture.



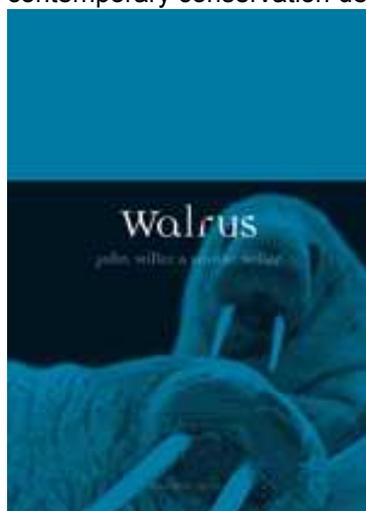
Desmond Morris is a world-renowned zoologist and the author of many bestselling books on human and animal behaviour. He is a practising artist and contributed Owl and Monkey to Reaktion's Animal series. He lives in Oxford.

Walrus

By **John Miller, Louise Miller**

Known for its prominent tusks and distinctive whiskers, the walrus has often cropped up in contemporary culture: from the grandiloquent protagonist of Lewis Carroll's poem 'The Walrus and the Carpenter', to The Beatles' enigmatic pronouncement 'I am the Walrus'. Walruses have also played a significant role in Arctic indigenous communities, where they have held a central place in traditional mythologies.

Walrus explores the intriguing and affecting history of an animal that remains on the frontline of contemporary conservation debates. Commercial walrus hunting was banned in the 1930s, and today only subsistence hunting is permitted, yet the mammal still faces an uncertain future. Shrinking pack-ice caused by global warming is causing serious problems for walrus herds, while the exploitation of arctic oil and gas resources puts further pressure on the animals.



This important book combines natural, cultural and environmental histories to offer a refreshing and wonderfully illustrated account of the much-loved mammal. *Walrus* foregrounds the ethical dilemmas they embody, such as the continuing and intensifying conflict between the developed world and indigenous interests, and the impact of global warming on arctic animals.

John Miller is a lecturer in nineteenth-century literature at the University of Sheffield, UK and author of *Empire and the Animal Body: Violence, Ecology and Identity in Victorian Adventure Fiction* (2012). Louise Miller is an independent scholar based in Kent, UK.

Animal Politics and Political Animals

Edited by *M.L.J. Wissenburg, David Schlosberg*

While much has been written on environmental politics on the one hand, and animal ethics and welfare on the other, animal politics, as the interface of the two, is underexamined. There are key political implications in the increase of animal protection laws, the rights of nature, and political parties and movements dedicated to animals. What are the implications of the increasing attention and popularity of ethical discourses on animal welfare and animal rights for politics and political philosophy? What is the animal's place in environmental political thought – and in 21st Century political philosophy per se? What can, rather than should, politics do for animals – what institutions and practices are suitable and desirable? Can animal ethics learn from animal politics?

Marcel Wissenburg is Professor of Political Theory in the Department of Public Administration and Political Science, Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands. *David Schlosberg* is Professor of Environmental Politics in the Department of Government and International Relations, The University of Sydney, Australia.

Call for Submissions

Animal Studies Journal

<http://ro.uow.edu.au/asj/>

The Animal Studies Journal (ASJ) is the journal of the Australian Animal Studies Group. ASJ publishes inquiring and critical academic work by both new and established scholars whose work focuses on animals and human relationships with other animals. The journal aims to be a leading international forum for the dissemination and discussion of animal studies research and creative work.

ASJ supports and promotes scholarship and scholarly exchange within animal studies, with a view to the advancement of positive human-animal relations. Material for the journal comes from a wide range of perspectives, across the humanities, creative arts, social sciences and natural sciences, reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of this field. If you are interested in submitting work, please visit the journal website (link above) and consult submission rules and policies. Length of contributions is generally 4000–6000 words for articles, 1000–5000 for creative works and 500–2000 words for reviews. Submission of articles for consideration is through the online portal (via website).

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Associate Editor: Dr Sally Borrell

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Cape

Call for Submissions to ZooScope--The Animals in Film Archive

**Submit
now!**

ZooScope has moved to a new and improved interactive website which features entries on around forty films. Users can read, data-edit and contribute articles to the archive. Each entry takes the form of a substantial essay analysing the representation of animals and/or human-animal relations in a film. The database includes key film production data and indexing by kind of animal; mode of human-animal relation; and film genre. The archive can be browsed by these categories and is fully searchable.

Animals have played a crucial role in the development of film as an artistic medium, from the literal use of animal products in film stock to the capturing of animal movement as a driver of stop-motion, wide-screen and CGI film technology. The wish to picture animals' lives, whether naturalistically or playfully, has led to the establishment of key genres such as wildlife film and animation. ZooScope looks at and beyond these major aspects of animals in film, covering animals' role in film genres and styles; the range of literal and symbolic ways animals appear in film; animals in the film star-system; animal lives and the ethics of film-making; adaptation and the different challenges of filmic and literary representation of animals and human-animal relations.

ZooScope is a research resource for the animal studies and film communities produced by students and academics. In addition to the open call for submissions, we are seeking partnerships with academic colleagues whose students could contribute to ZooScope. Academic partners would act as sub-editors of the site, with their students producing ZooScope entries, for example, as formal assessments (with marking and feedback taking the professional form of editorial review and assessment completion coinciding with publication). This is how the archive has developed so far, as a research collaboration between undergraduate and postgraduate students and staff at the University of Sheffield and York University in Canada. Work on ZooScope challenges students and inspires creativity, enthusiasm, scholarly rigour and professionalism.

ZooScope welcomes submissions at any time via the website's easy "Submit an Article" interface. There are contributor guidelines and all submissions are peer-reviewed before publication. If you are interested please contact Robert McKay (School of English, University of Sheffield: r.mckay@shef.ac.uk)

More information: <https://zooscope.english.shef.ac.uk/>

Call for Submission to *Sloth*: A Journal of Emerging Voices in Human Animal Studies.

As part of our efforts to reach out to students with an interest in human-animal studies, the Animals and Society Institute has created this journal for undergraduate students and recent graduates to publish their papers, book and film reviews, and other work. *Sloth* is co-edited by Kelly Enright (Assistant Professor of History and Director of Public History, Flagler College) and Kara Kendall-Morwick (Assistant Professor of English, Washburn University).

Sloth is an online, refereed, bi-annual journal that publishes international, multi-disciplinary writing by undergraduate students and other early career scholars that deals with human/non-human animal relationships from the perspectives of the social sciences, the humanities, and the natural sciences.

Sloth showcases the important and innovative contributions of undergraduates and recent (within three years) graduates, giving those who are interested in human/non-human animal relationships a way to contribute to and engage with the field, as well as an opportunity to build their skills, knowledge, and resumes in anticipation of their graduate school careers.

Contributions can explore anything in the humanities, social sciences or natural sciences that are related to human/non-human animal relationships. Please format your submissions according to the following guidelines:

1. PC-compatible files only (MS Word);
2. Required length: 3-5,000 words;
3. On a separate page/post, include your name and your postal and e-mail addresses, the title of your essay, and a brief abstract of its contents (3-5 sentences);
4. For the text itself: margins at 1", double spaced, font size 12 pt. or smaller;
5. Use Chicago Style (author-date) for all documentation;
6. Include Notes and Works Cited at the end as regular text. In other words, please do NOT use the "automatic" footnote/endnote function on your word processor to generate these. They sometimes tend to disappear when travelling through cyberspace or when the document is converted.
7. Include a one page CV or resume with your submission

Submissions should be sent to sloth@animalsandsociety.org

Questions can be directed to: Kelly Enright, enrightkel@gmail.com

Kara Kendall-Morwick, kara.kendall-morwick@washburn.edu

Call for Papers: Rivista di Estetica

June 2015: Biodiversity

Advisory Editor: Elena Casetta

The variety of the forms of life has been a subject of philosophical reflection since Plato, who in the *Statesman* celebrated the diversity of the natural world as a mean to shed some light on the relationship between humans and other animals. The term "biodiversity", however, was coined only in 1986, proving immediately a huge success: conserving biodiversity (along with its measurement, assessment, and improvement) has become central to the interests of scientists, governments, NGOs, media, and general public alike. Even in our daily lives, if we try to behave in an environmentally responsible manner, we do so, after all, because we believe that biodiversity is a value on which the quality and the very possibility of life of our species may depend.

"Biodiversity", in other words, seems to be something more than just a contraction of "biological diversity": if biological diversity is the target of awe and wonder, primarily aesthetic, biodiversity becomes instead something to be protected, loaded with scientific, ethical, and political meanings. But what is it meant, exactly, by "biodiversity"? How are we to measure it, given the incredible complexity of the living world? What are, if any, the units of biodiversity? Is biodiversity a value in itself? Are charismatic taxa such as the Giant Panda more valuable than smallpox virus? Is biodiversity just an ideological construct? This issue of *Rivista di Estetica* aims to address such

and similar questions, exploring what might be called “the philosophy of biodiversity”, a reflection at the intersection of the philosophy of science, epistemology, aesthetics, ethics, and politics.

Rivista di Estetica publishes thematic issues about philosophical topics. It is one of the oldest philosophical journals in Italy, established in 1960 as a quarterly journal about aesthetics and more general philosophical themes. *Rivista di Estetica* practises double blind refereeing and publishes both in Italian and English. The journal is indexed by: SCOPUS, ISI, The Philosopher’s Index, Répertoire bibliographique de la philosophie, ERIH, Articoli italiani di periodici accademici (AIDA), Catalogo italiano dei periodici (ACNP), Google Scholar.



**Submit
now!**

Deadline for submission: September 30, 2014

More information: <http://labont.it/rivista-di-estetica/call-for-papers>

Contact: elenattesac@gmail.com and rivista.estetica@gmail.com

Awards

Ashland Creek Press first annual book award: The Siskiyou Prize for New Environmental Literature.

The contest is open to unpublished, full-length prose manuscripts, including novels, memoirs, short story collections, and essay collections. The winner will receive a cash award of \$1,000 and publication by Ashland Creek Press. The submission deadline is September 30, 2014. For complete writers’ guidelines, visit www.SiskiyouPrize.com.

“New environmental literature” refers to literary works that focus on the environment, animal protection, ecology, and wildlife. The prize seeks work that redefines our notions of environmentalism and sustainability, particularly when it comes to animal protection. The award isn’t for books about hunting, fishing, or eating animals—unless they are analogous to a good anti-war novel being all about war. Under these basic guidelines, however, the prize will be open to a wide range of fiction and nonfiction with environmental and animal themes.

Prize judge Karen Joy Fowler is the *New York Times* bestselling author of three short story collections and six novels, most recently *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves*. Her books’ honors and awards include two *New York Times* Notable Books, the PEN/Faulkner Award for fiction, the Commonwealth medal for best first novel by a Californian, the Irish Times International Fiction Prize, the Bay Area Book Reviewers Prize, and the World Fantasy Award.

The Siskiyou Prize is named for the Klamath-Siskiyou region of northern California and southern Oregon, one of the most diverse eco-regions in the world. Considered a global center of biodiversity, the Klamath-Siskiyou region is an inspiring example of the importance of preservation.

For more information, visit www.SiskiyouPrize.com or www.AshlandCreekPress.com.

Journals:

Human-animal related journals, special issues and articles

Society & Animals – latest articles

Society and Animals publishes studies that describe and analyse our experiences of non-human animals from the perspective of various disciplines within both the social sciences (e.g. psychology, sociology, anthropology, political science) and humanities (e.g. history, literary criticism)

Carol Y. Thompson and Robert L. Young: Cooling out the Mark in Companion Animal Adoption
<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/10.1163/15685306-12341329>

Katherine Dashper: Tools of the Trade or Part of the Family? Horses in Competitive Equestrian Sport
<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/10.1163/15685306-12341343>

Catherine A. Faver and Jacqueline D. Muñoz: Orientations to Nonhuman Animal Welfare: A View from the Border
<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/10.1163/15685306-12341345>

Nienke Endenburg, Hein A. van Lith and Jolle Kirpensteijn: Longitudinal Study of Dutch Children's Attachment to Companion Animals
<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/10.1163/15685306-12341344>

Ben Rockett and Sam Carr: Animals and Attachment Theory
<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/10.1163/15685306-12341322>

Lisa Kemmerer: Christian Ethics and Contemporary Treatment of Nonhuman Animals
<http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/10.1163/15685306-12341346>

Journal of Applied Animal Welfare Science

Volume 17, Issue 4, October-December 2014 contains the following articles:

Anna S. Reading, Janet M. Scarlett & Elizabeth A. Berliner: A Novel Approach to Identify and Map Kitten Clusters Using Geographic Information Systems (GIS): A Case Study From Tompkins County, NY

Shawn Ashley, Susan Brown, Joel Ledford, Janet Martin, Ann-Elizabeth Nash, Amanda Terry, Tim Tristan & Clifford Warwick: Morbidity and Mortality of Invertebrates, Amphibians, Reptiles, and Mammals at a Major Exotic Companion Animal Wholesaler

Christy L. Hoffman, Natalie Harrison, London Wolff & Carri Westgarth: Is That Dog a Pit Bull? A Cross-Country Comparison of Perceptions of Shelter Workers Regarding Breed Identification

Murshidul Ahsan, Badrul Hasan, Magnus Algotsson & Sirku Sarenbo: Handling and Welfare of Bovine Livestock at Local Abattoirs in Bangladesh

Humanimalia Volume 5, Number 2 Spring 2014

Articles

Mary Kosut & Lisa Jean Moore. Bees Making Art: Insect Aesthetics and the Ecological Moment
<http://www.depauw.edu/humanimalia/issue10/kosut.html>

Joan Gordon. Animal Viewpoints in the Contact Zone of Adam Hines's Duncan the Wonder Dog
<http://www.depauw.edu/humanimalia/issue10/gordon.html>

Katja Jylkka. "Mutations of nature, parodies of mankind": Monsters and Urban Wildlife in Johanna Sinisalo's Troll: A Love Story
<http://www.depauw.edu/humanimalia/issue10/jylkka.html>

Jopi Nyman. Horse as Significant Other: Discourses of Affect and Therapy in Susan Richards's Chosen by a Horse: How a Broken Horse Fixed a Broken Heart
<http://www.depauw.edu/humanimalia/issue10/nyman.html>

Jason Price. Running with Butkus: Animals and Animality in Rocky
<http://www.depauw.edu/humanimalia/issue10/price.html>

Reviews

Laurie Shannon, The Accommodated Animal: Cosmopolity in Shakespearean Locales (Justin Kolb)
<http://www.depauw.edu/humanimalia/issue10/Kolb-Shannon.html>

Samuel J. M. M. Alberti, ed. The Afterlives of Animals: A Museum Menagerie (Emily Porth)
<http://www.depauw.edu/humanimalia/issue10/porth-alberti.html>

Hannah Velten, Beastly London: A History of Animals in the City (Karalyn Kendall-Morwick)
<http://www.depauw.edu/humanimalia/issue10/Kendall-Morwick-Velten.html>

Philippe Descola, Beyond Nature and Culture (Céline Granjou)
<http://www.depauw.edu/humanimalia/issue10/granjou-descola.html>

Susan Nance, Entertaining Elephants: Animal Agency and the Business of the American Circus (Daniel Vandersommers)
<http://www.depauw.edu/humanimalia/issue10/vandersommers-nance.html>

Erin McKenna, Pets, People, and Pragmatism (Hillary Kelleher)
<http://www.depauw.edu/humanimalia/issue10/kelleher-mckenna.html>

Kalpana Rahita Seshadri, HumAnimal: Race, Law, Language (Matthew Chrulew)
<http://www.depauw.edu/humanimalia/issue10/chrulew-seshadri.html>

Publications: New publications by members

Member Publications

Please send notification of your publications and they will be included in the next issue of the Bulletin

B. Creed (2014). Animal Deaths on Screen: Film & Ethics. *Relations, Beyond Anthropocentrism*, 2(1) Available at <http://www.ledonline.it/index.php/Relations/article/view/658>

B. Creed (2014). Films, Gestures, Species. In Nicholas Chare and Liz Watkins (eds) *Screen Signs: Cultures of Gesture in Cinema – Special Issue – Journal for Cultural Research*, 19(1). Available at http://www.academia.edu/8035176/Screen_Signs_Cultures_of_Gesture_in_Cinema_-_special_issue_-_Journal_for_Cultural_Research_2015_Vol._19_no.1

B. Creed (2014). The Elephant's Graveyard: Spectres of the Abyss? In N. Papastergiadis and V. Lynn (eds) *Art in the Global Present*. Sydney: University of Technology EPress.

B.Daly, N. Taylor & Signal, T. (2014). Pups & Babes: Quantifying Sources of Difference in Emotional and Behavioral Reactions to Accounts of Human and Animal Abuse. *Anthrozoos*, 27(2), pp. 205-217.

L.Drew, & N.Taylor (2014). Research, resistance and activism: Animal studies scholars on the line. In J. Sorensen & A. Nocella (eds) *The Critical Animal Studies Reader*. Peter Lang Publishing.

L. Hamilton & N. Taylor (2014). Care of the Underdog: Animals, Culture and the Creation of Moral Certainty in the Rescue Shelter. In L. Hamilton, Mitchell, L., & A.Mangan (eds) *Contemporary Issues in Management*. Edward Elgar Publishing.

L. Instone & J. Sweeney (2014). Dog waste, wasted dogs: The contribution of human-dog relations to the political ecology of Australian urban space. *Geographical Research*. DOI: 10.1111/1745-5871.12059 Available at <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/1745-5871.12059/abstract>

K. Kemp, T. Signal, H. Botros, N. Taylor and K. Prentice (2014). Equine Facilitated Therapy with Children and Adolescents Who Have Been & Abused: A Program Evaluation Study. *Journal of Child and Family Studies*, 23(3) pp. 558-566. [10.1007/s10826-013-9718-1]

R. Lennox (2014). Apex predators. *Meanjin*, 73(3).

J. O'Sullivan (2014). On Safari in the Gaming Lounge. *ANTENNAE: The Journal of Nature in Visual Culture*, 30.

C. Scott Taylor (2014). *Geographies of the Liminal Dolphin: toward an understanding of the contested spaces of Dolphin-Assisted Therapy*. PhD Thesis: University of the Sunshine Coast. Available at <http://research.usc.edu.au/vital/access/manager/Repository/usc:13419>

A. Taylor (2013). Caterpillar Childhoods: Engaging with the otherwise worlds of Central Australian Aboriginal children. *Global Studies of Childhood*, 3(4), pp. 366-379. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2304/gsch.2013.3.4.366>

A.Taylor & M.Blaise (2014). Queer worlding childhood. *Discourse: Studies in the Cultural Politics of Education*, 35 (3), pp. 377-392 Available at: http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/01596306.2014.888842#.U_FOj7ySwjw

T. van Dooren (2014). Mourning Crows: Grief and Extinction in a Shared World. In Susan McHugh and Garry Marvin (eds) *The Handbook of Human-Animal Studies*. (London and New York: Routledge).

T. van Dooren (2012). Nature in the Anthropocene? *The Yearbook of Comparative Literature*, 58, pp. 228-234.

Exhibitions: Current and past, projects, calls for submissions

Compassionate Voices

9 August – 7 September

Koskela Gallery: 1/85 Dunning Avenue, 2018

Compassionate Voices is a unique exhibition celebrating animals, art and creativity.

The exhibition is a collaboration between Voiceless, the animal protection institute; Koskela – Australian furniture and homeware designers, and a collection of 31 innovative Australian artists and designers united by their vision of a world where animals are treated with compassion and respect.

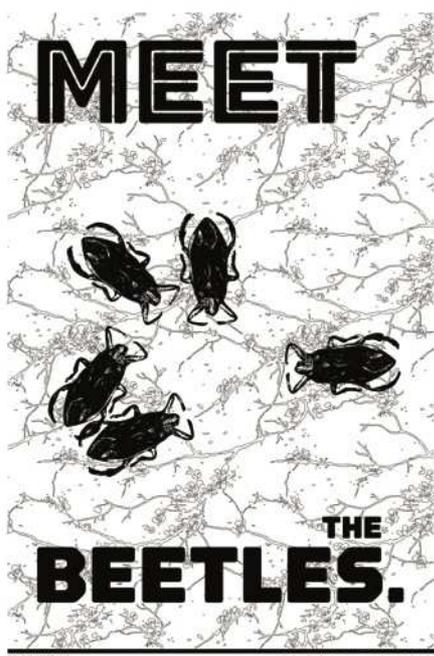
Curated by Liane Rossler, and part of Sydney Design, a cutting-edge design festival produced and managed by the Powerhouse Museum, the exhibition will feature artwork and design objects spanning multiple disciplines and a specially commissioned centrepiece by sculptor, Anna-Wili Highfield.

You can also bid on artworks for the duration of the exhibition at:

<http://galabid.com/auction/compassion>



Anna-Wili Highfield. *Roos*, 2013. Photo: Petrina Tinslay



Dear Climate

The first stage of *Dear Climate* is now complete, and can be seen – and heard! – here:

<http://dearclimate.net>

It is an installation based on the project **Strange Weather: Forecasts from the Future** and is part of an exhibition at the Future at Science Gallery, Dublin.

There are downloadable posters on the site with animal themes which are beautiful, political and humorous in what will hopefully be the first of many incarnations of *Dear Climate*.



© Matthew Seed - The Horse Photographer
www.horse-photographer.co.uk

Spirited: Australia's Horse Story

National Museum, Canberra from 11 September 2014 to 9 March 2015

The exhibition is part of the Museum's *Horses in Australia* project, which commenced in early 2013. It will present stories of the powerful bonds and enduring relationships that have formed between Australians and their horses.

http://www.nma.gov.au/online_features/horses/exhibition

Elephant in the Room

Brenda May Gallery, Sydney

4 to 29 November

A portion of the sales in this exhibition, depicting critters, creatures and canines, will directly benefit the Animal Welfare League NSW. The Gallery will donate 20% of each sale to the AWL to support them in caring for surrendered, neglected and abandoned animals. AWL has been in operation for over 50 years and maintains two shelters, a veterinary clinic and twelve branches of volunteers and we are delighted to be able to support them.

<http://www.brendamaygallery.com.au/details.php?exhibitionID=236>



James Guppy, 'The Zebu' 2011, acrylic on linen, 51 x 40cm, courtesy the Artist and Brenda May Gallery, Sydney

Australian Animal Scholars in the News

AASG members **Siobhan O'Sullivan** and **Dinesh Wadiwel** recently read a provocative claim in *The Conversation* by Julian Burnside and Daniel Reynolds that "...animals do have greater rights than asylum seekers in Australia. In fact, Australian law requires that animals be treated humanely, yet allows humans to be treated like animals".

Read their response 'We have animal welfare laws but they don't stop the suffering' in the same publication here:

<https://theconversation.com/we-have-animal-welfare-laws-but-they-dont-stop-the-suffering-30703>

AASG member **Nik Taylor** has also kept the pages of *The Conversation* full animal studies, this time focussing attention on animals in entertainment and on animals and morality as part of a public morality series:

<https://theconversation.com/runaway-camels-its-time-to-rethink-animals-as-entertainment-29098>

<https://theconversation.com/morality-and-our-lives-with-animals-30726>

Audio and Video

BBC New Generation Thinker

Dr Alasdair Cochrane from the University of Sheffield has been named one of this year's BBC New Generation Thinkers. Here he discusses how animal rights and human rights are actually one and the same thing: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p022kkfq>

Animal People

Animal People is five part radio series that traverses the question of why we own pets, to why we send them into space to how to speak LOLcat. It shows how dominant animals are in our legends and folk tales and asks the vexing question, given we are animal people, why are we sending so many to extinction?

<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/animalpeople/about/>

- *Pet Power: why own pets?*
<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/animalpeople/animal-people-pet-power/5617624>
- *The Virtual Zoo: from LOLcat to animal odd couples*
Sarah L'Estrange discusses the representation of animals online and asks 'why can't we all be friends?'
<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/animalpeople/animal-people3a-the-virtual-zoo/5617626>
- *Animal Tales: literary creatures*
<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/animalpeople/animal-tales/5617628>
- *Animalnauts: animals in space*
<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/animalpeople/animalnauts3a-animals-in-space/5617630>
- *Eyes Wide Shut: conservation and the ethics of wildlife documentaries*
<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/animalpeople/eyes-wide-shut3a-conservation-and-the-ethics-of-wildlife-docum/5617632>

The Animal Condition

See interviews with the makers of a recent Australian documentary on animal protection advocates and the agricultural industry here:

<http://www.abc.net.au/landline/content/2014/s4059494.htm>

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-03-03/5655288>

Ag-gag laws in the news

- The farmers embracing public scrutiny
<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/bushtelegraph/feather-and-bone/5621148>
- The battle over animal welfare and ag-gag laws
<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/bushtelegraph/the-battle-over-animal-welfare-and-ag-gag-laws/5612314>

- Welfare group targets abuse in shearing sheds
<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/bushtelegraph/peta-campaign/5590140>
- Eye in the sky keeps close watch on livestock
<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/bushtelegraph/drone-farmer/5572486>
- Shearers and wool producers fed-up with negative stories of their trade.
<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/bushtelegraph/good-shearers/5621198>

Links: Resource pages, blogs, organizations

Viral Pandas

The Sneezing Pandas Project is looking for contributors. An anthrozoologist and an artist have launched an ongoing and interactive online project looking at animals in the ether. What goes viral and what doesn't? What responsibilities, if any, do we have for these animals we choose to share online? These are the opening questions, but they are in no way prescriptive for the course of the research. Viral Pandas is based on a central blog: <http://viralpandas.wordpress.com>, but runs for a week from an art gallery producing physical artistic responses to the ideas, as well as running online across different social networks including Facebook, Pinterest, Twitter, YouTube, Digg, and G+ for the foreseeable future. Your input is welcomed. If you'd like any further information, email us at [viralpandas\[at\]gmail\[dot\]com](mailto:viralpandas[at]gmail[dot]com).

First 100 Chimps and Last 1,000 Chimps

<http://first100chimps.wesleyan.edu/about.html>
<http://www.last1000chimps.com/>

First 100 Chimps and Last 1,000 Chimps track individual chimpanzees from use in biomedical and behavioural research in the US to retirement. The working group tasked with exploring how to implement the conclusions of the IoM committee report suggest ending most chimpanzee research. First 100 Chimps serves as a memorial to chimpanzees who have been used in research, and Last 1,000 Chimps is forward looking. The websites' creator will be tweeting updates on the status of individual chimpanzees at Lori Gruen @last1000chimps.

The Australian Anthrozoology Research Foundation

<http://www.anthrozoologyfoundation.org/>

While we know that interactions with animals can be good for us, what we do not know is precisely how, why or when animals are most beneficial. This is important to establish because different interactions with animals may have quite specific effects on different people during various life stages.

In order to establish the exact circumstances under which the health benefits associated with animals occur and can be maximised, scholarly research is urgently required. Despite the fact that the positive health, social and economic impacts of this research are substantial, prior to the Foundation's establishment, there was no funding body in Australia dedicated to funding this critical research endeavour.

The Australian Anthrozoology Research Foundation was created to address this situation – by supporting young Australian scholars as they conduct research designed to help us understand the benefits to human health associated with human animal interactions.

Profiles: Animal practitioners, activists, and animal studies scholars

Teja Brooks Pribac

In 2004 I was getting ready for postgraduate studies in historical linguistics in Slovenia when I met my partner and moved to Australia. The shift to a vegan lifestyle and related advocacy work quickly followed. My motivation to return to study recently was to increase and systematise my knowledge of nonhuman animals to enable me to better care and advocate for them.



I'm currently a part-time doctoral candidate at the University of Sydney, researching animal grief. The aim of the dissertation is to provide a reliable theoretical framework for the consideration of nonhuman animals' grief beyond anecdotal level and value. As such, my research draws from various areas of social and natural sciences. Along with the shared psycho-biological machinery underpinning social and relational modules across various animal species, part of my work consists in examining the heterogeneity of human mental and behavioural approaches to death and grief. While in human cross-cultural studies it would be unacceptable to overlook such diverseness, it is readily ignored in interspecies evaluations, further fuelling speciesism and prejudice against nonhuman animals.

I had just written my draft chapter on trans-species attachment theory and praxis when a week-old lamb, whose mother had died at a commercial farm and whom a friend rescued, came to me to test – as it felt at the time – both the theory itself and my ability to implement it within a sheep context. With no other infants and with only adult male sheep around, who, at least initially, seemed more inclined to butt the lamb off the horizon than to provide him with the much needed foster care, I quite literally undertook the role of a mother ewe for close to six months. This meant that I had to transfer my work (luckily I run my translation business from home) to the paddock, providing him with the species-specific need for physical closeness and vocal responsiveness to ensure the feeling of safety, while other members of the sheep community taught him the rest of the art of living as a sheep. The purpose of this endeavour was to enable his full integration into the sheep community and a moderate level of independence from humans, both for practical reasons (e.g. unlike a dog, adult sheep would not be able to live as closely to me, travel with me, etc.) and to honour the capacity for moderate independence that this species has preserved despite the unfortunate intrusion of domestication.



My work in academia and activism is informed by trans-species psychology (TSP). It would be no exaggeration to say that I feel that TSP has rescued me from the widespread murky diction and praxis of behaviourism, which implicitly objectifies nonhuman animals. TSP in essence promotes bidirectional inference in the human-nonhuman animal context and strongly accentuates an individual's basic need for self-determination exempt from the constraints of speciesism. While superficial readers may label it as "anthropomorphic", TSP does not divert extensively from the understanding of animals' emotions that informs various practices of exploitation. The critical difference is that TSP takes these emotions seriously and hence promotes liberation and de-instrumentalisation of nonhuman animals as opposed to most other approaches, which exploit such knowledge for human convenience: to make racehorses run faster, to induce Stockholm syndrome in animals for human vice, etc.



I live in the Blue Mountains with various wild and rescued animals while often helping to rehome other "farm" animals to whom I can't offer domicile on our property due to space restrictions. I also still work with a Slovenian animal rights group – long-distance, except for the three months every year that I spend there.

Malcolm France

The invitation to write a personal profile for the AASG News Bulletin comes as a great honour. Big questions about the relationship between humans and non-human animals now occupy a more prominent place in the discourse of Australian society than at any time I can recall in my 30 plus years as an animal practitioner. And the AASG News Bulletin is doing much to facilitate these discussions.

My career began in veterinary practice but then moved into the specialty of pathology. This appealed because of the practical contribution pathology makes to disease diagnosis. While my routine workload came initially from dogs and cats, I realised an opportunity existed to provide a pathology service to support the care of animals used in research. This was interesting partly because it was quite new at that time in Australia, but more importantly at the personal level, I felt it was ethically important. However much we might wish otherwise, animal-based research is going to be around for some time to come, so I believe it is important that specialist care is available for the animals concerned.



Of course, working with animals in research also brings a more formal involvement in ethics through the regulatory oversight of Animal Ethics Committees. I have been a member of four such committees and am impressed by the dedication of the members who give their time to this work. Reassuringly, the assertions that the committees are only 'rubber stamps' or that they are 'stacked' with advocates for research have not been part of my experience.

For ten years I ran a training course for scientists in the ethical and legal aspects of animal research. By inviting animal rights advocates to speak at these sessions, I was privileged to have the opportunity to support constructive dialogue in what has too often been a polarised debate rendered unfruitful by stereotyping and entrenched positions (on both sides!). It was during these courses that I also introduced Australia's first award offered by a research institution to recognise work with potential to replace the use of animals in research.

After spending more than 25 years in academia, I now work as a freelance consultant based in Sydney. The workload is less predictable but has provided more time to pursue an interest in historical aspects of the animal research debate. Perhaps inevitably, I find history repeating itself. At the practical level, however, I can look back and see that countless incremental changes have delivered important benefits for animals. I also feel optimism from a willingness among younger scientists to question some of the conventions of animal research. Perhaps I am drawn towards trying to understand polarising issues. In my spare time I volunteer for an asylum seekers support organisation and find interesting parallels between this debate and that surrounding animal research. But that's a discussion for another forum!

If you would like to be removed from the Australian Animal Studies elist, please post a reply with 'Remove' in the subject line

Please send items for the next issue to info@asg.org

AASG Members

Dr Vanessa Barbay	Elizabeth Ellis	Dr Siobhan O'Sullivan
Marcus Baynes-Rock	Natasha Fijn	Mr Philip Pahin
Dr Rod Bennison	Dr Malcolm France	Dr Perdita Phillips
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Australian Animal Studies Group Inc. (AASG)

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.....
.....

Animal-related Activities / Advocacy Interests:
.....

Outputs (publications, teaching, presentations, blog, websites, etc.):
.....
.....

Potential projects / areas for collaboration:
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Potential areas for research supervision
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