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Please read The Phoenix
DISCLAIMER on the last page of
this Newsletter

A personal invitation to the AIAM Conference in Townsville from Councillor Dale Last, Townsville City Council

After attending my first AIAM conference last year at Glenelg I realised how important it is that local governments throughout Australia meet on a regular basis to discuss the issues associated with animal management.



If we are to remain abreast of changes in the industry, and in particular research dealing with animal issues, we need to make the effort to attend conferences such as the AIAM conference where you will hear from the best animal management educators from around Australia.

AIAM have put together an outstanding line up of speakers this year to share their knowledge and ensure you are at the forefront of this industry and at the top of your game.

Urban animal management (animal control and regulation) is constantly evolving with issues of companion animal access, public health, public safety, community amenity, and environmental protection hot topics at the present time. This combination of critical 'community management hot points' can sometimes create a particularly emotive and demanding work environment. It is this sharing of knowledge that enables us to move forward and implement 'best practice' ideas and I can certainly attest to the fact that following the conference last year, I came away with a number of innovative concepts that have proven worthwhile in our local government area.



This year the AIAM conference destination will be in my home City of Townsville. There will in fact be two animal management conferences, AIAM and Animal Management in Rural and Remote Communities (AMRRIC) at the same conference venue in the same week this year.

It is going to be four days of incredible educational and networking opportunities – so get in early, take advantage of this special offer and register early!

If you have never been to North Queensland this is your opportunity to witness and be a part of everything the tropical north has to offer.

Where else would you want to be in October?



Major sponsor of AIAM Annual Conference 2011

EVENTS CALENDAR

AIAM ANNUAL CONFERENCE	
on urban animal management	6-8 Oct 11
AMO Training Day	5 Oct 11
Animal Management in Rural and Remote Communities (AMRRIC) Conference	5 Oct 11
Next issue of The Phoenix	Aug 11

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Message from the AIAM President



Dick Murray, AIAM President

The picture below was taken at the Reef HQ / NQ Museum complex just opposite the conference hotel venue (on the other side of Ross Creek). As can be seen, Mykel Smith and I had to attend to a situation in which this

male Carnosaur (called Nibbles) had just broken out of the Museum a little while earlier.



Luckily for us, we managed to snaffle the little (1500 kg) fellow before he got out of this garden and off into the CBD of town – or indeed before he could push his way onto the ferry and go to Magnetic Island for more of a laid back sort of beach side rampage.

This is animal control in the north. Yep, these things can still happen. Note that Mykel had just dropped his glasses at the point when this picture was taken! This kind of thing (dinosaurs at large and without a proper collar... plus, without any proper dyno-registration tag displayed) that can shake even the most experienced of AMOs.

Perhaps the caption for this year should read 'Come to Townsville – and you might never go anywhere else'.

After Yasi....

It was a very rough start for Queensland this year. Things were all a-hoo for the first 3 months of the year - pretty much everywhere up and down the State.

Townsville copped a full 24 hour flogging on the edge of the destructive centre of Yasi and the city ended up looking afterwards like it had been dragged through some kind of monster hedge backwards. What a mess!... and others further north fared a good bit worse than us.

But, here we are in May now and it is slowly all coming right again. My confident prediction is that everything here in Townsville will be in spot on perfect nick in time for our October conference – better than before!



Australian Institute of Animal Management 2011 Annual Conference

Theme: *Upwards & Onwards*

12-14 October

Rydges Southbank
Palmer Street
Townsville

AIAM Training Day

Tuesday 11 October 2011

AMRRIC Conference

Tuesday 11 October 2011

Registration available
6 June 2011



Please circulate **The Phoenix** to:

- Animal Management Officers
 - Environmental Health Officers
 - Managers
 - Team Leaders
 - CEO
 - Others Interested
- If you received this by email but would prefer to receive a paper copy, please let us know!

Email to membership@aiam.com.au

AIAM Conferences - From the President

The 2011 AIAM Conference, when it is up and running successfully, with hundreds of happy delegates, will be a very real "back to normal" shot in the arm for the whole region. We, all of us here in NQ, very much welcome delegates to register for this one as soon as they can.

Last year the AIAM Conference in South Australia came through as another very good event... but with a moderate loss on the books. It was a successful Conference, there's no mistake about that, but delegate numbers were less than we needed to break even.

This negative financial result is not the end of the world. We are OK for now and still solvent – no problem there... but, if we run at another loss, it will signal some writing on the wall that I believe no one wants to see.

I believe everyone knows that there are no free lunches on the Institute Committees. We do indeed have a very cost effective organisational format. All of our office bearers pay their own way to attend all meetings. Everyone on the committee pays full registration fees to attend the conferences like everyone else... the conferences that they themselves have arranged for everyone else!

While our conferences are never extravagant, they are still, even so, expensive to arrange and expensive to present.

One bottom line for this year is that we need upwards of 200 delegates attending this year's conference to make ends meet – and to also have enough cash left in the kitty to get on with preparing our next conference for 2012.

The other bottom line is that if we get less than this level of interest this year again, then the huge effort that goes into it each year is probably going to be difficult to sustain for the years ahead.

AIAM needs you there for this conference, folks.

As President in my fifth year now, I can tell everyone that the preparation this year is as good as it gets. The program is very strong, the AMO training day is an opportunity that won't come along again any time soon and the link with AMRRIC's conference (earlier that same week and at the same venue), is an especially good setup. It is going to be a good one.

Early registrations will be greatly appreciated.

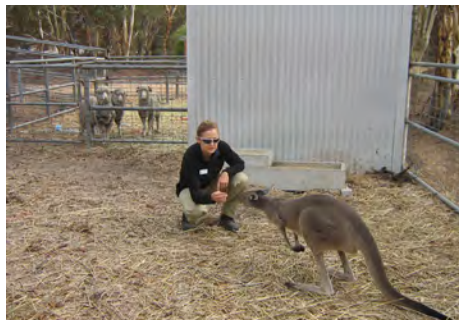
Nah, that's only for TV! - Sharleen Jordan

In my international travels, particularly when I was in the USA, I am often asked if kangaroos really do bounce down the main street of our towns.

My responses are usually along the lines of "That's just for TV", "Never see it happen" etc.

So when on Ranger duty one recent morning, my off-sider Paul Postma swung into the office to collect me to start our day, I searched his face in earnest for evidence of a submerged grin when he said to me "come on, we've got to go and deal with a kangaroo jumping down the main street of town". There was no grin – he wasn't joking.

Apparently our little female kangaroo had been causing all sorts of dramas with the morning traffic and the Shire President got a real shock when he looked up and saw her bouncing past his window!



So with throw net and other capture equipment in hand we drove down the main street of Northam and apprehended the offending marsupial. We then took her to the pound where she found life was a little less stressful, water and food was plentiful, and she even had some neighbours (see photo).

So now I guess I will have to change my response – "Well yeah, we do get them in the main street from time to time!"

Some AIAM Conference Speaker Biographies



Tim Adams has been the National Director of the Petcare Information and Advisory Service Australia (PIAS) since 2007. PIAS is a non-commercial organisation dedicated to the promotion of

socially responsible pet ownership. (www.petnet.com.au). A qualified veterinarian, Tim has a range of interests including animal management, animal health, public health and the human animal bond. With PIAS, Tim works as an industry partner on academic research projects and associated research translation programs. He is treasurer for the Australian Companion Animal Council Inc.



Patricia Coward is Principal Adviser (Occupational Health) and Workplace Health and Safety Inspector with Workplace Health and Safety Queensland, a division of the Queensland Department of

Justice and Attorney-General. Patricia specialises in occupational communicable diseases and risk management strategies to protect against occupational infection.



Rick Speare is a Professor with the School of Public Health, Tropical Medicine and Rehabilitation Sciences and Director of the Anton Breinl Centre for Public Health and Tropical Medicine. His

main interest is in infectious diseases and their control. His areas of special expertise are human parasitology and amphibian diseases. In a career of more than four decades of practice in both medical and veterinary professions as well as tertiary research and teaching in public health, Rick is a uniquely placed to speak with authority on the subject of zoonotic diseases.

FULL BIOGRAPHIES FOR SPEAKERS WILL UPLOADED TO THE WEBSITE SHORTLY.

2011 AIAM Conference Preliminary Program

WEDNESDAY

OPENING SESSION

- 8:30 Opening - *Cr Les Tyrell, Mayor, Townsville City Council*
- 8.45 What was the world 'Expert meeting on dog population management?' What did they decide? - *Tracy Helman, Manager Policy and Education, Bureau of Animal Welfare, DPI, Vic*
- 9:15 Process development at an international standard - *Rob Smith, Manager Regulatory Services, Townsville City Council, Qld*
- 9.45 Why complete that form? Interpreting data to develop strategy - *Ben Luxton, Dog and Cat Management Board, SA*
- 10:15 Questions

10:30 MORNING TEA

POPULATION OR OVERPOPULATION?

- 11:00 Unwanted animals - *Dr Mark Lawrie, Australian Veterinary Association, NSW*
- 11:20 Getting 2 Zero - A whole community change model to increase responsible cat and dog ownership and prevent unwanted animals - *Joy Verrinder, Animal Welfare League, Qld*
- 11:40 Cat admissions to animal shelters and the risk of euthanasia: How science can be used to guide animal management in Australia - *Corinne Hanlon, University of Queensland, Qld*
- 12:00 Animal breeder permits and the community - *Stuart Duck, Moreton Bay Regional Council, Qld*

12:20 Questions

12:30 LUNCH

IMPROVING RELATIONSHIPS

- 1:30 Onwards and upwards: Using partnerships with scientists to improve animal management services - *Assoc Prof Pauleen Bennett, Director of Regional Operations, Latrobe University, Vic*
- 1:55 Can we accurately identify 'amicable' dogs? - *Tammie King, Animal Welfare Science Centre, Monash University, Vic*
- 2:20 Moving forward positively: Initiatives with positive outcomes in times of change - *Louise Laurens, Education Officer, Moreton Bay Regional Council, Qld*
- 2:35 Making the most of opportunities to influence animal management legislation - *Trevor Green, Redland City Council, Qld.*
- 2:50 Questions

3:00 AFTERNOON TEA

WEDNESDAY continued

HERE AND NOW

- 3:30 An overview of the Animal Control Team's activities in the Grantham area following the flood disaster of January 2011 - *Darryl Simpson, Lockyer Valley Regional Council, Qld*
- 3:50 Outcomes from the Australian Workshop on plans for animals in natural disasters - *Greg Talbot, Executive Officer Local Laws, Yarra Ranges Council, Vic*
- 4:10 Animal management tools and resources for the legislator, the educator, the regulator, the enforcer andthe collaborator - *Dave Bellman, Environmental Health Officer, Gold Coast City Council, Qld*
- 4:30 Victorian toolbox options - *Elke Tapley, Coordinator Local Laws, Knox City Council and Steven Moore, Licensing and Audit Officer, Bureau of Animal Welfare, Vic*
- 4:50 Questions
- 6:30 Social function at Reef HQ

THURSDAY

HEALTH AND SAFETY FOR OFFICERS AND THE COMMUNITY

- 8:30 The role of animal management officers in exotic animal disease surveillance - *Dr Robert Hedleffs, James Cook University, Townsville, Qld*
- 9:00 Occupational risks, zoonoses, liabilities and risk management in animal control - *Patricia Coward, Principal Adviser (Occupational Health), Department of Employment & Industrial Relations, Qld*
- 9:30 Understanding zoonotic disease: Minimising infection risk for animal management officers - *Prof Rick Speare, James Cook University, Townsville, Qld*
- 10:15 OH&S in the AMO role: It's all in a day's work - *Margaret Gaal, Bathurst Regional Council, NSW*
- Questions

10:30 MORNING TEA

RESEARCH

- 11:00 Onwards and upwards: Envisioning the future and developing a research agenda - *Assoc Prof Pauleen Bennett, School Of Psychological Science, Latrobe University, Vic*
- 11:30 Living well together - *Dr Tim Adams, Petcare Information Advisory Service, Vic*
- 12:00 What breeds of dogs are the most ballistic barkers and why? - *Dr Cam Day, Veterinary Consultant, Qld*
- 12:15 Questions

2011 AIAM Conference Preliminary Program continued

THURSDAY continued

12:30 LUNCH

DOG BEHAVIOUR

- 1:30 Identifying factors leading to owner satisfaction with their dog or where to spend your UAM budget for managing dogs – *Assoc Prof Pauleen Bennett, School Of Psychological Science, Latrobe University, Vic*
- 2:10 What breeds of dogs are aggressive and who cares? – *Dr Cam Day, Veterinary Consultant, Qld*
- 2.50 Questions

3:00 AFTERNOON TEA

AIAM POSITION STATEMENTS

- 3:30 Position Statement – Dangerous Dogs
- 3.45 Position statement – Barking Dogs
- 4.00 AGM
- 7:00 Conference Dinner incl. AIAM Awards

FRIDAY

GOVERNANCE

- 9:00 Tips and traps in dealing with appeals and reviews from animal management decisions – *Barry Dunphy, Partner, Government Services Group, Clayton Utz*
- 9:45 Destruction obstructions; The legal considerations relevant to dealing with 'Dangerous' dogs – *Cimon Burke, Wallmans Lawyers, SA*
- 10:15 Questions

10:30 MORNING TEA

ANIMALS AND THE COMMUNITY

- 11:00 Beach Education Survey – A social change campaign – *Dani Vukoje, City of Charles Sturt, SA*
- 11:20 Training opportunities for AMOs in Indigenous Communities – *Julia Hardaker, Executive Officer, AMRRIC*
- 11:40 Assisting companion animals and the elderly and disabled living at home: Consolidating a community focus for animal management – *Lynn Fitzpatrick, Real Animals Pets and People, Vic*
- 12:00 2012 wrap
- 12:15 Conference close

*Are you a member of
AIAM?*

Is your membership status current?

Access the membership database through the website and bring your membership up-to-date.

Encourage your colleagues to join!

We need you to assist us to develop an environment for best practice in animal control and regulation service delivery in Australia!

www.aiam.com.au

Consider a Sponsorship or an Exhibition space at the 2011 Conference in Townsville

The Sponsorship and Exhibition Brochure is available for download from the website www.aiam.com.au

If you wish to discuss any aspects of your participation as a sponsor or exhibitor, please contact the Conference Organiser,
email conference@aiam.com.au
or telephone (02)61619024.

AIAM Conference 2011 Training Day - Tuesday 11 October 2011

“Come to me love” she said – and it did!

Back in the early 90s, AIAM President Dick Murray met a bloke called Lou Butterworth. Lou had been the Brisbane City Council’s pound keeper since the year dot at that time and he was a very good operator. He told Dick one of those interesting animal management stories that you never forget.

Lou’s animal management story related to an incident in which a railway K wagon full of half wild bush Brahman cattle got loose in the rail yards at the Albion Train Station one (fairly eventful) day in Brisbane.

Once loose, these cattle were on the run all through the suburbs of Woollowin, Lutwyche and Albion and they caused mayhem. Lou had to deal with it because, as you find when this sort of thing happens, it is council business, not police business. It was animal management business at the pointy end of the spectrum because... as we all know, that’s where this kind of buck stops.

The story goes that, in one suburban street, a well-meaning woman took matters into her own hands, so to speak. Despite being asked to keep out of it, she approached one of the particularly stropky young cows with her arms outstretched, saying: “Come to me, come to me love” And Lou said... “it did! – and it wasn’t nice”

The point in this context is that animal management is not just about dogs and cats. Livestock can get loose and can cause very real problems. People get involved who need to be controlled and managed. When this happens, who gets called? Yes, you got it.... the council does, and the service request goes straight to animal management.

The AMO training day at the 2011 AIAM Conference is to do with the handling of horses and cattle.

We are fortunate to have the James Cook University Vet School in town – and large (livestock) animals are their forte. These teaching facilities are ideal and Wayne Hein (the Head of School) has generously made these facilities available for the AIAM training day in October.

This facility at JCU makes possible a kind of AMO training that is hard to come by and difficult to arrange under normal circumstances. The training is itself, the forte of committee member Sharleen Jordan from WA who will be managing the day.

It is a training opportunity not to be missed... and numbers will be restricted to what can be properly managed.

Course work details:

RTE2118 Handle Livestock Using Basic Techniques from the RTE03 Rural Production nationally accredited training package

This level II unit may be imported into any national training package. Students will receive a formal Academic Record to be able to receive their exemption from any other endorsed RTO

Based on the principles of Low Stress Stock Handling, this unit covers the functions required to move, draft and control livestock using industry appropriate basic methods and procedures.

COURSE PROGRAM

- 9am–12pm: Underpinning knowledge – classroom theory
- 1pm–4pm: Practical handling “hands-on” session
- 4pm–5pm: Formal Assessment

DATE: Tuesday 11 October 2011

COST: \$150 - attending conference

\$270 - not attending conference

NOTE: Those enrolling for this one day course will need to bring along sturdy work gloves, work boots, hat, suncream, appropriate work clothing, a pen on the day.

Training Package:

RTE20103 Certificate II in Agriculture

Unit of Competence:

RTE2118A Handle livestock using basic techniques



Comprehensive information and the Delivery and Assessment Plan will be available for download from the AIAM website shortly.

Conference Session - Zoonoses, Biosecurity & OHS in Animal Management

Animal Management Officers have a bigger role in the community than most people realise. Animal Management Officers are not just dog catchers - as is sometimes commonly thought to be the case. Animal Management Officers have an important role to play in protecting both themselves and the municipal communities that employ them, from the risks associated with exotic and zoonotic diseases. This is not just gratuitous window dressing talk intended only to boost the integrity of the job role, it is a valid observation.

The subject of this session relates to the health and safety of AMOs themselves and also to the health and safety of the community as a whole. There is more involved here than just going through the motions in meeting health and safety obligations.

Leadership is a key component in successful health and safety management and AIAM, just like all progressive Local Authorities, is keen about being involved with this kind of leadership.

For this session introduction, I will use as an example, the disease rabies. Rabies is an exotic disease as far as Australia is concerned... it is also a zoonotic disease (and one of diabolic consequence). Rabies is but one example from a particular parcel of diseases that are of considerable importance in Animal Management. The reason is that Rabies is endemic in parts of the Indonesian Archipelago - just a boat trip away from most of the Australian coast. Rabies might pop up anywhere on our coast one day - and dogs with rabies typically want to break out and roam because of the disease affecting their brain - and who might be called to deal with a roaming dog that is behaving oddly?... You guessed right! -and what council would ever want to be employing an AMO who stepped in this "hole" for want of better awareness?

Believe me when I say that it is not common to find speakers on this subject of the calibre of Prof. Rick Speare, A/Prof. Rob Hedlefs and Trish Coward, all at the one conference. My advice is: Don't miss it!



Rabid dogs



Rabies bite infection and encephalitis

AIAM Annual Conference in Townsville

The venue for the Conference is Rydges Hotel Southbank, 17-23 Palmer St, Townsville.

Rydges Hotel Southbank is a multi award winning four star, hotel conveniently located on the popular 'restaurant strip' of Townsville. A short walk to the Central Business District, shops, nightclubs, heritage bars and popular tourist attractions such as Reef HQ, The Museum of Tropical North Queensland and the Magnetic Island Ferry. The hotel boasts views of the Marina, Magnetic Island, CBD and Castle Hill. There is a swimming pool and spa situated in lush, tropical gardens.

Accommodation options will be offered with other nearby hotels and apartments on the same popular restaurant strip. Accommodation rates will range from \$120-\$200 per night.



Wednesday social night

Reef HQ is the world's largest living coral reef aquarium and is the venue for our Wednesday night social function. Delegates will get the chance to view the exhibits and enjoy a dinner at the same time.

Reef HQ is the Reef Education Centre for the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority. The mission of Reef HQ is "to inspire all to care for the future of the Great Barrier Reef."

The Aquarium was the brainchild of Dr. Graeme Kelleher, a former chairperson of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, who wanted to create an example of the Great Barrier Reef on land. Making the reef accessible to everybody at a low cost and thereby gain community support for the protection of "the real thing". Today, over 100 000 visitors come to Reef HQ each year to get up close and personal with the reef, while staying dry.



More reasons why you should come to Townsville

The region encompasses world heritage rainforests and the Great Barrier Reef, islands and sandy beaches, history, culture and the dramatic landscapes of the Australian outback, providing the perfect backdrop.

Getting to Townsville is easy, with more than 23,000 airline seats into Townsville each week from destinations such as Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Cairns.

Looking across Cleveland Bay is Magnetic Island, only a 20 minute ferry ride away. Bungalow Bay offers an amazing experience up close with some of Australia's favourite wildlife; however it's the uniqueness of their champagne breakfasts with the koalas on Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays that is an experience not to be missed.

A holiday on Magnetic Island offers a wide variety of activities. While on the island discover the works of local artists, the unique dining scene and take part in some personalised tours and activities. Magnetic Island offers accommodation right across the tourist spectrum, covering everything from backpacker to luxury resorts.

White sandy beaches, tropical islands, rainforests and the outback all in one location - sounds attractive right? Then it's time you paid North Queensland visit. Whatever your choice - Townsville can help you make your function come to life and offer delegates something new, different and exciting.

Access the AIAM website for regular updates on the AIAM Conference in Townsville.

We want to see you there!

www.aiam.com.au

**Remember....
12-14 October 2011**

Registration available soon

AIAM General Meeting 2011

All financial members of AIAM Inc are invited to the Association's General Meeting to be held as follows:

Where: Novotel Brisbane Airport

When: Friday 10 June 2011

Time: 4pm

All members will be circulated with the Agenda and Minutes prior to the General Meeting.

If ensure you are financial by checking your records through the membership pages on conference website or by calling the AIAM Secretariat on (02) 6288 3998 or email: info@aiam.com.au

Please also submit any apologies to info@aiam.com.au



Let us know what you are up to, ask your questions for colleagues to help

If you or your Council have implemented any interesting new animal management initiatives, we would like to hear about it. Providing copy for Phoenix will share your news within the industry!

Email: info@aiam.com.au

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