

# ***Animail: July 2017***

## ***Introduction – from the Chair***

Kia ora koutou! / Hello everyone!

I'm very excited to be writing my first introduction to *Animail* in my new role as Chair of AASA for 2017-18. Although this position is a significant responsibility, at the same time it feels like being welcomed into a big family, so it's not too daunting .... In case you missed the announcement of the new committee membership, here it is again:

### **Executive:**

Secretary - [Clare Archer-Lean](#)

Chair - [Philip Armstrong](#)

Membership Secretary - [Rick De Vos](#)

Vice-Chair - [lynn mowson](#)

Treasurer - [Gonzalo Villanueva](#)

### **General Committee:**

[Esther Alloun](#) (Postgraduate Member)

[Melissa Boyde](#)

[Heather Fraser](#)

[Tania Signal](#)

[Nik Taylor](#)

[Christine Townend](#)

[Dinesh Wadiwel](#)

As you can imagine, with such a team around me, I'm anticipating that my work as Chair will be an absolute pleasure.

It's especially exciting to be taking this role at a time when the organization is so healthy and dynamic. For that, a huge vote of thanks is due to Fiona Probyn-Rapsey and all the members of last year's committee: Melissa Boyde, Lynn Mowson, Yamini Narayanan, Clare Archer-Lean, Christine Townend, Rick De Vos, Nik Taylor, Dinesh Wadiwel, Donelle Gadenne, Annie Potts.

Nobody who attended the recent Adelaide conference could be in any doubt about the diversity and vitality of human-animal studies here in Australasia, or about the brilliant ways in which AASA's members are undertaking and representing that important work. Another huge vote of thanks is therefore due to Susan Hazel and Janette Young, the co-chairs of the conference organizing committee, and to their team of committee members: Heather Bray, Anna Chur-Hansen, Lisel O'Dwyer, Rachel Ankeny, Anne Hamilton-Bruce, Victor Krawczyk, Roger Porter, Caroline Adams, Donelle Gadenne, and Joshua Trigg.

One very notable feature of the conference was the exceptionally high standard of work presented by postgraduate researchers. Congratulations are due to every one of them. We were very proud that Kirsty Dunn of the University of Canterbury won the Denise Russell Award for an outstanding contribution to Animal Ethics, but Kirsty's paper was part of an amazingly strong field of contenders. I believe that any field of scholarly inquiry can be judged in large part by the dedication, sophistication, originality, and passion of its postgraduate students and emerging researchers, and by that criterion, human-animal studies in our part of the world is in remarkably good shape.

There are two reports from the conference in this month's *Animail*, and we plan to publish more next month as well. So if you were there, please do write us a paragraph or two about papers you heard, discussions you engaged in, or experiences you had at the conference. The more the better!

While I'm on the topic of conferences, this is a good opportunity to announce to anyone who hasn't yet heard that the next AASA Conference, in July 2019, will be hosted by the New Zealand Centre for Human-Animal Studies in Aotearoa New Zealand, in the gutsy and newly rebuilt city of Christchurch Ōtautahi. We are very keen to make this a wonderful experience for all AASA members, and to take the opportunity to strengthen ties between human-animal studies communities in our two countries. Watch this space for regular updates on how plans for this event are progressing.

This month's *Animail* features lovely profiles of two members whose research contributes to some of the most difficult and crucial issues in our field (and who both offered star turns at the Adelaide conference): Heather Fraser and Tania Signal. There are also the first of our conference reports (as I say, there will be more to come; please send them in for next time) – thanks to Gonzalo Villanueva and Esther Alloun for these – along with member news compiled by Rick de Vos, and reports provided by Nik Taylor on some fascinating new books.

Finally – my special thanks to Rick for assembling this month's edition, while I got my head around the requirements of my new role. Rick, where would AASA be without you?

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou katoa / Very best wishes to you all,

Philip Armstrong  
Chair



## Member Profiles

### Heather Fraser



*Alice and Heather*

I'm a social work academic of more than 25 years who teaches courses such as *Violence and Abuse*, *Social Work with Diversity*, *Human Rights Based Social Work Practice* and *Understanding Addictions*. My theoretical orientations are feminist, intersectional, anti-oppressive and narrative, and my research interests are diverse. For instance, my doctoral work involved a feminist narrative analysis of women's self-reported love and abuse experiences, and culminated in the book, *In the Name of Love, Women's Narratives of Love and Abuse* (Women's Press, Toronto).

With Nik Taylor, from Sociology at Flinders, I co-wrote *Neoliberalization, Universities and the Public Intellectual: Species, Gender and Class and the Production of Knowledge* (Palgrave, London) in 2016. With Kate Seymour, I co-wrote *Understanding Violence and Abuse, An Anti-Oppressive Practice Perspective* (2017, Fernwood, Winnipeg). Also with Nik Taylor, I am currently working on the book, *Rescuing you, rescuing me: domestic violence and companion animals* (Palgrave, London).

In 2011 my chance alliance with Nik Taylor created a partnership that has produced many human-animal projects. Since then we have worked on the following research projects:

- A focus group study of the meanings women attribute to their relationships with companion animals, *In good company*
- An online website called *What is it about animals?*
- A critical analysis of animal abuse in slaughterhouses, *Condoned abuse...*
- Individual interview based study of women survivors' experiences of domestic violence relocation with companion animals, *Loving you, Loving me...*
- An online study of how human-animal studies educators manage controversy in the classroom, *Teaching controversial issues...*
- Dairy farming practices and implications for farmers' mental health

Also with Nik Taylor, Tania Signal and/or Damien Riggs, I have also completed projects on:

- Cross species empathy and humane education for young people
- Evaluating a case study of an animal assisted therapy program for child sex abuse victims.
- Domestic violence service providers' capacity for supporting transgender women and their companion animals.
- The ethics and practicalities of animal assisted interventions for community organisations.

I live with Gus (terrier), Murray (collie/kelpie), Alice (mountain dog), Sunny (Ginger long haired cat), Charlie (short haired cat), Lacey, Olive and Ruby (hens) and Bruce (husband). I'm interested in developing animal-assisted and green social work, with reference to climate change, growing inequality

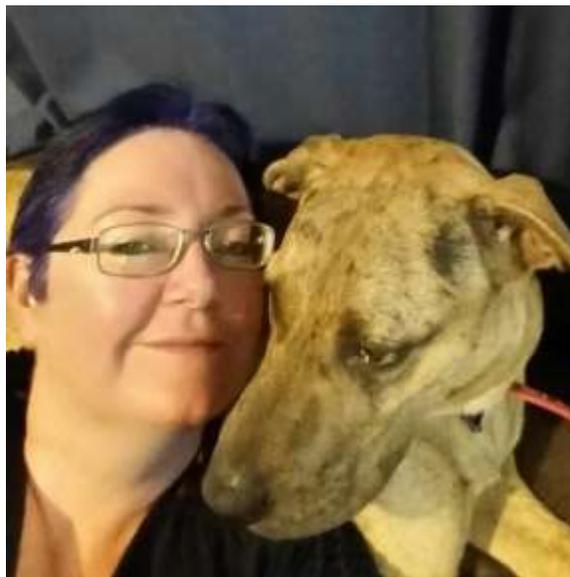
and neoliberalism.

With Nik Taylor, I'm the co-convenor of the *Animals in Society Working Group* at Flinders University <https://animalsinsocietygroup.wordpress.com> and my work can be viewed at <https://flinders.academia.edu/HeatherFraser>.

## Tania Signal

Kia ora!

I am originally from New Zealand and my background within the animal realm may be a little different to many in AASA. At the University of Waikato in Hamilton I embarked on a Bachelor of Social Science majoring in Psychology. I was determined to save the (human) world and pretty much had my life trajectory mapped out ... and then I took an animal behaviour course which involved a 'warts n all' look at farmed animals and their lives. Looking back, the course wasn't at all radical or even particularly critical: it came at animal wellbeing from a five freedoms perspective, but it did make me question where I was going and what I wanted to do (and what I ate).



*Tania and Elsa*

Then came my Masters (working with 'rescued' end of lay hens from the intensive egg farm down the road) and finally my PhD (with Brushtail Possums, which are classed as a pest in New Zealand). I gave many a lecture to first year Psychology students with a back rider (young possum) in a hand sewn pouch strapped to my front, or meeting with students with my office lights turned off so I could keep up with 2 hourly feeds. For many (many) years I shared my home with a feral ginger tabby (Ishtar) who graced me with her presence while terrorising visitors and flatmates with equal fervour. Luckily (for me) she took to fostering young possums with remarkable aplomb.

In 2003 I arrived in Australia to take up a lecturing position in Central Queensland, apart from the heat one of the biggest shocks for me was attitudes to cats and cane toads. Luckily for me, in the next office bar one, another newly arrived academic was also struggling with local practices. Following a slightly (ok fairly) heated debate in the corridor one day, Nik (Taylor) and I realised that we were both interested in the animal-human dynamic albeit from differing perspectives (Sociology vs Psychology, Rights vs Welfare) ... and thus began a 14 year (and counting) research journey. We started looking at attitudes to animals and personality factors like empathy and aggression with students, the CQ community and then polarised groups like animal rights activists vs workers at the local meatworks/slaughterhouse. At some point during this heyday of numbers and statistics, Nik talked to me about companion animals and domestic violence – not something that I had ever thought of but one which, once pointed out, I couldn't ignore. Many projects and even more 'soap box' moments later this is the area of my research and academic life that I feel the most passionate about. As an academic, with (relatively) secure

employment, this is the area in which I use my voice to draw attention to the oft-forgotten and overlooked ‘other’ in violent human-human relationships.

### **Conference Report – Gonzalo Villanueva**

I was fortunate to be awarded the 2017 AASA Travel Scholarship, which not only covered the conference registration, but also largely paid for my flight and accommodation. It was my first time in Adelaide. My partner and I arrived in Adelaide on Sunday morning and discovered a ghost-town: no shops were open and few cafes were operating. One café employee warned us to “stay away from the avo on toast”. We were quietly told to go elsewhere, and found a more hospitable café down the road, where the avo on toast wasn’t taboo. Despite our first impression, over the course of the conference, we discovered the charming side of Adelaide and its several delicious vegan restaurants and cafes.

My conference paper was on “Morality, Law and Politics: The Emergence of Animal Protection in Colonial Victoria, 1870-1881”. This was mostly a new area of research for me and the conference provided a useful deadline for writing an original work. My paper discussed how and why animal protection emerged in colonial Victoria and the wider attempts to influence broader attitudes and behaviours. I argued that the nineteenth-century animal protectionists – people like Alfred Deakin, barrister, journalist, and future Australian Prime Minister – did care about the inherent value of animals, and that this was mostly underpinned by secular values, not evangelical Christian doctrine. But due to a culture that was indifferent to the suffering of animals and weak legal penalties, among other things, protectionists were severely limited in their ambitious reforms. Having delivered this paper, in the past few weeks I have transformed it into a journal article.

The conference itself was thought-provoking and invigorating. There were so many amazing papers, including some high-quality papers from postgrads. It was wonderful to see familiar faces and meet new people. I was particularly happy to get a signed copy of Christine Townend’s wonderful new book, *A Life for Animals*. I was also humbled to be elected Treasurer of AASA. I certainly left the Animal Intersections conference energised and eager to further my historical research in human-animal studies. I am already looking forward to the AASA conference in New Zealand.

### **Conference Report – Esther Alloun**

The #AASA17 conference in Adelaide was a great meeting place for animal studies scholars from a wide range of disciplines and with a variety of interests. It featured many excellent presentations from both HDR students and more senior academics. Humans’ relationship with wildlife was one of the common threads that ran through a number of fascinating presentations, illustrating the multi- and inter-disciplinary nature of animal studies, crossing over with environmental humanities and geography. As such, Prof Fiona Probyn-Rapsey’s keynote on the cultural politics of eradication and the way animal agriculture and settler colonialism drive extinction and eradication in Australia spoke directly to Kathy Varvaro’s work on the “management” of kangaroos in the ACT. Rowena Lennox’s talk on human-dingo relationships in K’gari (Fraser Island) took the audience on a fabulous historical journey to demonstrate the ways in which dingo “management” in Australia is yet another example of how an insecure settler state continues to exert its sovereignty through animals. Finally, Dr Andrea Connor’s discussion of the place of the White Ibis in Sydney showed how they are at once, a protected species but also expert

dumpster divers and in-your-face-ferals. This ambivalence complicates the simple binaries between nature/culture and urban/wild, and speaks more broadly to questions central to urban and animal geographies around who belongs in the urban commons.

Throughout the conference, another thread was a strong sense of collegiality and cooperation illustrated by the number of very high-quality joint papers and presentations. For example, Drs Iselin Gambert and Tobias Linne's paper brought together examples from the US and Sweden to discuss how the dairy industry is waging a war on plant-based milks. They aptly concluded that the word 'mylk' could act as a disruptive label and point of departure to decouple milk from animal exploitation, echoing the way 'womyn' attempts to subvert a sexist masculine referent. The panels on animal studies in the academia were also great examples of collaborative work between leading animal studies scholars including A/Prof Nik Taylor, Dr Heather Fraser, Dr Siobhan O'Sullivan, Dr Yvette Watt and Prof Fiona Probyn-Rapsey. In particular, one of the surveys revealed brilliant insights into the pleasure and pain that come with being an animal studies scholar, and the ever-present risk of domestication of the field. Overall, conference attendees also proved to be open, generous and collegial during and after the formal conference sessions, which was refreshing and welcoming, especially for young(er) scholars and HDR students (like myself). Excellent and bountiful vegan food contributed to make the conference a very good experience as well (a factor not to be underestimated).

Looking forward to the next conference in Aotearoa/New Zealand!

Esther Alloun

(Esther would like to thank AASA for the generous travel scholarship she received to attend the conference. She live tweeted during the whole conference and her tweets can be found [@EstherAlloun](#))

## Member News

**Yamini Narayanan** presented a public guest lecture at the 2017 ICAS Oceania Conference entitled 'Cow Protectionism and Indian animal advocacy: the fracturing and fusing of social movements'. You can access it via the [AASA Facebook](#) page.

**lynn mowson** was a keynote speaker at 'Dear Dairy: The True Cost of Milk', a one day symposium hosted by the New Zealand Centre for Human-Animal Studies at the University of Canterbury, and organised by **Annie Potts** and **Kirsty Dunn**. Her keynote was entitled '*beautiful little dead things and udder-matters*'. **Philip Armstrong** and **Yamini Narayanan** also presented papers at the symposium. [Dear Dairy symposium](#)

[Knowing Animals](#), **Siobhan O'Sullivan's** popular podcast on all things animal and ethics related, last week made the Top 12 of all Higher Ed podcasts on iTunes. Keep up with new episodes, and download past episodes, at <https://itunes.apple.com/au/podcast/knowing-animals/id997543452?mt=2>

## Recent Publication

**Nik Taylor** and **Heather Fraser**, 2017. 'Slaughterhouses: The Language of Life, the Discourse of Death' in *The Palgrave International Handbook of Animal Abuse Studies*, eds. J. Maher, H. Pierpoint and P. Beirne. Palgrave Macmillan, 179-201.

## Special Notice: Minding Animals International Conference

17 to 24 January, 2018, Ciudad de México

The call for abstracts has been extended one month to **18 August** (this is the absolute deadline). You can still register with the Earlybird rate until 30 September. Register, lodge your abstract and reserve your accommodation at the Royal Pedregal at: <http://mac4.tueventoenweb.com/>

To be able to take advantage of the Minding Animals Member Discount and register for a cheaper rate, you must initially become a Member of Minding Animals. Membership of Minding Animals International Inc. for the period up to 31 December, 2017, is open to all individuals at the flat rate of \$20 USD. Savings of up to \$50 USD can be made. Please click this link to join: <http://www.mindinganimals.com/members-donors/>

## New Books

### ***Animals in Victorian Literature and Culture: Contexts for Criticism***

Edited by Laurence W. Mazzeno and Ronald D. Morrison Palgrave Macmillan, 2017



This collection includes twelve provocative essays from a diverse group of international scholars, who utilize a range of interdisciplinary approaches to analyze “real” and “representational” animals that stand out as culturally significant to Victorian literature and culture. Essays focus on a wide range of canonical and non-canonical Victorian writers, including Charles Dickens, Anthony Trollope, Anna Sewell, Emily Bronte, James Thomson, Christina Rossetti, and Richard Marsh, and they focus on a diverse array of forms: fiction, poetry, journalism, and letters. These essays consider a wide range of cultural attitudes and literary treatments of animals in the Victorian Age, including the development of the animal protection movement, the importation of animals from the expanding Empire, the acclimatization of British animals in other countries, and the problems associated with increasing pet ownership. The collection also includes an Introduction co-written by the editors and Suggestions for Further Study, and will prove of interest

to scholars and students across the multiple disciplines which comprise Animal Studies.

<http://www.palgrave.com/gp/book/9781137602183>

## **Wild Boar**

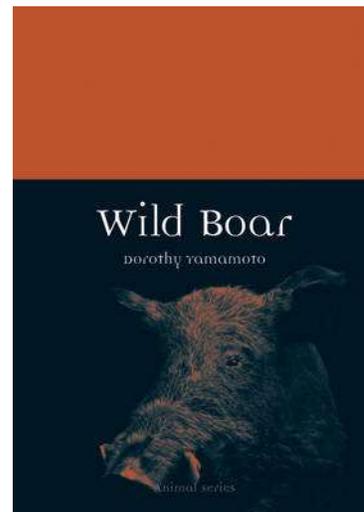
Dorothy Yamamoto Reaktion, 2017

Tough, resourceful and omnivorous, wild boar are the ancestors of domestic pigs. From earliest times, wild boar have presented humans with both opportunity and threat: they are a valuable food source, but also a formidable foe carrying tusks that can inflict terrible injuries. Today, boar are impinging on people's lives in new ways, scouting into cities such as Berlin and Tokyo, or establishing populations in areas such as the Forest of Dean in England.

*Wild Boar* traces the history of the interaction between humans and wild boar, from the iconic beasts of myth and legend, such as the Calydonian Boar, to the adoption of the boar as a heraldic device – most notably by the doomed English king Richard iii – and the meticulous rules of engagement that grew up around the practice of hunting. The boar's impact upon human bodies is a running theme in legends, stories and reports, and now that hunters are no longer armed with boar spears but with high-velocity rifles, the boars themselves have ballooned in the popular imagination, in the shape of monstrous hybrids such as 'Hogzilla', in keeping with their role as deadly adversary.

Dorothy Yamamoto argues that their former association with masculine valour and heroic combat inflects modern-day attitudes towards wild boar, leading to distorted perceptions of their size, behaviour and the potential threat that they pose. As proposals for including them in schemes for rewilding contend with demands to eradicate them altogether from certain areas, wild boar are a unique focus for much of the current debate about the terms on which we share our planet with other animals.

[http://www.reaktionbooks.co.uk/display.asp?ISBN=9781780237619&sf1=series\\_exact&st1=ANIMAL&ds=ANIMAL&sort=sort\\_date%2Fd&m=5&dc=86](http://www.reaktionbooks.co.uk/display.asp?ISBN=9781780237619&sf1=series_exact&st1=ANIMAL&ds=ANIMAL&sort=sort_date%2Fd&m=5&dc=86)



## **Captive**

Jo-Anne McArthur Lantern Books, 2017



In recent years, the role of zoos and aquaria as centers for conservation, education, and entertainment has been placed under scrutiny. From the controversy surrounding the confinement of orcas at SeaWorld to the killing of Harambe the gorilla at the Cincinnati Zoo, questions have been asked about the place, if any, of zoos and aquaria in a world where so many animals need resources and protection in the wild and many other means of learning about the natural world exist.

For more than a decade, Canadian photojournalist Jo-Anne McArthur has turned her forensic and sympathetic camera on those animals whom we've placed in zoos and we animals who look at them. As with her first book, *We Animals* (Lantern, 2013), McArthur's aim is

to invite us to reflect on how we observe or ignore one another through the bars, across the moat, or on either side of the glass. *Captive* is a book that will challenge our preconceptions about zoos and aquaria, animal welfare, and just what or who it is we think we see when we face the animal.

*Jo-Anne McArthur's photographs of haunted and traumatized animals imprisoned for the term of their natural lives for no better reason than that they have a curiosity value for us are infinitely depressing. Taken together, they constitute an indictment of the so-called zoological garden to which there is no conceivable reply.* —J.M. Coetzee, author, *The Lives of Animals*

### ***Of Sheep, Oranges, and Yeast: A Multispecies Impression***

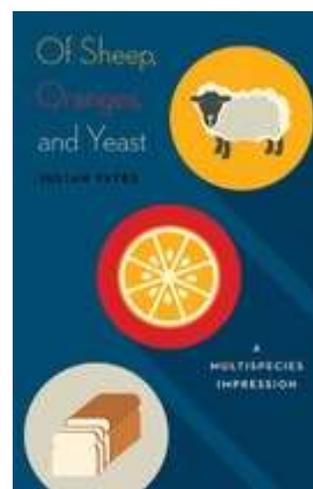
Julian Yates. University of Minnesota Press, 2017

In what senses do animals, plants, and minerals “write”? How does their “writing” mark our lives—our past, present, and future? Addressing such questions with an exhilarating blend of creative flair and theoretical depth, *Of Sheep, Oranges, and Yeast* traces how the lives of, yes, sheep, oranges, gold, and yeast mark the stories of those animals we call “human.”

Bringing together often separate conversations in animal studies, plant studies, ecotheory, and biopolitics, *Of Sheep, Oranges, and Yeast* crafts scripts for literary and historical study that embrace the fact that we come into being through our relations to other animal, plant, fungal, microbial, viral, mineral, and chemical actors. The book opens and closes in the company of a Shakespearean character talking through his painful encounter with the skin of a lamb (in the form of parchment). This encounter stages a visceral awareness of what Julian Yates names a “multispecies impression,” the way all acts of writing are saturated with the “writing” of other beings. Yates then develops a multimodal reading strategy that traces a series of anthropo-zoo-genetic figures that derive from our comaking with sheep (keyed to the story of biopolitics), oranges (keyed to economy), and yeast (keyed to the notion of foundation or infrastructure).

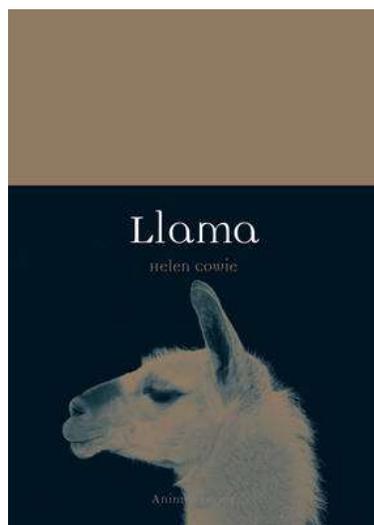
Working with an array of materials (published and archival), across disciplines and historical periods (Classical to postmodern), the book allows sheep, oranges, and yeast to dictate their own chronologies and plot their own stories. What emerges is a methodology that fundamentally alters what it means to read in the twenty-first century.

<https://www.upress.umn.edu/book-division/books/of-sheep-oranges-and-yeast>



## **Llama**

Helen Cowie Reaktion, 2017.



Known for their haughty demeanour, woolly charm and propensity to spit when threatened, llamas have had a rich and varied history. Since their domestication high in the Andes, they have been sacrificed, farmed, smuggled and petted. They have functioned at different times as luxury commodities, literary muses and national symbols and have served as beasts of burden, circus performers and even golf caddies.

This book charts the history of llamas and their close relatives, alpacas, guanacos and vicuñas. Venerated by the Incas, llamas are still cherished in their native Peru and Bolivia, and remain central to Andean culture. After several unsuccessful acclimatization attempts in the nineteenth century, llamas and alpacas have also become popular pets in Britain, North America and Australia, where they are used for trekking, meat and wool production and as therapy animals. *Llama* recounts the llama's colourful history and explores the animals'

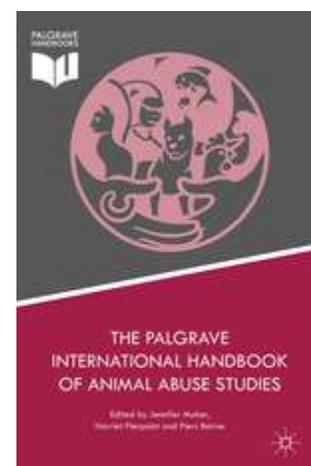
presence in art, literature and film.

Packed with llama drama and alpaca facts, *Llama* shows that there's much more to llamas than spitting. [http://www.reaktionbooks.co.uk/display.asp?ISBN=9781780237381&sf1=series\\_exact&st1=ANIMAL&ds=ANIMAL&sort=sort\\_date%2Fd&m=4&dc=86](http://www.reaktionbooks.co.uk/display.asp?ISBN=9781780237381&sf1=series_exact&st1=ANIMAL&ds=ANIMAL&sort=sort_date%2Fd&m=4&dc=86)

## **The Palgrave International Handbook of Animal Abuse Studies**

Edited by Jennifer Maher, Harriet Pierpoint and Piers Beirne

This Handbook fills a large gap in current scholarly literature on animal abuse studies. It moves considerably beyond the debate that has traditionally dominated the discourse of animal abuse – the link between one-on-one interpersonal violence and animal abuse – and towards those institutionalised forms of animal abuse which are routine, everyday, socially acceptable and invisibilised. Chapters from expert contributors raise issues such as: the use of animals as edibles; vivisection; animal sexual assault; animals used in sport and hunting; animal trafficking; the use of animals by youth gangs, by other groups and in war; species extinction; and the passivity of national and international organisations in combating animal abuse. The Handbook is a unique text: it is essential reading for students, researchers, academics, activists and policy makers involved in understanding and preventing animal abuse.



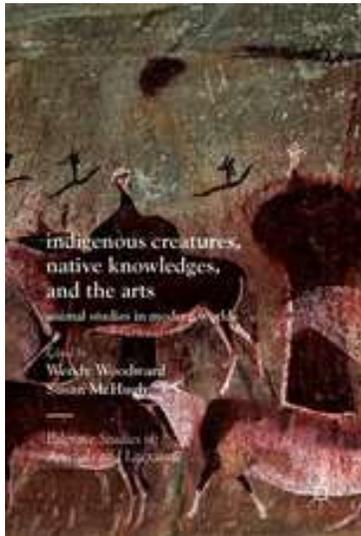
*“This terrific new collection is the most comprehensive book on animal abuse yet released. Not only does it exhaustively cover the areas of animal abuse many of us are familiar with, including up-to-date information on interventions, it covers topics like neglect, hoarding, and sexual assault as well. The editors should be commended for going beyond these subjects, and including multiple chapters on institutionalized forms of animal abuse such as the treatment of animals in factory farms or biomedical*

*labs, and other social sanctioned practices such as hunting, the use of animals for entertainment, and the breeding, sale and use of “status dogs”.* Margo DeMello, Human-Animal Studies Program Director, Animals & Society Institute, USA.

***Indigenous Creatures, Native Knowledges, and the Arts: Animal Studies in Modern Worlds***

Edited by Wendy Woodward and Susan McHugh

Palgrave, 2017.



This volume illuminates how creative representations remain sites of ongoing struggles to engage with animals in indigenous epistemologies. Traditionally imagined in relation to spiritual realms and the occult, animals have always been more than primitive symbols of human relations. Whether as animist gods, familiars, conduits to ancestors, totems, talismans, or co-creators of multispecies cosmologies, animals act as vital players in the lives of cultures. From early days in colonial contact zones through contemporary expressions in art, film, and literature, the volume’s unique emphasis on Southern Africa and North America – historical loci of the greatest ranges of species and linguistic diversity – help to situate how indigenous knowledges of human-animal relations are being adapted to modern conditions of life shared across species lines

<https://www.palgrave.com/in/book/9783319568737>

***Animals and Desire in South African Fiction: Biopolitics and the Resistance to Colonization***

Jason D. Price

Palgrave, 2017.

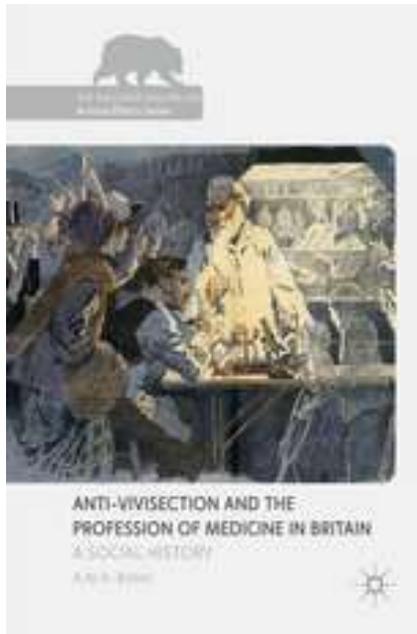
This book considers the political potential of affective experiences of desire as reflected in contemporary South African literature. Jason Price argues that definitions of desire deployed by capitalist and colonial culture maintain social inequality by managing relations to ensure a steady flow of capital and pleasure for the dominant classes, whereas affective encounters with animals reveal the nonhuman nature of desire, a biopower that, in its unpredictability, can frustrate regimes of management and control. Price wonders how animals’ different desires might enable new modes of thought to positively transform and resist the status quo. This book contends that South African literary works employ nonhuman desire and certain indigenous notions of desire to imagine a South Africa that can be markedly different from the past.

<https://www.palgrave.com/la/book/9783319567259>



### **Anti-Vivisection and the Profession of Medicine in Britain: A Social History**

Bates, A.W.H Palgrave, 2017.



This book explores the social history of the anti-vivisection movement in Britain from its nineteenth-century beginnings until the 1960s. It discusses the ethical principles that inspired the movement and the socio-political background that explains its rise and fall. Opposition to vivisection began when medical practitioners complained it was contrary to the compassionate ethos of their profession. Christian anti-cruelty organizations took up the cause out of concern that callousness among the professional classes would have a demoralizing effect on the rest of society. As the nineteenth century drew to a close, the influence of transcendentalism, Eastern religions and the spiritual revival led new age social reformers to champion a more holistic approach to science, and dismiss reliance on vivisection as a materialistic oversimplification. In response, scientists claimed it was necessary to remain objective and unemotional in order to perform the experiments necessary for medical progress.

<http://www.palgrave.com/de/book/9781137556967>

### ***Understanding Veganism: Biography and Identity***

Nathan Stephens Griffin Palgrave, 2017.

This book focuses on the increasingly popular phenomenon of veganism, a way of living that attempts to exclude all animal products on ethical grounds. Using data from biographical interviews with vegans, the author untangles the complex topic of veganism to understand vegan identity from a critical and biographical perspective. Shaped by the participants' biographical narratives, the study considers the diverse topics of family, faith, sexuality, gender, music, culture, embodiment and activism and how these influence the lives and identities of vegans. It also highlights the hostility vegans face, and how this hostility functions in the everyday, and intersects with other aspects of their identity and biography, exemplified through 'coming out' and 'queer' narratives of veganism. *Understanding Veganism* will be of particular interest to those engaged in the fields of biographical research, critical animal studies or more broadly with an interest in animal advocacy.

