

Supporter Update

ISSUE 6 / 2022

How your support is changing lives.

- Live export investigations:
 Our work on the ground continues
- Lifesaving emergency grants: Helping animals in times of crisis
- How you can 'join the evolution' for a kinder world
- Protecting wildlife:
 Our legal action to save a native icon

AnimalsAustralia.org

What would love do?

I often wonder how different this world would be if the first words we heard as a child were:

'Welcome to this glorious world, you have but one thing to achieve during your life, to protect and cherish all life here, and leave this world a better, kinder place for those who will follow you'.

As children, our minds are blank canvasses. In complete innocence, we live and act from the heart. We love every animal no matter what species. Then somewhere along the way, our minds become full of *others*' beliefs, and our choices, attitudes and opinions reflect them, without us even realising it.

It was our predecessors who put animals into categories based on their use. The child in us would have never discriminated against nor protected some animals and not others. This was a 'reality' we were born into.

Underneath these beliefs, something beautiful and noble exists within us – the unalterable impulses of the human heart.

And every day since, we have been subjected to marketing strategies that seek to manipulate us and create profit through conformity – often to the detriment of people, animals and our planet. I have come to realise that the pathway to a kinder world is not a fight for rights, but rather a pathway of personal reclamation, of personal sovereignty. Because what anchors human consciousness and evolution, is not *who* we are, it is what we have been *taught to believe*. Yet underneath these beliefs, something beautiful and noble exists within us – the unalterable impulses of the human heart. It is here that we find our *own* truth and the deepest desire to not cause harm to any other.

Humanity has traditionally followed in the footsteps of those who have lived before us. As a result, cycles of violence towards humans, animals and nature continue. A new pathway, a new type of leadership and service is so greatly needed.

Albert Einstein in his wisdom once said, 'You can't use an old map to explore a new world'.

As children, we acted from the impulses of the heart, our own inner navigation device. As adults, we can rekindle that guiding relationship through asking one simple, paradigm shifting question: "What would love do?"

The answers we receive will inevitably reveal to us a new path to take. The pathway to peace, and a new, kinder world.

In White

Lyn White AM

An evolution of kindness has begun.

Our newest initiative to open hearts to all animals was born from three little words uttered as we watched the star of our television campaign sprout wings and fly across the moon ... 'what happens next?'

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Ultimately, the answer still depends on all of us. But as animal advocates we know the power of showing people what a kinder world could look like. So, with help from a talented production team, and a little imagination, our adventurous pig's next chapter was written.

It's an inspiring story of healing, innocence, compassion and renewal. And it's reaching thousands of people every day with an invitation to Join the Evolution: an evolution of kindness, consciousness and choice that has the potential to transform our world.

Join the Evolution is perhaps the most important campaign we have ever created. It is one that empowers people to embody the change they wish to see in the world. It's an invitation to get back in the driver's seat rather than waiting and hoping for governments to enact change for animals.

Because in reality, a kinder world for animals can be created through the conscious, kind choices we make in our own lives every single day.

evolution



Be part of this revolutionary campaign for animals by ordering your free magazine at AnimalsAustralia.org/jointheevolution

Caged hens given a voice on national TV.

Late last year, decision-makers across the nation were confronted with the miserable life of a battery hen through our powerful national TV campaign.

At the beginning of the Poultry Code Review back in 2018, thousands of kind-hearted people like you spoke up – resulting in the strongest community response the government had ever seen on an animal welfare issue in Australia.

Nearly four years on, while the cage egg industry continues its effort to hide the suffering of hens, our television ad reminded ministers of *who* will be impacted by their decision.

Our work on behalf of caged hens has been a lesson like no other, when it comes to persistence and resilience. Thank you for standing alongside us on this long-fought issue and helping to make it clear that Australians expect better, kinder leadership from our lawmakers.

Ending the use of cruel battery cages would be monumental – and not only for hens. It would mark a shift away from a belief system that deems it acceptable to treat certain animals as nothing more than units of production, towards a shared ideal that all animals deserve kindness and a life worth living.

For every hen who still wakes and sleeps in the same confines of a barren cage, inside a shed where she will never see the sunshine – we will not rest until these archaic devices are made a thing of the past.



Europe's cage phase out.

AN HISTORIC STEP FORWARD

The European Commission announced it will work towards ending the cruel practice of caging farmed animals. This groundbreaking decision would mean millions of farmed animals, including pigs, hens, rabbits, and geese, could be spared a lifetime of confinement inside cages so small they can barely move.

Over 1.4 million caring people in Europe urged the government to 'End the Cage Age' – and the EU Parliament paid attention, voting overwhelmingly to phase out cages by 2027. Such action is in stark contrast to the continued support for caging animals in Australia, where industries and governments still condemn sentient animals to lives of deprivation inside crates, cages and barren sheds.

The EU has set an important precedent and sent a powerful message to government and industry bodies around the world – a shift in human consciousness is occurring, and farmed animals are being seen for who they are instead of just what they produce.



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The little pig who survived slaughter – and touched hearts.

Jordy was just moments away from being killed for 'food'... but fate had other plans for this wondrous little pig.

Found near Perth with brutal cuts to her throat, which were believed to be from a failed slaughter attempt, nobody knows where Jordy came from. But thanks to your support, our Emergency Grants Program ensured she received the life-saving surgery she urgently needed.

Not only did Jordy survive and her wounds heal – she also learned that while humans may have caused her suffering, they can also be the source of care and kindness. Jordy was rescued and now lives in the care of the beautiful people at A Better Life Sanctuary.

In a short space of time, Jordy discovered her love of opening drawers, eating peanut butter sandwiches, and sharing a warm bed with a dog. Her story reminded people across the world that there is little difference between the animals who are bred and raised for food, and the companion animals we share our homes with.

Jordy's injuries were horrific, but sadly, even the pigs who are killed in Australian slaughterhouses suffer immensely. They too have unique personalities, crave affection, and experience a whole range of emotions, from love to fear. Yet, most of them will spend their final moments gasping for air and thrashing in terror inside a gas chamber. Whether factory farmed or free range, this process that causes pain and terror is one that they are all subjected to within the 'meat' industry.

While laws are failing to protect pigs, as Jordy's story reveals, we don't have to rely on governments to create

the kinder future that all animals deserve. The power lies with each of us to shape a world that is kind to all animals – and every meal is a chance to bring our shared vision to life.



Protecting wildlife in court.

In late 2021, Animals Australia became aware of the plight of hundreds of kangaroos who were trapped behind six-foot-high exclusion fencing on the Mornington Peninsula in Victoria, and at risk of being shot by the land manager under an 'Authority to Control Wildlife' (ATCW) killing permit.

Our legal team worked around the clock preparing to mount a challenge to save the animals from being killed. On the eve of our hearing in the Supreme Court, we heard that the permit had been cancelled.

We continue to work tirelessly on behalf of these kangaroos, as well as our members and the local community who care so much about them. Our efforts are fueled by our many supporters who spoke up and contacted their local politicians – you were heard, and these actions really do make a direct impact for animals.

But the danger's not over yet. The Victorian lethal permit system (Authority to Control Wildlife) remains a very real concern for us. While these kangaroos have been given a reprieve, the existence of the ATCW system and the dated and flawed processes that underwrite it, will, for as long as it exists, threaten the welfare and lives of precious wildlife.

For that reason, we won't let this matter rest until we have certainty that these kangaroos are freed, and we are now planning next steps.

An international effort for wildlife.

Animals Australia is a proud member of the International Kangaroo Protection Alliance. This global group of wildlife advocates is helping to shape a future where kangaroos are respected and protected. The Alliance is made up of organisations and experts committed to raising awareness of the plight of kangaroos across Australia and the world, including their slaughter by commercial companies that manufacture shoes from their skins and pet food from their bodies.

You can read more at www.kangarooprotection.org



Ending duck shooting in Victoria.



An illegally shot Blue Winged Shoveler – also a threatened species – is treated inside the Wildlife Victoria vet triage unit on the wetlands during 2022 'opening weekend' of duck shooting season.

Despite thousands of Animals Australia supporters speaking up against the terrible suffering caused by duck shooting – and waterbird numbers being at their third lowest in four decades – the Victorian Government inexplicably allowed a shooting season to go ahead in 2022.

So again, our team supported rescuers on the wetlands to help waterbirds who were shot, maimed and left for dead. Tragically, we again saw threatened and protected species illegally shot and killed, like the Little Grebe and Eurasian Coot who call Victoria's wetlands home.

This year, rescuers also watched in dismay as dozens of black swans fled their nests in fear of gunshots, leaving eggs and vulnerable small chicks abandoned. Despite this abhorrent treatment of wildlife permitted by the Victorian Government, we are so grateful for the unwavering commitment of our supporters who continue to speak out for the waterbirds who need us.

We will not rest until the gunfire ceases for good, and native wildlife are finally safe from this archaic 'sport'.

Exposing factory farms of the sea.



We helped shine a light on the suffering caused by fish farms – not only to fish like salmon (the battery hens of the sea) who are kept in underwater factory farms in Tasmania, but to marine life like seals who have been blinded, deafened, and severely injured by lead-filled bean-bag projectiles – an entirely legal method of keeping them away from fish farms.

Fish like salmon and trout suffer in farms, and native seals are put at risk of being killed.





Our supporters helped us speak up for sharks this summer, as we joined the Nets Out Now Coalition to help end the use of cruel shark drum lines in Australia.

These capture methods have not only proven ineffective in deterring sharks from popular swimming beaches but also result in the prolonged suffering and slow death of sharks

Marine animals need your help.

and other non-target species like whales, turtles and dolphins.

Over 1,000 people have taken action against drum lines so far and these lobbying efforts are crucial in sending a message to state Premiers that Australians want marine animals to be protected. You can join these calls by heading to our website.



How our **Emergency Grants** Program is saving lives.

Floods, war, and a global pandemic – no matter what the emergency, there are always kind-hearted people responding on the ground to help animals.

This year we have again been proud to have been part of some incredibly inspiring success stories that show what can be achieved when our caring donors collectively support those who need us in times of crisis.

Our Emergency Grants Program helped thousands of animals this year and continues to provide lifesaving assistance in some of the direst situations.



MYANMAR

Rescue and shelter support.

During the global pandemic, Burmese communities also faced another ongoing threat. Political unrest and violence from the military coup continue to challenge everyday life. But compassionate volunteers who have long cared for animals in Yangon and Mandalay knew that animals still needed them, regardless of war and COVID.

Your generosity helped them carry on with their lifesaving work. Our Emergency Grants Program funded a 6-month spay, neuter and vaccination program for hundreds of animals living on the streets. It also supported the continued rescue operations of two of Myanmar's busiest animal shelters, and it enabled ongoing street feeding for those animals in need during continued lockdowns.

← Your support helped compassionate teams in Myanmar work tirelessly around the clock helping countless cats, dogs and other animals. Pictured: Royal Heart Shelter, Mandalay.

UKRAINE

War evacuation and rescue.

Just days after the war began, our team of Romanian volunteers deployed to the Ukraine border to assist the millions of Ukrainians fleeing the war-torn country.

There they distributed endless food parcels and animal supplies, and assisted with animal passport applications and paperwork to help families stay together with their beloved companions as they continued their long journeys across Europe.

Our Emergency Grants Program also funded much needed food supply convoys through Ukraine, to support animal shelters in some of the most volatile 'red zones' and assisted brave teams who evacuated animals who were stranded in homes, apartments, left on the streets and even inside zoos. We assisted the emergency evacuation of a lion and wolf, and our work continues to ensure that they will never return to a zoo environment but instead find safe sanctuary.

 \rightarrow As the war rapidly intensified across Ukraine, hundreds of thousands of animals were at risk, so our international team were deployed to help at the Ukraine/Romania border.

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ANIMAL

RESCUE

Animals

KABUL

Evacuation from Afghanistan.

In late August 2021, as the Taliban seized control of Afghanistan, the team at Kabul Small Animal Rescue prepared to evacuate hundreds of cats and dogs from their shelter.

This women-led organisation on the ground in Kabul worked day and night for months on end. Thanks largely to many of our donors, they successfully evacuated almost 300 animals to their new safe homes in Canada.

The sight of the plane landing on the airstrip carrying 286 brave little souls brought many tears of happiness – for those who have been rescued from an incredibly volatile environment, and in gratitude to the humans who will remain in Kabul to continue their lifesaving work for animals.



 \longrightarrow Mission accomplished: The team behind Kabul Small Animal Rescue managed a seemingly impossible animal evacuation from Afghanistan.



LISMORE, NSW

Emergency flood response.

In early March, record-breaking floods ravaged areas of northern NSW and QLD. Homes and habitats were destroyed, and many thousands of animals were in dire need of rescue and care in the aftermath.

Generous support from our donors funded free community vet clinics in Lismore and surrounding areas to ensure the community could still access emergency support for pets and wildlife in need. Our grants also supported the tireless efforts of the team at Vets for Compassion who deployed immediately to assist many of the animals who had survived the floods but become stranded.

Sadly, the greatest need was for animals who are farmed, who unlike wildlife couldn't flee the rising floodwater. The team also assisted the community by providing free emergency vet treatment and care for companion animals.

 \rightarrow The flood crisis in NSW and QLD killed and displaced thousands of animals. Our grants program supported vets on the ground to help the survivors.



KABUL

Animal rescue and rehabilitation.

Gaza's only animal shelter – Sulala Animal Rescue – was able to purchase an animal ambulance, thanks to the generosity of our donors. This ambulance has since seen hundreds of animals rescued from the streets around Gaza, who were then provided with emergency vet treatment and cared for by the small team at Sulala.

Our emergency grants have sustained the muchneeded ongoing work for this shelter which continues to save many lives and provide love and comfort to animals who would otherwise have no one.



Live export investigation outcomes.



The experience and suffering of one animal can be consciousness-shifting. We saw this with Tommy, the 'trembling steer' in Indonesia who raised the consciousness of a nation when it comes to our treatment of animals raised for food. We saw this in Mauritius with the painstaking struggle of an animal who became known as 'the crying bull'. And it was the experience of one sheep during our 2021 Festival of Sacrifice investigations that still sits heavily in our hearts and that has led many to see farmed animals in a whole new light.

The Australian sheep stood alone at the door of a slaughterhouse, watching as one by one his pen mates were killed in front of him. They struggled as their throats were cut and were then thrown headfirst onto the blood-soaked floor.

Witnessing this, the frightened sheep turned to leave. He didn't want to be there. And in this most vulnerable moment of his grueling live export journey, he was failed one final time by the industry – dragged back inside to meet the same fate as those who went before him. The distressing footage from inside this Australian government approved slaughterhouse wasn't the only evidence of animal cruelty documented by our investigators. In 40+ degree heat, frightened Australian sheep were being roughly handled and shoved into car boots and being sold for private slaughter – in blatant breach of Australia's live export regulations.

Our investigations in Jordan and across the UAE again reinforced the importance of our investigators' presence in these markets.

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Once again, your support has allowed our investigators to be where animals needed them, including this Australian approved slaughterhouse in Jordan.

71st legal complaint since new live export regulations were introduced ten years ago, and once again, we exposed repeat offending companies failing to protect animals from the worst abuses endemic in the trade.

With so many animals subjected to the live export trade every year it can be easy to lose sight of the individual. And that's why that lone Australian sheep touched so many people. We not only witnessed his fear and confusion, but we saw this vulnerable animal try, although in vain, to choose a different fate. He represented so many animals killed every day across the world in the meat industry, who also feel fear in their final moments and who are also at human mercy.

We never agreed to this system, but we can change it.

We know that what happens in

slaughterhouses, in Australia or overseas, in no way reflects the compassion for animals that exists in the human heart. Instead, it reflects an outdated belief system that is at odds with our natural tendency to be kind – a system that has separated animals into arbitrary categories: friend or food. We never agreed to this system, but we can change it. And the first step is choosing to see these animals differently. Our hearts will do the rest.



Ending live export globally.

SOUTH AFRICA

A major live export company has failed to get a foothold in South Africa, citing numerous grievances including the cost of ongoing litigation which has been championed by South Africa's NSPCA and supported by our own Legal team.

When the annual Summer shipping ban was put in place in Australia – in response to shocking images of sheep 'cooking alive' at sea – Kuwaiti company, KLTT, set its sight on sourcing sheep from South Africa instead. What they didn't count on was that we would be there waiting.

Since then, we have been supporting the tireless efforts of the amazing team at NSPCA – in the courtroom and in the media – in a bid to spare South African sheep from what Australian sheep had been enduring for decades.

While KLTT hasn't quite 'waved the white flag', their inability to get a strong footing in the country is not only sparing South African sheep from live export cruelty but it's a good sign that our collective efforts to disrupt the trade are working.



NUMBER OF SHEEP EXPORTED ALIVE DROPS

The number of sheep suffering onboard live export ships has more than halved since we began our work to see a summer ban enforced, following the Awassi disaster. Still, one sheep is one too many – and our work to spare animals from this cruel industry continues thanks to your unwavering support.

ROMANIA

Sheep in Romania – Europe's biggest exporter of live animals – have been given a powerful voice through a new campaign calling on the Romanian government to end live export.

Launched by our global arm, Animals International, the campaign pays homage to a beloved Romanian folk ballad about a lamb who saves the life of her shepherd – to remind the country's decision makers that a deep connection with animals is part of Romania's national story.

In our reimagined version of the ballad, Save Mioriţa, it's the lamb who pleads her case for kindness, to be saved from live export. With the help of a popular Romanian folk singer, the campaign has so far inspired thousands of people to speak out for the victims of live export.

Through television commercials and prime time media interviews, we're continuing to send the Romanian Government a message that is impossible to ignore. In fact, our incredible team on the ground in Romania have almost mustered support from a majority of parliamentarians to phase out the live export trade.

From Australia to Romania, we all share the same hope – that all animals, regardless of where they are from, are spared from the cruelty of the live export industry. And together, we inch ever closer to that day.





Inspiring people to eat and live kindly.

You may recall that we recently launched Australia's first 100% animal-friendly cooking show on Channel 10. Since its humble beginnings, Freshly Picked with Simon Toohey has picked up quite an audience! To date, we've aired 40 episodes over 4 seasons, and the series has reached 2.7 million viewers, taking them on a journey through the vibrant world of plant-based eating.

We've heard from so many of you who are eager to learn more about plant-based eating, and in response, we're continuously adding new recipes to our website, VegKit. com. Keep an eye out for a sizzling suite of VegKit recipes featuring dishes like creamy mushroom rigatoni with herb crumbs, Korean green pancakes, eggplant and chickpea tagine with herbed couscous, and baked blueberry cheesecake bars – to name just a few!

In the world we envisage, animals are valued for who they are, not what their bodies produce. One where they can experience joy, relish in the company of others, feel the sunshine above them and the earth below them, and never know the inside of a slaughterhouse. Fundamental to this world is a shift in our food choices. Because ultimately it is the demand for animal products that has underpinned the systems and practices that cause animals so much misery and suffering that we all want to end.

Every plant-based meal – every kinder, more conscious food choice – lays another brick in the foundation of a more compassionate and more sustainable future for everyone. In the world we envisage, animals are valued for who they are, not what their bodies produce.

 You can watch Freshly Picked by

streaming it (for free!) anytime at 10play.com.au. And you'll find all the Freshly Picked recipes at VegKit.com.



Have you seen it?

To help draw the connection between our food choices and our care for animals and the planet, this year we've launched a new TV ad which highlights that "For the animals, for our planet, for you and for your family ... there's a kinder choice." This succinct but powerful ad has already reached millions of people on TV and online.



As a proud partner of the global Veganuary campaign, we were thrilled to see thousands of Australians sign up to participate this year, including major retailer Woolworths and food delivery company Deliveroo.





The rescued dairy calf who will get to grow old.

Days after he was born, Chester was sent to slaughter – but this little calf was rescued just in time. Unlike most male calves born into the dairy industry, Chester will get to grow old surrounded by the kindness and friendship all animals deserve.

Many people are surprised to learn that most male calves are considered 'useless' to the dairy industry as they do not produce milk. As the dairy industry needs the milk of their mothers, hundreds of thousands of calves are sent to slaughter in Australia each year.

Thankfully, Chester is living out his days with fellow rescued animals at a sanctuary. And his story is inspiring countless people to give dairy-free a go, for all the calves just like Chester who are someone, not something.

See more of gorgeous Chester **@AnimalsAustralia** on Facebook and Instagram, and follow for more uplifting, inspiring, and educational videos.





Have you seen our brand-new look?

While continuing our work to protect animals, our team has been busy behind the scenes making exciting improvements to the Animals Australia website – to help people help animals. So, just as a hermit crab moves into a new and improved shell, we have upgraded our website.

And this website transformation will not only help our dedicated supporters like you to navigate our site more easily – it will also help to share our vision of a kinder world with new visitors. If you haven't already, head to animalsaustralia.org to see it live.



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Gifts that last beyond a lifetime.

Stephen Glacken (1960 – 2020)

HOW WE WILL HONOUR HIS LEGACY OF KINDNESS

Stephen envisioned a future where animals could not only survive alongside generations to come, but also thrive – a vision that we at Animals Australia wholeheartedly share.

Last year, as our legal team worked tirelessly to protect kangaroos trapped on a Cape Schanck property on the Mornington Peninsula, we were deeply moved to learn of Stephen's legacy – and to discover, not only that he had called Cape Schanck home, but also that he cared greatly about the kangaroos and other wildlife in the area.

Throughout his lifetime, Stephen lived true to his beliefs and helped animals by all possible means; he rescued and cared for animals, drew public attention to the plight of animals through local media channels, and lobbied for legal change to protect them. Now, Stephen's legacy of compassion and care for animals continues – we persevere, with the deepest of gratitude, to make our shared dream of a kinder future, a reality.



If you are planning or have left a bequest to Animals Australia, please get in touch so that we can ensure we understand your wishes for animals – and to thank you personally.

1800 888 584 | bequests@animalsaustralia.org | Reply via the enclosed coupon

When we appreciate and honor the beauty of life, we will do everything in our power to protect all life.

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