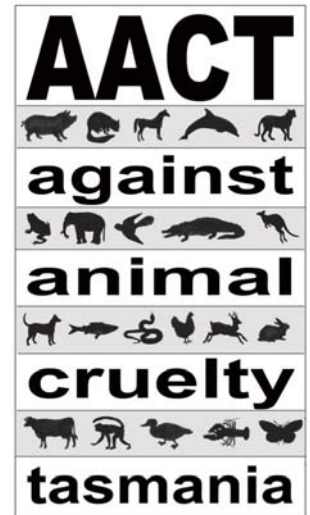


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# AACT Now

quarterly news from Against Animal Cruelty Tasmania

November 2005

Life is a whole. Or so it should be. A whole comprised of rocks and trees and spiders and sand and mice and parrots and caterpillars and slugs and wallabies and echidna poo and ... and all these things and more. And each of these things has a place in this beautiful whole, and each of these things makes this whole into the beautiful whole that it is. And humans? We're as much a part of that whole as everything else, just as important to the whole as echidna poo is to the nourishment of the soil. But we've lost our way, and our map showing us the ways of our forgotten part lies buried deep beneath centuries of violence against each and every other part. Including self.

It wasn't always like this. We used to live in harmony with our planet. We took only what we needed for survival. But greed set in. We began taking more than we needed. We fell into the erroneous belief that our part is indeed the whole, and we can do with it whatever we like. And we listened to philosophers such as Rene Descartes who assured us that animals were nothing more than animated machines – not living, breathing, crying, pain-feeling beautiful beings. Just machines. And although most of us now know better (whether we admit it or not), unless there remains some gain for us, we continue marching along a path of destruction.

Good news is at hand though. Environmental and health issues have become a political hot potato in every first world country. Book stores are expanding their environmental and health sections at an exponential rate. Humans are beginning to realize that earth is not only finite

but also unwell. And at the end of the day, we are what we eat. If we continue to rape and plunder there will be no trees for *our* children to climb, no forests for *us* to walk through on a Sunday afternoon, no birdsong to caress *our* frazzled minds. If we continue to poison the source of *our* food (or the very food itself) *our* health will continue to decline. Yes, environmental and health issues are all focused on *us*, not on the trees, the birds or the animals.

So where's the good news? Save "our" forests and you save "our" wildlife. Save "our" rivers and you save "our" fish. Stop producing antibiotic-filled, hormone-laden, heart-attack inducing meat and you stop factory farming. A better life for non-human (and human) animals is on the way.

For life is a whole. And each part fits snugly into each and every other part. And although not everyone has compassion for animals foremost in their mind, their own lives - their own part - cannot be whole without the wholeness of every other interconnecting part. And they desperately want their part to be healthy and whole.

Craig Quarmby



***"The AACT committee wishes all our members and their families a joyful and peaceful festive season, and looks forward to your continued support in the New Year."***

*encouraging and supporting cruelty free living*

**Against Animal Cruelty Tasmania is a not-for-profit group based in Hobart, Tasmania. Our aim is to eliminate all exploitation, cruelty and suffering of animals within our state and beyond.**

**We strive to facilitate change through non-violent action, education and political lobbying on a wide variety of issues. Our current campaigns target the live export industry, intensive farming, and duck shooting.**

**At all times, AACT strives to respect the diverse opinions of its members and supporters through our action.**

**AACT liases with appropriate groups and organizations to achieve our objectives, which are:**

- **to encourage and support cruelty free living**
- **to identify and campaign against the inhumane treatment of animals within Tasmania**
- **to respond to national and international animal cruelty issues as appropriate**



### **COORDINATOR'S REPORT**

Yvette Watt

Your newsletter is coming to you by snail-mail! Those of you who are used to getting your newsletter via email may be wondering why we have decided to post you a copy this time. Well, we have thought long and hard about which is the best way to keep you (and others!) informed of our AACTivities, and while sending the newsletter via email saves on paper and postage, it also means that many people probably hit the delete button before they even get time to read the newsletter (I know I do with other email newsletters!). Or it may just get lost in the email flood that many of us deal with on a day-to-day basis.

Sending you a hard copy of our newsletter also means that there's much more chance that someone else (family or friend) might just pick it up and have a read – in fact you could always

leave it somewhere conspicuous for others to have a look when you're finished with it! If you would prefer to receive your newsletter by email, please let us know and we'll be happy to email it to you from now on!

### **Veganpet Dog and Cat Food**

AACT is now distributing Veganpet vegan cat and dog food! Veganpet is a nutritionally complete and balanced dry pet food, meeting and exceeding the Association of American Feed Control Official & NRA standards required for an adult cat or dog. A natural product with the exception of synthetically produced taurine, niacin and some vitamins, this food contains no artificial colours or preservatives. All raw ingredients used in this food are of human grade quality and where possible organic.

Best of all, in feeding your pets Veganpet pet food you are avoiding contributing to the death of other animals and the horror of the pet food industry, which sources the bulk of it's meat from "the four Ds "... Dead, Dying, Diseased or Disabled animals, which are often transported when ill and injured, only to be slaughtered and rendered down for pet food.

A 1kg pack of cat food costs \$8.50 and a 1kg bag of Dog food costs \$8.00. (AACT is only making about 50c per 1 kg pack. If you were to buy it direct from Veganpet you would have to pay more because of the postage costs). Give AACT a call if you'd like to buy some and try it out on your four-legged friends! (My cats and dog both love it! – Yvette). For more information on Veganpet pet food go to [www.veganpets.com](http://www.veganpets.com)

### **Animals Australia AGM and Conference Hobart, October 15 - 17**

We ran the gamut of emotions from despair, horror and frustration, to being inspired, motivated and filled with pride at the wonderful work so many dedicated people from around Australia are doing for animals. There were times when the room was brought to tears as we saw and heard of the terrible suffering of animals who endure terrible lives in intensive farming systems, who are brutally transported huge distances in the live export trade, who are poisoned and shot, who are skinned alive for their fur, and who are tortured for the sake of 'entertainment in rodeos'. There was laughter and a sense of joy as we watched the antics of the re-homed Charlotte's Web piglets and heard of the achievements of these hard working

animal advocates (a ban on duck shooting in Queensland for example!). And there were wonderful opportunities to share knowledge, make contacts and connections around Australia and New Zealand and swap ideas and strategies for better campaigning.

It was just fantastic for AACT to be the first group to ever host this annual event in Tasmania, and we have received nothing but accolades from the 80+ attendees, both for the organisation of the meeting/conference, as well as for the amazing amount that AACT, as such a young and small group, has managed to achieve in such a short time, with so few resources. Everyone was also VERY impressed with the fabulous venue and wonderful vegan food. A huge thanks goes to Barry and Charlotte of Sirens for this!

The AACT team were just fantastic, and I can't thank them enough for the way they all just got in and did whatever had to be done to keep the coffee flowing and the guests happy! We managed to have the biggest overall attendance ever (80+), plus the largest number of attendees ever from one group (30+ from AACT) – a pretty amazing achievement in itself!

It was, all in all, an amazing (but exhausting!) three days that left everyone there even more determined to do *whatever* they can to stop animal suffering. I am quite sure that those who were there will be determined to try their very best to make it to Melbourne for next year's meeting, if for no other reason than to hang out with a big bunch of like-minded people who don't give you a hard time about being a 'vego'!

### **Stalls**

On the Sunday of the Animals Australia AGM & Conference, AACT managed to also have a stall at the Cygnet Health and Herb Expo. A huge thanks goes to Karen Bevis and Chris Simcox for organising and staffing this. Thanks too to Penny Blight and Sue and Craig Quarmby for helping staff the stall! It was a BIG weekend!

As this newsletter goes to press we will be hard at work running an AACT stall at the Sustainable Living Expo at the Hobart Town Hall on November 19 and 20. Stalls such as this are a great way of getting the message out to the general public – and for getting new members!

AACT will also have stalls at the Falls Festival this year (Dec 29 – Jan 1) , and once again we'll be at the Cygnet Folk Festival (Jan 14 & 15). We are very excited to be able to have a stall at the Falls Festival at Marion Bay, as with 13 000 tickets sold, we have an enormous captive audience, a large number of whom are likely to be very sympathetic to our cause. While we already have staffers for the Falls Festival, we are still looking for Volunteers for the Cygnet Folk Festival Stall. This was a busy and highly successful stall last year, and with such a great atmosphere for the Folk Festival, it was good fun too! If you can help out, please let us know!

### **Protest against Wildlife Slaughter**

*7am, November 27*

*Devonport, Spirit of Tasmania Ferry*

We are having a coordinated day of action on 1080 poisoning and other slaughter of Tasmanian Wildlife on NOVEMBER 27th. The action will involve demonstrations in Sydney and Devonport, (and hopefully Melbourne as well!) as people board and disembark the ferries. Apart from protestors with placards and banners we will be handing leaflets to people as they arrive/leave from the ferry docking areas.

In Tasmania the demo will be in Devonport, November 27th from 7am until about 8.30am. We have in the past successfully handed leaflets to people in cars as they leave the ferry. There is a spot where the cars leave to enter the road in Devonport where we can stand on public land. We would like as many people there as possible as we want this to be a media event to shame the Tasmanian Government into protecting our wildlife. If you are in the South of the state and would like a lift (or can offer one), please let me know! The plan is to stay the night in Devonport on the Saturday so we will be looking to book accommodation (probably caravan parks and the like) and we'll need to know numbers for accommodation.

### **Festive Picnic at Emma's Farm**

*Sunday November 27, from 12 noon.*

*Old Wetmore, Ross*

On Sunday Nov 27th (the same day as the Devonport protest against wildlife slaughter) we are having a festive season get together. We'd love you to join us at Emma's beautiful farm, just outside of Ross for a BYO picnic lunch. Emma has many, wonderful, friendly rescued animals (pigs, donkeys, horses, sheep, cows etc) so it will be a great chance to have a social

get together among the very kind of animals we are all trying so hard to protect from suffering. With the gathering happening in Ross, which is about half-way between Launceston and Hobart, it will give members from both the north and the south of the state a chance to get together, plus those who have been protesting at the ferry can come for a picnic afterward! Hope to see you there! If you would like to come, please phone Emma for directions on 6381-5309, or if you'd like a lift phone AACT on 0408-970-359.

### **International Animal Rights Day**

December 10th is International Animal Rights Day, so mark this date in your diary. On this day, around the world people will be holding actions to speak out for the animals who suffer at the hands of humans, and AACT will be joining in this international day of action. While in the Northern hemisphere candle light vigils are the protest of choice, the fact that it gets dark so late down here makes that difficult for us. Please keep an eye on the web site, or email or give AACT a call closer to the date to find out details of our action for IARD. For more info <http://www.uncaged.co.uk/iard.htm>

**Website** - If you haven't had a look at the AACT website in a while, check it out! You'll find new pages on Shearwaters, Greyhounds and Pigs!



### **SOW STALLS**

Emma Haswell

In mid October we were lucky to host the Animals Australia conference in Hobart. The centre piece of the weekend was the Animals Australia media release on Tasmania's intensive pig industry. The media was provided with footage of Tasmanian sows in both sow stalls and farrowing crates showing extremely inhumane conditions.

We were delighted that Animals Australia made this the focus of the weekend as so many people are unaware of the inhumane way in which the majority of Tasmania's sows are kept. The story got both local and national coverage on both TV and Radio.

Fudge and Willy have also been busy. They have met and got very friendly with about 300 school children at Norwood Primary School in

Launceston where they endeared themselves to both teachers and children. They have also had grade 3/4 from Campbell Town District High School visit them at home. The children met the pigs and also a variety of other rescued farm animals and watched the Compassion in World Farming DVD called Farm Animals and Us which was a huge success.



The most recent outing for them was to the annual Dogs on the Domain RSPCA event in Hobart where they were a great draw card to the AACT stand and showed people how intelligent and sensitive pigs are. Willy even competed in the pet parade with Yvette. They came second in the most alike pair for both having cute tails!!



Willy spent the day wandering through the crowd of people and dogs on her lead as we handed out intensive pig industry leaflets to her fans. Fudge impressed all with her sitting on command and her gentle sweet nature.

Thank you to Willy and Fudge for their wonderful and faultless behavior on all occasions.



### Injured Birds

If you find sick or injured birds, adults or nestlings, including sparrows and starlings, please ring **Irene: 6265 8988**

## DUCK SHOOTING

Catherine Silcock

Something old, something new, something really YAHOO!

### Old

As I write, the State of Victoria is still deliberating as to next year's recreational duck shooting season. It's a process Victoria goes through every year- considering whether it's appropriate to open a season or not. Tasmania on the other hand apparently does not have an equivalent process of consideration, the default (and the rule) is to open the season. A schedule kept, with no review, for the convenience of our (fewer than 900) fellow Tasmanians, who gain licenses to shoot ducks.

**ACTION:** Phone Judy Jackson's office and ask for exact details of the procedure used to evaluate how appropriate a next season would be. 6233-4180

### New

... and while you're by the phone, the Manager of Erskine House, Lorne (David Kelly) (03) 5298-1209 /1800-629-417 also needs to hear from you due to a recent incident of trapping and gassing a large number of waterbirds. Permit or not (permit in this case), this approach to our native waterbirds is unacceptable in every way. Please let him know what you think. E-mail if you prefer: [erskine.gm@mantraresorts.com.au](mailto:erskine.gm@mantraresorts.com.au)

### ... and really YAHOO!

We have a fabulous and very active member who wants to make a financial donation towards a duck-focussed post card campaign. (I'd love to mention his name, but haven't sought his permission). We are very excited. Recreational duck shooting in Tasmania is on its last legs and it's time to SURGE! We have priced a post card print and we want to get going. Dear Duckies, have any of you the wherewithall to add to this donation? All offers appreciated.

**ACTION:** Please write to us at [AACT\\_now@hotmail.com](mailto:AACT_now@hotmail.com)

Can't wait to hear from you!  
Kindest wishes,  
Catherine



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## RECENT ACTION REPORTS

### LIVE EXPORT

Suzanne Cass

The most exciting news for all animal advocacy groups in Australia has been this week's announcement by Animals Australia that live export company Emanuels, and two of its Directors, have been charged with cruelty offences under the Animal Welfare Act (WA). One of these Directors was reportedly stripped of his exporters' licence in 2002 following a

massive mortality event on the “*Becrux*” on its maiden voyage. The charges relate to a voyage in November 2003 on the “*Al Kuwait*”, a 30 year old ship, on which over 1,000 sheep died.



*The M/V “Al Kuwait”*

Animals Australia Communications Director Lyn White, with investigators from Compassion in World Farming, documented and filmed the arrival of the ship in Kuwait, where they saw ill, blind, suffering and dying sheep unloaded. The charges which have been laid alleging that the exporter was in breach of section 19 of the WA Act:

- 19 (1) a person must not be cruel to an animal
- 19 (3) (a) transporting an animal in a way that is likely to cause it harm
- 19 (3) (b) confining an animal in a way that is likely to cause it unnecessary harm
- 19 (3) (d) not providing proper food.

This voyage formed the basis of the third live export report on “*Sixty Minutes*”.

Both the Federal and WA governments made the prosecution as difficult as possible, and it was not until Animals Australia issued a Writ of Mandamus that the WA Government was forced to properly investigate the matter.

AACT is not sure at this time what the wider ramifications of this case will be. The voyage was described as being “representative” of the industry, which potentially could lead to further charges being laid against this and other exporters. Tasmania’s Animal Welfare Act, in its present form, contains similar provisions to the WA Act, and AACT has been informed that another shipment of animals is planned to leave Devonport early in the New Year.

On the basis of that information, AACT will be substantially increasing the momentum of our Roberts campaign. The Roberts group is the major live export agency in Tasmania, and we have held numerous protests at their real estate offices in Hobart, Launceston and Devonport. AACT wrote to Roberts’ Managing Director

Miles Hampton requesting a meeting some months ago, and our request was declined. Roberts is so far impervious to our appeals for corporate and moral responsibility. We have now started a petition (on our website, along with a “standard” letter which we are asking people to send to Mr Hampton) which we will be presenting to the organization at a date to be determined. If the shipment happens as planned early in the New Year, we hope to have the biggest protest against Roberts ever in Devonport - we will keep you informed.

This news has followed recent shocking reports about Australian cattle on trucks in Aqaba in Jordan, awaiting transport into Israel. Local animal advocates were terribly distressed by the condition of many of the cattle who were “down”, dying, and being trampled and urinated upon by other cattle.

Just prior to that, in Fremantle, the fully loaded 18 year old “*Maysora*” had been expected to sail on October 15. A crane fell from the ship onto the wharf below, hitting a truck and injuring its driver. Thankfully, it was a supply truck, not one loaded with sheep. The “*Maysora*”, with about 80,000 sheep on board, was detained by the Australian Maritime Safety Authority over this incident and engine problems. The smell from the ship was so appalling that it was moved away to Garden Island for the eight days duration. Our best information is that no animal welfare officers, including the RSPCA, were permitted to board the “*Maysora*”, and it sailed under cover of darkness before matters could be taken further. Within subsequent days, sheep body parts, wool and fat were washed up on beaches around Fremantle, indicating that an unknown number of sheep died, and had been placed in an on-board macerator before even leaving Australian waters. This demonstrates once again that the new live export standards have failed in the matter of only loading animals “fit to travel”.

It has also been reported to us that significant numbers of dairy cattle are leaving the State to be exported to China. While we concede that dairy cattle would receive marginally better treatment than slaughter animals, welfare safeguards in China are non-existent, and the treatment of all animals there is atrocious. We believe that any animals exported to China will die in appalling circumstances once their most productive years are ended. Protests about these exports have proven to be problematical,

since the animals are shipped interstate to Melbourne, then trucked on to Portland in Victoria and exported from there. AACT is indebted to Chris Simcox for his detective work and fact-finding mission on this one.

These incidents continue to demonstrate that the live export is unsustainable on moral grounds, and that it must be stopped forthwith. AACT will be following up on its meeting with Minister for Primary Industry, Water and the Environment Steve Kons, specifically in relation to his commitment to have animals "processed within the State", arising from the "Red Meat Forum" in June from which AACT was excluded. We are advised that if local processors pay the same for animals as the export agent Roberts does, the planned shipment of early next year may not happen, so letters to Mr Kons urging him to support local processing and local jobs would be of enormous assistance.

Write to:  
The Hon. Steve Kons  
Minister for Primary Industry, Water and the Environment  
Franklin Wharf,  
HOBART TAS 7000  
[Steven.Kons@parliament.tas.gov.au](mailto:Steven.Kons@parliament.tas.gov.au)

Also please write to:-  
Miles Hampton  
Managing Director  
Roberts Limited  
1 Collins Street,  
HOBART TAS 7000

*Suzanne Cass*  
*Live Export Campaign Co-ordinator*  
*Phone 0414-726-935*



## QUARTERLY HOT TOPIC

### **Stop The Muttonbird Slaughter** Karen Bevis

#### **What happens to muttonbirds in Tasmania?**

The short-tailed shearwater, alias the muttonbird, is subject to both recreational and commercial hunting in Tasmania. Shearwaters are migratory birds, breeding in colonies in south eastern Australia, with the vast majority breeding in Tasmania. There are 209 breeding

colonies around Tasmania and its offshore islands.

The victims of hunting are the chicks who are taken from their burrows in sand dunes along the coast of Tasmania. Shearwater chicks grow fast and reach almost twice the weight of an adult, before the adults depart for warmer climates. They follow their parents 3 weeks later. (For more information go to:

<http://www.parks.tas.gov.au/factsheets/wildlife/Shearwater.pdf>)

Recreational killing of muttonbirds requires a licence and there is a 2 week season. Birds are for personal use only and not to be sold. In addition to the recreational season, 200,000 chicks are removed from their burrows by commercial operators and sold. The birds are also vulnerable to poaching, which is common.

#### **The cruelty of muttonbirding**

Recreational licences are handed out to anyone who applies and pays the fee. Whilst there is a written guide to how to kill 'humanely', in practice many chicks are killed in a barbaric way. Commonly the chicks heads are stomped on or they are swung around the killers head until their neck breaks. Although it is not legal to do so, sometimes long hooks are used to haul them from their safe havens.

#### **Inadequate Monitoring**

In 2004 there were 1069 licences issued and the season runs for 14 days. There is a bag limit of 25 chicks per day per person, (a limit of 15 chicks applies at some rookeries). This means that a person can legally take up to 350 chicks - a lot of birds for personal use! This makes it legally allowable for up to 374,000 chicks to be taken recreationally. Add this to the commercial take of approximately 200,000 birds and you have well in excess of half a million chicks legally able to be slaughtered annually.

The number of chicks killed by recreational hunters is not accurately monitored. Hunters do not have to submit returns, and only limited survey information on total numbers of birds exists.

The number of licenses issued has been increasing in recent years. In addition, poaching is a significant problem, which is difficult to police and usually happens under cover of darkness, so the real number of chicks killed may be substantially higher than legal figures would suggest.

### Environmental Damage

Short-tailed shearwaters re-use the same burrows year after year. Significant damage is done to burrows when chicks are removed. By admission of the Tasmanian Government, in documentation handed to those obtaining licences, muttonbirding is causing significant habitat damage:

"Over the years there have been problems with amateur muttonbirding that have resulted in the closure of many colonies. These problems still continue on some of the colonies that are open. Colonies are located on fragile soils held together by vegetation that is vulnerable to disturbance. Many muttonbirders cause deliberate and permanent damage to individual burrows by digging them by hand or spade, or by ripping them open with their shoulders when attempting to get birds deep in burrows. Vegetation is also hacked or torn away. Damaged burrows are useless for birds to breed in the future."

### Vulnerability of the Species

In addition to legalised killing and illegal poaching, the shearwater is facing a number of threats. Gillnet fisheries in the North Pacific drown many thousands of birds annually. They are vulnerable to ingesting plastic rubbish whilst at sea, which can cause health problems or death. Feral cats are problems in rookeries, killing chicks, as are other species such as pigs, cattle and sheep that destroy burrows in the fragile soil. Despite current large numbers of this species, the Parks and Wildlife Service of Tasmania states that they are "still vulnerable to over-harvesting and habitat destruction". The Service gives an example of a similar bird, the providence petrel, that became extinct in Australia due to "massive harvesting" (see link to brochure on short-tailed shearwater above). The birds are protected in other states of Australia. Because it is a migratory bird, it is also the subject of a joint protection project between Japan and Australia - the Japan Australia Migratory Bird Treaty. The short-tailed shearwater is not an infinite resource to be exploited at our whim!

### AACT Now

Write NOW, before the decision is made to hold the two open killing seasons in late March/early April 2006. Ask Senator Ian Campbell to ensure the full weight of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 is used to protect the short-tailed shearwater and its

breeding colonies that are mainly in Tasmania. Also, under the Japan/Australia Migratory Birds Agreement, Australia is obligated to provide breeding sanctuaries.

*Minister For the Environment and Heritage  
Senator the Hon Ian Campbell  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT 2600*

Ask Tasmanian Minister Judy Jackson to make every effort to stamp out poaching and to ban the two week long "recreational" chick killing season. Also implement special dollar value penalties for each chick killed illegally to be included in the Wildlife Regulations 1999 along the lines of the special penalties in the Living Marine Resources Management Act 1995 ("sea fisheries"). Also, in line with the Sea Fisheries Act, rangers, police etc to be given power to seize vehicles, mobile phones, lights, backpacks, wire hooks ("sharpened implements"), dogs, sacks etc used during illegal shearwater chick killing.

*Minister for Environment and Planning  
Hon Judy Jackson MHA  
GPO Box 825  
Hobart TAS 7001  
Fax: 03 6233 2671  
Email: judy.jackson@justice.tas.gov.au*

Each year the Premier updates the "concessions" booklet which contains a 20% discount for people holding various concession cards purchasing a "recreational" shearwater chick killing licence. Normally the licence, available from any Service Tasmania shop, costs \$22. Less the discount the cost is only \$18. Senior card holders are also eligible for the discounts. Please write to the Premier asking that the discount on licences be discontinued immediately (the cheaper the licence the more people will take them up).

*Premier of Tasmania Hon Paul Lennon  
Parliament House  
Hobart Tas 7000  
Fax: 03 6234 1572  
Email: premier@dpac.tas.gov.au*

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**Please contact AACT for further details**

**QUARTERLY QUOTE**

*A man is ethical only when life, as such, is sacred to him, that of plants and animals as that of his fellow men, and when he devotes himself helpfully to all life that is in need of help.*

*Albert Schweitzer*

**AACT DIARY**

27 November 2005, 7am

**Protest against Wildlife Slaughter**  
Spirit of Tasmania Ferry  
Devonport

27 November 2005, 12 noon

**Festive Picnic at Emma's Farm**  
Old Wetmore, Ross

4 December 2005, 2pm

**AACT Annual General Meeting**  
Environment Centre  
102 Bathurst Street, Hobart.

10 December 2005

**International Animal Rights Day**  
Details to be announced

29 December 2005 – January 1 2006

**Falls Festival – AACT Stall**  
Marion Bay

14 & 15 January 2006

**Cygnets Folk Festival – AACT stall**  
Cygnets

**VEGETARIAN RECIPE****Christmas Cake**

[www.veganvillage.co.uk/recipes](http://www.veganvillage.co.uk/recipes)

**Ingredients**

1½ lb (675g) mixed sultanas, currants, raisins  
¼ pint veg oil  
12 oz (350g) 100% wholemeal self-raising flour  
1 tbsp (15ml) molasses  
Grated rind of 1 lemon  
¾ pint (450ml) water  
2 tsp (10ml) ground mixed spice  
3oz (75g) raw brown sugar  
3 tbsp (45ml) sherry

Grease and line a 7½ inch (19cm) round cake tin.

Place all the ingredients, except the sherry, in a basin and beat well until evenly mixed. Pour into a tin and bake at 150°C for about 2 hours, until risen and firm to the touch.

Allow to cool slightly in the tin then spoon the sherry over the cake and leave in the tin until completely cold. How easy is that!

(Please note: this cake will not keep like “other” Xmas cakes – make it one to 2 days before you eat it.)

**NEWS FROM AROUND AUSTRALIA****Tasmania**

At the recent RSPCA AGM, Graeme Lewis and John Baker were unable to retain their seats on council. Julie Williamson, Greg Tredinnick and Michael Kent were voted onto Council.

**... AND AROUND THE GLOBE****Rome, Italy**

The city of Rome has banned goldfish bowls, and has made regular dog-walks mandatory in the Italian capital.



*In the last newsletter an error appeared in Liz Hardy's report concerning broiler chickens being kept in cages (and not jam-packed into the large sheds that they are) – this error was purely due to the editor's pen and not that of Liz. Sincere apologies to Liz. Ed*

**COMMITTEE MEMBER INFORMATION**

**Coordinator:** Yvette Watt  
**Deputy Coordinator:** Karen Bohmer  
**Treasurer:** Karen Bohmer  
**Secretary:** Suzanne Cass  
**Membership Secretary:** Maria Merry  
**General Committee:** Ben Bartl, Sarah Beechey,  
 Emma Haswell, Josie Hurst, Catherine Silcock  
**Newsletter Editor:** Craig Quarmby  
**Website Developer:** Karen Bevis

**CAMPAIGN COORDINATORS**

**Live export:** Suzanne Cass  
**Intensive pig farming:** Emma Haswell  
**Duck shooting:** Catherine Silcock



.....✂️.....  
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 PO Box 1045

Sandy Bay 7005  
 Tasmania

AACT\_now@hotmail.com  
 ☎ 0408-970-359