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Spring 2017

Price £2 (free to members)



# animalwatch

PUTTING ANIMALS ON THE AGENDA OF THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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GROUP

DR HAWDEN TRUST

ASWA COMMITTEE  
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## 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!

### Friday 17 March

A public lecture by Prof David Clough, *The sentience of non-human animals: scientific & theological considerations*, St Andrew's Church, East Hagbourne, nr Didcot, 7.30pm. FREE ENTRY, refreshments provided. For more information visit <http://www.sciencemissioner.org.uk/calendar/>

### Saturday 18 March

SARX Creature Conference, Oasis Auditorium, London. Tickets cost £65 and can be booked by visiting <http://sarx.org.uk/events/creature-conference/>

### Sunday 30 April

Animal Blessing Service, Christ Church, Malling Road, Snodland, Kent, 5pm.

### Saturday 20 May

ASWA AGM, St Michael's Church, 4 Chester Square, London, SW1W 9HH, 11am. Speaker Ashley Leiman OBE, Director of the Orangutan Foundation.

### Sunday 11 June

Animal Blessing Service, Craigiebuckler Church Hall, Springfield Road, Aberdeen, 3pm.

### Sunday 23 to Wednesday 26 July

Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics Annual Summer School, St Stephen's House, Oxford. This year's topic is the ethics of fur. For more information visit <http://www.oxfordanimaethics.com/2016/09/call-papers-summer-school-2017/>

### Sunday 8 October

Animal Welfare Sunday

ASWA Annual Service, St Peter's Church, Nottingham, 10.45am. The preacher will be the Revd Jennifer Brown, Science Missioner in the Churn Benefice, Oxford Diocese, ASWA committee member and editor of *Animalwatch*.

### Sunday 12 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](http://www.aswa.org.uk)



# HELLO AND WELCOME TO ANIMALWATCH

Welcome to *Animalwatch*. In this issue we focus on the positive steps being made for animal welfare, and the need for hope. We have an article from Dr Brett Cochrane of the Dr Hadwen Trust (DHT), who spoke at the ASWA 2016 AGM, on the work that the DHT do in developing replacements for the use of animals in medical research. Also in this issue is a piece by ASWA Chair, Revd Dr Helen Hall, on the place of animal welfare in the Christian faith, and a report on an animal rescue organisation in Turkey. Information about those standing for positions on ASWA's executive committee, and about the change in membership fees agreed at the last AGM is also available in this issue.

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 AGM in May. 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](mailto: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 may be edited for length.

**Jennifer Brown, Editor**

The deadline for the Summer magazine is **Monday 22nd May 2017**.

## ASWA ONCE AGAIN EXHIBITS AT CHRISTMAS FAYRE

ASWA is a regular exhibitor at the Animal Aid Christmas Fayre and 2016 was no exception.

Animal Aid exposes and campaigns peacefully against all animal abuse, and promotes a cruelty-free lifestyle. It is doing great work.

ASWA takes a stand every year near the lecture hall and during the day engages in conversation with well over a hundred people. Some buy our products, many take copies of literature and several express interest in joining. It is always a very enjoyable experience.

This is probably the largest animal welfare gathering in the UK, with over a hundred stands, a number of vegan caterers offering a surprising range of tasty food and a series of

talks and demonstrations all day, from challenging lectures to cookery demonstrations. It's a great place to buy unusual gifts and to learn about so many different charities engaged in our passion for animal welfare.

The low entrance fee of just £2 and the location in Kensington Town Hall, which is very close to the Underground, means there is a constant flow of people all day, of every age and belief.

Over 1,500 visitors spend probably on average around two hours walking around and enjoying themselves in a great atmosphere. As a bonus, ASWA is the only Christian witness which means we have some great conversations, with many being amazed that the Church has any interest in animal welfare.

Please do try to come next year and if you would like to help with our stand please contact the Secretary.

**Keith Cottrell**



## A Warm Welcome to our new members.

**We look forward to hearing from you.**

Fr Desmond Banister, SSC  
North Hillingdon, Middlesex

Morgan Buckner, Evere, Belgium

Marie Dunaway, Tufnell Park, London

Carole Hough, Milton Keynes,  
Buckinghamshire

Karen James, Eastham, Wirral

Fiona Latham, Reigate, Surrey

Karen Lawrence, Cromer, Norfolk

Pamela Lawrence, Magham Down,  
East Sussex

Robin Midwinter, Neasden, London

Rose Mitchell, Upper Rissington,  
Gloucestershire

Jeanette Pearson, Alnwick,  
Northumberland

Hazel Ramsay, Wiveliscombe, Somerset

Rosa Rusch, Gerstetten, Germany

Sue Simpson, Amberstone,  
East Sussex

Patricia Tysome, Cheam, Surrey

Hilary Vivian, Holsworthy, Devon

Diana Witts, Long Melford, Suffolk

Alexandra Zemba, Kingston, Ontario,  
Canada

**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

## Recognition for animals in war

Animals who have given their lives in war are finally being recognised for their service and sacrifice. In November 2016, the Royal Navy held their first ever service to honour the horses killed in war. Although we should lament the fact that we humans force animals to take part and die in war, the fact that services are officially recognising the role that animals play and the fact that their lives are also worthy of remembrance is to be welcomed.

## 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](http://www.aswa.org.uk).

Check the web site for the latest resources.

### Change to ASWA membership fees

From January 2017, the annual fee for ASWA membership is £20. This increase was unanimously agreed at the 2016 AGM, and will help ASWA continue its work of raising awareness of animal issues and promoting animal welfare as a Christian concern.

### 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.



### Paw A Coffee

Paw a Coffee for ASWA will run from 1st April to 26th August. How about holding a gathering for your Church friends with coffee (or tea) and cake? We provide invitations, napkins with

an ASWA logo, literature to give out and a disposable money box for any donations. This is a great way to raise funds for ASWA, to tell people about the work that we do, and to remind others that God cares about all of his creatures. For further information, please contact the ASWA Secretary or ASWA Committee Member Janet Murphy (07793-748634).

### ASWA Annual Service

This year's annual service will be held at St Peter's Church, Nottingham on Sunday 8th October, 10.45am. The preacher will be ASWA committee member and editor of *Animalwatch*, the Revd Jennifer Brown.

### ASWA Local groups

Don't forget that there are ASWA local groups in different areas.

- There is an Ecumenical group, the Three Counties Animal Welfare Prayer Group, who meet for a service at Gloucester Cathedral. The contact for the ecumenical group is the Revd Helen Hall (01633-677775 or [helen.hall123@ntlworld.com](mailto:helen.hall123@ntlworld.com)).
- The Revd David Austin has recently started an ASWA prayer group in the Norwich area. If anyone is interested in joining, David's contact details are 01603 469112 or [daj.austin@hotmail.com](mailto:daj.austin@hotmail.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 money boxes

Thank you to all those who have made use of the ASWA money boxes to collect donations. As the end of the financial year is approaching, it

would be a great help if those of you who have not yet sent in the money collected could do so soon. Please do not send cash through the post. Instead, count up what you have collected and send us a cheque for the equivalent amount.

## TALKING POINT

### Rights for non-human persons?

In January, the BBC reported that the European Parliament issued a report that included, among other things, the possibility that robots may need to be given the status of 'non-human persons'. Given that robots are not alive and can be designed and built so that they do not experience pain or fear, while non-human animals are living, sentient creatures who experience both physical sensation and emotions, should we not first be discussing their personhood?

## 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!

# THE CHURCH AND ANIMAL WELFARE

It is deeply distressing that the Church is not doing more to address animal suffering in our world, especially animal suffering which is the direct result of human cruelty and selfishness. It makes the situation worse rather than better when we remember that this is not the only issue on which we could be doing much more. We do not have a good track record on the environment, human poverty, gender equality, employment relations and many other issues of compassion and justice.

However, it would be grossly unfair to say that the Church is doing nothing in relation to any of these causes. And it is misguided to despair of Christianity because we Christians fall so far short of God's vision for a perfect and loving world.

The Church on Earth is made up of imperfect human beings. So, of course, is every other faith community. Often in Western Europe, people look at the Dharmic faiths and animist religions and imagine these engender a more compassionate attitude towards non-human life. Not only is this view theologically hard to substantiate, the treatment of animals within these faith contexts has been no better than that within societies moulded by Christianity. Human beings as a species have a tendency to be self-centred and cruel. But, crucially, this is not the whole picture.

As Christians, we believe that human beings also have the capacity for

moral understanding, creativity and love, and that this is also very much reflected in the life of the Church, both present and historical. For example, many Christians fought against slavery and continue to oppose human trafficking. Equally, there have always been strong Christian voices for animal welfare. St Cuthbert protected the birds on his islands, figures as mainstream and as important as John Wesley, Cardinal Newman and C S Lewis each spoke in their time for our fellow creatures.

Now it is our generation and our opportunity to speak up and make a difference. If we give way to despair, we are letting down both God and our animal brothers and sisters. There was once a time when banning children from dangerous work in factories and mills and giving them the right to an education appeared a mere fantasy, and an impossibility in economic and political terms. If Christians like Lord Shaftsbury had simply accepted this and despaired, then our society would never have changed. Furthermore, there were many church-going factory owners who resisted Shaftsbury's reforms and clergy who colluded and supported them. But that doesn't mean that those factory owners and clergy represented a truly Christian viewpoint. It is important to separate universal human selfishness from Christian doctrine.

Love and compassion are at the very core of our faith, and demand that we take the suffering of animals (and

indeed all suffering) seriously. The way in which we treat animals is, slowly but surely, improving. It is true that there are still many heart-breaking situations, but we are chipping away at the rock face of oppression. For instance, more and more supermarkets and food producers are rejecting eggs from battery hens. Change is happening; and Christians have a mission to increase both the scale and the speed of this change. Some Christians are more on board with this mission than others, but it is a mission which flows from the most sacred and compassionate heart of Jesus. We should not be ashamed to say this to any cynics we encounter, whether they are Christian or atheist.

There is darkness in the world, but we are called to be light. It is better to shine a light than to curse the darkness.

**Revd Dr Helen Hall**

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## ASWA PATRON HONOURED

Congratulations to our patron, Rt Revd James Jones, who was recognised in the Queen's New Year's Honours list. Bishop James was made Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire (KBE) for his work on the Hillsborough enquiry.

Bishop James is passionate about justice and speaking up for the voiceless, as his work on Hillsborough as his commitment to ASWA show. It is good to see that passion recognised by his knighthood.



## ASWA NEWS

### ASWA Membership

At the 2016 annual general meeting (AGM), ASWA members voted unanimously to increase the annual membership fee to £20. It has been many years since the membership fee was last increased. By becoming a member of ASWA, individuals have the opportunity to elect committee members, and to help decide ASWA's direction and priorities through attendance and voting at the AGM. Through the payment of membership fees, members contribute to funding the society's work.

# NEWS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

## SOUTH AFRICA

### Support for feral cats



For the past 20 years, TUF CAT has been trapping, sterilising and providing food, shelter and veterinary care for the feral cats living on the campus of The University of the Western Cape (UWC), situated in Bellville, Cape Town. During this time, the project has experienced many challenges and successes.

Negative and sometimes superstitious attitudes about animals in general, and cats in particular, concerns about local wildlife, the deliberate dumping of domestic pets, combined with pressing socio-economic concerns have all impacted on the project. Despite these challenges, TUF CAT has managed to ensure that the cat population numbers remain stable and that attitudes towards them among both students and staff have improved significantly. The university's recognition that the cats provide effective and environmentally-friendly rodent control on campus resulted in the university receiving the Green Campus Award twice, in 2012 and 2013.

The TUF CAT project has also inspired other universities and institutions to follow their example of humane feral cat management and we continue to provide advice to them, as well as to the general public wanting to manage their feral populations. By emphasising the supportive role that cats play in human society, it is hoped we can continue to change people's perceptions about cats.

Most recently, Ashrick Alexander, a UWC Honours student registered in the Department of Geography, Environment & Tourism, used TUF CAT as the subject for his 2016 thesis titled, 'Transgressing the Boundaries of Social Exclusion: Reflecting on the Inclusion of the Feral Cat at the University of the Western Cape'. The study found that the project is seen as a success, and positive views about the feral cats are increasingly widespread. Most interestingly, the UWC students interviewed indicated that they are keen to become more involved with caring for the animals that share their campus.

Wherever possible we try and assist financially needy students by sourcing donated second-hand books they may need for their studies and selling to them at bargain prices. We use these funds to buy cat food and pay for other expenses. In addition, we assist the cleaning and grounds staff at the university with their pets and have provided assistance to many for sterilisations, veterinary emergencies, kennels and food. We sustain the project with donations received from animal lovers, and the income derived from the book sales.

If you would like more information about the project or would like to assist TUF CAT, please visit our web site [www.tufcat.co.za](http://www.tufcat.co.za).

**Sharyn Spicer**

## SWEDEN

### Towards a more compassionate world?



This report from Sweden starts with a look in the rearview mirror. We have had holiday times and Christmas and New Year. In a poll, nearly one in five (19%) Swedes have stated that they are willing to have an all vegetarian Christmas dinner, including 26% of women and 12% of men. This is astoundingly good news. The poll was requested by Axfood, a large food chain over here and they found that nearly 45% of the people asked stated that they eat vegetarian food one or more times a week, and 24% plan to choose vegetarian and cut down on meat this year.

One of Scandinavia's fastest growing on-line fashion stores has now joined the no-fur movement banning all fur products from sale. Boozt.com are now co-operating with Anima, The Animal Rights Movement and Fur Free Alliance. Malte Videbaek, Boozt Group Sales Manager, states that he wants all customers to feel at ease with knowing that no fur is involved in any of the fashion items sold.

So far, 140 stores and chains have partnered up with The Animal Rights Movement. H&M, Nelly.com and Filippa K are all on the list. News says that Armani and Hugo Boss also have joined in and are now said to be fur free.

More and more exotic animals are being dumped in the wild by owners who have grown tired of them. This is, of course, a terrible thing for the animals involved who suffer a long drawn-out death in abandonment. It is also a hazard to ecological systems as the "dumped" animals often carry sickness and bacteria that disturbs the balance in the systems.

The diocese of Linköping has invested 18 million Swedish Crowns in the building of two large henhouses for 40 000 chickens to live and be slaughtered in. The so called ecological chickens will be slaughtered after 10-12 weeks, instead of after 5-6 weeks. They will have access to perches and sand-baths and will be able to roam outside during the days. They will also have ecological feed.

The grand opening was held in the empty buildings with set tables for the guests and ecological chicken was served. Bishop Modeus said in his opening speech that this was a step toward a better world. It is a sign of responsible stewardship. His final words at the opening were "I hereby declare this opened to serve the world and

humanity in a good way" (source Kyrkans Tidning). There is something about this that makes me feel most uneasy – no criticism intended. I pray that the future may show us all a better way to live in harmony and respect to all sentient beings.

**Sandra Kinley**

## UGANDA

### The Uganda SPCA Haven, Uganda's only Animal Shelter



Uganda's population of about 40 million people is heavily skewed toward youth; about 50% of the population is under 15. The population growth rate is 3.25%, one of the highest in the world. It's daunting to think what the future holds for this country that's economically poor, has a wealth of natural resources, has high unemployment, and that isn't usually considered a model of animal kindness.

Uganda Society for the Protection & Care of Animals, located in Kampala, Uganda's largest city, has their work cut out for them. The USPCA has the only shelter in the country, The Haven. They teach school children about animals, animal care and kindness. They hold community vet clinics where they spay/neuter and provide free vet care in poor communities. And of course, they rescue and provide sanctuary for injured, neglected, and unwanted dogs and cats.

How can the USPCA keep up with the growing demand for their services? The USPCA has high hopes and big plans! Some of their goals have already been achieved. During this year, they replaced old wooden pens with sturdy metal ones. The 15 new dog pens, 2 puppy pens, and cattery are secure and safe – there's no longer a danger of wooden splinters, rusty nails, and gaping holes from which dogs and cats can escape. They're easy for staff to get in and out of. They're roomy.

But almost as soon as the new pens were installed, they were full. Optimum capacity would be about 5 dogs in each pen and no more than 20 cats in the cattery plus about 10 cats in the garage for a total of about 115 animals. But when I was in Uganda in September, The Haven had 186 animals. Of course, this isn't only stressful for the dogs and cats, but also for the staff and volunteers. Everyone works hard to make each dog and cat feel

loved and secure. Even so, The Haven needs – and there’s space on the property for – a few more pens. Completing the conversion to metal pens is a goal that’s close to being achieved (Each pen costs about US\$1500.)

The USPCA has one very important dream that’s still far from being realized. The Haven is located on rented property. It’s a very small, confined space with residential property abutting all sides. The USPCA has a dream to buy land in the Kampala-Entebbe corridor and move the pens (which can be disassembled for this very purpose) to the new, larger site.

It’s not just about accommodating more animals—although of course that’s important for the only shelter in Uganda. When you’re the only shelter, you can’t turn a dog or cat away, there’s no place else to go. Along with the growing number of dogs and cats entering The Haven, the USPCA needs to accommodate Uganda’s growing human population. We want to make sure that when school children visit The Haven, it’s a cherished, happily remembered experience.

We also envision a new shelter where potential adopters quietly meet with dogs and cats; where volunteers comfortably care for, socialize, walk, and play with animals, and find accommodation on-site; where animal shelter/rescue staff and volunteers from all over Africa come to be trained; where families visit on weekends to spend time in a nice setting with animals.

Will the USPCA be prepared to serve Uganda’s growing human population and the country’s dogs and cats? Animal-Kind International is working with the USPCA to help make sure they are. We started a crowdfunding project on GlobalGiving to raise money to purchase land. We’re hoping that people from around the world will come together to help us realize our important goal. It may take 2 or 3 years, but we’re in this for the long-term! If you’re interested in helping out, get in touch; besides donations, we need help spreading the word about USPCA’s dream. (karen@animal-kind.org)

**Karen Menczer**

## USA

**Successful care of animals in need**



This is a relatively quiet time at the Humane Society here in Waterville, Maine. We are improving our fundraising, and thanks to our generous supporters, we’ve been able to save critically ill and injured animals. Our live release rate has risen to 98%. Looking ahead, one of our goals for 2017 is to provide low-cost veterinary care for those who cannot afford either routine or urgent care for their pets.

**Joann Brizendine**

## TURKISH ANIMAL GROUP (TAG)



I met Karen Wren, founder of TAG, at the Animal Aid Fare 2016. I was first drawn to her beautiful gifts and non-leather bags. Karen’s story is very compelling, I was amazed by her courage and compassion in rescuing many animals abused and starving on the streets of Western Turkey. I am hoping to support her work and have suggested for her to start a TAG membership group to attract regular funds.

TAG started when Karen, a British national, witnessed first-hand cruelty to dogs and cats in the region of Western Turkey known as Didim and Altinkum, where she lived. A nurse by profession and a compassionate dog lover, she felt compelled to assist starving, abandoned dogs and cats that roamed the streets. Dogs are often taken in by families to act as guard dogs, only to be kicked out and dumped at the end of the summer when many people return to their homes in cities such as Istanbul or Ankara for the winter. These animals then suffer from starvation, mange, and other illnesses. Although there is good animal protection legislation in Turkey, it is not regularly enforced. Some local governments have stray dog pounds, some of which are really not good at all. The majority of puppies and kittens are born on the streets. In many areas, local councils neuter dogs and cats free of charge when they have the resources to do so, but sadly this is becoming less and less available. The streets are full of strays, and distemper and parvo virus are rife.

TAG has very important objectives. First, to assist in the feeding of starving animals, in the streets and in TAG’s large, remote rural dog pound, where animals can have a secure environment and bark as much as they like without causing nuisance. The second objective is to care for dogs and cats in poor health or recovering from injury and to nurse them back to health, and to spay and neuter as many dogs and cats as possible. Vets in Turkey

are very good, but have to earn a living and so cannot work for nothing. When an animal needs treatment, TAG needs to raise the money to pay for the treatment and recovery. Third, TAG aims to re-home these animals, in most cases outside Turkey or at least to people in Turkey who can demonstrate a firm commitment and love to the animal they intend to adopt. Finally, TAG aims to raise awareness of the need for animal welfare and solving gross abuse problems of man’s best friends, and to put pressure on the authorities to enforce the laws relating to animal cruelty. In many cases, these dogs are large, as many are descended from the native sheep dog of Turkey, the Kangol. This particular breed need more than a small handful of food daily! The dogs are usually good natured and through past human contact can make good, intelligent pets. It is hard to describe some of the unspeakable abuse which they suffer, especially the bitches.

Karen Wren and her dedicated helpers in Turkey have made some great advances in the area where they work. Many English people have gone out there for two weeks at a time to assist her and her resident helpers. TAG also helps raise money in the UK for food. Would you like to be a part of what TAG is doing? You can help by financially assisting, or by adopting an animal and enjoying in England the companionship that it can bring. These dogs are usually without many of the problems which beset our native thoroughbred dogs which have been subject of cruel, selective inbreeding.

Every day, Karen and her few assistants have to feed as many as 300 dogs and cats in the street and the pound. This means raising money for food and vet’s bills. On many occasions, the cupboard has been bare but they have always managed to rustle up one meal. To help or to find out more, please visit TAG’s website, [www.turkishanimalgroup.com](http://www.turkishanimalgroup.com) or facebook page, Turkish Animal Group TAG Dog adoptables. You will be updated about what is new and how you can help and how other animal lovers are showing they care. As an animal lover, you can learn how hard it can be for animals overseas and for those who care for them. TAG is a registered UK Charity. (charity number 1148352).

**Janet Murphy**

# ANIMAL WELFARE SERVICES

## ASWA's Annual Service



Nestling in the water meadows alongside the River Itchen and in the shadow of St Catherine's Hill lies the ancient Hospital of St Cross. Renowned for the tranquillity of its setting and the beauty of its architecture, the Hospital is one of England's oldest continuing alms houses. These fine medieval buildings have provided food and shelter for hundreds of years. The principal activity of the Hospital continues to be the provision of individual, private apartments for a living community of about twenty-five elderly men. Known as 'Brothers' they wear black or red gowns and a trencher hat for daily church and other formal occasions.

At the heart of the Hospital's inner quadrangle is a wonderful Norman church, its tower, chancel, transepts and nave soaring so high that it looks like a cathedral in miniature. Nearby stand a classic medieval hall and kitchen, as well as a Tudor cloister, with another ancient hall in the outer quad that serves as a tea room. The extensive gardens are immaculately maintained throughout the year.

It was here that we held our annual service in October on Animal Welfare Sunday. This was also the place that our late President, Rt Revd John Austin Baker, used to worship after his retirement and where his widow, Jill, continues to worship.

We joined them for their 9.30am service, led by Revd Reg Sweet. ASWA's current President, Rt Revd Dominic Walker, preached an excellent sermon. He spoke about faith and about St Francis: "Faithfulness is based on love and trust and God has entrusted to us the care of creation. We were given dominion (not domination) of

creation and we are called to care for God's world and not to exploit animals or the world's natural resources." A full version of this sermon can be found on our website under 'Sermons' but if you want a paper copy, please send an A4 sized SAE to the Secretary and she will print one off for you.

ASWA Chair, Revd Dr Helen Hall, took the opportunity while the service was on to spend some time with the children and so ensure that they were not left out of our message. She talked to them about the importance of bees and how vulnerable they are at the present time. We also had a stand displaying our literature. Afterwards, we enjoyed delicious cakes made by Brother Andrew and as teas and coffees were served we had several opportunities to talk to people about the work of ASWA.

Animal Welfare Sunday 2017 falls on Sunday 8th October, and we will be in Nottingham. If you are an ASWA member living in the Nottingham area and would like to be involved, please do contact the Secretary.

### Samantha Chandler

#### St Andrew's Church, Leicester

The Animal Blessing Service held at St Andrew's Church, Jarrom Street, Leicester celebrated its 28th consecutive year in 2016. The service, organised by Chris Stephens, features animal welfare stands by local groups, and this year Patricia Lessels ran an ASWA stand. The service was conducted by Revd Alan Hawker, who is very supportive of this annual service and indeed of animal welfare in general.

The service was covered by the local newspaper, the *Leicester Mercury*, and also included was a copy of this prayer written by ASWA supporter Elizabeth Allison, which received much praise:

*We pray for all creatures who depend on us to be heard*

*For those who suffer neglect, abuse, cruelty and torture.*

*We pray for all animals who are prevented from living their lives as nature intended and for all*

*whose lives are cut short for human convenience.*

*We pray for all creatures who can do no wrong and are still imprisoned.*

*We remember all who are hunted and persecuted; tormented and ridiculed.*

*All who are exploited, degraded and demonised.*

*We pray for all creatures who suffer for human greed, selfishness, amusement or pleasure.*

*And for all whose lives are valued only in terms of money and not as lives worth living.*

*May we, who are made in God's image, reflect His goodness and mercy on all living beings*

*And may we treat all Life with reverence, compassion and love*

#### St Andrew's Church, Melton

The Annual Pet Service in St Andrew's Church, Melton, Suffolk took place on Sunday, 18th September. It was held in the garden and the weather was perfect, warm but cloudy with a slight breeze. We had the choice of being seated on the lawn or in the shade of a beautiful oak tree.

About 30 people attended, bringing with them a variety of much loved creatures ranging from large dogs, rabbits, gerbils, mice and four extremely large Albino African Land Snails which were munching happily on chunks of cucumber and lettuce. Many children attended and they read the prayers. Children are so essential as they will be the future stewards of our planet's flora and fauna together with the message that God's other creatures are non-human sentient creatures who must be treated accordingly.

During the service, each pet, or photograph of the pet for those who could not be with us physically, lined up to be individually blessed. It was very orderly and no member of the congregation attempted to eat another member.

Pet food for local animal charities was donated instead of monetary offerings. Refreshments for all were enjoyed in the Church Room after the Service.

### Sally Brown



The annual animal blessing and thanksgiving service at St Martin's has grown in popularity over the years, attracting increasing numbers of animal lovers from across London and beyond. This year saw the largest attendance in the event's history, with a variety of animals and their human escorts making their way to Kensal Green on a sunny autumn Saturday afternoon.

The event's appeal is due in no small part to the interest and commitment of the vicar of St Martin's, Rev Graham Noyce, whose energetic support makes the service the success it has become.

As always, the animals were well behaved, demonstrating exemplary peace and goodwill towards each other. The dogs made up the main animal numbers but a laid-back hamster proved to be a big hit with younger members of the congregation.

An added attraction this year was the appearance of Daryl Booth of SARX who gave an interesting talk about the organisation's aims and objectives.

There was also a photo display about the animal rescue work of an Orthodox convent in Russia that is linked with St Martin's, and where the nuns have set up a sanctuary for abandoned and unwanted animals, especially cats. A retiring collection was held at the end of the service to support the convent's animal rescue work.

**James Hogan**

## ASWA REMEMBRANCE SERVICE



On Remembrance Sunday, ASWA once again held a service at the beautiful Animals' War Memorial in Park Lane, London to remember the animal victims of war. A group of over 120 people gathered for the service, which was led by ASWA Chair, Revd Dr Helen Hall, and supported by ASWA Vice President, Revd Professor Martin Henig. Catholic Concern for Animals, Quaker Concern for Animals and the Animals Interfaith Alliance were all represented at the service. Other attendees included current and past members of HM Forces with representatives from all

branches of the military services, many of whom had attended the Cenotaph service in the morning. Numbers for ASWA's remembrance service continue to grow each year which is very encouraging. This year the event attracted a handler and his charge "Ben" from the RAF Military Police. The service also coincided with the 10th anniversary of the founding of the charity Nowzad dogs (set up to reunite Military personnel with dogs they had befriended whilst serving in Afghanistan) and many of their supporters and trustees attended. The address was given by Pen Farthing, Nowzad Founder, who has himself been a great supporter of this event since it started. Over 20 wreaths and testaments were placed on the step during the service. We hope that ASWA members will join us again this year on Sunday 12th November 2017.

**Samantha Chandler**

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## REMEMBERING ANIMALS WHO DIED IN WAR

In addition to the wreaths and tributes presented at ASWA's Remembrance Service, animals who died in war have also been remembered at Remembrance Services in different parts of the country. A wreath of purple poppies was laid during a service held at St Clement Church near Truro, Cornwall. The wreath was laid by RSPCA Animal Welfare Officer Felicity Cross in memory of all animals who have died in war. A retiring collection raised £125 for NOWZAD dogs. A wreath for animals, made by ASWA member Hilary Vivian, was also laid at the Remembrance Service in Holsworthy.

**Samantha Chandler**



# THE DR HADWEN TRUST

## Funding and promoting the development of techniques and procedures to replace the use of animals in biomedical research.

In the spring 2013 edition (issue 83) of *Animalwatch*, Jennifer Brown eloquently described the use of animals in medical research as a 'difficult subject'. This of course is very true for many reasons and consequently has featured as the 'heated' topic in many academic or televised debates.

One of the key components of this difficulty is not simply considering one's own threshold for where the use of animals to further our understanding of human disease or in regulatory toxicology to support drug safety and efficacy is justified. We must also consider how well the use of these animals have actually, in real terms, benefitted humans.

The Home Office figures for the scientific procedures of living animals Great Britain 2015<sup>1</sup> reported that there were 4.14 million procedures completed. Of this total figure, 2.08 million were experimental procedures and of those 30% were classified as either moderate or severe. Whilst the principles of the 3Rs (Replacement, Refinement, Reduction) remain immensely important in the biosciences there is still much work to be done to implement the most important, 'Replacement', where the animal isn't required at all. The Dr Hawden Trust (DHT) strongly stands by the statement that there are not 'alternatives' or non-animal approaches currently available to address all areas where animals are still commonly used, such as basic or applied research or even the regulatory environment. However, there are now so many peer-reviewed articles, across almost all areas of biological research, either criticising the failing of the animal-model due to inter-species differences or such poor study design that the human relevancy of any conclusions made are highly questionable. Both humans and animals have much to gain from replacement.

For the last 47 years, DHT<sup>2</sup> has been actively funding the development and application of non-animal methods incorporating a wide range

of different techniques, of which there are too many to list here. Since the DHT was founded in 1970 the organisation has supported over 200 different research projects and has invested over £3.2 million pounds over the last 5-years alone. The DHT is acknowledged in approximately 10 peer-reviewed research papers annually which demonstrate the benefits of developing and applying human-models for human diseases. In addition to funding research activities the DHT are active members of numerous parliamentary groups and late last year were invited to the Home Office to help provide animal-replacement (alternatives) training.

One of the most common questions that the DHT is asked is, 'what are the techniques that can help replace animals or support human models of disease?'. To give each technique the attention it would deserve would demand its own separate article. The DHT would be honoured to provide such articles for future issues of *Animalwatch* if the opportunity arose.

The DHT has had a number of significant scientific successes over the last year that I would briefly like to mention as they all highlight our work of 'normalising' non-animal research.

- In October last year DHT Patron, Peter Egan, officially opened the DHT Animal Replacement Centre of Excellence (The ARC)<sup>3</sup> at the Blizard Institute, Queen Mary University of London. The overall focus of the research at the ARC is to actively develop, validate and apply human models of human disease primarily in the fields of skin, breast and prostate cancer. This entire activity was made possible through the astonishing generosity of a legacy to the DHT from Alan and Kathie Stross.



- We also launched our second ever strategic grant to help support Professor Graeme Houston to develop and apply Thiel embalmed human cadavers for cardiovascular device testing and training as a replacement for animal models at the University of Dundee<sup>4</sup>.



- The DHT co-founded the Alliance for Human Relevant Science<sup>5</sup>. This initiative is an inclusive collaboration of like-minded companies, organisations and individuals working together to accelerate innovation and create positive change to address the translational gap from animal-models to humans.
- The DHT funded a record number of summer studentships and fellowships for undergraduate and recent graduates around the country to introduce them to meaningful non-animal based research practices across the UK.

We are making great progress and the development of replacement technologies is growing rapidly. There is however still much work to be done. With your help we will hopefully see Great Britain emulate the visionary approach that has taken place in the Netherlands to phase out the use of animals in safety testing<sup>6</sup> by 2025.

## Dr Brett Cochrane DHT, Science Director

1. [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/537708/scientific-procedures-living-animals-2015.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/537708/scientific-procedures-living-animals-2015.pdf)
2. <http://www.drhadwentrust.org/>
3. <http://www.drhadwentrust.org/arc/arc-overview>
4. <http://www.drhadwentrust.org/current-portfolio/medical-devices-testing-and-training>
5. <https://www.humanrelevantscience.org/>
6. <https://english.ncadierproevenbeleid.nl/latest/news/16/12/15/ncad-opinion-transition-to-non-animal-research>

## BOOK REVIEWS

### WHAT A FISH KNOWS. THE INNER LIVES OF OUR UNDERWATER COUSINS

By Jonathan Balcombe

Scientific  
American/ Farrar,  
Straus and Giroux,  
New York

ISBN 978-0-374-  
28821-1

288pp Hardback

Price: £21.99/\$  
27.00

(Now also out in  
paperback, £12.99 - editor)



As a devoted admirer of Jonathan Balcombe's book *Second Nature: The inner lives of animals*, which has so greatly enhanced understanding of animal cognition, I have found this sequel equally enlightening and, if anything, more compelling because it treats in detail just one of the great taxa of living creatures. Here, the director of animal sentience at the Humane Society Institute for Science and Policy demonstrates both from numerous scientific studies as well as from personal observations that far from being simple, unfeeling creatures, fish have highly complex social lives, which, in coral reefs for example, may comprise a community in which different species interact with each other, some 'cleaner' fish being adapted to feed on parasites infecting other, much larger varieties. Fish vary in hunting methods, courtship and in some cases nesting and care for the young. They have emotional lives like other animals and feel joy and pain. Many of them display extraordinary intelligence, and this applies not only to the bony fish, but especially it seems to the supposedly more 'primitive' cartilaginous fishes, the sharks and the rays.

The informative text is complemented by a section of beautiful colour photographs which illustrate a few of the points made. Balcombe has many touching stories of close relationships between humans and fish, both in the wild (as scuba divers can now share their underwater element) and in captivity. The only omission I have found is that Balcombe appears unaware that such empathy is by no means a new observation for humanity, as a number of Roman writers, Martial, Varro, Pliny and Aelian amongst others,

recorded two millennia ago that owners of fishponds treasured their mullets and moray eels as companion animals who fed from their owners' hands.

After learning so much about the natural history of fish in the first six chapters of the book, the sting in the tail lurks in the last, highly disturbing, section. Although human beings have caught and eaten fish from remote prehistory, the scale of exploitation grew exponentially in later times. Balcombe devotes only a few lines to Palaeolithic and Mesolithic fishing and then passes on to the Twentieth century. The Greeks and Romans (their piscatorial friends excepted) were mainly interested in fish and fish products for the table, and for us Christians, the fishing background of the New Testament comes at once to mind. After learning so much about the personality and sentience of fish that inevitably may cause unease. But that is as nothing compared with the current ransacking of the seas, with the growing consumption of wild fish worldwide, and with tons of fish additionally being hoovered up from the ocean for fertiliser and animal feed including for fish farms. Balcombe reports that the Zoological Society of London estimates that fish populations have been halved between 1970 and 2012. Methods of fishing have resulted in collateral damage, in the deaths of many sea-birds, whales, dolphins and sea-turtles. When one knows as much as we do of a fish's intelligence, a fish's capacity for fear and pain, the slaughter by suffocation or the knife of so many millions of God's creatures strikes me as simply horrifying. And yet well-meaning hosts when one announces one is a vegetarian still often ask 'but do you eat fish?' As though fish might be some sort of vegetable! In his epilogue however, Balcombe allows a gleam of hope:

'With the rise of reason, and a growing awareness of our interdependence with all life, humanity is on a course toward a more inclusive, more enlightened era.' (p.236).

I hope so. This book is from a highly reputable scientific publisher, but it deserves to be taken very seriously by theologians. If we are serious that the whole of creation was brought into existence by God, including the fish (Genesis 1: 20) we need to take our relationship with fish as with all creatures much more seriously. I stated at the time that *The Inner Lives of Animals* was a theological landmark; *What a Fish Knows* is no less so.

Martin Henig

### WITH DOGS AT THE EDGE OF LIFE

By Colin Dayan

Columbia  
University Press

ISBN 978-0-231-  
16712-3

188pp Hardback

Price: £25.00



I have to admit that when I began reading this book, I wasn't sure what to make of it. In fact, I wondered exactly what kind of a book this was going to be, especially when the author wrote that she believed that the spirit of her beloved dog who had been put down returned and entered the bodies of her two remaining dogs. This turned out not to be what I had feared it might, the start of an extended treatise on an animal-focused spiritualism. Rather, the episode the author describes serves to demonstrate the deep love she feels for her dogs, and the intimate emotional connections that can and often do exist between dogs and humans, and between dogs and dogs. Thus, Dayan's passion for dogs and her desire to expose the cruel and unfair way they are treated is made clear. That passion is explained throughout the book in a combination of memoir, which describes the role that dogs have played in the author's life since childhood, and injustices towards dogs that she has encountered and seeks to expose.

Much, though not all, of this book is a defence of the breed(s) categorised as 'pit bulls'. These dogs, both in the USA and in the UK, are classed as 'dangerous', and keeping them is, in some cases, banned. While it is true that pit bulls and other bull terrier breeds were bred for hunting and fighting, that does not mean that every individual within that breed is aggressive, violent or dangerous. Dogs, like humans, are individuals, each with his or her own personality, and much of a dog's behaviour is the result of the training and treatment (or mistreatment) it receives from humans. *With dogs at the edge of life*, is a plea to see dogs as individuals, and to understand just how much a dog can mean to his or her human companion, be they rich or poor, black or white.

This is not an uncontroversial work. At times, the author defends those who do breed fighting dogs, and even appears to make the case for a particular tradition of dog fighting (where dogs are not allowed to fight to the death).

As part of her argument, she tells stories of breeders' dogs being taken, declared 'dangerous' and euthanised – even puppies – without any real evidence of the danger posed by the dogs being given. These are, it must be pointed out, one-sided stories, as the organisations involved are not invited to present their side of the story or to explain why they made the decisions that they did. That said, I don't think that these incidents can or should be easily dismissed. Both individuals and organisations can overreact to what they perceive to be potentially dangerous situations, and it is necessary to question the motivations and procedures of organisations that appear to be acting unjustly or with undo haste, especially where innocent lives are concerned.

While this book raises important issues about society's treatment of dogs, it is not an easy read. Many of the incidents it depicts are heart-breaking. Dogs are known as 'man's best friend', but this book shows how badly we sometimes treat our friends, and how we often find it easier to end their lives than deal with underlying problems in our own societies that lead to dogs becoming a 'problem'.

**Jennifer Brown**

## ASWA RESOURCES

*Our Wild World*, a new 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. A range of literature, including hymn leaflets and prayer cards, and gifts are also available from the web site.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

**Dear Editor**

I write in response to a letter from Carol Williams of Worcester Park which was published in Autumn 2016 *Animalwatch*.

Sadly, I fully understand why Carol feels as she does about the Church's attitude towards animal welfare. As a lifelong Christian and church member, I often find apathy a problem. However, an increasing number of members of the church I attend show concern for the environment and all its inhabitants. Three of us are members of ASWA and, as a starting point towards activity, we intend to encourage celebration of Animal Welfare Sunday for 2017.

In response to Carol's last paragraph, I agree that the heart-breaking cruelty to animals which we witness cannot be done in God's name. I fully believe that God suffers this cruelty too – as with all other cruelty perpetrated by humanity – and that praying together and working together in whatever way we are able is the best way to help creatures who are totally reliant on us for their wellbeing.

**Beryl Wilkins, Lewes**

**Dear Editor**

I couldn't agree more with the views expressed by Carol Williams in your last edition (Autumn 2016). She described far more eloquently than I could the resistance encountered amongst congregations when introducing the idea of animals' right to live unharmed by humans.

Since discovering ASWA I have contacted all my local churches with information on Animal Welfare Sunday and ideas for promoting animal welfare through the Church, only to be met by indifference and lack of interest. I was at the Global Day of Action in London on 29th August, reported in *Animalwatch*, and experienced much more fellowship there than I usually do in church. I am, in fact, one of those vegetarian/vegan Christians who are struggling to remain in the Church, and had almost abandoned Christianity until practically saved by ASWA and the discovery that other Christians share my views and are doing something about it.

If any readers live in Yorkshire, please do contact me through ASWA so that we can try to make a difference locally.

**Elizabeth Hurry, Barnsley**

**Dear Editor**

I was interested to read in Martin Henig's book review of Rob Atkinson's book on moles that the biggest threat is from New Zealand flatworms, which devour our native earthworms. Surely the moles will start eating the flatworms?

**Anne Beer, Windsor**

**Dear Editor**

I read with interest a letter from Carol Williams in the autumn issue of *Animalwatch*. After being a vegetarian for twenty years, I decided six months ago that eating any animal products was morally wrong at this particular time in history when most animals reared for food are so badly treated. When the Bible was written, there were no factory farms, animals were honoured and respected, God made many laws as to how animals should be treated and killed for food, but as I understand it, eating animals was allowed by God after the flood (Genesis 9). Therefore, Jesus was doing nothing wrong at that time by eating meat. I can understand why many people turn away from the Church or any religion for the imperfections they see in it but that is mankind's fault, not our Creator's. He made everything on earth and saw that it was good. Every one of us is to blame for the things that have gone wrong since then.

It saddens me that a lot of 'animal rights' organisations seem to generate hate for people that don't share their views. Again I go back to Jesus. He felt passion and sorrow, yes, but never hate. Things are moving, God doesn't deal in time like we do. He has infinite patience. Intensive farming hasn't existed for that long and thankfully is already being exposed for the horror that it is. So, in my humble view, we who have had our eyes opened must do our bit, but with love.

Older people do find it hard to change, and harsh words do not help. Small steps and small changes with a great deal of encouragement can help. Even changes from battery cage eggs to free-range is a step forward for many. Children are the key, I think, and schools today are very open to fresh ideas and open discussion.

I thank God that I found you. Archbishop Sentamu put me in touch after I wrote to him on the subject. We must pray and then trust. God always answer prayer, sometimes not as we expect, but always exactly right.

**BH Robson, Pickering**

## THE BIBLE AND...

### Animal rescue

*This Bible study is designed to help and individual or small group to explore what the Bible can teach us about animal rescue.*

Animal rescue could be defined as the intentional and co-ordinated efforts of an individual or organisation to find sick, injured or abandoned animals (domestic or wild), and to provide them with food, shelter and veterinary care. This might include the long-term housing of animals, and/or taking steps to rehome, in the case of domestic animals or, in the case of wild animals, release back into their native habitats when they are fit and well. Animal rescue may also include receiving animals being given up by carers who no longer want them or are no longer able to care for them properly. We are all familiar with organisations that will fit this definition. It is not something that existed in the ancient world, however, which raises the question, does the Bible have anything to say about it at all?

Although the Bible does not directly address animal rescue as we know it today, for the obvious reason that it wasn't a part of ancient Jewish society, scripture does contain instructions about care for animals that can help us to understand what a Christian attitude towards animal rescue should, perhaps, be.

The Torah gives us examples of the treatment one is expected to give to an animal in distress:

*When you come upon your enemy's ox or donkey going astray, you shall bring it back. (Exodus 23.4)*

*When you see the donkey of one who hates you lying under its burden and you would hold back from setting it free, you must help to set it free. (Exodus 23.5)*

*You shall not see your neighbour's donkey or ox fallen on the road and ignore it; you shall help to lift it up. (Deuteronomy 22.4)*

While it could reasonably be argued that these instructions benefit one's human neighbours, and even enemies (by returning or helping to maintain the well-being of a valuable animal), an argument can also be made that in each of these examples there is a duty to rescue the animal for the animal's own sake.

Jesus himself referred to the fact that rescuing an animal took precedence even over the need to observe the Sabbath.

*Then he said to them, 'If one of you has a donkey or an ox that has fallen into a well, will you not immediately pull it out on a sabbath day?' (Luke 14.5).*

Some readers may find that in their own Bibles, this verse reads, 'a son [or child] or an ox'. That's quite different from a donkey! The King James version says 'an ass or an ox', and the Greek differs in different ancient manuscripts. I would argue that 'ass' or 'donkey' is more likely, simply because the pairing of 'ox' and 'donkey' is fairly common in the Bible, and it seems strange to equate someone's son with an ox. Either way, it provides a strong indication that animals in distress were not to be abandoned to their fate, even if it meant violating the command to do no work on the Sabbath.

- Do you think that these verses, although few in number, provide a guiding principle about animal rescue?
- What might these verses be telling us about the value God wants us to place on life, both human and animal?
- Christians are called to be imitators of Christ. In the wider context of God's work of salvation (= rescue) of all creation, what do these verses suggest the Christian attitude towards animal rescue should be?

## SECOND ANIMAL FRIENDLY CHURCH AWARD GIVEN



*St Botolph's Church in Boston, Lincolnshire is the second church to have won the Animal Friendly Church Award. We asked them to comment on winning the award, and to tell us a bit about what they are doing for animals both domestic and wild. Here's what they told us.*

St Botolph's Church, Boston, are incredibly delighted to accept the Animal Friendly Church 2016 award from the Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals. As a Church, and indeed as a parish, we ensure we are welcoming to all, with our Parish statement being 'A Place of Hospitality'.

For us this extends further than just to the people of Boston, and includes their animals too. We encourage visitors to bring their dogs into the Church with them. Within the church we have an area designated for dogs with a bowl of water and another with dog treats in. We are conscious of animal welfare issues and make sure that anything we buy for our coffee shop is from a good, sustainable source.

Last year we commissioned a bat survey in St Botolph's to establish the species of bat we have and how they gain access into the building so that we did not cover any of their access points. Following this we also commissioned a survey into how we can humanely deter pigeons from roosting at the top of our tower without causing distress to our bat population.

We encourage wildlife outdoors too, with the help of Boston in Bloom and other community organisations, by creating wildflower areas and having flower beds.



# Creature Conference

Is Christianity Good News for Animals?

**Saturday 18th March 2017**

**Oasis Auditorium, Waterloo, London**

## **Keynote Speakers:**

Dr Margaret Adam

Rt Revd John Arnold

Professor John Berkman

Dr Tony Campolo

Professor David Clough

Dr Ruth Valerio

Rt Revd Dominic Walker

## **Tickets:**

£65 Standard £35 Concessionary

For the full programme and booking information go to [www.sarx.org.uk](http://www.sarx.org.uk)

Contact: [info@sarx.org.uk](mailto:info@sarx.org.uk)



Sponsored by ASWA



# ASWA COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

Once again it is time for ASWA Committee Elections. There is, however, no postal voting form in this issue of *Animalwatch* because at the time of going to press there were fewer candidates for committee places than there were vacancies. The candidates looking to stand for another three-year term are the Revd Dr Helen Hall for Chair; Mrs Janet Murphy for committee member; and Mr Philip Petchey for committee member. Our long-standing Treasurer, Jenny White, has chosen to step down, with the result that a new treasurer needs to be elected. Dr Chris Brown is standing for this post.

ASWA committee members are trustees, which means they have legal duties and responsibilities. The tasks of the committee are to manage the day-to-day running of ASWA, including the planning of ASWA services, commissioning and producing informational material, managing the budget, organising fund-raising events and the production of *Animalwatch*, to name but a few. You will find information about the candidates below:



**Helen Hall:** Helen is part of a team ministry in a City Centre parish in Nottingham and a university lecturer in law. As well as dogs and horses, she has a particular passion for cephalopods and great apes.

Helen has served as Chair of ASWA since 2013.



**Janet Murphy:** Janet has been a Christian and a member of ASWA for many years. She believes that the animal kingdom is an important part of God's creation. Janet has served on the ASWA committee since 2008, and has found it to be a great privilege. During her time on the committee, Janet has been finding creative ways actively to promote ASWA. 'Paw a Coffee for ASWA' and other events, have helped raise much needed funds and encouraged new members. In addition to ASWA, Janet is a member of many animal welfare charities. In the past she has been the proud owner of many ex-battery hens as part of a re-homing scheme from the British Hen Welfare Trust. She has also been a Garden History tutor and designer by profession. Janet is also a volunteer at Folly Wildlife Centre, Kent.



**Philip Petchey:** Philip is a barrister specialising in local government, planning and ecclesiastical law. He is Chancellor of the Diocese of Southwark and a member of the congregation at St Mary's, Woodford, Essex.



**Chris Brown:** Chris lives in South Oxfordshire. He has been a member of ASWA for many years, with a long-standing interest in the ethics of animal welfare. He has previously served as treasurer for a team ministry group of churches.

The deadline for applications to stand for election to the ASWA committee next year (2018) is 15th January 2018, but we ask that you contact the Secretary by the end of December 2017 in order to facilitate getting profiles of candidates into *Animalwatch* on time. Candidates must be willing to attend three committee meetings a year, which are held in London, and must be proposed and seconded, preferably by existing ASWA members or a member of the clergy who knows the prospective nominee well.

## ANGLICAN SOCIETY FOR THE WELFARE OF ANIMALS

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Rt Revd John Pritchard  
(Former Bishop of Oxford)

Revd Dr Steven Shakespeare

### President:

Rt Revd Dominic Walker OGS  
(Former Bishop of Monmouth)

### Vice President:

Revd Dr Martin Henig

### Chairman:

Revd Dr Helen Hall





**SERVICE FOR ANIMAL WELFARE**  
**St Peter's Church, Nottingham**  
**Sunday 8th October 2017 at 10.45 Eucharist**  
Speaker: Revd Jennifer Brown



— All welcome. —

Enquiries to:

The Secretary, ASWA, PO Box 7193, Hook, Hampshire, RG27 8GT

**[www.aswa.org.uk](http://www.aswa.org.uk)** • **E:** [AngSocWelAnimals@aol.com](mailto:AngSocWelAnimals@aol.com)

Please note this is not an Animal Blessing Service.