

Minding Animals Bulletin 48



It has been some time since you heard from Minding Animals International. Much has happened over the past few months. The majority of time has been spent on securing a host for the next Minding Animals Conference (MAC5). This Bulletin has much information and issues for you to consider. In the Bulletin, you will find information including:

- New email addresses for Minding Animals
- Inaugural Announcement for MAC5 and the *Animals and Climate Change Conference*
- Membership of Minding Animals International
- Call for nominations to the Minding Animals Board
- In Memoria, Call for Submissions, Partner Events and Book Announcements

New Website and Contact Emails

As you may have already seen, Minding Animals has recently launched a new website, please check it out at www.mindinganimals.com, www.mindinganimals.net, or www.mindinganimals.org. If you have problems accessing any of the sites, you may need to clear your cache.

New Minding Animals email addresses have been established. They are:

Enquiry	Relevant Email Address
For the 2021 Animals and Climate Change and MAC5 Conference	acc@mindingsanimals.com
All membership and donations enquiries	memberships@mindingsanimals.com
All Board matters	board@mindingsanimals.com
All other matters	admin@mindingsanimals.com

The names *Animals and Climate Change Conference*, *MAC*, *Minding Animals*, *Minding Animals International*, *MA*, *MAI*, the organisational logos and all content on the Minding Animals Websites and Minding Animals Bulletins are © 2019 Minding Animals International Incorporated.

First Announcement

Animals and Climate Change Conference, Sydney, July, 2021

The Board of Minding Animals International would like to announce that the hosts for the 5th Minding Animals Conference will be the International Centre for Balanced Land Use (ICBLU) of the University of Newcastle and the Centre for Compassionate Conservation (CFCC) of the University of Technology Sydney. Other universities will also be participating and announcements will be made shortly. Details are still in development and will be announced as the conference unfolds, including the incorporation of special events and satellite programmes.

The range of events and conference programmes is being styled as the Inaugural International Conference on Animal Studies and Climate Change, or more simply: the *Animals and Climate Change Conference* (ACCC). The conference will have two distinct components amongst several other events:

1. An academic conference incorporating the 5th Minding Animals Conference and other conferences and events (announcements soon) - an academic conference with an official call for papers, panels, plenary speakers and keynote.
2. A distinct Animals and Climate Change Meeting of Minds - a select group of key animal protection organisations to discuss the climate change crisis and how it is impacting animals and how that impact can be alleviated, and how academics engage in this process.

Besides the overarching theme of climate change and how that is impacting animals and life on our fragile planet, the (non-exhaustive) sub-themes for the conference are:

- The Sixth Great Extinction
- Wildlife and compassionate conservation
- The animal industrial complex
- Animals, the circular economy and sustainable food systems
- Animals in development and food sovereignty
- Educating with and for Animals
- Animals, the law and public policy
- Multi-species justice
- Personhood, animal philosophy and bioethics

The conference will be held in **Sydney**, in **July, 2021** (exact dates and venue to be confirmed). Until the conference website is up and running and if you need to make contact, please email: acc@mindinganimals.com

Further announcements regarding the conference will be made in the next Minding Animals Bulletin and on the Minding Animals website as arrangements continue to develop, including registration, call for abstracts and special events and programmes.

Special note: Sydney (and Australia) IS expensive - PLEASE start to save for your registration, travel and accommodation. If you are an academic or student with an allocated budget or stipend, please make arrangements for funding applications as soon as you can.

Membership of Minding Animals International

The Board of Minding Animals would also like to announce that an extended membership of Minding Animals International is now open.

A membership fee for everyone is now available, for a flat rate of \$50.00 USD (\$25 for a full time student, with proof of student identity).

Benefit of memberships:

- An extended membership to 31 December, 2020 (when renewals will fall due)
- A \$50 discount when registering for the Animals and Climate Change Conference (if you register for the conference after 31 December, 2020, you will need to renew your membership)

The Board is currently discussing other benefits.

Ongoing annual memberships will fall due on 31 December of each year. A reminder will be sent to all members before that time. Please note that if you join at any time during this calendar year or during 2020, your membership will expire on 31 December, 2020.

If you have any questions, please contact us at: memberships@mindinganimals.com

If you wish to join, or all lapsed members wish to re-join, please follow the prompts at: <https://www.mindinganimals.com/become-a-member/>

Minding Animals Board positions vacant

There have been several changes on the Board of Minding Animals. Before the Board meeting held in Ciudad de México, Marc Bekoff and Dale Jamieson indicated that they would not be seeking re-election to the Board. At that meeting, and unbeknown to both, Marc and Dale were appointed as Patrons. Also prior to MAC4, Kim Stallwood resigned as the Executive Director. Three people nominated and were appointed to the Board just after MAC4: Lynda Birke, Sandra Swart and Raj Reddy.

Subsequent to the appointment of its newest members, both Carol Adams and Clive Phillips indicated their intention to resign so that they can pursue other interests. We also wish both Carol and Clive all the very best and our heartfelt appreciation for their contributions to Board activities since our inception. Jeff Sebo has also resigned as Treasurer, but remains on the Board. He will continue to fill in as an interim Treasurer until we find a replacement.

Recently, one of the co-convenors for the upcoming Animals and Climate Change Conference in 2021, Daniel Ramp, joined the Board, as did Ana Cristina Ramírez Barreto, convenor for MAC4 (please see website for details).

We are still looking for nominations for the following positions:

- **Executive Director (ED) (non-voting)**
- **Secretary**
- **Treasurer**

The positions in question need to be filled by individuals who are committed to animal protection and would be, first and foremost, committed to Minding Animals as an organisation and to its objectives. The positions available are for active members only, and are not offered as position/CV fillers.

You would be expected to contribute to live active debate, sometimes challenging but always engaged and rewarding. And you would need to actively support Board activities, from taking minutes, constitutional and by-law reform, updating databases and stuffing envelopes!

The ED, Secretary and Treasurer positions need to be filled by persons with a sound understanding and knowledge of the requirements for organisational functioning. Position descriptions are being developed by the Board. We especially welcome Animal Studies students, and scholars from a non-Western north European heritage.

If you have any questions, please contact: board@mindinganimals.com

Please note that previous applicants do not need to re-apply as they will also be considered.

Our losses in 2018: In Memoria

Vale Karen Dalke - a passion for animals



It is with the deepest sadness and regret that we announce the passing of our friend and colleague, Karen Dalke. Karen sustained irreparable injuries from falling from her horse early in 2018. A dedicated animal lover, especially her mustangs, Karen will be forever missed. Karen was an anthropologist and was senior lecturer in Public and Environmental Affairs at UW Green Bay. Karen was a long time supporter of Minding Animals, having been to all but one Minding Animal Conferences. Her husband Dan Skorczewski posted this moving tribute on Karen's Facebook page:

Karen and I have appreciated all the love and support. Although my beautiful bride is no longer able to sit with me, she still sits with me as I read the beautiful heart felt comments by each and every one of her friends. I have been selfish as I sit and read. Taking in each tribute, story, or comment. Each one just confirms what I have always known, Karen is and always will be the kindest, sweetest, most generous, woman I have ever known. I thank each and every one of you for raising my spirit these last few days.

Spend a moment listening to her words when interviewed by Siobhan O'Sullivan for the Knowing Animals podcast Episode 78:

<https://player.fm/series/knowing-animals-2394606/episode-78-in-memoria-karen-dalke>

Vale Deborah Bird Rose – celebrating her life and work



Deborah Bird Rose was an anthropologist whose scholarship in multi-species ethnography, kinship, extinctions, and the environmental humanities is unparalleled and hugely influential. Born in the USA, Deb moved to Australia and initially worked with Aboriginal Australians in their claims to land and in other decolonising contexts. Deb succumbed to cancer in December. Her loss to Animal Studies and to her fellow Animal Studies academics is immeasurable. Writing on extinctions and the environment, her words hold a special poignancy at this sad time in respect of her own life and work and the problems now facing the planet:

My research has led me to develop the concept of double death through which I explore some of the ways in which we become partisans with death rather than life. On the one hand, double death is a threshold process in which the work that promotes death starts to overwhelm the work that promotes life. On the other hand, double death presses us to take a stand: for life or for death. This choice is pressed upon us not because life and death are in themselves oppositional but because the work that amplifies death is destroying the capacity of life to twist death back into life. Increasingly, life is struggling or failing to hold death in balance; increasingly life is struggling to affirm and promote relationships that sustain life and death in their mutual integrity.

Species are rendered locally or everywhere extinct, billabongs and springs are emptied of water, and soils are turned into scald areas, and forests are clear-felled. Dust storms, major heat events, massive bushfires, desertification, and acid sulphate soils stalk the land. This violence produces vast expanses where life founders. It amplifies death not only by killing pieces of living systems, but by diminishing the capacity of living systems to repair themselves, to return death back into life. What can a living system do if huge parts of it are exterminated? Where are the thresholds beyond which death takes over from life? Are we not exceeding those thresholds violently and massively not only through direct destruction but also through all the indirect, amplifying unpredictabilities of climate change?

Deb was a member of the inaugural Minding Animals Academic Advisory Committee, and delivered the first Val Plumwood Memorial Lecture entitled Philosophical Animism at the first Minding Animals Conference in 2009. Our thoughts go out to her loved ones at this time of sorrow.

Donations to Minding Animals International

Did you know that, if you are a US citizen, all donations to Minding Animals International are tax deductible? Minding Animals International is a registered US 501(c)(3) Charity.

If interested in donating, please log on to: <http://www.mindinganimals.com/donations/>

Call for Submissions

Special issue of *Animals and Society, We are Best Friends*, by Leslie Irvine. Closing date 15 March.

http://www.mdpi.com/journal/socsci/special_issues/Animals_Society

Friendships between humans and non-human animals were once dismissed as sentimental anthropomorphism. After all, who could claim to be friends with a being who did not speak the same language? Animals' emotions were also questioned. However, decades of research on the emotional and cognitive capacities of animals have made it possible to recognise human-animal friendships as true relationships involving mindedness on both sides. Friendships with animals manifest many of the same characteristics as friendships between humans. Both parties understand the other as having interests, preferences, and other aspects of subjective experience. Both enjoy the shared presence that friendship entails, with its moments of intersubjectivity that comes with knowing another being. Both friends develop ways of communicating, apart from or in addition to spoken language.

Having an animal as a best friend often takes the form of companionship understood as the 'pet', but the relationship comes in other forms, too. People who work with animals often characterise their nonhuman partners as friends. People who work with search and rescue dogs, herding dogs, or police dogs develop, and even depend on, the closeness of best friendship. The same holds for equestrians of all sorts, as horses and riders must understand each other's bodies and movements intimately. In some situations, animals provide the sole source of affection and interaction in people's lives. Homeless people who live on the streets with animal companions often develop best friendships largely through 24/7 togetherness.

In this light, this Special Issue on humans and animals as best friends seeks to explore the various forms these friendships take. Moreover, it aims to shed light on what these friendships mean for society, broadly construed. In short, how do human animal friendships, and best friendships, in particular, expand the existing interdisciplinary knowledge of the roles of animals in society? We encourage researchers from all disciplines and all methodological and theoretical approaches to submit contributions.

Prof. Dr. Leslie Irvine
Guest Editor

Partner Events

22 to 24 May, 2019: Barcelona, Spain

6th Conference of the European Association for Critical Animal Studies

You can find all the information here: <http://eventum.upf.edu/go/EACAS2019>

See flyer at the end of the Bulletin.

Book Announcement

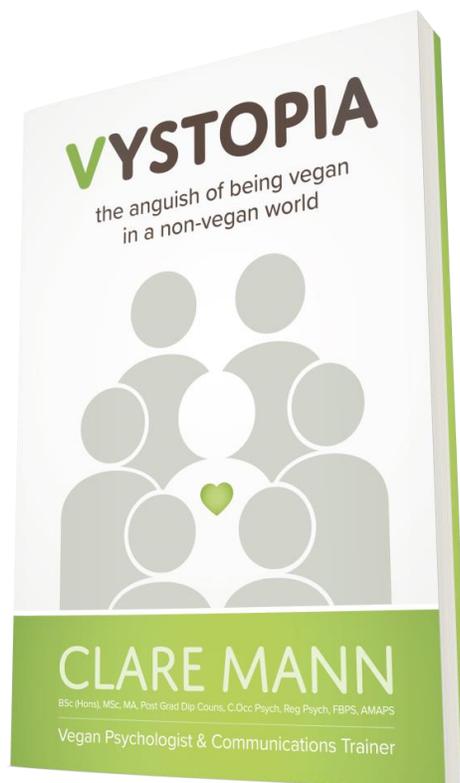
We would like to highly recommend the following exceptional publication for our Bulletin readers.

Vystopia: the anguish of being vegan in a non-vegan world

Author: Clare Mann

Publisher: Communicate31 Pty Ltd

Publication: 2018



Vystopia is the existential crisis experienced by vegans who learn about speciesism and systematised animal cruelty and the trance like collusion that non vegans have with practices that abuse animals and, in turn, the environment and people. As Clare explains:

A decade ago, after becoming vegan, I started speaking out for animal rights at conferences, festivals and online. Vegans came to see me directly or told their doctors they only wanted to see vegan practitioners, as their pain was undermined when they were told they had depression or not to judge the world so harshly. I believe that they were not necessarily mentally ill but demonstrated the normal reactions of feeling human should feel after discovering the cover-up of industrialised animal abuse. I am a telling witness to the anguish of knowing about the systematised abuse of animals in society. I needed a name for what I believe is an existential despair, and to find solutions for vegans whilst avoiding medicalisation of the condition. Vystopia is the name I created to explain the vegan's experience, and this book provides a way for vegans to navigate their pain and become the necessary champions to create a more compassionate world.

This book is available for (worldwide) purchase at: <https://vystopia.com/>
Alternatively, hear Clare at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_5irQWrib28

**6TH EACAS
CONFERENCE**
of the European Association
for Critical Animal Studies

Rethinking revolution:

Nonhuman animals, antispeciesism, and power

#EACAS2019



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MAY 2019
BARCELONA

Picture: Aitor Garmendia (Tras los Muros)

upf. Universitat
Pompeu Fabra
Barcelona

criticc

cae Centre
for Animal
Ethics

eacas
European Association on Critical Animal Studies

Third Annual Human-Animal Studies Institute / July 14-20, 2019

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

The Institute is directed by Jane Desmond (Resident Director), Kim Marra (University of Iowa), Margo DeMello (ASI), and Kenneth Shapiro (ASI).

The Animals & Society Institute (ASI) and the Center for Advanced Study (CAS) at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign invite applications for the third annual Human-Animal Studies Summer Institute program for advanced graduate students and early career scholars pursuing research in Human-Animal Studies. This interdisciplinary program, inaugurated in 2017, is focused on graduate students and those in the first few years post-Ph.D. or other terminal degrees and will enable 20-30 participants to work on their dissertations or publications at UIUC, hosted by the Center for Advanced Study, for one intensive week. The 2019 Institute will take place from **Sunday, July 14 through Saturday, July 20, 2019.**

The Institute is designed to support participants' individual research in Human-Animal Studies as well as to promote interdisciplinary exchange. The program will offer a shared space of critical inquiry that brings the participants' work-in-progress to the attention of a network of influential HAS scholars, and provides the participants with the guidance and feedback to develop their work. At the heart of the program are daily morning seminars devoted to discussion of participants' work, followed by afternoon plenary lectures by distinguished speakers. These will be complemented by special workshops and field trips to on- and off-campus locations which highlight different aspects of the human-animal relationship. Participants should expect a stimulating intellectual environment reflecting a diversity of approaches, projects, disciplinary backgrounds, and ethical positions on animal issues. All fellows must be in continuous residence for the duration of the program.

The plenary lecture schedule includes the following:

- ◆ Saheed Aderinto, History, Western Carolina University

- ◆ Chris Green, Animal Law & Policy Program, Harvard Law School
- ◆ Maria Lux, Art, Whitman College
- ◆ Bill Lynn, George Perkins Marsh Institute, Clark University
- ◆ Carrie Rohman, English, Lafayette College
- ◆ Juno Salazar-Parrenas, Women's Gender and Sexuality Studies, Ohio State University
- ◆ Deke Weaver, New Media: Video and Performance, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Application Deadline:

February 28, 2019

Tuition and Other Fees

The tuition fee for the Institute (which covers registration, housing, library access, special events, receptions, and seminars) is \$800. On- and off-campus dining options are available. We encourage applicants to seek funding from their universities to cover expenses, and once accepted we can supply documentation of acceptance to assist them in doing so.

Several full tuition scholarships are available for current UIUC students in graduate or professional programs.

Eligibility

Applicant must (1) be a doctoral student at the dissertation stage or early career scholar no more than four years past the Ph.D. or other terminal degree, or be a MSW, DVM, or JD student in the advanced stages of their degree; (2) have a commitment to advancing research in Human-Animal Studies; and (3), submit a follow-up report six months after the program's completion. Applications are encouraged from the social sciences, humanities, arts, and natural sciences, as long as a part of the project is explicitly dealing with the human-animal relationship.

Full application details can be found at:

<https://www.animalsandsociety.org/asi-resources/summer-institute-call-for-applications-announced/>