



Monday 19 June 2017

## Professor picks up award for helping reduce suffering

*Professor Adrian Smith has received an Honours award for his work helping to reduce research animal use and suffering.*

**A pioneering scientist has been presented with an RSPCA Honour for helping to replace animal experiments, reduce the numbers and suffering of lab animals, and improve their welfare.**

Professor Adrian Smith runs Norecopa, the Norwegian platform for the replacement, reduction and refinement of animal experiments – known as the 3Rs.

He has collaborated with the RSPCA Research Animals Department for more than 20 years, working together to help scientists reduce animal use and suffering.

Penny Hawkins, head of the RSPCA'S Research Animals Department, who nominated him, said: "Adrian Smith has been a major player in enabling the replacement of animals with humane alternatives, reductions in numbers and suffering, and improvements in laboratory animal welfare for over 20 years.

"This award is very well deserved. I am delighted that we can recognise Professor Smith's work to promote the 3Rs, and his support for the Research Animals Department and its aims.

"Adrian has organised over 50 courses for vets, scientists, regulators and animal technologists, in which he challenges them to recognise how science can cause animal suffering and to actively do something about this.

"He also provides solutions and vast sources of information and it is great to recognise his dedication to promoting and including the RSPCA's approach and work in this field."

Michael Ward, interim chief executive of the RSPCA said: "Professor Smith has contributed immensely to this field of work over the last 20 years.





“Throughout that time, he has been a staunch friend, supporter and promoter of the RSPCA Research Animals Department and our work.

“Giving Professor Smith the RSPCA Sir Patrick Moore Award for outstanding contribution to animal welfare science is our way of saying thank you for all that you do and all we have achieved together.”

Professor Smith, who was presented with his award at a ceremony in central London on Saturday (June 17), said: It’s a tremendous acknowledgement of the work we have been doing for so many years, not least with the RSPCA.



“Living outside the UK I can see how the RSPCA is working from the outside and the great work they are doing here and internationally.

“The research animals department is incredibly competent and dedicated to reducing animal suffering and promoting the three Rs.”

For more than 100 years, the RSPCA Honours have been given to recognise people and organisations who’ve helped us in our goal to end cruelty, protect animals from abuse and further our knowledge of animal welfare.

This year 30 winners, including six RSPCA officers, who have gone the extra mile for animals were awarded with RSPCA Honours including:

- Celebrity chef and campaigner, Jamie Oliver, for work to improve chicken welfare
- RSPCA rescue dog Teddy who has been credited with helping his owner come out of a coma
- A grieving brother and sister who raised money for the RSPCA
- A former firefighter who has pioneered large animal rescue techniques

The RSPCA Honours ceremony was held on Saturday 17 June at The Law Society in London.

To find out more about the RSPCA’s research animal work visit

<https://science.rspca.org.uk/sciencegroup/researchanimals>

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**Notes to editor**



For more information, photographs or to arrange an interview please contact the press office.

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