“As long as humans feel they are forced to defend their own rights and worth by placing someone beneath them, oppression will not end.”

Marjorie Spiegel, The Dreaded Comparison: Human and Animal Slavery
Chimpanzee, Denmark, 2016. Photograph: Jo-Anne McArthur, Born Free Foundation. From Captive, Lantern Books. (See Beyond the Bars). We thank Jo-Anne McArthur for permission to use her photographs in this issue. For more information on Jo-Anne and her We Animals project visit: http://www.weanimals.org/
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Front cover: *Born to be Wild?* © Ann Johnson www.annjohnsonpaintings.net
COMMENT

By James West, Senior Policy Manager, Compassion in World Farming

“The public would be devastated if the iconic recognition of animals as sentient beings were to be lost from UK law when we leave the EU, as it was the UK that led the way in the 1990s to getting animals recognised as sentient beings in the EU Treaty.”

Compassion in World Farming is concerned that Article 13 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (TFEU) is not incorporated into UK law by the Repeal Bill. Article 13 recognises animals as “sentient beings” and also requires Governments, in formulating and implementing policies on agriculture, fisheries, transport, research and technological development, to pay “full regard to the welfare requirements of animals”. Article 13 is the core overarching requirement on animal welfare in EU – and hence at this time in UK – law.

Whilst we recognise that the primary purpose of the Repeal Bill is to bring EU Regulations into UK law, an absolutely key part of EU law on animal welfare is in the Treaty and this must be brought into UK law.

The public would be devastated if the iconic recognition of animals as sentient beings were to be lost from UK law when we leave the EU, as it was the UK that led the way in the 1990s to getting animals recognised as sentient beings in the EU Treaty. It would therefore be contradictory for the UK to omit this from its post-Brexit legislation.

The Government could bring Article 13 into UK law either via an amendment at Committee stage to the Repeal Bill (such an amendment could directly incorporate Article 13 into UK law or it could do so by amending the Animal Welfare Act 2006) or, alternatively, the Agriculture Bill could bring Article 13 into UK law - although the scope of Article 13 goes beyond farm animals.
We urge the Government to confirm that Article 13, and the protections and responsibilities within it, will be incorporated into UK Law once Britain exits the EU.

**GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY**

It is clear that Brexit should not lead to dilution of UK animal welfare standards, and the campaign to leave the EU made a commitment to end live exports once we have left the EU. Indeed, good welfare should be seen as part of UK’s post-Brexit international brand and the Prime Minister has said as much when pressed on this issue. One of the golden opportunities offered by Brexit is an end to live exports. This is because, once the UK is no longer bound by EU rules, it will be free to ban live exports. Of course, it will need to ensure that any new trade agreement with the EU insists on the inclusion of a clause permitting it to do so, but the UK Government absolutely should be doing this.

The Conservative 2017 General Election manifesto said: “As we leave the EU, we can take early steps to control the export of live farm animals for slaughter.” This is to be welcomed and the Government must act on this commitment. Furthermore, we hope the Government will not just control this trade but will include a ban on the export of animals for slaughter or fattening with the ban coming into force on the day after the UK exits the EU. The obvious place to do this, would be in the Agriculture Bill, and the Government should do this now, so that it takes effect on the day we leave the EU, rather than waiting for the UK to leave the EU before we begin legislating on this issue.

Over 45,000 sheep were exported from the UK in 2016 - often these animals are slaughtered on arrival in conditions that are cruel and frequently illegal. Compassion in World Farming has also uncovered almost 5,000 calves being exported to Spain in 2016 - some of the journeys lasted over 100 hours! These animals are poorly prepared to cope with these journeys and this trade must stop – Brexit is the opportunity to do that, as we will no longer be bound by EU rules that previous Governments have claimed have prevented us from acting sooner. We need to ensure farm animals are slaughtered as close as possible to the farm on which they are reared, end live exports and replace the trade with one in carcass meat.
Animals as sentient beings is one of the cornerstones of today’s understanding of humanity’s ethical obligation to treat animals well. It stands in a direct line of moral understanding going all the way back to Bentham’s “The question is not, 'Can they reason?' but, 'Can they suffer?’” The British have taken a lead in defining our relationship with animals and it would be a very retrograde step to remove the recognition of animals as sentient beings from our legislation.

To sign the petition to Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, telling him animals are sentient beings which needs to be recognised by law, visit: https://www.ciwf.org.uk/

Animals Angels, Animals Memorial.
http://www.animalmemorial.org/
“...I just returned yesterday from eastern Tibet in search of nonhuman animals. An animal in the wild is free to spend much of its time in search of food or starve, competing for status and mates, and remaining alert to avoid becoming prey. A captive animal is fed well, its social life, if any, confined to cell mates, and, secure from danger, its existence is blunted and banal, its evolutionary force spent, placing it among the living dead.”

Conservation biologist George Schaller, from The Animals’ Agenda.

The concept of ‘animal welfare’ is no longer good enough for the billions of non-human animals contained and existing globally within human-controlled boundaries and industries. International expert and writer on animal behaviour
Marc Bekoff and bioethicist Jessica Pierce convincingly present the case for overturning this concept in their new book *The Animals’ Agenda*. The authors examine life for animals and the science behind keeping them in factory farms, laboratories, zoos and circuses, as captive and companion animals and as subjects of conservation. They conclude that welfare science is not science in the service of animals, but rather science in the service of industry and they offer ways forward for the future of animals living under our terms and for human and non-human coexistence.

Zoos are increasingly controversial and are currently up for debate. These edited extracts, particularly from chapter five of *The Animals’ Agenda – Zooed Animals* - is reproduced with the kind permission of the authors. It scrutinises the zoo industry from a range of angles – zoo management, welfare for profit, zoo animal behaviour compared with wild, which animals can cope more easily than others with being zooed and zoothanasia. The evidence presented leaves the reader seriously doubting that zoos have any ethical, humane, scientific or conservational validity today: “We need to replace the science of animal welfare with the science of animal well-being”

‘Freedom is one of the values we cherish most. Broadly understood, we are free if we are not imprisoned or enslaved, and not unduly coerced or constrained in our choices or actions. Freedom can be difficult to define, but we know when we lose it or when it has been taken from us…

‘The Five Freedoms originated in the early 1960s in an eighty-five-page British government study, *Report of the Technical Committee to Enquire into the Welfare of Animals Kept Under Intensive Livestock Husbandry Systems*. This document, informally known as the *Brambell Report*, was a response to public outcry over the abusive treatment of animals within agricultural settings. *Ruth Harrison’s 1964 book Animal Machines…’ (revisted in the Autumn 2015 QCA Newsletter) ‘…brought readers inside the walls of the newly developing industrialized farming systems in the United Kingdom, what we have come to know as ‘factory farms’. Harrison, a Quaker and conscientious objector during World War II, described appalling practices like battery-cage systems for egg-laying
hens and gestation crates for sows, and consumers were shocked by what was hidden behind closed doors.

‘To mollify the public, the UK government commissioned an investigation into livestock husbandry, led by Bangor University zoology professor Roger Brambell. The commission concluded that there were, indeed, grave ethical concerns with the treatment of animals in the food industry and that something must be done. In its initial report, the commission specified that animals should have the freedom to, “…stand up, lie down, turn around, groom themselves and stretch their limbs.” These incredibly minimal requirements became known as the ‘freedoms’, and represented the conditions the Brambell Commission felt were essential to animal welfare.

‘If zoos really are the key to survival for some species, perhaps they should become more conservation centers, less entertainment and spectacle, so that the emphasis in all aspects of care and management is on the well-being of individual animals, without compromises being made for the sake of profit and entertainment and visitor experience. These conservation centers would likely need to be closed to the public, or allow only very limited access, so that the focus remains always on the animals. And still, we will need to wrestle with the moral dilemma of trading individual freedom for species survival.

‘Zoo futures: the science of animal well-being to the rescue

‘Can existing zoos do better? Of course they can, but they can’t do enough. What we need are not better zoos, but zoos that are so transformed as to be unrecognizable in comparison to today’s models. A first step in transitioning away from the status quo is to acknowledge that many species of animals simply cannot be held in confinement without causing them significant harm. Zoos should stop exhibiting polar bears, lions, elephants, wolves, orcas, dolphins, giant pandas, and other animals whose lives in the wild involve large home ranges and a broad network of complex and changing social relationships. ‘As an example of this transitioning, a number of zoos have permanently closed their elephant exhibits, with no reported decrease in zoo attendance. The
Detroit Zoo, which was in the vanguard of this evolution, finally and permanently closed its elephant exhibit in 2005. Director Ron Kagan and others felt that the facility simply couldn’t provide adequately for the social, emotional, and physical needs of the giant pachyderms. The last remaining elephants, Winky and Wanda, were moved to the Performing Animal Welfare Society’s ARK Sanctuary in California, where they will live out their lives in relative comfort.

‘Instead of investing in elephant treadmills and other elephant enrichments, the Detroit Zoo spent millions of dollars developing a snail exhibit. It acquired 115 Tahitian land snails of very different species, some of them endangered or threatened. Snails, it turns out, are fascinating, particularly when they can be observed in an environment that closely mimics their natural home. One can learn a lot about evolution and biodiversity from studying snails. In fact, the opportunities for learning are much greater than with the elephants, because the zoo is able to create a snail habitat in which the animals are free to act as normal snails, something the zoo could never achieve with elephants. The exhibit also teaches people about the important role of noncharismatic, ‘insignificant’ animals in ecosystem stability and diversity.

‘Zoos could make a contribution to conservation and education by helping visitors appreciate the beauty and value of noncharismatic animals such as amphibians. These animals require a different kind of looking than pacing polar bears or playful otters, because they don’t seem to do that much. Amphibians often remain motionless for long periods. And they are often cryptic - they blend into their back-ground and can only be spotted by a patient viewer, who is willing to spend far more than thirty seconds at an exhibit window. Rather than being boring to watch, these creatures, like the snails, have interesting adaptations and can provide a valuable learning opportunity about the role of often-unnoticed members of an ecosystem. A large number of amphibian species are threatened with extinction, and zoos could usefully direct conservation efforts to offset potential catastrophic losses.
‘A few days after killing the giraffe *Marius, the Copenhagen Zoo killed two adult lions and two cubs to make room for a new male it had purchased. In a news report about the incident, a zoo official gave the following justification: “Because of the pride of lions’ natural structure and behaviour, the zoo has had to euthanise the two old lions and two young lions who were not old enough to fend for themselves.” The muddled logic of welfarism is on perfect display here, as the zoo seeks to justify killing four healthy lions in order to make room for one healthy lion. Although we want animals to behave in “naturalistic” ways, sometimes this natural behavior is bothersome and gets in the way of our primary agenda: to create an exhibit that visitors will pay to enjoy. The killing of the two elderly and two young lions was “necessary.” Welfarism in the zoo setting will all too often put the zoo first, and the animals second, making the claim that “zoos are for animals” continue to ring hollow.

‘The science of animal well-being seeks to flip the priorities: individual animals must come first. In all likelihood, animals would gather around the conference table and decide that the entire enterprise ought to be scrapped. Yet it may turn out that animals really need sanctuary, because their wild habitats are too full of humans, too fractured, too hot, too unstable, and too polluted - or nonexistent, as in the case of polar bears whose habitat is melting into the ocean. Zoos would then function as refugee camps. The notion of selling tickets so people can come through and gawk at the refugees would be recognized for what it is: an insult to the dignity of those who have lost everything.’

_The Animals’ Agenda, Freedom, Compassion, and Coexistence in the Human Age_ by Marc Bekoff and Jessica Pierce, is published by Beacon Press.

*Marius was an eighteen month-old giraffe who lived at Copenhagen Zoo until 2014 when he was killed, dismembered in public and fed to the zoo’s carnivores. The zoo reasoned that Marius’s killing was valid since he would not be good for breeding as his genes were already well-represented in their breeding programme.
INTERNATIONAL ANIMAL WELFARE CHARITY FOUR PAWS recently braved the ruins of Aleppo, Syria to rescue all surviving abandoned animals from the remnants of the abandoned Aalim al-Sahar (Magic World) zoo after six years of war. The rescue effort was a joint project by Four Paws and the Turkish environment ministry. Lions, tigers, Asian black bears, hyenas and dogs were among neglected and starving animals taken by truck to the Turkish border. From there they were transferred to an animal rescue centre in Karacabey close to the city of Bursa, where they received medical treatment before being moved to a permanent sanctuary. Local people had worked to keep the survivors alive before help arrived from the NGO.

Zoo animals are among the forgotten victims of warfare. Several of the Magic World’s animals were killed in bombing raids and lack of water, food and veterinary care had left the survivors physically and psychologically traumatized. FOUR PAWS veterinarian Dr Amil Khalil said, “With our mission, we want to spread the message that humanity cannot be divided and that these suffering animals deserve to be heard and seen.”
http://www.four-paws.org.uk/ (See Remembrance Service for Animals in EVENTS)
“Zoos frequently promote themselves to the general public as centres of conservation and education. However, the conservation of ‘threatened’ species does not appear to be a priority in many UK zoos and the level of public education can be poor.” Born Free Zoo Check

Each year, the Born Free Zoo Check team receives reports regarding zoos and other captive animal facilities; they investigate concerns and collect information in order to assess and evaluate the performance and standards of UK zoos. Over the years, their investigations have revealed poor living conditions and standards of care for the animals which can lead to risk for the visiting public. Born Free is concerned that the current zoo licensing and inspection system often fails to guarantee the welfare of the animals. Their 2012 analysis of the reports of government-appointed inspectors from 192 British zoos highlighted concerns about the inspection process itself and identified areas where changes would lead to improvements in both the inspection process and the monitoring of animal welfare standards.

In 2016 the Born Free Foundation commissioned an extended series of We Animals images from across Europe by photographer and humane educator Jo-Anne McArthur. These were exhibited in the EU Parliament and form the bulk of the Born Free Foundation’s EU Zoo Inquiry. This year, Born Free launched its Beyond the Bars campaign to challenge the multi-billion pound international zoo industry, to get zooed animals out of the dark ages and towards a better, more compassionate future. The photographs on the Born Free website beggar belief: a lioness behind bars, pacing back and forth in a small concrete enclosure; two chimps incarcerated in a bleak, almost gothic dark brick cell; a macaque monkey huddled on a broken fence, an elephant walking in circles in a concrete enclosure alongside a pathetic wall painting of green trees. The conditions in which these animals live look medieval - but they
were taken in European zoos trading today in Europe's most affluent countries: Germany, France, Denmark, Italy – and, scandalously, here in the United Kingdom.

FAILING TO TRUTHFULLY SEE CAPTIVE ANIMALS
Through 148 outstanding photographs, the full power of imagery is demonstrated in Captive, the new book from Jo-Anne McArthur which explores the interaction between humans and animals in captivity and how we see, or fail to see them.

As with her first book, We Animals (Lantern 2013), Jo-Anne invites us to reassess how we observe other animals “…through the bars, across the moat, or on either side of the glass.” Those who haven’t already questioned the morality of keeping wild animals captive, will surely do so after facing these mind-changing images.

The photographs in Captive were taken at zoos across five continents with the aim of showing the animals as individuals, as opposed to ‘representatives of their species’. Jo-Anne hopes this body of work will contribute to the escalating public and professional debate about the ethics of keeping animals in captivity - one that has, this year, been heightened in this country by the shocking case of neglect and cruelty to animals in the South Lakes Safari zoo in Cumbria, where a staggering 486 animals died between December 2013 and September 2016. Essay contributions about the ethics of captivity as well as the history, and future, of zoos were written by Born Free Foundation’s co-founder, Virginia McKenna, and philosopher Lori Gruen.

On 1 January this year, as a companion project to Captive, Jo-Anne McArthur launched A Year of Captivity. Each day through 2017, A Year of Captivity shares an image and stories about captive animals around the world, along with related media, and tips on how we can further the mainstream discourse about ethics
of zoos, as well as help create meaningful change for animals. *A Year of Captivity* unfolds on both Instagram and Facebook. http://www.weanimals.org/

**CONSERVATION MYTH**

Adding to the dialogue of the true contribution of zoos to conservation, the UK-based *Captive Animals Protection Society (CAPS)* commissioned a preliminary study investigating how many animals that are held in zoos are actually threatened in their natural habitat. *The Conservation Myth: how zoos are not saving endangered species* is a study that focuses on zoos in Wales, although CAPS hopes this will encourage expanding research across the UK. (https://www.captiveanimals.org/con-in-conservation)

Key findings in the study are: in zoos in Wales, only nine per cent of species are endangered; only 17 per cent of species are threatened; 84 per cent of mammals, 95 per cent of birds, 93 per cent of reptiles and 79 per cent of amphibians are not endangered. The most common species held in Welsh zoos are the house mouse and guinea pig. Of the top ten most commonly held species held in Welsh zoos, only two are threatened in the wild.

Since 95 per cent of birds in zoos are not endangered in the wild, CAPS asks, “…why are they held captive?” Barn owls, veiled chameleons, meerkats, cabybaras, tawny eagles, two-toed sloths are all animals facing a lifetime in captivity, deprived of their natural behaviour patterns and freedom of expression, despite being classified of Least Concern in the wild (International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List Categories).

CAPS points out that, since zoos hold so few animals of significant conservation concern, it is disingenuous for zoos to claim that this is their main focus. The charity makes it clear that, since it does not believe captive breeding serves conservation, it is not advocating for an increase in the number of endangered species held in zoos. It is publishing these figures to expose how the claims of the zoo industry are misleading. Rather than acting meaningfully to save animals from extinction, the concentration is on displaying thousands of animals who
not threatened in the wild, with the purpose of providing entertainment for visitors and turning a profit. “It is time zoos were honest with the public and stopped using conservation claims as a veil for animal exploitation.”

CAPS also campaigns against ‘mobile zoos’ (see QCA Newsletter, Autumn 2015) which, despite making use of thousands of individual animals for profit, are mostly completely unregulated. This places the animals involved in this trade in an extremely vulnerable position. The CAPS dedicated website (www.mobilezoo.org.uk) is a resource to educate parents and teachers about the animal and child welfare issues surrounding mobile zoos. Materials are available to download and share. https://www.captiveanimals.org

Giraffe, Germany 2016. Photograph Captive, Jo-Anne McArthur, Born Free Foundation

Lions, Lithuania 2016. Photograph Captive, Jo-Anne McArthur, Born Free Foundation
REFLECTION
LIFE CHANGING ANIMAL COMPANIONS

‘Until you have loved an animal, part of your soul will remain dormant.’
Anatole France, French writer

James Bowen and Mark Rowlands are two very different men who have had particularly special relationships with a cat and a wolf, respectively. And that relationship changed their lives. In their books, A Street Cat Named Bob and The Philosopher and the Wolf they describe the unique and yet familiar relationship with their animal companions or familials as Mark calls them. Two men with a connected relationship to two very different animals.

Mark Rowland was, at the time of writing, a Professor of Philosophy at the University of Miami and had spent the previous decade living with a wolf. He specialises in the philosophy of mind/cognitive science, ethics, moral psychology and animal studies. James Bowen was, at the time of writing, living hand to mouth on the streets of London and fighting addiction to drugs when he was adopted by Bob, a ginger tom cat.

James came across an injured and apparently homeless Bob outside his flat, offered him kindness, shelter and medical care and found himself with an unlooked for companion. Or did Bob recognise, as James puts it, “A kindred spirit” and chose him to look after him? Mark, on the other hand, had intended to merely visit and observe a litter of wolf cubs but instead experienced that connection familiar to those of us who have ever rescued a dog or cat, or even bought a puppy or a kitten. He inevitably fell in love and came away with Brenin (Welsh for king because he looked like a lion cub).

Both men acknowledge the enrichment of their lives and the loving nature of the relationship. Their lives were profoundly changed: James describes his harrowing fight to come off drugs and how it “…would not have happened if it were not for Bob’s support”; Mark describes how he learned to live and behave differently, learning “…to live as a human from a wolf.”
There are many more similarities: the commitment and time-consuming nature of the relationships and the limits they put on the human lives, forcing change in daily habits for one. Both suffered public criticism for putting the animal into an unnatural environment constrained by human culture and mores. They describe in unsentimental, heart-warming terms the moral dilemma of pet ownership. James, in fact, tried to put Bob back on the streets out of respect for his independence and previous streetwise life, but had to concede defeat when Bob jumped on his shoulder and accompanied him to his work as a street musician in London. Mark agonised over the morality of buying and owning a wild animal. Not surprisingly, this is couched in philosophical terms concluding that the relationship is about respectful companionship and guardianship rather than ownership. It was not only the writers who enjoyed and admired the animals, they also attracted the positive attention of others with Mark openly identifying Brenin as a “chick magnet” and giving his students a unique experience of lectures, whilst James acknowledged that Bob’s presence made his work as a busker and then as a Big Issue seller more profitable. The pairs were more or less inseparable.

It is clear that there was emotional and psychological dependency between the men and their animals but it seemed to me in my reading of the two relationships that there is also a spiritual connection between human and non-human. Sharing our lives and communicating through body language, touch and limited shared vocabulary, helps us appreciate other species. Mark argues that evolution has developed communication between the species so that we have broken the species barrier. This, in turn, has given those of us lucky enough to experience it, a better appreciation of the natural world in terms of other species and a positive respect for the environment in which we all live, as well as growth in our capacity for unconditional love. These two writers have confirmed my own experience that knowing and loving a dog or a cat in an inclusive and non-hierarchical relationship enhances our humanity.

Liz McDermott, Lampeter Meeting
REMEMBERING
BUILDER OF A BETTER WORLD FOR ANIMALS

It was with great sadness that QCA learned in April of the death of Andrew Tyler, Director of Animal Aid and one of the animal rights movement’s most effective advocates.

An experienced journalist who had written for New Musical Express, Time Out, The Independent, Observer and Guardian, Andrew eventually joined Animal Aid, becoming one of the UK’s most fearless and tireless campaigners in building a better world for animals. Andrew retired from his role as Director of Animal Aid in September 2016 after 22 years. At his retirement party, among the many who paid tribute to his work was our QCA patron *Andre Menache who said: “Andrew, thank you for all you have done for animals over the years in your role as director of Animal Aid. I cherish the years spent as your scientific consultant and our after work debates and discussions on how to defeat vivisection.”

A number of QCA members have, and continue to be, involved with Animal Aid on a personal basis. Working as individuals and within groups, members volunteer as school speakers and receive help in strengthening our own local campaigns through the organisation’s meticulous research and expertise. Joining together as a group, QCA members around the country became actively involved in the Purple Poppy campaign, run by Animal Aid from 2009-2015 to direct light on the suffering of animal victims of war.

As a tribute to Andrew and to the continuing work of the Animal Aid team, we highlight their newest campaign. Mice Matter aims to educate people about the sensitivity of mice; how this cannot be accommodated in laboratories; to explain how mice deserve the same consideration as other animals and how they differ from humans.
Why should we care about mice?

In July, annual statistics were published by the Home Office for the number of animals used in UK laboratories in 2016. According to the report, 3,867,528 animals were used in ‘procedures’ for the first time that year. The vast majority of these would have been killed at the end of the research. Of this industrial scale figure, more than 2.8 million of those were mice. They comprised 74 per cent of the total and, says Animal Aid, are used because they are comparatively cheap and have a fast breeding rate.

Mice are highly social and usually live in family units. Wild mice lead complex, varied, physically active lives. They eat numerous small meals each night, visiting many feeding sites. Since they fall prey to other mammals, they seek security, staying close to cover. They are nocturnal and smell is their prime sense, using it to find and assess both food and predators. Mice are sentient; they practise nurture and feel fear and pain.

In laboratory cages, all the above is withdrawn. They are often kept in containers, stacked on racks, possibly with thousands of animals per room. In these small, barren spaces, bereft of purpose, they simply exist as ‘tools’. Research has demonstrated that confined laboratory animals, including mice, suffer from their every day living conditions and that just the moving and cleaning of cages causes them anxiety. Animal Aid reports that prey animals such as mice will hide signs of pain or distress (think how a mouse ‘freezes’ when brought into the house by a cat). Showing no obvious pain or distress must be another reason why their suffering is overlooked.

Animal Aid’s research has found the many incidents of neglect reported in UK laboratories in 2014 and 2015. For example, a litter of ten new-born mice pups, bred by mistake were killed by gassing; the pups were not killed properly and were found next day, alive in a rubbish bag. Twenty six mice being exported were placed in 15 unsuitably small containers to move them. Thirty minutes later, when the animals were being transferred to transport boxes, seven were already dead and the rest were so distressed, due to a lack of oxygen, they were immediately killed.
As well as being inhumane, research with mice has been shown to be unscientific, as animal experiments do not reliably predict what will happen in humans. Animal Aid: https://www.animalaid.org.uk/

*André Menache, Director of Antidote Europe and co-author with Dr Adrian Stallwood of Animal Aid’s Victims of Charity report, has been an active campaigner for the past 30 years, mainly in South Africa, Israel and the UK. Visit the QCA website for his commentary on a new book by science journalist Richard Harris: Rigor Mortis, how sloppy science undermines tomorrow’s medicine: http://quaker-animals.co.uk/2017/06/review-rigor-mortis/

Dr Menache says, “The real reason that animal studies fail is because they are not predictive of the way in which humans respond to drugs and disease. Increasing the number of animals used in a study is not the answer to the problem. Instead, what is required is a major overhaul of a research paradigm that is out of date with current scientific knowledge.

Dr Ray Greek and I have addressed this very point by publishing Systematic Reviews of Animal Models: Methodology versus Epistemology.” http://www.medsci.org/v10p0206.htm

Andrew Tyler with his rescue dog Minnie.
A full obituary of Andrew appeared in The Guardian on 27 May: https://www.theguardian.com/media/2017/may/22/andrew-tyler-obituary
POETRY

The Night God Heard Something
Shaking His Firmament

It’s me, Minikin Mouse. Can I help you, Lord?

I wonder sometimes whether my squeak is heard among your spiral galaxies.

If you have need, though for a whiskered thing to nibble the Nebulae, ask me. I’m ready.

Paul Matthews

(Previously published in Words in Place, Hawthorn Press)
UK WILDLIFE
HOMES FOR AMAZING, MYSTERIOUS BIRDS

For many years, QCA member Joan How and her husband Robin have enjoyed the arrival of swifts returning from Africa to Bedfordshire in early May, a journey of more than 5000 miles. Acutely aware of the decline of nesting places in roof spaces as buildings are modernised, they decided to do their bit for swifts this year.

Three nest boxes were fixed under the eaves in April and, following the advice of Swift Conservation, an audio recording of swift calls was played during early morning and late afternoon. Joan and Robin have been “exceptionally lucky” to have two boxes occupied in this first year, when it often takes two or three years - or longer - for nest boxes to be discovered and used. They now have seven swift houses installed in readiness for next year.

When swift chicks launch themselves out of the nest and into the air, they will eat and sleep on the wing for the next two or three years, only landing again when they are old enough to pair up and breed. In that intervening period they will have flown more than 30,000 miles non-stop as they return to Africa and back to the UK every year. Each day they will have consumed thousands of insects including mosquitos.

During the course of his research, Robin found that small groups of residents in the UK are also erecting the swift boxes - in Forest Hill and Sydenham in London, for example. Robin has also written to a local newspaper about this concern and has suggested that if others in Luton and Dunstable were interested in forming a group, they can contact him.

Joan and Robin are hoping that support for these amazing, mysterious birds will gather momentum. We heartily applaud Joan and Robin for their work on this project and their inspiration for others.

For more information on helping swifts visit: http://www.swift-conservation.org/
SKY-WORDS: A POEM FOR SWIFTS

I'm not interested in being the first to see them,
Or seeing them on the earliest date;
That's not important....
And I'm happy with that...
I could go chasing them (I know where they are)
But I won't, I'll wait
Until
They judge it's time
To show themselves
To me
In my little village (of only 700 people)
A church and a pub,
Not far;
From the River Great Ouse.

My animal familiars,
My shaman-birds,
My swifts
Shape changers, shape-shifters,
Bringing summer
Sparkling
On black-bladed scimitar wings.
Not of this earth
Climbing, flickering
Into summer's blue.
Under boiling anvils
Of
Cumulonimbus
Dizzying heights
Screams tearing
The thin veil
Of sky
And to celebrate  
This summer long  
Every day when I see  
Or hear swifts  
I’m going to write  
a sentence  
But it won’t be on paper;  
As befits these birds  
I will write in the sky  
On the ether (high overhead),  
To celebrate their mystery,  
Their beauty  
Their magic  
Their just 'being'  
And doing what they do.

And over the summer,  
It will build  
Into a poem,  
A hymn to these angels  
That haunt my mind,  
The villages and Victorian houses  
On summer dusks  
And that I am privileged  
To share  
This planet with.

The words will build into  
A towering Cumulus  
An aerial sky-poem  
A season-long (but too brief)  
Eulogy (to be torn tattered)  
On Autumn's winds  
But after they have left us,  
It will remain  
Etched  
Into sky.

Steve Halton ©
Steve, who works as a Countryside Officer at Central Bedfordshire Council says, “Nature is my life, and my passion. I also work as a wildlife artist, creative writer and poet through which I express my wonder and joy of the natural world and this amazing planet on which we live and share life. Swifts have been a lifelong totem for me. Seeing and hearing those black, scimitar-winged arrowheads screaming high overhead in a blue summer’s sky is one of our greatest joys - and one that we cannot afford to lose. They thrill me as much today, as a 55 year-old, as they did as a wondering and transfixed 12 year-old child.”

We thank Robin How for introducing us to Steve’s wonderful poem.
UK WILDLIFE
THE TRAGEDY OF GLUE TRAPS

Glue traps are not only one of the cruelest methods of rodent control, they can prove lethal for other species. Animals caught in these devices may suffer for days as they try frantically to escape, often tearing off their own skin in the process. What can we do if we see someone selling or using glue traps? Campaigning organisation PETA has the following advice.

Many wholesalers and high-street retailers already refuse to stock glue traps. However, they are still available from some outlets. If you discover that your local supermarket or hardware shop is selling them, or that a business or property manager is using them, please speak up. You can inform the people involved about the extreme suffering these traps cause and urge them to stop selling them or to replace them with a less inhumane method of rodent control (see PETA website for a template letter - http://www.peta.org.uk/).

How to help animals caught in glue traps:
You’ll need a tea towel, a pair of gloves, baby oil or cooking oil, some tissues, a damp cloth, and a secure container or shoebox with air vents.

* Lightly place the tea towel over the animal’s head. This will help keep him or her calm.

* Make sure you are wearing gloves for this next part. Gently massage a few drops of the oil into the area where the animal is stuck. Keep massaging until you are able to work the animal free.

* Be sure to keep the amount of oil to a minimum, as it can interfere with natural waterproofing and reduce the chance of survival following release. Once the animal has been separated from the glue trap, carefully slide a tissue over the trap to prevent him or her from becoming stuck again.

* Seek help if needed: If you can’t remove the animal from the glue board or
if he or she seems lethargic or injured, seek help immediately. Contact your local veterinarian or wildlife rehabilitator, or call the RSPCA on 0300 1234 999. (24-hour helpline charged at national call rates).

* Releasing the animal: Use the damp cloth to remove any excess oil, and place the animal inside a secure container or shoebox with air vents. Drape the tea towel over the container to make it dark, and place it in a quiet, warm location so the animal can rest for an hour or two. Active and alert animals can be released outdoors during mild weather within a one-block radius of where they were discovered. If the animal was trapped during extreme weather, he or she should be transported to a wildlife rehabilitator.
My Missing Friend

Last summer our relationship blossomed,
We met every evening at our rendezvous,
The garage light tripped and you appeared,
Your snuffling snout led you to your meal.
I longed to stroke your spikey hair and furry chest
But was afraid that if I made a move
You’d take off like a remote- controlled toy.
I watched you enjoying your dried worms and peanuts
Stopping only to drink or wash your twiggy toes.
Supper devoured you ran straight for the border.
This winter your new house is ready,
With dried leaves and fresh straw.
The cold nights have arrived
But your home is still empty.
Knowing the dangers you face I fear the worst,
Where are you my little urchin?
My nights are lonely without you.

Anne Harding, Lampeter Meeting

Anne writes: “I wrote this poem about my hedgehog when it was missing last year. I was really worried that he/she had been killed on the road. Fortunately I have one coming regularly this year and have the hedgehog house ready for hibernation.”
A Hedgehog Street inspired garden has been installed at RHS Harlow Carr in Harrogate, by wildlife charities People’s Trust for Endangered Species (PTES) and the British Hedgehog Preservation Society (BHPS). The first national Hedgehog Housing Census was launched by Hedgehog Street in August, in partnership with the University of Reading and Warwickshire Wildlife Trust to find out more about how Hedgehogs live and their use of artificial homes. The data will help establish the best type of hedgehog house. https://ptes.org/ Photo: Hedgehog wall shelter at RHS Harlow Carr © PTES

THE RSPCA IS CONCERNED for the welfare of one of Britain’s latest ‘pet crazes’, the African pygmy hedgehog - now freely sold over the internet. Senior scientific officer (exotics) Nicola White says: “African pygmy hedgehogs are solitary, nocturnal animals and will not give the companionship of many domesticated pets. They can live for eight to 10 years so are a considerable commitment. These hedgehogs can travel large distances in the wild and anyone keeping one in captivity would need to allow for this natural behaviour. It’s difficult to adequately meet the animal’s needs in a household environment and, where these needs can’t be met, the animal really shouldn’t be kept.” https://www.rspca.org.uk/
MEDIA

The Great Cat and Dog Massacre: The Real Story of World War Two's Unknown Tragedy, Hilda Kean, University of Chicago Press

This is an edited extract from a review by Colin Dickey in the Los Angeles Review of Books, 30 April 2017. For the full review visit: https://lareviewofbooks.org/contributor/colin-dickey/

‘During the first four days of World War II, over 400,000 dogs and cats - some 26 per cent of London’s pets - were slaughtered, a number six times greater than the number of civilian deaths in the UK from bombing during the entire war. One animal shelter had a line stretching half a mile long with people waiting to turn their animals over to be euthanised. Crematoriums were overrun with the corpses of pets - the fact that they could not run at night due to blackout conditions, further added to the backlog. Animal welfare societies ran out of chloroform, and shelters ran out of burial grounds. One local sanatorium offered a meadow, where half a million pets’ bodies were interred.

‘None of this was done out of any real necessity. Supplies were not yet scarce. The German blitzkrieg was not yet underway, and wouldn’t begin in earnest until September of the following year. Nor did the British government issue directives or instructions telling its citizens to kill their pets for the greater good of the Empire. Rather, it was a mass action that arose, apparently spontaneously, by a populace terrified by the new reality of war:

‘Almost immediately, people realized what a mistake they had made. By November, the Times was lamenting that “there is daily evidence that large numbers of pet dogs are still being destroyed for no better reason than that it is inconvenient to keep them alive — which, of course, is no reason at all, but merely shows an owner’s inability to appreciate his obligations towards his animal.” By then, the wholesale killing of pets had abated, and many of the animals who survived those first four days would last through the war. But the damage had already been done.’
Taken for a Ride: World Animal Protection report

More than 3,000 elephants are in captivity for tourism in Asia. Most live in unacceptable conditions, cruelly forced each day to take tourists for rides and perform in shows. Baby elephants are separated from their mothers then subjected to brutal training to prepare them for a life of misery entertaining tourists. A new report from World Animal Protection reveals the cruelty behind the captive elephant industry for elephant rides and performances that continues to grow in Asia.

World Animal Protection investigated conditions endured by 2,923 elephants at tourist venues in Thailand, Sri Lanka, Nepal, India, Laos and Cambodia, and found that 77 per cent of them were treated appallingly. Conditions in Thailand proved most concerning, with almost twice the number of elephants used for tourism there than all the other Asian countries combined. Tourism to Thailand doubled from 15.9 million to 32.6 million visitors between 2010 and 2016, contributing to a 30 per cent rise (1,688 to 2,198) in elephants held in captivity for tourist activities. Several venues in Thailand cater to thousands of visitors daily, generating estimated profits of tens of thousands of dollars per month from exploiting Asian elephants – an endangered species. When not working these elephants are typically kept chained (on less than three metres) day and night. They are fed poor diets, receive limited veterinary care and are frequently kept on concrete floors near loud music, roads, or noisy visitor groups.

Fortunately, greater tourist education and regulation of wildlife tourist attractions worldwide has led to a nine per cent drop in the number of people who find elephant riding acceptable, compared to three years ago. Venues that offer tourists a chance to watch elephants in genuine sanctuaries are also encouraging a shift in the captive elephant tourism industry. Following discussions with the World Animal Protection office in China CAISSA Tourism Group, one of the largest travel companies in China, has just committed to stop the sale and promotion of elephant rides and shows in South Asian Regions and online travel companies FX Trip (fxtrip.com) and ZANADU Trip (zanadu.com) have also committed. FX Trip previously included elephant attractions in all six of its routes to Thailand, visited
by thousands of Chinese tourists each month. Read the report on: https://www.worldanimalprotection.org.uk/news/taken-ride-thousands-elephants-exploited-tourism-are-held-cruel-conditions

The Animals’ Vegan Manifesto, Sue Coe
Sue Coe advocates for animal rights through her creation of forceful, challenging black and white images. The 115 black-and-white woodcut illustrations for The Animals’ Vegan Manifesto are presented with few words to deliver a philosophy that values compassion over greed, community over self, and life over capital. Bearing witness to ‘unspeakable crimes’ against non-human animals, she has long advocated that we human beings must take more responsibility for ourselves, our fellow species, and the planet. In the Vegan Manifesto, she champions rights for those whose voices most humans do not hear, laying bare the immorality of animal exploitation and calling on us all to reject it. Her paintings, drawings and prints have been exhibited in galleries and museums around the world, including New York’s Museum of Modern Art.
The Mouse Stranglers by John Bryant

John Bryant’s book is an attack on the pest control industry and exposes the dreadful suffering, caused by traps and lethal poisons, of both target and non-target wild animals and birds. Recent television programmes have revealed the ignorance, cruelty and even criminal practices of the pest control industry. John shows how by taking compassionate and intelligent measures of environmental management and by learning all we can about these creatures, we can reduce or eliminate problems caused by so-called 'pests', such as rats, mice, squirrels, foxes, pigeons, moles, deer, etc. without any harm to them. The book contains a chapter devoted to each type of animal. 2014. 139pp. Available from the Animal Aid shop: https://www.animalaid.org.uk/

Run Spot Run, Jessica Pearce, University of Chicago Press

Goldfish in bowls, hamsters on wheels, indoor cats, handbag dogs. Rabbits in hutches where they can never stand up, reptiles confined to tanks, primates to cages (still legal in the UK), puppy farms. The whole debate around keeping animals as ‘pets’ is being aired on mainstream media. And not before time.

The burgeoning pet-keeping industry makes big money for those who breed and sell animals to meet demand. In Run Spot Run, bioethicist Jessica Pierce challenges us to examine what exactly we are doing to non-human animals when we shoe horn them in to our human way of living and being. When we see our cats gazing wistfully out the window, or watch a goldfish swim lazy circles in a bowl, are we doing the right thing, keeping these independent beings locked up, subject to our control? A lover of companion animals herself, Jessica Pierce understands the joys that they bring us. But she also refuses to deny the ambiguous ethics at the heart of the relationship, and through a mix of personal stories, philosophical reflections, and scientifically informed analyses of animal behaviour and natural history, she puts pet-keeping to the test asking, is it ethical to keep pets at all?
REMEMBERING
LAika (c 1954–3 NOVEMBER 1957)

In November it will be 60 years since Laika became the first living mammal to orbit the Earth. She was also the first orbital casualty. The former stray was launched into outer space on 3 November 1957 in the Soviet spacecraft Sputnik 2. The craft was not designed to be returned to Earth and Laika was never intended to survive. Reports of her fate at the time differed widely. In 2002 it was made public that she died a few hours after launch from overheating and panic.

The two scientists who trained Laika were Oleg Gazenko and Vladimir Yazdovsky. Gazenko, who selected Laika, expressed his regret in 1998 saying: “Work with animals is a source of suffering to all of us. We treat them like babies who cannot speak. We shouldn’t have done it. We did not learn enough from the mission to justify the death of the dog”. Yazdovsky later revealed that he took Laika home to play with his children the day before the launch, explaining: “Laika was quiet and charming. I wanted to do something nice for her. She had so little time left to live.” On 11 April 2008, a monument to Laika was unveiled by Russian officials, near the military research facility in Moscow where Laika’s flight to space was prepared. Animals continue to be used in space research.
NEWS

HOW MUCH WORSE CAN THINGS GET FOR OUR BADGERS?
According to The Badger Trust, the government has plans to eradicate 70 per cent of badger populations in certain areas of the country. So far, 15,000 badgers have been killed with over 100,000 set to die in the coming years under government rule.

But another major threat to our badger population is traffic. Recent surveys have indicated that 50,000 badgers are killed on the roads every year, making badgers the most numerous victims of road traffic accidents of all UK species. With over 25 million cars on the UK’s roads, and set to increase, one wonders what hope there is for these marvellous animals.

The Badger Trust is appealing for anyone who sees a dead badger on the road to send them the details. They say “this incredibly valuable data” will enable them to identify hot-spots for fatalities and campaign for mitigation efforts such as bridges, tunnels, and signs to ensure badgers can cross roads safely. Our data will be a key to the success of the Trusts campaigning efforts.
https://www.badger.org.uk/

SCIENTIFIC EVIDENCE CLEARLY DEMONSTRATES that crabs, lobsters, prawns and crayfish are highly likely to experience pain and even emotional anxiety. An EU panel has stated that many of the ways in which these animals are currently slaughtered are inhumane. They are often simply torn apart or boiled alive. Boiling alive can take around three minutes for them to die - something which would be considered completely unacceptable in a vertebrate animal like a pig or chicken. Live crabs have even been found for sale in UK stores, packaged and bound tightly in plastic to be slaughtered at home by the customer. Authorities were powerless to prosecute because crabs aren’t currently covered under animal welfare legislation.

The mission of the UK organisation Crustacean Compassion, is to get the
Animal Welfare Act 2006 (England and Wales) to include decapod crustaceans. This means that anyone farming them, storing them or slaughtering them must abide by basic animal welfare rules including humane slaughter methods. The Animal Welfare Act already allows for the inclusion of these animals should sufficient scientific evidence become available of their ability to experience pain or suffering. It is therefore high time that decapod crustaceans were included. A petition to sign is on: https://www.crustaceancompassion.org.uk or: https://www.crustaceancompassion.org.uk/take-action/

THE GOVERNMENT HAS FINALLY LAUNCHED a consultation on plans to make CCTV mandatory for slaughterhouses in England. It is proposing compulsory CCTV in all areas of slaughterhouses with live animals, and for slaughterhouse vets to have unrestricted access to the footage. QCA has responded in depth to the consultation.

Animal Aid has campaigned for this for almost a decade and credits supporters for lobbying MPs, signing petitions and donating to help pay for the campaign for this incredible result. The organisation will be responding to the consultation in depth, calling for a proper system of independent monitoring, with random sections of slaughterhouse footage being spot-checked by experts. It will continue to campaign for change in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Harry Huyton, Director of OneKind Scotland commented: “I would like to congratulate Animal Aid for their extraordinary investigations into slaughterhouses in England. In Scotland, OneKind and political activists have called on the Scottish Government to introduce mandatory CCTV in slaughterhouses. A petition supporting the campaign was launched two weeks ago and currently has 6,500 signatures. We are redoubling our calls on the Scottish Government to introduce mandatory CCTV in all of Scotland’s 35 abattoirs.” https://www.animalaid.org.uk/; https://www.onekind.scot/
THE SASHA ANIMAL FOUNDATION (SAF) has taken up the management of the Purple Poppy campaign, previously run by Animal Aid, in remembrance of animal victims of war. The Foundation, a non-profit animal charity that helps animals in need here and abroad, will be adhering to the stance that animals are victims of war and not heroes.

Funds from the sale of the purple poppies will be distributed between animal rescues from war torn countries. This year the funds will support Suffering Strays Sarajevo, Helping Tanya Help Kitties and War Paws. To order Purple Poppies for local distribution to pet shops and veterinary practices etc visit: http://www.sashaanimalfoundation.com

JANE SMITH MADE HISTORY THIS SEPTEMBER when she announced her decision to switch from the Green Party to the Animal Welfare Party, effectively becoming AWP’s first representative in the UK.

Jane said, “We share our world and our natural resources with so many other species and it is only right and fair that those other animals and their habitats are properly represented and considered in our decision making.” https://www.animalwelfareparty.org/representatives/

Drawing (c) Shirley Silversides.
QCA NEWS

WE ARE DELIGHTED TO WELCOME MARTIN LAYTON to our committee. Martin is particularly interested in exploring how Quaker spirituality strengthens our lives of active witness. He says: “I am impressed by Friends' long history in animal protection work, but also surprised it is so little known within the Society. I would like to see more Quakers involved with this part of their tradition and think that QCA is the best place for that work to start. It feels like a privilege to join such a great team who have already done so much.”

Having felt an affinity with non-human animals since childhood, Martin describes how his own active witness began when he became a supporter of Greenpeace and Whale and Dolphin Conservation: “I remember giving speeches to my classmates on these issues. However, I let this slip for a good while until, a few years ago, finally deciding to get my act together and put my faith into action. Luckily, I know some very experienced activists and they encouraged me to get more involved.

“Although I love a good demo, my focus is on vegan education. Handing out leaflets and recipe booklets for my local vegan action group is much less exciting than noisy public protests but I think it is the most effective campaigning work we can do. I’ve also been known to put on a badger costume every now and then, usually to raise funds for organisations like Animal Aid or Badger Trust West Midlands. While I think campaigning on specific matters like the badger cull is important work, we should also see it as an opportunity for vegan outreach.”

Martin would like to see more Meetings engage with areas of animal protection and to explore Friends' history of working in this field. He says: “To that end, it would be great to offer training to QCA members to give them the confidence to speak out on animal issues. We could also produce teaching materials for use in Meetings for Learning, or even think about ways to support Friends in their ministry and activism.”
Earlier this year, Martin ran a course at Woodbrooke, exploring the key ideas in the field of animal theology. This is available as an online course in 2018 (see EVENTS)

*If you would like back numbers of Newsletters for your Meeting, contact Ann Johnson: newsletter@quaker-animals.co.uk

**IN JULY A VIGIL WAS HELD** on behalf of QCA outside the slaughterhouse at Guildford, Slyfield Estate. This was initiated by QCA member Julie Hinman, in solidarity with Guildford Animal Save. Usually there are trucks going through the gates at frequent intervals, delivering mostly cattle, to which Guildford Animal Save gives witness but no trucks arrived during this time.

The vigil was attended by two others from local Quaker Meetings and three from the Guildford Animal Save group. The intention was to bring the light of awareness and compassion to that place of darkness and suffering. We sat on the grass verge for 45 minutes, with a midway reading from Faith and Practice. The founder of The Save Movement in Toronto, Anita Krajnc sent a message of encouragement which was read out. I took a bunch of carnations and lavender, which we left attached to the gates of the slaughterhouse. This was a simple but powerful event.
There is need of much work and constant vigilance, if we are led to try and prevent cruelty and injustice, but perhaps one also needs nourishment through connecting together in the spiritual basis for action.

We hope to arrange further vigils, so keep an eye on our facebook /webpage sites for updates. If you attend a Save group, it would be great if you could let us have a short account of your experience. Check http://www.thesavemovement.org for Save groups in your area. New groups are being formed all the time.

**Julie Hinman**, Littlehampton Meeting

**THE WORK OF THE MAYHEW ANIMAL HOME** was the subject of an outstanding, illustrated presentation given to members of QCA at our AGM in May. **Duschanca Singh**, Mayhew’s Corporate and Community Fund Raising Officer provided us with an inspiring insight into how the Mayhew, founded in 1886 as The Home for Starving and Deserted Cats by the West London Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, now provides animal care, not only across London but, through Mayhew International, to communities in Russia, India, Afghanistan and Nepal.

Although essentially still involved in rehoming cats and dogs, the Home continues to broaden its work both at home and abroad in many of ways. This includes a Community Vet Clinic in London offering low-cost neutering, microchipping, vaccination, diagnostic and other treatments for the dogs of homeless people and others in difficult circumstances. In addition, the Pet Refuge Scheme offers temporary foster care for the companion animals of people in crisis situations. The educational and veterinary side has developed
into the HOPE & Animal Trust in Ranchi, India, supporting an animal birth control programme and providing shelter and the International Vet Training Programme for overseas vets supporting Russian vets, among others, with spay and neuter programmes.

Duschanka’s enthusiastic and passionate talk presented us with an inspirational picture of how a relatively small organisation has achieved so much, and continues to transform the lives of both human and non-human animals. For the full report, visit our website: www.quaker-animals.co.uk. More information: https://www.themayhew.org/

WE WISH OUR MEMBER DIANE FURBER of Warrington Meeting all the very best on Saturday 28 October when she joins a team from Cats Protection Wrexham branch in taking up a zip-wire challenge (weather permitting!). The challenge is at Penrhyn Slate Quarry, located near Bethesda in North Wales, now home to Zip World Velocity, apparently the fastest zip line in the world and the longest in Europe. Our thanks on behalf of the cats, Diane!
THE 2018 QUAKER PEACE BUILDING IN ART CALENDAR celebrates many kinds of peace-building through a variety of art works by Quakers from around the world. Short inspirational texts accompany the pictures, and a brief commentary introduces both the art and the peace-building work. The image selected for October is Ocean by QCA Newsletter editor Ann Johnson. It was first printed on the cover of our Spring 2016 issue.

The accompanying text highlights how non-human animals are also victims of warfare saying: “In our oceans, military sonar is linked with mass whale strandings and deaths. Dolphins and sea lions are used by the military to detect mines. Intensive ‘super trawlers’ vacuum the sea beds, hoovering up entire schools of fish and wiping out marine life, and coral reefs are bleaching and being ‘cooked alive’ owing to the rise in sea temperatures. This collage was made to accompany an article which outlined threats to ‘…our greatest wilderness’ together with the inspiring work of those who seek to protect our oceans.”

The calendar is a joint project of Friends World Committee for Consultation (FWCC) and the Quaker Arts Network (QAN), based in Britain. It is in full colour and measures 30cm x 30cm. Texts are printed in Spanish, French and English. The UK price is £10 per calendar for 1-2 orders, with discounts for bulk orders. To order a copy visit: http://fwcc.world/2018-calendar. Also available from the Quaker Centre Bookshop: http://bookshop.quaker.org.uk
LUCINDA READ OF GREYHOUND COMPASSION describes the work of the Scooby shelter in Spain. We thank our member Judith Treanor of Exeter Meeting, for organising this article.

Protectora y Santuario Scooby in Spain, is a shelter rescuing stray dogs and cats from the streets. It mainly rescues Galgos (Spanish greyhounds) used for hare coursing, bred in their tens of thousands by Gañueros in the hope of producing the national champion, then discarded when the annual coursing season is over. Scooby is located in Medina del Campo, the heart of the Spanish coursing fraternity.

Traditionally Gañueros have killed their ‘surplus’ galgos in January at the end of the coursing season. Nowadays, they bring them direct to Scooby, or abandon them and Scooby eventually rescues them, by which time they may have been the victims of road traffic accidents, suffering broken limbs or worse. Pregnant bitches are left to roam the streets and the surrounding countryside. Scooby rescues many of these poor dogs, some of whom will have given birth as strays. Occasionally, the Gañuero will throw his unwanted galgo down one of the dry wells in the countryside, which by law should be covered. Scooby has rescued many a galgo from a well, whose life was saved only because the fall was cushioned by galgo corpses at the foot.

Scooby repairs the dogs’ injuries, neuters them and rehabilitates them ready for homing in Europe or USA/Canada. Adoption is achieved through a network of small support groups of volunteers. Scooby, which has been in operation for some 25 years, also rescues other breeds (and mixed breeds) of dogs and cats straying locally. More recently it has opened its doors to pigs, sheep, goats, geese and rescues from factory farming. Then there are the horses and donkeys taken in from owners who have not been able to cope with their needs.

Greyhound Compassion, based in the UK, provides finance to Scooby from its own community fund-raising. We have worked together for about 20 years, helping fund dog food, the building of kennels and enclosures for the galgos, the rescue of 100 greyhounds from Barcelona racetrack when it closed, and a
successful private prosecution of a Galguero who cruelly discarded five galgos in a 30 foot dry well. Luckily the galgos were saved and he was fined and given a suspended sentence.

Over the years we have seen very slight changes in the attitudes to galgos in Spain. Until recently they were treated as ‘vermin’ to be eradicated; nowadays the younger generation recognise them as companion animals and a handful have been homed with Spanish families. The Spanish themselves are starting to find the treatment of galgos abhorrent and welfare groups organise demonstrations in Spanish cities against annual anti-coursing with galgos. Spanish legislation now recognises galgos as companion dogs and abuse of them is covered under the Spanish penal code. The difficulty is in implementing the law. Donations towards Scooby’s work can be made directly through www.scoobymedina.org or via Greyhound Compassion, www.greyhoundcompassion.org, PO Box 959, St. Albans, Herts, AL1 9HP.

THESE INDIAN SCHOOL CHILDREN are enjoying meeting Animal Rahat’s ‘elephant’ mascot – a favourite feature of the group’s informational outreach presentations. This summer the organisation reached 1,012 students in local schools with lessons in compassion for animals. Animal Rahat works to improve the lives of working animals in India.
https://www.animalrahat.com

Photograph: Peta India
EVENTS

OCTOBER
4 Oct: WORLD ANIMAL DAY. Quaker Concern for Animals will once again celebrate WAD with an all-day residency in the Bookshop at Friends House, London. This is also Quaker Week, so we hope to make our concern as visible as possible; we’ll be featuring QCA’s Autumn Newsletter as part of this effort and launching our shiny new website (same location: http://quaker-animals.co.uk).

Last year, we had a wide variety of books on animal rights and animal welfare for sale, and the restaurant and café kindly served a meat-free menu in support. (Remember: their soup of the day is always vegan!) Do stop by if you can, and meet fellow QCA members, Friends and the public.

World Animal Day unites our movement, mobilising it into a global force to make the world a better place for all animals. Visit the website to see other events: https://www.worldanimalday.org.uk

NOVEMBER
4-6 Nov: The Badger Trust Annual Conference 2017 held in association with Lancashire Badger Group, Preston. Topics include crime, ecology, politics, culling and conservation. Our 2017 conference will be of interest to Badger Group members, ecologists, consultants, conservationists, students and more! Best Western Park Hall Hotel, Park Hall Rd, Charnock Richard, Preston PR7 5LP. https://www.badger.org.uk/

12 Nov: (Sunday) 3pm, Anglican Society for the Protection of Animals, Remembrance Service for Animals, the Animals War Memorial, Park Lane, London. http://www.aswa.org.uk/
27-29 Nov: **Changing Human Behaviour** is the theme for the 10th **Asia for Animals** Conference to be held in Kathmandu, Nepal. The Conference is hosted by the Jane Goodall Institute Nepal and Jane Goodall Institute Asia Pacific. [https://www.facebook.com/Asia-for-Animals-Coalition-410959622322841/](https://www.facebook.com/Asia-for-Animals-Coalition-410959622322841/)

**DECEMBER**
3 Dec: (Sunday) 10am-5pm **Animal Aid Christmas Fayre**, Kensington Town Hall, London W8 7NX. [https://www.animalaid.org.uk/events/animal-aids-christmas-fayre/](https://www.animalaid.org.uk/events/animal-aids-christmas-fayre/)

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**FEBRUARY 2018**

**A Quaker Response to Animal Suffering**
Monday, 5 February 2018 - Sunday, 18 March 2018

Are you concerned with animal suffering? Do you question the moral justifications for their ill-treatment? Do you have an awareness of them as precious creatures of God?

A Quaker Response to Animal Suffering is a six-week online course introducing key themes in the field of animal theology within the context of the Quaker faith. Also looking at biblical, Buddhist and scientific understanding, we will ask how our lives of active witness might realise the common bonds we share with other species, and extend our vision of the peaceable kingdom. This course involves a time commitment of approximately 2-3 hours each week. 20 places, £38 per place. Woodbrooke is willing to offer bursary support to anyone wanting to participate but who can’t afford it. Tutors: Martin Layton and Steve Palmer. [https://www.woodbrooke.org.uk](https://www.woodbrooke.org.uk)
MEMBERSHIP OF QUAKER CONCERN FOR ANIMALS

Subscriptions are due on 1 January each year, in order to receive further Newsletters

Current rates: £15 (full)
              £10 (concession)
              £20 (* Meetings)

Payment can be made by:

1 – Cheque, made payable to ‘Quaker Concern for Animals’ and sent to: Jane Stanley c/o Sutton Coldfield Quaker Meeting House, Kenelm Road, Sutton Coldfield, B73 6HD.

2 – Paying directly into our bank account or setting up a standing order. For details of the account please contact us at: membership@quaker-animals.co.uk. Please don't send cash.

If you are a new member please ensure that you include your name and address, and, if you wish, your phone number and email address. It would also be helpful if you would say how you first came to hear about Quaker Concern for Animals and, if you attend a Quaker Meeting, which one.

* In our recent membership survey, members expressed the hope that QCA would seek to raise our profile within the Society. We are therefore inviting Meetings to join for the sum of £20 pa and receive our Newsletter which is published twice a year.
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PLANTING NOT POACHING

The Limbe Wildlife Centre (LWC) in the Republic of Cameroon is a collaborative effort between the Ministry of Forestry and Wildlife (MINFOF) and the Pandrillus Foundation, an US non-profit NGO. LWC is a Sanctuary and Rehabilitation Centre for wild orphaned animals seized by MINFOF Anti-Poaching and Surveillance Units. The main aims of the LWC are to ensure the survival of confiscated animals, the majority of which are protected species in the Republic of Cameroon, and to prepare them for living in the natural Central African Forest again. Public awareness is raised of the threats to the wildlife of Cameroon and the need to protect it through the LWC Conservation Education Programme. Additionally, and importantly, they work on generating alternative incomes for and conduct in-partnership activities with local communities.

The education projects reach close to 50,000 visitors a year - of which 95 per cent are Cameroonian - more than 1100 children through the education outreach programme, and provide a high standard of training in behavioural ecology and veterinary science to Cameroonian and international students. LWC contributes to develop and sustain a green economy alternative to hunting which complies with its missions and directly benefits the local community. As a wildlife rehabilitation centre for confiscated animal victims of the poaching and illegal trading, it rehabilitates individuals of threatened species helping restore the wild population, while supporting national law enforcement efforts.

Former hunters are employed by the Centre to harvest Aframomum, a wild plant from the forest, providing income for the ex-hunters and their families. Since the plant grows naturally in secondary forest, there is no need to clear forest for farms. Plants are harvested sustainably, allowing for the regeneration of the stem within a few months. The Aframomum is harvested three times a week in Batoke (Isongo), in the buffer zone of Mount Cameroon National Park. More income is generated from Aframomum harvesting than farming, therefore more value is placed on the survival of secondary forest.
Limbe’s Green Leaf Vegetable Scheme focuses on redirecting the women of Batoke, a hunting village located in the buffer zone of Mount Cameroon National Park, from preparing and selling bush meat to sustainably harvesting green leaf vegetables. These vegetables are then purchased as food for the animals cared for at LWC. This programme further decreases the economical need for hunting, as it has no additional cost to participants and is an activity that people traditionally participate in. The Scheme provides essential nutrition for the rescued primates while safeguarding wild populations of vulnerable and critically endangered species living in and around the National Park.

http://limbewildlife.org
https://www.pandrillus.org/
Galgas resting at the Scooby Shelter in Spain. See QCA NEWS. Photograph courtesy of Greyhound Compassion.