



Tails & Tales

Animal Welfare Centre updates

Sept
2026

Welcome to the Animal Welfare Centre updates, **Tales and Tails**.

We will provide regular (monthly) updates via email and socials. If you would like to sign up to the mailing list to receive emails to your inbox, please complete the [MS Form](#)

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1. **Free webinar:** The Animal Welfare Centre are pleased to announce a free webinar with Dr Jill MacKay – ‘Artificial Intelligence and Animal Welfare: Opportunities and Challenges of Emerging Technologies’ on 1 Oct 2026 (6-7pm GMT). Places are limited, please register from our [event page](#).
 2. **SciFAW conference:** AWC represented at this year’s SciFAW conference. Katharine Ross presented ‘Consumer demand, intervention efficacy and potential canine welfare implications of the puppy trade: Evidence from temporal and linguistic patterns in classified online adverts’, on behalf of Stella Mazeri, Verity Bowell, Kirsten M. McMillan (Dogs Trust). Izzy Terry’s poster ‘Analysing Scottish SPCA Operational Canine Data to Inform Practices, Policy and the Public’ with Zupei Liu, Gilly Mendes Ferriera (Scottish SPCA) and Rebecca Doyle. Sarah Brown contributed ‘Animal health and welfare: Time for a refresh?’ by Alistar Lawrence et al., ‘Socio-cognitive development of pigs in enriched and barren housing conditions’ by Cabrera Vasquez et al., and ‘Neurobiology of Positive affect’ by Goursot et al. at the LIFT workshop.
 3. **SciFAW updates:** On behalf of our colleagues at SciFAW, we would like to promote:
 - **Systematic Review Grant** [US\\$100,000 funded by AAALAC](#) International for a rigorous systematic review on welfare recommendations for animals used in research and teaching. Deadline 1 Nov.
 - **Publication discount** 40% off Assessing Animal Welfare: A Guide to the Valid Use of Indicators of Affective States (eds. Mason, Nielsen & Mendl) for [Science for Animal Welfare](#) members, available until 30 Nov 2026 – contact SciFAW for the discount code
 - **New Centenary Research Award** – up to £250,000 available for projects addressing either a major animal welfare challenge, or a fundamental animal welfare question. Find out more from their [website](#)
 4. **Online course:** A World of Good Initiative in partnership with the Animal Welfare Centre, R(D)SVS have launched the Good Welfare Governance course; providing professionals involved in international, federal and provincial governance foundational skills in animal welfare around the world. Visit the [course website](#).
 5. **New Scottish Government guidance:** School experts helped shape the Scottish Government’s 2026 Welfare of Equids: Guidance, putting mental wellbeing and natural behaviour alongside physical health for the first time. The University team includes Mrs Bryony Lancaster, Dr Sarah Brown and Dr Gemma Pearson, with support from Cynthia Naydani and colleagues across Equine Science and the Animal Welfare Centre. Read the [Welfare of Equids: Guidance](#), or find out more about our [Equine Science](#) and [Equine Behaviour](#) programmes, and the [Animal Welfare Centre](#).
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