

RIPPLES AND WAVES: HUMAN BEHAVIOUR SHAPING THE LIVES OF ANIMALS

Animal Welfare Seminar 2027

Online | February 24-25



Wednesday 24 February 2027 (All times are in AEDT)

13:00 Welcome to Day 1

Official welcome: Richard Mussell
Chief Executive Officer, RSPCA Australia

Chair: Dr Suzanne Fowler
Chief Science Officer, RSPCA Australia

13:10 When and why do we care about animals?

Speaker: Prof Brock Bastian
Melbourne School of Psychological Sciences,
University of Melbourne

13:55 Wildlife in the Public Eye: How communication can help (or harm) the animals we care about

Speaker: Dr Meg Shaw
BehaviourWorks Australia, Monash University

14:35 Understanding human behaviour in cat management

Speaker: Dr Gemma Ma
RSPCA NSW & School of Veterinary Science,
The University of Sydney

15:15 Break

15:30 Bridging the welfare and enforcement gaps: criminal law as a driver of behaviour change in animal cruelty in NSW

Speaker: Kathryn Jurd
NSW Local Court and UNSW

16:10 Ripples that don't reach the shore: a systems approach to horse welfare

Speaker: Dr Karen Luke
Changing Rein

16:50 Behaviour change approaches for tackling persistent pig welfare issues

Speaker: Dr Grace Carroll
School of Psychology, Queen's University Belfast

17:30 Close

Thursday 25 February 2027 (All times are in AEDT)

13:00 Welcome to Day 2

Chair: Dr Suzanne Fowler
Chief Science Officer, RSPCA Australia

13:05 Who Cares? Connecting to a Culture of Care in Animal Research: Supporting People, Animals and Ethical Outcomes

Speaker: Dr Mandy Errington
EthiQualia

13:40 "Why won't they just vaccinate?": Tools that can help when working with dissenting voices and practices

Speaker: Assoc. Prof. Jennifer Manyweathers
Charles Sturt University and Gulbali Institute

14:15 Effective messaging for impact: Communicating across divides to build support for animal welfare

Speaker: Mr Mark Chenery
Co-Director of Common Cause Australia

14:50 Both ends of the lead

Speaker: Dr Lauren Roberts
RSPCA Victoria

15:25 Break

15:40 Dog Bite Prevention in South Australia: Using human behaviour change to get more bark than bite

Speaker: Assoc. Prof. Susan Hazel
School of Animal & Veterinary Sciences, Adelaide University

16:15 Supporting the people who support the animals: Human wellbeing as part of animal welfare

Speaker: Dr Vanessa Rohlf
La Trobe University

16:50 The wins in animal welfare science and the 'whys' behind them

Speaker: Prof Siobhan Mullan
University College Dublin

17:30 Close