

Badger bibliography

The badger has been widely written about as an interesting wild mammal, as a reservoir/victim of bovine tuberculosis infection and as the subject of the cruel and illegal 'sport' of badger baiting. As a consequence, the literature on this species is extensive - naturalists, veterinary surgeons, scientists, conservationists and others have published widely in the technical journals and the specialist magazines.

A commendable bibliography has been compiled by Vink which, to a large extent, successfully gathers together in one accessible place much of the literature on this interesting and - from the animal welfare point of view - important species. Most of the listed material is written in English although works in other European languages are included. The entries are classified alphabetically under the authors' names within each of eleven separate sections which, for example, include such titles as 'Population dynamics and home-range utilization' (143 entries) through 'Food and feeding behaviour' (110 entries) and 'Bovine tuberculosis in badgers' (96 entries) to 'Threat and protection' (338 entries). Some entries appear in more than one section. There is no subject or author index and this, in view of the quantity of material listed in some sections may make searches for particular subject items a little tedious. However, the material is there and it is an eye opener, at times, to realize just how much has been published. This bibliography is a most practical and useful guide to the extensive European literature on the badger.

The Badger (Meles meles L.): a bibliography of the literature up to 1-2-1992 by J Vink (1992). 100 pp. Obtainable from Natural History Archives (NWA) Room A.204, Ministry of Agriculture, Nature Management and Fisheries, Staatsbosbeheer, Princenhof Park 1, Postbus 1300, 3970 BH Driebergen, The Netherlands.

The Kinship Library - animal welfare classics

This project, by the Centaur Press, has been initiated in order to publish books which trace the connection between our often lamentable behaviour towards each other and our thoughtless and cruel exploitation of non-human species. There is, seemingly, a demand from those concerned about human and animal suffering for new books by contemporary authors, and for the re-issue of long-unobtainable works of special merit on the philosophy, politics and social implications of man's use or misuse of animals.

As a result of this initiative a number of historically important publications on animal welfare/rights are now being re-issued as so-called Kinship Classics. The first of these, E S Turner's *All Heaven in a Rage* is now available. Others in the series will include Howard Moore's *The Universal Kinship*, Humphry Primatt's *A Dissertation on the Duty of Mercy and Sin of Cruelty to Brute Animals* and Lewis Gompertz's *Moral Inquiries on the Situation of Man and of Brutes*.

These valuable and most interesting reprint volumes, each of which is edited or introduced by a modern scholar, are available from Centaur Press Ltd, Fontwell, Arundel, West Sussex BN18 0TA, UK.