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# AnNex

Animal Research Nexus

## Welcome to Issue 7 of the AnNex Newsletter

We have had a bit of a hiatus on the newsletter over the last six months or so, but that doesn't mean we've been quiet. We have been busy writing reports and journal articles and taking our public engagement activities, such as Vector and Psychic Fish out to a wider audience. We are also working on the AnNex book which will be published at the end of the project. Look out for more information in the months ahead! With all this activity in mind, it seemed appropriate that the theme of this newsletter should be 'Writing the Nexus'.



## Writing the Nexus

In her recent book, *Staying with the Trouble* (2016) one of my favourite writers, Donna Haraway wrote, '*it matters what stories we tell to tell other stories with; it matters what knots knot knots, what thoughts think thoughts, what descriptions describe descriptions, what ties tie ties. It matters what stories make worlds, what worlds make stories.*' In other words, how we communicate our work and our findings is as important as the substance of what we say and the data and insights generated from our research. Writing can be a wonderful way to share and communicate ideas but it can also, if not handled with thought and care, act to exclude, marginalise and alienate people from the debate. This is a concern which resonates strongly with one of the key objectives of the AnNex programme, namely to not only explore the social relations of animal research,

but to generate new cultures of communication around them.

In this edition of the AnNex newsletter, we showcase some of the many ways in which we have tried to communicate the things we have found in the course of our work to a wide variety of audiences: from [Tess's PhD thesis](#) examining why practices of rehoming offer important insights to academics working on human-animal relations; to academic publications about the experiences of [veterinary professionals](#) and [wildlife researchers](#); to blog posts and training resources reflecting on different ways of talking and thinking about [cultures of care](#); to innovative public engagement activities using [immersive theatre](#) and ['hacked' Christmas cracker games](#) to engage and inspire the public to think in more complex and nuanced ways about animal research. Collectively, we also hope this issue reflects the importance of diversifying and experimenting with different ways of telling stories about animal research and different sites and spaces for sharing animal research stories, and how this can help to engage diverse audiences with our collective work and concerns.

We hope you enjoy 'Reading the Nexus' as much as we enjoyed writing, blogging, playing and performing it.

Beth Greenhough, September 2021

## Research News in this Issue

[Vector is a Finalist!](#)

[Becoming Psychic Fish](#)

[Locating Culture Wars](#)

[Care-full Stories](#)

[Life after Labs](#)

[Refugees from Practice](#)

[Out of the Lab and into the Field](#)



### [Vector selected as a finalist for Science Breakthroughs of the Year 2021](#)

We are delighted to announce that Vector has been selected as a finalist for Falling Walls Science Breakthroughs of the Year 2021 in the category Science Engagement.

[Falling Walls Engage](#) is the global platform for Science Engagement, hosted by the Falling

Walls Foundation in cooperation with the Robert Bosch Stiftung. Our mission is to inspire and connect creative individuals and organisations who actively involve the public with science to generate mutual benefits for science and society all around the world.

[Vector](#) was selected by a diverse panel of science communication and public engagement experts from nearly 200 international projects.



[Telling Care-full Stories](#)

In her recently published report and associated blog post, Beth Greenhough discusses the new training resource designed to help those working in the animal research sector to more fully and reflexively recognise, participate in and promote a culture of care in their working environment..

[Read the Blog](#)

[Read the Report](#)

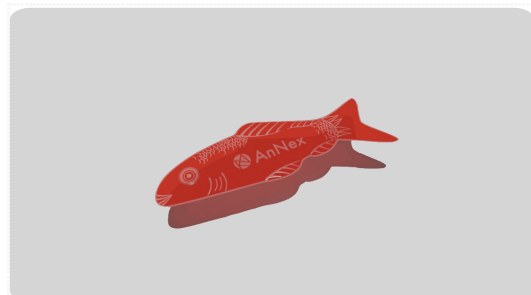


[Locating the 'Culture Wars'](#)

How we talk and think about cultures of care was the topic of Gail Davies' recently published special issue paper and associated blog post,

[Read the Blog](#)

[Read the Paper](#)



[Becoming Psychic Fish](#)

How does how you feel about fish

Out of the Lab and into the Field

Ally Palmer and Beth Greenhough reflect on varying perspectives of social, ethical and regulatory challenges of wildlife research in the UK

Read the Paper

get to shape how fish get to feel?

In their recent workshop, Ally Palmer, Reuben Message, Beth Greenhough and Bentley Crudginton engaged the public in their feelings about fish

Read the Blog

Read the Results



Refugees from Practice

Alistair Anderson and Pru Hobson-West ask why some vets move from clinic to laboratory in their recently published paper

Read the Paper



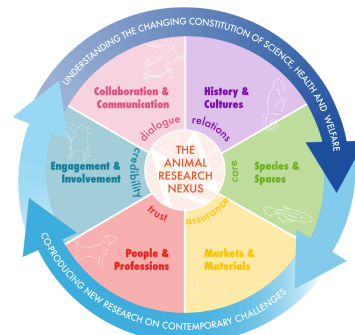
Life after the Lab

Tess Skidmore explores the policies and practice of animal rehoming in her PhD thesis

Read the Thesis

Would you like to collaborate?

We are currently reviewing our collaborations with a view to formalising and publicising some of our relationships. If you currently work with the AnNex team, or would like to be included on our website, please contact [animalresearchnexus@exeter.ac.uk](mailto:animalresearchnexus@exeter.ac.uk) or [Gail Davies](#) for further information.





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