

OFFICE OF ANIMAL WELFARE

There's an election coming and, regardless of who wins, there's no time to lose **see page 5**

ACT NOW Tell Labor, the Liberals and the Greens that we won't stand for a devolution of the national environmental powers

Thanks (yet again) to the fabulous generosity of HSI supporters, we've provided much needed resources to INTERPOL's "Operation Ursa", to help fight the cruel practice of bear bile extraction.

Animal experiments, factory farming, wildlife poaching...while we inflict much suffering on our animal world, few practices match the barbarism of bear bile farming.

It is difficult to imagine the abject suffering these bears face. They are constantly in pain, deprived of food and water to stimulate greater bile production, isolated and treated inhumanely every day of their long miserable and criminally tortured lives.

These unfortunate animals are kept in 'farms' using crush cages, which prevent them from standing or often (unbelievably) moving at all.

The digestive juices (bile) produced by the liver and stored in the gall bladder of the Asian Black Bears (moon bears) are prized in traditional Chinese medicine, particularly in China, South Korea, Laos and Vietnam.

The bile is usually extracted twice daily via a tube inserted directly into their stomach and gall bladder while they're conscious. They can be trapped like this for over 10 years of agony and incomprehensible mental stress; often with their teeth and claws extracted.

HSIJOINS INTERPOL FIGHTING THE BEAR BILE TRADE

When INTERPOL's Environmental Crime Programme approached us to help with an international trade investigation into bear bile and bear parts, with a focus on breaking up supply chains and trafficking networks, we were there in a heartbeat. If we can help uncover and frustrate the illegal movement of bear products coming out of Asia, and infiltrate the supply lines, we can have a real impact in reducing the number of bears suffering because of this horrific trade.

HSI has previously worked successfully with INTERPOL and we have been engaged in bear protection activities around the world for over 20 years.

INTERPOL, the world's largest international police organisation, aims to combat the illegal sourcing and trade of wild bears and their parts. It is trying to promote conservation of wild bear populations by encouraging compliance and enforcement in Asia.

Thank you to everybody for helping the bears!

Forced into crush cages, tubes dug into their stomachs, and sentenced to ten years of living hell



40,000 postcards deliver one message

HSI supporters want a national 'free range' egg standard and have helped drive the point home to our national leaders **Read how on page 3**

Old Government ploughs ahead with backward steps

HSI supporters' response to our recent **Bear Bile Trade** appeal has been overwhelming. This horrendous cruelty can't be ignored so we are partnering with INTERPOL to help stop it.

You will enjoy reading on page 6 of the rescuing of two bear cubs by our partner NGO Wildlife SOS (India). It credits their wonderful ForestWatch! program in catching the poachers.

A Federal Election looms so it's essential to tell the major parties and the Greens to make strong commitments to wildlife protection and animal welfare policies. Page 5 has suggestions which would result in effective national protection measures. They deal with retaining strong national legal powers to protect the environment and the establishment of a national **Office of Animal Welfare.** Please write today.

The need for strong national conservation laws is highlighted in our articles on land clearing in Queensland (page 7) and the Great Barrier Reef (page 4). Wildlife habitats face immense threats from new and draconian Queensland Government policies. Hundreds of millions of animals face certain death if the new land clearing laws are fully implemented. Your letters are needed again!

Fortunately, there's good news to report also, particulary with important gains in animal welfare. Read about a record fine for pig cruelty in WA (page 10); meet one of HSI's Humane Choice free range producers on page 10; hear of our success in promoting true free range labelling through the ACCC (page 3); and our increasingly successful cruelty-free cosmetic and fur-free campaigns on pages 8 and 11.

Another good news story saw the launching of HSI's Indian office by the Dalai Lama earlier this year (page 9). Wearing an HSI hat, he addressed the media (literally hundreds of cameras and reporters) on the need for animal protection and compassion. This was a great head start for HSI India; they have such a huge job and we wish them much luck.

And we have just celebrated the 200th wildlife sanctuary becoming a member of the Wildlife Land Trust—it's a landmark occasion for this growing initiative.

Don't forget to send your letters to the major and minor political parties. They must produce first class conservation and animal welfare policies and your voice will help drive them into this. And thank you for your unstinting support.



Verna Simpson DIRECTOR, HSI

Barrier Reef and land clearing threats... Wildlife habitats are at risk from new and draconian Queensland Government policies...hundreds of millions of animals face death with new land clearing laws Australia has some 10,500,000 hens forced to live in cages smaller than an A4 (the size of this page)



And HSI says 'thank you' to our supporters for your overwhelming efforts in getting this message across.

If the truth be told...

The Prime Minister has received a strong message urging her to legislate a national 'free range' egg standard.

HSI Director Verna Simpson and Lee McCosker (COO, Humane Choice) joined Greens Senator Lee Rhiannon for the delivery of an amazing **40,000 signed postcards** to our Prime Minister's door, protesting against the industry and state governments' indifference to the continued mislabelling of free range eggs.

Consumers are angry at the Australian Egg Corporation's exploitation of the trade and are demanding stocking densities for free range hens be capped at 1,500 hens per hectare.

Senator Rhiannon also moved a motion in the house calling for truth in labelling legislation for free range eggs. Although her motion was lost 33 to 11, it keeps the pressure on and ensures politicians are mindful of it.

We are still collecting signed postcards (for delivery to our state parliament) so keep them coming.

Right: Verna and the two Lee's with a small part of the 40,000 postcards delivered to the Prime Minister's attention



Won't you join us?

Become a regular HSI Supporter and spread your donations across the year

Many of our campaigns have specific targets and deadlines but we must also plan long term ones for many major environmental and animal welfare issues. By supporting us with an ongoing monthly pledge, you empower us to commit and budget for these challenges with confidence. As a **regular HSI Supporter** your tax-deductible donations can be deducted against either a Mastercard, Visa or American Express card, or your nominated bank account. These deductions can be for any amount that suits your budget and will occur regularly each month.

Like to know more? Call us on 1800 333 737 or fill and return this coupon



TITLE:	FIRST NAME:		LAST NAME:	
ADDRESS:				
STATE:	POSTCODE	PHONE: ()	
EMAIL:				
	Please mail this	coupon to: Humai	e Society International • PO Box 439. Avalon N	JSW/ 2107

lt's unique but it isn't safe

The Barrier Reef is under threat

The Great Barrier Reef has been in the headlines recently, with many groups worried at the proposed port and industrial developments planned along the Queensland coast.

HSI shares their concern, particularly where developments and increased ship-traffic would impact upon the critical habitat of protected species like the dugong and turtle.

HSI is also alarmed that if the Federal Government hands over environmental powers to state governments, these developments could be even more detrimental.

The international community is also paying attention. In 2011 the United Nation's World Heritage Committee voiced its 'extreme concern' at the approval of major developments. And a delegation has given the Federal Government a number of actions that need to be taken to improve the protection of the reef.

We await our government's response but if it is determined that the reef's world heritage status is at risk, the committee could put it on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

Persuade the Environment Minister, the Hon Tony Burke MP, to protect the Great Barrier Reef and its world heritage values. Write to the Shadow Environment Minister, the Hon Greg Hunt MP,

ACTION NEEDED

urging him to protect the reef if the Coalition wins Government. And contact Queensland's Premier, the Hon Campbell Newman MP to call for greater reef protection.

Federal: email Tony.Burke.MP@aph.gov.au or fax to 02 6273 6101

Opposition: email to Greg.Hunt.MP@aph.gov.au

Queensland: email to thepremier@premiers.qld.gov.au

Please send any replies to us

There's no time to lose

(regardless who wins)

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The Federal Election Day is upon us and it's essential that you tell the political parties what you want them to do for conservation and animal welfare.

The policies below are critical to wildlife protection and animal welfare issues and we ask you to take a few minutes to promote them in a short letter or fax/e-mail to the leaders (after the bear rescue story on page 6, there's also a request to write to the three parties about international wildlife conservation).

ACTION NEEDED NOW ON THESE POLICIES:

Please ask the Prime Minister to safeguard the powers within the Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act, 1999 (EPBC Act) prior to the election, including regulating for a new environment 'trigger' to protect national parks

Also ask the PM to commit to maintaining Commonwealth environment powers if Labor wins; to scrap the EPBC Act provisions allowing powers to be devolved to the states and territories; and to significantly strengthen the Act, 2 including new 'triggers' for national parks, land clearing, and ecosystems of national importance.

Also send letters to Opposition leader, Tony Abbott MP, asking him to drop his plans to hand environmental powers to 3 state and territory governments; retaining Federal powers will help ensure national leadership. He must also add new national powers to protect national parks and prohibit land clearing.

Ask them both to commit to establishing a new strong and independent Office of Animal Welfare, overseen by an 4 independent expert advisory board, with a \$50 million annual budget and a commitment to review and significantly strengthen Commonwealth animal welfare laws and regulations.

These messages should also be sent to Christine Milne, Leader of the Australian Greens. 5

LABOR: a fax to Prime Minister Julia Gillard MP on (02) 6273 4100 or go to www.pm.gov.au and use the Contact Your PM facility. LIBERALS: send a fax to Hon Tony Abbott MP on (02) 6277 8562 or email him at Tony.Abbott.MP@aph.gov.au GREENS: send a fax to Senator Christine Milne (Leader of the Australian Greens) on (02) 6277 3185 or email her at senator.milne@aph.gov.au

Or write to them all care of: PO Box 6022, House of Representatives, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600.

Please send any replies to us

Wildlife Land Trust welcomes 200th Australian member

The Australian contingent of the Wildlife Land Five other sanctuaries have now finalised their Trust (HSI's private land conservation network) recently welcomed its 200th sanctuary: Colo Heights Wildlife Clinic and Refuge.

A 54 hectare NSW property owned by Michael Adams and Chris McGregor, this refuge teems with native wildlife. And they're host to koalas, wallaroos, brush-tailed rock wallabies, echidnas, eastern pygmy possums, feathertail gliders, spotted quolls, black cockatoos....

Licenced to rehabilitate injured and orphaned wildlife, Chris and Michael have self-funded their 24 hour clinic and hospice. And, as the refuge adjoins a State Conservation Area and a National Park, it's the ideal spot to let animals find their feet or wings again.

membership, bringing land under the WLT to nearly 35,000 hectares (85,000 acres).

If you'd like to learn more about the Wildlife Land Trust visit www.wildlifelandtrust.org.au or call Evan Quartermain, Program Manager on 1800 333 737.

The program is voluntary and free of charge.

However, members need ownership of at least 1 acre of land where wildlife would be safe. And a passion for native plants and animals.

> Michael holds an eastern pygmy possum





Bear cubs snatched back in night-time raid

Wildlife SOS, HSI's major Indian NGO partner organisation, recently rescued two sloth bear cubs from poachers. Once destined for Nepal's cruel 'dancing bear' trade, read how agencies combined to save them:

Though Delhi-based, Wildlife SOS had gathered intelligence of bear-poaching in Bihar's remote Katihar District. After enlisting the help of the local police and the Forest Department, they conducted a night long raid. This succeeded in the arrest of a poacher and the return of two young endangered sloth bears; a female of about 18 months and a male around 24 months.

Wildlife SOS had pursued the perpetrators for over 4 weeks, deploying several informers and decoys to keep watch on the culprits. Teaming up with the enforcement authorities, members of ForestWatch! (Wildlife SOS's anti poaching unit) were present when the police pounced.

Being trained professionals, ForestWatch! staff needed to be on hand to ensure the safe handling of the rescued animals.

According to Wildlife SOS co-founders Kartick Satyanarayan and Geeta Seshamani, "We are pleased that serious action is being taken against wildlife criminals—with the police acting on our intelligence. This operation has been successful in stopping the smuggling of these two bears across the Indo-Nepal border and arresting the culprit.

While Wildlife SOS has rescued all the dancing bears from the streets of India, the practice still exists in Nepal and threatens wild bears as they're poached to feed this illegal practice."

sadly, they've have had their teeth smashed and muzzles mutilated and can never return to the wild

M V Baiju Raj (Senior Wildlife Biologist, Wildlife SOS and Officer In-charge, Agra Bear Rescue Facility) said "We are liaising with Bihar Forest Officers as they complete the legal and court procedures. We hope the bears can be moved to an SOS Rescue Facility for secure isolation and treatment.

Sadly, these two have had their teeth smashed and muzzles mutilated and cannot be returned to the wild."

As Wildlife SOS prepared for their arrival, Dr Ilayaraja (Senior Wildlife Veterinarian, Wildlife SOS) reported "They are traumatised and we suspect they also have several infectious lesions. They will be quarantined and receive long term treatment along with our standard preventive health care."

Anti-poaching SO Police, JP Yadav and SI, with rescued bear cub.

Below: cub upon arrival at Agra Bear Rescue Facility.

IMAGES COURTESY OF WILDLIFE SOS







Please write to Prime Minister Gillard, Environment Minister, Tony Burke, Opposition Leader, Tony Abbott, Shadow Environment Minister, Greg Hunt, and Greens Leader, Christine Milne (all via: P. O. Box 6022, House of Representatives, Parliament House, Canberra, ACT, 2600) to urge:

As the Federal election approaches, we need you to commit to a dedicated fund for biodiversity conservation projects in hotspot areas (including India) in the Asia-Pacific region.

A \$20 million regional biodiversity conservation program should be established over 5 years, allocating resources to key non-government organisations and on-ground projects.

ACTION NEEDED



Please send any replies to us

Land clearing to devastate wildlife and environment

Worringly, changes to Queensland's environment laws have been passed by its parliament and property owners can greatly increase land clearing.

These changes threaten millions of hectares of wildlife habitats, including hundreds of thousands of hectares of Commonwealth listed endangered places—many nominated by HSI.

Scientific estimates suggest this land clearing could see more than 450 million native animals killed, be it

directly from the clearing or the displacement and competition that results from the clearing.

Sadly, the Queensland Government is also imposing other threats on hundreds of listed threatened species and protected areas by opening National Parks to cattle grazing. It does this under the guise of animal welfare but there are alternative—and superior—measures that look after both the environment and animal welfare.

© Shutterstock/rujithai

Over 450,000,000 native animals could be killed

Sugar gliders (Petaurus breviceps) and other hollow dwelling species are among those most threatened by land clearing

NEEDED

Write to Premier Campbell Newman and Andrew Cripps MP, to urge them to reverse the amendments to the Vegetation Management Act and to remove cattle from national parks. Go to HSI's website for more background information and a form letter: www.hsi.org.au Addressing: The Honourable Campbell Newman MP, PO Box 15185, City East QLD 4002 or email to: thepremier@premiers.qld.gov.au • The Honourable Andrew Cripps MP, PO Box 15216, City East QLD 4002 or email to: nrm@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Please send any replies to us

How can I help them when I no longer share their world?



Leave a bequest to HSI and you'll leave a lasting impression.

By naming HSI in your will you'll strengthen our capabilities and demonstrate your commitment to protecting animals.







Please send me information about leaving a bequest to HSI.					
TITLE:	FIRST NAME:		LAST NAME:		
ADDRESS:					
STATE:	POSTCODE	PHONE: ()			

EMAIL:

Conservation and Animal Welfare Ministers

Federal

Prime Minister The Honourable Julia Gillard MP PO Box 6022 House of Representatives Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 Tel: (02) 6277 7700 Fax: (02) 6273 4100 Visit www.pm.gov.au and use the 'Contact Your PM' facility.

Minister for Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities

The Honourable Tony Burke MP PO Box 6022 House of Representatives Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 Tel: (02) 6277 7640 Fax: (02) 6273 6101 Tony.Burke.MP@aph.gov.au

Minister for Climate Change and **Energy Efficiency**

The Honourable Greg Combet AM MP PO Box 6022 House of Representatives Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 Tel: (02) 6277 7920 Fax: (02) 6273 7330 greg.combet.mp@aph.gov.au

Minister for Agriculture,

Fisheries and Forestry* Senator the Honourable Joe Ludwig PO Box 6100 Senate Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 Tel: (02) 6277 7520 Fax: (02) 6273 4120 senator.ludwig@aph.gov.au

Leader of the Opposition

The Honourable Tony Abbott MP PO Box 6022 House of Representatives Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 Tel: (02) 6277 4022 Fax: (02) 6277 8562 Tony.Abbott.MP@aph.gov.au

Leader of the Australian Greens

Senator Christine Milne PO Box 6100 Senate Parliament House Canberra ACT 2600 Tel: (02) 6277 3170 Fax: (02) 6277 3185 senator.milne@aph.gov.au

Victoria

VIC Premier The Honourable Dr Denis Napthine MLA Level 1, 1 Treasury Place MELBOURNE VIC 3002 Tel: (03) 9651 5000 Fax: (03) 9651 5054 premier@dpc.vic.gov.au

Minister for Agriculture

and Food Security* The Honourable Peter Walsh MP Level 20, 1 Spring Street MELBOURNE VIC 3000 Tel: (03) 9938 5954 Fax: (03) 9658 4191 peter.walsh@parliament.vic.gov.au

Minister for Environment

and Climate Change The Honourable Ryan Smith MP Level 17, 8 Nicholson Street MELBOURNE VIC 3002 Tel: (03) 9637 8890 Fax: (03) 9637 8880 ryan.smith@parliament.vic.gov.au

Minister for Energy and Resources

The Honourable Nicholas Kotsiras MLA Level 2, 3 Treasury Place MELBOURNE VIC 3000 Tel: (03) 9651 1156 Fax: (03) 9651 2007 nicholas.kotsiras@parliament.vic.gov.au

New South Wales

NSW Premier* The Honourable Barry O'Farrell MP GPO Box 5341 SYDNEY NSW 2001 Tel: (02) 9228 5239 Fax: (02) 9228 3935 office@premier.nsw.gov.au

Minister for Primary Industries*

The Honourable Katrina Hodgkinson MP Level 30 Governor Macquarie Tower 1 Farrer Place SYDNEY NSW 2000 Tel: (02) 9228 5210 Fax: (02) 9228 5969 office@hodgkinson.minister.nsw.gov.au

Minister for Environment

and Heritage

The Honourable Robyn Parker MP Level 32 Governor Macquarie Tower 1 Farrer Place SYDNEY NSW 2000 Tel: (02) 9228 5253 Fax: (02) 9228 5763 office@parker.minister.nsw.gov.au

Queensland

QLD Premier The Honourable Campbell Newman MP PO Box 15185 CITY EAST QLD 4002 Tel: (07) 3224 4500 Fax: (07) 3221 1809 thepremier@premiers.qld.gov.au

Minister for Natural Resources and Mines

The Honourable Andrew Cripps MP PO Box 15216 CITY EAST QLD 4002 Tel: (07) 3225 1861 Fax: (07) 3224 2491 nrm@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Minister for Agriculture,

Fisheries and Forestry* The Honourable John McVeigh MP GPO Box 46 BRISBANE QLD 4001 Tel: (07) 3239 3000 Fax: (07) 3211 8199 daff@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Minister for Environment

and Heritage Protection The Honourable Andrew Powell MP GPO Box 2454 BRISBANE QLD 4001 Tel: (07) 3239 0844 Fax: (07) 3224 2496 environment@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Western Australia WA Premier

The Honourable Colin Barnett MLA 1 Parliament Place WEST PERTH WA 6005 Tel: (08) 6552 5000 Fax: (08) 6552 5001 wa-government@dpc.wa.gov.au

Minister for Agriculture and Food

The Honourable Ken Baston MLC 4th Floor, London House, 216 St George's Terrace PERTH WA 6000 Tel: (08) 6552 5400 Fax: (08) 6552 5401 Minister.Baston@dpc.wa.gov.au

Minister for Forestry/Water

The Honourable Terry Redman MLA 9th Floor, Dumas House, 2 Havelock Street WEST PERTH WA 6005 Tel: (08) 6552 6700 Fax: (08) 6552 6701 Minister.Redman@dpc.wa.gov.au

Minister for the Environment

and Heritage The Honourable Albert Jacob MLA 12th Floor, Dumas House, 2 Havelock Street WEST PERTH WA 6005 Tel: (08) 6552 5800 Fax: (08) 6552 5801 Minister.Jacob@dpc.wa.gov.au

Minister for Mines and Petroleum

The Honourable Bill Marmion MLA 29th Floor, Allendale Square, 77 St George's Terrace PERTH WA 6000 Tel: (08) 6552 6800 Fax: (08) 6552 6801 Minister.Marmion@dpc.wa.gov.au

Minister for Fisheries

The Honourable Troy Buswell MLA 13th Floor, Dumas House, 2 Havelock Street WEST PERTH WA 6005 Tel: (08) 6552 6400 Fax: (08) 6552 6401 Minister.Buswell@dpc.wa.gov.au

Minister for Local Government*

The Honourable Tony Simpson MLA 8th Floor, Dumas House, 2 Havelock Street WEST PERTH WA 6005 Tel: (08) 6552 6600 Fax: (08) 6552 6601 Minister.Simpson@dpc.wa.gov.au

South Australia

SA Premier The Honourable Jay Weatherill MP GPO Box 2343 ADELAIDE SA 5001 Tel: (08) 8463 3166 Fax: (08) 8463 3168 cheltenham@parliament.sa.gov.au

Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries*, Minister for Forests The Honourable Gail Gago MLC GPO Box 1671 ADELAIDE SA 5001 Tel: (08) 8303 2926 Fax: (08) 8303 2533 minister.gago@sa.gov.au

Minister for Sustainability,

Environment and Conservation The Honourable Ian Hunter MLC GPO Box 1047 ADELAIDE SA 5001 Tel: (08) 8463 5680 Fax: (08) 8463 5681 minister.hunter@sa.gov.au

Northern Territory NT Chief Minister

The Honourable Adam Giles MLA GPO Box 3146 DARWIN NT 0801 Tel: (08) 8928 6500 Fax: (08) 8928 6621 Chief.Minister@nt.gov.au

Minister for Primary Industry and **Fisheries**

The Honourable Willem Rudolf Westra van Holthe MLA GPO Box 3146 DARWIN NT 0801 Tel: (08) 8928 6540 Fax: (08) 8928 6644 Minister.Westravanholthe@nt.gov.au

Minister for Lands, Planning and the

Environment The Honourable Peter Glen Chandler MLA GPO Box 3146 DARWIN NT 0801 Tel: (08) 8928 6553 Fax: (08) 8928 6632

Minister.Chandler@nt.gov.au

Minister for Parks and Wildlife

The Honourable Matthew (Matt) Escott Conlan MLA GPO Box 3146 DARWIN NT 0801 Tel: (08) 8928 6622 Fax: (08) 8928 6509 Minister.Conlan@nt.gov.au

Minister for Local Government*

The Honourable Alison Anderson MLA GPO Box 3146 Darwin NT 0801 Telephone: (08) 8928 6587 Facsimile: (08) 8928 6594 Minister.Anderson@nt.gov.au

Tasmania

TAS Premier The Honourable Lara Giddings MP 11th Floor, Executive Building 15 Murray Street HOBART TAS 7000 Tel: (03) 6233 3464 fax: (03) 6234 1572 lara.giddings@parliament.tas.gov.au

Minister for Primary Industries and Water

The Honourable Bryan Green MP 10th Floor, Executive Building 15 Murray Street HOBART TAS 7000 Tel: (03) 6434 6252 Fax: (03) 6434 6352 bryan.green@parliament.tas.gov.au

Minister for Environment,

Parks and Heritage* The Honourable Brian Wightman MP 10th Floor, Ministerial Office 10 Murray Street HOBART TAS 7000 Tel: (03) 6233 9237 Fax: (03) 6223 7610 brian.wightman@parliament.tas.gov.au

Minister for Climate Change

The Honourable Cassy O'Connor MP Level 9, Marine Board Building 1 Franklin Wharf HOBART TAS 7000 Ph: (03) 6233 6756 Fax: (03) 6233 2671 cassy.oconnor@parliament.tas.gov.au

Australian Capital Territory

ACT Chief Minister The Honourable Katy Gallagher MLA GPO Box 1020 CANBERRA ACT 2601 Phone: (02) 6205 0840 Fax: (02) 6205 3030 gallagher@act.gov.au

Minister for the Environment

and Sustainable Development The Honourable Simon Corbell MLA GPO Box 1020 CANBERRA ACT 2601 Phone: (02) 6205 0000 Fax: (02) 6205 0535 corbell@act.gov.au

* Animal welfare minister

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HSI India aims to combat factory farming and other forms of cruelty



His Holiness the Dalai Lama launches HSI India

Tibet's spirtiual leader, the Dalai Lama, was honorary keynote speaker at the launch of HSI's office in Mumbai, India. And His Holiness made a moving speech promoting compassion for animals and our responsibility in protecting them from humancaused cruelty.

"Animals deserve our compassion," His Holiness said. "We must know their pain. We should nurture this compassion through education. Showing concern about animal rights is respecting their life." "The secret of one's happiness is not money or education. It is warm heartedness. Love yourself and extend that same feeling to others, even your enemy. Once we develop compassion for others, it is easy to extend it to all different forms of life including animals. Animals are honest. Treat them with a warm heart and they will appreciate it.

We can learn values of compassion from animals. Human beings? Not so sure," observed the 14th Dalai Lama Tenzin Gyatso.

Above: HSI' Director Verna Simpson meets with Dalai Lama Tenzin Gyatso

CITES 2013 Big wins at global wildlife trade meeting

In March, 178 national representatives and many interested parties (including HSI) convened in Bangkok, Thailand, for an important conference on the international trade in endangered species: the 16th Conference of Parties of the Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES).

Every three years, these meetings determine which species require protection from international trading and where protection can be relaxed.

On the whole, it was a pleasing success with great leaps in the protection of wildlife threatened by international trade. Two-weeks long, the meeting closed with many positive conservation outcomes, including the adoption of (nearly) every proposal to provide new or increased wildlife protection. Disappointingly, HSI and others were not successful in banning trade in polar bear products and the animal's status remains unchanged despite evidence the species is imperilled.

Important measures to protect rhinos, elephants, cheetahs, freshwater rays and a host of others were also agreed.

On its 40th anniversary, CITES has demonstrated that it remains relevant and indeed vital to ensuring that species are not detrimentally affected by international trade. **Dozens of species** have been given new or increased protection, including:

- the West African manatee
- nine species of green geckos from New Zealand
- the Mangshan pit viper of China
- more than 40 species of freshwater turtle and tortoise
- the oceanic whitetip shark
- the scalloped hammerhead shark
- the great hammerhead shark
- the smooth hammerhead shark
- the porbeagle shark
- the freshwater sawfish
- and two species of manta rays

Fly my pretty

HSI's major NGO partner in Bali, the Friends of the National Parks Foundation (FNPF), have released a previously injured, but now magnificent, Javanese hawk eagle.

Following rehabilitation at their Bali Wildlife Rescue Centre, this avian wonder was freed on the edge of a protected forest at Batukaru Mountain area, near Tabanan. In fact, it discharged itself by jumping on to the holding pen release door and breaking the retaining rope.

After perching on a stump for some time, it then took flight into the forest from where FNPF staff will continue to monitor its well-being.



Record fine for animal cruelty

Westpork, Western Australia's largest piggery, was raided by West Australian Police in 2007 after an employee alerted authorities to appalling conditions. However, it's been a long, long road to prosecution with HSI agitating the matter since charges were laid back in 2009.

Staggeringly, 55,000 pigs were housed at a site with a mortality rate of about 34 pigs per day. Inspections revealed much suffering, including chronic photodermatitis, necrotizing arthritis and ulcerative photodermatitis which impacted on the ability of animals to move, stand or bear weight to some degree.

Necrotic diseases (from infection, toxins, or trauma) cause skin cells around wounds to die and animals have to be destroyed.

Following many HSI representations, through local members of parliament, to the Western Australian Government on the slow progress of the case, some 30 charges (10 each for Westpork, General Manager Neil Ferguson and another employee) were laid.

The matter was finally heard in April 2013 at the Perth Magistrates Court where Magistrate Tavener said any fine imposed must discourage such behaviour and not just be seen as a fee for cruelty.

Westpork were prosecuted for cruelty but Neil Ferguson, General Manager, is still Chairperson of the WA Agriculture Produce Commission (Pork Committee)

Accordingly, Westpork was fined \$250,000 (with a 10% discount for their guilty plea). A figure we believe may be the largest animal cruelty fine imposed in Australia.

At the time the charges were laid, Neil Ferguson also held positions on the Board of Australian Pork Limited (the peak industry body) and Pork Training WA. Disappointingly, calls for him to be stood down from these positions were refused and although he is no longer on the Board of Australian Pork Ltd., he remains Chairperson of the Western Australia Agriculture Produce Commission (Pork Committee).

HSI will be calling on the West Australian Government to relieve him of this position.

Humane Choice Producer: the gold standard for free range meat and eggs

Humane Choice Producer Spotlight: Rhodavale Free Range Pork



Rhodavale Free Range Pork (run by Brad and Melinda Murnane on the Sunshine Coast, Queensland) believes their pigs are extra special because of the time they spend outside in a heavenly mix of grass, dirt and mud.

They also acknowledge how being accredited as a Humane Choice Producer helps promote their business by making customers aware of their ethics, and separates themselves from the competition.

Join Rhodavale at www.facebook.com/pages/Rhodavale-Pork

HSI, supporters and celebrities fighting the fur trade

In the battle against the fur trade, HSI has continued its targetting of major Australian retailers. And, as we announced late last year, our efforts have certainly paid off with all Australian department stores stripping furs from their racks and agreeing to lose the pelts.

This campaign started in 2003 when we discovered imports of dog and cat fur. But, despite securing a ban on imports in 2004, there was a serious lapse at our borders with Customs admitting they couldn't even test whether fur was from a domestic dog or cat.

However, their wanton disregard for this cruel and illegal import has worked favourably with our message being quite simple: don't buy fur until Customs do their job.

Many major chains joined the trend and signed the fur free pledge. Ms Jo Lynch, General Manager Corporate Affairs for Myer said, "We appreciate that there are different views on the use of fur sourced by any means; however, we also acknowledge that community views on the use of fur in merchandise have changed, regardless of the source of that fur."

We're thrilled with this change in store policies and HSI wholeheartedly thanks, not only the stores who have signed the pledge, but also our fabulous supporters who helped our campaign.

And **all fur bearing animals** have benefitted because we have not only stopped trade in Australia of dog and cat fur, but because our labelling laws are so weak and there's no way to differentiate the animals used, major stores have instituted NO FUR policies.

While small boutiques continue to sell furs, our random winter testing has reported an absence of domestic dog or cat fur.

We can also report a ground-breaking 'no fur policy' was issued for the

2013 L'Oreal Melbourne Fashion Festival. We applaud this wonderful initiative.

Our Faux Fur Fashion Parades, with the generous support of many Australian celebrities, have raised awareness and we thank them for their substantial contributions. We also send a big 'thank you' to our supporters who wrote letters, signed petitions and stood up for the voiceless—we couldn't have done this without you.

Ensure you shop ethically by referring to our **List of Fur Free Retailers** at **www.hsi.org.au** We also list retailers who continue to deal in furs so you can let them know you will refuse to shop there until they cease this practice.

Our HSI Fur Free Retailer Pledge is also available on our **What You Can Do To Help** fur webpage so if you come across any stores who decide to go fur free and support this campaign, do give them a copy for them to sign and return to us so we can acknowledge them and add them to our fur free retailer list.

To show our appreciation, we'd love you to write to these Australian department stores congratulating them for going fur free. We hope this will be a permanent decision and receiving letters from customers will encourage their compassionate ways. Their contact details are: MYER: Ms Jo Lynch, General Manager Corporate Affairs, Myer Holdings Limited, 800 Collins Street, Docklands VIC 3008

DAVID JONES: Mr Paul Zahra, CEO, David Jones Limited, Level 8, 65-77 Market Street, Sydney NSW 2000

TARGET: Mr Stuart Machin, Managing Director, Target Australia Pty Ltd, Reply Paid 41, North Geelong, VIC 3215

BIG W: Ms Julie Coates, Director, Big W, W2C3U07, PO Box 8000, Baulkham Hills, NSW 2153

KMART: Ms Tracie Walker, General Manager, Kmart Corporate Affairs & Sustainability, L3 690 Springvale Road, Mulgrave, VIC 3170.

ACTION NEEDED • ACTION NEEDED

Please send any replies to us

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Famous comedian gets deadly serious

Celebrities support HSI campaign: Be Cruelty-Free

HSI's Be Cruelty-Free campaign is the world leader in stopping the testing of cosmetics on animals. Our team is at the forefront of global efforts to see cruel, out-dated tests replaced with cutting-edge, non-animal techniques.

We have already achieved an incredible victory because, though animal testing is illegal in Israel and across the European Union, both regions have implemented a ban on selling cosmetics that have been **newly animal tested anywhere** in the world.

This makes Europe the world's largest cruelty-free cosmetics market and sends a powerful 'get onboard' message to other countries.

HSI's Be Cruelty-Free campaign has also gathered substantial public,

political and celebrity endorsement including support from comedian Ricky Gervais, rock legend Chrissie Hynde, Sir Paul McCartney, singer Melanic C and Dame Judi Dench.

Ricky says, "It's shocking to think that behind the glamorous advertising and glossy packaging, there can lurk the ugly truth of chemicals forced down an animal's throat."

However, the battle is far from over as it's still legal to test beauty products and their ingredients on animals in most countries. HSI will rest only when this is made illegal.

Only use products that aren't tested on animals Look for the Leaping Bunny guide to ensure its validity and visit website to see companies that comply with our Choose Cruelty Free's non-animal testing criteria.

Write to the Australian Government because we must follow the European Union's lead in banning the sale of cosmetics tested on animals and any with ingredients newly animaltested in other countries.

While few, or no, cosmetics are tested on animals in Australia there is no legal impediment to their sale and products that use animals are sold widely here.

Please send any replies to us

ACTION NEEDED

Write to:

The Hon Tanya Plibersek MP Minister for Health PO Box 6022, House of Representatives Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2600

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