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Summer 2018

Price £2 (free to members)



animalwatch

PUTTING ANIMALS ON THE AGENDA OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH



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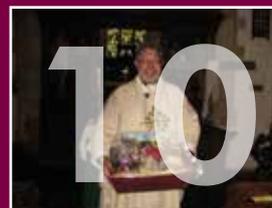
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Cover image ©Chris Brown

DORIS' DIARY

Hello! My name is Doris, and I am a Border Leicester ewe with very large ears! I was rescued by ASWA secretary Sam Chandler, as I had outlived my usefulness as a breeding ewe.

Below are some great events ewe may enjoy!

Sunday 15 July

Pet Service, St Paul's Church, Rusthall Road, Rusthall, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 8RE, 5pm.
For more information contact office@stpaulsrusthall.org.uk.

Saturday 1 September

Paw-a-Coffee fundraiser for ASWA, Crowborough, East Sussex, 2pm to 5.30pm.
Entry £5. For information, contact Janet Murphy (janetjmurphy2@gmail.com).

Sunday 30 September

Animal Blessing Service, Canterbury Cathedral Precincts, 2pm.
All animals must be kept in appropriate cages/baskets or on leads.

Saturday 6 October

ASWA Day Conference on Marine Animal Welfare, St Mary's Church, Portsea, Portsmouth, 9am to 12.30pm.

Animal Blessing and Thanksgiving Service for Pets, St Martin's Church, Kensal Green, London, NW10 5SN, 2pm. The service will be led by the Revd Graham Noyce. Those unable to attend in person can send the name and some details of a pet for inclusion in the service. For more details, please contact animalblessinguk@gmail.com.

Sunday 7 October

Animal Welfare Sunday

ASWA Annual Service, St Mary's Church, Portsea, Portsmouth, 10am. The preacher will be ASWA Chair, the Revd Dr Helen Hall.

Animal Blessing Service, St Andrew's Church, Jarrom Street, Leicester, 3pm. This will be a special celebration to mark the 30th anniversary of the animal blessing service at St Andrew's.

Sunday 11 November

ASWA Remembrance Service at the Animals' War Memorial, Park Lane, London, 3pm.

For further details of events, please visit the website:
www.aswa.org.uk



HELLO AND WELCOME TO ANIMALWATCH

Welcome to *Animalwatch*. In this issue, we focus on animal sentience and its relevance to animal welfare. We also report on the ASWA AGM and a new opportunity to help raise funds to support ASWA's work.

We hope that you enjoy keeping up-to-date with news and information on our website. Do check regularly for resources and information about upcoming events. Please do make a note of the dates in Doris' Diary – especially the day conference and annual service in October. We hope to see you there.

Please send any items for consideration for *Animalwatch* to Revd Jennifer Brown, Editor, PO Box 7193, Hook, Hampshire, RG27 8GT. Email is even better – animalwatch@jenbrown.org.uk. Please note that, owing to space restrictions, it may not be possible to print all contributions, and that letters and other contributions are subject to editing.

Jennifer Brown, Editor

The deadline for the Autumn magazine is **Monday 20th August 2018**.

ASWA MERCHANDISE

ASWA 2018 Christmas card



Once again, this year's beautiful Christmas card has been designed exclusively for ASWA by Thea Olrog. Cards cost £5.50 per pack of 6 (including postage). Made from good-quality stiff card with high-quality envelopes, each card is printed with a Bible verse and has ASWA's details on the back. Sending an ASWA Christmas card is a great way to help raise the profile of ASWA and the work that we do. Cards will be available for purchase on-line or from the ASWA Secretary from September.

Available from the ASWA web site

ASWA literature: a range of literature on a variety of animal welfare subjects available.

PAWS for Prayer cards: paw shaped cards with a prayer for companion animals printed on one side. £0.35 each (minimum purchase 10)

Egg Cards: egg shaped cards with a prayer printed on one side. £0.35 each (minimum purchase 10).

ASWA bags: handy cotton shopping bag with the ASWA logo. £4 each.

ASWA badges: show your support for ASWA by wearing a lapel badge with the ASWA logo. £1.50 each.

Our Wild World, an ASWA resource for children is now available to purchase from the ASWA web site for just £3. This sticker book is a fun way to help children learn about the creatures that populate our world and God's love and care for them.



CONTRIBUTIONS TO ANIMALWATCH

We very much welcome contributions to *Animalwatch* from our readers. We are interested to hear about the positive things being done for animals in your churches and communities. We also welcome informed pieces on specific areas of animal welfare, such as items relating to animal welfare law, the history of animal welfare and theology. Articles should be submitted to the Editor by post or by email as Word documents, with any accompanying photos sent as high-resolution jpg, gif or png files. Items submitted as pdf files cannot be accepted. Contributions must be the contributor's own original work, and (unless otherwise agreed) not published elsewhere. Items may be edited for length, readability and appropriateness of content. Publication of submitted items is at the Editor's discretion. In the absence of any other agreement, by submitting an article, the contributor assigns copyright for the piece to ASWA. For items submitted by email, please assume your item has been received unless you get a delivery failure notice. The Editor is unable to acknowledge receipt of individual submissions.

A Warm Welcome to our new members.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Arthur Allan, Yockleton, Shrewsbury

Sylvia Collins-Mayo, London

Chris Evans, London

James Gooding, Blewbury, Oxfordshire

Lucy Hodge, Oakenshaw, Crook, Co Durham

Dianne Scott, Luton, Bedfordshire

Charlotte Snashall, Hanwell, London

Sylvia Walker, Steeton, Keighley, West Yorkshire

Revd Bob White, Portsmouth, Hampshire

To all our new members we extend a warm welcome and, along with our existing members, we would ask that you encourage others who share your concern for animal welfare to join. Introductory leaflets are available from the Secretary.

GOOD NEWS

Giving new life to ocean plastics – out of the water

The harm being done by waste plastic in the oceans has recently received much attention, thanks in large part to the BBC series Blue Planet II. While plastic waste remains a huge problem, attempts are being made both to raise awareness and begin tackling the problem. Sportswear manufacturer Adidas is now making shoes and clothing from recycled ocean plastics. This fantastic initiative, done in partnership with pro-marine organisation Parley, may be only one small step, but it shows that something can be done.

NEWS & NOTICES

Don't forget, you can follow ASWA on Twitter – [aswanews](#)



You can also keep up with what's new via our website – www.aswa.org.uk.

Check the web site for the latest resources, including those for youth & children.

Animal-friendly Church awards

Is your church animal friendly? ASWA sponsors the Animal-friendly Church award to recognise those churches that take animal welfare seriously as part of their ministry and mission. Churches can apply at any time and those meeting the necessary criteria will be awarded animal-friendly church status. Information is available on the website or from the Secretary.



ASWA Annual Service and Day Conference

This year's annual service will be held at St Mary's Church, Portsea, Portsmouth on Sunday 7th October, 10.00am. The preacher will be ASWA Chair, the Revd Dr Helen Hall. In addition, this year we will be hosting a Day Conference on Saturday 6th October, focusing on care for marine wildlife. The Day Conference will also be held at St Mary's, Portsea, and will run from 9.30am to 12.30pm.

ASWA Local groups

There is an Ecumenical group, the Three Counties Animal Welfare Prayer Group, who meet for a service at Gloucester Cathedral at 12.15 on the first Saturday of each month. The contact for the ecumenical group is the Revd Helen Hall (01633-677775 or helen.hall123@ntlworld.com).

ASWA is always keen to support the formation of new groups. If you are interested in starting a group in your area, please contact the Secretary.

ASWA SPEAKERS AVAILABLE

If you have a group or service that would welcome an ASWA speaker, we would love to hear from you! We often travel a fair distance so please call to discuss it. We usually bring a stall and literature and always liaise with our hosts to ensure the talk is appropriate for their particular audience. Keep the invitations rolling in!

ASWA NEWS

End Poverty 2030

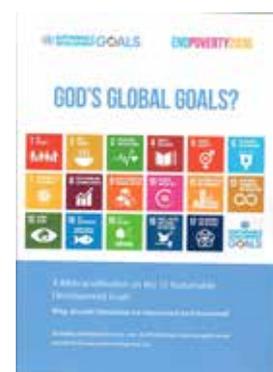
ASWA has joined an organisation which comprises a collection of Christian organisations including Cafod, Traidcraft, A Rocha, Christian Aid, Operation Noah, Church Mission Society and many others. This organisation seeks to be a Christian voice to the United Nations initiative to try to tackle world poverty by 2030.

Their aim is to engage the Church in the task of Justice and specifically to engage the 'emerging generation', those in the age group 18–25, as they will be the ones who will ultimately take this forward. It's very encouraging that animal welfare is among the goals included in this ambitious initiative, and that ASWA has been asked to be a part of it.

For more information, visit www.endpoverty2030.com/.

EMAIL AND CHANGES TO DATA PROTECTION IN THE UK AND EUROPE

No doubt our UK and European readers will all be aware by now of the new data protection regulations, known as GDPR, that came into effect in May. Members and subscribers will continue to receive their copies of *Animalwatch* as usual. If, however, you want us to continue to contact you by email about campaigns and our activities, and have not replied to GDPR emails, we need you to let us know it's ok. If you are an ASWA member, and are happy for us to keep you on our emailing list, please email aswamembership@btinternet.com. Please put "ASWA email address (and your name)" in the subject line and include in your message "I give consent for ASWA to hold my name and email address and to contact me with information relevant to ASWA and its work and related issues."



THE SCIENCE OF ANIMAL CONSCIOUSNESS SUPPORTS THE OBVIOUS

I have no doubt that numerous non-human animals (animals) are conscious beings, and I know I'm not alone in taking this strong and uncompromising position. Whenever I publish something to this effect and write about a new study or review that clearly shows animals are indeed conscious, I often receive emails that go something like, "Gee, isn't this reinventing the wheel and a total waste of time?" or "We've known this for centuries" or "Tell me something we didn't know." I couldn't agree more that the real question at hand is why has consciousness evolved in other animals rather than if it has evolved. And, the position that it is unquestionable that other animals are conscious and sentient beings is not only or merely that of animal activists or pro-animal people. Indeed, the recent Cambridge Declaration on Consciousness signed by 16 well-known scientists, some of whom do or have done invasive research, concluded:

"Convergent evidence indicates that non-human animals have the neuroanatomical, neurochemical, and neurophysiological substrates of conscious states along with the capacity to exhibit intentional behaviors. Consequently, the weight of evidence indicates that humans are not unique in possessing the neurological substrates that generate consciousness. Non-human animals, including all mammals and birds, and many other creatures, including octopuses, also possess these neurological substrates."

They could also have included fishes, for whom the evidence supporting sentience and consciousness is also compelling.

"Animal Consciousness": A comprehensive and current comparative review of what we know about consciousness in other animals

I recently learned about a new and report called Animal Consciousness authored by 16 scientists It's long and detailed, but I figured if they took the time to write it, I could take the time to read through it. I fully realize that many people won't, so here I just want to summarize some of their findings. While the authors took a broad comparative view of consciousness in non-human animals, there was somewhat of a

focus on so-called livestock because of how billions of these sentient beings are routinely and globally abused for human palettes. 'Livestock' is a demeaning word I disdain because these are living sentient beings rather than merely 'stock'. If anything, they should be called 'deadstock'.

Concerning this exceptional report, at INRA's (France's National Institute for Agricultural Research) website we read, "This INRA collective scientific expert report is based on a critical review of international literature on animal consciousness. 659 references selected from the Web of Science™ Core Collection (WOS) database were studied by 17 experts, including 10 INRA experts, from different scientific fields (biologists, cognitivists and philosophers). 75% of these publications come from international scientific journals, 33% of which were published after 2010. INRA's Delegation for Scientific Expertise, Foresight and Advanced Studies (DEPE) coordinated the report.

Here are some snippets from this study to whet your appetite for more:

- Caution is required before excluding consciousness in species not having the same brain structures as the mammalian ones as different neural architectures may mediate comparable processes.
- Considering the limited amount of data available and the few animal species studied so far, we conclude that different manifestations of consciousness can be observed in animals but that further refinement is still needed to characterize their level and content in each species.
- ...the overall picture obtained from the large range of species considered strongly provides evidence for different types of consciousness in both livestock and fish.
- We provide a few examples of higher levels of consciousness in domestic livestock: in poultry, hens can judge their own state of knowledge suggesting they are conscious of what they know or do not know. Pigs can remember what events they experienced, where, and when. Several other examples

of cognitive capacities potentially underlying consciousness in domestic livestock are also available, such as recognition of individuals in sheep and cattle. Collectively these studies and those on wild and laboratory species, clearly support the hypothesis that domestic livestock species are capable of complex conscious processing.

- Livestock species, such as poultry, pigs, and sheep, exhibit cognitive behaviours that seem to imply levels and contents of consciousness that until recently were considered exclusive to humans and to some primates. That is even more the case for fish and invertebrates that until recently were not even considered as sentient.

It's high time to stop pretending we don't know if other animals are conscious and sentient beings: Bridging the knowledge translation gap.

In the INRA report we read, and I quote directly because it is essential to acknowledge what the authors themselves conclude:

"It is thus likely that what matters to animals is rather similar to what matters to humans. We believe that human sentience is the capacity to suffer and to feel empathy for the suffering of others, and deserves ethical recognition ... Therefore, the same should apply to non-human beings supposed to possess a 'sentience-like.'

"The level of respect due to the animals is driven by the understanding of the forms of consciousness accessible to different animal species. Broadly speaking, we can say that the development of the cognitive sciences has resulted in the recognition of cognitive capacities in many species of animals (particularly mammals and some birds), including the capacity to experience a range of mental states and thus the possession of a mental universe much richer than that of mere existence as a sentient being. And yet this scientific development has coincided with the development of contemporary livestock production systems in which animals are, in the view of animal welfare advocates, increasingly treated as mere machines. In laboratory research, animals are

likewise treated as though they were nothing but tools. Inquiring into the cognitive capacities and forms of consciousness manifested by various animal species thus results in a tension between a 'thing to respect' in animals, which tends to expand, and a human behaviour that in practice respects the animal less and less, at least insofar as the public opinion understands it."

All in all, similar to the Cambridge Declaration on Consciousness and other documents, the INRA report provides conclusive evidence that nonhuman

animals are conscious beings and it's high time to put the debate about whether they really are conscious to permanent sleep. Skeptics who continue to say something like, "We really don't know if animals are conscious" ignore solid science and are dead wrong. It's time for them to go home and read available scientific studies and pay close attention to what we're learning about their cognitive and emotional lives, end of story.

Marc Bekoff

This is an abridged version of an article was originally published in *Psychology Today* as *Animal Consciousness: New Report Puts All Doubts to Sleep*, and is reprinted with permission. The original can be found at <https://www.psychologytoday.com/blog/animal-emotions/201801/animal-consciousness-new-report-puts-all-doubts-sleep>. Marc's latest books are *The Animals' Agenda: Freedom, Compassion, and Coexistence in the Human Age* and *Canine Confidential: Why Dogs Do What They Do*. His web site is marcbekoff.com.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

AUSTRALIA



The plight of kangaroos

Reports from the early days of European settlement in Australia indicate that at that time there were tens of millions of kangaroos, but that is certainly no longer the case. Probably fewer than ten million remain, though it is impossible to give an accurate estimate in such a vast country. They are peaceful animals, living on grasses and leaves, and it is a pleasure to see them in the wild, often sitting in groups, early in the morning or in the evening, after the heat of the day.

They have always faced many challenges, drought, fire, and flood being the most obvious, but the biggest threat to their existence these days is something few people know about – namely that every night of the year they can become part of what is recognised as the largest commercial slaughter of land-based animals anywhere on earth. We are killing our totemic animal, depicted on coinage, flags, the Australian Coat of Arms, and on Qantas planes as the 'flying kangaroo'.

Officially protected under Australian law, animals are shot at night by licensed shooters, trucked to a chilling facility and later, processed. This is clearly far from hygienic and there are obvious health risks. Annually 1,000 tons of meat and skins are exported, equivalent to one million animals. Belgium, France, Germany and the Netherlands are the main customers in Europe. How long can we hope to have these wonderful animals if this slaughter continues?

A recent documentary, *Kangaroos – A Love-Hate story*, has shed a great deal of light. It has been shown in Australia, the USA and also to various groups in the

EU Parliament. Several MPs suggested that in light of the cruelty involved in their slaughter and, importantly, the lack of hygiene leading to contamination of the meat, consideration could be given to a ban on kangaroo products, similar to the ban on seal products. How welcome that would be.

Olga Parkes

SOUTH AFRICA



Rescuing animals from the ravages of war

International animal welfare organization Four Paws established the LIONSROCK Sanctuary in 2006 after identifying the need for a facility which could cater for the growing number of animals the organization was rescuing around the world. After an extensive search, Four Paws identified and acquired a piece of land on the outskirts of Bethlehem, previously used for canned hunting, that was perfectly suited to being converted to a sanctuary. The 25 big cats that Four Paws had taken over from the previous owners remained on site and were provided with medical care.

In 2007 a group of nine lions from the bankrupt Austrian safari park Gänserndorf and another from one of the many condemned Romanian zoos were the first international arrivals. Over the years a growing number of animals has been transferred to the facility from some of the worst conditions imaginable. Currently LIONSROCK is home to more than 100 big cats, including Simba and Saeed, lions rescued from the war-torn regions of Iraq and Syria.

Simba: One of two survivors

Believed to be about four years old, Simba was born in the Montazah Al-Morour Zoo in the eastern part of Mosul during the ongoing war in Iraq. Most of the zoo's residents died of starvation or were killed by bomb attacks. A few animals escaped from their damaged enclosures. When the Four Paws rescue team stepped in during February 2017, they found only two animals alive in the zoo – Simba and a bear, Lulu. After weeks of difficult negotiations in Iraq, both were successfully evacuated in April 2017.

Saeed: Lucky number 13

Because of his young age, it is believed that two-year-old lion Saeed was also born in captivity during the war in Syria. In July 2017, Four Paws rescued the lion along with twelve other animals from the neglected zoo of the Magic World amusement park near Aleppo. International security companies and the Turkish Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs supported the evacuation. After a two-week stay in Turkey, the Turkish government approved the departure of the thirteen injured and traumatized animals in August 2017.

Both Simba and Saeed have adapted well to life at LIONSROCK and the overall improvement in their individual conditions has been remarkable.

LIONSROCK was born out of a need to create a facility where big cats can thrive and live out their lives away from pain and suffering. It is our hope that one day facilities such as these will no longer be needed and that we will learn to treat animals with the humanity, empathy and respect they deserve.

Chris de Wet

Sweden

Birds, cows and dogs galore



A new animal rights movement called Chick Save is documenting on film and in still photos the last moments of chicks' lives at one of Sweden's biggest poultry producers, Kronfågel. They are working to raise public awareness of the horrors that they suffer. Most people only see chicken packaged in plastic or served on a plate. Chick Save argue that these creatures are not food – they are sentient beings deserving respect. Kronfågel were quick to officially welcome Chick Save and offer them certain access to their production. Although Chick Save is ardent in their desire to awaken awareness they are not, however, militant. They strive to use diplomacy and dialogue with the companies they wish to cover.

Ascension Day heralds free grazing for cows in Sweden. Farms let the cows loose for free grazing over the summer. This has become a big event and when Barva Farm let their 200 cows out this May, over one thousand tourists and onlookers were there with picnic hampers and blankets and cameras. Seeing the cows literally jump for joy when being set free to graze is covered on nationwide news reports on the television. The event offers many city-dwellers their only opportunity to see cows for real and not just on a plate.

And finally, one of the main libraries in Sweden has employed Theodora, the listener. She has been trained for a year at the Linné University and has a degree

in Listening. Quite an accomplishment for a dog. She helps children read! She simply listens, silently, with empathy, as children read out loud to her. She never judges or corrects them, just accepts them and snuggles up to them as they read. She is a confidence booster and increases their skills in reading. She has also helped several children overcome their fear of dogs. Theodora is a bona fide member of the library staff and as such has her picture included on the staff presentation board on the wall in the library. She is, however, the only member of staff on four legs.

Sandra Kinley

USA



Trainer-sponsored Adoption Showcase



Sadly, middle Tennessee is a hotspot for abandoned and abused horses, but local horse trainers are working hard to turn the situation around. On April 28th, Hope and Joy Farms in Woodbury, Tennessee hosted an adoption showcase featuring 15 adoptable rescues that are currently in training. Their head trainer, Brandon Joseph, and youth trainer,

Katie LaDuc, competed in the previous year's Rally for the Rescues, which allows trainers to work with rescue horses for 90 days before competing. Inspired by the event, the Hope and Joy Farms family and many other local trainers have partnered with local rescues to help rescue horses find the perfect forever home. The showcase featured horses from A New Day in Gallatin, Tennessee and Hickory Hill Farm in Mt. Juliet, Tennessee. In addition to showcasing rescues and their training, Hope and Joy Farms had a veterinarian, farrier, and equine nutritionist on site to answer attendee questions and provide services. They also had a vendor area with crafts, tack, and concessions. Joining Brandon and Katie for the event were fellow rescue trainers Brittany Malinowski of Meridian Equine in Lebanon, Tennessee, Todd Morrissey of Rock Creek Equine in Oneonta, Alabama, and Kristin Breakfield of Horse Plus Humane Society. With over 240 people in attendance, the Adoption Showcase resulted in the adoption of seven of the rescue horses and two more of the horses being placed with trainers to assist in finding forever homes. Hope and Joy Farms hopes that this is the first of many adoption showcases in middle Tennessee.

Tanya Garrett

Photo credit: Pamela Parton Photography

Pictured in photo: Brandon and Katie LaDuc working with Freckles

REV ON THE RUN

In the last year I have run over 700 miles, including the London Marathon in April. Running is a joy (most of the time) and represents freedom and well-being. Which is why it is especially poignant to run for animals. So many spend their lives in cages, or in situations that rob them of the ability to play and breathe in fresh air. Tragically, they die without ever having known the joy that God intended for them.

This year's was the hottest London Marathon ever and made me think of the poor live exports who travel in hideous conditions and die equally hideous deaths. It made me think of working animals carrying huge burdens in hot climates with little water and little rest. One of the charities I ran for was Safe Haven, who help donkeys in the Holy Land. It is easy sometimes to despair

of humanity when we see so much cruelty, but the crowd in London were inspirational and hundreds of people went to local shops to get extra drinks and fruit for exhausted runners. It was a real privilege to be part of an event that brought out the best in everyone.

I was very sick at mile 15 so was thrilled just to finish in 6 hours 12 minutes – a tortoise time, but I was just happy to cross the finishing line. So far, the marathon effort has raised over £2000 for the three charities I was running for, and makes my running total over £5000 in the last year. In addition, I have just published my first novel, *Out of the Mist*, which is set on Skye and in which running plays a small part. A donation of £1 from each sale will go to animal welfare charities.

Running has given me a new confidence and the amazing people who sponsor

me are giving new hope and new beginnings to animals around the world.

Lynne Chitty



SPIKE – A SWIFT’S STORY

In 1995, a friend phoned to ask if my husband and I would take care of a baby bird who had spent a very wet night beneath a bush in her garden. She handed me a tiny little bird, very cold but still alive. Not very beautiful with his pink naked body, closed eyes, short legs, large feet and one un-budded feather on his head. Hello Spike!

Popping him into our warm airing cupboard we phoned RSPB Minsmere for advice. They were most helpful as was the pamphlet which arrived in the mail the next day. Recommended food at this stage were maggots kept in the fridge in a ventilated container. This is not for the fainthearted – they stink! Our standard method of feeding all baby creatures is to dip a camel-haired artist’s brush into the respective food which sticks to the hairs and this was gently deposited it into the back of an open beak or mouth. Water is given in the same way. Unfortunately, Spike refused to ‘gape’. I don’t know if this is standard for swifts, but we had no choice but to gently slip a thumbnail from the left hand into the side of his beak, gently prise it open and then wedge it open while we popped the brush-with-maggot down his throat. Once gulp and it was gone. Eventually he spurned maggots and wanted small flies. We became skilled fly smackers and went through 3 plastic swatters.

Spike’s other time-consuming needs were his flying exercises, which were

done six times a day in 15-minute stints. Holding him in a cupped hand, we would launch him gently skywards in the hope he would flap and not flutter his wings. Frankly, we were too stupid to realise what he needed was height. A trip up an extended ladder would have solved the problem but we patiently carried on doing the wrong thing. I did enjoy the rest period sitting outside in the sun where he would fall asleep on my shoulder.

By September 19th, all the swifts had departed for Africa. What to do. With sadness, I launched him skywards. He fluttered towards the middle of a tall leylandii hedge, then instinct kicked in and he flew up and over the hedge and down the lane. My initial joy turned to concern. He was on his way to Africa. How would he know where to go? I can get lost in Suffolk even with signposts. Spike was only 15 months old and he was flying solo.

May 1996.

I had just returned home from the midday dog walk when my neighbours who were lunching outside on the other side of our fence called, “Spike’s back”. Evidently, during their meal they saw a lone swift flying near my back door. They called his name and he flew over the fence and under their patio umbrella. He did a repeat performance and disappeared. If he did return after that I did not see him.

May 1997

I was in my garden when I heard swifts ‘screaming’ above me. Lots of little black dots wheeling about in a cloudless blue sky. Without thinking I called Spike’s name and jumped up and down waving my arms. To my amazement two dots detached themselves from the group and came hurtling towards me. One flew in circles around our tall brick chimney, the other was Spike. For nearly 40 minutes he flew low over one shoulder, wing tips flicking my cheek before zooming over a far shed with pastureland beyond before looping the loop and doing a repeat flight over my other shoulder. I held up one hand in the hope he would land on it but he didn’t. Who cared? Our beautiful bird was back, and he remembered. I was filled with the wonder of it.

We have not seen him since, but he lives on in our memories regardless.

Sally Brown



ORANGUTAN FOUNDATION: FUTURE FOR ORANGUTANS, FORESTS & PEOPLE

ASWA has a long-standing relationship with the Orangutan Foundation. They contributed an article on conservation to our Spring 2016 magazine and Ashley Leiman, Founder and Director of the Orangutan Foundation gave an excellent and interesting presentation at the 2017 ASWA AGM.

Since its foundation in 1990, the Orangutan Foundation has developed a diverse range of programmes, some of which are described in the Spring 2016 issue of *Animalwatch*. Key stakeholders, including local communities, grassroot NGO’s, local business and regional governments, are at the heart of the Foundation’s work. With their inclusion comes conservation success and sustainability. The Orangutan Foundation also continues

actively to engage the public, worldwide media, corporate and government organisations. It is on the Executive Committee of the UNEP/UNESCO Great Ape Survival Project, a member the Ape Alliance (www.4apes.com) and plays an active part in international network to promote the conservation of orangutans through the protection of their tropical forest habitat.

I personally have a passion for these remarkable creatures and their habitat, and believe this is a worthy charity to support!

Further Information regarding the work of this wonderful charity can be found at www.orangutan.org.uk.

Janet Murphy



LIVE EXPORTS – THE TIME IS NOW!



Anyone with an interest in animal welfare will have noticed that the issue of live exports is currently very much in the forefront of the news.

Environment Secretary, Michael Gove, has suggested that Britain may end the cruel UK live export trade after Brexit, and there is much pressure from Compassion in World Farming and other farm animal welfare groups to make that a reality. At the time of going to press, a Global Day of Action is planned for 14th June in London to highlight the suffering of animals during long-distance transport.

At the same time, a similar campaign is also being waged by animal lovers

in Australia. Anyone who follows the important work of Animals Australia will be aware of the horrendous footage taken on board a ship bound for the Middle East. An undercover reporter filmed conditions on board and it was shown on the Australian programme 60 Minutes. There has been a public outcry and anyone who has watched the harrowing footage will understand why. As a result, there have been protests in Fremantle and Port Adelaide and, interestingly, also in Israel.

The heart-breaking photographs with this article were taken by Irene Weiersmüller of the organisation Animals' Angels. They show lambs on board transporters in Romania and

Bulgaria. The photographs highlight the innocence of these young creatures and to those of us who have had any interaction with these gentle flock animals, the suffering involved in this trade is all too clear.

We urge our members to support both the UK and European campaigns against this cruel trade and also those in Australia who are protesting and trying to achieve change.

For further information about campaigns against live exports, visit www.ciwf.org.uk, www.animalsaustralia.org and www.kaale.org.uk (Kent Action Against Live Exports).

Samantha Chander

OBITUARIES

Ivor Plumridge

It is with sadness that we report the death of Ivor Plumridge, the brother of our hardworking membership secretary, Keith. Ivor was a great animal lover and a longstanding supporter of the League Against Cruel Sports. Over the years he faithfully fed both stray cats and local foxes. We give thanks for his life and are very grateful to him for his generous gift to the society.

Mary Bell

Mary was a loyal member of ASWA for many years. Along with her husband, Revd Kenneth Bell (who survives her), she was a regular attendee at ASWA events. She and Ken spent much of their childhood and early adult years in South Africa and were married in Durban. Their early years as a married couple were spent in Malawi where they raised

their three children and also cared for a succession of dogs and cats. They returned to England in 1974 where Ken took up a post as a vicar in Eastleigh. Here they befriended the local wildlife including a regular Badger visitor and several foxes. They also shared their home with much-loved cats. We send Ken our deepest sympathies and blessings for his continued ministry.

Eve Hodson

Eve was a long-standing and hard-working ASWA Committee Member. She lived alone with her beloved cat in North London. The latter years of her life were spent in a nursing home when she became ill. She was a loyal supporter of Animal Aid and longed to see an end to the use of animals in experimentation. She would often be seen with her collecting box and leaflets outside some of the London tube

stations near to where she lived. Her funeral at Golders Green Crematorium was lovingly organised by her group of animal rights friends and her fellow campaigner Chris gave a fitting eulogy. Donations to Animal Aid were made in her memory. She is survived by her sister who lives abroad. She will be missed by those who knew her and by the animal causes which she supported.



WINNER OF ANIMAL FRIENDLY CHURCH OF THE YEAR ANNOUNCED



The Revd Peter Wright of St Mary's, Launton with prize hamper

This year's winner of the annual Animal Friendly Church competition is St Mary's, Launton in the Diocese of Oxford. This is the third year of the competition which has received entries from all over the UK and worldwide including from Australia and Tenerife.

There was a slight delay in announcing this year's winner, as St Mary's was in interregnum when the decision was made. It was agreed that the announcement wouldn't be made until the new incumbent, Revd Peter Wright, was in post. The church's Animal Friendly Church entry was submitted by team vicar, Revd Rebecca Mathew, who has now moved onto a new post at a Church in Derby. Peter was delighted to accept the award and carry on the good work started by Becky and her team.

St Mary's was an obvious choice for Animal Friendly Church. Wildlife is

encouraged to flourish and care of creation is very much a part of the culture of the church. St Mary's is home to both Pipistrelle and Long Eared bats, and particularly impressive was the church's work with the Oxfordshire Bat Trust. A 'bat night' organised by the church was enthusiastically supported locally.

Speaking on behalf of the congregation, Revd Peter Wright said, "We are absolutely delighted to win this award. It is sometimes said that nature was God's first Bible, and we are pleased to offer a place for our community which glorifies God in prayer, praise, welcome and respect for all of his creation."

The Church was presented with a hamper full of animal-friendly products and a brass plaque in recognition of their achievement.

The runners-up in 2017 were the Priory Church of St Mary, Bridlington and St Ninian's Scottish Episcopal Church, Prestwick.

ASWA encourages churches to apply for Animal Friendly Church status. All successful applications will be entered for the next award – judging will take place in January 2019. For forms and application information, please visit the web site or write to the Secretary.

Samantha Chandler



Members of St Ninian's Church



The Revd Matthew Pollard of Bridlington Priory

THE VEGGIE TRAVELLER

Travelling has become a regular occurrence for many of us, whether for business or on holiday, but it isn't always easy for the vegetarian or vegan traveller. But, if you know where to look, there's some great food to be had, even in unexpected places.

Oslo – NordVegan

It's in Norway and it's vegan, just as the name suggests. Nordvegan is a small café-style restaurant in the centre of Oslo. Located at Kristian IVs gate 15b 0164 Oslo, Nordvegan is very near the National Gallery, and in easy walking distance of the Nationaltheatret rail station.

The staff were friendly and cheerful, and the atmosphere relaxed. What's on

offer changes daily, but when we visited (on two different days) there was a salad selection, and on each day a curry that was especially good. They also have a selection of cakes and desserts not to be missed! The cost is higher than what one would expect to pay in the UK or USA, but that's true for all restaurants in Norway.

Correction: Crete

In our last issue, we published a review of a restaurant located at 5 Dekalionos Street, Chania, Crete. We omitted the name of the restaurant, To Stachi, for which we apologise.

Have you found some great veggie friendly restaurants or hotels while

travelling, in your home country or abroad? If so, why not write a short review to send to Animalwatch and let others know about them. If you can, send a photo to go with your review.



YOUNG MEMBERS' PAGE

Welcome to our young members' page. This page features in the summer issue of *Animalwatch* each year. We'd like to make this your space, and to do that we need contributions from our under-18s membership. We want to hear from you! And if you have a suggestion for a feature to add to this page, do let us know.



SHACKLETON SEARCHES THE SCRIPTURES

Hi! My name is Shackleton. I'm named after a famous explorer, and I've been asked to help you explore the Bible to learn

more of what it says about animals. As we look at the Bible passage, younger readers may want to read the story and think about these three questions:

1. What is this passage about?
2. What does it tell us?
3. Why is it special?

Older children and teenagers may want to dig deeper (I love digging!) and tackle the questions that follow the reflections on the passage. The important thing is to think about the story and what it means for your life and our life as a Church today.

Numbers 22.23–22.41

The donkey saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road, with a drawn sword in his hand; so the donkey turned off the road, and went into the field; and Balaam struck the donkey, to turn it back on to the road. Then the angel of the Lord stood in a narrow path between the vineyards, with a wall on either side. When the donkey saw the angel of the Lord, it

scraped against the wall, and scraped Balaam's foot against the wall; so he struck it again. Then the angel of the Lord went ahead, and stood in a narrow place, where there was no way to turn either to the right or to the left. When the donkey saw the angel of the Lord, it lay down under Balaam; and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he struck the donkey with his staff. Then the Lord opened the mouth of the donkey, and it said to Balaam, "What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?" Balaam said to the donkey, "Because you have made a fool of me! ..." But the donkey said to Balaam, "Am I not your donkey, which you have ridden all your life to this day? Have I been in the habit of treating you in this way?" And he said, "No."

Then the Lord opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road, with his drawn sword in his hand; and he bowed down, falling on his face.

This story from the Old Testament might seem strange – there aren't many Bible stories about talking animals – but it tells us something important about animals and how we treat them. Even if we find it hard to believe in a talking donkey, we do

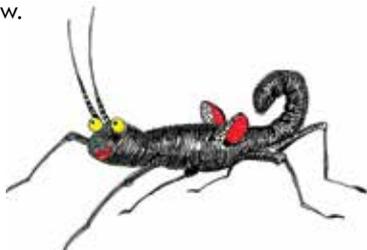
know that animals are very aware of the world around them, and that in many cases their senses, especially sense of smell, are more powerful than ours. But this story tells us something else, too. Animals are aware of God (or, in the story of Balaam's donkey, God's angel). Animals respond to what their senses tell them, just as we do, and we should respect that.

- We know that animals possess intelligence and emotions. Do you think that animals are capable of some kind of spiritual life as well? Why or why not?
- Was Balaam right to treat his donkey the way that he did just because he didn't know why the donkey was, as he saw it, misbehaving?
- Do you think that we can learn from animals and the way that they respond to their environment?
- Without his donkey, Balaam would have run right into the angel and been in danger. What do you think this story might tell us about how humans and animals need each other? Do you think that God wants us to work in partnership with other creatures?

HILDA'S HIGHLIGHT

Cows think being smart is important

Researchers in France and in the USA have found that intelligence is an important leadership quality in cows. Rather than the biggest or strongest cows being herd leaders, as we might expect, it's those that are intelligent and confident that other cows choose to follow.



ANIMAL MINDS QUIZ

How much do you know about animal intelligence?

1. Which animal dances to tell others where to find food?

- a) ducks b) bees c) sparrows

2. Which animal uses rocks to crack nuts?

- a) chimpanzees b) cows c) elephants

3. Which animal is legendary for having a long memory – something that science has shown is true?

- a) ostriches b) lions c) elephants

4. Which animal can tell the difference between a smiling and an angry human face?

- a) sheep b) squid c) robins

Answers: 1b; 2a; 3c; 4a

BOOK REVIEWS

THE SECRET LIFE OF COWS

By Rosamund Young

Faber & Faber

ISBN 978-0-571-33677-7

139pp Hardback

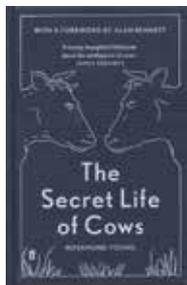
Price £9.99

This book was not what I expected it to be. It doesn't describe behaviours secretly caught on hidden cameras, or the unexpected views captured by a 'cow-cam', as you would expect from a television programme on the secret life of a species. It's also not just about cows. What this book is a description of one family's experience of the animals that they rear and love, and the ways in which those animals have surprised them over the years.

The author, Rosamund Young, is a farmer. As a farmer, she is not sentimental or fanciful about animals. This gives this book a credibility it might lack if written by someone else. Young's farm is set up to allow the animals freedom of choice in their daily lives: choice about where they go (up to a point – fields do have to be fenced to keep animals off of roads and away from other hazards), choice about with which other animals they spend their time, choice about what they eat. It is a system designed to provide for the animals' psychological, as well as physical, wellbeing.

Young clearly loves her animals, and takes very seriously the fact that they have mental and emotional lives, and psychological needs associated with those inner lives. She is a good story teller, and relates anecdotes that are surprising, moving and often funny, like the story of the hens nonchalantly hanging around the farm's Land Rover in the hope of hopping in unnoticed to get a free ride to another part of the farm.

The main drawback of this book is that these stories are often unconnected and not put together in a single narrative that tells the big story of the farm. There are other elements that I also began to find annoying as I read. At several points, Young gives a detailed genealogy of one or another of the farm's cows, but without explaining why that genealogy is important or how it is relevant to the story she is telling.



The relationships that Young and her family develop with their animals shine out throughout the book, as does her understanding of the importance of the social relationships among the animals themselves. So much so, that I found myself wondering how they can send these animals to slaughter (the farm produces beef and lamb). That is, of course, a moral dilemma that they have obviously faced and resolved, but it would have been a valuable point to have included in the book. Nevertheless, Young and her family clearly take animal welfare very seriously, and are also passionate about sustainable farming and caring for the environment. This has enabled them to discover things about the lives of cows, pigs, sheep, hens and the other animals that populate their farm that others might never see, and it's surely to our advantage as well as the animals' that Young has chosen to share her discoveries and insights in this book.

Jennifer Brown

BEES-AT-LAW

By Noël Sweeny

Alibi

ISBN 978-1-872724-198

345pp Paperback

Price £39.99

It is rare for any legal book to attract the adjectives readable and charming, but *Bees-at-Law* entirely merits both accolades. The engaging volume will be of interest to a broad spectrum of readers. It would be a very useful to anyone with a practical interest in bees, either in terms of conservation or husbandry. It is also more than worth the attention of legal academics and practitioners; Sweeny has the rare gift of explaining technical law in a way which is accessible to lay people and students, without trying the patience of experts by adopting sluggish pace. There are sufficient ideas in each page to captivate any audience's attention; the cocktail of perspective analysis, humour and whimsical detail is reminiscent of the work of the late, great tort and comparative lawyer Tony Weir. The preceding statement also attests the last category of person who might enjoy this work; it will be of appeal to anyone with an inquiring mind who is in the mood for exploring an usual topic.



The volume deals broadly with the relationship between bees and humans, the various ways in which the legal system might deal with bees and their behaviour and also the nature and soul of the bee. Even those who think that they have a reasonable level of background knowledge about either bees or private law are likely to be surprised by new discoveries, and more than anything else, the author's love for his subject dances and wiggles bee-like across the book. It would take someone with a heart and head of stone to read this work and not be infected by a love and gratitude for bees by the end, however they felt at the start of the process. It is highly recommended.

Helen Hall

TALKING POINT

Back from beyond the brink?

Earlier this year, the very last male northern white rhino died. With no males, and only two females, left alive, it would appear that there is nothing to save the species from extinction. But scientists in the USA are looking at reproductive cloning using preserved cells as a way to bring these magnificent animals back from beyond the brink. While the loss of any species is to be mourned, would it be right to artificially re-establish a population in this way? There are health problems associated with cloning, and any cloned animals would necessarily have to spend their lives in captivity, both to further the breeding programme and to protect them from poaching. There is also the question of whether the resources needed for such a project might be better used elsewhere, to save species that are in trouble, but not yet beyond help. How far should we be willing to go to undo the damage that we've done in driving species to extinction? We may be scientifically and technically capable of bringing species back from the very edge of extinction, but are we morally ready?

THE WAR HORSE MEMORIAL

The War Horse Memorial is the first national memorial dedicated exclusively to the millions of UK, Allied and Commonwealth horses, mules and donkeys lost during The Great War. It pays tribute to the nobility, courage, unyielding loyalty and immeasurable contribution these animals played in giving us the freedom of democracy we all enjoy today.

The memorial takes the form of a larger-than-life bronze mare standing on an inscribed stone plinth, and has been created by the British sculptor Susan Leyland in Ascot, Berkshire. In a national competition organised by GirlGuiding UK, the country's Guides and Brownies named the sculpture Poppy.

At her feet significant WW1 artefacts, gathered from all corners of the UK and beyond, have been placed in an authentic brass shell casing discovered on the Somme and locked away in an airtight chamber, adding greater

poignancy to this wonderful epitaph. They include medals, buttons and coins, an authenticated hoof from the Second Battle of Ypres, April 5, 1915, an original piquet rope, donated by the Australian Light Horse Association and used by troopers for tying horses together, and barbed wire from No Man's Land.

The War Horse Memorial was unveiled on Friday, June 8, 2018 and has been completely funded by generous public donations from the readers of the Daily Express newspaper and private funding. This has paid for all costs relating to the bronze horse and the adjacent Area of Reflection, which includes story boards and a seating area.

Several partnerships and alliances with various organisations and stakeholders have been made, including The Imperial War Museum, Ascot Racecourse Authority, The Household Cavalry, and The Commonwealth

War Graves Commission. The sale of purple poppies, which will be available throughout August, leading to National Purple Poppy Day on August 23, will continue to form a catalyst for an ongoing fundraising campaign to support military and equine charities.

Susan Osborne



SWIMATHON

In advance of our day conference and annual service in Portsmouth this year, ASWA has adopted a special focus on aquatic life, and we thought that it would be appropriate to have a fundraising event with a watery theme. We are therefore asking our supporters to consider taking part in our Swimathon. To take part, all you need to do is select one of the challenges set out here and ask your friends, family and contacts to sponsor you in completing it. There is a paper sponsorship form in this edition of *Animalwatch*, but if you prefer

to use an internet-based method of collecting donations, that is absolutely fine. Simply pick a time and venue for your swim which is convenient for you, ideally in August or September 2018, and send then sponsorship money on to ASWA once you have collected it (Please send us a cheque equivalent to the amount you've raised. Do not send cash through the post.). We'd also really love to have photographs and stories about your swim to publish in a future issue of *Animalwatch* or on the website. Good luck and happy swimming!

Swimathon Challenge Options:

-  **Dolphin** - 5km/5000 metres
-  **Seal** - 1km/1000 metres
-  **Terrapin** - 500 metres
-  **Otter** - 100 metres
-  **Seahorse** - 25 metres
-  **Octopus** - You pick a distance and tell us-it can be as long or short as you like!



ANIMAL RIGHTS?

Ian: *Your scientists were so preoccupied with whether or not they could, they didn't stop to think if they should.*
– Jurassic Park

We are used to living with paradox and contradiction in the modern world, whether we realise it or not. One great irony is that in the race to discredit religion on the grounds that it is irrationally anthropocentric (human centred), the secular world has created and normalised a culture that is arguably the most anthropocentric the world has ever known. The (faulty) logic runs like this: a) religion says God created everything for the benefit of humans; b) but that's not true because life evolved and was doing very nicely thank you for many millions of years before modern humans appeared less than one million years ago, and anyway God doesn't exist (at least according to Richard Dawkins in his 2006 book *The God Delusion*); c) if God doesn't exist there are no moral absolutes (e.g. no ground for arguing that life is good) so we need some other anchor for ethical decision making; but d) if something can only be deemed good or bad, right or wrong, if humans say so, we need to anchor morality on ourselves!

The fruits of this philosophy influence every aspect of decision making but are nowhere more poignant than in our dealings with other species, whether as food, our (mis-) management of the global environment, or in the ethics of laboratory animal use for medical and other scientific research. I sat for many years on the Local Ethical Review Committee of a University department concerned with conducting ecological and conservation research. The committee was established as a legal requirement under the Animal (Scientific Procedures) Act of 1986. As part of my Home Office education I was told that, "death is not an ethical issue." When I said that I thought they, "might have a different view if I were sitting here with a gun," the speaker said, "Under the Act, we are only concerned with the degree of suffering caused by experimental procedures, and not with the actual killing of an animal." He explained further that, so long as killing was done using an approved 'Schedule 1' method, no specific licence was required unless it infringed some other legislation. Furthermore, there was an assumption in the drafting of the Act that any animal undergoing a licensed procedure should be killed after the experiment (the specified

end-point). This was a serious issue for field biologists undertaking minor procedures such as taking a small blood sample to assess the health, sex or genetics of a wild animal, with the expectation of release back into the wild. A major advance in the legislation was the introduction of the three Rs of *Reduction* (minimising the number of animals), *Replacement* (of more sentient species or computer models) and *Refinement* (of procedures to reduce suffering or lasting harm) to guide researchers.

Whilst we should argue that any institutional culture that states that the taking of life is not an ethical issue must run counter to the social norms of the culture in which it is embedded (a potential source of conflict), it flags up the different status given to humans as opposed to non-human species. The irony is that this comes from a secular 'scientific' culture that also argues that humans are no more 'special' than any other species on the planet. This apparent incongruity is justified by arguing, as Richard Dawkins did in his 1976 book *The Selfish Gene* that every organism is basically selfish and so if humans prioritise humans over other species, it is only because we are expressing our natural selfish tendencies, and surely rats or buttercups would do as much if they could.

However, as evolutionary biologists find increasing evidence that the evolutionary process involves purposive genetic change caused by cells in

response to environmental change (rather than through selection of random genetic mutation), they are gradually discrediting the Neo-Darwinian model of evolution on which that Selfish Gene philosophy was based. The grounds for arguing that all life is fundamentally selfish are undermined by two things. First by the impotence of genes without cells. Second, by recognising the power of cooperation in everything from the function of sub-cellular organelles through to the exquisite and essential associations between fungi and flowering plants, to the cooperation essential for humans to give birth, and to the function of ecosystems, Gaia and the biosphere. Predators are seen to be essential to the sustainability of ecosystems, and even viruses turn out to have an essential role in the evolving tapestry of life. Life is essentially collaborative and co-operative, and the evolutionary process of speciation is a grand design of conflict resolution and peace-building. Our dealings with other species should reflect this if we are to have any sustainable future. ...and indeed, it was very good (Gen 1:31).

Andrew Gosler

Andrew Gosler is Associate Professor in Applied Ethnobiology and Conservation at Oxford University being based in the Institute of Human Sciences and Department of Zoology, and an ordinand-in-training in the Church of England.



Edward Hicks, *Peaceable Kingdom* c.1834. Image courtesy of the National Gallery of Art Open Access Collection.



ARE YOU AN ANIMAL FRIENDLY CHURCH?



Christians have a sacred duty to care for God's Creation

The Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals is now awarding 'Animal Friendly Church' certificates to churches which practise and promote a compassionate attitude towards God's creatures.

Applicants will also be automatically entered into our annual **'ASWA Animal Friendly Church of the Year Award'**

The Winner will receive a hamper full of ethical and useful goodies for your Church and a plaque to display on your wall.

For further details visit our website

www.aswa.org.uk

or apply in writing to: PO Box 7193, Hook, Hampshire, RG27 8GT

T: 01252 843093 • E: AngSocWelAnimals@aol.com

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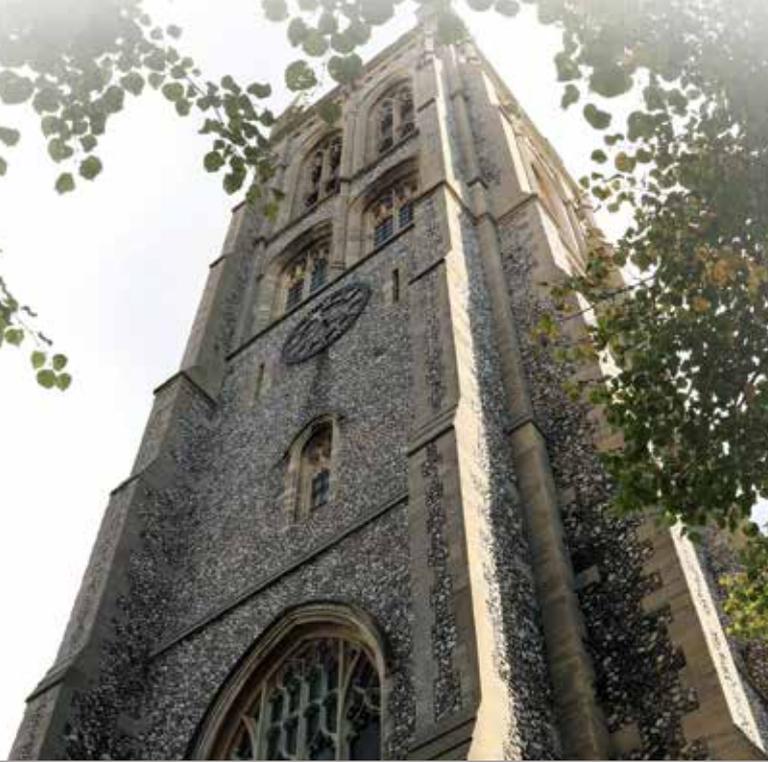
Revd Dr Helen Hall





ASWA DAY CONFERENCE & ANNUAL SERVICE FOR ANIMAL WELFARE SUNDAY

Saturday 6th & Sunday 7th October 2018



A special weekend focusing on the importance
of caring for our Marine environment.

A HALF DAY CONFERENCE ON SATURDAY 6TH OCTOBER WITH GUEST SPEAKERS:

Tim Ferrero - Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

Robert Sluka - A Rocha International

Professor Meric Srokosz - National Oceanography Centre - Southampton

9.00am - 12.30

with light refreshments and the opportunity for questions and answers.

Followed by a Celebration Service on Animal Welfare Sunday

7th October 2018 - 10.00am.

Preacher: Revd Dr Helen Hall

Venue for both events: St Mary's, Portsea, Fratton Road, Portsmouth PO1 5PA

By kind invitation of Revd Canon Bob White.