

Coordinator's Corner

Chris Simcox

AACT has begun the year in a typically active way. We started with a stall at the Cygnet Folk Festival in early January that attracted plenty of interest from festival-goers. This is one of our more important outings in terms of awareness-raising and fundraising. We have continued to be part of the thriving summer Salamanca Markets, with big crowds passing through. We have also kept people thinking with our ongoing media presence on various topical issues. This all contributes to us meeting our mandate of being the voice for the many non-human animals in Tasmania and speaking out in the face of myriad injustices.

As our lead story says we have been very fortunate to receive a grant from Lush to enable us to publicise the cruelty of animal testing. This is a great outcome and we are very grateful to Lin Ashton for all the work she put in to make this possible.

We have been quite busy getting public attention directed towards the bloody and brutal cruelty of rodeos during January and February. This campaign will continue to highlight the nastiness of this industry so keep watching for more.

We are now turning our attention to the annual open seasons on ducks, quail and shearwaters (see Duck Rescue article on page 7). Shearwater chicks are slaughtered in their thousands during the killing season in April. These amazing migratory birds travel about 17,000 kilometres to breed only to have their babies killed by murderous humans. Brown Quail are diminutive native birds that become the target of a four week shooting spree in May. This government-sanctioned bloodshed causes about 5000 quail to be killed each year.

There have been a few changes in the management

committee recently. A very big thankyou to outgoing members Lin Ashton, Kathleen McLaren and Patti Cosgrove. We are indebted to these wonderful people for all the time gave and dedication they showed. We welcomed new committee members Melegueta Mattay, Ro Dallow and Hazel Howie. Ro has since stepped down.

We encourage you to think about making a bequest to AACT. A bequest is a way to see that your support for non-human animals continues well into the future.

If you are wondering what you can personally do to help non-human animals, phone or email us and we are more than happy to give you a few ideas. You might be surprised at how much you can do by giving a small amount of your spare time. Make a point of making a difference in the lives of non-human animals every day.

AACT Committee

Chris Simcox - Coordinator

Suzanne Cass - Deputy Coordinator

Neon Lang - Treasurer (acting)

Valentina Marshall - Secretary (acting)

Clare Knight

Melegueta Mattay

David Pullen

Hazel Howie

Upcoming Events

Duck Rescue, 5th & 6th March. It's that time of year when the shooters are about and the duck rescuers come out to protect native ducks. Join us and save a duck's life (see article p7).

Quash Quail Killing. Brown Quail are the target of an organized killing spree from 30th April to 29th May. Join the fight to stop this cruelty - ask us how.

Stop the Shearwater Slaughter. The annual shearwater massacre happens 2nd to 17th April. Contact us if you would like to help highlight this cruelty.

AACT Tin Shake 29th July. Put this on your calendar - more details soon.

Animal Testing Cruelty Highlighted (continued from p1)

After much discussion amongst committee members it was decided that should we be successful with our proposal, the grant money would be used to produce a billboard "skin" focussing on the horrors of animal testing used for the cosmetics industry. The proposal was completed and sent to Lush Head Office in Sydney, and the months of waiting started! In early November, I received a phone call informing me that AACT had received a \$2,500 grant from Lush, so now it was time to contact Ray Earle at Prime Moving Advertising to discuss the availability of billboard sites state wide!

In the past AACT has run a very effective billboard campaign exposing factory farming practices of sows and battery hens. Billboards were moved around Tasmania, and by doing so we were able to reach as many people as possible through maximum exposure. After hours of sorting through images associated with animal testing on cosmetics and household products, Kathleen and I decided on an image which instead of gory, defenceless animals depicted a women's face.

Thankfully Kathleen and I had the invaluable assistance of Angus Ashton who helped us with the graphics, so within a week in early February our billboard was displayed in the Moonah Central car park. It will remain till early March before moving to the north of the state in a prominent Ulverstone arterial road. Mid year Devon Hills will be the next site to expose AACT's Stop Animal Testing billboard.

AACT would like to sincerely thank Ray Earle for his generous rental rates which will allow us to display the bill board state-wide and for at least 7 months. AACT is proud and privileged to be associated with Lush and we thank the company for including us in such a sound and positive project as the Charity Pot campaign. AACT has made friends with the staff at the Hobart store and their amazing manager Shannon, and we predict that the association with Lush and AACT will continue into the future. The Charity Pots are available at all Lush stores now for \$29.90. Our friends at the shop will be happy to let you sample the product any time. Give it a go.. it really is lush!!

On Saturday the 19th of February, Lush and AACT held a joint launch of AACT's Charity Pots, outside Lush's store in Murray Street. Unfortunately the bleak, wet weather was against us, as only a small group of people stopped to view the pots and read flyers on the stall. It was disappointing that the media chose not to venture out in the wet weather, but the friendly Lush staff kept us optimistic and happy! AACT sincerely thanks Lush for the generous grant which we received, and we hope people who view our billboard will be keen to learn more about animal testing used in the cosmetic industry, which affects millions of animals annually, worldwide.

Christmas Compassion

Clare Knight

Salamanca experienced a colourful display two days before Christmas when AACT and friends dressed up as elves and gave away tasty vegan treats and cruelty free recipe ideas as a healthy and tasty alternative to the old "tradition" of a table laden down with meat. Our merry event delighted many people and our nut loaf, mushroom, walnut cups and chocolate brownies did not last long! Southern cross followed us around Salamanca and the Mercury did a full page spread with our message from Santa blaring in red – Go Veg! We finished the day feeling a glow of warmth inside at the thought that compassion will be shown by more Tasmanians for ALL living beings this Christmas!

Get some Christmas recipes here:

[/www.aact.org.au/Cruelty-free_Christmas_leaflet.pdf](http://www.aact.org.au/Cruelty-free_Christmas_leaflet.pdf)

Learn how to go vegan all year: www.aact.org.au/go_vegan.htm



"Battered and Bruised"

Ulverstone Rodeo

Clare Knight

After a busy time at Christmas encouraging people to include all animals in their peace and compassion celebrations, AACT quickly came up with a creative visual to demonstrate against one of the biggest animal cruelty events of the year. Rodeos are all about a form of barbaric and outdated 'entertainment'. Frightened animals, buck and bolt in terror and pain.

Three female volunteers, entered the gates of the Ulverstone Rodeo covered in pretend bruises and bloody wounds, to confront the crowds. Holding signs that read "Rodeos – Cruel Entertainment" we stood silently behind the gates waiting for people to take notice. With anger, disbelief and sarcasm people began to react to our confrontation by yelling abuse and hitting the signs out of our hands. Deep down or subconsciously, even though they may not realise it, most people know there is something very wrong about rodeos. Children stared at us with complete curiosity, not taking their eyes off us, wondering "why, why do they look all beat up, why do they say rodeos are cruel for animals?" they asked their parents. We didn't hear their answers.

This was a successful demonstration with a message that will stick in the minds of the 3,000 or so patrons that day. The North Western Examiner ran an excellent article about our protest, The Advocate, who were a sponsor of the rodeo, included us in their full page rodeo spread and the ABC radio aired the following quote from myself - "Rodeos are nothing but a blood sport where animals get seriously injured and often have to be killed."

We did receive a few comments of praise from patrons, and had an intelligent conversation with three men in the car park afterwards who were only there for the social side of the event. We shook their hands and left, leaving the animals behind, caught up in a web of abuse and constant fear. What else



can we do for them? We could not at that minute stop their broken bones, bruises, anxiety, and suffering, but we can spread a different kind of "disease", one of compassion and realisation, even amongst the most prejudiced. We can and we will.

"Facing the Enemy"

Ross Rodeo

Neon Lang

After the success of the brave and effective protest that Clare organised at the Ulverstone Rodeo in January our next target on the list was the Ross Rodeo on February 5th. The "cowboys" that operate the event were excited to be celebrating their 50th year of rodeos in Ross. This gave us great ideas for our theme: 50 Years of Suffering- Golden Anniversary of Abuse.

Armed with some very confrontational placards we made our way to the gates of the local sports ground with our bargain priced cowboy hats and some of the girls painted with fake bruises and, after having to pay to get in (we would have been too far away otherwise) we got ourselves in position right in front of the one main entrance. The Police liaison was rather slow to arrive and it proved to be nerve-racking at the beginning! I don't think the police expected us to be such a large and unmissable group that clearly stirred up the patrons entering the arena. Many people were not happy to see us at all and we copped a lot of abuse. After a couple of phone calls to the bemused police in the Longford Station our help finally arrived. Thankfully the attending Police officer was a real gem and we were able to continue our protest without feeling like we might be attacked by the angry mob in their strange cowboy attire and their odd use of the English language!

I spent some time speaking to the Southern Cross news team and they quoted the organiser of the event as saying that we should be grateful to them because if it wasn't for the rodeo "they (the animals) would have been sent to the slaughter house by now". I called this an obscene rationale and questioned the logic that suggests that being abused in cheap entertainment is some kind of favour to the animals. I also rebuked the idea that a veterinary surgeon being present made the whole fiasco "okay". To my thinking the fact that a vet is required to be present with a euthanasia kit is not something that appeases those of us who care about animals being mistreated. It is nothing more than confirmation that a rodeo is built on animal cruelty

Rodeos (continued)

and that animals are placed in situations of extremely unnatural behaviour with the very real possibility of injury so traumatic that immediate euthanasia may be required. There's nothing right about that. It's all very wrong.

Apart from the peaceful (on our part at least) protest we also had two very brave volunteers enter the rodeo under cover and film and photograph the event. They saw and recorded some of the typical behaviour of these horrid spectacles and we are currently reviewing the footage. It's hard to know if we had any positive impact on any one of the rodeo fans that witnessed our protest: hard to imagine that we changed any minds of those that saw our unequivocal messages. That's why this kind of action is the hardest to perform. It's why I called it Facing the Enemy. What we did do was represent those people who neither support or attend these events and have no chance to voice their disapproval and their desire to see rodeos gone from Tasmania forever. In that respect I believe we represented the majority of Tasmanians.



As well as coverage on the evening news I did an on air interview with ABC radio and another with ABC online. We also received on air mentions on the local country radio station and a photo article in Tony Royce's self published Town and Country Advertiser.

LOVE AND THANKS to volunteers Sarah, Jade, Sarah M, Clare's Dad, Troy, April and Hazel.



AACTivities Report

Salamanca Market Stall-

AACT continues to have a presence at the Greens Salamanca Market stall on a monthly basis. The stall is always full of informative material and interesting items for sale. We are keen to get some extra help to keep the stall going so please tell us if you can lend a hand for an our or two.

AACT Volunteer Nights in Launceston

These are held at Fresh Vegetarian Restaurant, Charles Street, Launceston, on the first Tuesday of every month, 6-9pm. For more information, please contact Clare Knight - 4danimals@gmail.com or 0430 273 303.

Rodeo Demonstrations

See the reports on the recent rodeo actions on pages 4 & 5.

Bobby Calves

See our website for the latest on the proposal to extend the "time off feed" for bobby calves to 30 hours.

Updates on AACT's current campaigns:

1. *Exposing institutionalised animal cruelty:*

AACT has been getting the Ban Factory Farming billboard into prominent locations, particularly in the

north of the State. The new AACT Stop Animal Testing billboard currently features in Moonah (see article on p1).

2. *Raising awareness of Tasmanian war on wildlife:*

The campaigns against duck, quail and shearwater killing are in full swing again. Check this issue for updates and take a look at our website for more details. We continue to fight against the

Coming Events

See page 2 for details of what is coming up, as well as looking at our website and Facebook page. We will also send out email alerts for upcoming events. We ask members to refer to the "What's On" section of our website, as other actions may arise at short notice, in response to media reports or new animal rights issues that come to light.

With the support of members, AACT looks forward to advocating on behalf of and furthering the compassionate and respectful treatment of all non-human animals.

We always welcome input and participation from our members in AACTivities and this is especially important as we plan future events. If you would like to volunteer on our stall for any event, please contact AACT on 0408 970 359 or email info@aact.org.au.

We Have Not Forgotten You Rock Lobsters

Clare Knight, AACT Aquatic Animal Campaigner

Our little red crustacean friends, the southern 'rock lobster' or 'crayfish' are in need of some serious help. With numbers drastically declining in the wild, and the whole ecosystem out of balance, there is no time to waste. In November 2010 we saw China impose a ban on importing all Rock Lobsters from Australia, leaving thousands of lobsters stranded out at sea, bound up in crates and suffering a slow death. AACT jumped to the opportunity to help raise some awareness, and staged a dramatic visual demonstration to highlight the cruelty issues that are forced upon these fascinating creatures. Lying on top an old whaling pot in Salamanca, a volunteer for AACT had her entire body painted red to draw the media's attention. We certainly sparked some reactions in the community through our demonstration.

Research shows that Lobsters, like fish, birds and land based mammals, have the ability to feel fear and pain. The majority of Rock Lobsters in Australia are exported live to China and other countries, at the end of their long and stressful journey in un natural conditions, the lobsters invariably end up in a pot of boiling water or have their bodies chopped up, both whilst still alive. Those that remain in Australia also suffer from being ripped out of their natural surroundings before being killed, and we all know, there is no "humane" way to slaughter any living being. The Rock Lobster fishery is currently under review, we will have our say and who knows - we may stage another dramatic demonstration just to show we have definitely not forgotten our fascinating little red friends.



Some Thoughts for the New Year

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Dear Colleagues:

It is the obligation of all who embrace veganism to educate others in creative ways about the fundamental moral truth of not exploiting the vulnerable. We must all become teachers of nonviolence in our homes, social circles, schools, workplaces, and communities. We start teaching by our own example.

Ethical veganism is nonviolence in action; it is dynamic harmlessness. It requires that we reassess and reject the insidious ideologies of domination that we have been raised to accept as "normal." A world that moves toward ethical veganism will be a world that moves toward greater peace and justice as a general matter.

If we stop treating animals like animals, we will stop treating other humans like animals.

Let us resolve to stand up against all forms of discrimination (racism, sexism, homophobia, classism, speciesism) and just say no.

Let us resolve to make the world a more peaceful place in 2011 and let us each do our part in that effort. I will continue throughout 2011 to do Commentaries focusing on the various forms of positive, creative, nonviolent, grassroots vegan advocacy that are emerging and developing in many countries and in all sorts of communities. We should all learn from these advocates!

If you are not vegan, go vegan. It's easy; it's better for your health and for the planet. But, most important, it's the morally right thing to do. You will never do anything else in your life as easy and satisfying.

[The World is Vegan! If you want it.](http://www.TheWorldisVegan.com)

www.TheWorldisVegan.com

Duck Rescue 2011

Chris Simcox

Dust off the fluoros, flags and fantastically bright clothes for another fun-filled season of Duck Rescue, Tasmanian style! The killing is soon to start anew and rescuers are needed more than ever. Are you an experienced rescuer? The ducks need you like never before so get out there once more. Never been before? Make this your first time out and see what all the fuss is about.

Duck shooting is a Tasmanian "tradition" that has not yet died. Tasmania has had the unenviable reputation of having an open shooting season even when other States have called moratoria due to drought. Now that the drought has well and truly broken, we will have to work harder than ever to protect the feathered wetland inhabitants.

It is a sad indictment of a Government when it continues to provide a duck killing season despite the cruelty involved, and despite such seasons contributing to large decline in waterbird numbers. Western Australia, New South Wales and Queensland all "saw the light" and stopped recreational duck shooting. ACT never allowed it. We are continuing to campaign for an end to duck shooting in Tasmania.

Opening weekend is the 5th and 6th of March and will be the usual adventure to Moulting Lagoon. This was the shooters favourite wetland, and is the largest public wetland in Tasmania where shooting is allowed so it is the obvious choice. We assemble an enthusiastic group of people from around the state and put them together in one place to fight for the ducks. The day begins bright and early at 4.30am and conditions can be quite cool early on so you need to be physically and mentally prepared. Colourful and noisy is the order of things, and that is how we like it as it is what keeps the ducks far enough away from the shooters.



Be tempted to join us. Duck Rescue is easy and rewarding, and fun too. We try to make it upbeat and interesting and enjoyable. If you are "on the ball" you can actively help to save ducks from being shot. Then you can go home feeling like you have "done something" to stop brutal cruelty.

For more information, or to sign up, email info@aact.org.au or phone 0408 970 359, or take a visit to www.aact.org.au/ducks.htm.

Take a few minutes to pen a letter to the responsible Minister, Brian Wightman and tell him to stop the slaughter of native ducks. Write to the local daily papers too.

Make every day a great day for ducks!

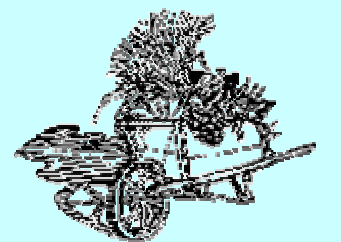
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Speaking Vegetarian

Towards Nonspeciesist Language

George Jacobs, *Vegetarian Society (Singapore)*

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(Paper presented at the World Vegetarian Congress, Brazil, 8-14 November 2004)

Introduction

This paper has two main points. First, language is powerful – it reflects and shapes how we think and act (Crystal, 1995; Halliday, 1978; Whorf, 1956). Second, vegetarians can help to change language and, thereby, use the power of language to influence how we and our fellow humans act toward our fellow animals (Dunayer, 2001). This paper considers only the English language; however, parallel situations almost certainly exist in other languages.

The Power of Language

Advertisers recognize the power of words to shape our thinking. To make us desire the products they are selling, they use *purr words*: words that make us as contented as a cat with a comfortable place to nap. Words such as *new*, *stronger*, *natural*, and *researchtested* are used to bring happy images to our minds and influence us to like what the advertisers are selling.

Politicians also use words to convince us to vote for them. Some politicians attempt to label their opponents with *snarl words*: words that make us as upset as a cat who has been awakened from a nap. Words such as *incompetent*, *flip-flopper*, *terrorist*, and *old* are used to bring negative images to our minds and influence us to dislike the politicians' opponents.

The point is that words shape our view of the world. Of course, words do not completely control our view of the world. We may refuse to buy particular products despite all the purr words the advertisers may use, or we may not support particular politicians despite all the snarl words they attempt to smear upon their opponents.

Language not only plays a role in shaping our thinking; it also reflects our thinking. We use purr words for that which we enjoy and snarl words for what we dislike. For example, meat eaters might see a picture of a large fish being cooked on a barbecue and talk about "the succulent fillet laced with a tomato-based sauce full of herbs, spices, and bell peppers," whereas a vegetarian might describe the same scene as "slices of a poor fish's flesh being cooked, with plant food used to disguise the disgusting taste of seared flesh."

At the same time, just as the words around us only influence but do not control our thinking, the words we use may only partially mirror what we think. Thus, vegetarians may due to ignorance of alternatives or for other reasons use language that is not in line with vegetarianism. One of the goals of this article is to help vegetarians speak in ways consistent with vegetarian lifestyles.

Language Changes

Language shapes and reflects how we think about the world, but language is not static. Language changes. What is viewed as typical today may not have been the norm or considered correct 200 years ago and may change in another 200 years, or even two years. For instance, in the case of English, much of the grammar of Shakespeare's day would not be acceptable today, nor would Shakespeare have any idea what a *disk drive* is or what *frequent flyer miles* are.

What leads to language change? The key force behind language change is change in society. Society changes, and language changes along with it in a kind of chicken and egg manner with each influencing the other. For instance, new inventions, such as airplanes and computers, change the way we live, and vocabulary related to these inventions comes into widespread use, such as *frequent flyer miles* and *disk drive* mentioned earlier. Similarly, the use of these new terms can accelerate the use of the phenomena they represent.

Another Example of Language Change

In addition to inventions, another force driving social change involves changes in people's outlook. A fairly recent case in point centers on changes in the relative role of females in society. In many societies, females have taken more equal public roles, and language has changed correspondingly (Nilsen, 1987;

Speaking Vegetarian (continued)

Rubin, Greene, & Schneider, 1994).

Language changes in regard to the relative place of females and males in human society include changes in grammar and vocabulary. A prominent grammatical change has been the move from generic *he* (use of male pronouns – *he*, *his* - and the male possessive adjective – *his* – in a way that implies males are representative of females and males), such as using “A doctor should take care of his patients” to include all doctors, female and male. Instead, people nowadays are more likely to use, “Doctors should take care of their patients,” “A doctor should take care of her/his patients,” “A doctor should take care of their patients,” and other alternatives that do not place males as representatives of all humans.

Similarly, in the area of vocabulary, alternatives have arisen for generic *man* (the use of male nouns to imply that males are representative of females and males). For instance, instead of *fireman* and *policeman*, people nowadays are more likely to use *firefighter* and *police officer*. Instead of *man and wife*, we might use *husband and wife*.

These language changes in regard to the roles of the sexes have both reflected change and promoted change. However, this change has not been automatic or uncontroversial. Nor is the change complete. Generic *he* and generic *man* are still in use.

How does an actual language change happen? Does some governing body of English (or some other language) meet to decide? In the case of the change in English just discussed, the change has been happening slowly as individuals make conscious decisions about how they speak and write. Some publications have changed their practices; dictionaries and scholarly descriptions of contemporary grammar first began to list what came to be called “nonsexist language” as an acceptable alternative and later as the desired option. The point is that we can all be factors in shaping language, just as language is a factor in shaping us.

To summarize the paper thus far:

- a. Language shapes and reflects thinking
- b. Societies change
- c. Languages change as to grammar, usage, and vocabulary
- d. People can play a role in changing language.

(to be continued next issue)

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Cruelty Free Recipe

Raw Almond Pate

- * 40 raw whole almonds
- * 1/2 stick celery
- * 2 spring onions
- * 1 small carrot (about 50g, 2oz)
- * large squeeze lemon juice
- * 2-3 tsp nori flakes (optional, or use other seaweed)

1. Soak the almonds at least overnight, or for up to 36 hours, changing the water every 12 hours.
2. Drain the almonds, and peel them if you wish.
3. Chop the celery and spring onions; peel and chop the carrot. Put these and the almonds into a blender, and process until smooth.
4. Add lemon juice to taste, and mix in the seaweed flakes. You could add salt if you wish.
5. Serving suggestion: Mound the pâté on the middle of a plate. Fill half the plate with mixed leaf salad, and arrange chopped vegetables around: sticks of celery, rounds of peeled sliced broccoli stem, sliced Baby sweetcorn, sliced red capsicum.

Thank you to:

- The following Salamanca Market businesses for permanent AACT collection tins:
 - **100% Fresh Squeezed Juice**
 - **More than Skin Deep**
- The State Cinema for sponsoring AACT advertisements.
- Jamie McArthur for printing AACT banners at discounted rates.
- The following kind donors of prizes for the 2010 AACT Quiz Night:
 - **Lush Cosmetics**
 - **Kathleen McLaren**

Brightside Farm Sanctuary

Rescuing farm animals and running a farm sanctuary takes time, co-ordination and finances. Brightside is self-funded and relies on the generosity of people with both donations and time to allow us to continue our work for animals.

With your support we can continue to help needy animals, and educate and campaign to improve the lives of farm animals.

Please consider supporting us through a donation of time or money, or through our sponsoring programme. Visit www.brightside.org.au or phone 0408-658-356.

Become an AACT supporter today for only \$20 per year. See our website for full details.

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Phone:(H)

.....(W)

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Signed:

Date: