WSPA launches new live export cruelty investigation alongside the Meat Workers Union

A new WSPA investigation has revealed damning evidence of continued welfare abuse of Australian sheep in the live export trade to the Middle East, despite Government and Meat and Livestock Australia claims of improving standards.

At an event hosted by Sydney Lord Mayor Clover Moore MP, WSPA presented harrowing new footage, proving the mistreatment of animals throughout the Australian live export supply chain, from dead sheep on transportation ships, through to heat stressed animals and overcrowded sales yards and inhumane handling and slaughter in abattoirs in the Middle East – available for viewing at www.youtube.com/watch?v=he6Fy9foKWM

Lord Mayor Clover Moore MP said “The latest WSPA investigation demonstrates a clear need for government and industry to invest in humane alternatives to live export, such as locally processed chilled meat, so we can end this trade in misery.”

Also presenting at the event, Grant Courtney, President of the Australasian Meat Industry Employees Union (AMIEU) said “in addition to ethical considerations the Government backed live export trade is crippling the Australian meat processing industry, due to intense competition for livestock.”

“I can’t understand why the Government is sticking its head in the sand when thousands of Australian jobs are being lost due to this trade. Independent research has revealed replacing live export with local processing for export could mean an additional 20% in revenue, safeguarding jobs in our vulnerable rural communities” he continued.

WSPA Programs Manager, Emily Reeves, said “We’ve got the economic data to show live export is bad business, we’ve got a rural industry crippled through poorly thought out Government policy, and we’ve got yet more proof that Australian animals are being handled and slaughtered in a way that would horrify Australians. For all these reasons, the Rudd Government should be deeply ashamed of its unwavering support for the cruel live export trade.”

Federal election strategy and visiting MP’s

Our aim is to show Federal Politicians that the phase out of live exports is a mainstream issue for voters and that there is a solution that would be advantageous to both animal welfare and Australian jobs that doesn’t disadvantage farmers. We have put together a strategy ahead of the election and we need the help of all members and supporters.

If you are wondering about the most effective thing you can do in regards to live exports that doesn’t take too much time, then we have the answer for you! Visiting your MP will take one hour, is easy and very effective. A letter is great, but face to face is better. MP’s want to hear from their constituents, they want to keep abreast of current community sentiment otherwise they can lose votes. The animals need you to get involved today.

WSPA’s Humane Chain program have provided us with MP packs, so you will have something to leave with your MP. To get involved, please contact Jodie on 0428 767 005 or pacat@iinet.net.au

Tasmanian Supporters

These images were sent in by a Tasmanian supporter who rescued this lamb that had fallen off a truck. Her name is Mary! Lucky girl.
Appalling Losses on Board Live Export Vessel

We were of course appalled at the news that 263 cattle died on board the Ocean Shearer, which was bound for Egypt. This was the first shipment to Egypt in 3 years after the Australian Government suspended the trade because of cruelty concerns. The trade in sheep is still banned.

Animals already suffer from heat stress, failure to eat and diseases whilst being transported, but because of delays in loading of this shipment at Fremantle Port and delays whilst at sea, these animals would have suffered even more.

As you know, nothing can be done to make this a humane trade. We can see from this incident that there were significant losses on this vessel, despite it being heralded as one of Wellard’s flagship vessels.

All this is all whilst West Australian’s are losing their jobs in abattoirs because of stock shortages. When the trade in live animals to Egypt was suspended, they simply took our chilled products instead.

Lynn McLaren, Greens MLC also commented by saying “I am appalled at the recent deaths on Wellard’s flagship vessel. It is hard to imagine the suffering endured on the long voyage by these animals that died. The evidence of extreme suffering endured on Egyptian slaughterhouses should be sufficient to deter exporters from the practice of shipping cattle there for slaughter. The latest high death rate onboard only adds to the case against live exports to Egypt”.

A spokesperson for the Federal Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries has confirmed an investigation will be launched into the cause of deaths of the cattle.

What Have We Been Up To

The committee has adopted a strategy and is looking at a number of parallel approaches from grass roots action to advocacy at the political level to end the live trade. Just some of the things we have been up to since our last newsletter include:

- Attended the annual Big Day Out music festival and got to speak to loads of young people about live export issues
- We have been working with Fremantle Council to get their formal endorsement of our work to phase out the live export trade
- Held two stalls at Westfield Innaloo and four stalls at Woolstores Fremantle
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- We have implemented a new look email communication (please join up via the home page on our website if you would like to be kept up to date with the latest events and news)
- Volunteers visited the Garden City Body Shop to support the Humane Chain (see photo)
- We continue to give away loads of free bumper stickers with an aim to get as many as we can on Perth vehicles
- Several letters to the editor printed (see our website under the Media tab to read the letters)
- The West contacted us for comment in relation to the huge number of cattle deaths on board the Ocean Shearer
- Liaised with Lynn McLaren, South East Metro Greens, to assist in formulating questions for her to ask in Parliament regarding the live trade
- We continue to campaign Minister Castelli in relation to him appointing more inspectors at the Animal Welfare Unit
- The Ban Live Export billboard trailer was out many times during the past few months, with volunteers teaming up to drive the trailer all around Perth as well as give out stickers and pamphlets to passers by

Change of membership renewal system

To streamline office administration, all memberships will be due on the 1st July each year, effective from this July. Please see table below outlining pro rata amounts. We have endeavoured to do this in the fairest way possible and we thank you and appreciate your continued support. Please look at the column on the left, at your current due date, and check the right hand column for when you are now due.

If you have any questions, please contact the office at pacat@iinet.net.au

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Currently Due</th>
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<tr>
<td>April 2010</td>
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<td>Renew on 1st July 2010, get one month free</td>
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Volunteer Profile
Anthony Ritchie

What is your occupation: High School Teacher
What companion animals do you have: A fish named Red Fred.
Why did you choose to get involved with the live export issue: After seeing a ship loading in the middle of summer many years ago, I thought it wasn't the right thing to do. I stopped eating meat that day, and only recently thought that I should try to contribute more against this abhorrent practice.

What sort of things do you do with Stop Live Exports? Work stalls passing on information and gathering signatures. Help coordinate volunteers to take the billboard trailer out and about (email me if you’d like to get involved with that). Currently learning how to effectively document the mistreatment of animals at the Fremo loading docks, taking photos and making notes of problems (and there are a lot of them!)

Why do you think others should get involved: It’s a local issue that local people can help with. Imagine how good it will feel to know that when this practice is banned, you made it happen; you contributed in a very real way to easing the suffering of millions of animals.

What other causes do you support? In terms of animal welfare/rights, I’m a member of RSPCA, PAWS and Animal Protection Society (WA). In general I support the State School Teachers’ Union of WA.

Whom do you most admire: People who stand on their principles and aren’t afraid or ashamed to defend them.

What is your favourite quote: “Never give in, never give in”, Winston Churchill.

What is the place you would most like to visit and why: It’d have to be somewhere in America. Everything just seems larger than life there.

Animal Aid Abroad Benefit Luncheon

Animal Aid Abroad works to improve the conditions of treatment and companion, working and farm animals in developing countries (see www.animalaidabroad.org)
They are holding a Benefit Luncheon which will include door prizes, live and silent auction, entertainment, a three course meal, raffles, games and prizes. Details as below:

Date: Sunday July 4th 2010
Time: 12noon until 4.45pm
Venue: Pagoda Bar & Restaurant, South Perth
Tickets: $60
Contact: Linda on 9404 8665 or liemcl@hotmail.com

Raffle & Other Events
Thanks to everyone that bought a raffle ticket, we have had an excellent response with thousands of tickets sold. All funds raised will go towards out 2010/2011 campaigns. Keep a look out for our other fundraisers coming up this year, including a fundraising movie afternoon and annual dinner. More information to come.

Donation Drive
With our newsletter this month, we have included a donation form. As you know there is a federal election coming up and we plan to embark on a public awareness campaign that will be based on solid market research. If you would like to get involved by making a donation, please use the enclosed form or go to our website to make a donation via Paymate.

Payment: ☐ Credit Card ☐ Cheque/Money Order ☐ Direct Deposit
(If you make a direct deposit, please put your surname in the comment field: BSB: 06 6147 – Acc: 10025559)

Name: ____________________________________________________________
Phone Number: _______________________________ Email: _______________________________
Credit Card Number: __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ Exp: _____ /______
☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard
Name of Cardholder: _______________________________ Cardholders Signature: _______________________________

Any questions, please call Jodie on 0428 767 005 or email pacat@iinet.net.au
Thank you for your support!

Please mail to Stop Live Exports – PO Box 499 FREMANTLE WA 6959

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Phone Number: _______________________________ Email: _______________________________
Credit Card Number: __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ __ Exp: _____ /______
☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard
Name of Cardholder: _______________________________ Cardholders Signature: _______________________________

Any questions, please call Jodie on 0428 767 005 or email pacat@iinet.net.au
Thank you for your support!

Please mail to Stop Live Exports – PO Box 499 FREMANTLE WA 6959
Help support STOP LIVE EXPORTS by purchasing our merchandise!

**ORDER FORM**

Please mail to PACAT (Stop Live Exports), PO Box 499, Fremantle WA 6959

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**Chocolate fitted style:**

- Sizes 8, 10, 12, 14, 16
- Quantity _____ $30 each (plus $5.20 packaging and postage, up to 3 shirts)

**Sheep and cow soft toys** (10cm high)

- $5 each (plus $4 packaging and postage for up to 4 toys, then 50c extra per toy thereafter)
- I would like to order _____ soft toy cows & _____ soft toy sheep.

**T-Towel**:

- Quantity _____ $10 each (plus $4 packaging and postage, up to 2 t-towels, $5.20 for up to 4 t-towels)

**Calico Shopping Bag**:

- Quantity _____ $5 each (plus $4 packaging and postage, up to 2 bags, $5.20 for up to 4 bags)

**Donation** to PACAT (Stop Live Exports) $ __________

**TOTAL** (all items, including postage) $ __________

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**Title:**

**First name:**

**Second name:**

**Address:**

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**Postcode:**

**Email:**

**Telephone (H)**

**Telephone (W)**

**Telephone (M)**

---

**Payment method:**

- Cheque □ Cash □ Bank Card □ MasterCard □ Visa □

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**Card number**

---

**Expiry date**

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**Name on card**

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**Signature**

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**Please note:**

- Merchandise is ONLY available within Australia.

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If you have an idea or would like to help with fundraising or campaigns,
you’re welcome to come along to the next committee meeting. Call the
PACAT (Stop Live Exports) office for details.

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PACAT (Stop Live Exports) Office: Rooms 1 & 2,
35 High Street, Fremantle, WA 6160

Postal Address: PO Box 499,
Fremantle WA 6959

Phone: (08) 9430 8839

Email: pacat@iinet.net.au

If you would like to include anything in the next newsletter please email pacat@iinet.net.au