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

## Animal Management: Pulling it all together

The overall conference theme this year is "Animal Management: Pulling it all together". The separate session themes within the program are:

- Human behaviour in animal management
- Community behaviour in animal management
- Governance in animal management
- Animal behaviour in animal management
- Initiatives in animal management
- Training for animal management
- National position statements for animal management
- Special interest papers and awards papers

**To register**, access the Institute's website [www.aiam.com.au](http://www.aiam.com.au) - go to the Conference pages and either register online or download the hardcopy registration form, complete this and return to the conference organisers as noted within the form.

You will see that this year's AMO training day is directly aligned with an Animal Control and Regulation Certificate IV Training Package Competency. Furthermore, it will be accredited training under the authority of a Registered Training Organisation.

Every conference paper this year has been aligned with an appropriate Competency or Element of either the Cert IV ACR TP or the Certs III & IV in Local Government (regulatory services) for RPL purposes. Refer to page 5 in this edition of Phoenix. The full mapping for all presentations can be found on the AIAM website.

A full program outline is also printed in this issue of Phoenix. You will see why you should attend this conference in Glenelg!



This is one of those pictures that speaks a thousand words. It has application for all of us, wherever we work in animal management.

Have you ever felt like this after a day at the office?

This year's AIAM conference program is very much about dodging the quills. It will be an uplifting and enabling conference. Make sure you get thto Glenelg.

**Have you registered for the  
 AIAM Conference yet?**

**We really want to see you  
 in Adelaide  
 6-8 October 2010**

**REGISTER ONLINE  
 through the website  
[www.aiam.com.au](http://www.aiam.com.au)**

### EVENTS CALENDAR

<b>AIAM ANNUAL CONFERENCE</b> on urban animal management	6-8 Oct 10
AMO Training Day	5 Oct 10
Next issue of The Phoenix	Feb 11

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## Message from the AIAM President



Dick Murray, AIAM President

Greetings all and welcome to the last Phoenix for this year before the Glenelg AIAM Conference.

Items in this edition of interest are:

- Conference intro – An overview on the whole show
- Aggression in the workplace from Chris Button (Dep Pres AIAM) – compelling lead into this year's conference program. This is the sort of material that nobody will want to miss. The subject will be expertly presented by very competent speakers. It may not be revisited for some years to come. So, really people, don't miss it this year at Glenelg.
- The never ending saga of RBL – this article from Geoff Irwin regarding yet another interesting turn in the Pit Bull Terrier Breed Specific Story road at the Gold Coast in Queensland. It is a good article, so read it carefully... and... Geoff has promised he will give anyone interested chapter and verse (the unabridged version) at the Glenelg conference, on this subject, for just the price of a beer! How good is that?
- Be sure to have a look at the competency mapping that Sharleen (Committee member from WA) has done for all the papers of this conference – this is a big deal. Tracking like this locks Glenelg (and hopefully all our conferences in future) into a formal qualification training and career pathing framework.
- Finally, there are two champion articles from our famous – and one and only - nuclear powered, Elke Tapley, Hon Sec AIAM. There is a lot in these two articles about the philosophy of animal management and the Institute itself.

Heavy emphasis on everybody sharing and helping and generally pulling together. Great stuff.

- And then there is my poem – don't miss that!!!

I am very much looking forward to catching up with everyone at the Glenelg conference. It promises to be a good one.

Last thing before closing, is for me to ask that everyone receiving Phoenix should see if they can think of half a dozen other people they know in animal management and forward the mail to them. Conferences run on people power – more delegates means more buzz and more spark for everyone. More delegates means better value all round.

All the best. See you there.

Regards,

Dick Murray

### A presidential poem

The very best way to avoid all the quills,  
Is to be at this conference and  
pick up new skills

It's good, so I'm told, to train the old  
brain,

And avoiding those quills has  
got to save pain.

Crook, I know, but for now it  
is the best I can do.

Gifted poet I'm not,  
You have figured that too.

Anyway, ease the strain and  
maximise gain,

Join us at Glenelg.  
Can't make it more plain!

# AIAM

## The AIAM Annual Conference on urban animal management

6-8 October 2010

AMO Training  
5 October 2010

Venue:  
Stamford Grand Adelaide  
Jetty Road  
Glenelg, Adelaide SA

3-days of sessions for  
Conference and  
1-day of AMO Training.

Complete information on the website

[www.aiam.com.au](http://www.aiam.com.au)

REGISTER ONLINE  
[www.aiam.com.au](http://www.aiam.com.au)

or complete the Registration Form and  
return it to

AIAM Inc  
Fax: (02) 6161 4719  
Tel: (02) 6161 9024

Email: [conference@aiam.com.au](mailto:conference@aiam.com.au)



## 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](mailto:membership@aiam.com.au)

## The saga of the American Pit Bull Terrier (APBT) and the American Staffordshire Terrier (Amstaff)

Most animal management officers and their respective Councils are by now embroiled in the restriction of certain dog breeds. Although the statutes have come into force for the safety of the public, the assumption of dangerous breeds is still out for the vote.

Personally I have noticed a reduction in the seriousness of attacks over recent years, but that is not to say that they have disappeared. They certainly haven't, but the trend that once an animal or person was attacked by a pit bull type dog and they did not do too well, has most definitely stopped (in my experience in my little fish pond). So I have been asked to write about the latest of this long and by no means resolved saga.

Following the introduction of Breed Specific Legislation (BSL) in Queensland the rules determined that people could keep these animals with permit. Some Councils however had long before banned them in their respective Local Laws and as such, the permit was the minimum criteria for keeping them. Although there are a number of breeds restricted, I will talk specifically about the American Pit Bull Terrier (APBT). This breed by far has caused the most consternation for agencies.

My mind takes me back to the time that all American Staffies owned by young people were gleefully described and proudly displayed as Pit Bulls. However once the BSL came in, they all became Amstaffs again. I am sure you will see the irony unfold.

After a few arguments with dog owners some matters were brought before the courts and one of these has had far reaching effect. I speak of a case in 2004 where Council identified a dog (without any breed papers) as a restricted breed. The owner was, and still is, adamant that the dog is an American Staffordshire Terrier but agreed in the Magistrate court to take it out of the City until such time as they could prove this. After a lot of correspondence the matter was not resolved and eventually the owner made an appeal for a Judicial Review to the Supreme Court of Queensland to have the matter resolved.



This case took a simple course. The dog's owner submitted evidence that had been prepared and submitted in a previous Magistrates court case. The evidence primarily was based upon statements from American experts that the APBT were the same type of dog as the Amstaff. The experts recalled how, after the turn of the century, the two main kennel clubs within the USA had registered the same dog as an 'APBT' in one club and Amstaff in the other, and went on to describe their various attributes. As this argument did not contradict anything Council had been doing or had previously resolved, we agreed with the experts and the submission by the applicants and saw no need to offer any other evidence. Judge Martin also agreed and found as follows:-

*"In this case there is unchallenged evidence as to the identity of the APBT and the AmStaff. The conclusion that I draw from that evidence is that the name "American Staffordshire Terrier" is a name which was adopted in the United States of America for purposes of promotion or other similar reasons and that that name was applied to American Pit Bull Terriers.*

*All the evidence points to the same dog being given different names, that is, American Pit Bull Terrier or American Staffordshire Terrier, so that a dog recognised as being of one of those "breeds" is the same as a dog identified as being of the other "breed". That practice appears to have been adopted in Australia.*

*It follows then that the views held by the Council when it entered into the "consent order" were unfounded and that there is no difference between an APBT and AmStaff. Therefore, as I am satisfied that the applicant has demonstrated that Tango is an AmStaff it follows that Tango is also an APBT and is thus subject to the restrictions under the local laws referred above."*

It is noted he mentioned Council should never have given the owners the ability to return the dog once establishing it to be an Amstaff. This perhaps raised some further concerns seeing that Council had in fact been exempting Amstaffs for quite a while and should they now go back and reidentify those animals?

The decision naturally made its way to the Queensland Minister for Local Government and the question "Are Amstaffs now a restricted breed" went with it. The Government have made it clear they never intended to restrict the Amstaff and are now grappling with a way to exempt them. Of course if the Government solution is to allow Amstaffs with breed papers to be exempt, then I do feel for all those owners who brought these dogs without paying the additional money for breed papers.

I assume the same complication now arises for any state or local authority that restricts breeds which include the APBT and were never intended to restrict the Amstaff. Nevertheless there is a Supreme Court Decision that states quite categorically, until challenged, that APBT and Amstaffs are one and the same.

Buy me a beer at the conference and I will gladly tell you more.

Geoff Irwin, Gold Coast City Council

## AIAM PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

### DAY 1

### WEDNESDAY 6 OCTOBER

8:30		Welcome and Opening - The Hon Paul Caica, Minister for Environment & Conservation, South Australia
<b>1: HUMAN BEHAVIOUR - Feature Session</b>		
8.55		<b>KEYNOTE:</b> Recognising Signs and Symptoms of Mental Illness - <i>Dr David Whittingham, Psycare, Qld</i>
9:35	1	<b>KEYNOTE:</b> What is the 'Managing Aggression Program' - <i>Dr David Whittingham, Psycare, Qld and Mr Geoff Irwin, Gold Coast City Council, Qld</i>
10.00	2	The Board Model for State-Wide Dog and Cat Management: Does it work? - <i>Mr Ben Luxton, Dog &amp; Cat Management Board, SA</i>
10.25		Questions
10:30 - 11:00		<b>MORNING TEA IN EXHIBIT</b>
<b>2: COMMUNITY</b>		
11:00	3	How are Fenced Dog Parks Used in Adelaide? - <i>Dr Susan Hazel, University of Adelaide, SA</i>
11:20	4	Tying in the Community - <i>Mrs Louise Laurens, Moreton Bay Regional Council, Qld</i>
11:40	5	Promoting Sensible Selection - Select an Owner: Puts emphasis on compatibility in the hands of the dog - <i>Mr Ben Luxton, Dog &amp; Cat Management Bd</i>
12.00	6	The Principles of Making Animal Management Local Laws - <i>Mr Trevor Green, Redland City Council, Qld</i>
12:20		Questions
12:30 - 13:30		<b>LUNCH IN EXHIBIT</b>
<b>3: GOVERNANCE</b>		
1:30	7	To Act or Not to Act? Managing a council's liability exposure in the exercise of its legislative powers - <i>Ms Cimon Burke, Wallman Lawyers, SA</i>
1:50	8	Educational and Technical Considerations of Personnel Involved in Companion Animal Welfare During Disasters - <i>Ms Hayley Squance, Massey Uni, NZ</i>
2:10	9	Tips and Traps for Young Players: Investigations and brief preparation - <i>Ms Kate Oliver, Norman Waterhouse Lawyers, SA</i>
2:30	10	Learning to Behave: The science behind animal behaviour and management - <i>Dr Linda Marston, Monash University, Vic</i>
2:50		Questions
3:00 - 3:30		<b>AFTERNOON TEA IN EXHIBIT</b>
<b>4: UNDERSTANDING PEOPLE</b>		
3:30		The Five Needs of Performance™ - <i>Mr David Harding, Excelerate Learning And Development Australia, SA</i>
3:55		Risk Indicators for Violence and Aggressive Dog Ownership - <i>Dr David Whittingham, Psycare, Qld</i>
4:45		Questions
6:30		Casual Dinner

## AIAM PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

### DAY 2

### THURSDAY 7 OCTOBER

<b>5: UNDERSTANDING BEHAVIOUR - Feature Session</b>		
8:30		<b>KEYNOTE:</b> Why Pet Owners Don't Always do the Right Thing - <i>Ms Vanessa Rohlf, Monash University, Vic</i>
9.10		Development of a Valid and Reliable Assessment to Measure Amicability in Dogs - <i>Ms Tammie King, Animal Welfare Science Centre, Monash University Vic</i>
9.30		Science and Dog Training: Getting it out of the lab and into practice - <i>Dr Linda Marston, Monash University, Vic</i>
9.50		Questions
10:00 - 10:30		<b>MORNING TEA IN EXHIBIT</b>
<b>6: ANIMAL MANAGEMENT INITIATIVES - Feature Session</b>		
10:30		Dog Barking Update - <i>Mr Chris Button, Adelaide Hills Council, SA</i>
10:45		Training for a Quiet Pound - <i>Dr Linda Marston, Monash University, Vic</i>
11.15		Developing Standard Operating Procedures for Dog Management by Council - <i>Ms Andrea Malone, Local Government Association, SA</i>
11:35		Animal Management: It's as easy as the DNA on a cotton swab - <i>Mr George Sofronidis, Genetic Technologies, Vic</i>
12:20		Questions
12:30 - 1:30		<b>LUNCH IN EXHIBIT</b>
<b>7: ALL AROUND TRAINING</b>		
1:30		<b>KEYNOTE:</b> How to Enforce Management Behaviours Without Force - <i>Ms Vanessa Rolf</i>
2.10		Dangerous Dogs - <i>Mr Steve Hearn, Dog &amp; Cat Management Board, SA</i>
2.30		NSW Dog Attack Data 2009 - <i>Mr Steve Larsen, Pittwater Council, NSW</i>
2.50		Questions
3:00 - 3:30		<b>AFTERNOON TEA IN EXHIBIT</b>
<b>8: AIAM POSITION STATEMENTS</b>		
3:30		Draft AIAM Position Statement AMO training in Australia
3.45		Draft AIAM Position Statement on the Management of Dangerous Dogs
4.00		AIAM Annual General Meeting
7:00		Conference Dinner

## AIAM PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

### DAY 3

### FRIDAY 8 OCTOBER

<b>9: SPECIAL INTEREST - Feature Session</b>		
9:00		Zero Euthanasia for Western Australia Utilizing Foster Care program - <i>Ms Sue Hedley, Saving Animals From Euthanasia, WA</i>
9:25		Malaysia Magic - <i>Ms Sharleen Jordan, CY O'Connor College of TAFE, WA</i>
9:50		Award Winners
10:15		Questions
10:30 - 11:00		<b>MORNING TEA IN EXHIBIT</b>
<b>10: GOVERNANCE</b>		
11:00		Quality Data Collection, Management and Analysis: The transition from repository to strategy - <i>Mr Ben Luxton, Dog &amp; Cat Management Board</i>
11:20		Conducting Council Audits - <i>Ms Adele Steele, Dog &amp; Cat Management Board, SA</i>
11:40		Townsville wrap
12:00		<b>CONFERENCE CLOSE</b>

## Alignment of AIAM presentations to Competencies

As a new initiative, AIAM Conferences will now map presentations to learning modules.

AMO trainer and AIAM Executive member, Sharleen Jordan has reviewed all the presentations for this year's conference and has aligned the papers with an appropriate Competency or Element of either the Cert IV ACR TP or the Certs III & IV in Local Government (regulatory services) for RPL purposes.

A complete mapping for all papers can be found on the AIAM website. Mappings for just the first 10 papers are noted below for your information.

See how much you are going to learn by attending - register now!

1. David Whittingham – Managing Aggression...  
 LGACORE104B Work Effectively in Local Government: ELEMENTS 1, 2 & 3  
 LGACOMP008 Apply Conflict Resolution Strategies: ELEMENTS 1, 2 & 3  
 RUV4204A Manage conflict situations in an animal control and regulation environment: ELEMENTS 1, 2 & 3  
 RUV4203 Identify and respond to animal behaviour: ELEMENT 3
2. Ben Luxton – The Board Model...  
 LGAREGS404A Undertake Appointed Animal Control Duties and Responsibilities: ELEMENT 1  
 LGACOMP007A Participate in Policy Development: ELEMENT 1  
 RUV4201A Comply with animal control and regulation requirements: ELEMENT 1
3. Susan Hazel – How are fenced dog parks...  
 LGAREGS404A Undertake Appointed Animal Control Duties and Responsibilities: ELEMENT 1  
 RUV4201A Comply with animal control and regulation requirements: ELEMENT 1
4. Louise Laurens – Tying in the Community  
 LGAREGS404A Undertake Appointed Animal Control Duties and Responsibilities: ELEMENT 1  
 LGACOM403B Conduct Public Education Presentations: ELEMENTS 1 & 2  
 RUV4201A Comply with animal control and regulation requirements: ELEMENT 1
5. Ben Luxton – Promoting sensible selection...  
 LGAREGS404A Undertake Appointed Animal Control Duties and Responsibilities: ELEMENT 1  
 LGACOM403B Conduct Public Education Presentations: ELEMENTS 1 & 2  
 RUV4201A Comply with animal control and regulation requirements: ELEMENT 1  
 RUV4203 Identify and respond to animal behaviour: ELEMENT 3
6. Trevor Green – The principles of making...  
 LGAREGS404A Undertake Appointed Animal Control Duties and Responsibilities: ELEMENT 1  
 LGACOMP007A Participate in Policy Development: ELEMENT 1  
 LGACORE501B Provide Quality and Timely Advice to Council: ELEMENTS 1, 2 & 3  
 RUV4201A Comply with animal control and regulation requirements: ELEMENT 1  
 PSPREG404B Investigate non-compliance with legislation: ELEMENT 1
7. Cimon Burke – To Act or Not to Act...  
 LGAREGS404A Undertake Appointed Animal Control Duties and Responsibilities: ELEMENTS 1 & 2  
 LGACOM406A Investigate Alleged Breaches of Legislation and Prepare Documentation: ELEMENTS 1, 2, 3 & 4  
 LGAREGS304A Apply Regulatory Powers: ELEMENTS 1, 2 & 3  
 RUV4201A Comply with animal control and regulation requirements: ELEMENT 2  
 RUV4209A Prepare and present animal control and regulation case: ELEMENTS 1, 2  
 PSPREG404B Investigate non-compliance with legislation: ELEMENT 2  
 PSPREG405A Act on non-compliance with legislation: ELEMENT 1
8. Hayley Squance – Educational & Technical...  
 MAPS T0 –Establish Cooperative Arrangements With Other Organisations: ELEMENTS 1&2  
 RUV4201A Comply with animal control and regulation requirements: ELEMENT 1  
 RUV4206A Carry out pound procedures: ELEMENTS 1, 2, 3
9. Kate Oliver – Tips and Traps ....  
 LGAREGS404A Undertake Appointed Animal Control Duties and Responsibilities: ELEMENTS 1 - 5  
 LGACOM406A Investigate Alleged Breaches of Legislation and Prepare Documentation: ELEMENTS 1 - 4  
 LGACOM408A Represent Council at Legal Proceedings: ELEMENTS 1 & 2  
 RUV4201A Comply with animal control and regulation requirements: ELEMENT 2  
 RUV4204A Manage conflict situations in an animal control and regulation environment: ELEMENTS 1, 2 & 3  
 RUV4209A Prepare and present animal control and regulation case: ELEMENTS 1, 2
10. Linda Marston – Learning to behave...  
 LGAREGS404A Undertake Appointed Animal Control Duties and Responsibilities: ELEMENT 1  
 LGACOM403B Conduct Public Education Presentations: ELEMENTS 1 & 2  
 RUV4201A Comply with animal control and regulation requirements: ELEMENT 1  
 RUV4202A Assess and impound animals: ELEMENT 2  
 RUV4203 Identify and respond to animal behaviour: ELEMENTS 2, 3

## Aggression in the workplace

Do you or your AMOs have the tools to deal with aggression in the workplace?

Aggression in the workplace can take many forms. The overall theme of the 2010 AIAM conference program is "Animal Management: Pulling it all together" and two elements of the program will address the issue of aggression towards AMOs in distinct forms.

**Dog Aggression** – our conference training day on Tuesday 5 October will be conducted by internationally recognised trainer Craig Murray. This rare training opportunity will provide AMOs with knowledge and skills to recognise and deal with aggressive dogs. Aggressive dogs are one of the greatest hazards facing AMOs in the course of their duties. All AMOs must have the knowledge and skills to deal with the issue when it arises – and this issue can arise at any time.

As demonstrated at the Darwin conference, Craig has a unique insight into dog behaviour and managing aggression in dogs. The course being offered on 5 October is a must for all those who handle dogs.

**Mental Health Issues** – Keynote speaker and Forensic and Clinical Psychologist, Dr David Whittingham, will deliver a session on recognising the signs and symptoms of mental health problems in our customers. Following this presentation Dr Whittingham and Geoff Irwin from the Gold Coast City Council, will jointly describe how the "Managing Aggression Program" at Gold Coast City Council was implemented and the levels of success that have been achieved.

When AMOs experience aggression in the workplace, there is always the possibility of an associated mental health problem.

Dr Whittingham will provide advice on what steps may be taken to resolve a situation in a sensitive and appropriate way.

Recognising that the person facing you is not just angry but does have other issues is a vital skill when trying to diffuse a potentially dangerous situation.

This session will show how a program can be prepared and delivered to manage aggression in the workplace. Not only will we be pulling it all together we will be helping you to keep it together.

*Chris Button, AIAM Dep President*

## Victorian Rangers Forum - [www.vicrangers.com.au](http://www.vicrangers.com.au)

A forum dedicated to AMOs has hit the scene down south.

The Victorian Rangers Forum went live in 2009 and is brought to you by the South West Authorised Officers Group (SWAOG).

The SWAOG was founded in 1998 with the inaugural meeting held at Surf Coast Shire in Torquay. An invitation was sent to 15 Councils and the Department of Natural Resources and Environment, covering an immense area between Torquay and the South Australian border. The first meeting was attended by five Councils.

1998



2010



A list of objectives on the agenda for the newly formed group included:

- Establish networking
- Achieve training through recognised sources
- Identify issues that would assist in day to day work
- Promote professionalism
- Uniform standards; and
- Public and Council awareness

These objectives are still sought by AMOs around Australia.

Today the group boasts membership of 140 incorporating all 15 Councils originally invited as well as AMOs from both Melbourne metro Councils and the north and east making it one of the largest AMO groups in the state. The forum is easy to use and navigate, with threads divided into topics – something for everyone, no matter what tasks your 'AMO' role covers.

Headings include;

- Welcome – an introduction to the site
- General – Help files, house rules, feedback and new items
- Legislative issues – Discussions around specific Acts
- Business Directory
- Parking – issues, signage, parking meters
- Local Laws – Permits, streets and roads, Council meeting procedures
- Animal Control – Cert IV, DAM Planing, animal issues, dangerous dogs, animal cruelty, livestock identification, pounds and shelters and more
- Fire Prevention – data collection, annual inspections
- Tools of the trade – equipment used by different Councils, scanning cats, work vehicles
- SWAG happenings – next meeting, reports and comments
- Training Matters – providers, topics, currently being conducted
- School Crossings
- Your Council – a place for any Council to state what's happening in their neck of the woods.

As you can see, there's plenty of opportunity to share and learn, and what a great place to follow up your networking from the AIAM Conferences. If you want to catch up with someone to share information, send them a private message.

Elke Tapley, Secretary AIAM

## AIAM 2010 AGM

The AIAM Inc Annual General Meeting for members is to be held at 4pm, Thursday 7 October 2010,

Committee nominations have been called for.

All members are welcome to attend whether registered for the Conference or not. Agenda and Notice of Meeting have been circulated to members.

If you did not receive a copy or require more information on the AGM, please contact :

AIAM Secretariat,  
PO Box 4137, Weston Creek ACT 2611  
Tel (02) 6161 9024 or  
Email: [membership@aiam.com.au](mailto:membership@aiam.com.au)

## AIAM Executive Profiles



**Dr Rick Walduck**, AIAM Treasurer, is a veterinarian having been in practice for 30 years. Rick developed a keen interest in a

range of issues broader than veterinary practice. He was a founding Director of Animal Emergency Ctr (Melbourne), Delta Society (Melbourne). He has been a member of Animal Ethics committees including Howard Florey, MUVS and Psychology (Monash).

Rick developed an active interest and been involved with Animal Management issues since the late 70's, initially assisting in developing via the AVA legislation in Vic, progressing through member of the executive of UAM, to current executive position as treasurer of AIAM Inc.



**Geoff Irwin** is a current member of the AIAM Committee. Geoff was a founding committee member of the Institute, acting as Deputy President for several

years before travelling overseas. He returned to a position on the committee last year.

Having started in Local Government in 1976, Geoff has gravitated to a portfolio in Animal Management. The natural progression was then to become involved in a premium national body for the industry such as AIAM. Having been heavily involved with developing animal management in his region and across Australia, Geoff is now a board member for AMRRIC. He is hopeful he can assist Indigenous Communities in animal management issues.

Register for the  
AIAM Conference  
ONLINE at

[www.aiam.com.au](http://www.aiam.com.au)

or complete  
and return the  
Registration Form

## Meet a few of our 2010 presenters (Biographies and abstracts for all speakers can be found on the website)



Cimon Burke is an Associate of Wallmans Lawyers. She was admitted to legal practice in 2007 and holds an honours degree in Laws and Legal Practice and a Bachelor of Arts from

the University of Adelaide. Cimon worked in the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions before joining Wallmans Lawyers in 2008 as a specialist practitioner in the firm's leading Local Government team. Cimon advises metropolitan and regional Councils on a diverse range of governance issues and regulatory matters relevant to local government practices and procedures

With a keen passion for and an appreciation of the political environment in which local government operates, Cimon's approach is to provide her clients with practical solutions that will withstand public scrutiny.



Dr Linda Marston completed her PhD in 2006, investigating ways to improve the success of dog adoptions from animal welfare shelters. Over the past five years Linda has worked with a number of

Australian state governments to inform policy related to the management of dogs and cats in our community and to improve reporting from the shelters and pounds in their jurisdiction. She consults with urban planners to facilitate incorporation of dogs and cats within the urban landscape.. With Animal Aid, Linda has designed and delivers courses for AMOs and pound employees on animal behaviour and handling. She has published widely in the scientific literature, has written occasional pieces for print media, contributes to the review panels of a number of scientific journals and has presented her research at conferences both locally and internationally.



Trevor Green has spent thirty years in Local Government of which fifteen years has been in Environmental Health supervision and policy.

He has been an adjunct university lecturer for fifteen years and holds qualifications of Assoc. Diploma Health Survey, B.App Sc. Medical Laboratory Science, Grad Diploma Management and a Master of Philosophy.

Currently the Senior Advisor Environmental Health with Redland Shire Council in Queensland, Trevor will present a paper titled "The Principles of Making Animal Management Local Laws" to the AIAM Conference in Adelaide.

## Local Government Regulatory Law Specialists:

# Don't Bark Up the Wrong Tree. Speak to Us!

Wallmans has a reputation for providing practical solutions and technical expertise in all matters relating to your Council's regulatory functions, including Dog and Cat Management, By-laws, Order Making, Prosecutions and Expiations.



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## Yarriambiack Shire Council and Knox City Council develop a "Friendship Agreement"

Yarriambiack Shire Council and the Knox City Council entered into a Friendship Agreement on 8 October 2009. The aim of the agreement is to achieve collaboration, connection and understanding between the respective rural and urban communities.

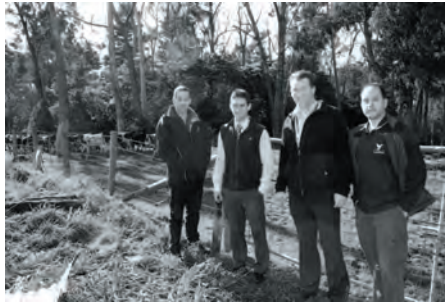
The Friendship Agreement seeks to focus on a mutual exchange of ideas and learnings, and the development of rural/urban friendships and support across local governments and communities.

Some of the types of exchanges identified through this program include joint problem solving of projects, mentoring to assist management and officer skills expertise and Councillor and Executive leadership forums.

On 19 and 20 August, Tim Rose, Environmental Health Officer/Local Laws Coordinator and Greg Wilson, Local Laws Officer/Fire Prevention Officer for Yarriambiack Shire, north west of Horsham in Victoria, travelled to Knox, an urban fringe council at the foothills of the Dandenongs, to meet with Local Laws Coordinator Elke Tapley and her team.

Tim and Greg are the Local Laws Team in Yarri, whilst at Knox the Officer component consists of an extra eight staff members with varying roles. As for admin – Greg and Tim pretty much do their own compared to two full-time and three part-timers at Knox.

Issues identified as the biggest barrier for the rural team were obviously resources – not just within their team, but across Council. The comparison of office staff is around 500 at Knox to 25 at Yarriambiack!



The way to get an appreciation for the resources that you have is to spend time speaking with officers from a council who are limited with resources. A municipality with an IT or Marketing Department would ask how those without would manage? Well, they make do with multi-talented staff - staff who may do an admin role but have a knack for IT, or who may have skills in communication and deal with media enquiries.

Ideas were exchanged for data storage (registrations, permits and infringements) with highlighted the huge differences in software applications available.

With the final report of the Victorian Bush fire Royal Commission having just been released, it was interesting to look at the geography of the two councils and compare the impact of fire prevention issues. Wildfire is a scarcity in Yarriambiack, where they would more often deal with a grass or stubble fire, as opposed to the tall timbers and dense undergrowth of the Dandenongs, with residents from the hills evacuating and seeking refuge in Knox. Two completely different emergency management plans are required for animals.

The visit to Knox was timely too. On the Friday morning a surprise call was made - there were 50 head of cattle out in a Council reserve. Having extra experienced hands on deck allowed a rapid response and a safe outcome.

As the AIAM President Dick Murray has said many times, 'We all have the same issues, with the same animals and the same people' - there is just such a vast difference in a Council's ability to respond.

The more networking that goes on amongst Councils, the more resources that are made available to all Animal Management Officers - like the library resource of past papers on the AIAM web site, like the experienced and knowledgeable speakers who present at AIAM Conferences and by creating a network with Officers from around the country while attending the conference, the more consistent and professional the animal management industry will be.



**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!

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