

# **Quaker Concern for Animals**



**NEWSLETTER – SPRING 2006**

To say that we love God and at the same time  
exercise cruelty towards the least creature is a contradiction in itself

*John Woolman (1720 – 1772)*

## HOW TO JOIN QUAKER CONCERN FOR ANIMALS

Please complete the following form and send to:  
**Judith Treanor, Treasurer,**  
**38, St. Peter's Mount, Exeter, Devon. EX4 2JD.**

I wish to become a member of QCA. I enclose my yearly subscription of £10, or £5 (concessionary)

I wish to pay by Standing Order .....

I wish to make a donation of .....

NAME: .....

ADDRESS: .....

.....

.....

Telephone number, if available: .....

Email address, if available: .....

Meeting attended, if appropriate: .....

Please make cheques payable to **Quaker Concern for Animals.**



Our gracious Creator cares and provides for all his creatures. His tender mercies are over all his works; and so far as his love influences our minds, so far we become interested in his workmanship and feel a desire to take hold of every opportunity to lessen the distresses of the afflicted and increase the happiness of the creation. Here we have a prospect of one common interest from which our own is inseparable, that to turn all the treasures we possess into the channel of universal love becomes the business of our lives...

**John Woolman, 1763.**

To treat animals with respect is not an act of goodness, but of justice.

**Tom Regan.**

*Quaker Concern for Animals is a small but active society, linked to the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). We campaign for the protection of all species and against cruelty and exploitation, wherever it may occur. We adopt an ecumenical approach and enjoy our links with other faiths and other Christian denominations, which we are working to develop.*

*We are happy to respond to appeals for financial help from home and abroad and, by becoming a member of QCA, you will be making it possible for us to answer even more, particularly the small and specialised groups which struggle to survive.*

*Our fellow species, which are, in so many cases, a loyal, yet voiceless, support to us, need our love and respect and we are committed to their defence.*

**Ralph Rowarth offers the following article, which he presented to his Meeting – Beverley - in December 2004. It is slightly updated to include the Freedom of Information Act 2005.**

## **HOW PROGRESSIVE IS THE SOCIETY OF FRIENDS?**

“In absolute contrast to ancient paganism and Asia’s religions, Christianity, particularly in the Western form, is the most anthropocentric (man centred) religion the world has seen.” (History professor, Lynn White, University of California)

And “St. Thomas Aquinas interpreted human dominion (Genesis 1:28) as a God-given right to exploit other creatures and to use them in the pursuance of human ends. Many modern Christians endorse this view, and, indeed, it remains the official position of the Roman Catholic Church to this day.” (The Use of Animals in Laboratory Experiments, by the Rev. Hugh Broadbent)

The Society of Friends, rooted in Christianity, still endorses this interpretation of human dominion, expressed in Minute 18 on Animal Welfare at London Yearly Meeting in 1981. It reads in part: “We have heard of the serious concern of many Friends over the use of animals in experiments and we recognise the need to limit and control these experiments to those which are absolutely necessary for the welfare of animals and people.”

Although this statement gives approval of the exploitation of animals in experiments on the basis of benefit, it is naïve and without any substance. It is for the Home Secretary alone to judge each application for a licence to carry out an experiment. Challenging the Home Secretary's decision to license any experiment is effectively impossible, because the entire decision-making process is concealed from outsiders. All significant experimental details are kept from the public and parliamentarians. Any breach of confidentiality may bring a two year prison sentence and/or fine under the terms of the Animals Scientific Procedures Act 1986, Chapter 14, Section 24.

The Freedom of Information Act, January 2005, was supposed to provide a right of access to all types of information held by public authorities. But the government announced in 2004 that it would not repeal Section 24 of the Act, which prohibits disclosure of information. Clearly, under these stringent, secretive conditions, the Society of Friends could have no influence whatever in the decision-making process and therefore has absolutely no way of knowing which experiments, if any, are "absolutely essential". Neither has the S/F defined the meaning of "absolutely "essential" nor what Friends should do, or could do, if any experiments were found not to be "absolutely essential".

Minute 18 is also completely devoid of any condemnation of the infliction of extreme physical or mental pain on experimental animals which are licensed under the terms of the Act, Chapter 5, Section 42.

Under mounting public concern and criticism from a growing number of medical and scientific authorities, the abolition of vivisection is inevitable and in the foreseeable future.

Should not the Society of Friends urgently renounce its outdated and indefensible approval of vivisection and extend its Peace Testimony to embrace all living beings?

The Society of Friends will otherwise be forced into a humiliating U-turn and posterity will not be a kindly judge.

***"As Quakers we are concerned with nurturing the gifts of God, which abound, but may be lost or damaged if unattended. These gifts encompass plant and animal life and natural resources as well as the Earth itself." – advice from The Handbook on the Care of Meeting Houses.***

We would like to introduce **Nitin Mehta, founder of The Young Indian Vegetarians – [www.youngindianvegetarians.co.uk](http://www.youngindianvegetarians.co.uk)**, the first patron of QCA. Amongst representatives from other faiths, he spoke for the Jains at the Interfaith Celebration of Animals at Golders Green Unitarians on September 18 2005. Here is his reading:

*Lord Mahaveer, the 24th teacher in Jainism, was travelling as a monk, preaching compassion and the message of Dharma. Once he arrived near a huge forest in which lived a fearsome cobra. Everyone pleaded to Mahaveer to not to go into the forest as no one ever returned alive. However, Lord Mahaveer was fearless and determined to meet the cobra. As he went deep into the forest, the cobra appeared. Lord Mahaveer stood in meditation. The cobra*

*stung Lord Mahaveer on the right toe. Instead of blood, milk began pouring out. Lord Mahaveer than said, 'O Chandkaushi, calm down, remember who you were in your past life. You were a monk with a terrible temper and when you died you were in great anger.'*

*This little story gives us several messages:*

*The animals we see could have been humans in past lives and we might also get animal bodies in future lives. If we want to avoid that fate, it is in our own interest to be compassionate towards all living beings.*

*At the time of death, the thoughts that will come to us will be the thoughts that have preoccupied us the most. So someone who has enjoyed hunting will have those thoughts and, in the next life, will receive the body of a predator.*

*There exists individual Karma and collective Karma. As a race, we humans are destroying the oceans, the ecology of the planet and indulging in unrelenting violence towards other life forms. The results are there for us to see: tsunamis, hurricanes, earthquakes and droughts—the burden of responsibility on those in this room and many millions who think like us is heavy - let each one of us give up meat and dedicate ourselves to changing the course of human history.*

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## Talking about Gandhi

*Nitin Mehta writes:*

I was invited to give a talk to the Rotary Club of South Croydon in November 05. The title was 'Benefits of a Vegetarian Diet'. It was a lunch time meeting at a Chinese restaurant. I first thanked the president, who was also the owner of the restaurant, for allowing me to speak at a meat restaurant!

It was obvious that I had to avoid hurting anyone's feelings, so I started with the experience of Mahatma Gandhi when he came to study in London in the 1890s.

Gandhiji had taken a vow not to eat meat and when his ship docked at Portsmouth he was met by a Dr Mehta. On the ship itself, he had survived on food brought from home. Gandhiji stayed as a paying guest with an Anglo Indian family, who were very kind, but could only offer him bread everyday. They would ask Gandhiji to take a few more slices of bread, while Gandhiji felt he could eat the whole loaf! Though very thin, he had a good appetite. One day, while walking in London, he came across a vegetarian restaurant on Farringdon Road. In the window of the restaurant was a book called 'Benefits of a Vegetarian Diet', by Henry Salt. Gandhi bought the book and was converted to the vegetarian cause. He had his first hearty meal in the restaurant. He later became secretary of the Bayswater branch of The Vegetarian Society and had his first



Hastagiri idol. With kind permission of Jain World - [www.jainworld.com](http://www.jainworld.com)

experience of public speaking. Through his interest in vegetarianism, he also came in contact with the members of the Theosophical Society, many of whom were campaigning for the independence of India.

Years later, when Gandhi came for the Round Table conference, he addressed a meeting of The Vegetarian Society. Gandhi was administered the vow of not eating meat by a Jain monk. The concept of Ahimsa - non violence towards all life forms - is the central theme in Hindu and Jain religions. However, the ecological and the environmental damage done to the planet by 55 billion animals raised and killed every year is the reason many are becoming vegetarian. There are also many health benefits.

In response to my talk, one of the senior Rotarians thanked me and said that he was unaware of the link between environment and the fact that almost 2 billion people could be fed if the food was not diverted to feed animals. He said, however, he would still not stop eating meat! The owner of the restaurant - a Buddhist - said that practising Buddhists are also vegetarian and in many cases vegan. He invited our group to do an Indian Vegetarian cookery demonstration at his restaurant.

## **CHARITIES TO WHICH QCA DONATED FUNDS IN 2005**

### **MONKEY WORLD IN DORSET**

We received two cheques from Bournemouth Meeting House, for money raised from the sale of plants and soft animal toys. They specified that they would like half to be sent to Monkey World in Dorset. Monkey World – [www.monkeyworld.org](http://www.monkeyworld.org) - was set up in 1987 by Jim and Alison Cronin, to provide abused Spanish beach chimps with a permanent, stable home. Today, Monkey World works in conjunction with foreign governments from all over the world to stop the illegal smuggling of apes out of Africa and Asia.

### **INTERNATIONAL ANIMAL RESCUE**

We all saw the terrible consequences of the Tsunami and felt we had to help. We looked at organisations that were helping in an animal friendly way. International Animal Rescue – [www.iar.org.uk](http://www.iar.org.uk) - had already sent vets out to the affected flood areas in India, giving aid to the dogs, cats, cattle, goats and other animals caught up in this disaster. They are a small hands-on charity, so can be very specific in targeting need and using donations effectively.

### **NATIONAL ANIMAL RESCUE SERVICE**

Members of NARS, in Boston, Lincolnshire, have not only carried out hundreds of rescues of sick and trapped animals and birds this year, but have also added their presence to a number of demonstrations against animal abuse around the nation.

### **UNCAGED**

We agreed to give a donation to Uncaged Campaigns in March 05. Increased media interest had been aroused by the announcement that week that the government was setting up a commission to look into vivisection on primates and it is Uncaged principally which has done much extensive research and campaigning on this particular aspect of the subject.

Uncaged – [www.uncaged.co.uk](http://www.uncaged.co.uk) - also examined the views and voting patterns of MPs and these were available for those who wanted to bear them in mind at the last General Election.

### **TOWER HILL STABLES ANIMAL SANCTUARY – [www.towerhillstables.com](http://www.towerhillstables.com)**

At the October 05 meeting, we made the decision to send a donation to this sanctuary, set up in 1993, which is run pretty well single-handedly by Fiona Oakes, the marathon runner. She now cares for some 265 animals, which means a monthly feed bill of over £3000.

Fiona ran her most recent marathon in Amsterdam in October, by invitation, so it was expenses-paid. Despite, at the half way mark, suffering from a leg injury, dating back to a previous tumour, she beat 7 of the 16 Elite Ladies, finishing 9<sup>th</sup> overall, 2 minutes under her personal best.

*Fiona says: I just go out running when I am not needed by the animals... all the other runners in the field do is eat, rest and train, when I all do is work, train and worry!*

We are truly amazed that for someone who has what is classed as a disability, cares for 260 animals and makes herself available 24/7 as a retained Fire Fighter, Fiona achieves so much.

*She says: I did it (the marathon) to raise awareness of an animal cruelty free lifestyle and to try and raise funds for the animals at the Sanctuary.*

This, however, is not the whole story:

*"I also run a small place for animals in Russia. I went over there in 2000 for the Marathon and was stunned by the amount of stray dogs and general animal abuse going on. I have been working ever since to promote animal rights and welfare issues in Russia and to rescue as many animals as I can and to also educate people. The group in Russia that I work with number around 8 people and we try to organise as many educational visits as we can - especially in schools - in order to let people know how we feel animals should be treated. So far we have rescued cats, dogs, bears, horses and cattle.*

*Once again, thank you for your interest in the Sanctuary and for your offer of help. It is very much appreciated and I would like to assure you that every single penny of any donation made goes directly towards the feed costs of the animals."*

We think Friends will agree that Fiona is a wonderfully deserving recipient of funds. Her next goal is the London Marathon in April 2006.

### **KENT AGAINST LIVE EXPORTS**

**KALE – [www.users.globalnet.co.uk/~kale](http://www.users.globalnet.co.uk/~kale)** - are the experts in campaigning against the live export trade. Based as they are in Dover, they are on the spot for the arrival of ships in the Channel and transporters at the port.

Their worst fears were realised on September 29 05, when they were informed that shipments of animals would resume, after a year's respite, on October 4.

22 transporters, 19 Dutch, one Belgian and 2 Welsh, left the port of Dover in the MV *Breant* at 4 am on October 5. 40 demonstrators were present and most stayed until the ship sailed.

The ship was loaded in swift time and the protestors said that the animals, having already travelled by road for 9 – 10 hours, were not checked by inspectors from the State Veterinary Service. Some limbs were sticking out and at least one lamb was on its back, under others. **KALE** was informed that the animals had not been supervised at loading.

On October 12, the clerk rang the SVS to ask for details about this shipment and to make a formal complaint, based on the facts outlined above. A member of the SVS said that she was one of 7 inspectors who did check the transporters and she could not understand why the allegations above had been made. When pressed to state how long each check on each vehicle had taken, she refused, claiming this was confidential information. When she was asked how many lambs were “down” or needed attention and how many were taken off the transporters, she again refused to say. She said she was quite confident that the inspectors had made adequate checks, according to their regulations. And that contrary to public opinion, “they did care”.

Why was the loading so fast? Could the inspector possibly have admitted it, if no proper checks on the animals had been made?

These doubts are enough to suggest to us that the authorities with responsibility for the export of sentient beings need to be closely monitored. We consider **KALE** is a worthy recipient of funds. Furthermore, if the European Union allows the resumption of the export of live calves, this country, which banned the veal crate in 1990, will be consigning our animals to just such a fate in those parts of the Union which still use this appalling procedure. Early Day Motion 612 seeks to put a stop to the live export trade.

**KALE**'s information line is on 01304 – 204688

To support us, the Australian campaigners Olga Parkes, an ASWA member, and Suzanne Cass of **Action Against Animal Cruelty Tasmania** – [www.aact.org.au](http://www.aact.org.au) - also made representations in writing to DEFRA on this matter.

### **THE DR. HADWEN TRUST**

We all know what excellent work the Dr. Hadwen Trust – [www.drhadwentrust.f2s.com](http://www.drhadwentrust.f2s.com) - does, in replacing animal experiments while furthering medical progress. All the Trust's projects are aimed at ending animal suffering and advancing biomedical research. During 2004, they awarded grants to five major projects, in addition to their ongoing support for a wide-ranging programme of research projects.

The five new projects were: septic shock research, cutting edge wound research, an advanced brain scanning technique, a human cell culture model of gut infection, to study how bacteria inter-act with the human gut and to screen for new effective therapies, and new techniques to study brain tumours and investigate new therapies.

### **EUROPEANS FOR MEDICAL PROGRESS**

**E M P** - [www.curedisease.net](http://www.curedisease.net) - (formerly **EFMA**) is an independent, non-profit-making

organisation of scientists and medical professionals. Their goal is to protect human health by modernising medical research. They support mainstream, science-based, medical research and patient care. They focus on rigorous, scientific analysis of animal experimentation to assess the balance of help or harm to human health.

There is overwhelming evidence that animal experiments provide results that, when applied to humans, can prove misleading or fatal. These tests exhaust precious research funding, waste valuable time, produce ineffective solutions, and delay progress toward human cures.

EDM 92 is calling for an independent scientific evaluation of animal testing. This was featured in the Autumn 05 Newsletter.

### **HILLSIDE ANIMAL SANCTUARY**

Not only is Hillside – [www.hillside.org.uk](http://www.hillside.org.uk) - home to hundreds of rescued animals, but they investigate and expose the suffering and death of animals in appalling conditions in factory farms and they campaign for better conditions. Their disturbing footage has featured on national TV.

They have also turned their attention to illegal slaughterhouses and to date have exposed at least three cases of this terrible trade in animal suffering.

### **THORNBERRY ANIMAL SANCTUARY**

Thornberry – [www.thornberry-animal-sanctuary.org](http://www.thornberry-animal-sanctuary.org) - is a medium sized animal sanctuary in Yorkshire that operates a No Kill policy. This means that they do not put any animal to sleep unless it has been advised by a vet that, due to medical reasons, it is kinder to do so. All animals taken in by Thornberry are always given a fighting chance; animals that were turned away elsewhere often find a home at Thornberry. They are dedicated to animal welfare and regularly arrange for schools and children's clubs to visit for the day to promote the work and hopefully to encourage the younger generation to follow in our footsteps.

Funding comes solely from donations, and a lot of the work carried out by volunteers. They say: "Being animal lovers, we often found while working on these pages (of their web site) we had to compose ourselves before we could carry on. It shocks us to read about some of the horrible events that can happen in this world to God's animals, especially when it's due to another one of God's animals, man! Luckily though, many of us respect and care for God's creatures, and because of this we feel the joy and happiness that they bring."

In common with all sanctuaries of this kind, Thornberry operates with great difficulty. They add:

*"Nearly every night some callous person will leave a dog tied to our gates, or throw a hold-all full of kittens into the ditch beside our hedge. All manner of animals and birds come in to us for a multitude of reasons and because we are a sanctuary none is ever turned away. As we're always desperate to raise funds, we hold regular jumble sales every weekend. These, along with street collections, donations, raffles, events and occasional legacies, are our lifeline, without which we would have already had to close. If you would like to know more about Thornberry Animal Sanctuary or help us in any way, please ring 01302 852946".*

## SAVE THE TRAFALGAR SQUARE PIGEONS

In autumn 2000, Mayor Ken Livingstone declared war on the pigeons, describing them as “rats with wings” and pledging to rid the Square of its most famous attraction. He ordered the Greater London Authority (GLA) to withdraw the license from feed seller Bernie Rayner, whose family had sold food on the Square for 50 years. An estimated 4,000-strong flock faced the immediate prospect of death by starvation. Within days, concerned groups and individuals came together to form the Pigeon Alliance (since renamed Save the Trafalgar Square Pigeons – STTSP – [www.savethepigeons.org](http://www.savethepigeons.org) ). They immediately began to feed the birds 150kg of corn each day and, ever since, have intervened whenever and however necessary to protect the birds. Their priority is the prevention of suffering. They have, therefore, reluctantly accepted that bird numbers will be reduced, but, in turn, have persuaded the GLA that they must achieve this objective only in a way that does not involve starvation, cruelty or suffering to the birds. The following agreement is therefore in place; they feed the birds at 7.30am each morning. The quantity of feed given is being gradually reduced, under the supervision of pigeon experts, who are monitoring the birds to ensure they do not suffer.

## CHAI

Throughout Israel, animals are without protection. **Concern for Helping Animals in Israel** – [www.chai-online.org](http://www.chai-online.org) - informed us in July 05 that they have been pressing city officials to create regulations requiring the mandatory licensing and inspection of horses and donkeys. The city of Tel Aviv, where **CHAI** exposed widespread abuse of horses, claimed that such a requirement is implicit in their regulations. The Freedom of Information Act revealed that not a single license had been granted and the local police said that they receive no cooperation from city officials to investigate cruelty or remove animals from their abusers. The municipal vet, in fact, refused to take action of any kind in response to calls reporting abuse of horses, nor does he respond to public appeals about injured and abandoned animals.

**CHAI** filed a petition in Israel’s Supreme Court in September 05 to prevent the construction of two race tracks and thus stop gambling on horse racing from coming to the country. There is an extremely ugly side to this activity – gruelling training, injuries, performance-enhancing drugs and finally the slaughterhouse, when the animal is no longer winning races. The good news is that the court has agreed to hear **CHAI**’s case in July 06.

**CHAI** is also planning to open the first sanctuary in Israel for abused horses; there will be a year of fundraising ahead to be ready to go when approval is finalised.

During the evacuation of settlers from Gaza in August 05, **HAKOL CHAI**, their Israel-based sister charity, was active in rescuing, treating, sheltering and relocating many animals abandoned in the process, sending in their mobile spay/neuter clinic – the only one with veterinarian staff in the territories. In several cases, they had the help of the Israeli army to rescue dogs, cats, chickens, parakeets, turkeys, geese, guinea pigs and even a baby iguana. The team worked 15 hour days, returning again and again until all animals were safe. Their work was videotaped by the army and the footage appeared on the main Israeli TV station, as well as in the press and on the BBC.

**We also gave a donation to the campaigning group SHAC and to Joan Court's Phone Helpline (report below). Quaker Homeless Action again received help for the feeding of canine guests at their Christmas shelter.**

Finally, as usual, we supported **Animal Aid**, which campaigns in all areas against the exploitation and abuse of animals and which also runs a comprehensive educational initiative under its School Speakers programme.

## **PHONELINE REPORT**

New members will be interested to know that this animal rights help line, in operation since the mid 1990s, has been sponsored by QCA since 1997, receiving a grant towards the costs of postage, telephone calls and entry in the directory.

This animal Good Samaritan service continues to fulfil a need for distressed people who, often in the evening and at weekends, do not know whom to contact. Most people begin by saying "I don't know if I've got the right number, but..." and are relieved to be talking to a person and not a machine. Other queries may begin: "There's a horse on the common – his tail is so matted, he can't use it. Shall I call the RSPCA?" Or "I'm calling from Scotland – my wife has been fired from a sanctuary for criticising their animal care. She's especially concerned now because she's no longer able to keep an eye on them". Or "My daughter wants to know if foxes have rights"...

I continue to link callers with the RSPCA and other sources of help and respond to requests for help from students and parents for research and educational material for projects, which also gives me the opportunity to pass on information about the work of such organisations as VIVA!, Animal Aid, Hunt Monitors, and direct them towards local campaigning groups.

I get an increasing number of calls about specific atrocities featured in the national press, such as bear farming, the trade in cat and dog fur and Asian markets selling cats and dogs for consumption. Most callers are not very politically aware and do not know they can write protest letters to MPs, the press and embassies; it is gratifying to empower people to action and link them up with the appropriate animal rights groups.

On a more local level, calls come from families objecting to the hunt riding through their villages and in one case, the children organised a petition to a farmer who allowed shooting and hunting on his land. The fact that hunting is now banned does not appear to have had much effect...

It is useful to have training and experience in counselling, not only to respond to grieving families whose beloved companion animal has died, but also in reacting to callers who have little concept of caring for animals they thoughtlessly acquire. One woman asked me how she could get rid of her Labrador puppy whom she discovered needed exercise "and I have to go to work". It would not have helped to ask "Why did you buy her in the first place?" so instead I explained it would be quite easy to find a sanctuary for her. Good to know the caller had not thrown the puppy out on the street.

I need to be cautious too in responding to callers who are clearly mentally ill and to listen carefully to an apparent paranoid outburst, usually about someone in authority who has

removed their companion animal, or given the wrong treatment. This person may have a genuine reason to complain, but it is always helpful to respond to the emotional distress without giving any advice or taking sides.

Recently, climatic changes are apparently upsetting our wildlife, as there have been a lot of calls this winter about baby hedgehogs out in the daytime, obviously too small to hibernate or survive outside. One kind lady wanted to give shelter to an underweight adult hedgehog, but wondered if it would be sage to keep him in her heated aviary, or might he carry some disease to her finches? I consulted an expert for her and she was relieved to know there would be no health risk.

As there have been so many hedgehogs needing shelter, my good friend Fiona, who deals with the phone line in my absence, has built a small sanctuary on her patio, with heating and an exercise area. I was able to give her a small donation from money from an anonymous donor.

Living in urban surroundings makes some people afraid of nature. One terrified pensioner rang to say “there are two brown eyes looking out at me from the shrubbery”. We established this was a baby deer and she was then quite happy to have a Bambi in her garden. There are urban foxes and our local postman was irate to see children chasing a cub with sticks and stones. We contacted the community police and the children were warned there would be dire consequences if they tormented wild life. The postman continues to feed the cub with cat food and peanut butter sandwiches.

There are, as ever, the problem of injured pigeons. These we take to a friendly vet and then foster with friends until they are well enough to release, or, if in need of permanent care, transported to a sanctuary in London.

It is surprising how many people are concerned about the welfare of mice in their kitchens and are happy to know they can buy a humane trap from a garden centre. I was stumped when asked whether mice prefer cheese or chocolate – I think they like both. (Clerk’s note: we had a newsagency once and can bitterly confirm that mice like chocolate) I am aware that that it is unlikely a *single* mouse has moved in and advise accordingly, not forgetting the best mouse deterrent is available from any cat shelter.

There is, unfortunately, an increase in the popularity of keeping exotic animals as “pets”, many of whom suffer severe frustration and neglect. The Exotic Pet Refuge is a brilliant source of help. I was asked what should be done about terrapins living in a local pond and was advised they would overwinter in the mud and be OK. But a distraught iguana upset the family by trying to climb out of the window and he is now safely in the sanctuary. Another enquirer was concerned about a corn snake who seemed restless and unwell when they got tired of him. He too is at the sanctuary, together with a cobra with a dull skin, who was unwilling to eat.

Friends will be amused to hear of a church which wanted a “pet” sheep and or donkey for the Christmas Nativity. They understood when I explained our view in regard to using animals in this way.

There have been calls about the fate of animals following natural disasters. Usually, I have some idea of what is being done to rescue and rehabilitate them, but, as we all know, there

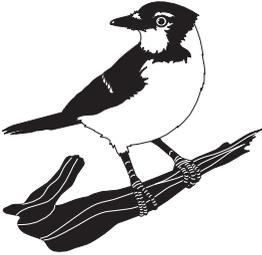
is still a serious problem of lost and starving dogs in Sri Lanka and other countries hit by such disasters.

This is just a glimpse of the work you support. You know that running the help line is one of my joys, as most of the time, like everyone involved in animal rights, I expend energy responding to, or grieving about, many tales of neglect or cruelty, feeling useless and angry at times. To respond to callers on the phone line, most of whom can be helped, makes a refreshing change.

*Joan Court.*

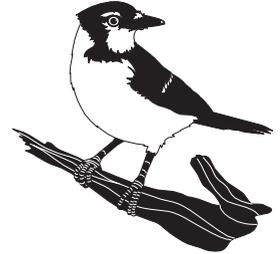
**BIRD ON THE ROOF –  
BY PATRICIA HARRIS.**

There's a bird on the roof; I wonder what  
he thinks, as he's perched up there.  
Quite still, he turns his head from side to side  
and then resumes his stare.



Does he take it all in,  
the noise and the din,  
as he looks at our world below?

Do we strike him as curious,  
Do our efforts seem spurious,  
as we dash to and fro?



The freedom of the sky is his,  
he can fly away at will,  
but it seems he's not going anywhere  
he's content to sit perfectly still.

We should sit for a while,  
take the time to smile,  
as our busy lives rush us along.

Stand back from life,  
with its cares and its strife  
and find peace to make us strong.

There's a bird on the roof and I am glad  
that he made me pause for a while,  
because seeing him there, with his beady glare,  
has made me stop and smile.

## MEMBERS' NEWS

**QCA member Ann Johnson** helped raise £640 for **Compassion in World Farming** by donating paintings for their fund-raising auction, held in London's Waldorf Hotel in November. Ann donated two pieces - 'Such dainty feet', a small painting of a pink sheep, shown here, and 'Cat among the lilies' a portrait of her own cat Biz alongside a somewhat blowsy vase of flowers. This is the third year running that Ann has donated paintings to CIWF.



*Such Dainty Feet. Acrylic. With kind permission of the artist Ann Johnson 2005*

She said, "I'm glad to be putting my painting skills to good use in this way. The trick is to try to produce a work that will appeal to a wide range of people - so not *too* colourful, or too big. Cats are a slightly specialised market but, for some reason, sheep always go down well. I don't paint a lot of them, but, unlike landscapes and boats, I have sold every single sheep painting that I've done."

Members will recall that Ann very generously allowed us to use her art for our cards, which are on sale from the clerk. This year, we hope to have Christmas cards designed by her.

## NEWS FROM NORFOLK

The battle of words in the local press over gull, cormorant and pigeon culling continues...intolerant folk have decided that our birdlife is of little importance compared with the state of the paths, but the birds still get fed. Two pigeon deterrents are in place – spikes on buildings, preventing roosting, and more controversial, the introduction of a hawk in Norwich city centre, which unfortunately, but hardly surprisingly, killed and devoured a pigeon in the marketplace. It is proposed to slaughter 3000 cormorants on the Broads. They are, of course, eating fish. There is much opposition to this plan, which, if carried out, will please such people as a fishery owner, who accuses the birds of "eating his money".

Seal of approval – we're pleased that a two to three week old pup, thought to be washed away from the Farne Islands 250 miles away, was rescued and is being cared for at **Winterton Seal Hospital**. Though underweight and missing his mother, "Storm" is doing well at the centre and will be released in a few months time.

A terrible case of a cat found in a sealed polythene bag, discovered by a local animal rescuer, reminds us that we need to press our MPs for the speedy success of the Animal Welfare Bill. This will at least impose a duty of care on those who take on the responsibility of animals.

Cruelty inflicted upon animals in China, especially the cat and dog fur issue, is much in the headlines. Unfortunately, a lot of what we buy now appears to be made there – including Christmas cards. A letter in the local press suggested we boycott them.

I have had several letters printed in the press, amongst which those in defence of urban foxes, suggesting creating a wildlife garden, and in opposition to the horrors of vivisection. Another writer, “grandson of a gamekeeper” deplored the practice of “lamping”, where, in the middle of the night, bright lights shone on rabbits, hares and also on one occasion, a cat, light the way for the guns. As all the fields were ploughed, the perpetrators did not even have the excuse that these creatures – including the cat – were eating young plants.

**Kerry Greyhounds**, set up in Ireland in 2002 to rehome racing dogs which would be killed – often very brutally - at the end of their careers, has launched its UK base in Norwich. As well as raising more awareness about this issue, they also want to inform people of the loving, loyal nature of the dogs, who take well to a comfortable home.

Ending on a happy note, the local animal charity shop in which I am much involved raises funds for the **Venture Farm Trust** at Mattishall and also **Greek Animal Rescue** in Aegina and there has been some success this year. In Greece, we have raised enough money to have water laid on and electricity now enables vets to work into the night, spaying and neutering the animals. This has made a vast difference. There is still the problem that the authorities will not allow the animals to be sent to their new guardians (mostly in Germany), so they have to collect them.

*Molly Stacey.*

**Again in Germany, Judith Treanor** found by chance a vegan restaurant on a recent visit there. *Zerwerk*, in Munich, is, it seems, the first in Germany. Ironically located in a former butchery, the cuisine is even attracting the attention of meat-eaters and receiving good reviews. Judith recommends the artichoke soup and soya “Wiener Schnitzel”.

**Rachel Treanor** writes about her local charity **Leicestershire Animal Aid**: “ I first got involved when I noticed my local supermarket had a collection bin for animal food to be donated for this local animal charity LAA. Whenever I did my shopping I would add some tins of food and before long I wanted to get more involved, so I enquired about membership. I became a member in 2004 and in December 2004 I arranged a competition at work to raise funds for them. Staff brought in baby photographs for people to guess who they were. We raised £72 for Huncote Farm and before Xmas I took them the cheque. The charity was extremely grateful for what I considered a small amount and I saw for myself the farm and surroundings for the animals. The rescue centre is a local service and entirely self-funded.”

Our youngest committee member is **Roz Bullman**. In November 05, a month after her sixteenth birthday, she embarked on a sponsored tandem parachute drop. The first attempt was blighted by bad weather, but the second was successful. Roz describes the weather as clear but cold - - 20 C – and after a free fall of two minutes, she then experienced eight minutes floating down after the opening of the parachute. Roz is still taking in the money, but so far has collected £120, half for QCA and half for Sea Shepherd. Well done, Roz!

Members may remember that **Deirdre Hill and her prayer group in Bournemouth Meeting** support a small sanctuary in the New Forest. They visited Janet Oddy in November 05 and the horses, ex-battery hens and sheep are all thriving in Janet’s care.

Sheila High, another group member, has produced a set of illustrated recipe sheets, bound and laminated. We shall be having these for sale in due course.

Member Sue Tew has left to spend two months in Taiwan. She is taking out £60 for the Elephant Sanctuary, raised from their small change collection, organic vegetable sales grown by Alan Spinks and some donations from the Meeting. Sheila High has been collecting money and supplies for the Home and Abroad Charity in Sri Lanka.

Our committee member **Joan Court** was invited to speak to the Rotary Club of South Cambridge on February 6 06 on **Marine Life Conservation and Sea Shepherd**. Her life's work was also featured in an excellent article in the new magazine *Lifescape*.

**Rana Shaukat Hussein, a new member of QCA, who will qualify as a vet in Lahore in March 2006, sends us the following positive report:**

**“Vivisection NOT! Alternatives, the Best of Animals & Science”**

*Sponsored by IAAPEA*

In Pakistan, one veterinary university and 3 veterinary faculties award graduate degrees to 500-600 students each year. Hundreds of animals are killed behind the closed doors of laboratories. Similarly, all over the Pakistan, thousands of animals are killed painfully in the name of education and research, showing no respect for the lives and deaths of those animals. Researchers have no awareness of the harm caused by vivisection and, lacking sufficient interest, no idea about alternatives.

**Vets Care Organization (VCO)** took the initiative to speak up for laboratory animals for the first time in Pakistan.

A seminar on the theme “Vivisection Not! Alternatives, the best of Animals & Science” was organised by **Vets Care Organization** at the University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences on October 4 2005. Chief organizer of the seminar was Rana Shaukat Hussain (General Secretary). Chief guest at the event was Prof. Dr. Khalid Pervaiz (Dean, Faculty of Veterinary Sciences, UVAS Lahore). Lectures were “The concept of vivisection, alternatives and their use in education”, delivered by Prof. Dr. Zafar Iqbal (Chairman of the Department of Pathology and Director ICE&E UVAS Lahore), “Use of Alternatives to Animals in microbiological research” by Dr. Irshad Hussain (Associate Professor of the Department of Microbiology, UVAS Lahore) and “The Concept of Animal Welfare in Pakistan” by Dr. Noor-ul-Zaman Rafique (Veterinary Officer SPCA). A Physiology Simulator and Prodissection of the Frog were also demonstrated in the second session.

An exhibition of alternatives was also arranged and a number of alternatives, including CD Roms, videos, mannikins, and models were exhibited. The alternatives were sent by the International Network for Humane Education (**InterNICHE**). The seminar, sponsored by International Association against Painful Experiments on Animals (**IAAPEA**) was attended by over 150 people, including microbiologists, zoologists, veterinarians, researchers and students in the relevant fields. The Dean of the Faculty of Biosciences and a number of UVAS teachers also attended the seminar. The president of VCO, Dr. Mohsin ali Bhatti, shared his views about alternatives and emphasized the issue of their practical use in Pakistan.

Prof. Dr.H.A.Hashmi (Patron of VCO) giving the vote of thanks, praised the young team for organizing this first seminar and for the practical work of Vets Care Club in the University, working under the umbrella of Vets Care Organization.

QCA Note: This is the mission statement of **InterNICHE**, whose coordinator is Nick Jukes:

***“We aim for a high quality, fully humane education in biological science, veterinary and human medicine. We support progressive science teaching and the replacement of animal experiments by working with teachers to introduce alternatives, and with students to support freedom of conscience.” – [www.interniche.org](http://www.interniche.org)***

Their materials are already translated into Farsi, Greek, Polish, Russian, Ukrainian, Hindi/Urdu and Malayalam; in preparation are Arabic, Czech, Slovak.

### **A LITTLE KNOWLEDGE**

When Noah ushered beasts aboard,  
Obeying orders of the Lord,  
How was he ever meant to know  
That as the eras come and go –  
And civilization ruled the Earth,  
A living nightmare’d come to birth?

The poacher after elephant tusk,  
The poacher after tiger musk,  
The hunter on his horse for fun,  
To hound and tear the fox on run.

The lovely birds that fly on wing,  
Then crash to earth at bullets’ sting.  
The gentle rabbit, bonny hare  
To dreadful deaths in man-made snare.  
The chicken, turkey, duck and cow,  
Along with farrow-crated sow,  
All caged and kept in factory-farms.

Had Noah known the future paths  
That sheep and pigs and little calves  
Were all to undertake through Man,  
Would he have disobeyed God’s Plan?

*Molly Stacey. September 2005.*

## ASWA SERVICE REPORT

On Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup> 2005, QCA was represented at the Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals/Christian Concern for Animals service in York Minster.

Some 500 worshippers attended this service, entitled *The Servant-King*. After the Introduction by the Bishop of York, Eeyore, a rescued donkey from the Elisabeth Svendsen Trust, “the royal mount of peace”, was led into the Minster. Few could have failed to remark the difference between this round and well groomed creature and the pathetic maltreated donkeys depicted on the displays outside.

An RSPCA Inspector read the “dominion” passage from Genesis and Jesus’s explanation in Luke of how “Man’s rule and authority should entail humble service. We are the servant-species.”

James Jones, Bishop of Liverpool, picked up this theme in his address. The birth of Jesus in a stable, then cradled in a feeder for the animals, speaks of God’s care for all species. Before Christ nourished man, he was as sustenance for the animals too.

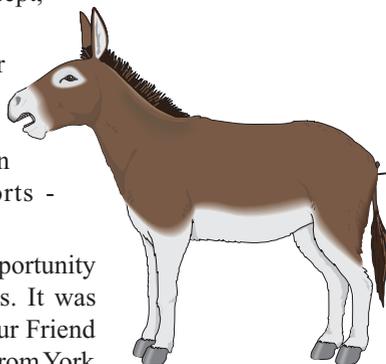
In Revelations, there is a vision of four species – man, lion, ox and eagle. To the Christians of the west, these symbolised the four Apostles. Bishop James reminded us, however, that the Christians of the eastern tradition saw the four creatures as representative of their species – the human animal, the wild animal, the domesticated animal and the bird.

There were prayers for all the animals and then representatives of the animal groups present were invited to join the clergy before the Altar to exchange a sign of peace.

These groups, which also had stalls in the North Transept, were:

ASWA – Catholic Concern for Animals – Quaker Concern for Animals – RSPCA – The Brooke Hospital for Horses and Donkeys – Bransby Sanctuary for Horses and Donkeys - Compassion in World Farming – the League against Cruel Sports - Greyhound Action and Humane Research.

It was an inspiring event in a glorious setting, a good opportunity to meet up with old friends and make new contacts. It was pleasant, after much cyber correspondence, to meet our Friend from Blackburn, Stuart Hartley, and to talk to Friends from York Meetings.



*Marian Hussenbux.*

## LAMB OF GOD

**Stuart Hartley**, Blackburn PM, wrote to us in September 05:

“In the last 24 hours I have watched two DVDs, both of which made me weep.

The first one was called: *Not in my Name*, the result of secret filming in a slaughterhouse. It

showed animals, strung up on hooks, having their throats cut. Many of them were obviously still conscious, having failed to be adequately stunned prior to their disembowelling. They wriggled and screeched on the hooks, whilst the conveyer belt slowly moved them along the line. There was lots of blood; it was a cold, compassionless, ritual for those wielding the knives.

The second film was Mel Gibson's, *The Passion of Christ*.

I saw distinct parallels between both films.

Both films were about the suffering and slaughter of innocent victim/s; both were about bloody and merciless violence; both brutalised the perpetrators; in both films the victim/s were tortured and killed to satisfy the needs of the powerful; both acts of brutality were at the behest of powerful institutions that influenced the populace - the Temple hierarchy and the meat industry; the ultimate meaning and outcome of both acts of violence was to benefit humanity – one with the promise of redemption and the other to fulfil the appetite.

One victim was known as the Lamb of God, some of the other victims were known simply as lambs.”

## MY BROTHERS THE ANIMALS

**Edgar Kupfer-Koberwitz**, who was imprisoned in the Dachau concentration camp in 1940, wrote a secret diary there, of which the following is an extract:

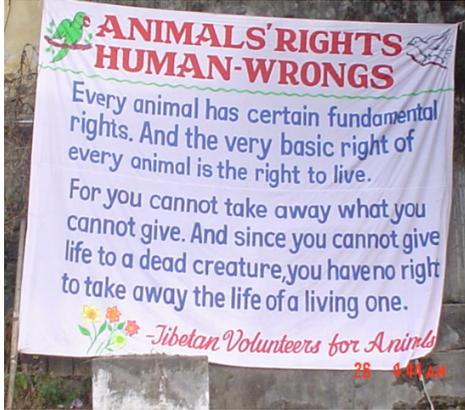
*Dear friend:*

*You were wanting to know why I don't eat meat and wondering about the reasons for my actions. You may be thinking that I made a vow – some sort of penance – to deny myself the pleasures of eating meat – you remember the succulent fillets, fish, wonderful sauces, everything to delight the human palate. Now that I am denying myself all this, you think that only penitence, or a solemn vow, a great sacrifice, could make me renounce this way of enjoying life. You ask me in amazement: “Why? For what reason?” You believe that you can almost guess the true motive. But when I try to explain to you the real reasons in a brief sentence, you are even more surprised at how wrong you are. Here they are:*

- *I refuse to eat animals because I can't feed on the suffering and death of other creatures. I won't do it, because I too suffered in such pain that I can feel how others suffer.*
- *I am happy, because nobody persecutes me. Why should I persecute other beings and cause them to be persecuted?*
- *I am happy, because I'm not a prisoner, I'm free. Why should I cause other beings to be incarcerated in prisons?*
- *I am happy, because nobody hurts me. Why should I hurt other creatures, or cause them to be hurt?*
- *I am happy, because nobody kills me. Why should I harm or kill other creatures, or cause them to be harmed and killed for my pleasure and convenience?*

- *Is it not completely natural that I should not inflict on other creatures what I hope and fear will never be inflicted upon me? Would it not be very unjust to do such things for no other reason than a frivolous physical pleasure which costs the suffering and death of others?*

These creatures are smaller and more defenceless than I. Can you imagine a rational person, of noble feelings, wanting to abuse the weakness and smallness of others? Do you not think that the obligation of the larger, more powerful, “superior” creature lies in protecting more



With thanks to Tibetan Volunteers for Animals.  
[www.loveanimal.org](http://www.loveanimal.org)

vulnerable beings, rather than persecuting them, or killing them? “Noblesse oblige”. I want to act in a noble way...

I see no reason to feel outraged by what others do, neither by the great or the small acts of violence and cruelty. But I think it is now time to feel outraged by all the great and small acts of violence and cruelty we do ourselves. And since it is much easier to win small battles than large ones, I think we should first try to overcome our own propensity for the least acts of cruelty and violence, avoid it, or better still, overcome it once and for all. Then the day will come when it will be easier to combat, and even overcome, the greatest cruelty.

But we carry on sleeping, all of us, under a blanket of inherited habits and attitudes. They are like a fat and juicy sauce which helps us to swallow our cruelties without tasting their bitterness.

This is the crux of the matter: I want to live in a better world, one in which a higher law guarantees greater happiness, in a new world where God’s commandment reigns:

***Love one another.***

**Source:** <http://www.christianveg.com/brethren.htm>

## **Factory Farms or Incubators for Disease?**

A battery hen farm and a piggery have been shut down in the Lake Macquarie area of Tasmania and the local council is considering bans on such “farms”.

If such a ban is implemented, it could lead the way to undoing the source of diseases such as avian flu.

The welfare of the animals in intensive farms such as battery cages and piggeries continues to be a very serious concern. There are 200,000 sows kept this way in Australia.

The shutting down of the Pace Ringal Valley battery hen farm and the Salvation Army piggery are welcome outcomes, after 11 years of campaigning by **Animal Liberation New South Wales** and **RSPCA** members.

There is another question the Government, industry and consumers of battery eggs, intensive meat chickens, bacon and pork need to consider: will it be discovered that such “farms” have been the “hothouses” of diseases such as avian flu?

Hundreds of thousands of animals forced into metal sheds all over the world . . . animals under enormous stress and often routinely mutilated without pain relief and fed antibiotics. It spells a disaster waiting to happen. But has it already?

Thousands of people have died in Malaysia and Japan from encephalitis caught from pigs intensively housed or kept near such farms.

Patients at John Hunter Hospital were resistant to an antibiotic, vancomycin, because they had eaten chicken from intensive farms that give antibiotics almost identical to this for faster-growing chickens.

The first “farm” found with Newcastle disease during a massive outbreak in the Central Coast in 2000 was a battery hen farm.

Industry and government will try to argue that the culprits are migratory birds, but the evidence is mounting that disease is borne and mutated into the trans-species type in the “incubator” of the intensive farm.

We must turn back the hazardous move in agribusiness towards industrialised farming. If we do not, the isolated outbreaks of disease so far may only be markers for imminent peril.

*Mark Pearson* is a director of Animal Liberation New South Wales – [www.animal-lib.org.au](http://www.animal-lib.org.au)

*Pam Hughes, of Seaford PM, like Molly Stacey, was inspired by Noah:*

## **Noah's Doves**

We know he found grace in the eyes of God  
but what of us? The birds and beasts and worms  
cooped up with unicorns and battered wives,  
packed tight like pilchards in pitched gopher wood  
three stories high. One tiny, tight-shut window.  
So much coupling in close quarters. We blush.  
Our feathers turn from white to brown, then grey.  
We fly high to rise above the ordure,  
gag on withered olive leaves. What possessed  
God to press us into such a hovel  
for forty days and forty flash-flood nights?  
Not one man lifts a spade to clean this ark.  
Rain. You would not believe the sound of rain.  
We dream of rainbows, Noah walks with God.



*Two Doves. Collage and Mixed Media.  
Ann Johnson 2005*

## SAVE THE WHALES

**Japan's whaling fleet** set sail on 8 November, 2005.

It was estimated that it would make its biggest catch in 20 years, nearly 1,000 whales over the coming months.

A global moratorium on commercial whaling has been in place since the 1980s, but Japan describes its programme, called JARPA -2, as “scientific” and envisages catching up to 935 minke whales and 10 fin whales during the southern hemisphere summer to “...monitor the Antarctic ecosystem, model competition among whale species... elucidate temporal and spatial changes in stock structure and improve the management procedure for the Antarctic minke whale stocks.”

JARPA-2 replaces the JARPA-1 programme, which took 440 Antarctic minkes each season and, in two years' time, JARPA-2 will expand to include humpbacks, the favoured species for whale watchers.

In June, the annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission (IWC) passed a resolution condemning JARPA-2; but it has no power, as any member nation is empowered to run “scientific” programmes.

Although there is a global moratorium in commercial whaling dating from 1986, a number of countries continue to hunt.

Japan and Iceland run “scientific” programmes, while Norway lodged a formal objection to the moratorium which permits it to maintain an openly commercial operation. A number of indigenous peoples are also allowed to hunt under tight restrictions.

Japan also runs a scientific whaling programme in the north Pacific called JARPN, which this year took 100 sei whales, 100 minkes, 50 Bryde's whales and five sperm whales.

The Antarctic and Pacific programmes run at different times of the year, which conservationists allege is geared towards providing a constant supply of whale meat...

However, there is now opposition in Japan itself. Dr Toshio Kasuya, a marine mammal specialist formerly of the Japanese Fisheries Agency, now a Professor at Teikyo University of Science and Technology and participant of the International Whaling Commission's Scientific Committee, expressed his concerns in an interview with a Japanese newspaper.

Recognising that the data collected under the current Japanese 'scientific' whaling program could be collected using non-lethal means, Dr Kasuya noted that “the first problem is whether scientific whaling is an appropriate way to handle experimental animals. Many academic societies self-regulate themselves to avoid inflicting unnecessary suffering on experimental animals”.

“But whales are property shared by all human beings, not possessions of The International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling member states alone. The Convention, signed 60 years ago, in 1946, can no longer be said to reflect the perceptions about animals now held

widely around the world. If scientists still insist that they are continuing whaling in the name of science, they can only be motivated by selfish desires.”

*With acknowledgment to the Mainichi Shinbun Newspaper, October 3, 2005*

## **FROM THE PACIFIC TO THE ANTARCTIC - REPORT FROM THE SEA SHEPHERD MARINE CONSERVATION SOCIETY**

We take a special interest in this organisation - [www.seashepherd.org](http://www.seashepherd.org) - as our friend Joan Court is a crew member. We started receiving reports in September 05 from Darren Collis, her shipmate, now helmsman.

Their itinerary was:

From the Galapagos to Colombia, then on to New Zealand, crossing the Pacific Ocean, picking up longlines\*.

From New Zealand to Australia for refuelling, repairs and to pick up crew for Antarctica.

The ship reached Melbourne on November 24th and was escorted to a prime dock space, overlooking the city, opposite a TV studio. The people of Melbourne generously donated supplies and provided internet access. Whale watching is a big business in Oz and worth 10 times the value of the whale meat the Japanese intend to ‘harvest’.

The main focus there was to raise cash for a helicopter to look for the Japanese whaling fleet. A local website and local media including press and TV, as well as AR and conservation groups, backed the campaign.

\***LONGLINES** are cables of plastic rope up to 60 miles long, which have hooks to catch tuna and other fish.

Sea Shepherd removes longlines in international waters and, by agreement, in some territorial waters if:

1. There are no bird-scaring devices
2. There are no identification markers indicating who the lines belong to
3. Endangered species are found on the hooks, or tangled in the line.

***“Sea Shepherd has never encountered a longline in international waters that passes these three tests – so we always have removed the lines.”***

On December 18, 2005, Captain Paul Watson reported:

*“The Sea Shepherd ship **Farley Mowat** came upon our first iceberg of the season this evening. Wraithlike, it emerged from the heavy fog. We had spotted it on radar hours before so we knew that it was big, but we found ourselves utterly surprised by the immensity of the structure that loomed above and before us.*

*It was a flattop, almost a mile in length, Two hundred feet in height and over a half*

*a mile wide. It was like passing an aircraft carrier in a canoe. This ghostly crystalline ship with sides as smooth, sheer and as milky white as porcelain struck all the crew with jaw-dropping awe, even those of us who have been to these Southern waters before.*

*Magnificent.*

*Our patrol of the Antarctic Whale Sanctuary is now underway and today we begin the search for the pirate whalers from Japan... The Greenpeace Foundation is also down in these waters, searching for the same killers. It is their two ships and our one against the six ships of the Japanese fleet.”*

In January 06, just before the *Farley Mowat*, fast running out of fuel, had to withdraw from the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary, there were in the Antarctic:

1 whaling ship, 4 harpoon vessels, 1 spotting vessel, 1 supply vessel, 2 Greenpeace ships and the *Farley Mowat*

Captain Watson reported:

*“The Farley Mowat has been at sea for 40 days, since December 6, 2005. During that time, we have chased the Japanese fleet from 175 Degrees East to 65 Degrees East, a distance of over 4,000 kilometers. We cannot match their speed, so it has been a case of catching up and forcing them to run, then catching up with them again. They run every time they see us and overall we have been able to keep them from killing whales for over 15 days in total...”*

*Sea Shepherd has accomplished as much as possible with the resources available to the organization for the 2005 and 2006 season. The ship has plenty of food and water for the crew of 43 for the next 10 days...”*

*Sea Shepherd is committed to shutting down the 17 year JARPA II program that has plans for the whalers to slaughter over 18,000 piked whales (minke) and thousands of endangered fin and humpback whales...”*

***“We will see them again next December and with a faster ship we intend to fully enforce international conservation laws against the illegal whaling operations,” said 2nd Officer Peter Hammarstedt of Sweden.***

This 4000 kilometre voyage is the longest in the *Farley Mowat’s* 48 year history.

**Latest:** A report from the ship on January 21<sup>st</sup> reveals that the Japanese are not the only “pirates” in the southern ocean. After leaving the whalers, the *Farley Mowat* caught up with the Uruguayan vessel *Paloma*, which had just set longlines inside Australian Antarctic territory to catch toothfish, the largest fish in the Antarctic. After spending 6 hours hauling up the lines and finding that they had luckily caught nothing, the *Farley Mowat* hailed the *Paloma* to ask if they had a license to fish. They said they had, but officials later said they had no permit and were not legally there. Incidentally, a beautifully named vessel – *Paloma*, Spanish speakers will know, means “dove”. This one brings no peace.

**Editor's Note:** In January, seventeen nations—Argentina, **Australia**, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Mexico, New Zealand, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom – signed up to a declaration condemning Japanese whaling. Why then had John Howard in Australia, when asked by campaigners to send a vessel there to their own waters, to monitor and publicise the slaughter, refused to do anything?

**Christopher Reed**, a former correspondent for the London *Guardian*, who now lives in Japan, is the source for the following information:

On January 19, Greenpeace activists dumped a 20-ton, 56-foot fin whale corpse outside the Japanese Embassy in Berlin. They were making the point that cadavers like this mammal which had died naturally in the Baltic are available for “scientific research” - Japan’s rationale for its current four-month hunt.

The “science” explanation for killing Antarctic minke is vague; the World Wildlife Fund describes it as “sham.” Whale meat supplying the very few restaurants which still serve it is left over from research; last year, 20 percent of the 4,000-tonne haul -half this year’s expected catch - had to be frozen and stored unused.

There is, however, research which might offer a sounder scientific reason for Japan’s unpopular insistence on continuing to kill whales. The minke, it appears, eat “three to five times” the marine life caught for human consumption, including popular Japanese fish dishes such as anchovy, Pacific saury, cod and walleye pollock, all “commercially important species.”

*(So whales, like the cormorants in Norfolk, are “eating money”).*

## **BULLFIGHTING IN FRANCE**

“Neither art nor culture” ...this campaign, mentioned in our Newsletter of Autumn 2004, continues to progress. By November 2005, there were 57 sponsors to Madame Marland-Militello’s bill to abolish the bullfight in France, exceeding those in the corrida-loving group. The campaign of writing to all their MPs, run by CRAC – Comite radicale anti-corrida – [www.anticorrida.com](http://www.anticorrida.com) - is bearing fruit.

This news was accompanied by notice of an exhibition of anti-bullfighting paintings by Michel Clarence – the first time this has happened in the Gard region, centre of the French corrida.

**Albert Jacquard, honorary president of CRAC, has been interviewed several times on the channel France-Culture. In November 05, he said:**

*In her book on the bullfight « Histoire de la Corrida du 18è au 21è siècle », Madame Elisabeth Hardouin – Fugier does not hide her dislike of this bloody spectacle. However, she forces herself to be impartial and also gives a voice to those who delight in it.*

*In the stands, the spectators identify now with the matador who dominates the spectacle, now with the bull who succumbs.*

*The death of the matador, gored by the bull, is a possibility and this no doubt plays some part in the emotions and pleasure of the spectator.*

*In fact, this possibility is slight; the spectators do not wish for it, they would be ashamed to admit it, but they are participating in a rite which accepts this outcome. The death of the bull is certain, but over and above the man and the bull, the ever-present protagonist is death.*

*I learn in this book that the Church is involved in bullfighting. Some see the matador as a quasi-divinity, who, in killing, takes revenge as an immortal. Others see, in the dying bull, the face of Christ crucified.*

*It is deplorable that this same Church should be forgetting the Sermon on the Mount, in which all violence is condemned..."*

The Hôtel -Restaurant "Le Relais Volubilis" in Marcq -en -Baroeul, near Lille, agreed to host a conference and dinner organised by Le Club Taurin du Nord – Northern Bullfighting Association - together with a Brussels club, on January 28 06. Guests of honour - two sisters, one a breeder of bulls and the other, mother of a bullfighter.

50 demonstrators from 10 French animal advocacy groups spoke to the press outside the hotel; the campaigner Patricia Zaradny had already answered questions from journalists from 4 newspapers and radio programmes and three articles, including one full page, had already appeared.

As the 30 guests drank aperitifs in the hotel, they were treated to televised scenes from the bullfight...

It is deplorable that such a cruel practice should be further promoted in France. It is protected from prosecution in the south west under its guise as "local uninterrupted tradition". The north of France has no such tradition. Are they seeking to establish one?

## NEWS FROM ROME

**QCA member Ann Johnson** sent us this information from the *Guardian* of October 27th 05, to which we have added a few more points:

The city council is introducing several measures to improve the lives of the numerous dogs cooped up in Roman apartments. They will now have the right to a daily walk, or their owners risk being fined the equivalent of \$625.

This is just one of a 59 point statute to be introduced. Docking the tails and ears of dogs will also be illegal, choke or electric shock collars/chains, and the trimming of cats' claws for aesthetic purposes. Animals can no longer be displayed for sale in shop windows, nor offered as prizes at fairs. It is also illegal to keep a goldfish in a round bowl.

Monica Cirinna, the councillor who sponsored the bylaw, said: "The civilization of a city can be measured by this."

The role of the gattare – cat ladies – who feed stray cats among the ruins of Rome, has also been recognised. Construction will not be permitted in the 800 areas where there are colonies of feral cats.

We understand that, at all Roman animal shelters, a no-kill policy operates.

Other cities are adopting similar laws and it is, in fact, illegal throughout the country to abandon companion animals. The boiling of live lobsters, described as “useless torture”, was made illegal in Reggio Emilia and caged birds must now be kept in pairs.

This makes us wonder how we in Britain can still describe ourselves as “animal lovers”. How many of us have neighbours with a dog left alone, barking, in the garden? How often do we see lone goldfish in bare bowls, with no natural vegetation to give any protection? We have, over the last six months, been appealing to Marks & Spencer to end their practice of putting lobsters head first into boiling water, which, they maintain, is the kindest way to kill them. It is a well-known fact, of course, that lobsters do not feel pain. We think **The Shellfish Network** will have other ideas on the subject.

In their January 06 Newsletter, they report: “The EU report on the findings of the Scientific Panel on Animal Health and Welfare of the European Food Safety Authority states that decapod crustaceans (e.g. lobsters and crabs) and cephalopods (e.g. octopuses and squid ) are able to experience pain and distress and accordingly should receive legislative protection.”

## LEBANON

**Beirut for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (BETA)** is an animal rescue/animal welfare group, which also promotes animal rights, established in 2004 in Beirut by nine co-founders, a coalition of Christians and Muslims. We joined forces to rescue and re-home stray animals and to raise awareness about animal welfare. First, BETA created and launched a website at <http://animals.beirut.com> that succeeded in attracting volunteers through an online volunteer form and in finding homes for rescued animals through an online adoption form. Secondly, BETA has founded Lebanon’s first cat shelter and dog shelter. Thirdly, since its foundation, BETA has rescued and spayed/neutered hundreds of cats and dogs. Fourthly, BETA has spread awareness about animal welfare and responsible pet ownership through its mailing list of about 1000 subscribers and through its weekly fundraising flea market. However, to sustain its current work and to help more animals, BETA needs the financial support of local and international donors. Your help is urgently needed. All details are on our website.

### WHY WE’RE HERE

- To find good, lasting homes for the homeless animals we’ve already rescued.
- To combat abusive pet shops and their illegal trade in wildlife.
- To spread awareness about responsible pet ownership and the importance of spaying/neutering.
- To promote humane values and the ethical treatment of animals (being human is not enough!).
- To promote a cruelty-free, vegetarian diet.

The story of **Tom**, the baboon rescued from a Beirut street, drew the clerk's attention to this wonderful group. She has since made Tom, who had been confined for five years in a cage behind a rubbish bin, a personal project, and supported **BETA** in their search to find a suitable long term home for this poor creature. **Joelle Kanaan** and her colleagues in Beirut did a wonderful job caring for him pro tem.



Baboon illustrated by Charles Douglas. Reproduced courtesy of the Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa, Canada.

<http://www.nature.ca/notebooks/english/baboon.htm>

The **Cefn-yr-Erw Primate Sanctuary, near Swansea**, which has an established colony of baboons, offered a home to Tom in December 05. We are delighted to report that on January 9 06, Tom left Lebanon for his new home. Many people contributed to this rescue, linking together in a convoluted fashion. Among these are Jason Mier, who works with chimps in Kenya, and Emirates Airlines, who flew Tom here free of charge, a service they have rendered before for rescued animals. Three days after his arrival in Wales, lodged in new purpose-built quarantine accommodation, Tom was already beginning to play.

We will continue to follow his progress with interest and Jason Mier has promised to inform us of another rescue, involving chimpanzees, on which he is now working.

## **IMPORTANT NEWS ON THE LIVE EXPORT TRADE IN AUSTRALIA.**

The **West Australian** newspaper reported in November 2005 that it will be alleged that sheep on the MV *Al Kuwait* were treated cruelly, in a manner likely to cause harm between November 10 and 14, 2003 - in contravention of the Animal Welfare Act. More than 1000 of the 100,000 sheep on the ship died during the fortnight-long voyage.

Action began when **Animals Australia – [www.animalsaustralia.org](http://www.animalsaustralia.org)** - and British group **Compassion in World Farming** travelled to Kuwait and documented the condition of West Australian sheep arriving on the MV *Al Kuwait*.

The allegations are that the exporter breached Section 19 (1) of the WA Animal Welfare Act; a person must not be cruel to an animal, S.19 (3) (a) transporting an animal in a way that is likely to cause it harm; (3) (b) confining an animal in a way that is likely to cause it unnecessary harm and (3) (d) not providing proper food.

The background to this is interesting. The TV channel ABC 4 Corners revealed in its programme 'Blind Eye' alleged conflicts of interest within RSPCA West Australia that questioned the will of certain office bearers and Council members to forward Animals Australia's complaint.

As a result of this information and acting on legal advice – Animals Australia took the unprecedented step of requesting the RSPCA to **not** 'investigate' the complaint on behalf of Animals Australia.\*

Animals Australia then formally lodged the complaint with the office of the Director General of the Department of Local Government and Regional Development.

In January 24<sup>th</sup> 2005, leading WA lawyer Martin Bennett, acting on behalf of Animals Australia, lodged an application for a *Writ of Mandamus* in the WA Supreme Court . The Writ is a rarely used legal remedy, whereby the Supreme Court has the power to make an order in circumstances **where there is a public duty to act and there has been a failure to perform that public duty.**

The WA Supreme Court granted an *order nisi* – finding that there is a case to answer. The Court granted a request to have the matter expedited and a July hearing was scheduled.

In April 2005, The WA State Solicitor advised Animals Australia that the Government was now investigating the complaint.

**Animals Australia** is, of course, delighted with the success of this legal action so far. It could set a precedent which might be applied to other sheep exports. It was seen as significant that this shipment was regarded in the industry as a standard one.

The first court date was adjourned from January until March 2 2006. The exporters Emanuel (God-be-with-us, remember) are pleading the defence that where state conflicts with Commonwealth law, the Commonwealth should prevail.

\*

- The Australian RSPCA receives funding from the government and it is quite considerable. Western Australia, from where 80% sheep are exported, will receive \$250,000 a year for the next four years. Tasmania, where AACT is based, has \$300,000 for the Inspectorate, plus “in kind” benefits.
- There are two farmers on the West Australian RSPCA council, who appear to have sent their sheep for export.
- However, the RSPCA in Australia states that they want a ban on the live export trade.

## **DISCUSSION AND DEBATE WHICH RUT ARE YOU IN?**

Some time ago, I was invited to renew my subscription to QCA, because I had let it lapse. The reason I had withdrawn my support was because I cannot afford to belong to every cause I believe in. So I had decided only to belong to animal protection groups which were also vegan. This therefore meant *not* ones like QCA, where several members stop at the stage of vegetarianism; and some are even omnivore.

I am puzzled how anyone who cares about sentient creatures can still use dairy products and eggs. Of course, like many others, when changing from being a meat-eater, I first of all became just a vegetarian. However, I quite quickly realized that this step was not enough. I appreciate that for some people, it does have to be a fairly gradual evolution. More and more reasons become added – ethical, health, compassion, sustainability – until finally, it is just not possible to be anything but a fully committed vegan.

At first, I was afraid that being vegan was too anti-social – that I would lose all my friends! However, “real” friends are soon won round and enjoy experimenting with a completely plant-based nutrition, when they invite you to supper. Most vegans bring a contribution when invited to meals; and then, of course, reciprocate with their own invitation for a yummy meal. There can be so much variety and goodness in vegan food.

Of course, with our Quaker experiential faith, the decision to take on such new truths, values and practices have to be individually discerned and then tested, before becoming part of our ongoing life. But by constantly re-evaluating what we believe and feel, and *why*, we become more sure of how to behave. There slowly dawns a deeper and deeper commitment and understanding.

There is much more support and help these days than when I first changed over. I have listed various organizations at the end. In particular, I find The Movement for Compassionate Living (MCL) very supportive. It was founded by a Quaker – the late Kathleen Jannaway. They have an excellent little magazine called *New Leaves*, in which the messages of peace and simplicity probably particularly appeal to Friends, in keeping with our testimonies. The raw plant food movement is also growing in the vegan world – see *Eat More Raw*. This places an emphasis on healthy living food – i.e. freshly-sprouted seeds and pulses and juiced fruit and vegetables. All of these organizations and Steve Charter’s book are at the forefront of caring for animals – being concerned about cruelty and exploitation. We all need to be vigilant and keep going a little further down this road.

Think that it may be possible, that just being a vegetarian is a comfortable rut one is stuck in. So perhaps you need to take the next step of becoming a vegan?

You will be pleased to hear that I did renew my subscription. So I am now working from the inside of QCA, with this bit of outreach. But, of course, Quakers do not evangelize or proselytize!

Supportive and helpful organizations for making the change to Veganism:

1. The Vegan Society, Donald Watson House, 7, Battle Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex. TN37 7AA. Tel: 0845 4588244. ([www.vegansociety.com](http://www.vegansociety.com))
2. The Movement for Compassionate Living – the vegan way. c/o Brynderwen, Crymlyn Road, Llansamlet, Swansea SA7 9XT. ([www.mclveganway.org.uk](http://www.mclveganway.org.uk))
3. Vegan Views. Flat A15, 20, Dean Park Road, Bournemouth BH1 1JB. ([www.veganviews.org.uk](http://www.veganviews.org.uk))

Raw Plant Food information:

*Eat More Raw* – Steve Charter (Permanent Publications)

*The Funky Raw Magazine* ([www.funkyraw.com](http://www.funkyraw.com))

Vegan-Organic Trust ([www.veganorganic.net](http://www.veganorganic.net))

*Elizabeth M. Angas. October 2005*

## A MODERN CHILD'S GUIDE TO OUR DUMB FRIENDS

### THE PIG

A pig  
Was born to grow big:  
Unless he gets fatter and fatter,  
He's never going to matter.  
What other reason is there  
For tolerating such a creature?  
When he's like a balloon,  
The end is soon.  
Feed him on drugs till he swells...  
He won't notice if his sty smells.  
His life's purpose is to be made into  
bacon,  
So there's no need for people to take on.  
He simply *has* to grow big!  
It's his destiny as a pig.

### THE CALF

Does the plight of a calf  
Make you laugh?  
Orphaned from birth,  
Short-lived on this earth  
As gentle as silk,  
Yet deprived of the milk  
His birth helped to provide,  
So that posters may chide:  
"Drink an extra pinta!  
Keep healthy in the winta!"  
Trusting, a child full of hope,  
Let's feed him with dope  
All his brief, sad life...  
Then... out comes the knife.  
Would you ever learn to laugh  
If *you'd* been born a calf?

### THE HEN

When  
Is a hen?  
When she's jammed in a cage  
From egg to old age  
And she can't move a wing  
Or any damn thing?  
Just stands stiff on her legs  
So our carton of eggs  
Won't go up a penny,  
Or folk won't buy any.  
Since when  
Is this object a hen?

*Mavis Timms.*

This trio of hard-hitting poems was chosen from a series Mavis has been writing over the years. *The Hen* has already appeared in *The Friend*.

## SECOND INTERFAITH CELEBRATION OF ANIMALS – SEPT. 18 2005

Some sixty people, of whom five QCA members, attended this inspiring event at Feargus O'Connor, our committee member's, Unitarian church in Golders Green, London.

Ayndrilla Singharay, of the **BRAHMO SAMAJ** faith, quoted Rabindranath Tagore, and his beautiful concept, The Stream of Life, which flows through all living creatures. She stressed that we are all part of the same great body of love and light.

Speaking for the **BUDDHISTS**, Venerable Sumana Nepal, reminded us that a central Buddhist belief is "not to destroy, or cause to destroy". Buddhists are encouraged to love all beings, and to constantly practise loving kindness.

Sid Dahar, for the **HINDUS**, talked about the harmony that exists in Nature, and implored us to live in rhythm with this harmony and to lend a helping hand to all creatures.

We next heard from Nitin Mehta, our patron, representing the **JAIN** faith. His speech is reproduced in full in this newsletter.

Charanjit Ajit Singh, spoke on behalf of the **SIKH** religion. Her message was that human beings have a responsibility to look after all of God's creation.

The Rev. Marcus Braybrooke (**CHRISTIAN** - and President of the WCF) mentioned Jesus' example of the five sparrows sold for two farthings, "and not one of them forgotten by God", and he also talked about the beautiful parable of The Good Shepherd. His wife, Mrs. Mary Braybrooke, read William Blake's inspirational poem 'To See a World in a Grain of Sand, and a Heaven in a Wild Flower ... the theme being Kill Not!

For the **JEWISH** faith, Rabbi Jacqueline Tabick (Chair, WCF) quoted Isaiah's vision of a peaceful world, with its strong message "They shall not hurt nor do harm in all my holy kingdom". She also reminded us not to forget that insects have their place, telling us a delightful story of David - before he became king - being saved by a spider, and later by a wasp.

Khalid Hussenbux spoke for **MUSLIMS**, stressing that all creatures are sentient beings and therefore that cruelty to all living animals must be condemned.

Jackie Ballard, Director General of the RSPCA, lit a candle for all the world's animals and talked about their vision of "a world where humans respect and live in harmony with animals" and Phyllis Campbell-McRae (IFAW) reminded us of how much animals do for us, and how we can learn from them.

Our QCA reading came from an article by the American animal advocate, Judy Carman, speaking of how our culture has, sadly, lost its connection with the sacred web of life. "We are mystical activists...truly blessed, because we live in awe and wonder at the miracle of our animal relations and of life itself. We know firsthand that we belong with them in this sacred family of earth. We have brothers and sisters swimming in the sea, flying above us, walking beside us and talking to us, each in their own way. This path we have taken of No Harm and Communion with All Life is... the great Path of Compassion and Joy."

Speaking for the International Primate Protection League, Cyril Rosen told us some delightful

tales of monkeys and humans living peacefully together and Oliver Southgate, for Compassion in World Farming, gave shocking details of the horrors of factory farming, and reminded us that the Biblical word ‘dominion’ -as in “Man will have dominion over the animals” - always includes responsibility and compassion.

The address was given by Professor Timothy Sprigge, Emeritus Professor of Logic and Metaphysics, University of Edinburgh.

He began with an overview of different faiths’ attitudes to animals, making the important point that, whereas all religions condemn cruelty to animals, their definitions of what actually constitutes cruelty causes some difficulty.

Are animals inferior? Do they have a sense of self? Do they have souls? These were among the questions he raised. Timothy’s view is that other animals have consciousness as we do – they are not merely automata, as Descartes conveniently labelled them – they certainly feel pain -even insects- there is a non-physical dimension to their lives, and they do have moral rights.

Timothy finished by discussing current campaigns for animal protection and rights. It is perfectly legitimate to mount public protests against factory farms and vivisection labs. If some supporters of causes we share are violent, whilst we would consider this to be wrong and counter-productive, it does not nullify the cause.

This piece also appeared in the November issue of *Young Quaker* magazine.



*Orange Man. With thanks to the artist Ute Langenkamp. [www.tierhilfe-aurora.de](http://www.tierhilfe-aurora.de)*

### Three Haiku by the clerk

Lingering moon –  
A buzzard quarters  
The bare hill.

Before dawn:  
The silence pierced –  
By next day’s blackbird.

Red squirrel wood –  
Camera snapping at  
Subjects long gone

## **Love My Dog, Love Me.** **The great Arab-Muslim-American puppy story.**

*Ahmed Tharwat produces and hosts the Arab/Muslim-American television show **Belahdan** in Minnesota's Twin Cities. The following article was written in November 2004 and Ahmed is happy for us to reproduce it here:*

*Having a dog in an Arab/Muslim household is an exhausting proposition. Who wants to wash or take a shower every time a dog touches or licks you, as I was brought up to do back home in Egypt? In Islamic tradition, Muslims are prohibited from touching the saliva of dogs. If you do come in contact with a dog, you're supposed to wash your hands seven times before you pray. Most Muslims will avoid dogs at all cost to stay clean for their daily prayers. There are a few closet Muslim dog lovers, but they tend to keep their dogs outdoors.*

*Still, after a long nagging from my daughter and a few Internet pictures of an angelic beagle puppy, I reluctantly agreed to let a dog into our home under a few conditions. The dog was to stay downstairs in what is now known in our house as the bunker, and my praying area would be designated a "no-fly" zone for the dog.*

*We brought home the 6-week-old, 3-pound beagle on a cold, crisp Saturday afternoon. We named him Oliver. A few days after he had arrived at our house, I had to take Oliver with me to the supermarket. I noticed something new was happening out there, something Arab-Americans have rarely experienced since Sept. 11. People on the street, in their cars, in the parking lot, and at the supermarket were giving me a new look, a friendly one. Strangers who used to skilfully avoid eye contact now wanted to engage me in warm conversation. Patriotic national hotline tippers, who are usually more concerned about Muslim sleeper cells, now stopped me and cordially inquired about my puppy's sleeping habits, breed, and big black eyes. Families congregated around me with their children to see the cute puppy, and they talked to him as if he should know what they were talking about.*

*As a hyphenated-American, I discovered that owning a dog easily accomplished what many diversity training programs have failed to do for years. Regardless of our race, color, religion, or country of origin, we were one community of civilized dog lovers.*

*I now take Oliver everywhere I go. He is my post 9/11 homeland-security blanket. Arab-Americans: Get a puppy, now that you need a real friend.*

At the **Interfaith Celebration of Animals**, reported in this Newsletter, the following **Islamic sayings** about our fellow species were read:

**QCA note:** "The Prophet (peace be upon him) said that a killing would be for a just cause if it was for food".

**Islam** lays emphasis on animal rights and man's responsibility for their welfare. Here are a few short selections as examples:

The Holy Prophet Mohammed (pbuh) was asked by his companions if kindness to animals was rewarded in the life hereafter. He replied:

"Yes, there is a meritorious reward for kindness to every living creature."

## **ON THE STATUS OF ANIMALS**

All creatures on earth are sentient beings. The Koran states in 6:38:

*“There is not an animal on earth, nor a bird that flies on its wings – but they are communities like you.”*

## **ON PHYSICAL INJURY**

The Holy Prophet (pbuh) forbade the beating, or the branding, of animals. Once he saw a donkey branded in the face and said:

*“May Allah condemn the one who branded it.”*

## **ON CAGING ANIMALS**

The Holy Prophet (pbuh) said:

*“It is a great sin for man to imprison those animals which are in his power.”*

## **ON VIVISECTION**

There are numerous Islamic laws forbidding vivisection on a live animal. Ibn’Umar reported the Holy Prophet (pbuh) as having condemned those who mutilate any part of an animal’s body while it is alive.

## **ON ANIMAL BAITING AND BLOOD SPORTS**

The Holy Prophet (pbuh) forbade the setting up of animals to fight each other and condemned those who pinion and restrain animals in any other way for the purpose of target shooting.

Finally - **ON THE RELIGIOUS SACRIFICE OF ANIMALS**, which we may compare with a reading from the Old Testament:

*“Their flesh will never reach Allah, nor their blood – but your devotion and piety will reach him.”*

With acknowledgment to Islamic Concern. – [www.islamicconcern.com](http://www.islamicconcern.com)

## **LETTER TO THE PRESS**

**Printed in the Eastern Daily Press, January 5 06, accompanied by a photo of Gandhi with Nehru.**

*“Reading in your paper that David Cameron hopes to role model the qualities of Gandhi, to put stamina into the Conservative Party, I hope he remembers to include Gandhi’s enormous compassion towards the animal kingdom, when he stipulated his beautiful expression: “That by learning to respect, revere an animal, man is taken beyond his species and is enjoined to realise his identity with all that lives.”*

*Should David Cameron really mean to use Gandhi as a mentor, maybe we shall see an end to all the cruelty we witness in factory farming, animal laboratories and live exports too. If he also decides to concentrate on these big, long-term challenges faced by Britain and the world, then what a wonderful world!*

*Happy New Year to all!”*

***Molly Stacey, Quaker Concern for Animals, Gorleston, Norfolk.***

We would like to celebrate the life of **Tony Banks**, the former MP., who died in January. Chris Gale, National Executive member of Labour Animal Welfare Society, describes him as “simply the best friend the animals ever had in parliament”.

He was a tireless campaigner for animal welfare and from the time he entered the House of Commons in 1983, he campaigned for the ban on hunting with dogs, which eventually came into force in February last year.

Before he was elected to Parliament, he was a member of the Greater London Council and, amongst other campaigns, was involved with banning circuses from council land.

A committed vegetarian, he introduced legislation to promote vegetarianism in the United Kingdom. The measure was accepted by Parliament for consideration, but only failed to complete all necessary stages due to lack of parliamentary time.

He was simply the best.

### ***TONY BANKS IN QUOTES***

*“The fact is that if all of those who hunted were members of the Transport and General Workers Union, voted Labour and supported Chelsea, I would still vote against them because, in the end, for me, it is a matter of morality. Killing animals for pleasure is wrong. It is immoral and must be stopped.”*

**Respect for Animals** – [www.respectforanimals.org](http://www.respectforanimals.org) –reported on January 27 that the campaign against the Canadian seal hunt set up in Tony’s memory has been announced. His widow, Sally, is working in conjunction with Respect for Animals, IFAW, Humane Society of the US and Brian Davies.

## **QUAKER CONCERN FOR ANIMALS COMMITTEE 2005 – 2006**

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Joan Court	74 Sturton Street Cambridge CB1 2QA	01223 311828
Sally Fisher	63 Vinery Road, Cambridge CB1 3DN	01223 572772
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Judith Treanor	38 St. Peter’s Mount Exeter EX4 2JD	01392 279873
Sonia Waddell	26 Thicket Road Tilehurst Berks RG30 4TY	0118 9412726

### ***Scientific Advisor:***

Angela Walder Arcadia Oak Lane Minster Sheerness Kent ME12 3QR  
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***Quaker Concern for Animals Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 13 2006, at Friends’ House, Euston Road, London.***

***Further details are included with this Newsletter.***