Supporter Update

ISSUE 8 / 2024

History in the making.

- Animals Australia's CEO named Victoria's 2024 Senior Australian of the Year
- Live export investigations demand phase-out as soon as possible
- Our world-first legal action to spare farmed animals and safeguard native wildlife
- Emergency Grants Program continues to help animals in war zones

Recognition for animals on a national stage.

Victoria's 2024 Senior Australian of the Year: Glenys Oogjes.

Had someone mentioned during my upbringing on a dairy farm that I'd one day earn the title of Victoria's Senior Australian of the Year for my service to animals, I'm not sure I would have believed it.

To receive this award was an unexpected honour. To me, it's an acknowledgement for all who are tirelessly advocating for animals; and it's an acknowledgment of the growing status animals have in our society.

This award represents not only decades of our work for animals, but recognition that a kinder world for them is in the making.

Image: Salty Dingo

When I first joined Animals Australia forty years ago, I was the only employee. Now, I'm proud to guide this organisation that has grown not only in size, but in our impact for animals, thanks to you and others who share our vision of a kinder world for *everyone*.

I've spent most of the past four decades ensuring animals have a much-needed voice at the table too often dominated by animal industry interests. On government agendas and during reviews of industry standards, there has been a significant shift in the importance placed on animals and their welfare.

This is exemplified by the Albanese government's pledge to phase out the cruel live sheep trade and the announcement of an end date to confining hens in battery cages – though there is still much work to be done to spare animals from these industries sooner rather than later.



Today, I have no doubt that most would agree that animals think, feel, and deserve a life worth living.

GLENYS OOGJES

CEO Glenys Oogjes and Prime Minister Anthony Albanese shake hands at an Australian of the Year awards celebration.

Many practices that cause physical and mental harm to animals come from a very different time in human history. Today, I have no doubt that most would agree that animals think, feel, and deserve a life worth living. The shift in the Australian public's values and views has also been notable. Each year, I see more people speaking up for animals and choosing to live and eat kindly to spare them from suffering in factory farms and slaughterhouses. We no longer feel like a 'lone' voice at this table, but one that is amplified by our many caring supporters, like you.

This award represents that change.

While we still have a way to go to see all animals given the protection they deserve, and I could not have imagined real change would take so long, I know we are now on the right trajectory. Thank you for standing alongside me, and for being a part of the broader Animals Australia team – it wouldn't be possible without you.

CEO Glenys Oogjes

Glenys in the 1980s, running an outreach stall for the Australian and New Zealand Federation of Animal Societies (ANZFAS), which then went on to become Animals Australia. From childhood on a dairy farm to Victoria's Senior Australian of the Year, our CEO's journey reflects a lifelong commitment to giving animals the voice they so deserve.



EXPOSING CRUEE

LIVE EXPORT

Our live export investigations uncover suffering – again.

In 2023, Animals Australia's investigators captured evidence of the live export industry's total disregard for Australian live export rules – evidence justifying the fastest possible shutdown of the cruel trade.

I It shouldn't be left to a charity to monitor the multimillion-dollar live export industry, but thanks to you, we exposed the industry's blatant disregard for live export laws and the awful repercussions for animals on national TV.

Image: ABC 7:30

Australian sheep were abandoned by the industry in Oman, left to endure suffocating heat and terrifying slaughter in the streets, and private homes. You ensured they did not die in vain. What we bore witness to in Oman reminded us of our early live export investigations, *before* regulations were put in place. Back then, Australian exporters didn't have a legal responsibility to protect sheep from cruelties like car boot transport and street slaughter. Now, they do. Yet we have revealed time and again these legal – and moral – obligations being ignored.

Thanks to your support, and a courageous local Omani guide, we documented thousands of sheep being illegally sold and killed outside approved supply chains.

We filed our 72nd legal complaint since regulations were put in place 11 years ago and we secured national television coverage, ensuring politicians continue to see the reality of this trade. No sheep have been exported to Oman since this investigation.





Phasing out the live sheep trade as soon as possible.

The Albanese Government's pledge to finally end the live sheep trade happened thanks to your compassion and your voice; but you didn't stop there. Since the announcement, more than 6,600 of your letters have urged the Federal Government to solidify its promise with a date.

The trade has been marred with one animal welfare disaster after another, yet shipments of Australian animals continue to leave our shores.

Most recently, more than 150 cattle died on a 6-day journey from Darwin to Indonesia, allegedly from a painful and deadly infection – and there was not a single veterinary professional on board to help. This ordeal coming just weeks after animals on board the MV Bahijah were approved for re-export to Israel – subjecting thousands of sheep and cattle to over three months in transit.

We will continue to investigate this trade for as long as Australia continues to send live sheep to these countries.

SHATHA HAMADE

Animals Australia's Lead Investigator & Legal Counsel

And late last year, the live export company at the centre of the Awassi Express cruelty prosecution was 'let off the hook' when the Western Australian government



Hundreds of Perth supporters showed up for animals during a sweltering heatwave in February, to remind the Prime Minister and his Cabinet Ministers of the 16,000 animals trapped on the MV Bahijah who needed urgent help, and the millions more counting on them to legislate the date.

Image: Stop Live Exports

decided proceeding was not in the 'public interest'. Thousands of Australians disagreed and promptly contacted their political representatives to tell them that animals matter and that acts of cruelty must be prosecuted.

But as you know, *every* live export journey is a disaster for animals. At very 'best', they languish in their own waste for days or weeks, only to suffer a terrifying, painful end in destination countries. Our recent investigations and collaborative efforts spanning Australia, South Africa and Israel, have been for every one of them. Together, on behalf of these animals, we will not stop until live export does.



The face of just one of the animals who has endured export on the MV Bahijah in recent years. This year, animals on this notorious ship were sent into a known conflict zone, before being forced to return to Australia, only to have to endure a second journey of unprecedented length to Israel.

Image: We Animals Media



Hope during dark days:

Our Emergency Grants Program continues to save lives in Gaza, and unite kind people.

War and ongoing political unrest create longlasting destruction and tragedy, with many worldwide facing this daily reality. Yet amidst the danger of 'warzones', there are brave people working tirelessly for the animals who are so often the forgotten victims in some of the most difficult and dangerous circumstances. They reinforce our belief that compassion knows no borders and there really is hope for animals everywhere.

↓ (Left) Animals Australia's Emergency Grants Program is helping to provide lifesaving help to the brave and compassionate team at Sulala Animal Rescue in Gaza, to support their work during the current war.

Image: Saéd Al Err, Sulala Animal Rescue

(Right) Thanks to the generosity of our donors, this year our Emergency Grants Program has helped animals throughout Gaza, Afghanistan, Syria, Iraq, Ukraine, and Myanmar.

Image: Sulala Animal Rescue







C (Left) Thanks to the generosity of our supporters, we have a truck full of food for animals on the road to Gaza. Aid delivery is fraught with political and logistical complexity, but the situation is too dire for us not to try. Image: *Sulala Animal Rescue*

C (Centre and right) Despite their homes being destroyed and facing multiple forced evacuations, the Sulala team continue to care for hundreds of animal survivors of the war in Gaza.

Over the last seven months, we have watched on with heavy hearts as our friends from Sulala Animal Rescue do all they can to not only survive the war in Gaza but help save the many animals who are left stranded, starving and injured in the aftermath of airstrikes and ground invasions.

Over the last 3 years, Animals Australia has been the sole ongoing funding organisation of Sulala, in recognition of their outstanding work as the only official animal welfare organisation across the Gaza strip.

As war broke out in October of 2023, we did all we could to ensure their kind actions were seen and supported by the rest of the world during this unimaginable crisis. Alongside our Emergency Grants Program, generously funded by our donors, we ran a global fundraising appeal, and continue to donate 100% of proceeds directly to support the Sulala team.

At the time of writing this update, we are coordinating critical aid for the hundreds of animals in their care and those stranded in Gaza – starvation is impacting both people and animals and they are facing a dire future. Thanks to the incredible generosity of our donors, we hope our aid delivery of food and veterinary supplies will reach the animals of Gaza soon.



We have reached thousands of caring people around the world to raise the plight of animals in Gaza and the compassionate people helping them.

Image: Sulala Animal Rescue Instagram



Image: Saéd Al Err, Sulala Animal Rescue



FACTORY FARMING

Legal action for farmed animals.

A day in a slaughterhouse would be one most people would never forget. They're places most people don't get to see, but investigations across Australia over the past year have made it impossible to look away. Investigations by Farm Transparency Project (FTP) have recently exposed the distressing final moments of animals who are forced into slaughterhouses each day, by the thousands. Vision captured in three Australian states revealed the excruciating, but *routine*, CO2 gassing of the pigs who end up as pork, bacon and ham products on supermarket shelves.

As recent investigations and our major campaign, You didn't know, did

system in Australia and around the globe is one of deprivation and suffering.

you? continue to reveal, daily 'life' for most animals trapped in the food

Vou've helped challenge the cruel but routine gassing of pigs in Australian slaughterhouses, and to ensure pigs have a voice in the Supreme Court later in 2024.

Images: Farm Transparency Project

Image: Still from our You didnt know, did you? video series.





Our legal case is a world first, and the outcome could affect 4.6 million pigs slaughtered in Australia every year. The use of CO2 gas stunning of animals is a standard that never should have been approved. Carbon dioxide gas stunning of pigs before slaughter is inhumane and does not minimise suffering – it increases it.

SHATHA HAMADE

Animals Australia's Lead Investigator and Legal Counsel

When exposed on ABC 7.30, "How can this be legal?" was the first question raised by many. And after months of scrutiny, we built a legal case that argues it isn't. In what will be a global test case for pigs, we filed proceedings in the Supreme Court of Victoria to challenge this cruel method of slaughter. We expect a trial date in 2024.

At the recent Victorian Pig Inquiry, a process initiated by the state government to examine the treatment of pigs in the food system, we gave extensive evidence for the piglets who have their teeth cut and tails sliced off without any pain relief; those bludgeoned to death for being too small; and their sensitive mothers confined to barren cages.

Further FTP investigations made Tasmania the fourth state to be exposed for slaughterhouse cruelty in not one, but *five* different slaughterhouses. The treatment of sheep, pigs, deer, goats, cows, and even young 'bobby calves' discarded from the dairy industry, was unconscionable, with many having their throats cut while fully conscious. We immediately lodged major cruelty complaints and lobbied for the enforcement of regulations including independently monitored CCTV, which all political parties in the state have agreed to support.

Investigation after investigation has made clear that suffering is not only legal in Australian slaughterhouses, but sadly, it is also *routine* – an unavoidable reality of killing animals for food. Sparing these animals is no easy feat, but with your support, we will continue to bring their stories to light and empower more people with the knowledge of how we can change their world.



Image: Farm Transparency Project

Compassion – and consumer power – for change.

It still shocks many caring people to see what happens to farmed animals behind closed doors. These practices have come about as animal industries have sought to rear and kill the most animals in the shortest possible timeframe – to meet the current demand for meat, eggs and dairy products.

The reality is that even when regulations are adhered to, many routine housing and farming practices cause animals stress and pain, and ultimately, they all face a terrifying death in a slaughterhouse. While striving for change at a government, industry, and corporate level to protect animals, we've learnt that the most effective way to spare animals from this cycle of suffering is to choose not to be a part of it.

As consumers, we wield significant power to shape a better world for animals – and every kind food choice makes a difference. Since seeing the Tasmanian slaughterhouse investigation, over 3,300 people have taken the pledge to go meat-free, to help spare animals from suffering in slaughterhouses.

WILDLIFE

A much needed voice for wildlife.

Vulnerable kangaroo joeys are routinely, legally killed by bludgeoning or decapitation by the commercial kangaroo killing industry, considered nothing more than a 'waste product'.

While government decisions over the last year have seen wildlife exposed to more suffering, we have taken every opportunity to represent and speak out for them. For the kangaroos killed for profit, the dingoes killed for convenience, and the ducks killed 'for fun', thanks to you, our efforts continue. Despite clear recommendations from its own Parliamentary Inquiry, the Victorian Labor Government recently allowed the slaughter of ducks to continue. Following the inquiry – which we attended and presented evidence on behalf of native waterbirds – the Committee recommended a full and permanent ban, acknowledging the suffering of birds and the evidence of dire population decline.

The final decision was such a clear case of government failure, as it was in South Australia too, where recreational duck shooting is set to continue. Our direct support of local groups led to a record number of wetland closures throughout Victoria this year, and we continue to explore legal avenues to challenge the season going ahead in the first place. It's time for the Victorian Government to restore peace and harmony to our wetlands.

Please legislate the first recommendation of the Select Committee on Victoria's Recreational Native Bird Hunting Arrangements, and end duck shooting from 2024.



(Above) Thanks to you, our full-page advertisment for native ducks was published in major Victorian newspapers, urging politicians to end duck shooting for good.

(Above right) Shot and left for dead, this native duck was rescued during the 2024 shooting season in Victoria.

Image: Coalition Against Duck Shooting

→ (Below right) Legal action and public campaigns should not be necessary to see Australian wildlife properly protected. But for as long as native animals remain exposed to government-sanctioned cruelty, and with your support, we'll do whatever is necessary to help protect them.

Image: Defend The Wild / Farm Transparency Project

Over the last year, thousands of our supporters here, and around the world, have challenged the biggest wildlife trade in the world – the commercial kangaroo killing industry. For the gentle kangaroos and their joeys who are killed and harmed each year, their suffering is no longer hidden under the cover of darkness each night across Australia. Thousands of our caring supporters who wish to see wildlife protected are sharing their plight and demanding better.

Together, we challenged the Victorian and Western Australian government's plan to allow the commercial killing trade to continue. And our supporters sent over 28,000 emails to sporting brand Adidas sending them a resounding message that *kangaroos are not sports shoes.*



After shocking investigations by Defend the Wild and Farm Transparency Project uncovered the cruel but legal poisoning, trapping, and shooting of dingoes in Victoria, your support fuelled our legal challenge to protect these vulnerable animals. Animals Australia's legal case was to be the first of its kind in the state for dingoes, seeking to have the 2023 Order in Council that 'unprotects' dingoes in certain areas revoked. A week before the trial date, the government decided to dissolve the order, and now, one of the most vulnerable dingo populations in the state's Northwest will no longer be targeted. While a new Order still threatens dingoes statewide, we're hopeful that this positive outcome will set a powerful precedent and eventually be extended to protect *all* dingoes.

Your voice for hens was heard!



Another decade in cages is a decade too long.

In 2023, a ban on the use of barren battery cages was finally announced after a drawn-out review process.

The first time she will see the outside world – the world she was supposed to live in – should not be the last day of her life. We won't give up on freeing hens like her sooner. A brighter future is in sight, but the 10–14-year phase-out period means millions more hens are cruelly destined to a life of deprivation and frustration; our work here is far from over. Our focus now is encouraging each state to free hens from cages sooner.

Image: Farm Transparency Project

ANIMALS INTERNATIONAL



This historic legal precedent in Bali was underpinned by a profound shift in thinking - one that changed the future for the island's unique dogs.

OUR INDONESIA PARTNERS

A kinder future for animals in Bali: dog meat ban mandated.

In a historic ruling, the trade or distribution of dog meat in Bali is now illegal.

This welcomed announcement has come seven years after Animals Australia's landmark investigation exposed the plight of dogs and other animals killed for food on the island; and how international tourism, including from Australia, was helping fuel it.

Since the investigation, Animals International, our global arm, has supported initiatives of local advocates, vets and legal professionals in Bali addressing the root causes of animal suffering. The community-led project evolved into the establishment and support of a truly Indonesian animal welfare organisation, Sintesia Animalia Indonesia, and through their efforts our ongoing mission in Bali thrives. Their focus is on educating the next generation of decision-makers about animal sentience and welfare, and encouraging better enforcement of animal protection laws.

Now, dogs in Bali are seen as someone, not food – through education and reconnection, we have reawakened that relationship. Some are hard to change, and that's why we need strong regulations. But most people who used to be dog meat traders have changed, they don't want to harm them. One woman we worked with for years stopped selling dog meat – she now sells vegetables!

DR SASA VERNANDES Sintesia Animalia Indonesia

VIDEO ADVOCACY

Help us reach millions more online!



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Categorising some animals as 'friends' and others as 'food' was not a decision we made, but one inherited from past generations. Our videos highlighting that the only difference between dogs and farmed animals is our *perception* – and that the power lies with us to change it – were viewed over 5.5 million times!



Are you following us on social media? You can help animals by sharing our posts!

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Our video featuring Pam Ahern from Edgar's Mission explaining the sad reality for bobby calves in the dairy industry – who are killed shortly after being born – has been viewed over one million times!

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The plight of chicks in the egg industry reached new audiences. Most people who saw our video revealing the egg industry's well-kept secret of shredding male chicks on the day they hatch weren't yet following Animals Australia's social accounts. This was just one of the issues explained in our *You didn't know, did you*? seven-part video series.

Image: Farm Transparency Project



Shop for a kinder world.

Every purchase you make will fund our lifechanging work for animals.

Visit our online store at AnimalsAustralia.org/shop

SUPPORTER FUNDRAISING

Our community in action: raising funds and awareness.

The generosity and creativity of our supporters never ceases to amaze us. But the impacts of one recent initiative will be far reaching and help animals both here and abroad.

Animals Australia supporter Cynthia recently hosted an unforgettable dinner, "Vegan courses for good causes". This fundraising event was dedicated to our Emergency Grants Program to support the efforts of Sulala Animal Rescue – the only animal protection organisation in Gaza.

Along with her sister and friend, Cynthia hosted over fifty friends and family who came together to raise much-needed funds for animals in emergencies, and in doing so, also raised invaluable awareness about the plight of animals in food systems. We are so grateful for this incredible effort, and the ripples of kindness created long after the night ended.







Mirror reads: "Vegan courses for good causes"

VEG ADVOCACY

Bringing compassion into the kitchen.

There are many ways to help animals. Ultimately, the most profound way to spare them from the systems that cause so much suffering is to choose not to support these systems at all.

For the hens in cages who long to spread their wings, the mother pigs in barren crates who long to build a nest, and the calves who long for their mothers' protection – we can choose kindly, three (or more!) times a day.

When it comes to cooking or buying animal-friendly food, many people reach out to us, unsure where to start.

Our kinder eating initiative was launched for this very reason – to make plant-based eating more accessible, simple, and of course, delicious! Informative, down-to-earth blogs on VegKit.com – like 'On a budget? Try these 12 cheap vegan meals' which has surpassed 11,000 views – are helping people to fill their plates with more plants, and fewer, or no, animals.

So too is our popular Veg Starter Kit, which has recently been updated with new tips, product recommendations, and recipes. Over 8,000 copies have helped those seeking to embrace kinder eating over the last year alone.

This free resource can help kickstart your veg journey, or provide inspiration for nutritious and tasty meals to add to your repertoire. Have you got your copy yet?

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Head to \rightarrow

for these delicous plant-based recipes and more!



Moroccan Lentil and Veggie Stew

This wholesome, nourishing bowl of goodness feels like a warm hug from the inside out. It freezes well, so if you double the batch you can have an easy dinner sorted for next week too!

Makes 4

L 10 mins to prep 212 30 mins to cook

Recipe by Rainbow Nourishments

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You will need

1 tablespoons oil (or sub water) 1 brown onion, finely chopped 5 cloves garlic, crushed 2 teaspoons ground cumin 2 teaspoons ground coriander 1 teaspoon ground turmeric 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon 3 bay leaves 2 cups cauliflower florets (about 1/2 whole cauliflower head) 2 large potatoes, chopped 2 carrots, chopped 4 cups vegetable stock 1 x 400g can crushed tomatoes 1/2 cup red lentils 1/4 cup raisins, sultanas or chopped dried apricots Salt and pepper, to taste

Step 1

Heat the oil in large pot over high heat. Add the onion and sauté for 2 minutes or until softened. Add the garlic, all the herbs and spices and sauté for 1 minute or until fragrant. Add the cauliflower, potatoes and carrots and sauté for 2 minutes to sear the vegetables.

Step 2

Add the stock, crushed tomatoes, lentils and raisins. Boil the mixture for 10 minutes then reduce to a simmer for 20 minutes or until all vegetables are tender. Add more stock or water if the stew is evaporating too quickly. Remove and discard the bay leaves. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Step 3

Divide the stew into 4 bowls. Serve with coconut yoghurt, coriander and carbohydrate of choice (rice, quinoa or flatbread).

To serve

Natural coconut yoghurt Chopped coriander Rice, quinoa, toast or flatbread



A friend to animals during his lifetime, and beyond.

In memory of Charles Davis (1943 - 2024)

Sadly in February this year, we lost one of our cherished friends and supporters, Charles Davis.

Generously supporting our work over many years, Charles helped wildlife, animals exported alive, and those impacted by emergencies.

Beyond donations, he used his voice by taking action for animals in need, making countless government submissions, volunteering, attending rallies, and having countless letters to the editor published in major newspapers.

Even though he is no longer with us, we are grateful that his legacy will help the animals who need it most, enabling us to continue our work to make the world a kinder place.

Charles will be missed by many, including everyone here at Animals Australia.



Yesterday I was clever, so I wanted to change the world. Today I am wise, so I am changing myself.

RUMI



Our Relationships Manager can be reached by email or phone:



Scan the QR code or

03 9329 6333

She deserves a kinder world. You can help create it.

No government funds us. Caring individuals like you do.

Your monthly donation will give us the freedom and ability to explore every possible avenue – from groundbreaking investigations and life-saving campaigns to world-first legal actions – to help animals and create the kinder world they deserve.

Be one of the first 200 changemakers to pledge a monthly gift and receive your FREE animal protector pack! (\$10 minimum applies)



Scan the QR code



Call our friendly team on 1800 888 584 Post the donation form in the reply paid envelope provided

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Pass it on

Please help us spread the message of kindness and empower more people to help animals by sharing this Supporter Update with family and friends.



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