



SOCIETY FOR
VETERINARY ETHOLOGY
25TH ANNIVERSARY
1966-1991

APPLIED ANIMAL BEHAVIOUR:
PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE

PROCEEDINGS OF THE
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Society for Veterinary Ethology 1966-1991 25th Anniversary Review

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ORIGINS

The following extract is taken from the Minutes of the First Meeting:

"Following the proposal approved at a preliminary informal meeting of interested persons held in Edinburgh on the 16th February, 1966 to form a Society, within the veterinary profession, for the study of animal behaviour, a meeting was held at Hume Tower, Edinburgh University, on Saturday, 4th June, 1966 under the chairmanship of Mr A.F. Fraser and was attended by 26 veterinarians from Scotland and England.

The Meeting agreed on the above title for the Society, approved a Constitution and elected a governing council for 1966/67.

The aims of the Society are:-

(a) the stimulation within the veterinary profession of enquiry and research into the behaviour of animals;

(b) the encouragement of discussion on the veterinary aspects of animal behaviour and the publication of original work in this field;

(c) the furtherance of ethological knowledge relative to the care and utilization of animals, domesticated, captive and free-living;

(d) the provision of a medium to promote exchange of information between veterinarians and between them and others concerned with behaviour and well-being of animals."

At a meeting in 1970 it was decided that the Society would extend its qualification for membership by amendment of the Constitution to include non-veterinarians. This resulted in some slight changes to the aims, which reflect the broader range of professions involved in the Society:

(a) now reads:

"the stimulation of enquiry and research into the behaviour of animals among agricultural scientists, veterinarians and zoologists;"

and (d) now reads:

"the provision of a medium to promote exchange of information between those concerned with behaviour and wellbeing of animals."

David Wood-Gush (Edinburgh) became an "Associate" member of the SVE in 1970, before it was open to non-veterinarians and David Fraser (currently in Ottawa, Canada) was the first non-veterinarian to join the Society in 1972.

TABLE 1

Founder members

J.R.Baillie	Kirriemuir	B.R.Howard*	Edinburgh
P.J.Barden	Edinburgh	P.Imlah*	Edinburgh
W.G.Beaton	Edinburgh	R.A.Jones	Edinburgh
W.P.Blount	London	D.R.Lane*	Leamington Spa
B.Boswood	Brentwood	A.Littlejohn	Edinburgh
A.Brownlee*	Newbury	C.T.McCrea*	Thirsk
L.Collery	Dublin	A.D.McEwan	Glasgow
M.A.Couttie	York	H.S.McTaggart	Edinburgh
M.D.Eaglesome	Lanark	J.Milne	Duns
R.Ewbank*	Liverpool	D.Moodie	Ayr
L.C.Faulkner	Colorado	G.S.Peyton	Canterbury
G.S.Ferguson	Edinburgh	H.C.B.Reed	Selby
W.Ferguson	Edinburgh	P.G.M.Rowntree	Liverpool
M.W.Fox*	Illinois	W.N.Scott	London
A.F.Fraser*	Edinburgh	I.E.Selman	Glasgow
J.A.Fraser*	Edinburgh	J.M.Swanney	Perth
T.GrahamMarr	Edinburgh	J.C.Wilson	Edinburgh
H.Hastie*	Edinburgh	D.K.M.Young	Pitlochry
T.W.Heard*	Chippenham		

*still members in 1991

OFFICE BEARERS

Administration of the Society is the responsibility of a Council. At first there were 11 Council members, but this has increased gradually to the present total of 16. The Presidents and Honorary Secretaries to date are shown in Table 2.

The post of Honorary Assistant Secretary was established in 1969. Between 1975 and 1980 the position was held by A.F.Baldry, thereafter it has been held by B.Flatlandsmo. There have been just two Honorary Membership Secretaries; the post was held by J.R.Baillie from the time the post was established in 1974 until 1989 when, on Jim Baillie's death, it was taken over by J.C.Petherick. The position of Treasurer was initially held by B.R.Howard, then R.Ewbank from 1973 to 1977. B.O.Hughes held the post from 1977 to 1983 and since then it has been held by K.Carson. A.Brownlee held the post of Honorary Librarian from its establishment in 1967 until 1983. The post of Honorary Assistant Librarian and Editor was created in

1981 and was held by I.J.H.Duncan for two years, when he then took over as Honorary Librarian, and R.I.Horrell became Honorary Assistant Librarian and Editor, a post which he has retained to date. M.C.Appleby took over from I.J.H.Duncan as Hon. Librarian in 1987. In 1989 W.T.Jackson offered his services as Legal Advisor to the Council. In addition to the office bearers there have always been six other Council members.

TABLE 2
Presidents and secretaries

	President	Secretary
1966	A.F.Fraser	W.G.Beaton
1967	R.Ewbank	"
1968	J.M.Swanney	"
1969	"	"
1970	J.R.Baillie	R.A.Jones
1971	L.E.Hughes	A.F.Fraser
1972	C.T.McCrea	"
1973	J.Milne	"
1974	G.B.Taylor	I.J.H.Duncan
1975	"	"
1976	D.G.M.Wood-Gush	"
1977	I.Ekesbo	W.T.Jackson
1978	L.Collery	"
1979	G.van Putten	"
1980	H.Simonsen	"
1981	R.Ewbank	"
1982	M-F.Bouissou	"
1983	H.H.Sambras	"
1984	B.A.Baldwin	"
1985	P.Wiepkema	"
1986	I.J.H.Duncan	A.B.Lawrence
1987	D.M.Broom	"
1988	"	"
1989	B.Algers	"
1990	"	"

MEMBERSHIP

Membership has increased from the original 37 to 342 at the present time. These members come from all over the world as is shown in Table 3 and Figure 1.

With the increasingly international nature of the Society it was decided in 1988 that National Secretaries should be established. The rôle of these people is to liaise with local applied ethologists and other related societies, to plan and coordinate local SVE meetings and to publicise the Society to animal productionists and veterinary scientists.

TABLE 3

Current membership

EUROPE	Austria	1	N.AMERICA	Canada	15	
	Belgium	6		USA	12	
	Bulgaria	2	S.AMERICA	Argentina	1	
	Czechoslovakia	5		Brazil	1	
	Denmark	18		AUSTRALASIA	Australia	7
	Eire	7	New Zealand		2	
	Finland	5	MIDDLE EAST		Israel	1
	France	4			ASIA	Japan
	Germany	9		Taiwan		1
	Hungary	5		EUROPE		
	Italy	31				
	Netherlands	15				
	Norway	11				
	Poland	1				
	Portugal	1				
	Spain	5				
	Sweden	22				
Switzerland	5					
United Kingdom	148					

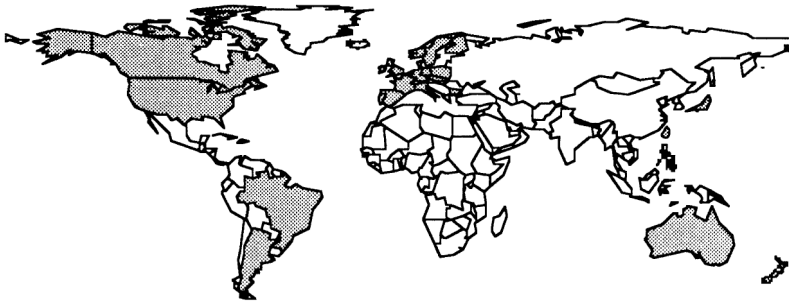


Figure 1. World distribution of members

MEETINGS

The Society holds Scientific meetings twice a year, in the winter and in the summer. The pattern in recent years has been for the winter meeting (Nov/Dec) to be held at the Royal Veterinary College, London, and to last for one day. In 1988 it was decided that it would be appropriate for other Regional meetings to be held in the winter, in addition to those held in London. Since 1974 the summer meeting has been held in various European countries and normally lasts for three days. The summer meeting is now given the title "International Congress", and next year (1992) will be held in N.America for the first time.

The venues of past summer meetings and winter ones that have been held outside London are listed in Table 4.

TABLE 4
Venues of meetings

Year	Venue	Year	Venue
1966	Edinburgh	1977	Brighton
1967	Edinburgh	1978	Skara
1968	Glasgow	1979	Dublin
1968	Bristol	1980	Zeist
1969	Edinburgh	1981	Edinburgh
1969	Cambridge	1982	Reading
1970	Edinburgh	1983	Tours
1971	Cambridge	1984	Kiel [†]
1971	Bristol	1985	Cambridge
1972	Liverpool	1986	Wageningen
1972	Dublin	1987	Tänikon
1973	London*	1988	Skara [†]
1974	Ghent	1989	Bristol
1975	Bristol	1990	Montecatini
1976	Cambridge	1991	Edinburgh

* in conjunction with the RSPCA [†] in conjunction with EAAP and DVG

PROCEEDINGS/ABSTRACTS

The proceedings of the first three meetings were published by the Universities Federation for Animal Welfare (UFAW). From 1968 to 1973 the abstracts appeared in the *British Veterinary Journal* (vols. 125 to 130). The abstracts from the "First European Symposium of the SVE" (held in Ghent in 1974) were published in vol. 1 of *Applied Animal Ethology* (currently *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*) and this has continued to the present time, with the exception of the two meetings held in 1975, the abstracts of which appeared in the *British Veterinary Journal* (vol. 133).

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Following correspondence in 1976, the Society was offered a place on the Standing Committee of the European Convention for the Protection of Animals kept for Farming Purposes (Council of Europe) in 1979. H.Simonsen was the representative from 1979-82, when laying hens were discussed. The discussion moved to pigs in 1982 and G.van Putten became the representative until 1986, when H.Simonsen again took over briefly when the topic returned to poultry. In 1987 D.Broom was selected as the representative and he has continued in this capacity until the present time. In this period there have been discussions on cattle, fur-bearing animals, genetic engineering and recently consultation has started on sheep and goats. Current policy is that the representative seeks advice from other Society members concerning the subject under discussion. Since 1979 the Council of Europe has produced recommendations for laying hens, pigs and cattle (not calves), and those for fur-bearing animals are nearing agreement. Changes have been made to original agreements to account for developments in genetic engineering. Many of the recommendations made are used in national legislation.

THE FUTURE

The study of applied animal behaviour has developed to an extent not anticipated 25 years ago. It has contributed greatly to the advancement of biological sciences in general and to animal welfare science in particular. The Society for Veterinary Ethology has played a cardinal rôle in this development and, it is hoped, will continue to foster such development in the next 25 years.