

Opening *the* Cages

Our crusade to ban
the battery cage.

PLUS:

- Live export campaign goes global
- Adoption tales – Meet Animals Australia's extended family
- “What gives me hope?” – our investigator shares triumphs and tears from the field.



A thank you and an update from Australia's leading animal protection organisation

Thank you

Welcome to 2018! We've hit the ground running and look forward to what's shaping up to be a monumental year of opportunities for animals.



But first, we'd like to take a moment to reflect on the year that was – sometimes gruelling, often uplifting, as we worked together to create a kinder world.

Our dedicated investigators travelled to Europe, North Africa, the Middle East and South-East Asia, to document the horrific suffering of animals exported live around the world. In Bali they captured evidence of the brutal and hidden dog meat trade.

Closer to home, we shone a light on cruelty concealed inside a major Victorian slaughterhouse; battled to save native waterbirds from hunters' guns; and lobbied to free dogs and puppies from the misery of puppy factories.

The year ahead will see a continued focus on the global live animal export trade and animals inside factory farms. We are particularly excited to be seizing a once-in-a-generation opportunity to banish the battery hen cage in Australia – legally, for good. From investigations to media, from legal avenues to public campaigns, we continue to embrace every opportunity and search for every available avenue to influence reform and protect animals.

Our commitment to our donors, and the animals we represent, is that we will remain relentless, resourceful

and steadfast in our resolve to create change. My sincere thanks to you for your support. You are key to our collective force, and the reason we can carry out our life-changing work for animals.

Glenys Oogjes, CEO

While government review processes are deeply flawed and heavily weighted in the interests of animal industries, every code review provides us with an opportunity to argue for change and give animals the representation they so desperately need.

DURING 2016 – 17 WE CONTRIBUTED TO REVIEWS OF:

- Abattoir/Processing Establishment Standards & Guidelines
- National Standards & Guidelines for Slaughterhouses
- Sheep & Cattle Standards & Guidelines
- Poultry Standards & Guidelines
- Free Range Hen Standards

For the animals...

Our work for animals is only made possible thanks to our donors. We know you are behind us, every step of the way. You are quite literally the backbone of our organisation, and at the heart of everything we achieve. You fuel us, both financially and emotionally. Knowing we have your support is what gives our team in the office, and our investigators in the field, strength. And it's what gives animals hope.

When you read through the pages of this update, know that it's you who is creating that kinder world for animals. Your continued support means launching national media campaigns to keep animals at the forefront of hearts and minds, keeping our investigators in the field in the places animals need us most, and rallying members of parliament for lasting political change.

Thank you for opening your heart every single day, for your generosity, and for believing in the work that we do.

For the animals,

Lyn White AM, Director of Strategy



Thanks to your generosity, and the dedication of our monthly donors, we will continue to protect animals in 2018.

Become a member today at AnimalsAustralia.org/join

EXPOSING LIVE EXPORT CRUELTY

Globally

Our investigations are giving an unprecedented voice to the victims of the global live export trade.

A media storm in Romania

We could not have predicted the media storm that would erupt after we revealed the terrible fate of Romanian calves and sheep exported for their meat. Dozens of news headlines condemned the animal suffering inherent to the global live export trade. And politicians took notice. Already inundated with appeals from the public to end the cruel trade, government officials have finally recognised live export as an issue of significant concern.

After three years of investigating and exposing the treatment of Romanian animals in Egypt and the Middle East, this is a turning point in our campaign to end live export from Europe's biggest exporting nation.

Germany denounces live export

When our investigators documented the desperate struggle of a frightened German bull in Egypt — bleeding from stab wounds to his face and legs — it was cruelty all too familiar. Brutality that has become synonymous with live export. To the German people who were witnessing these horrors for the very first time, his suffering united the country.

Our investigations featured in an exposé on Germany's most prestigious current affairs TV program. The response from industry and government was resolute and unprecedented. Farming associations and major political parties in Germany are now calling for an end to live animal export — setting a significant and compassionate example for other countries in Europe to follow.



Sheep saved from suffering in Kuwait

Kuwait's notoriously cruel livestock market has consistently been the scene of extreme abuse and suffering during the annual 'Festival of Sacrifice'. Distressed sheep stuffed in car boots in 50-degree heat. Frightened animals dragged into makeshift slaughter rooms to have their throats cut. Year on year, the live export industry would abandon animals to extreme abuse at this site. But we refused to give up on these animals.

After years of relentless investigations and 10 damning legal complaints, in 2017, where once we would have seen chaos and cruelty — there were instead empty pens. For the first time in over a decade, terrified Aussie sheep weren't tied up, abused, or killed at this notorious market. The live export industry has been reined in because exporters know our investigators are on the ground, watching their every movement.

Powerful alliances in Brazil

New alliances are creating opportunities in Brazil, a major exporter of live cattle to the Middle East. The suffering of these animals is extreme, starting with a gruelling 30-day sea voyage and ending in unspeakable cruelty thousands of kilometres from home.

We've presented compelling evidence gathered by our investigators to Brazilian politicians, industry officials, vets and media. For many, it's a first insight into the brutal reality of live export for Brazil's animals. A public inquiry will be held, legislation to ban live export is to be drafted, vets and vet students are being educated and beginning to speak out against the trade, and the meat processing union has just publicly announced its opposition to live export. And in the strongest sign yet that the campaign is gaining traction, one of Brazil's busiest ports last month temporarily suspended all live exports citing animal welfare concerns. ■



Thanks to your support, and the dedication of our monthly donors, we will keep fighting for all the animal victims of the live export trade throughout 2018 and beyond. Because we know a kinder world for them *is* possible.

FROM *the* FIELD

While best known for our live export investigations, the work of our Investigations Unit is even more far-reaching.

So much animal cruelty in this world occurs behind closed doors, high fences and in back streets, far away from the protective eyes of a caring public. Donors to our Investigations Unit are helping us shine a spotlight on hidden cruelties, secure victories that set important precedents for animals and illuminate the path towards positive change.

Support our Investigations Unit at:
AnimalsAustralia.org/investigations-fund



Ending Bali's brutal dog meat trade

When an Animals Australia investigator first infiltrated dog meat gangs in Bali in early 2017, the cruelty suffered by dogs was largely hidden. He captured evidence of immense suffering, and that Australian tourists were unwittingly fuelling the trade, making our responsibility to these animals even greater. The evidence captured made international media headlines, sparked over 170,000 petition signatures to the Governor of Bali, and resulted in the Bali government's historic commitment to end the dog meat trade. Because of the unwavering generosity of our supporters, the bamboo crates that once confined frightened dogs for days on end, will soon be empty. Restaurants are being closed and the days of dogs being poisoned, beaten and strangled for their meat will be over. And once again 'man's best friend' will peacefully co-exist in Balinese communities, as they had done for centuries.

Our work in Bali continues throughout 2018. The support of our members will enable us to keep a team on the ground in Bali to see this commitment become a reality, and work towards broader change for all animals on the island.



Shooters barred from major wetlands

She was a Freckled Duck — Australia's rarest and most protected waterbird — and yet she was illegally shot the morning of opening weekend of the 2017 Victorian duck shooting season. She was just one of the victims of the biggest massacre of protected species in 30 years. Our investigators were there on the wetlands... alongside our friends from the Coalition Against Duck Shooting, and a courageous team of wildlife rescuers. Animals Australia's evidence from the wetlands over the past two years has underpinned extensive legal complaints against shooters and shut four of the state's major wetlands to hunting, sparing tens of thousands of ducks from violence and slaughter.

Few politicians who support duck shooting have actually set foot on the wetlands to see the suffering and the carnage for themselves. So on the eve of the opening weekend, our supporter-funded TV commercial took the wetlands to the politicians, broadcasting the brutal reality of duck shooting on prime time TV.

Investigations force nationwide crackdown

Our world-first investigations uncovering piglets, possums and rabbits being used as 'live bait' in Australian greyhound racing sparked a dramatic chain of events that led to life bans, prosecutions and jail time. As a result of our investigations, over the past 12 months we've seen major reforms forced on the industry in key racing states and these should see fewer dogs killed, their daily lives improved, and far greater scrutiny on trainers. It's because of the support of our donors that greyhound racing's many victims — from the piglets and possums terrorised to gain a 'winning edge', to the naturally gentle and affectionate dogs who are exploited for this gambling industry — have not only been given a voice but hope for a brighter future.

After exposing brutal 'live baiting' in Australia's greyhound racing industry, we followed the money trail to China and Macau — where Aussie dogs were being forced to race and win, or die. In response to our explosive evidence of this hidden abuse, major airlines announced they would no longer fly racing dogs from Australia to South East Asia. ■



OPENING *the* CAGES

For the first time in over a decade, freedom for this little hen, and millions of others like her, may finally become a reality. Thanks to you, we're doing everything in our power to abolish the battery cage, forever.

She's been denied everything that makes her life worth living. Sunshine, fresh air, even being able to stretch her wings or scratch the ground. All in the name of a 'cheap' cage egg. Yet change is in the air. For the first time in over a decade, a chance to ban the battery cage is on the table. Through the Poultry Standards Review public consultation, Australians have until February 26 to have their say about keeping hens confined in battery cages.

And hens need every voice we can muster. Because in these government processes, the odds are heavily stacked against animals. The ABC even exposed alleged collusion during this process between the NSW government and egg industry bosses to ensure a battery cage ban wouldn't be considered – we've provided the damning evidence to the NSW anti-corruption body. We know that most Australians want hens to be freed from cages and now is the time to be heard.

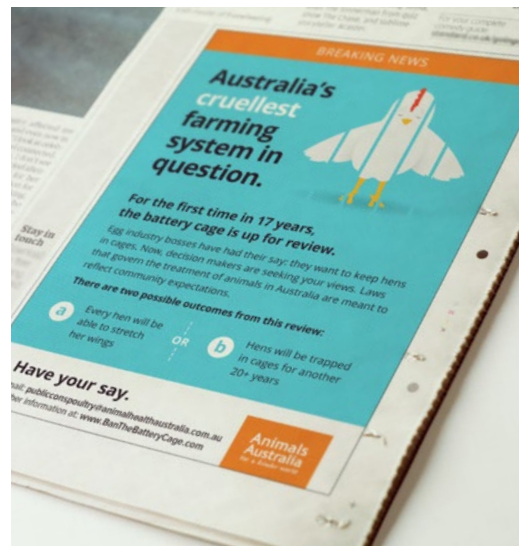
To maximise this once-in-a-generation opportunity for hens, we're deploying

a campaign like no other. National newspaper and radio coverage, leveraging social media and inspiring our huge network of caring animal advocates – like you. Already, more than 80,000 people have used our website to make a public submission calling for a ban on battery cages. This is nothing short of historic. Will you join them?

For more information visit:
[AnimalsAustralia.org/
battery-cage](http://AnimalsAustralia.org/battery-cage)

Above Right: National newspaper ads appeared in publications like The Age and The Australian Financial Review, triggering a staggering response from the public.

Below: Our dedicated microsite has funnelled over 80,000 submissions to the code review.



80,142 PEOPLE ARE HELPING TO FREE HENS

HELP REACH 100,000

Grace was one in a million...

rescued from a life of suffering
inside a battery cage.



Grace feeling the sun on her first day of freedom —
she's now someone, not something.

The fate of this little hen named Grace took a drastic turn. She was rescued on her way to the slaughterhouse after enduring 18 months inside a battery cage. Six months ago, she took her very first step into this new 'world'— the one she was never 'meant' to see.

All Grace will know now is love. Her only concern will be what time her coop door opens in the mornings. She'll be woken by the sunrise, run with excitement and flap her wings — every single day. Never will she feel fear, be bored, or suffer pain. Because she'll never see the inside of a battery cage, ever again. ■

"Watching her step out of the carrier, I felt her relief as she stretched her wings for the very first time. I shared her curiosity as she looked up at the sky and saw the sun and sky, not darkness, above her. I shed a tear as she lay down to feel the earth, not wire flooring, underneath her. It was heartbreaking to see this little hen's natural behaviours had never left her, even though she'd been denied them her whole life. It was a bittersweet moment. My heart was with the millions of hens just like her still living inside battery cages, who all deserve a life without suffering, and to wake each day to something new, something better."

Louise — Grace's new carer, and Animals Australia team member.

Grace is now living the life she deserves. Sadly, so many other hens still suffer in cages, so our work to free them continues....

Find out more at [AnimalsAustralia.org/battery-cage](https://www.animalsaustralia.org/battery-cage)

OUR PEOPLE

Our supporters are the backbone of our organisation – without the support of each and every one of you we simply wouldn't exist. Here are just a few of our wonderful supporters doing amazing things for animals.

Jeannie Heynatz

PORT DOUGLAS, QLD

Monthly donor Jeannie embarked on a solo trek from Apollo Bay to Port Campbell, for animals. Her efforts raised \$1800 to support our campaigns and investigations.

"I loved every moment! Even more exciting though, was the feeling that comes from knowing that friends, family – and some unknown friends too – walked 'with' me by contributing to my Animals Australia fundraising page."



"I'm making a change. My wish is that other kids will want to make changes too. Just because we are kids doesn't mean we can't do big things and make big changes..."

Tamara Waterfield

SYDNEY, NSW

Tamara is 10 years old, and generously donates her pocket money as a monthly donation, to help protect animals. She is an advocate for chickens, and an inspiration to other kids and adults alike.



Natasha Rodriguez-Foord

WAHROONGA, NSW

Natasha is in grade 5, and has a passion for animal protection. At her school's recent 'Night of Notables' event, she chose to represent our very own Lyn White, and presented her major project on being compassionate to animals in her school hall.

"I am an absolute animal lover and I want to study to become a Veterinarian when I grow up."



Jan Kendall

MELBOURNE, VIC

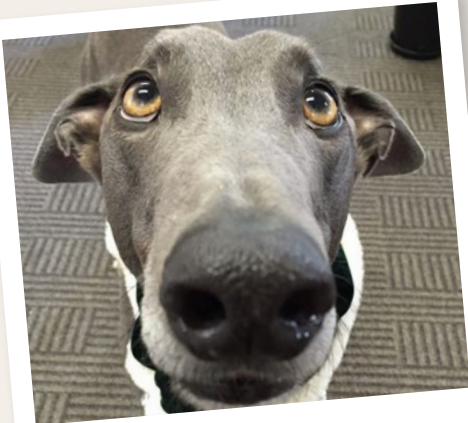
Jan is a long time donor and supporter, and very much part of our 'family'. She has pledged a gift in her will — and in doing so has ensured her desire to protect animals will carry on for decades to come.

"I so admire the work Animals Australia does to make animals' lives better that I wanted to make sure my donations continue when I am no longer here. By making a bequest to Animals Australia in my will I know that I will still be helping to make the world a better place for animals."



The extended Animals Australia Family

For many of us, our companion animals are not ‘pets’ – they’re family. They bring us so much joy and, of course, unconditional love. At Animals Australia we often have the added bonus of enjoying their company at work! Let us introduce you to some of our key team members:



Blue

SOCIAL MEDIA SNOOZE COORDINATOR

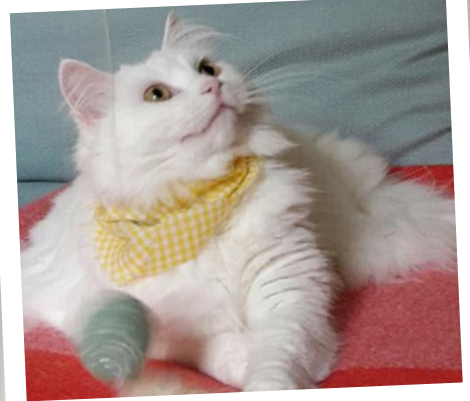
Rescued by Kim (our Social Media Manager) from the greyhound racing industry after breaking his leg and being deemed ‘worthless’, Blue now lives life in the slow lane and is the rock of the Animals Australia office. He’s on hand to ‘tidy up’ any lunches left at nose-height, and befriend anyone in need. If you’re lucky, he might even leave you enough room on the couch!



Spice

COMMUNICATIONS PAW-FICER

To see Spice wagging her way around the office today, you wouldn’t know she was found tied up outside a rural pound. Our Communications Manager, Lucy, was her foster carer who saved her from death row, but when the time came she simply couldn’t say goodbye. People often ask what breed Spice is, because she’s so pretty. Lucy tells them she’s a very special one: a rescue!



CHARLIE

CREATIVE PURR-FECTIONIST

It’s difficult to imagine Charlie with her pristine white coat, wandering the streets as a grey dirty mess many years ago. But life took a turn for the better when a kind rescue group helped her find her human Kat. Now Charlie and Senior Graphic Designer Kat work together in the creative team with Charlie assisting by walking over keyboards and giving gentle headbutts from her desktop position. ■



Q & A

with *Shatha*

*Animals Australia Investigator
and Legal Counsel*



Q As an animal lover, how do you stick to a cover story and bear witness in some of the awful situations you're faced with?

It never gets easier no matter how many times you go into the field. But any feelings of exhaustion, fear, sadness or discomfort are always overwhelmingly extinguished by a sense of duty and purpose. I'm often overcome with a sense of presence, purpose and strength. It comes from a place of knowing that I'm there to be of service: to document the cruelty as thoroughly as possible to secure the best possible outcome for the animals, and to bring a presence of kindness to the animals in an otherwise terrible environment. I draw a lot of strength and courage from our incredible supporters to whom I feel a strong sense of duty.

Q Where are you seeing effective change for animals?

As a trained lawyer, I am amazed at how "animal law" has evolved as a recognised stream of law amongst educational institutions

and law firms both here and abroad. So many lawyers are turning their minds to using the law to advocate for animals and the outcome is exciting. Now, more than ever, long-accepted industry practices are being scrutinised and challenged.

The complacency and secrecy enjoyed for so long by many industries that profit from the "use" of animals is suddenly being dissolved because they are being held accountable to our legal system, and also to the expectations of an informed community. I can't wait to see how this landscape will evolve in ten years.

Q What has been your proudest moment working as part of the Animals Australia team?

During a Festival of Sacrifice investigation across the Middle East last year, I was documenting evidence in several countries over a period of a few weeks. In a number of notorious livestock markets that Animals Australia regularly investigates, I found huge posters up on the walls in the markets and carpark areas with animal welfare notices. They declared it was now forbidden to stuff animals in car boots, to drag and push animals around, and to slaughter animals in the streets and public spaces.

This was a direct response to our relentless work in this region. We not only stopped the illegal sale of Australian animals in many of these marketplaces, but we had a profound

impact on the welfare of all other animals there. To this day, those posters remain, and a cultural shift in attitudes towards the treatment of animals is occurring. This was profound for me because while live export has served to entrench animal cruelty in these countries, this was a sign that our work on the ground was inspiring positive, lasting change.



Inside a slaughterhouse in Morocco

Q What's the most rewarding animal experience you've had either here or abroad?

While in Egypt last year on an investigation, I asked my local driver to stop by the road so I could provide assistance to an emaciated working donkey. He was tied up to a post in the blistering heat with no shade (it was 48 degrees Celsius), had a swarm of flies all over his face, and not a scrap of food or water in sight. I got out and poured a big bowl of water,



Gathering evidence in Palestine

sliced up apples and vegetables and began hand-feeding him. A group of children playing in the street formed behind me and in Arabic I heard them say “look at the crazy lady!”, which spurred giggles and laughter. Parents in neighbouring apartments also started to congregate at this spectacle.

I invited one of the children to help me hand-feed him, and she very bravely stepped up. She was delighted when the donkey gently took the sliced apple from her hand. This of course encouraged the rest of the children and suddenly there was a line of children waiting for their turn! I was no longer the crazy lady, I was among friends. I firmly believe, indeed it's been reinforced in my travels, that deep inside every one of us is an innate compassion towards animals. This experience was a beautiful demonstration of how one simple act of kindness can be enough to ignite that compassion in others, even in the direst of circumstances.

Q Can you recall a specific time or experience you've had while on investigation that has given you hope?

One was in Tunisia. I'd just walked out of a slaughterhouse, where moments ago I'd documented horrific slaughter practices. I was joined outside by a little puppy, bouncing along beside me. He was divine! He had a shiny coat and excellent body condition despite being a street dog. I looked around for his mother and I discovered that the slaughterhouse workers had set up a bed and blanket for him, along with a food bowl and water. They had adopted him and were taking very good care of him.

It was reinforced in that moment that the cruelty I documented inside that slaughterhouse was not malicious or gratuitous. It was driven by 'conditioned thinking' in a culture where – much like in western countries – the circle of compassion of these slaughterhouse workers was confined to 'domestic' animals. It filled me with sadness, but also hope, because kindness was present in this situation and I know that education and awareness can and will help bring about powerful change for all animals. ■



On a live export investigation in Egypt



With a rescued donkey at Egypt Equine Aid

HOPE *in dark* PLACES

Our donors tell us that slaughterhouse cruelty is one area that concerns them most. And with good reason.

Between scheduled government audits, hidden camera footage is revealing extreme abuse occurring inside these 'processing' facilities. Few places reveal so dramatically, the risks faced by animals when no-one is watching.

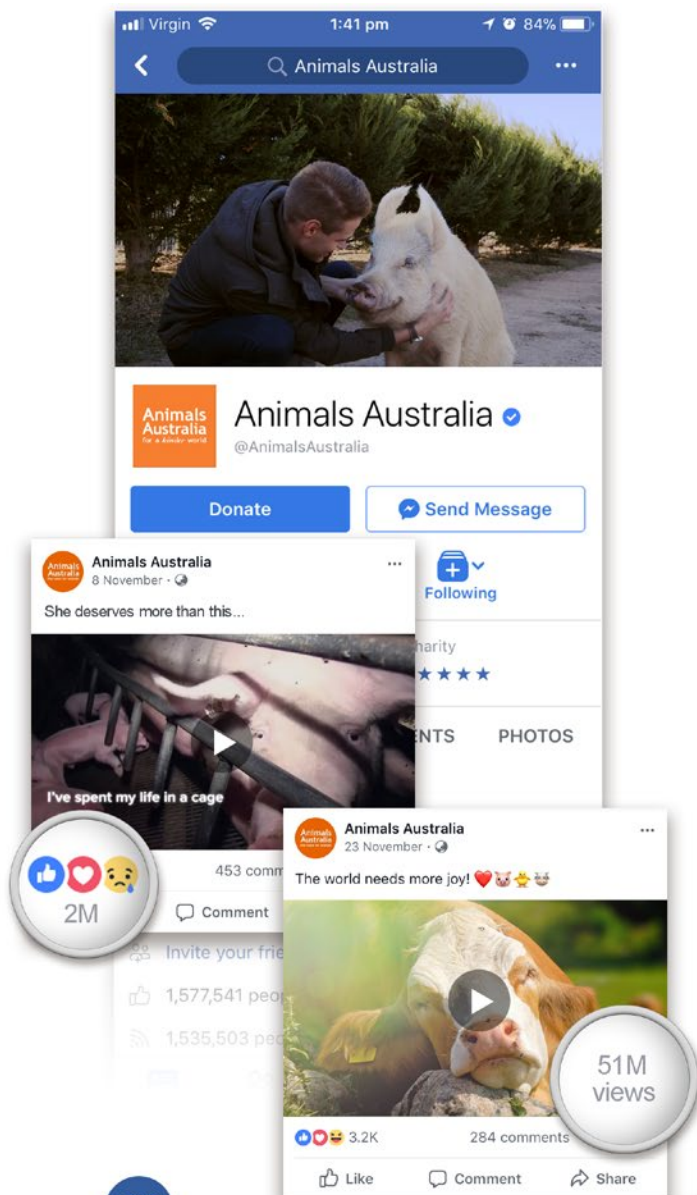
But these animals are not alone. Because with your help, we are watching.

The official government investigation into one of Victoria's biggest slaughterhouses remains 'ongoing', after Animals Australia revealed that within its walls, frightened animals were beaten, repeatedly stabbed, and slaughtered while fully conscious.

And while governments act slowly, people act fast. Through Animals Australia's online outreach, millions of people around the world are responding with compassion – bearing witness, raising awareness, and choosing to eat fewer animals. ■

Amplifying our voice for animals

Through our Facebook page, Twitter and Instagram accounts and YouTube videos we are giving animals unprecedented representation online. Our supporters are taking global actions on a daily basis and extending our shared vision for a world where all animals are protected from cruelty. Through our Facebook page alone, we have reached hundreds of millions of people in the last year with messages of kindness and compassion for all living beings.

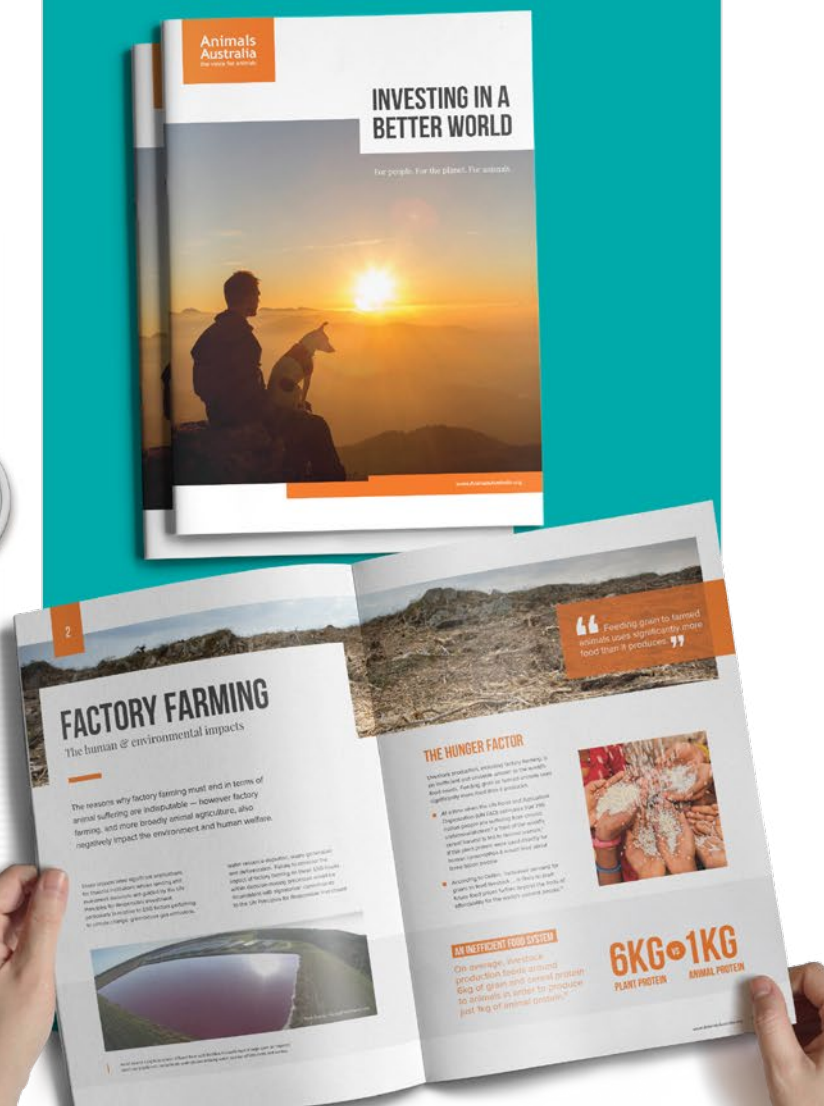


Jade Reynolds I've always been an Animal person but the footage and information shared by Animals Australia is what gave me the kick I really needed to stop supporting these industries. It's so satisfying unpacking a bundle of groceries and knowing they are cruelty free, I don't support cruelty anymore but I do support kindness.

Love • Reply • Message • 1 • 4 hrs

Disrupting the money trail

They say money is power. But most of us don't know for sure how our money — in bank accounts and super funds — is being invested. Without our knowledge, it may be supporting industries that conflict with our own values. What if we disrupted the money trail that funds factory farms, live export and other cruel industries? What if we empowered every person who cares about animals to tell their super fund and their bank that they don't want their money invested in industries that harm animals? That's the idea behind an exciting new initiative by Animals Australia — headed up by Tim Vasudeva, former CEO of RSPCA SA and with an extensive background in the finance sector. Ethical and sustainable investment is already being embraced by many in the finance sector. Now it's time to ensure animals are on their radar. When huge investment firms, super funds and banks choose not to lend or invest in live export and factory farming — that makes harming animals harder. Collectively, we have the power to make that happen. And we look forward to sharing more about this promising initiative with you soon.



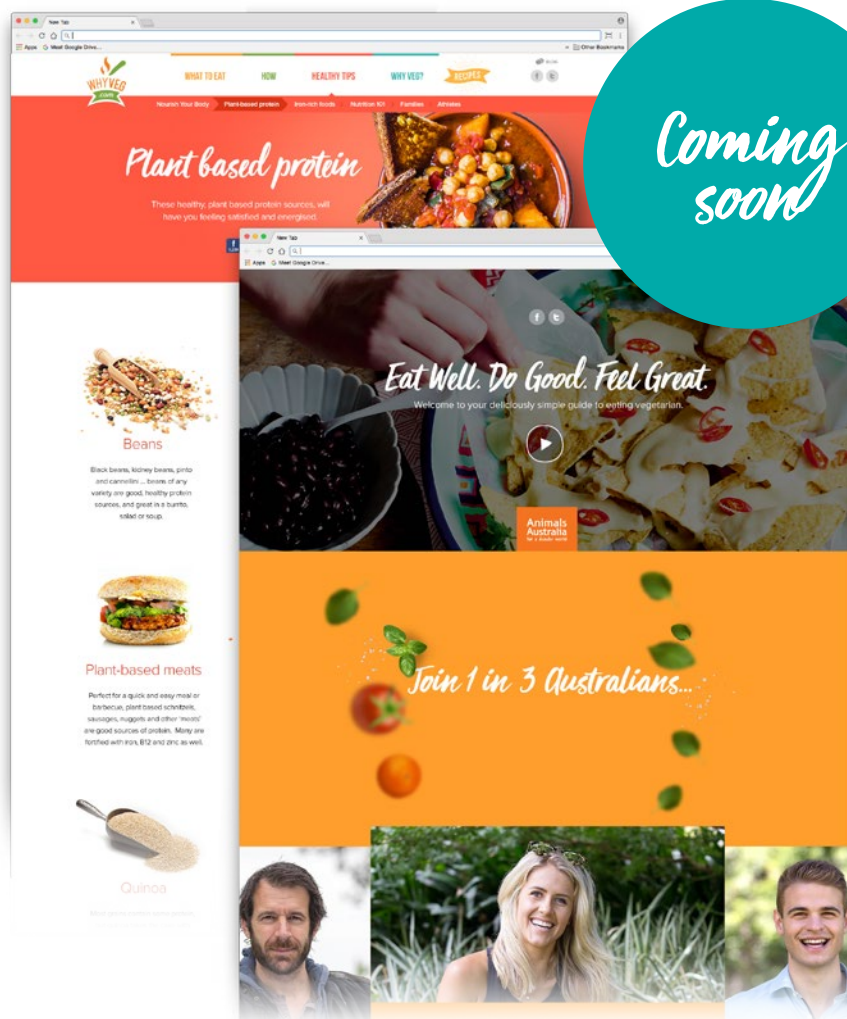
Veg Kit

We're salivating over the upcoming launch of 'Veg Kit', an online toolkit for everyone interested in cooking and eating cruelty free food. It's a complete and interactive guide to making kinder choices in the kitchen for animals, for our health and for the planet. And best of all, it will reduce demand for cruel industries and create a kinder future for millions.

Stay tuned for more...

Our new cookbook brings compassion to the kitchen

When ABC Books asked us to publish a cookbook we saw it as a fantastic opportunity to show how delicious animal-friendly food can be, and produce a powerful advocacy tool. Our cookbook, 'Taste for Life' rocketed to the top of Australian book sales charts, as the number one selling cookbook for its first week of release. Within its pages we feature 100+ mouth-watering plant-based recipes, plus tips and support to eat healthily and protect animals.



Coming soon

EAT KINDLY. TREAD LIGHTLY. LIVE WELL.



Explore the delicious world of plant-based food, with more than **100 mouth-watering recipes** for every occasion in our very own cookbook!

Yours for just
\$39.99

AVAILABLE IN ALL GOOD BOOKSTORES OR ONLINE AT: AnimalsAustralia.org/cookbook

Corporate campaigning frees animals from cages

Animals Australia has long been known for shining a light on the suffering of animals in factory farms through innovative public awareness campaigns and exposés. Millions of people today think differently about farmed animals as a result, and are making kinder, more informed choices.

Cutting off demand for the cruellest products on our supermarket shelves is working. But the biggest customers of factory farms aren't people — they're corporations.

Since Animals Australia campaigns secured commitments from Aldi and McDonald's to drop cage eggs — we've seen a domino effect, with major companies pledging to take cage eggs off the menu, including Subway, Hungry Jack's, Hilton, Arnott's, Nestle, Heinz, Grill'd and others. We continue to engage with companies to free all hens from cages — and progress is accelerating.

While things have been looking positive this year for hens, we've also been taking important strides for other farmed animals. Through our engagement with major retailers, we've given a voice to pigs, dairy cows and calves, sheep, cattle, prawns, fish, chickens and other animals killed for meat.

There is much work left to do for farmed animals. But thanks to our members, effective strategies, and global allies, a world without factory farming is not only possible, it's on its way.



Hilton



In 2014, we took on Australia's biggest fast food giant, McDonalds, with a campaign to spare hens from life in a cage... and we won.



3 years and 3 months later, McDonald's has confirmed that they have completed the transition and no more cage eggs are being supplied to their restaurants. This move will spare 312,000 hens from battery cages — every year. ■

LEAVING a LEGACY

How gifts in wills ensure a kinder future for animals

From our investigators to our campaigners, Animals Australia works tirelessly to make the world a kinder place for animals, thanks to the generosity of our donors.

Bequests left to Animals Australia safeguard and enable the longevity of our work to protect animals into the future.

As a team we find strength in the certainty that one day, that frightened young steer onboard a live export ship will be the very last to leave our shores. We will never give up on that curious little hen imprisoned inside a battery cage, because we know we will see the day when others like her will only know the sun on their backs. We are forever humbled by the fact that our donors aren't defeated with despair, but motivated to help these very animals, through a gift in their will. Not only does this generosity strengthen our ability to provide animals with the very best representation for years to come, but it will give hope to younger generations — that they might grow up in a world that shows animals kindness, not cruelty.



Choosing to leave a bequest to Animals Australia in your will means you're helping to create a world where animals are valued for who they are, not what they produce. A world where what is ethical matters more than what is profitable. Thank you for sharing our vision.

To find out more visit:
AnimalsAustralia.org/bequests ■

Thank you

With your support we
can continue to be where
animals need us most.

Our investigators will be eyes
for animals and continue to go where
others fear to tread to protect them.

Our lifesaving campaigns will reach
even more people and save even more
animals from suffering.

Our work will continue to shine a light
into some of the very darkest corners, to
expose animal suffering and help create
a kinder world.