

Oxford University Animal Ethics Society: Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Animal Ethics Society?

The Animal Ethics Society is an official Oxford University Society. It aims to provide a forum for the discussion of the moral status of animals. The Society works closely with the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics, which pioneers ethical perspectives on animals through academic research, teaching, and publication.

What does the Society do in non-pandemic times?

The Society meets in the even weeks of term (weeks 2, 4, 6, and 8). Regular meetings are held at the Oxford Centre for Animal Ethics, 91 Iffley Road, Oxford, OX4 1EG. We meet in a cosy room with an open fire where the companion animals of the Centre frequently visit (cats and a dog). There is a presentation of about 20 minutes by one of the members of the Society on an animal ethics subject of their choosing. The presentation is followed by a question and answers session. Afterwards, members typically drink wine with vegan nibbles in the social part of the evening. At the end of each term, we have a larger social event, such as a formal meal in a college, or a potluck end of term party at the Centre.

Do I need to be a vegetarian or vegan to join? Do I need to pay to be a part of the Society?

The Society is free and open to all members of Oxford University. You do not need to be a vegetarian or vegan to join. We enjoy debating animal ethics with everyone who is interested and welcome different points of view.

How will the Society run this year given the pandemic?

At the moment it is not possible to meet as a group at the Centre. So we will have Zoom meetings with presentations from different members of the Society. Zoom links will be sent out ahead of time through the mailing list. If it becomes possible later in the year to resume our meetings or meet outdoors we will do this as soon as it is practical.

How do I join the mailing list?

Email our Organising Member – Clair Linzey – at depdirector@oxfordanimaethics.com and she will add you to the list.

Do I need to attend all the meetings?

No, just join us as and when you are able.

Can I present to the Society?

We are always looking for new presenters. Please email Clair to see which slots are available.

I am really excited about animal ethics are there other ways to be involved?

Yes, members of the Society can publish pieces on animal ethics in the Centre's *Journal of Animal Ethics*. Society members have also presented at and been ambassadors for the Centre's annual Summer School on Animal Ethics. For more information, contact Clair.