

Animal ROUNDAABOUT



ISSUE No. 18, Winter 2006

Produced for people with an interest in the exhibition of animals in zoos, circuses, mobile farms, fauna and wildlife parks in NSW.

The NSW Fauna and Marine Parks Association Inc. Celebrates 25 Years

In July this year the NSW FMPA celebrates 25 years as an association. The association formed in 1981 as a result of a small group of wildlife park operators who banded together to work on common goals. The key focus of this initial group was to work on developing standards for the exhibition of animals. Some 25 years on it appears this is still one of the focus points of the association. Today the NSW FMPA works closely with government authorities to further enhance the professionalism of the zoological industry within New South Wales.

The association owes an enormous gratitude to a number of founding members for the development of the association. It is important that the association acknowledges and publicly thanks some particular individuals including: Hec Goodall, Bob and Fran Grover, Bruce and Margaret Kubbere, Giovanna Pawson, Ray and Janet Raisbeck, and John and Dawn Stone.



Photo: NSW FMPA.

Key achievements of the NSW FMPA to date are:

- A forum/mechanism to address industry concerns and development.
- Development of communication channels and information sharing opportunities with both operators and government authorities.
- Development of industry standards.
- Representation on State Government committees
- Opportunities for species exchange.
- Provision of assistance related to animals' welfare needs.
- Acknowledged by government authorities as a professional body.
- Facilitated the first licence for dolphins.

New South Wales Fauna and Marine Parks Association Inc.

Photo of NSW FMPA Representatives

Front Row (L-R) Rick Webb, Paul Metcalfe, Tara Gunter, Peggy Mucci, Paige Sinclair. Second Row (L-R) Lisa Christie, Bruce Kubbere, Steve Jardine, John Radnidge, Catherine Garness. Back Row (L-R) Robert Joyce, Sandy Reynolds, Brad Wilson, Matthew Radnidge, Al Mucci, Tim Faulkner, Michelle Brown.



The *Standards for Exhibiting Australian Mammals in NSW* is in the final process of being included within the *Exhibited Animals Protection Regulation 2005*. The information on koalas and macropods replaces the *Standards for Exhibiting Koalas in NSW* and the *Standards for Exhibiting Captive Macropods in NSW*. Also note that the dingo requirements will be in these standards and not within the *Standards for Exhibiting Carnivores in NSW*.

The latest drafts of the *Standards for the Temporary Removal of Animals in New South Wales* and the *Standards for the Exhibition of Animals at Mobile Establishments in New South Wales* have recently been sent out to the industry for comment. Feedback on these standards is due by 29 September 2006.

Standards for the Exhibition of Pinnipeds in NSW are currently being developed in conjunction with the Sydney Aquarium, Pet Porpoise Pool and Taronga Zoo. A draft is currently being reviewed by these organisations.

LOOZE LIPZ



Exhibited Animals Advisory Committee

The Exhibited Animals Advisory Committee is established under the *Exhibited Animals Protection Act 1986*. Its role is to advise the Director-General of the Department of Primary Industries on various matters relating to the exhibited animals industry in New South Wales. The six members of the Committee are appointed for a three year term by the Minister for Primary Industries, and each person represents a relevant government agency or interest group. The six members of the Exhibited Animals Advisory Committee are currently: 1) Michael Kennedy – Humane Society International, a prescribed animal welfare organisation, 2) Ross Burton – Department of Primary Industries, which administers the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act*, 3) Matthew Crane - Department of Primary Industries, which



administers the *Exhibited Animals Protection Act*, 4) William Meikle – Taronga Zoo, Zoological Parks Board of NSW, 5) Paul Metcalfe - NSW Fauna and Marine Parks Association Inc., a prescribed animal exhibition organisation, and 6) Mick O'Flynn – NSW Department of Environment and Conservation, which administers the *National Parks and Wildlife Act*. John Le Mare who represents the Circus Federation of Australia sits as an observer, but is not formally

part of the Committee. The Chairperson of the Committee can be any member and is currently Michael Kennedy. The Executive Officer is Stephen Jackson from the Animal Welfare Branch of NSW Department of Primary Industries.

Left to right are: Ross Burton, Matthew Crane, Paul Metcalfe, William Meikle, John Le Mare and Stephen Jackson. Absent are Mick O'Flynn and Michael Kennedy.

Photo of the Exhibited Animals Advisory Committee – Courtesy of Tammy Kirby.

Emergency Management Program

The NSW Fauna and Marine Parks Association (NSW FMPA) is working towards developing a template for Emergency Management procedures to assist its members in identifying and preparing for potential threats and crisis management.

The issue of Emergency Management has become a high priority for all business sectors, but is much more important when captive animals are taken into consideration. The NSW FMPA hopes to be in a position to provide guidance for members to assist them in setting up effective emergency management plans that will encompass procedures that ensure the wellbeing of animals, staff and visitors in the case of an emergency.

The NSW FMPA has recently collected information from several member institutions and has been able to identify



a list of key emergency areas that will generically cover most member institutions. A template will be constructed for these key areas and will be sent out to members in the near future with the intention of the member institutions expanding on the given information and formulating their own specific management plans.



New South Wales Fauna and Marine Parks Association Inc.



Photos: Symbio Wildlife Gardens

Animals on Film

A potentially valuable resource in the training of keepers in zoos and wildlife parks is the use of training films. A new company called *Animals on Film* has been in the process of developing the 'Best Practice Capture, Handling & Research Program Series'. These educational resources have been produced by a group of zoo industry professionals who possess zoo keeping, education, veterinary nursing, research and film making expertise.

Each capture and handling program focuses on species-specific zoonotic disease, animal ethics, safety issues and indicators of acute and chronic stress. To date the programs that are available include: Volume 1 - Snakes, Volume 4 - Raptors and Volume 9 - Zoonoses, with each DVD being able to be viewed either on computer or television screen. The Zoonoses volume also comes with an extremely comprehensive manual detailing over 350 diseases along with their hosts, vectors, systems and incubation periods. Each volume has been independently reviewed by the Australasian Regional Association of Zoological Parks and Aquaria (Newsletter 69 - February 2006) and given very positive reports. Further information on these programs can be obtained from the Animals on Film website at: www.animalsonfilm.com.



Photo: Richard Naisbitt

Project Officer, Animal Welfare



The Animal Welfare Branch of NSW Department of Primary Industries is seeking a Project Officer to help improve the quality of animal care and exhibition in NSW zoos, wildlife parks and circuses.

Professional Officer Grade 1-4, Orange or West Pennant Hills, Sydney. Permanent Full-Time. Position Number 06/7/1140KD. Total remuneration package valued to \$94,393.00 p.a. (\$44,538 - \$85,540) including employers contribution to superannuation and annual leave loading.

Job Description: Carry out inspection, investigation and extension functions under Exhibited Animals Protection Act. Provide policy advice & assist with administration of Exhibited Animals Protection Act, Animal Research Act, and associated statutory advisory committees.

Selection Criteria: Degree in relevant animal biology, veterinary or animal ecology discipline; Extensive knowledge of, and experience in, management of animals in the exhibited animals industry; Thorough understanding of animal welfare principles, the role of animal exhibition in society, and modern animal exhibit design; Capacity and preparedness to provide advice, negotiate, carry out regulatory functions and to regularly travel to achieve legislative objectives; Capacity to assess exhibited animal facilities, the operation of such facilities, and the welfare of the animals held by exhibitors for compliance with the Exhibited Animals Protection Act standards; High standard of written and oral communication, including proven ability to prepare complex reports and correspondence; Knowledge and understanding of Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO); Knowledge and understanding of Ethical Practice; Knowledge and understanding of Ethnic Affairs Priorities Statement (EAPS); Knowledge and understanding of Occupational Health and Safety (OHS). Common selection criteria also apply.

Inquiries: Ross Burton (02 6391 3324) or Matthew Crane (02 6391 3716). Email: ross.burton@dpi.nsw.gov.au. Information packages: Ross Burton (02 6391 3324). Applications marked 'Confidential' to: Employees Services Officer (Recruitment), NSW Department of Primary Industries, Locked Bag 21, Orange NSW 2800. Closing date 11 August 2006. Overseas applicants must be Australian citizens or eligible permanent residents.

For contributions, mailing list, amendments or change of address contact:

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Animal Roundabout is complimentary

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (July 2006). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up-to-date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of NSW Department of Primary Industries or the user's independent adviser.



NSW DEPARTMENT OF
PRIMARY INDUSTRIES