

## EDITORIAL

The main intent of the Journal has been to provide a place of publication for papers covering technical aspects of animal welfare and, in particular, to publish accounts of unique field material which might not otherwise be formally reported.

The present issue contains five main articles which were submitted by their authors and have now gone through the refereeing and editorial processes. Four of these are of the traditional scientific/technical form ie based upon controlled experiments or systematic observation and one is in the 'unique field material' category.

Two of the scientific/technical contributions report the findings from carefully controlled experimental investigations of the enrichment of a) cages for zebra finches (*Jacobs, Smith, Smith, Smyth, Yew, Saibaba and Hau*) and b) the environment for laying hens (*Sherwin*). The other scientific/technical papers, which are on pigs deaths during transit (*Abbott, Guise, Hunter, Penny, Baynes and Eashy*) and on the resting behaviour of sheep in lairages (*Jarvis and Cockram*), are more of the systematic observation type. They all, however, present valid results which have important animal welfare implications.

The fifth refereed article is on the commercial slaughter of whales. This contribution is more in the 'unique field material' class and may be put forward, together with a similar paper on the behaviour and killing time of pilot whales published in Volume 3(1) as further evidence in the controversy over whether or not it is possible to kill whales humanely. To most people, however, the only real way forward would be to entirely ban commercial whaling and not pretend that these large wild creatures can be humanely hunted.

These 'unique field material' contributions are important and I, once again, make the offer to help workers – especially field workers who may have limited access to libraries and other support services – in getting their findings placed on record.

There are eight relevant animal welfare publications noted in the Reports and Comments section, six full Book and Video Reviews, with seven other items of possible interest mentioned in the Books and Videos Received list.

Finally, I must welcome the new Editorial Assistant – Lesley Diver – who has joined us as a replacement for Judith Kershaw.

February 1995

Roger Ewbank  
Editor-in-Chief

# **Animal welfare in the twenty-first century: ethical, educational and scientific challenges**

Proceedings of the conference held at the  
School of Medicine, Christchurch, New Zealand  
(edited by Robert M Baker, David J Mellor and Alistair M Nicol)

April 1994

Among the subjects covered

*Ethics and animal welfare – where do we go from here?*  
*Animals in schools – rights, resources and responding to needs*  
*Educational (and other) roles of animals in captivity*  
*Training animal welfare professionals – animal-based scientists and  
veterinarians*  
*Training animal welfare professionals – animal technicians, nurses  
and support staff*  
*Animal welfare science – a discipline for the future or an ephemeral  
preoccupation?*  
*Animal welfare and the practice of wildlife science*  
*Zoos, wildlife parks and animal welfare*  
*Animal welfare and the behavioural sciences*  
*Challenges posed by the three Rs*  
*Animal welfare and vertebrate pest management: compromise or  
conflict?*  
*Animal welfare impacts on public policy*

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A\$20

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UFAW, 8 Hamilton Close, South Mimms, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 3QD, UK  
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