



Compassion



incorporating

Animal Voice

Autumn 1999

Volume 31

TOP FORENSIC PSYCHIATRIST SAYS ANIMAL CRUELTY DIMINISHES NATION'S MENTAL HEALTH

South Africa as a whole would benefit from a national programme to create an awareness in children of the need to treat animals kindly and with respect. So says **Dr Sean Kaliski, head of forensic psychiatry at Valkenberg Hospital in the Cape.**

Asked to comment on the USA's First Strike campaign, which focuses on the link between animal cruelty and human violence, Dr Kaliski said: "The link is there. Someone who is cruel and violent to animals will also be so to people. If children were exposed to less violence whether to animals or humans, the nation's mental health would be much improved. We need to sensitise a desensitised nation – and the younger we start, the better," Dr Kaliski said.

Love birds

'PW' Roux, a psychologist with the Department of Correctional Services at Pollsmoor Prison, said he would support a national campaign to engender an awareness in people of the need to treat animals well. He said Pollsmoor had started a programme whereby some prisoners were enabled, with the assistance of the local bird club, to hand-rear love birds.

"The impact this programme has had on the prisoners has been quite remarkable," he said. "Being able to give and receive care is a basic human need. One of the prisoners, serving a sentence for murder, told me recently that when he started caring for the little hatchling, he realised the full implication of what he had done and experienced a profound sense of guilt and sadness. He realised that life was something very precious. The whole experience of nurturing the little bird and caring for it, has given him back a sense of self-esteem

The United States Humane Society (USHS) has launched a **FIRST STRIKE** campaign, which spotlights the connection between animal cruelty and human violence, including child abuse, spouse abuse and elder abuse. Citing comprehensive psychological, sociological and criminological research conducted over the last 25 years, the campaign shows that the 'first strike' of a potentially violent person is usually aimed at an animal. From there he/she 'progresses' to humans. Of particular interest is the fact that animal abuse is now recognized as a sign of mental disorder. According to research cited by the USHS, if the disorder is identified at an early age (before the teenage years), intervention at that stage is more effective in reducing adult crime than criminal sanctions applied later in life.

**Are our prisons
cluttered with people
who, as children,
witnessed or took
part in violence to-
wards animals?**

and self-worth, perhaps for the first time since his incarceration."

Roux said it was important that children were shown by example and in personal experience that all life needed care and respect. Thus parents and teachers and all role models played a vital role. He agreed farmers too should set examples in treating their animals with care. "The mental health of the nation would be impacted upon positively through a programme to sensitise people to the need to care for animals," he said.

Asked for his comment, the **Director General of the Department of Education** said in a letter to *Compassion/Animal Voice* that the department "would most cer-

tainly welcome a national campaign to engender a more caring attitude towards animals among South African learners." He added: "The department is deeply concerned about the situation and welcomes all initiatives to combat the problem (of animal cruelty)."

Sad

Sadly, **PRO for Minister Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi's Department for Welfare and Population Development, Ms Nomalanga Langa**, declined to comment. She expressed concern that our query impinged on cultural rights regarding ritual slaughter.

Inside:

- Exclusive interview with the world's first Minister of Animal Welfare
- Tuli Elephant petition: See back page

A special call by BWC's managing trustee, Beryl Scott

WE NEED 500 000 SIGNATURES and we can't do it without you!

Shockingly, as we approach the new millennium, animals in South Africa are still legally classified as 'things'. To put this in context, we need to realise that the same classification applies for example, to fruit, plants, minerals and all other moveable property. Animals, fruit, plants, minerals and so on are, in South African Roman-Dutch Law, members of the classification 'corporeal, fungible *res*' which, literally translated means a 'touchable, replaceable thing'.

It is little wonder then, since animals are legally classified along with inanimate objects - i.e. objects which 'lack consciousness' and are not 'endowed with life' - that they are treated as inanimate objects or goods or products. Under our law, they may as well be just another piece of furniture!

It is obvious that this is an unforgivable travesty of justice. For as long as we leave the voiceless behind us, how can we rejoice in the 'rights' that we have gained for ourselves? Our disregard for animals bedevils and diminishes every single step that we have taken for ourselves.

Not 'products'

We all know, every one of us, that animals are not 'products', that they are magnificent living beings - different from us but equal - and that they share our robust capacity to enjoy life as well as our capacity for pain, misery and suffering.

We cannot allow the millennium to pass without throwing all our muscle and weight behind a vociferous demand that the South African government recognise and accept that this is a cardinal error on our statute books. It begs immediate rectification in order that animals be granted their rightful legal status as 'sentient beings'.

Medieval

According to Funk and Wagnall's Dictionary, 'sentient' literally means 'possessing powers of sense or sense perception. Having or actually experiencing sensation or feeling as opposed to inanimate or vegetal.' How convenient it is for all those who want to trade in animals and animal products to rely, for justification, on an outdated and medieval legal rule which classes animals as moveable property.

In a major triumph for animal welfare,

animals in the European Union were legally recognised and reclassified as 'sentient beings' in June 1997. All 15 countries at the Amsterdam summit agreed unanimously to the

new Protocol which would henceforth recognise animals as 'sentient beings'. A massive petition of more than one million signatures had been presented to the European Parliament.

Rightful legal status

Please sign the Petition enclosed which demands that South Africa's animals be afforded their rightful legal status. While granting them 'sentient being' status falls short of giving animals rights, it will require a major overhaul in our legal and actual perception and treatment of animals. Thus please go all out to help collect signatures for our Petition. Although it may seem ambitious, we believe there are easily a million people in South Africa who want to see animals accorded accurate legal recognition and thus, we have set our sights high.

We are determined the year 2000 will not pass without at least 500 000 signatures being presented to the President of South Africa.

Trade in live animals

As the trade in live animals from South Africa, to slaughter and to other destinations world-wide, gains massive momentum, our Ministers of Agriculture, Derek Hanekom, and Environment, Pallo Jordan, need to consider that animals are not goods or products to be packed, contained and despatched.

Legal recognition of their rightful status can help stop this.

We need your help now as never before and we thank you, in advance, for all your efforts to help.



Beryl Scott

ANIMAL VOICE merges with COMPASSION

It is with great pleasure and pride that we are able to announce the merging of two of the strongest animal rights groups in South Africa, **BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY** and **ANIMAL VOICE**.

Many BWC members will know the name of Louise van der Merwe, founder of Animal Voice, and be aware of the impressive work she has done in drawing the public's attention to the suffering of animals, especially in the battery hen industry and in other forms of factory farming. Louise, an award-winning author, also arranged with the Education Department's distribution arm EDUMEDIA, for the distribution into schools nationally of numerous study aids on animal sentience from Grade 1 right through to Matric and A Level. These included activity books, workbooks and exciting new science videos produced by The Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour in the UK.

The aims and objectives of the two organisations are the same and we believe that, by pooling our resources, efforts and skills, the movement for animals will be significantly strengthened and we trust you will be equally delighted with this move. The joining of forces enables us to produce an informative, hard-hitting magazine which will not only reach a wider audience but will combine the integrity and credibility of two respected organisations.

In future all membership applications and renewals should be sent to Beauty Without Cruelty, P O Box 23321, Claremont, 7735. Administrative queries and other correspondence should also be directed to the same address or tele/fax (021) 61 4583. Communications directly concerned with the editorial content of the magazine should be directed to Louise van der Merwe, Editor of COMPASSION incorporating ANIMAL VOICE, PO Box 843, Kuils River 7579. Tele/fax (021) 852 4402. E-mail avoice@global.co.za.

Beryl Scott

Laboratory Ethics Committee rejects Beryl Scott as animal welfare representative..... and still the baboons suffer

BWC's Beryl Scott, recently appointed as the NSPCA's animal welfare representative on the ethics committee of a Pretoria medical research laboratory, has been summarily ejected from the post.

In our last issue, Beryl exposed the horrible plight of scores of baboons at Pretoria's Biomedical Research Centre (PBRC) which she visited late last year. Some baboons had been incarcerated in small cages for more than four years since capture, without any form of environmental enrichment. Accidental mating had taken place between the wire mesh of the cages and female baboons were seen clutching

infants. The baboons displayed symptoms of extreme stress such as rocking back and forth and cage rattling.

After her visit to the laboratory, Beryl filed a report to the NSPCA in which she condemned the conditions in which the baboons were being held. The NSPCA subsequently appointed her as their representative on the PBRC Ethics Committee and Beryl's appointment was accepted by the committee. Explained Marcelle French, CEO of the NSPCA: "We decided to replace our previous representative specifi-



an expert on that but generally that is the sort of thing with which an animal rights person could assist us. Such a person could sensitise us to these issues."

But, not Beryl. This is not the first time that 'ethics committees' have rejected her as an animal welfare representative. She was also rejected from the Medical Research Council's ethics committee after filing a similar report, and Tygerberg Hospital rejected a proposal that she sit on their ethics committee. Yet she has achieved several breakthroughs since beginning her tenure on the UCT ethics committee.

Says Beryl: "My commitment to the abolition of vivisection is uncompromising but until this goal is achieved, I will do all I can to attend to the animals and make their lives as bearable as possible." At UCT, she has been instrumental in changing the ethical status of crayfish and other higher invertebrates which resulted in these creatures being afforded anaesthetic before dissection. She was also instrumental in improving the living conditions of rabbits by the introduction of social interaction between the rabbits, better cages and the ability to hop around on deep litter. Her input also resulted in a drastic reduction in the number of rabbits being used.

The ethics committee of the PBRC consists of a dominee and some of South Africa's best brains. Members include: Dr PZ Njongwe, chief superintendent of the Pretoria Academic Hospital (PAH); Professor RC Franz, Department of Surgery; Professor IC Dormehl, Institute of Life Sciences; Professor NGJ Maritz, Department of Orthopaedics; Professor AM Lubbe, Department of Surgery at Onderstepoort; Dr A Gouws, Pastoral Services, at the PAH; Mr M Smuts, Pretoria Biomedical Research Centre; Professor SV Grey, a Deputy Dean.

VOLUME 31, AUTUMN 1999

SA HEADQUARTERS

Office 206, Marshall Building
Pearce Street, Claremont 7799
P O Box 23321, Claremont 7735
TEL/FAX (021) 61 4583

INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

Virginia McKenna

SOUTH AFRICAN PATRON

Spike Milligan

SOUTH AFRICAN TRUSTEES

Beryl Scott – Managing Trustee
Gill Simpson, Anne van Vliet, Louise van der Merwe, Sally Lanham.

BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY

incorporating ANIMAL VOICE

Editor: Louise van der Merwe
P O Box 843, Kuils River 7579
TEL/FAX (021) 852 4402
e-mail: avoice@global.co.za
Website: www.animals.co.za/AnVoice/

BWC JOHANNESBURG

Anne van Vliet
P O Box 70528, Bryanston 2021
Tel: (011) 708 1556

BWC PIETERMARITZBURG

Maureen Vida
21 Steele Road, Pietermaritzburg 3201
Tel: (0331) 61113

COSMETIC RESEARCHER

Beryl Scott

PUBLISHER: Beauty Without Cruelty

PRINTING: Prontaprint Somerset West

With the exception of the cosmetic guide, editors, journalists and teachers are encouraged to reprint articles, or use them as background material. Suitable credit would be appreciated.

"I am not an expert on that," replied the ethics committee chairperson when asked: "Isn't it immoral and unethical to keep baboons in small cages for 4 years and longer?"

cally because he was unable to undertake inspections of the actual laboratories. We chose Beryl because of her experience and acceptability by other experimental units."

Now she has been notified of her rejection from the committee. Commented Beryl: "An ethics committee is meant to monitor the welfare of laboratory animals. Indeed ethics committees justify their activities by claiming that animal welfare organisations are present to monitor their ac-

"Until vivisection is abolished, I will do all I can to attend to the animals and make their lives as bearable as possible." – Beryl Scott

tivities.

"No-one on the PBRC Ethics Committee had bothered to check on the animals' physical or mental well-being. Then I came along. I did a check and what I found was unacceptable. I said so, and it is more than likely that my rejection is as a result of my complaints."

Asked to comment, Dr PZ Njongwe, chief superintendent of Pretoria Academic Hospital, and chairperson of the PBRC ethics committee, said: "We feel we should have been part of the selection process regarding the animal welfare representative, that is all." She said she was unable to comment on whether the incarceration of baboons for four years and longer in small cages was immoral and unethical. "I am not

ACTION

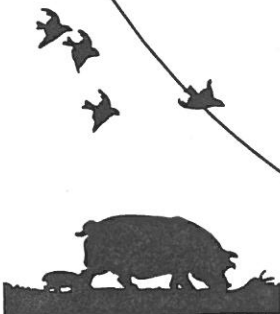
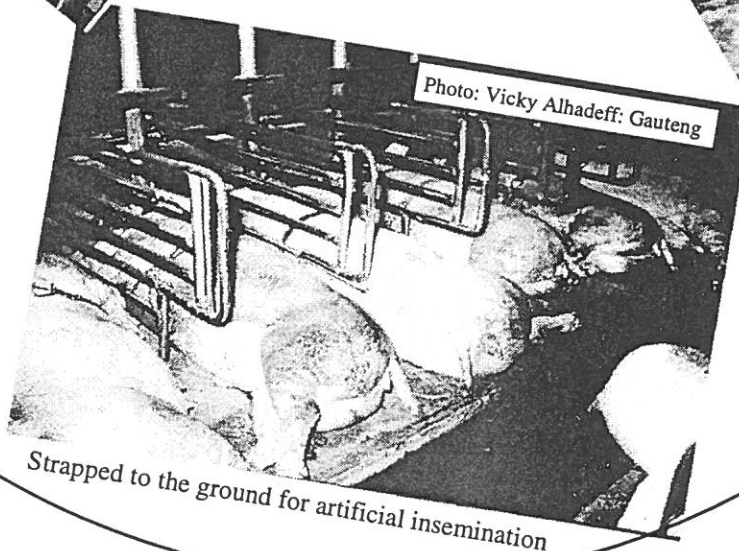
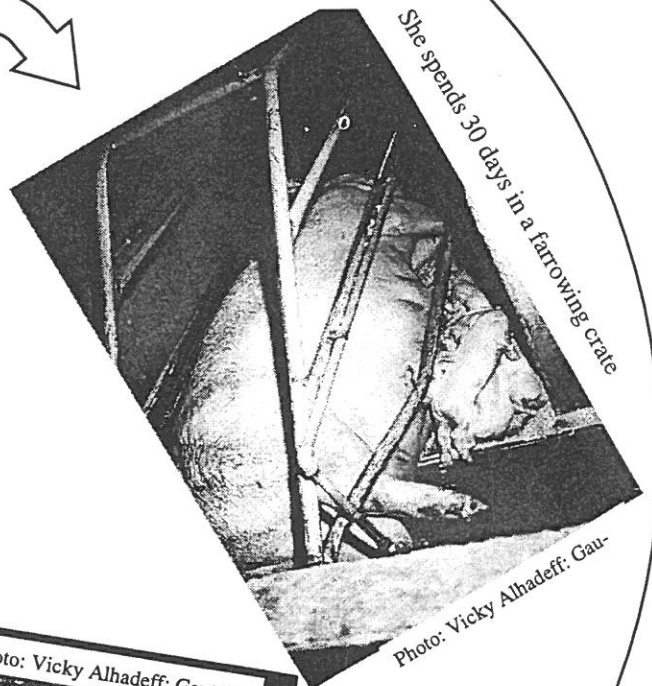
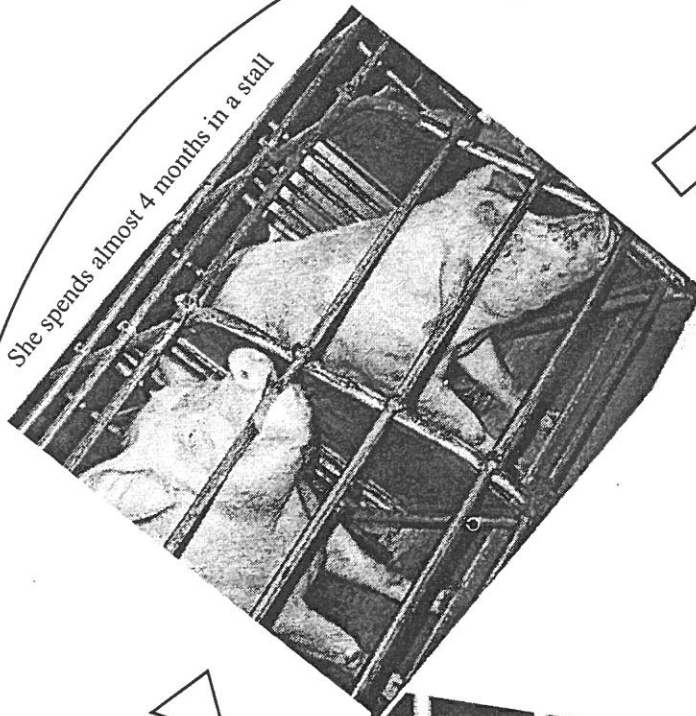
Please write to or fax Dr PZ Njongwe, Chairperson of the PBRC Ethics Committee, and express your dismay at the unacceptable conditions for the animals.
Fax (012) 329 8225 Address: Private Bag X169, Pretoria 0001

Motherhood *behind bars*

Born with four legs to trot around on, and a robust ability to enjoy life, breeding sows in SA are immobilized – for LIFE! A pregnant sow spends all of her almost four-month pregnancy in the confines of a metal barred sow stall. She gives birth and suckles her young for 30 days in the confines of a metal barred farrowing crate. From there she is re-impregnated before being returned to the sow stall. A never-ending cycle of misery so that we can eat her piglets!

Circle of ~~life~~

torture



Pigs in the UK are finding freedom. Not only are they free-ranging in ever increasing numbers, but as from the 1st of January this year, the infamous sow stall has been officially banned in that country. The British-based organisation Compassion in World Farming, took the facts of pig husbandry to the British public by way of videos, petitions and information leaflets. Armed with knowledge, it is ultimately the British public which won freedom for pigs in that country. We need you to help do it for South Africa's 120 000 breeding sows too.

ACTION: Please fax Minister of Agriculture, Derek Hanekom, at fax no. (012) 321 1244, and urge him to ban these medieval systems of torture and to promote free-range pig farming.

THE DAY I SAW A FULL-GROWN PIG GAMBOL IN FRENZIED DELIGHT

by Louise van der Merwe

After reading the previous page, you may well ask: What about the boars on pig breeding farms? How are they kept?

At the large piggery in the Western Cape which I visited recently (comprising some 12 000 pig inhabitants) the boars were housed individually, in a shed which was partitioned into small concrete sty-like enclosures.

"We let these boars out for 10 minutes every day to keep them healthy," the farmer told me.

"Really?" My face lightened. "Do they enjoy it?"

The farmer asked a nearby labourer to let one of the boars out while we went to wait outside. The boar's big body emerged from the shed door and he trotted heavily on his short legs along a narrow cement passageway leading to an enclosed strip of sand that ran along the back of the shed.

As his front trotters reached the sand, he suddenly broke into a frenzy of excitement, maneuvering his big, bulky body back and forth and up and down like a bucking bronco. He stopped momentarily to dig his snout as deep as possible into the sand, and then began to frolic and gambol once more.

In retrospect, ironically it is not the barren, concrete enclosures, nor the immobilising farrowing crates or stalls which burn deepest into my memory. It is not the enormous bodies that lie prostrate on the cold cement flooring, dozing in stupors of deprivation. It is not the piggy eyes that stared at me silently, painfully reflecting the gray hopelessness of their lives.

What burns deepest in my memory is the sight of a boar gamboling in a frenzy of euphoria for those few short minutes in which he was allowed the meagre freedom of feeling sand underfoot.



Breakthrough for battery hens!

Animal welfare scored a major victory on January 28 1999 when the European Parliament voted in favour of phasing out the battery cage for egg-laying hens throughout Europe. In the historic vote, the EU Parliament voted by a significant majority for a 10-year phase-out which would effectively have all battery cages banned by January 1, 2009.

Although the European Parliament's vote is still to be endorsed by EU Farm Ministers, there is very real cause for optimism.

South Africa's 15-million battery hens are not yet so fortunate. Until we achieve a phase-out for them too, they will continue to live their lives in a space allowance which is 75% of an A4 page. They never see the sun nor the soil. They stand on wire bars every moment of their laying lives. **Please buy free-range eggs. It is the least we can do.**

Letter to the Editor

Klarika Nettleton of Jukskei Park writes: I noticed that my local SPAR did not carry any free range eggs for some time. When they finally appeared on the shelves I planned to visit 'Jura's Free Range Chicken Farm' as soon as possible. My Irish setter Donna and I do many street collections for the Animal Anti Cruelty League and the SPCA. While people put their donations into the tin, I often say: 'Don't forget to buy free range eggs and chickens and free range meat only - avoid the rest like the plague!'

I have been told that no free range farm would allow me access. Well, Jura was immediately willing to receive me. Jura re-

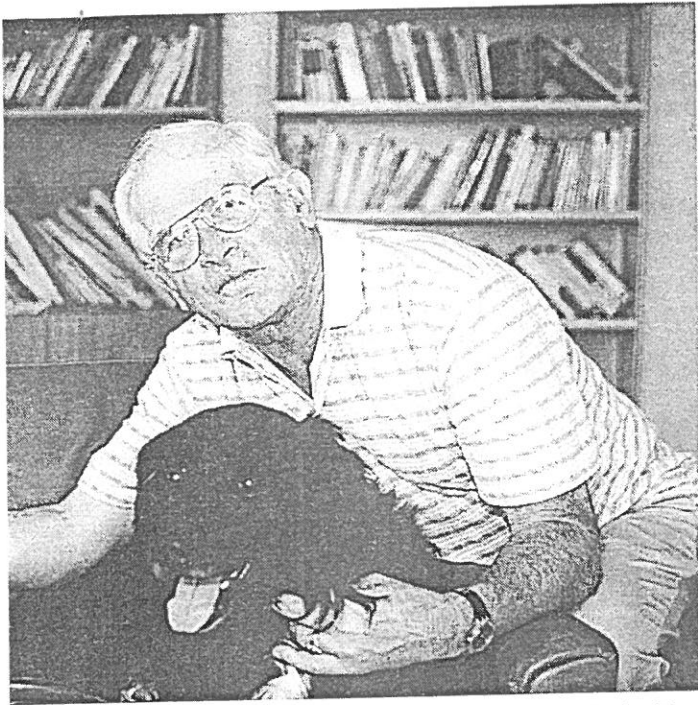
ceived me cordially and proceeded to show me his six chicken houses. I was overjoyed to see that the chickens had plenty of space to move and they also appeared to have a happy social life. I was allowed to walk through one of the houses. They all came and talked to me. Next to each house is a huge grassed area and all chickens can get out at daytime.

Then came the question: what happened to them afterwards? Jura explained that he constantly thinks about this. At present they are sold alive. However Jura is looking at other options. It seems such a terrible shame that their end should be uncertain.

Mrs Alotta Greed (puppet on the left) has an obsession for putting **Goosie** (puppet on the right) back into her battery cage. However Goosie masters the art of keeping undercover and eventually, Alotta gets a taste of her own medicine!

Popular entertainer **Erik de Waal** (right) delights primary school children with his up-beat and hilarious 30-minute puppetry performance. If you know of a school which would like to see the show (Goosie's Story), please contact Louise van der Merwe on (021) 8524402. The puppet show is based on the book "Goosie's Story", a Grade 4 reader about a battery hen which finds freedom. Both "Goosie's Story" and its accompanying workbook are available at leading educational bookstores or from Gecko Books:
Fax (031) 25 3771





Father Tom Nicholson with one of his companions, Noah. Father Tom once rescued Noah's mother who had strayed accidentally into heavy traffic. He stopped his car, opened the back door, and she leaped in. A tag on her collar enabled Father Tom to return her safely home.

Father Tom Nicholson (left) and the parishioners of the Catholic Church in Plumstead, Cape, have added their signatures to a petition urging Environment Minister Pallo Jordan to ban the export of South African baboons and vervet monkeys for medical research in foreign countries.

Says Father Nicholson: "I think it is terrible to send animals to overseas laboratories. The stress involved must be unbearable for them." He said he was amazed and heartened by how many people had wanted to sign the petition. "Animals cannot offend God. They only give glory to Him. But we can certainly offend God very much by not caring for His creatures. We are spiritually depleted by our cruelty."

The Petition was arranged by Pat O'Neill of Gordon's Bay who has submitted it to Dr Jordan. Pat O'Neill has devoted her life to the rescue and care of displaced animals, including baboons.



News from BWC - Johannesburg OUT OF THE LAB - AND INTO GOOD HOMES

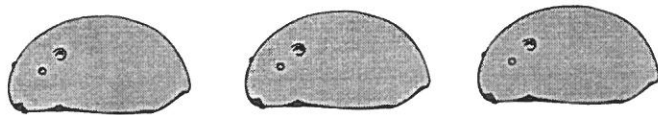
BWC's Johannesburg branch is urgently looking for homes for rehabilitated rabbits (New Zealand Whites). Please contact Sally on (011) 782 7717 a/h or Anne on (011) 708 1556 a/h.

- **BWC (Johannesburg)** will be at the "Talk to the Animals" Expo at the MTN Sundome, Northgate, from 18th - 20th June. Please come and visit us!
- The winners of our raffle held at the **Festival of Mind, Body and Soul** in March were: First Prize (a basket of Avroy Shlain products) goes to **Haroun Kola of Lenasia**. Second Prize (a gift voucher for an aromatherapy massage) goes to **Sonia Ivetac of Bryanston**. Congratulations!

DATES TO REMEMBER

World Day for Laboratory Animals is on Saturday, April 24. Anyone wishing to join us in a peaceful protest should contact BWC offices.

Other dates to remember are: World Vegetarian Day on October 1; World Day for Farm Animals on October 2; World Animal Rights Day on October 15.



Guinea pigs in need of homes

BWC in Cape Town is urgently looking for good homes for 7 cute guinea pigs which were rescued from Tygerberg Medical School.

Altogether 9 guinea pigs were initially rescued. They had been used for pyrogen testing and this involved injecting them with human blood plasma or serum. If pyrogens (fever-inducing substances) had been present in the injected blood, the guinea pigs would have died.

Unaccountably, soon after being released by the laboratory, one guinea pig lay dead and another became ill, displaying severe neurological twitching, and this one subsequently died too.

After all that they have been through, the remaining guinea pigs need very special homes. Please contact Eleanor at DARG on (021) 790 0383 if you can give a good home to one of our furry friends. All have been neutered.

Sculpture Award! Help us find the Winners!

Two sculptures by award-winning sculptor and ceramic artist, **Barbara de Waal** of Wilderness, will be presented at a ceremony to be arranged by BWC later in the year, to (a) an organisation which has made a significant contribution to animal well-being and (b) a person who has made a significant contribution to attaining rights for animals. Barbara is especially known for her animal sculp-

tures, capturing all the poignancy of their magnificence - and their plight. Write in and tell us who you think our winners should be and why. Please don't forget to give your name and telephone number(s) as well as the contact address and telephone number of your suggested winner. Your letters should be addressed to our Cape Town office. It is hoped that this will become an annual media event.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Send to: **BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY, P O BOX 23321, CLAREMONT 7735**

NAME:

ADDRESS:

POSTAL CODE: Telephone:

Annual Subscription R50 ☐ Under 18 R20 ☐ Over 60 R20 ☐

Life Subscription R300 ☐ Donation R ☐

Registered Fund-raising Organisation No.08/800064/000/4

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

Send to: **BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY, P O BOX 23321, CLAREMONT 7735**

NAME:

ADDRESS:

POSTAL CODE: Telephone:

Annual Subscription R50 ☐ Under 18 R20 ☐ Over 60 R20 ☐

Life Subscription R300 ☐ Donation R ☐

Registered Fund-raising Organisation No.08/800064/000/4

300 CLUB

Our winners for 1998 are: 1st – Mrs J Arbuthnot (R2 500)

2nd – Mrs P J Parsons (R1 500)

3rd – Mrs J E G Wright (R500)

Congratulations to you all.

The 300 Club has been set up specifically for those people who wish to contribute to the upkeep of rabbits and guinea pigs which have been rescued from laboratories. Each person is allotted a number and a draw is made at the end of the year. Everyone wishing to join the 300 CLUB or wishing to renew their subscription to it, should please send in their R100 annual fee as soon as possible.

Name:

Address:

300 CLUB Number: (if you are already a member and are renewing your subscription)

BEQUESTS

Those wishing to make gifts by Will to the Charity should consult their advisers, but the following form may be useful: I give, free of duty, to the Charity called BEAUTY WITHOUT CRUELTY, whose office currently is at 206 Marshall Building, Pearce Street, Claremont 7799, the amount of R and the receipt of the Managing Trustee of that Charity shall be sufficient discharge for this gift.

BREAKING NEWS

New Zealand may become the first country in the world to grant legal rights to animals

A group of 38 New Zealand scientists and conservationists has submitted a proposal to a Parliamentary committee in Auckland that animal welfare legislation be amended to guarantee basic rights to great apes.

Three basic rights are being sought: the right not to be deprived of life, the right not to be subjected to torture or cruelty and the right not to be used in scientific experimentation. A vote is expected by the end of April.

Taking the lead

Professor David Penny, a biologist at New Zealand's Massey University and a leading proponent of the proposed new legislation, said it was important that New Zealand take the lead on this issue. People outside the country, he said, "are almost begging us, 'Please, if you go and do it, then we can follow.'"

However, the proposed amendment, which would apply to chimpanzees, bonobos, gorillas and orangutans, does

have its opponents. Professor David Mellow, also of Massey University, has submitted to Parliament that if passed, the amendment could affect legal and moral relationships with other animals.

Precedent for other species

Others contend that if the proposal became law, it could set a precedent that might later be extended to other species which, in turn, might limit potential future research on animals.

To kill an ape may soon constitute murder

"We may lose some benefits," acknowledges Paul Waldau who teaches ethics at Tufts University and is vice president of the International Great Ape Project which is promoting the proposed amendment. But, he added, "suppose there was a disease that you could only cure by experimenting on Tibetan orphan children. We would have to say no." He said efforts should be directed towards developing better alternatives for such research, such

as laboratory work using human cells or genetic material.

Professor David Penny concurs: "We've found that chimps and humans have some very similar abilities," including a capacity for complex communication. Thus, he said, "we have to change our laws to take this into account."

Laws in line with reality

Roger Fouts, director of the Chimpanzee and Human Communication Institute at the University of Central Washington, agrees. "We're trying to bring our laws into line with the biological reality... with the historical and biological fact that we're all connected," Fouts said. He added: "They say we need to use chimps because they're so close to us. But isn't that also an argument against using them?"

(Extracts courtesy Boston Globe and New York Times)

Anyone wishing to know more about the Great Ape Project, or wishing to sign a Declaration on the Great Apes for presentation to the United Nations, please visit:

<http://www.envirolink.org/orgs/gap>

BOOK REVIEW

An Unnatural Order

by Jim Mason

Available from The Continuum Publishing Group, USA

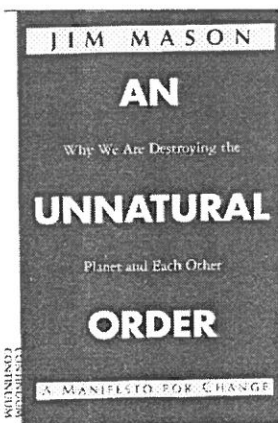
e-mail: contin@tiac.net

Fax: 091 212-953 5944

Price US\$17.95

One copy is on offer from BWC @ R120,00 including p&p.

If the chaos and destruction with which we are confronted daily, leaves you feeling helpless and disabled.... If you thought that man's obsession with playing God started only when religion put him at the pinnacle of creation... if you sometimes feel as if you have lost your soul in all the horror and cruelty THEN READ THIS BOOK. It takes us back 12 000 years so that we can understand how it is that we came to separate ourselves from the living world around us in the first place and why we continue to destroy the planet, the animals and each other. This is an intriguing, hugely enlightening historical assessment. With understanding comes the ability to change. The most eye-opening book I've read in two years. (LvdM)



UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF ANIMAL RIGHTS

Animal Rights groups and their members across the globe are turning out *en masse* to sign the **Universal Declaration of Animal Rights** which was recently launched by UNCAGED Campaigns in the UK.

So far organisations in 13 countries, including South Africa, have joined the campaign which was launched on 10th December 1998 to coincide with the 50th anniversary of the UN Declaration of Human Rights. "By making the connection between human rights and animal rights, we can demonstrate that the two concepts are not only compatible, but intrinsically linked," says Uncaged's Dan Lyons.

He goes on to explain that the exploitation of animals by human beings is just as deeply entrenched in human culture today as the exploitation of our fellow human beings was a century ago. The rights of human beings have been won at the expense of the privileges of the rich and the powerful and in the face of their resistance. And so it will be for the animals too.

The exclusion of others from the benefits of compassion and justice is unjustifiable discrimination, says Lyons, which will continue to diminish the very essence of our humanity and our moral progress, for as long as we allow it to continue.

If you would like to sign the Universal Declaration of Animal Rights, please visit Uncaged's website at: www.uncaged.co.uk

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE TEACHERS

Acclaimed new British video "The Drugs Don't Work" is now available in SA - accompanied by comprehensive study notes

Supermarkets would like consumers to believe that the animals from whom foodstuffs are derived led good lives and much emphasis is placed on how wholesome these foods are for humans.

By now most of us are fully aware that the animals almost certainly led lives of gross deprivation. What hasn't been so apparent up to recently, though, is that the foods are often far from 'wholesome'.

The fact is that intensive or factory farming, whereby herds of animals are kept indoors in close confinement with little or no regard for their needs, has only been made possible by the use of antibiotics. Indeed, antibiotics have long since become an essential and routine ingredient in animal feed, serving to prop up the animals until slaughter age.

Ironically, it is now the danger that this is posing to human health which might finally lead the way to providing animals with ac-

ceptable living conditions. As a result of their massive use in animal husbandry, antibiotics have become part of the human food chain and this has contributed to harmful bacteria having built up a resistance to the very antibiotics from which we have come to expect miracle cures.

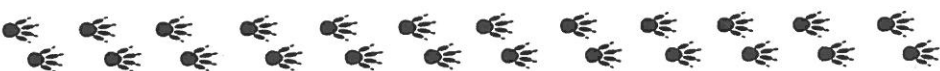
Says Professor of Food Policy at Thames Valley University in the UK, Tim Lang: "I welcome this video.... Things do not need to be like this. It is possible to farm and produce food in more acceptable ways. If we want to reserve antibiotics for the occasions when they truly make the difference between life and death, their over-use must be curtailed. If we want to do that, then factory farming has to be phased out."

All sectors need to change, he says, including the public. "It cannot demand ever cheaper food and then dislike the squalor and implications of the intensive

production systems."

The video **THE DRUGS DON'T WORK** and the accompanying notes, are available from the BWC office in Cape Town at R50 including p & p. The video is produced by The Farm Animal Welfare Network (FAWN) and the National Society Against Factory Farming. Order a copy. It is essential viewing for responsible citizenship.

MERCHANDISE, BOOKS AND VIDEOS CAN BE BOUGHT AT OUR CAPE TOWN OFFICE. ALTERNATIVELY, YOU COULD SEND FOR OUR COMPREHENSIVE CATALOGUES IN WHICH THE ABOVE ARE LISTED.



Sadly missed

It is with sadness that we learned of the recent passing of two of our most stalwart supporters, **Val Gorfinkel** of Kenilworth and **Yvonne Barron** of Rondebosch, both in the Cape.

Val, who was tragically killed in a road accident last year, devoted herself to improving the lives of animals. She wholeheartedly supported the work of BWC and her wonderful generosity will help us to continue our work on behalf of animals. Her passing is a great loss to us and to animal welfare in general.

Yvonne was a member of BWC for many years and her generosity knew no bounds. Yvonne was a dedicated opponent of animal suffering and she was well informed on animal welfare/rights issues both in this country and overseas. She helped BWC on many occasions when times were tough and we will always be grateful for her friendship and support.

It was also with great sadness that we learned of the passing of our friend

Emma Geary-Cooke in a car accident in December. Emma, who worked for the Domestic Animal Rescue Group (DARG), dedicated her life to rescuing, rehabilitating and homing abused and abandoned animals. Her compassion for abused animals knew no bounds and even the most neglected animals, covered with mange, received love and affection and was safe in her loving care. Her memorial may be found in the many animals who now live happy, secure lives because of Emma's love and dedication. An animal rescue group, operating in the site 5 squatter camp near Kommetjie in the Western Cape, has been formed and will be run by friends and colleagues of Emma. The group will be called **THE EMMA ANIMAL RESCUE SOCIETY (TEARS)** and anyone wishing to contribute financially or donate dog food, blankets, dog leads, baskets etc in honour of Emma Geary-Cooke may contact Marilyn Hoole on (021) 7886475.

My Friend

When God made the earth and sky,
the flowers and the trees
He then named all the animals, the
birds and the bees
And when His work was finished,
not one was quite the same
He said I'll walk this earth of mine
and give each one a name
And so he travelled land and sea
And everywhere he went a little
creature followed him
Until it's strength was spent
When all were named upon this
earth and in the sky and sea
The little creature said "Dear Lord,
there's not one left for me."
The Father smiled and softly said
"I've left you to the end.
I've turned my own name back to
front and called you dog, my
friend."

(Poem to be found at the War Museum in Bloemfontein in memory of the dogs who lost their lives in battle)

INDIA'S minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, MANEKA GANDHI, holds the world's first cabinet post to include the well-being of animals.

In all other countries, animal welfare is a sub-division of portfolios such as Agriculture or Environment. In South Africa, animals are legally classified as 'things', 'goods' or 'products' and fall under the ministry of Agriculture. However, Agricultural Minister Derek Hanekom has amply demonstrated that his priorities lie with the farmers and with the trade, live or otherwise, of these agricultural "products". In this exclusive and inspirational interview, Maneka Gandhi speaks to Louise van der Merwe from New Delhi and urges all South Africans to join the struggle for animal liberation.

Q. Minister Gandhi, where did you grow up and at what age did you first become aware of your compassion for animals?

Maneka Gandhi (MG): Since my father's work took him around India, I traveled widely as a child. Our home always had animals and ever since I can remember I felt an empathy with them - understanding the fear and helplessness of creatures outside the system, so vulnerable to cruelty and oppression yet entirely unable to themselves fight against it.

Q. What incidents in your life spurred you on to fight for the well being of animals?

MG: Since animals are the earth's weakest creatures, I believe they deserve our strongest protection. I began my work for animals out of a sense of grief and outrage. Now I have come to see that apart from the injustice of ill-treating creatures that have done us no harm, there are enormous economic, ecological and health hazards caused by cruelty towards animals. So it is both a practical and moral concern and I truly believe that animal welfare is human welfare. In protecting animals, we ensure our own survival.

Q. Are we correct in our understanding that you started an organisation called People for Animals in India? When did you start this organisation and what are its aims?

MG: If animal welfare is to become a mainstream concern, it needed a strong all-India organisation to lobby for legislative changes, to effect local reforms, to challenge cruelty in court, to enhance and enforce animal protection laws, to set up shelters for destitute animals, to improve

veterinary skills and facilities, to produce literature and media programming on animal issues, to change harmful consumption patterns and to bring together all those people who would like to see animals treated better and were willing to work for it and turn them into an effective fighting force. PEOPLE FOR ANIMALS was set up in 1995 to do this. Today it has over 70 units around the country and a string of big and little achievements to its credit. It has stopped camels from being used for joyrides on the beach; it has stopped bull fights in Goa; it has made dissection no longer necessary in schools; it has had animal testing for drugs and cosmetics made optional; it has stopped the killing of homeless dogs in Indian cities and replaced it with a sterilisation pro-

"Just as apartheid collapsed in South Africa, so too shall human oppression of animals. I intend to be there when it happens and I expect to find you there beside me."

gramme; it has stopped the exhibition of wild animals in circuses; it has stopped mobile zoos; it has set up shelters and animal ambulance services in several cities; it has produced books on animal laws and first aid; it has two weekly shows on national television; it has promoted vegetarianism through newspaper columns and local campaigns; it has organised police training sessions, animal care camps and adoption programmes. Its 200,000 members include lawyers, doctors, teachers, journalists, businessmen, actors, artists, students and so on. PFA's biggest success has been to turn animal welfare into a relevant concern with a brave, committed and growing following.

Q. By including animal welfare in your ministry, India's animals now have a compassionate voice in Parliament. Do you find that there is a willingness to listen to this voice?

MG: In a country where there is widespread poverty and need, animal welfare has traditionally been pushed aside. What I believe and what a growing number of people are beginning to understand is that human and animal welfare are not competitive but complementary concerns. Animal welfare is as much an economic as a moral imperative. There is a growing subscription to this view both in Parliament and in the country. The latest budget has introduced a tax on each animal slaughtered for export. I have introduced stringent controls on animal testing and have strengthened and extended the animal protection laws. My ministry has earmarked funds to help local groups set up shelter and rescue homes for animals.

Q. According to official reports, First World countries are starting a new form of "colonialism" - by exporting their factory farms to Third World or less developed countries. We recently had firsthand experience of this when a Polish company, which, according to Polish law, may no longer produce *paté de foie gras* in Poland as from 1999, promised the Botswana government a multi-million rand investment if it were given permission to start up *foie gras* production in Botswana. Do you find that this new form of "colonialism" is taking hold in India? And what is your opinion of this new "colonialism"?

MG: It is entirely correct that animal exploitation is traveling down from the First World. Blocked by legislation in their own

countries, manufacturers are taking their grisly business elsewhere. Recently there was a move to set up ostrich farming in India which was successfully blocked by PFA. Junk food is part of this trend. Fast food chains like KFC and McDonalds bring in their wake factory farms with all their attendant miseries. In the absence of government action, local protest is the answer. When KFC arrived in India it was vigorously opposed by animal and farmers' groups and it has since fared miserably. But the worst example of economic "colonialism" is meat export. India's first mechanised slaughterhouse set up entirely for export has resulted in a string of disasters. Water has become scarce with the huge amounts being used up by the abattoir. Subsoil reserves have been poisoned or exhausted. Tube wells in all the surrounding villages have gone dry or undrinkable. The prices of milk have escalated as even productive animals are being slaughtered to meet the factory's huge killing capacity. Villagers can no longer afford even farm animals for cultivation. As a result they are forced to rent tractors increasing fuel consumption and costs. Similarly there is no longer any dung hitherto dried and used for fuel, so they are cutting trees and burning coal. Untreated slaughter wastes have poisoned the soil and water. Farms have become

less productive pushing up the costs of grain. One single slaughterhouse to supply cheap meat abroad, has trapped our own people in a downward spiral of economic and ecological impoverishment. The same is happening the world over. If not the meat, then it is exporting crops to feed meat herds that is destroying developing nations. The Netherlands imports crops grown on an area three times its size to fulfill its enormous appetite for meat and milk. So Brazil's rain forests are turned into hamburgers and hot dogs; Argentina's pampas is poisoned with fertilisers and pesticides and Africa's jungles cleared for grazing. Exporting gems and minerals is another instance of forfeiting our future. Mining is primarily responsible for habitat destruction. In Botswana the Okavango Delta is being drained for diamond mining. Even in South Africa poisonous radon gas is a part of the gold

production process. Then there is the wildlife trade. Japan's ivory fixation has pushed the African elephant to the brink of extinction. As Minister for Environment in 1990, I completely banned the use and trade of all ivory both Indian and imported. All stocks were sealed and seized. The ban has succeeded and our elephants now have only poachers to contend with, not organised business. Africa needs to do the same. It is unfortunate that CITES which had earlier completely

als, and as a nation, can play?

MG: The people of South Africa know about oppression and injustice. They know about cruelty and suffering. I ask them for compassion towards animals – the voiceless victims of human violence. They have endured far greater pain and indignity, face far more abuse and atrocity than any other beings on earth. Even worse, their sufferings have gone entirely unrecorded and unnoticed. Nobody cares about rabbits blinded to test cosmetics,

butterflies poison-pinned for trinkets, tigers hunted for trophies, goats sacrificed for religious rituals, bears trapped for entertainment, donkeys overloaded for transport, birds caged for amusement, snakes skinned alive for bags, zebras poached for pelts, elephants murdered for ivory, monkeys mutilated for research, horses whipped for sport... and the ghastly list goes on. There is not a single species we have not ill-used. It was Mahatma Gandhi who said "The greatness of a nation can be judged by the way it treats its animals." South Africa has just waged and won its own battle for freedom. I now ask you to join another such struggle -- the battle for animal liberation. It is bound to be a hard and fierce war for it will be against powerfully entrenched interests -- people who make money



Maneka Gandhi

banned international trade in ivory has now relaxed the provision to allow the sale of old ivory stocks held by some African countries. Sure enough this has led to a fresh spate of elephant killings.

Q. Do you believe that the next century will be kinder to animals?

MG: All around the world, animal welfare reforms are gathering momentum. Sweden is working to end intensive farming, Switzerland has already stopped battery farming of hens.

England has banned animal testing for cosmetics, India has banned the use of wild animals in circuses, the EC has declared animals as sentient beings. I see the tide beginning to turn.

Q. Is there any particular message you would like to impart to the people of South Africa regarding the well being of animals and what role they, as individu-

from misery and murder. Our task will be all the more difficult for, unlike in other movements, here, we can expect no help from the victims we fight for. Nevertheless we will triumph. So right, so just, so obviously moral is the case for animal rights, that it cannot be forever denied. Just as apartheid collapsed in South Africa, so too shall human oppression of animals. I intend to be there when it happens and I expect to find you there beside me. Take a simple step today -- turn vegetarian. Everything else comes later.

If anyone would like to know more about PEOPLE FOR ANIMALS in India, please note the following:

People for Animals, A-4, Maharani Bagh,
New Delhi-110065
Phone 684 0402, Fax. 682 3144
E-Mail- gandhim@parlis.nic.in



Congratulations to **SHONA BAGLEY**, former editor of SA's popular fashion magazine, ELLE, for her recent stand against wearing fur. "I personally would rather be caught at an international ELLE editor's convention in my shower cap, a mud pack and nothing else than ever wear fur," she said in her March 1999 issue.

In an article on fur, Elle writer Colin McDowell predicts that although it has made a major comeback on the catwalks of Paris and Milan, some countries, including Britain and South Africa, will reject it. "Here," he says, "the emotional outrage at killing our fellow creatures to fuel our vanity is too strong a part of the national character for it to be swept away by a few designers. Having lived without it for so long, most women view the return of fur with utter revulsion."



Shona Bagley



Congratulations to the **NSPCA's FARM ANIMAL UNIT** which successfully stopped a *paté de foie gras* operation from starting up in Botswana.

The NSPCA received an anonymous telephone call in January alerting it to the fact that a Polish company had asked the Botswana government for a permit to start up a *foie gras* operation there. The Polish company cited benefits such as job creation and foreign investment.

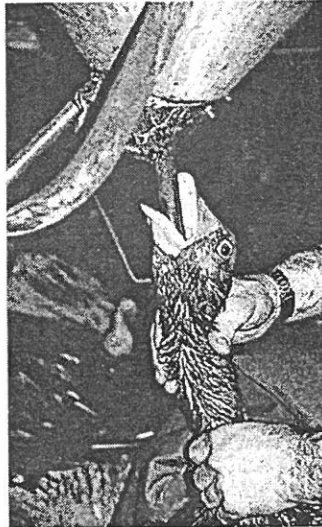
As Poland had banned the production of *foie gras* as from the beginning of this year, the Polish application was a prime example of the new trend known as 'ecological colonialism' whereby first world nations use developing nations for their own gain.

The NSPCA's Farm Animal Unit, led by Morgane James, made urgent submissions to the Botswana Development Corporation (BDC) as to why this epicurean atrocity should not be allowed to get a foothold in Southern Africa. As we go to press, the BDC's Advisor's Committee has advised against the project for reasons which include animal welfare.

"The BDC made itself accessible to our submissions which we appreciated very much. It was also sympathetic and concerned," said Morgane.

On behalf of the millions of ducks and geese which have been spared, we congratulate the NSPCA and the Botswana Development Corporation.

The fatty liver of which *paté de foie gras* is made requires ducks and geese to be force-fed large amounts of maize by inserting a metal tube down their throats and into their stomachs.



Congratulations to the **NSPCA** for withstanding the onslaught by Dr Andrew McKenzie, of the Rhino and Elephant Foundation, who has used various branches of the media to malign and discredit the NSPCA for taking up the cudgels on behalf of the Tuli elephant youngsters. By now, everyone knows how 30 elephant calves were violently snatched from their families in Botswana and brought to South Africa for sale to overseas parks and zoos.

The NSPCA is there to stop cruelty to animals. The abscesses and injuries sustained by the young elephants leave us in no doubt as to the need for the NSPCA to have stepped in.

The NSPCA is there to stop cruelty to animals. The abscesses and injuries sustained by the young elephants leave us in no doubt as to the need for the NSPCA to have stepped in.

TULI ELEPHANTS PETITION

Anyone wishing to sign a Petition which hopefully will lead to a ban on any recurrence of the Tuli elephant tragedy, can obtain a Petition form from BWC, Cape Town.



Notable Quotes

"We must fight against the spirit of unconscious cruelty with which we treat the animals. Animals suffer as much as we do. True humanity does not allow us to impose such sufferings on them. It is our duty to make the whole world recognize it. Until we extend our circle of compassion to all living things, humanity will not find peace." – Dr Albert Schweitzer, *The Philosophy of Civilization*.

"Those who fight for animals are taking part in the last great crusade, the last fight for justice where there is none, the most important remaining battle for integrity, the final battle that will move mankind from barbarism and savagery to true civilisation... Vivisection, and other forms of animal abuse, are the last great outrage against humanity and those of us who care must persuade the rest of the world that turning a blind eye to an evil makes us complicit in that evil; allowing that evil to continue unquestioned makes us as responsible as those who perpetrate the evil." – Dr Vernon Coleman, author and medical doctor.

The Unpardonable Crime

"To one whose mind is free, there is something even more intolerable in the suffering of animals than in the sufferings of men. For with the latter it is at least admitted that suffering is evil and that the man who causes it is a criminal. But thousands of animals are uselessly butchered every day without a shadow of remorse. If any man were to refer to it, he would be thought ridiculous. And that is the unpardonable crime It cries vengeance upon all the human race." – Romain Rolland, Nobel Laureate.

This issue of our publication is dedicated to the Tuli elephant mother who withstood the terror and din of helicopters hovering low overhead and refused to abandon her calf. In the end she was darted and immobilised herself in order for the capture team to get to her baby. When she awoke, her calf was gone.

Name
(Please print)

Address

Signature

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26

Petition to have animals reclassified as 'sentient beings'

Inasmuch as animals in South Africa are still legally classified as 'things' - a classification shared by all moveable property such as fruit, furniture and minerals - and inasmuch as this classification is archaic and a blatant travesty of justice, we, the undersigned, call upon the President of South Africa, to immediately set in motion the necessary steps to change the classification of animals from 'things' to 'sentient beings'.

Name
(Please print)

Address

Signature

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 11
- 12
- 13
- 14
- 15
- 16

'Sentient' literally means 'possessing powers of sense or sense perception. Having, or actually experiencing sensation or feeling, as opposed to inanimate or vegetable'.

Please make as many copies of this form as possible and distribute as far and wide as possible.

Please return to BWC, PO Box 23321, Claremont 7735 by not later than September 15, 1999

P.T.O.