

We are thrilled to be able to welcome Emma Lee and Kerry Sands, who will be holding a weekend seminar for ISCP - Austria on the 11th and 12th of May 2019.

The subject of this seminar is:

"Street dogs, sport dogs & socially deprived dogs: working with trauma for successful rehabilitation"

Understanding the populations of dogs arriving in shelters or for behavioural rehabilitation with trainers and behaviourists. From rehomed street dogs and mass-produced pedigree and hybrid dogs to working dogs, the challenges for shelters, rescues and owners working with these populations are numerous. Understanding the range of challenges these dogs face is crucial to the development of successful treatment plans.

We will explore trauma as it relates to these populations but also in individual cases of neglect or abuse. Discussion will take place about hoarding, animals from laboratory settings, utility dogs working in the security industry or in hunting, animals from puppy farms, social services seizures, physical abuse cases and the specific issues these populations face.

Integration and rehabilitation of at-risk canine populations for shelters or behaviourists working with owners.

We will explore behavioural assessment best practices, matching dogs to homes and supporting new owners. Aspects of practical support will include managing expectations, the development of negotiated settlements with owners, and helping dogs to thrive. Emma Lee is a shelter trustee in a large shelter in South West France where she works as a behaviourist.

For a registration form for the seminar, please write to: riggs@good-dog-practice.eu. The deadline for registration is the 8th Mai 2019.

This seminar will take place in Lower Austria, Gleißfeld. Times: 9:30 to 17:00.

Costs:

ISCP Students – free participation

ISCP CPD € 170,--

Others € 225,--

Biography

Emma Lee

In 1994, following my undergraduate degree in English and Psychology, I completed a Postgraduate Certificate in Education. I taught English in secondary schools, going on to lead a large department.

In 2003, I was appointed as a local government consultant where I worked alongside secondary and special schools to improve standards in English and explore how students could learn more effectively. I completed a Postgraduate Certificate in Process Consultancy in 2006, helping me work with schools to lead change under the Every Child Matters initiative.

Becoming self-employed in 2008, I worked in English assessment before moving to France in 2010.

In 2013, I started to volunteer at a local animal shelter, and I was elected as a trustee in June 2015. With a background in learning and skills acquisition, I found many comparisons with the classroom within a shelter: the shining stars, the calcitrant learners, and those driven to destructive or violent behaviour through boredom, frustration and a lack of guidance or prior learning.

Where Every Child Matters in the classroom, I truly believe that Every Dog Matters in the shelter. Their failings are our failings. It is, as it was then, those at risk of being left behind who pose the biggest challenges.

Kerry Sands

A PhD researcher at the University of Exeter, my research and practical care interests are centred on the lives of greyhounds – a much maligned breed of dog through the widespread industrialised production of them as commodified race dogs.

After a 15 year career working with marginalised and socially excluded humans in both Wales and London, I embarked on the taught Masters programme in Anthrozoology at the University of Exeter in 2016. During my Masters, I wrote almost exclusively about the lives of these dogs and their human caregivers and developed a narrative that continues to morph and grow. Through my PhD, entitled 'Re-imagining Greyhounds' I am seeking to enact social change by challenging some of the ways in which these dogs are thought about and socially represented.

In addition to my work as a researcher, I am also a greyhound rescuer, caregiver and professional dog trainer (full member of the Institute of Modern Dog Trainers) and have worked in animal rescue for the past 5 years. I currently care for 5 ex racing greyhounds, who provide important context, practical application and inspiration for my research. Keen to make my research practical and useful, I have recently set up a Community Interest Company www.lifeisforlearning.co.uk which is a space where my research, advocacy and training endeavours converge.

My passion and my work seeks to re-situate greyhounds as dogs, culturally and socially embracing them as individuals of the species *Canis familiaris*, by helping people to think more about *who* they are as opposed to *what* they are. In this way I hope to bring about

change to their identities as aggregate racing commodities, whilst continuing to help those individuals leaving the racing industry to make the often-tricky transition to companion animal.

University of Exeter – Exeter Anthrozoology as Symbiotic Ethics (EASE) Working Group

The EASE working group brings together academics and postgraduate research students from diverse disciplinary backgrounds across the University of Exeter (including anthropology, philosophy, sociology, geography, bioscience, psychology, animal behaviour and computer science) whose research and teaching interests explore and address human interactions with other living things.

EASE was founded in 2016 following a generous philanthropic donation to support the development of our existing teaching provision and research expertise in Anthrozoology (conceived broadly here as the multi-disciplinary, cross-cultural study of human interactions with other animals).

EASE's particular model of qualitative Anthrozoology recognises other animals as ethically significant beings and we see this as both a necessary part of a sound understanding of these interactions, and a moral imperative. Furthermore, research as part of the EASE group places emphasis on:

- (i) an empathetic 'living with' (symbiosis) or alongside other animals (either physically, for example with companion animals, or indirectly, for example through ethical consumerism),
- (ii) a respect for them as autonomous subjects,
- (iii) an attempt to grasp, wherever possible, their perspectives as well as those of our human subjects, and
- (iv) a holistic understanding of the context within which interactions occur.

In addition, we suggest that academic research concerned with understanding these trans-species interactions should have some meaningful, practical application and ultimately improve the lives of our research subjects.

Consequently, we propose that Anthrozoology should be reframed as Symbiotic Ethics, to acknowledge the inextricable connections we share with other life forms at a time when our collective futures hang precariously in the balance.

Some of the current research projects include:

- Tails from the streets: Using trans-species ethnography to document, understand and help mitigate the 'stray dog problem' in Europe
- Perceptions of Rhino Poaching: Assessing perceptions of rhino poaching amongst international students from countries which consume rhino horn
- Before Consumption: Ambiguous moralities and equine liminality in European horse (meat) production

Read more at <https://socialsciences.exeter.ac.uk/ease/research>