

**Prof. Donald M. Broom, Colleen Macleod Professor of Animal Welfare, University of Cambridge**

B.A. (Cantab), M.A. PhD, University of Cambridge  
Hon.D.Sc. De Montfort University 2000  
Sc.D. University of Cambridge 2002

International Society for Applied Ethology, Honorary Fellow



**A short biography of Prof. Broom, written by him in August 2009**

Donald Broom graduated in Natural Sciences (Zoology) from Cambridge, U.K. in 1964. He completed his Ph.D. there on behaviour development and responses of domestic chicks to startling stimuli in 1967, supervised by Bill Thorpe, a member of the Brambell Committee and major architect of its biological content. He later gained an Sc.D. degree from Cambridge. From 1967 to 1986 he was Lecturer then Reader in the University of Reading, U.K. He worked on behaviour and welfare of calves and dry sows in relation to housing; grazing behaviour of cattle and sheep; the role of behaviour in relation to the transmission of fish parasites, summer mastitis and bovine tuberculosis; olfactory and auditory communication in rodents and deer; salmonid behaviour; motivational mechanisms and the description of activity rhythms. He was a visiting professor, lecturer, researcher for three month periods in the University of California Berkeley 1969, the University of the West Indies Trinidad 1972 and CSIRO Perth in 1983. He joined ASAB in 1965, later becoming its Hon. Treasurer 1971-1980, and was a member of the International Ethological Committee 1976-79. He joined SVE (later ISAE) in 1972, was a Council Member 1981-1991 and ISAE President 1987-89, during which time he initiated ISAE regional branches and support for people from poorer countries to attend congresses. For the Zoological Society of London he is a Fellow, and was member of Animal Conservation and Welfare Committee 1986-1992, Animal Welfare Committee 1992-1995. He has organised seven conferences for ASAB, ISAE, ISAZ and a Dahlem Conference and served on Editorial Committee of *Animal Behaviour* 1971-1980,

Editorial Board of *Animal Welfare* 1999-present, Editorial Board of *Acta Veterinaria Brno* 2000-present.

In 1986 Donald Broom was appointed the first Professor of Animal Welfare in the world in the Department of Veterinary Medicine, University of Cambridge. He set up a research group, the Centre for Animal Welfare and Anthrozoology working on the various methods for the scientific assessment of animal welfare and on the management, housing and transport of farm animals, especially cattle, pigs, poultry and farmed fish in relation to their welfare. A series of studies of cognition and feelings in domestic animals have also been carried out. There have been studies of pet animal, zoo animal and laboratory animal housing and management as well as olfactory discrimination, communication, learning, cognition, behaviour problems in pets and the effects of pets on their owners. Aspects of wild animal welfare have also been studied. During its 23 years, the centre has produced 23 books and 642 scientific papers, 421 refereed. Broom has written nine books and 393 scientific papers, 264 refereed. His books include: *Biology of Behaviour* 1981, *Farm Animal Behaviour and Welfare* with A.F. Fraser, 1990, *Stress and Animal Welfare* with K.G. Johnson 1993/2000, *Coping with Challenge: Welfare in Animals Including Man* ed. 2001, *The Evolution of Morality and Religion* 2003 and *Domestic Animal Behaviour and Welfare* with A.F. Fraser 2007.

The development of animal welfare as a scientific subject in many countries has been facilitated by Donald Broom giving 331 invited lectures in 37 countries, including a mean of three plenary lectures at international conferences per year. In particular, courses of lectures have been given on many occasions: six in Mexico, eight in Brazil, three in Malaysia and three in China. He lectured twice on behalf of the European Commission in each of the 12 countries that joined the European Community after 2002. In addition, the two week course on Animal Welfare run by Broom for the past 15 years in Cambridge in September has been attended by 210 veterinarians, government staff and others from many different countries. Amongst the 39 Ph.D. students and 28 post-doctoral staff who have worked with Broom are those who now teach, or have taught, animal behaviour and animal welfare in Belfast, Aberdeen, Scottish Agriculture College, Leeds, Newcastle, Lincoln, Edinburgh, Bristol, Oslo, Philadelphia, Michigan State, Purdue, UNAM Mexico City, Brisbane, UNESP São Paulo, Universiti Putra Malaysia and Auckland. Of these, 11 are now Professors (full professors).

Broom has endeavoured to ensure that scientific information on animal welfare is appropriately used in the formulation of laws by serving on international government committees. He has been Chairman of E.U. Scientific Veterinary Committee, Animal Welfare Section 1990-1997, Member of E.U. Scientific Committee on Animal Health and Animal Welfare and Vice-Chairman of Animal Welfare Section 1997-2003, Vice-Chairman of the European Food Safety Authority Panel on Animal Health and Welfare 2003-2009. In the course of this work, which covers all animal disease and animal welfare issues, he has been Chairman of Working Groups producing scientific reports on "Welfare of calves", "Welfare aspects of bovine somatotrophin usage", "The welfare of animals during transport"(two reports), "The welfare of weaners and rearing pigs in relation to space allowance and flooring", "Welfare and disease in fattening pigs in

relation to housing and husbandry”, “The welfare of farmed fish: Atlantic salmon” and “The welfare of dairy cows”. He has also been a member of working group producing reports on "Welfare of intensively reared pigs", "Welfare aspects of foie gras production", "Human health aspects of bovine somatotrophin usage", “Avian influenza”, “Laboratory Animals” – Chairman of Sub-Group on “Invertebrate and foetal animals”, “Animal health and welfare aspects of intensive calf farming systems”, “The welfare of captive non-poultry avian species imported into the EU” and “The welfare of farmed fish: trout”. Other appointments include: 1987-2000 Advisor to the Council of Europe Standing Committee on the Welfare of Animals Kept for Farming Purposes, 2003-2006, O.I.E. (Organisation International des Epizooties = World Organisation for Animal Health) Chairman of Working Group on Land Animal Transport. In the United Kingdom he has been a member of: 1986-1997 NERC National Committee on Seals; 1991-1999 Farm Animal Welfare Council (MAFF/DEFRA), 1997- 2007 Home Office Animal Procedures Committee, (Home Office). He has also given 10-20 radio and television interviews per year and advised on the text of animal welfare standards for the RSPCA and Tesco.

Academic awards received include: George Fleming Prize (1990 with P.F.J. Benham) for the best paper in the British Veterinary Journal; Honorary Fellow of Myerscough College of Agriculture, University of Central Lancashire 1999; Honorary D.Sc. from De Montfort University 2000; RSPCA/British Society of Animal Science Award for innovation in animal welfare research 2001; President of St Catharine’s College Cambridge 2001-2004; Eurogroup Medal Eurogroup for Animal Welfare Brussels 2001; President, St Catharine’s Society 2005-6; Professor Honoris Causa, Universidad Salvador, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2004, Honorario Socio Corrispondanti, Accademia Peloritana dei Pericolanti Universita de Messina, 2005; Honorary Doctorate: Norwegian University of Life Sciences 2005; Honorary Fellow of International Society for Applied Ethology 2009.