



# *ISAE*

## *newsletter*

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## ISAE IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM

As December 2000 comes to a close, I couldn't resist mentioning the new millennium just one more time. Even though this year proved to be the Y2K that wasn't, it certainly was a banner year for the ISAE. Our society continued to attract more and more graduate students and young scientists, who will invigorate and expand our discipline. We held our first conference in the Southern Hemisphere, on the island of Florianopolis, Brazil. The island was stunning, the food delicious, the conference well attended, the talks stimulating, and at the end we had 13 new membership applications from the Latin American region alone, more than doubling the membership in that region! During the year we also continued to accumulate a solid budget surplus that we can use to support our Congress organizers, promote regional activities, and make reduced or complimentary memberships available to those with financial hardships, particularly individuals in developing countries.

This year brought home to me how important the work of our members is in the "real world", outside of our annual meetings. My first shock as President (hopefully my last?), was when I started receiving information from the Council of Europe and realized how many documents needed to be reviewed and written each year by our ISAE representatives. Don Broom and Frank Odberg, who shouldered much of that load for ISAE for nearly a decade as our farm and laboratory animal experts, stepped down this year, and we truly owe them a debt of gratitude. However, we have been asked not only to replace them but also to nominate ISAE experts for an array of new working groups. Furthermore, I happen to know that certain ISAE members have been nominated as representatives to these groups by other societies, so our voice is certainly being heard! You can look forward to more information about Council of Europe deliberations and reports in upcoming newsletters.

But we weren't only heard in Europe. Many might say belatedly, but in the United States farm animal welfare issues finally came to the forefront this year. Industry groups, food retailers, and animal welfare organizations set up scientific advisory committees to write farm animal welfare guidelines, and voluntary auditing and certification programs were put into place to ensure that high standards of animal welfare are maintained on commercial farms. Applied ethologists in North America had critical input into this process, and many of the guidelines were built on a foundation of research done by ISAE members. A good year for promoting our mission, indeed, and a sign of how much applied behavior research has matured and gained acceptance since our founding thirty-five years ago.

As the influence of applied ethology grows, we will face many (good) challenges as a society. Much of the Council meeting in Brazil was taken up by a discussion of how to meet those challenges. Council approved several new initiatives this

year, which you can read more about in the “Fly on the Wall” and AGM minutes. One I hope that you are already familiar with is the establishment of a “members-only” ISAE network that can be used for announcements of society business and discussions of topics relevant to the mission of ISAE. Joe Stookey kindly agreed to set up this network for us and automatically enrolled everyone for whom we had email addresses. If we’ve somehow missed you, please contact our new ISAE communications officer Jon Cooper and let him know. One other initiative that I would like to bring to your attention is our resolution to use what we formerly called the “Council of Europe Fund” to support any of our members’ participation in policy-making activities in their countries or regions. The fund will be bolstered with money from our surplus, and will now be called the “Scientific Advisory Fund”. If you have an opportunity to represent ISAE in a policy-making capacity, please submit information and a request for support to the Council.

Time to close now until the next newsletter. For most of those of you in the Northern Hemisphere, for the next few months while those chilly winds blow and the snow drifts down, treasure your memories of that beautiful white sand beach in Brazil, and then do some California dreaming!

*Joy Mench*  
*ISAE President*

## **Fly on the wall**

Our faithful fly was delighted to this time enjoy Brazilian air in Florianópolis, where the 34th congress of the ISAE took place. However, during the 17th October 2000 and also at the next evening she spent long hours in a meeting room, in order to listen to Council discussions during the “Summer meeting” which this year truly was an autumn meeting, and to report now back to you.

Conclusions from most topics of the long agenda discussed by Council such as the appointment of Parliamentarians and the drafting of by-laws, considerations about Honorary Membership, the introduction of a new ISAE net, ISAE representation at the Council of Europe and possibly other places in the future, the usual Officer’s reports and so forth were later presented at the Annual General Meeting and can be read up in the minutes of the AGM elsewhere in this newsletter.

A fair amount of time was spent talking about matters connected with our new official association to the journal Applied Animal Behaviour Science. Ken Plaxton from Elsevier reported that the cooperation with the Scientific Editors who have been proposed by ISAE works well. The average rejection rate of manuscripts is at about 40 %, and the Impact Factor in 1999 was 0.815 which makes AABS the 13<sup>th</sup> in the animal science listing. It is in the interest of Elsevier to attract more submissions of review papers including mini reviews or full individual special issues, and a review editor shall additionally be appointed to encourage and handle

such papers. ISAE is asked to propose names. There is still some work to do to better benefit from the different opportunities that ISAE now has in relation to the journal (see also previous newsletter, Issue 18, March 2000). In the last year ISAE did not manage to produce the annual Special Issue due to organisational problems and it was agreed that a strengthened routine in the publication of Special Issues must be introduced, including the Editor being on the Congress Organising Committee, advance planning with appointment of a guest editor and a deadline for the submission of manuscripts which could even be before the congress.

The Junior Vice-President Linda Keeling presented a revision of the guidelines for Regional Secretaries which clarify the tasks of the Regional Secretaries and give recommendations for their work. They shall be incorporated into the future by-laws. For the first time there was an informal get together between Regional Secretaries and Junior Vice-President to meet and exchange ideas, and this shall be continued at future annual congresses.

A hot topic in the meeting was the discussion how ISAE should become more active regarding the ethical use of animals in research. Within Council there were different views on that. However, there was agreement that any action in this regard should favourably be advisory or educational rather than regulatory. As reported in the minutes of the AGM, discussion shall be widened to the membership within a workshop at the next congress in Davies, on the basis of draft guidelines which will be elaborated by an Ethics Committee which is open to any interested ISAE member.

To be honest, the fly was rather exhausted after listening to all these discussion from which only a part has been presented here. Similarly, she was impressed how much activity is going on, and how vivid and well-thriving the Society obviously is.

*Ute Knierim*  
*Secretary*

## ISAE Council *news*

### **ISAE 2000 AGM**

International Society of Applied Ethology

Minutes of the 34<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting, Florianópolis, Brazil, 20<sup>th</sup> October 2000.

The meeting was chaired by Joy Mench and attended by 74 people.

#### **1) Minutes of the previous AGM**

These had been circulated previously in the Newsletter. The minutes were

accepted.

## **2) Reports from Council**

### **Parliamentarians**

The President (Joy Mench) announced that Birte Nielsen and Julie Morrow-Tesch have been appointed by Council as Parliamentarians. In this new function they shall make sure that AGMs and Council meetings are conducted in line with the Society's constitution and further rules which shall be laid down in by-laws to be drafted by the Parliamentarians in cooperation with the Legal Advisor Bill Jackson. These by-laws shall include details about functions and procedures that are important for the work of ISAE. They will render society work easier and more transparent.

### **Future meetings**

Joy Mench then reported on the situation regarding future conferences. Conferences are planned up to the year 2003 (see list elsewhere in this newsletter). For the years 2004 and 2005 there are offers from the UK (York) and Japan (Tokyo), but proposals are not yet detailed enough to take a decision about them. Joy Mench gave a presentation on the next year's congress at the University of California at Davis, USA (see announcement elsewhere in the newsletter).

### **Junior Vice President's report**

The Junior Vice-President (Linda Keeling) reported about activities in different regions and announced changes of Regional Secretaries (see list elsewhere in this newsletter).

### **Finances**

Joy Mench outlined the economic situation for the Society. There is a balance in the General Fund of £31,826.47 and in the Council of Europe Advisory Fund of £1,224.31. There was a question from the members about the amount of credit card costs (£171.42 + £130.00), but Joy Mench explained that this facility is very useful for handling international transactions and makes the work of the Treasurer considerably easier. When asked what Council plans to do with the relatively high budget surplus, she explained that ISAE has never undertaken a long-term budget planning process, but that Council intends to do that in the near future. Council would like to maintain our current expenditures, including supporting Congresses and Regional Meetings and providing complementary memberships for individuals experiencing financial hardships. In addition, in consideration of the growth of the Society and the related work increase for the Officers, plans are being developed to take advantage of professional assistance for membership services. The further development of internet services (web-site, ISAE net) will also incur additional costs. It might even be necessary to increase membership fees to meet all of the needs of the society. As soon as a long-term financial plan has been developed, Council will come back to the membership to discuss this.

## **Membership**

ISAE has now 643 members. The biggest increase was in the USA with 9 new members, but Latin America also had a considerable relative increase with an even bigger one expected in the course of the congress.

Joy Mench announced with regret that two eminent members of ISAE died in the past year, Klaus Vestergaard and Ruth Harrison. Don Broom gave an obituary for Ruth Harrison, and Henrik Simonsen for Klaus Vestergaard, and there was a minute of silence in recognition and memory of the deceased.

## **Communications Officer's report**

The Communications Officer (John Eddison) informed the meeting that the ISAE web-site now has a new domain name: [www.applied-ethology.org](http://www.applied-ethology.org). As usual two newsletters have been published during the past year. There are plans to make the newsletter electronic while keeping the option of receiving a paper newsletter. John Eddison then announced that he will resign this year, but will support the next Communications Officer to facilitate publication of the next newsletter without too much delay.

## *Council of Europe*

The Secretary (Ute Knierim) informed members about the current state of the Council of Europe work. Don Broom and Frank Ödberg resigned as ISAE Representatives to the European Convention for the Protection of Animals kept for Farming Purposes and the European Convention for the Protection of Animals used for Scientific Purposes, respectively. They were greatly thanked for their outstanding commitment and contribution generating a high scientific reputation for ISAE at the Council of Europe. The new Representative for the Farm Animal Convention is Isabelle Veissier (France). The Representatives for the Experimental Animal Convention are Markus Stauffacher (Switzerland) and Robert Hubrecht (United Kingdom). At the latter Convention, smaller working groups are currently amending the standards for the housing and care of experimental animals (Appendix A). The following ISAE Representatives are active in these working groups: Farm animals: Sandra Edwards (United Kingdom), Beat Wechsler (Switzerland), Birds: Chris Sherwin (United Kingdom). Paul Koene resigned as Representative in the Primate working group, and he as well was very much thanked for his work. The work in smaller working groups led to a high demand for different experts from ISAE. Council has in this respect decided that Representatives to the Council of Europe must be ISAE members, and that ISAE will only nominate experts in areas in which expertise is obviously available within the Society, and within the given financial limits. ISAE is moreover not prepared to recommend non ISAE-members as experts for working groups.

## *Constitutional change - Honorary membership*

Council proposed a constitutional change regarding Honorary Membership in order to allow recognition of deceased individuals who have contributed to our discipline and our society. The current wording:

**“5. Honorary Members**

Persons of eminence in the field of the aims of the Society are eligible for election as Honorary Members. The Council will not elect more than 2 Honorary Members a year.”

and the proposed new wording:

**“5. Honorary Fellows**

Persons of eminence in the field of the aims of the Society are eligible for election as Honorary Fellows. The Council will not elect more than 2 Honorary Fellows a year.”

were displayed and members asked to vote on it. The proposal passed with one vote opposed and two abstentions.

*Honorary Fellow*

It was then announced that Klaus Vestergaard was elected by Council as Honorary fellow in recognition of his scientific work and teaching.

**3) Election of Council members**

Each year at the AGM the President, Junior Vice-President, Senior Vice-President and the other office-bearing members of Council must be elected. The President shall serve for a maximum of two years. Other office-bearing members shall normally serve for a maximum of five years. This year office bearing members eligible for re-election were the President (Joy Mench), Senior Vice-President (Pierre Le Neindre), Junior Vice-President (Linda Keeling), Secretary (Ute Knierim), Treasurer (Jeremy Marchant), Membership Secretary (Janice Swanson), Assistant Secretary (Neville Prescott), and Editor (Ray Stricklin). The names of people nominated for Council positions were then presented. These were Jonathan Cooper (United Kingdom) as Communications Officer, Lena Lidfors (Sweden) and Cathy Dwyer (United Kingdom) as Ordinary Council members. Vacancies on Council had been advertised in the Newsletter. There were no additional nominations and, following a question as to whether these could all be taken in one vote, these people were re-elected and elected to the positions.

**4) President’s report**

Joy Mench reported on various matters affecting the society, including future

initiatives of the Council. The first related to our agreement with Elsevier. Our contractual agreement with Elsevier started in January 2000 (see previous newsletter, Issue 18, March 2000). The ISAE member rate for 2001 journal subscription (Applied Animal Behaviour Science) will be unchanged at Dfl. 180. Currently 64 ISAE members are taking advantage of the reduced individual subscription rates. Library subscriptions include free electronic access to the journal. Elsevier is currently thinking about providing mere electronic individual access to ISAE members at possibly further reduced rates depending on the number of subscribers interested in this option.

At the last AGM, Council was asked to request that Elsevier reduce the price of its journal to libraries. However, Elsevier made it clear that, due to the specialised nature of the journal, further reductions were unlikely. There was a suggestion to at least ask for discounted rates for developing countries, and Joy Mench assured that this suggestion would be conveyed to Elsevier. As voted upon at the previous AGM, Council has established a committee to evaluate our continuing relationship with Elsevier.

The second item was our membership database, which Janice Swanson is currently working on and which should be available by Spring 2001. The database should make it easier to keep membership lists updated and enable members to be identified by speciality when ISAE is called upon to provide expertise.

Third, Council agreed to change the Council of Europe Advisory Fund into a general Scientific Advisory Fund. Scientific advice to policy making authorities in relation to animal behaviour and welfare will be important not only within Europe, and official representation of ISAE in this respect should be encouraged and enabled in any part of the world. In the near future, formal criteria on payments from this fund will be set up. It will be necessary to explore further potential sources of funding, and any suggestions in this regard from the membership are very welcome. This initiative was positively received by the General Meeting.

Forth, the ISAE web-site needs continuous development, and it is planned to also make educational material available through this web-site. Other suggestions about information that would be useful on the web-site are solicited. And on the initiative of Joe Stookey, ISAE will soon have an ISAE net restricted to ISAE members which will allow not only scientific discussion and job advertising, but also discussion and information about Council business. All ISAE members will be subscribed automatically as far as email-addresses are known (taken from the distribution list of the Brazil congress) with an option to unsubscribe. It is hoped that this will increase connections within ISAE and facilitate better information and stronger involvement of members regarding ISAE matters.

Fifth, Council had appointed an Exploratory Committee to examine the possible formulation of an Ethical Committee. Members were Stine Christiansen (Denmark), Ian Duncan (Canada), Hans Erhard (United Kingdom), Don Lay (USA), Cheryl O'Connor (New Zealand) and as chairman Chris Sherwin (United Kingdom). Though it was recognised that ethical views differ widely world-wide and that ethics committees already exist at several levels with the risk of



duplicating efforts, Council agreed that ISAE should lay down guidelines on the ethical use of animals in research which shall serve for orientation for ISAE members, and possibly for the review of papers for ISAE congresses. An ethics committee will be set up to draft these guidelines. The committee will be chaired by Chris Sherwin, and any interested ISAE members should contact him for information about participating in the work of this committee. The draft of the guidelines on the ethical use of animals in research shall be presented for open discussion within a workshop of the next congress in Davies.

Finally, Joy Mench again emphasised that all the reported initiatives coupled with a growing membership mean increasing work and financial demands which make long-term planning necessary. A key element of the Society's success will be the involvement of the broad membership in tasks related to the journal, the improvement of education, scientific advice to policy making authorities, consultation on ethics, committee service, the common Council business etc. She concluded by thanking the people who were leaving Council for their work, welcomed the new members and thanked the organisers and helpers of the Florianópolis congress for the memorable meeting.

#### 5) Any other Business

There was none.

*Ute Knierim*  
*Secretary*

**ISAE *news***

**ISAE Membership**

## *New Members*

The following new members have been approved by Council:

New Members:		Robert Murphey	USA
Nia Ball	UK	Helena Elizabeth	
Kate Breuer	Northern ireland	Pickup	UK
Heng-wei Cheng	USA	Anabela Pinto	UK
Marcela Agustini		Susan Pruiett	USA
Carneiro Da Silveira	Brasil	Thomas Richter	Germany
Frank Christiansen	Norway	Sandra Rigotti	Brasil
Stine Christiansen	Denmark	Kenneth Rutherford	Scotland
Marina Adelire		Barbara Schoening	Germany
Coattrieux	France	Autumn Sorrells	USA
Terilynn Cornetto	USA	Amy Thompson	USA
Claire Diederich	Belgium	Angeliki	
Julie Louise Durrell	Northern Ireland	Tserveni-Gousi	Greece
Susan Eicher	USA	Machteld C.	
Daniel Estep	USA	van Dierendonck	Netherlands
Christophe Feron	France	Helene Ariane	
Jennifer Gardner	Canada	Van de Weerd	UK
Dusan Grajfoner	France	Carien Vanderberg	Canada
Derek Haley	Canada	Yan Yuan	Canada
Sarah Heath	UK	Maria Cristina Yunes	Brasil
Debra Horwitz	USA		
Marilyn Jankevicius	Canada	Membership resignations:	
Amanda Kobelt	Australia	Nelville Gregory	
Katherine Kovacic	Australia	Riitta Haapasalo	
Kate Littin	New Zealand	Caroline Manser	
Raul Hector Marin	Argentina		
Christel Moons	Belgium		

## **Subscriptions & Membership Information**

On behalf of the ISAE membership I would like to welcome our new members. A reminder to our renewing members, subscriptions for 2000-2001 were due June 1st. Your renewal status should be noted on the subscription payment form enclosed in this newsletter. The ISAE subscription is a great bargain at UK 10 per year. You may pay up to 5 years in advance to secure your membership rate for that period, even if rates increase. The easiest way to pay is by credit card (VISA, MASTER CARD, EUROCARD). Bank checks are accepted only in British Sterling. Checks or money orders in other currency will be returned. Members two years in arrears in subscription payments are dropped from membership by Council vote. Please don't let your membership lapse!

As a member of the ISAE you can receive a reduced subscription rate of 180 Dutch Guilders plus applicable VAT to the Journal of Applied Animal Behaviour Science (AABS). If you do not subscribe, but wish to, please mark the appropriate box on

the membership subscription payment form and return to me. New and renewal subscription billing for AABS is handled by Elsevier. Payments are no longer handled through the ISAE.

I hope to complete our membership directory this spring. Anyone who has not supplied updated information regarding your address, position, etc. please e-mail or send me the update by post. Wishing you the very best for a happy and prosperous 2001!

*Janice Swanson*  
*Membership Secretary*

## **Communications**

At the Brazil conference in October John Eddison stepped down as Communications Officer after 5 years of sterling service and the position passed onto me. I now have responsibility for the newsletter, the web-site and a few other duties. One plan I had for improving communications within the society was to set up a mailing list for ISAE members only, but Joe Stookey has already done this which is excellent (see ISAENET). Another plan is to build on the ISAE web-site. As well as providing information about the society, I would like to establish the site as the first port of call for web surfers seeking reliable information on application of behavioural knowledge to the care and management of farm, zoo, laboratory, companion and wild animals. I will therefore be compiling links with appropriate research and education sites. If you would like to pass on links that you have, whether they be blowing your own trumpet or good links you use yourself, then mail them to me at [jjcooper@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:jjcooper@dmu.ac.uk).

## **ISAE WWW Site**

The ISAE web site (Domain name ISAE Home Page) has been established to disseminate information about the ISAE and its activities to members and non-members. The intention is that it will act both as an information resource for members and also to raise the profile of the ISAE to non-members. The site currently has pages devoted to the aims and constitution of the ISAE, details of how to join, details of the applied-ethology email notice board, regional news and conference links, as well as a "Latest news" page. If you have information of relevance to ISAE or more generally to the field of applied behaviour then please send it to me at [jjcooper@dmu.ac.uk](mailto:jjcooper@dmu.ac.uk). In particular I would like to link our site with web sites covering research group activities and applied behaviour teaching material so if you would like to submit your own pages or sites that you use yourself then please do so.

The ISAE web site is located at <http://www.sh.plym.ac.uk/isae/home.htm> and can also be accessed as <http://sh.plym.ac.uk/isae/tsthome2.htm>.

## ISAENET

Joe Stookey has established a "members only" notice board along similar lines to the "open" applied-ethology list, but for ISAE member only. Currently the list consists of those who joined the Brasil conference's mailing list plus a few people who have contacted Joe directly. You will know you are on the list if you received this newsletter electronically. The rest of the ISAE membership should be added automatically in the next month or so. As with the applied ethology list the content and style of such an electronic resource depends on the contributions.

*Jonathan Cooper*

## Help with English

The ISAE has developed a scheme for assisting members for whom English is not their first language, with preparation of manuscripts for publication in English language journals. We have had an excellent response from ISAE members offering to help - although more offers would be welcome - so we are now able to take requests from authors who would like to improve the English of their scientific articles. A list of helpers and their research interests is held by Lindsay Matthews, Animal Behaviour and Welfare Research Centre, AgResearch Ruakura, Private Bag 3123, Hamilton, New Zealand. email: MATTHEWSL@AGRESEARCH.CRI.NZ; Tel +64 7 838 5569, Fax + 64 838 5727.

Please send any requests for assistance to me giving: Paper title, Authors, Contact address (including fax and email if possible), Key words, and Journal to which the article will be submitted.

**Do not send the manuscript.** In return, you will receive the name of one helper. We have indicated to helpers that they should expect to be acknowledged in papers, but not to be an author.

## Reports

We look forward to hearing from you.

## Florianopolis 2000

While this was my first attendance at an International congress of the ISAE, I have it on good authority that it will be a hard act to follow. This year's congress was held in Florianopolis, Brazil from the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 20<sup>th</sup> of October at the beautiful Costão do Santinho resort. Upon our arrival, we were greeted with unusually cool and rainy weather, although most would agree that the atmosphere felt undeniably sunny. As a newcomer and first-time presenter, the easy-going and friendly nature of the attendants helped to calm my nerves, and made it a most enjoyable and rewarding experience. The extra time available to us prior to and during the conference provided perfect opportunities to relax on the beautiful Brazilian beaches, explore Santa Catarina Island or go shopping. I feel very fortunate to be one of the lucky few who managed to spot a whale during my explorations, that was certainly one of my highlights.

Opening night consisted of Jeff Rushen presenting the David Wood-Gush Memorial lecture entitled "Bridging the gap between applied and fundamental research" and wonderful entertainment including a spectacular native Brazilian dance. Throughout the conference there were 52 oral presentations held in concurrent sessions as well as seven plenary papers and 113 posters. Of these papers, 26 were from Latin America making it, as far as I know, the largest Latin American turnout in ISAE history. The papers presented covered various topics including domestication and the ethology of managed wild animals, promoting welfare in husbandry systems and emotionality and cognition.

A number of technical excursions were also offered. These consisted of visits to the Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina (UFSC) marine laboratory, UFSC research stations, as well as a buffalo farm and bee's city.

The conference wrapped up with a most enjoyable banquet held at the Costão do Santinho resort and a trip to Anhatomirim Island and Dolphin's bay the following day. Dolphin's bay provided a magnificent view of dolphins swimming around the boat and an opportunity to swim in the ocean, making it well worth the trip.

On a final note, I would like to express my gratitude to the organizational committee and their wonderful group of volunteers. Not only did the congress run extremely smoothly, but they helped to create a very enjoyable atmosphere. This coupled with the beautiful setting will indeed make this a "hard act to follow".

Jennifer Gardner

## **THE LEGAL SCENE**

### **THE AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL LAW ASSOCIATION (AVMLA)**

In 1999 I attended the AVMLA's meeting in New Orleans, LA. The morning topic was cruelty to animals. A number of speakers drew attention to the fact that violent criminals such as US mass murderer Jeffrey Dahmer had earlier been animal abusers. The connection between domestic violence and animal abuse was (at 71-80%), statistically significant. Speakers discussed what veterinary surgeons should do when they suspected animal abuse. Many US veterinary surgeons were worried about possible breach of confidentiality. A survey of veterinarians gave a general consensus that client authorisation was required to release information. Another problem could be the multiplicity of agencies in the US. The veterinary surgeon might be unsure to whom he ought to report. Munchausen syndrome by proxy is suspected. In Massachusetts 33.6% of veterinarians surveyed indicated that a client had admitted injuring their own pet.

Some agencies in the US and Canada are officially recognised and receive help such as police training. The difficulty in differentiating abuse from a temporary lapse of care is recognised. Tufts University have a very useful screening tool the Tufts Animal Condition and Care Score (TACC). This works similarly to the APGAR Score (used in the UK to quickly assess vital status in human neonates).

My own paper described in detail the two most important UK Statutes relating to animal welfare, namely the 1911 Cruelty to Animals Act and the Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1968. The 1911 Act is very old legislation and written in rather obscure language. It is the remedy for overt cruelty and results in many prosecutions. The 1968 Act set up the Farm Animal Welfare Council (FAWC), the welfare codes, and free welfare advice to farmers. It is designed to improve the lot of farm animals and prosecutions are only undertaken as a last resort.

For information on AVMLA the suggested contact is Greg Dennis on email [Leongatha@aol.com](mailto:Leongatha@aol.com) or write to Dr Ed Liebler, Executive Secretary AVMLA, 300 North Clippert Street, Suit 4 Lansing MI 48912 USA.

*Bill Jackson*

## **SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH**

The UK Home Office has issued a press release entitled *The use of animals in scientific procedures – consultation of openness*, published on January 13, 2000. Copies are available from the Committee Secretariat, Room 978, Home Office, Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1H 9AT or <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/animact/apcopen.htm>

## **NOISY DOGS**

A dog breeder bred dogs as a business in a residential area. The local planning authority objected on the grounds that the noise of the dogs amounted to a statutory nuisance. They served a notice. He appealed on the grounds that he had used the 'best practical means' of preventing the nuisance. The appeal was turned down on the grounds that he could have moved the business to another location. When he appealed to the High Court Lord Justice Simon Brown in the Queen's Bench Division allowed the appeal on the grounds that short of moving his kennels to another location the breeder had done his best to stop the nuisance.

## **DANGEROUS DOGS ACT**

Two houses shared a common drive. A man who kept two Rhodesian Ridgeback dogs owned one house. He used the dogs to guard the house. The dogs were sometimes allowed to roam free in the driveway. The question was whether or not the driveway was public place. If it was an offence had been committed under the Dangerous Dogs Act. The court decided on the facts that the drive was not a public place.

## **POLICE DOG BIT POLICEMAN**

A police dog bit a policeman whilst the police were chasing a suspect. The dog handler was not negligent. The dog had been trained to detain suspects and was doing that. The policeman who had been bitten claimed damages against his boss, the Chief Constable. His claim was not allowed. The dog had acted in accordance with its training.

## **UNFORTUNATE EXPERIENCE OF A LADY DRIVER**

A farmer drove his cows along a narrow country lane on a late afternoon in June. The lane was only wide enough for a single vehicle to pass. A lady drove her car round a blind corner and saw the cows approaching. She pulled over to the side and waited. As the cows passed several kicked her car and attempted to climb on the bonnet causing damage to the car. The cows were being driven from behind by the farmer who was in his vehicle. A further herdsman was at the head of the herd and had guided the herd at a crossroads. However as the lady's car was encountered only 100 yards from the farmyard the herdsman had gone ahead thinking the cows would follow. The court held that a herdsman must be at the head of the herd at all times to steer the herd.

## **INTERFERENCE WITH BADGER SETTS**

Four men were charged with interfering with a badger sett (i.e. a hole in the ground). Badgers are protected animals in the UK. It is an offence to interfere with badgers or with badger setts. The men had been digging to a maximum of two feet within the area of an occupied sett but had not disturbed the tunnel system. Lord Justice Roch in the Queen's Bench Division held the term 'badger sett' referred to only to tunnels, chambers & immediate areas outside entrance holes. The men were thus not guilty.

*Bill Jackson*

## **Books and Articles**

**Article:** ‘Unnecessary suffering’: the cornerstone of animal protection legislation considered (Mike Radford): *Criminal Law Review* (Smith & Maxwell) 1999, Sep, 702-713.

**Book:** ‘UK Law Relating to Farm Animal Welfare’ Available free from MAFF Publications, London SE99 7TP UK  
BILL JACKSON

*Bill Jackson*  
15 October, 2000

## **Book Review**

**Animal Revolution: Changing Attitudes towards Speciesism, 2nd Edn, Richard D. Ryder, 2000, Berg, Oxford & New York, 284pp. Paperback £14.99.**

Richard Ryder suggests in his Introduction (p13) that he was “at least four people while writing this book – campaigner, psychologist and ‘ideas man’ as well as historian”. Fair enough: in this second edition of what was obviously a successful book when first published in 1989 (I confess I didn’t read it then) we get several books in one. There are one or two untidy details in the second edition, such as references on p193 to chapters that no longer exist, but it is otherwise attractively produced, well edited, with a useful index, and thoroughly referenced.

The predominant aspect of the volume is historical, a fascinating account of how animals have been regarded and treated from ancient times to the present day. There are many twists and turns to the story that are new to me. I hadn’t fully realised, for example, that nearly all cave paintings were of animals – not of rivers, plants or other things that must also have been important to cave dwellers – and mostly of the animals themselves rather than, say, of hunting. I had no idea of the important role played by Victoria, as both Princess and Queen, in the development of animal protection in Britain and thence in the rest of the world. I am sure that I shall use the book repeatedly as a source for such details. The subtitle is a little odd, though. The account is more of changing attitudes to animals than to speciesism.

Entwined with the main history is a subsidiary one of the RSPCA. Ryder was Chairman of their Council in the late 1970s and one of a “radical minority” (p179) who attempted to reform the society, for example trying to persuade it to



adopt a policy against hunting. His radicalism extends to his view of earlier periods too. He gives an impassioned description of the RSPCA's "ineffectual response" (p110) to watering down of the 1876 Cruelty to Animals Act, and concludes that the Act ended up as a defence of vivisection rather than a major restriction of it. Doubtless other versions could be given of this story. Yet such details of RSPCA politics, while sometimes excessive, often provide interesting illustrations of the main historical developments under discussion.

The campaigning, psychology and ideas naturally pervade the history, but in ways that I sometimes found obstructive rather than illuminating. Thus there is frequent reference to animal rights – which is a good campaign slogan – but this term is often used as if it were just a stronger form of concern for animal welfare, for example in saying that "the forty years after 1918 were a barren period in the evolution of the animal rights ethic" (p143). Many fellow campaigners might agree that "The change in phraseology from a concern for 'animal welfare' to a concern for 'animal rights' indicates the [animal liberation] movement's increasingly ideological complexion" (p3) but it would have been helpful if Ryder had used the ideas implicit in such "phraseology" more consistently and clearly. Thus his account of the 19th Century conveys the strong impression that he supports animal rights and therefore a complete ban on animal experiments. It is then a surprise to discover later that his own ideas are primarily consequentialist (*i.e.* that morality of actions is based mainly or wholly on their consequences) rather than rights-based, and that he sees some experimentation as justified. His consequentialism is clearly shown by the following (p238):

"When questioned as to why they consider something to be good or bad most people produce an explanation which ultimately boils down to whether or not it causes pain or pleasure, happiness or unhappiness ... The two best-known utilitarian philosophers who identified this truth [were] Jeremy Bentham and John Stuart Mill."

Explication of his own ideas is the last 'book within a book' that he offers us: development of the concept of speciesism and of other concepts in animal welfare and rights, especially his own recent contribution of "painism". Ryder's invention of the term speciesism, later popularised by Peter Singer, was itself a major contribution to the field. What is not clear, though – at least to me – is whether speciesism is as central to our attitudes to and treatment of animals as Ryder assumes, for example in the book's subtitle. Throughout the book I looked forward to discussion of such ideas in the last chapter, itself simply titled Speciesism. I was disappointed. That chapter adds little to the sketchy outline of the concept in the Introduction – where, for example, I felt that description of speciesism as "sheer sentiment" (p11) was an unhelpful oversimplification. Many questions remain unanswered. What would it mean for us to live without speciesism?

Painism, painience and painient animals (or painients) are terms that come over as clumsy in their unfamiliarity. Will they in due course be as familiar as speciesism? Painism is the idea "that the suffering of each painient individual is

what matters morally” (p149), with painience defined as “the capacity to experience pain and distress” (px). I have a number of problems with these concepts. First, my understanding of them was delayed by the ambiguity of the word pain. It is most commonly used to mean just physical pain, and Ryder does sometimes use it like this, as in “pain and distress”. But in the term painism it means suffering in general: “pain in all its manifestations – painful emotions, thoughts and moods as well as ‘physical’ pains” (p213). It is likely that misunderstanding could be avoided by clearer statement of these ideas, but I don’t know why the terms painience and painient are needed at all. What is wrong with referring to sentient individuals, with sentience defined as capacity to suffer or feel pleasure?

Second, painism is presented as an alternative to utilitarianism, the idea that we should act so as to produce the greatest good (or utility) for the greatest number of individuals. Ryder says on p213 that

"Unlike Utilitarians ... I reject the notion that the pains of several individuals can be meaningfully aggregated ... It is a far more serious matter to inflict, say, ten units of pain on one other painient individual than to cause single units of pain to thousands of individuals – even though, in the latter case, the aggregated total of pains is far greater. *We should thus be concerned primarily with trying to reduce the pain of the individual (human or nonhuman) who is suffering most.*" (Italics in original)

Unfortunately this position is asserted rather than argued. It is possible it can be shown to be justified, but even if so I think it could be accommodated within a form of utilitarianism. After all, no-one suggests that reckoning up the potential beneficial and harmful consequences of our actions is easy. I can’t see the need for a new ‘ism’ here, except perhaps as a campaigning slogan.

Maybe we do need a new slogan. If so, what does painism contribute to our thinking? Here lies my third problem. The term itself was obviously chosen to restrict consideration to negative feelings (and sufferingism wasn’t an option!), superseding Ryder’s earlier version of sentientism. But I don’t understand why only suffering should be considered, and not pleasure. It is true that until relatively recently an emphasis on negative feelings was common, for example in Marian Dawkins’ 1988 contention (p209 in Appl. Anim. Behav. Sci. 20, 209) that:

"To be concerned about animal welfare is to be concerned with the subjective feelings of animals, particularly the unpleasant subjective feelings of suffering and pain."

But even there it was only an emphasis, and there have always been other approaches pursued in parallel, such as the Five Freedoms, which accentuate the positive. I suggest that the tendency to consider promotion of pleasure as well as avoidance of suffering, and also other approaches to welfare such as physical and natural aspects, has now become widespread among those concerned for welfare. The need for this was outlined ironically by Holtug (p20 in Acta Agri. Scand. A Anim. Sci. 1996 supp. 27, 16):

"Richard Ryder holds that “As sentientists we must concentrate simply upon this

objective: to reduce pain and distress in all sentient individuals” ... However ... if we were to accept Ryder’s claim at face value, we probably ought to kill all animals (or rather all sentient individuals), because this seems to be by far the most efficient way of reducing pain."

Again, unfortunately, Ryder asserts his point rather than arguing it, as in the definition of painism given above. Why should the suffering of painient individuals matter so much morally that it should effectively exclude other considerations?

Perhaps here too Ryder can make a stronger case. But perhaps instead we need to move on.

Buy this book for the history and the campaigning. And come to think of it, buy it for the psychology and the ideas too. Even if you don’t agree with him, Ryder is never less than stimulating.

*Mike Appleby*  
*University of Edinburgh*

## Regional news

### UK and Ireland

As a new venture in 2001, the United Kingdom and Eire branch of the International Society for Applied Ethology (ISAE) will hold a joint regional meeting with the British Society of Animal Science (BSAS). The BSAS has historically held an annual Winter Meeting each March in Scarborough, and this year a decision was taken to move the meeting to York to facilitate interaction and collaboration with other learned societies.

At the same time the United Kingdom and Eire branch of the ISAE was voting on whether their annual should join forces with another society to raise the profile of Applied Ethology in the region. The decision was taken to hold a joint meeting with the BSAS in York in 2001.

The meeting will be held between 9th-11th April 2001 in York.

The ISAE will be holding joint sessions with the British Society of Animal Science and one session has now been confirmed. This is entitled the ethical basis of livestock production science and will include coverage of topics such as:

- Animal rights and wrongs
- The ethical basis of animal experimentation
- The ethical basis of intensive livestock production

There will be two dedicated sessions for 'Open Communications'; one for oral presentations and one for poster presentations. It is anticipated that there will also be a lively evening debate on one evening of the conference.

*Jon Day.*

*ISAE Regional Secretary for UK and Eire and IoB liaison representative*

## *Obituary*

### **Ruth Harrison 1920 - 2000**

Farm animals are not machines.

Ruth Harrison's book "Animal Machines" burst upon the agricultural world in 1964 pointing out to the public and governments that farm animals were now being regarded by many in the industry merely as mechanisms which led to useful production and profit. Ruth said about the book that she "thought that the public should know both of the suffering caused to farm animals and the hazards to the consumer in some of the new systems of keeping livestock." The systems to which she referred, which were then relatively new to most farmers, included battery cages for hens, small crates for veal calves and stalls or tethers for pregnant and farrowing sows. In addition, Ruth Harrison wrote about the efforts being made in breeding, feeding and housing to obtain ever greater production at whatever cost to the animals and the use of farm operations such as castration, tail-docking, beak-trimming and de-horning.

As a result of this book, the U.K. Ministry of Agriculture set up a Technical Committee chaired by Professor F.W.R. Brambell. The Brambell Committee, which included Ruth Harrison, reported in 1965 and a new law on farm animal welfare *The Agriculture (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act* was passed in 1968. The

Minister of Agriculture appointed an independent committee, the Farm Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, later to become the Farm Animal Welfare Council, to provide advice on such matters. Ruth Harrison served on these until she was 70. At an international level, "Animal Machines" which was published in seven countries, was an inspiration for the European Convention for the Protection of Animals Kept for Farming Purposes, which was set up by the Council of Europe in 1976, and for legislation on the welfare of farm animals in many countries.

Ruth Harrison was born in London in 1920 and read English at London University, spending part of her university career in Cambridge because her college moved there during the war. She was a member of the Society of Friends (Quakers) and worked during the war in the Friends' Ambulance Unit. At the end of the war she was part of a group which worked with displaced persons in Schleswig Holstein and in Bochum in Germany. After her return she attended the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, obtained a University Diploma, and directed productions. She worked for a firm of architects and, in 1954, married Dex Harrison who was to become a distinguished architect. They had two children, Jonathan and Jane. With this non-scientific background, Ruth's considerable ability to understand and report lucidly on scientific papers was most impressive. At the Farm Animal Welfare Council in the U.K. and at the Standing Committee of the Convention on the Protection of Animals Kept for Farming Purposes in Strasbourg's Palais de l'Europe, Ruth Harrison would present the key information from scientific studies of animal welfare which government officials and other committee members had often not read, or not understood. She was charming to all and never hostile to the farming industry in general, only to those practices which she thought unjust.

Ruth Harrison served as a Director or Council Member of the Conservation Society, Soil Association, Animal Defence Society, R.S.P.C.A. and World Society for the Protection of Animals. She was founder and chairman of the Farm Animal Care Trust which, since 1967, has been one of the most important charities funding small conferences and farm animal welfare research projects, for example on the pig-family pen system, alternatives to veal crates, gas-stunning of animals, group-farrowing of pigs and the economics of changing to farm systems with better welfare. She was awarded the R.S.P.C.A's Richard Martin Award, the Eurogroup Medal and the OBE. She gave many invited lectures including the Hume lecture for the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare.

Ruth will be missed by her family and by the many farmers, animal welfare scientists, government staff, and animal protection society members with whom she worked. She recently gave her library to Carleton College, Minnesota, in order that it would be of use for further studies of farm animal welfare and sustainable agriculture.

*Donald Broom 14/6/00*

Ruth Harrison died 13th June 2000, London. A memorial meeting was organised by the Farm Animal Care Trust to celebrate Ruth's life and contribution to the well-being of animals. This was held at the University of Westminster in London on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2000 and was attended by Ruth's family, friends and colleagues from welfare legislation, charities and academia.

The meeting began with personal tributes from Professor Don Broom (Professor of Animal Welfare, Cambridge University), David Wilkins MRCVS (Director of Eurogroup for Animal Welfare) and Andrew Turnbull MRCVS (MAFF, former Chairman, Council of Europe Standing Committee) who paid tribute to her dedication and the depth of scientific expertise she brought to welfare legislation.

After lunch, Professor Ingvar Ekesbo (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Skara, former Chairman of Council of Europe Standing Committee) spoke on the role Ruth played in establishing the credibility of welfare research. This was followed by presentations on welfare research, The Council of Europe and Ruth's international impact by:- Don Broom on "Calf welfare: history and current issues"; Professor Bo Algers, (Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Skara) on "Sow nest-building behaviour and farrowing system practicalities."; Dr Mike Appleby, (University of Edinburgh) on "Laying hen welfare and enriched cage developments"; and Professor Andreas Steiger, (Bern University, former Chairman of Council of Europe Standing Committee) on "Aviary systems for laying hens in Switzerland."

The work of Ruth's charity the Farm Animal Care Trust (FACT) on funding welfare meetings and research will continue under the supervision of trustees, Prof. Don Broom, Dr. Ian Horrell (Hull University, Secretary of FACT) and Prof. Marion Stamp-Dawkins (University of Oxford) and an appeal has been launched for contributions towards the establishment of the Ruth Harrison Research Studentship with the aim of funding post-graduate research into animal welfare. If you are interested in the work of FACT or contributing to this appeal then contact Ian Horrell, Department of Psychology, University of Hull, Hull, HU6 7RX, UK. R.I.Horrell@psy.hull.ac.uk

*Jonathan Cooper*

## *Future meetings*

### **ISAE Meetings**

**ISAE International Congress 4th-8th August 2001**, Davis, California, USA.

<http://animalwelfare.ucdavis.edu/conference/ethology/isaeannouncement.html>

Deadline for abstracts 15.2.2001.

**ISAE International Congress 2002**, Utrecht, The Netherlands.

**ISAE International Congress 2003**, Brisbane, Australia.

### **Regional Meetings**

**UK/Ireland meeting: 9<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> April 2001. York.**

**Joint meeting with BSAS and WPSA**

**Contact Jon Day or see website for details**

<http://www.isaeuk.fsnet.co.uk/>

### **OTHER MEETINGS**

**The Animal Behavior Society's 38th annual meeting.** 14-18 July 2001 at Oregon State University, in Corvallis, Oregon. Plenary speakers include Eliot Brenowitz, Harry Greene and Ellen Ketterson. Symposia include 'Aggression and group organization in animal societies', 'Behavioral genetics for the next decade', 'Detecting and measuring mating preferences' and 'Song Learning'. For further information see <http://www.animalbehavior.org/ABS/Program>, or contact the local hosts Andy Blaustein ([blaustea@bcc.orst.edu](mailto:blaustea@bcc.orst.edu)) or Lynne Houck ([houchl@bcc.orst.edu](mailto:houchl@bcc.orst.edu)).

**ISAZ 2001: Human-Animal Conflict.** 2-4<sup>th</sup> August 2001 at University of California, Davis, California, USA. Joint with ISAE Davis 2001 conference. Theme of "Exploring the relationships with conflict between humans and animals". Details from Lynette Hart, UC Center for Animal Alternatives, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of California, CA 95616, USA. 530-752-7722 or [lahart@ucdavis.edu](mailto:lahart@ucdavis.edu)

**27<sup>th</sup> International Ethological Conference.** 22<sup>nd</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> August in Tübingen, Germany. Further details for XXVII IEC Raimund Apfelbach, Universitäts- und Landesbibliothek Tübingen, Morgenstelle 28, D-72076 Tübingen, Germany. 49 7071 2972624. [ethology@uni-tuebingen.de](mailto:ethology@uni-tuebingen.de) or <http://homepages.uni-tuebingen.de/ethology01>.

**Integrated Management Systems for Livestock Conference.** Joint meeting between British Society of Animal Science and Institution of Agricultural Engineers. 11-12<sup>th</sup> September 2001. Selwyn College, Cambridge, UK. Sessions on Livestock Production in 21<sup>st</sup> century including, dairy cattle, pigs and poultry. Details from The Conference Secretary, IAE, West End Road, Silsoe, Bedford. MK45 4DU. UK. or 01525 861096 or [conference@iagre.org](mailto:conference@iagre.org).

**9<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Human-Animal Interactions.** 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> September 2001. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Theme of "People and Animal: a global perspective". Details from conference secretariat: AFIRAC - 32, rue de Treviso, 75009 Paris, France or 33 1 56 031200 or [rio2001@i-et-e.fr](mailto:rio2001@i-et-e.fr) or [www.iahaio.org](http://www.iahaio.org) or [www.afirac.org](http://www.afirac.org)

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