



Minding Animals
2009

Conference Newsletter

Conference Newsletter Number Three – July, 2008

Welcome to the third edition of the Minding Animals Conference Newsletter.

**Civic Precinct,
Newcastle,
Australia,
13-18 July, 2009**

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Registration and Call for Papers/Abstracts

Now Open Online at:

www.mindinganimals.com

The Minding Animals Conference Registration and Call for Papers/ Abstracts opened on 4 July. All potential delegates are encouraged to visit the website to view what the conference has to offer.

We have also designed an interesting social programme for your enjoyment, including two conference dinners, wine tastings, art exhibitions and whale watching.



**THE UNIVERSITY OF
NEWCASTLE**
AUSTRALIA



Abstracts Open

The Call for Papers is now open. If you are interested in participating in the conference, please fill in the Call for Papers form on the website.

There will be a sustained effort to allow all persons who submit an abstract to allow them to present their work as either a talk or poster. If an extraordinary number of abstracts are received, some limits may need to be set on the number of abstracts that can be accepted from any

one potential delegate. Those persons will be being given the opportunity to present their additional abstracts as posters if their additional work cannot be included within the final programme.

You will need to limit the length of your abstract, so please follow the instructions very carefully. We are currently negotiating with several journals and publishers regarding the publication of papers that are presented to the conference - when you

submit an abstract, you will also be asked to indicate whether you want your paper considered for publication.

Several prizes will be presented at the Conference for the best papers, so we will also be asking whether you wish to have your paper considered for a prize.



"I am in favour of animal rights as well as human rights. That is the way of a whole human being".

Lincoln

Pre-conference Lectures move to the USA and UK

The Third and Fourth Minding Animals Conference Pre-conference Lectures are moving to the USA and UK.

The Third Lecture Series will be held on 14 November, 2008, in New York. Speakers will include Professor Peter Singer.



The Fourth Lecture Series will be held on 5 December, 2008, in London, and will be opened by Professor Richard D. Ryder, who coined the term speciesism. Dr Erica Fudge and Dr Hilda Kean will be among the London lecturers.

The Fifth and final Lecture Series will be held back in Australia and will include a lecture by Professor Steve Garlick.

And don't forget the Second Lecture Series to be held in Sydney on 1 August, and then in Newcastle on 5 August.

The Lecturers will be given by musician Professor David Rothenberg, and by zoomusicologist, Hollis Taylor.

Please see conference website for details.

The Inside Story

The conference will be a meat-free, GM-free and smoke-free event. The conference will also strive to be a carbon-neutral event, with a percentage of all registration fees contributed to appropriate environmental charities to partially offset your carbon usage.

The conference venue will be the Newcastle City Precinct, incorporating the Town Hall, Civic Theatre, Newcastle Playhouse and facilities within the University of Newcastle City Campus.

A tentative and working programme has been released on the website. The final conference programme will be provided to all Conference participants.



Panel Sessions Announced

Panel sessions will be conducted with two or three panelists over an hour period, with at least a dedicated 15 minutes allocated for questions and discussion on the specific topic for consideration.

A call for those interested in panels was made in March 2008, in the Second Conference Newsletter. A number of panel committees have since been established and include:

- Veterinary Science
- Wildlife Veterinary Science
- Zoos and Zoo Culture
- Wildlife and the City
- Animals and Education
- Animals and Religion
- Animals and the Political Process
- Profound Species Encounters
- Animals throughout History
- Animals in 19th Century Europe
- Animals and Music and Zoomusicology
- Animals and Art
- Animals in Film
- Animals and Performance
- Animals in the Media and the Internet
- Animals and the Law
- National Animal Welfare Strategies
- Ethology and Philosophy
- Animals and Philosophy
- Elephants
- Primates
- Whales and Dolphins
- Animals in Literature (including French Literature, Spanish Literature, American Literature, Australian Literature, Children's Literature, Renaissance and Modern European Literature, Classics, Poetry, and 19th Century Literature)

If you would like to convene a panel, be part of a panel group, or present on a panel, please email the Conference Co-convenor at: rod.bennison@newcastle.edu.au

Join in the Protecting the Animals Seminar Series

A key aspect of the conference will be the Protecting the Animals Seminar Series. The Seminars will be run by animal advocacy and environmental organisations and key government bodies. The seminars will consider such varied topics as protecting marine mammals, moon bears, sharks and the great apes, the commercialisation of wildlife, animal advocacy, veterinary practices, and animals and the law.

The Seminar Series has also been designed to increase the dialogue between environmental and animal groups, something that has been lacking and at times has led to tension at the expense of animals. So your input is especially encouraged to help mend wounds and breach the gaps that divide groups that often hold similar, if not the same, objectives.

Seminars will run from one to four hours. They can take the form of a lecture, a panel discussion, a general forum for discussion, or an interactive workshop. A Group Leader will be selected, who may or may not wish to offer a lecture and help guide the discussion.

Participating groups will have access to a display table for the duration of the conference, a complimentary satchel insert, and will be provided with a complimentary registration. Audio-visual equipment will be provided as part of your package. If you are a government agency, or an environmental or animal protection group or advocacy, and are interested in being a participant group, please contact the Minding Animals Secretariat at mindinganimals@pco.com.au

Does your group want to run a seminar? Please hurry as no further seminar groups will be established after 4 September, 2008.

"The greatness of a nation and its moral progress can be judged by the way its animals are treated".

Gandhi

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Minding Animals Conference Secretariat
PO Box 116
Salamander Bay NSW 2317
AUSTRALIA

Phone: +61 2 4984 2554
Fax: +61 2 4984 2755
E-mail: mindinganimals@pco.com.au

The conference will bring together animal theorists and scientists from a broad range of academic disciplines, with government officials from several nations, representatives from non government organisations, and representatives from industry, to examine the interrelationships between human and nonhuman animals from cultural, historical, geographical, environmental, representational, moral, legal and political perspectives.

Register Now at: www.mindinganimals.com

