

Press Release

27 February 2012

A LANDMARK ISSUE OF RESURGENCE MAGAZINE (March/April 2012)

ANIMALS: A NEW ETHICS

Animals: A New Ethics brings together top international writers, campaigners, scientists, charity heads, lawyers, philosophers and artists, on subjects ranging from animal consciousness, emotions and creativity, to abuse in intensive farming, vivisection, hunting and whaling, to human 'speciesism', (an extension of racism) misguided notions of 'dominion,' and the need for non-human rights and recognition of personhood.

Heidi Stephenson, guest editor says: "Every year 55 billion animals lose their lives to the meat industry alone. Another 100 million die annually in our laboratories; in painful experiments which, shockingly, 86% of the time, have nothing to do with new medicines. Most people would be horrified if they knew what went on behind closed doors. The scale of atrocity towards our fellow sentient beings is unprecedented - and unacceptable.

"*Animals: A New Ethics* is a 21st century attempt to finally break the silence – and call for change. It's been a great privilege to gather together these powerful, expert voices."

Heidi adds: "The aim is to awaken more compassion and awareness in the general public, to build a bridge between the environmental and animal protection worlds and to start making cruelty history."

Satish Kumar, editor-in-chief of *Resurgence* and a vice-president of the RSPCA adds:

"Thanks to our guest editor we have been able to produce this special issue. I call upon all environmental activists and organisations to embrace the cause of animal rights as an integral and important part of the environmental movement."

Contributors to *Animals: A New Ethics* in print and online include:

Brian May; **Virginia McKenna**; **Heathcote Williams**; **Benjamin Zephaniah**; **Ingrid Newkirk** (founder-director of People For The Ethical Treatment of Animals); **Professor Tom Regan** (the world's leading philosopher on animal rights); **Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson** (author of the international best-selling *When Elephants Weep* and *The Pig Who Sang To The Moon*); **Peter Owen-Jones** (Anglican priest and television presenter); **Maureen Duffy**; **Jan Creamer** (Chief Executive of Animal Defenders International); **Professor Marc Bekoff** (the world's leading ethologist); **Dr Richard Ryder** (former chair of the RSPCA and one of the UK's leading animal rights philosophers as well as being a top clinical psychologist); **Jon Wynne-Tyson**, (founder-publisher of Centaur Press); **Dr Jonathan Balcombe** (an international specialist on animal emotion); **David Thomas** (the UK's top animal rights lawyer, and legal representative for the British Union For The Abolition of Vivisection); **Mark Gold** (former national director of Animal Aid and author); **Jill Robinson** (founder-director of the Animals Asia Foundation); **Robbie Marsland** (UK Director for the International Fund For Animal Welfare); **Philip Lymbery** (CEO for Compassion in World Farming); **David Ferris** (founder-director of the Asian Elephant Art and Conservation Project); **Kailah Eglinton** (Chief Executive for the Dr Hadwen Trust For Humane Research); **Juliet Gellatley**, (founder-director of VIVA! Vegetarian International Voice For Animals); **Dr Dan Lyons** (Director of Uncaged Campaigns and of the Institute For Animals And Social Justice); **Rebecca Hall-Hughes** (author of the seminal *Voicelless Victims*); **Mark Glover** (Director of Respect For Animals former British marine, founder-director of Nowzad Dogs and author of the best-selling books, *One Dog At A Time* and *No Place Like Home*, Pen Farthing).

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For further information, to obtain a copy of the magazine, reproduce an article from Resurgence or to arrange an interview with Satish or Heidi, please contact:

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Notes to Editors:

1. Satish Kumar has dedicated his life to campaigning for peace. At 18 he undertook an 8,000 mile peace pilgrimage around the world, and at 50 he went on a 2,000 mile peace pilgrimage in the UK. His radical and wide-ranging work has included creating the Small School in Hartland, Devon, a pioneering secondary school (aged 11-16), which brings into its curriculum ecological and spiritual values. He teaches, lectures and runs workshops internationally on reverential ecology, holistic education and voluntary simplicity.
2. Heidi Stephenson is a writer and animal campaigner. In 2007, she founded the Devon-based New Animal Forum, which raises awareness about animal rights and welfare issues by presenting talks with prominent speakers. Her specialist interests are in animal ethics, and animals and religion. Her forthcoming book is *The Book Of Life: The Lost Teachings of Jesus on the Animal Kingdom*.
3. *Resurgence* is published six times a year, at £4.95 an issue. For membership and further information, visit www.resurgence.org.
4. *Resurgence* magazine is published by The Resurgence Trust (no.1120414) registered at Ford House, Hartland, Bideford, Devon, EX39 6EE, UK.