

Animal Voice

of South Africa

July – October 1998

Fighting for the rights of all animals

**Move towards
egg-labeling
truth**

**Top SA doctor
warns on
animal tests**

**Cruel kangaroo
meat floods SA
market**

**Woman rehabilitates
baboon into wild**



Editorial

People power

Dear Readers,

If I'm anything to go by, it seems we all grow up believing that people in authority are ethical, know what they are doing and deserve our loyalty and support. From our earliest years we are taught to respect authority and not to question it.

Then gradually an awakening takes place whereby one sees that other people, including people in authority, are not only just as vulnerable as oneself to the foibles of being human, but indeed, that they can be wrong!

And then it finally dawns upon one that real authority lies not with those in authority (who depend on ordinary people to be there) but with ourselves.

It is a most empowering awakening... that *we* are the *will of the people*! But it's not enough.

For ordinary citizens to be powerful enough to institute change, there have to be enough like-minded people to trigger the "slippery slide" phenomenon.

That's where you and Animal Voice come in. We have to convince enough people that to live ethically, is to find one of the true meanings of freedom - freedom from the overwhelming burden that we all carry for those who mistreat and abuse other life-forms on our beautiful planet. And once enough people are convinced, those in 'authority' will quickly accede to the will of the ordinary people.

So do not doubt the extent of your power. Let your voices be heard. Please fill in the forms in this magazine, send them off, and never miss an opportunity to speak out for those who cannot. Let us unite in 'people power' - and experience the satisfaction of ringing in the changes.

Sincerely,

Louise van der Merwe
Editor



Your editor, campaigning in 1993 for the abolition of battery farming.

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Our very special appreciation to IFAW (International Fund for Animal Welfare) for its donation to cover the printing costs of this issue.

We also wish to express our appreciation to all the people who help, in whatever way, to put Animal Voice together.

This issue of *ANIMAL VOICE* is dedicated to the baboons and vervet monkeys who will never swing in South African trees again, but will languish for their remaining lives, in medical research laboratories in France and Ghana.

Since January 1997, 140 baboons have been exported to France and 16 vervet monkeys to Ghana for medical research.

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WOOLWORTHS MOVES FORWARD

For chickens *and* consumers!

In a significant step forward for both battery chickens and consumer awareness, super-market chain **WOOLWORTHS** has agreed to change the label on its battery egg cartons so as to remove any perception that the eggs come from free-range chickens.

WOOLWORTHS' initiative comes in the wake of the decision by four major UK super-market chains – **TESCO**, **CO-OP**, **SAFEWAY** and **ASDA** – to identify battery eggs with the label "Eggs from caged hens" thus removing the misleading "Farm" or "Farm Fresh" labeling system which was previously used. High Street giant **MARKS & SPENCER** went further, declaring itself a battery-free zone, selling only free-range eggs in its stores throughout the UK and France. The decision by the UK supermarkets was taken after an opinion-poll showed that almost 40% of the British public thought that the "Fresh Eggs" and "Farm Fresh" labels meant that eggs had been laid by free range hens.

ANIMAL VOICE immediately took the ground-breaking decisions by UK supermarkets to South African super-market chains as well as to farmers and the **SOUTHERN AFRICAN POULTRY ASSOCIATION**, with the request that South Africa follow suit.

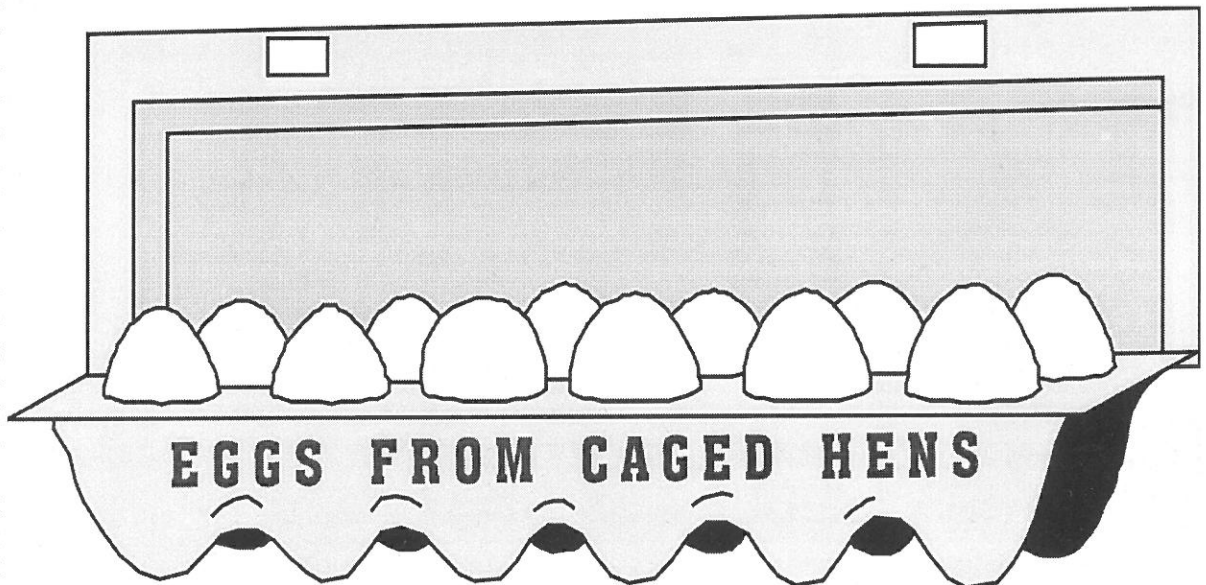
PICK 'N PAY opted for a 'no comment' while **CHECKERS** has so far failed to respond to our correspondence.

Chicken farmer **ALLAN STUART** who runs a major battery *and* free range operation in the Western Cape, said there was no way he would agree to put the label "Eggs from caged hens" on his battery egg boxes. "Eggs that are not marked 'free range' come from batter-

ies. It's perfectly obvious!" he said. "It's general knowledge that more than 90% of eggs in South Africa come from hens kept in batteries and it is unnecessary to state the obvious on the carton." He added: "I would not do it voluntarily and I would lobby against it being gazetted."

Executive Director of the **SOUTHERN**

Ms Chapman added that the labeling question had to be handled with care. Her UK colleagues had informed her that the use of the "eggs from caged hens" label had resulted in a fairly rapid swing to free range causing some battery farmers to go out of business while free range farmers were unable to keep up with demand.



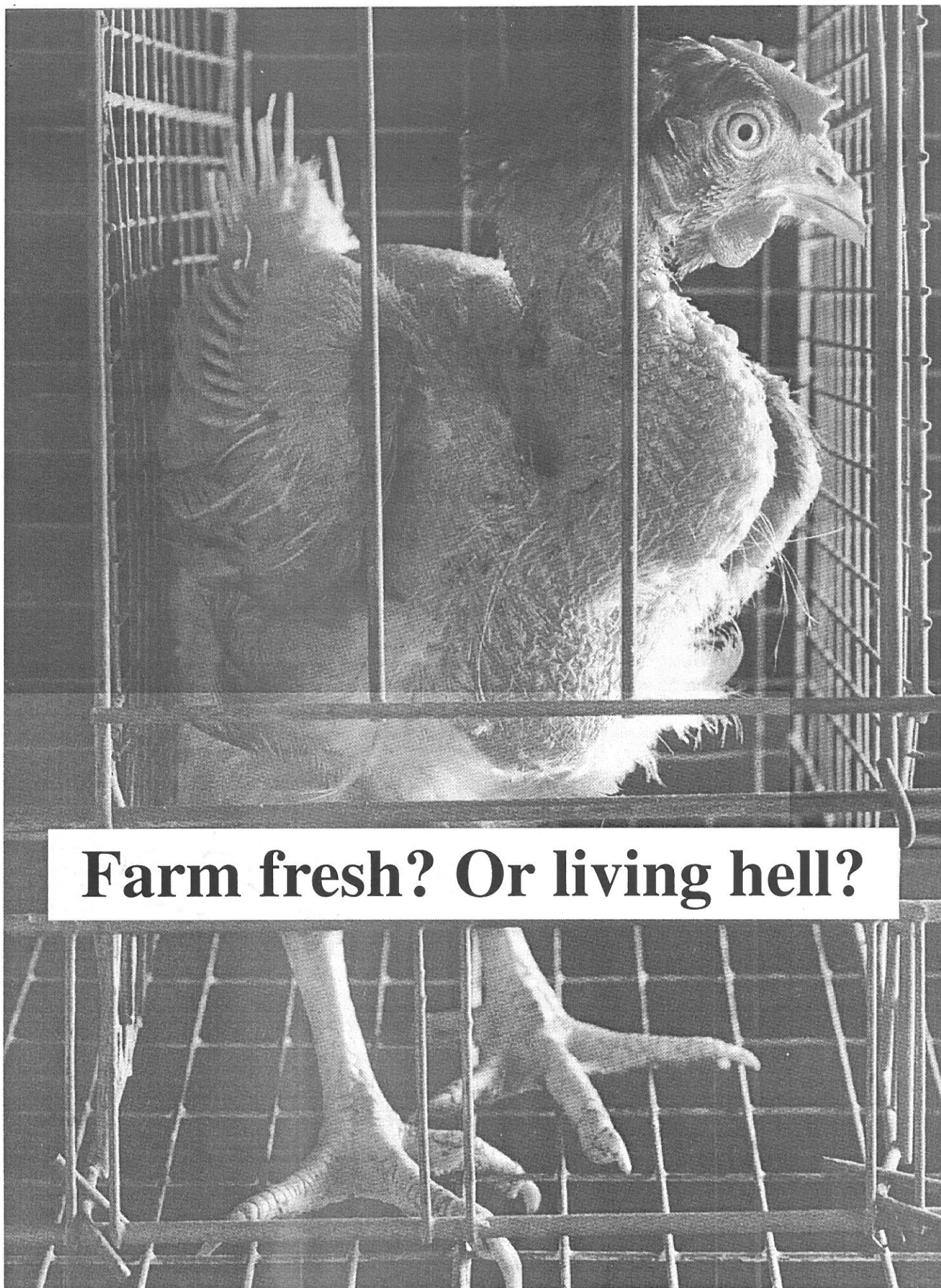
AFRICAN POULTRY ASSOCIATION, ZACH COETZEE said: "Our members feel that there is nothing misleading about calling eggs farm fresh as they are produced on farms and in fact are fresh. 'Eggs from caged hens' will most definitely have a negative connotation and is from a marketing point of view, truly not acceptable."

Meanwhile, **WOOLWORTHS** Foods Executive, **CATHY CHAPMAN**, said in a letter to **ANIMAL VOICE**: "We are always delighted when a reputable organisation raises an ethical issue like this one as it prompts us to review our position. In this case, we are pleased to advise you that we have taken the decision to remove the misleading wording on our egg packaging." She added that the transition would take a few months. Traditionally, **WOOLWORTHS'** battery egg cartons contain the words 'Fresh Eggs – from the farm' and show a hen and a rooster standing side by side on open ground. (Battery hens never come into contact with roosters or open ground).

ACTION

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Consumers all over the world are protected by an **INTERNATIONAL CODE OF CONSUMER RIGHTS**. According to the **NATIONAL CONSUMER FORUM** in Johannesburg, these rights include: the right to make an informed choice of goods and services. With your right to complete information in mind, please fill in the questionnaire on page 5.



Farm fresh? Or living hell?

A battery chicken is debeaked to prevent her turning cannibal in the cramped and barren confines of her cage. She will die never having known the sun, the soil, or what it is to dustbath, sun-bathe, forage, perch or lay an egg in a nest.



Photo: Carte Blanche

⇐ Unheard of – cattle pant like dogs in the searing heat of the ship's hold.

ACTION

If you would like to see a ban on the export by sea of live animals for slaughter, please photocopy the letter below, fill in your details, and post it to Mr Hanekom.

Mr Derek Hanekom
Minister of Agriculture
Private Bag X844
Pretoria
0001

Dear Mr Hanekom,

I applaud your valiant attempts to redress the injustices committed against human beings in the past, through the various projects you have initiated during

your term of office. I would like to live in a society where injustice to animals is not condoned as being a 'lesser evil' compared to injustice to human beings. I therefore urge you to extend your considerable compassion to our animals which fall under the care of your department. Most specifically, I urge you to ban the live export by sea of South Af-

rica's animals destined for slaughter. I thank you.

Sincerely,

NAME:

ADDRESS:.....

.....

.....

Sea-sick South African cattle, *en route* to Mauritius, awash in seawater and their own excrement.

800 000 Britons recently signed a petition for a ban on live exports of animals. In addition, Compassion in World Farming has a permanent BAN LIVE EXPORTS vigil outside the Ministry of Agriculture in Whitehall.



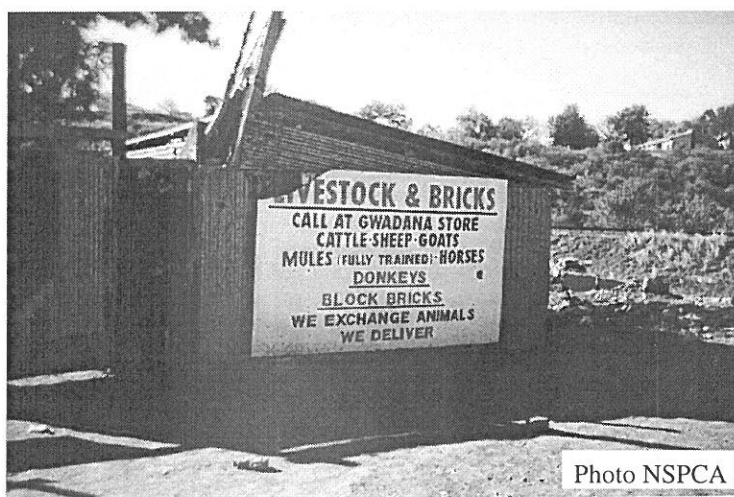
Photo: NSPCA

THE NATIONAL DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE ORGANISES AN ANIMAL WELFARE WORKSHOP..... But where do we go from here?

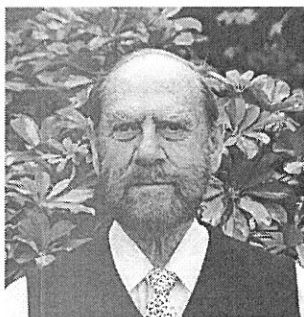
Altogether 110 delegates from all over the country, including animal welfare and animal rights groups, veterinary surgeons, farmers, a circus owner, vivisectionists and government officials converged on the Pretoria Zoo on May 12 1998 to attend a workshop hosted by the Director General of

Agriculture, Ms **Bongiwe Njobe-Mbuli**, to find ways to improve animal legislation. However, in the emotionally charged atmosphere of open hostility and mistrust, delegates left the forum unclear as to how to proceed.

MS NJOBE-MBULI, Director-General, National Department of Agriculture, hosted the workshop: "My personal interest (in animal issues) came after there were objections to Miss South Africa slaughtering a cow to celebrate (her victory) Whose value systems (regarding animal welfare) do we use in a diverse society? Traditional customs need to be fitted in. People believe the cow must cry at slaughter in order for there to be a proper relationship with the dead."



In SA animals are legally regarded as "goods" or "agricultural products"



Delegate DR MIKE LEVIEN, Chairman of the LiveStock Animal Welfare Association: "We have a new South Africa, we have to introduce new attitudes and interpretations regarding ritual slaughter. Does ritual slaughter not belong to yesteryear? Custom and tradition is not an excuse for cruelty."



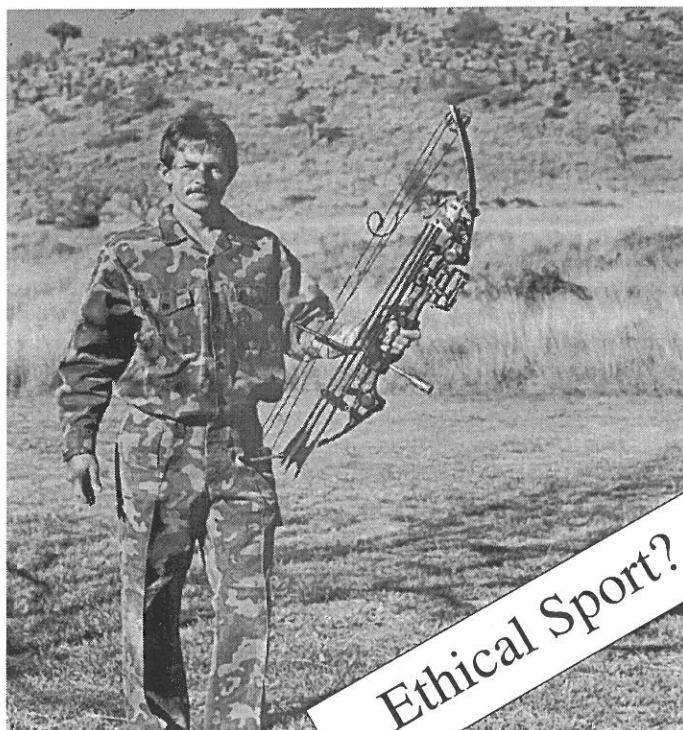
Delegate DAVID BARRITT, Africa's Director of the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW): "Just because something has been done for centuries does not mean to say it has to be allowed to continue. Child labour and the slave trade are cases in point. There were always interest groups who said it was fine to send a child down a coal-mine."

AVAILABLE FROM ANIMAL VOICE: **"FACTORY FARMING – THE GLOBAL THREAT"**. Send for your copy of this mind-boggling report which was presented at an international agricultural conference held in London in April 1998, and discover, *inter alia*

- why Ethiopia, at the height of the famine which ravaged that country in the mid-1980's, was exporting grain to feed factory farmed animals in Europe;
- why the World Bank paid Bolivia \$12 million to expand soybean production at the cost of the rainforest;
- why it takes 25 000 litres of water to produce one kg of beef;
- why multinational food conglomerates are setting up factory farms in Third World countries;
- why we need to stop global factory farming before it becomes a *fait accompli*.
- Please enclose R10 to cover p&p costs.

Minister of Agriculture, DEREK HANEKOM, said in a press release afterwards: "....These discussions on complex and contentious issues are the first steps towards developing and redrafting policy and legislation on animal welfare."

BOW-HUNTERS HAVE BAD DAYS TOO!



Decked out in brand-new blue camouflage gear (yes really, bright blue is the latest thing!), bow hunter DOUW KRUGER prepares to show his skill at marksmanship to RICK ALLAN, Manager of the NSPCA's National Wildlife Unit, and Nature Conservation officials.

Surprisingly, Mr Kruger managed to hit only one bull's eye in six. Rated as South Africa's No 2 bow-hunter, Mr Kruger was attempting to pass a "competency test" devised by the NSPCA, Nature Conservation and the Ethical Bow Hunting Association. Only those who pass are permitted to proceed to kill live targets. Mr Kruger failed the test.

The recently-introduced competency test took place on the Suikerbosrand Reserve outside Johannesburg where bow-hunters are set to "cull" eland, kudu and red hartebeest. A nature conservation officer said it would not be long before baboons on the reserve would also be targeted.

Said Rick Allan: "We will monitor the competency tests. However, our participation in this does not deter us from our objective to have this method of hunting for sport banned for good."

Hunter tells of "wonderful time"

Thumbs down to the FARMER'S WEEKLY for running an article by SA hunter HEIN FUNCK on how to use calling devices to lure caracal and jackal to their deaths. Says Funck who uses calling lures such as the sound of a rabbit in distress: "I had a wonderful time watching a caracal running towards me in search of the dying rabbit in broad daylight."

The article comes in the wake of an earlier article, also in the Farmer's Weekly, which showed that if a farmer managed the veld properly, disturbing the natural equilibrium as little as

possible, leaving intact healthy populations of partridges, francolin, korhaan, hares, rodents, lizards, steenbok and other small game, the danger of stock losses, even by the black-backed jackal would be 'slight'. One Mooihoek farmer even had donkeys to mind his sheep. Donkeys, the article said, have a natural aversion to jackals, caracals and feral dogs and attack them on sight.

SUBSCRIPTION

We need your help rather desperately please!

Printing costs for 2000 copies of Animal Voice amount to R10 500.

That's before we even begin to pay the very considerable running costs of Animal Voice such as stationery, postage, fax and telephone, computer and printer maintenance, and so on. We aim to have Animal Voice nationally distributed at news agencies in future and we hope this will enable it to pay partly for itself. In the meantime, please continue with your generous financial assistance. Without you we cannot continue.

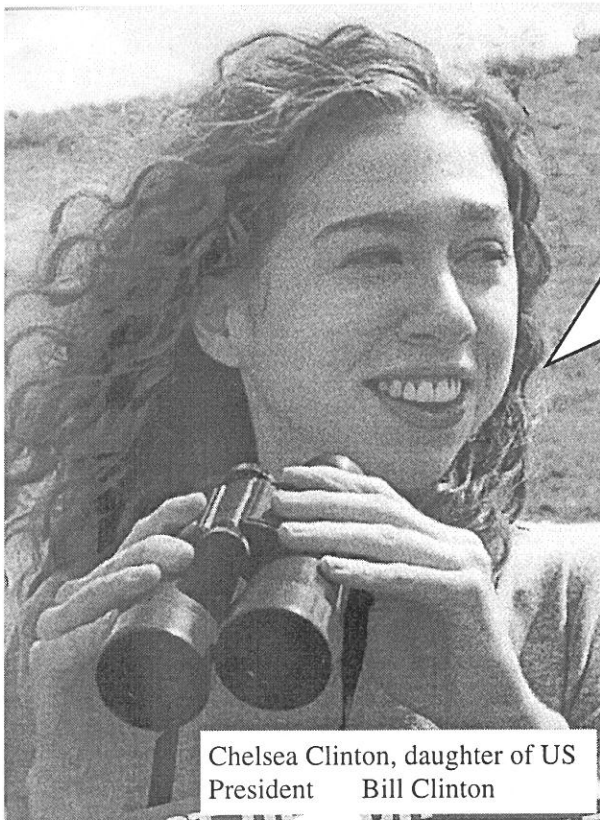
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WE THANK YOU!





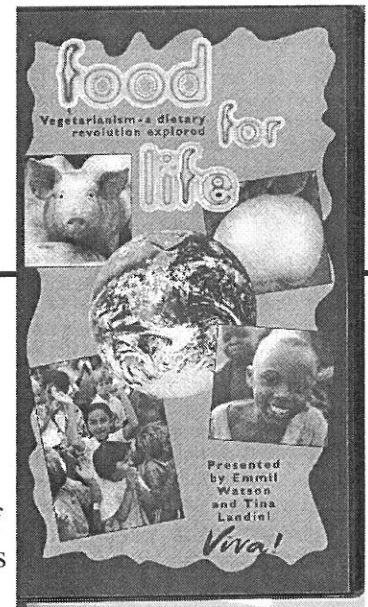
Chelsea Clinton, daughter of US President Bill Clinton

WAY-TO-GO, CHELSEA!

"The only thing I'll eat with eyes is a potato."

Available from Animal Voice:

Food for Life



Food for Life – the video

Acclaimed as 'brilliant' by reviewers, this riveting video explores the reasons for the growth of vegetarianism. Presenters include muscle-ripping vegetarian Emmil Watson, winner of Gladiators, who helps you discover why a vegetarian diet

- reduces disease
- contains every nutrient needed
- saves animals
- protects the environment
- helps feed the developing world

Running time: 26 minutes
Send for your copy while stocks last.



Shoppers beware!



South African market flooded with kangaroo meat

4 million joeys die annually so we can eat their mothers!

The Australian kangaroo meat industry suffered a nasty shock recently when British supermarkets removed kangaroo meats from their shelves after a public outcry over the horror of kangaroo slaughter. The meat has now landed here in South Africa – all 120 tons of it - and it is in sausages, polonies and pies.

The shocking reality of eating kangaroo hit British consumers after the screening on BBC1 on October 7 last year, of an undercover video obtained by IFAW (International Fund for Animal Welfare) in Australia. The video footage shows night-time hunters mortally wounding kangaroos who struggle in agony as they are hung up

on hooks tearing through their legs. It also shows joeys being torn out of their dying mothers' pouches and being clubbed to death, stamped on or simply left to die. Public outrage, led by the powerful animal rights organisation VIVA! which actively promotes vegetarianism and veganism, resulted in a virtual ban on "roo" meat in British supermarkets and the collapse of a flourishing Australian export business to that country.

Now South Africa has been targeted to take up the excess, and, according to a report in the Sunday Times, it is being passed off as "game", specifically springbok.

But only if we allow it.

ACTION

Please ask your supermarket manager and/or butcher for assurance in writing that there is no kangaroo meat in any of his/her stocks of processed or other meats. Please pass on these written assurances to Animal Voice. We intend showing the IFAW video footage to all supermarket chiefs so that they can see for themselves the horror that is masked by the nice, neat plastic wrapping of minced kangaroo. Together we can join our British counterparts and give this exotic meat the elbow!

'INHUMANE' TO DENY PEOPLE THE RIGHT TO ANIMAL COMPANIONSHIP - VETERINARIAN

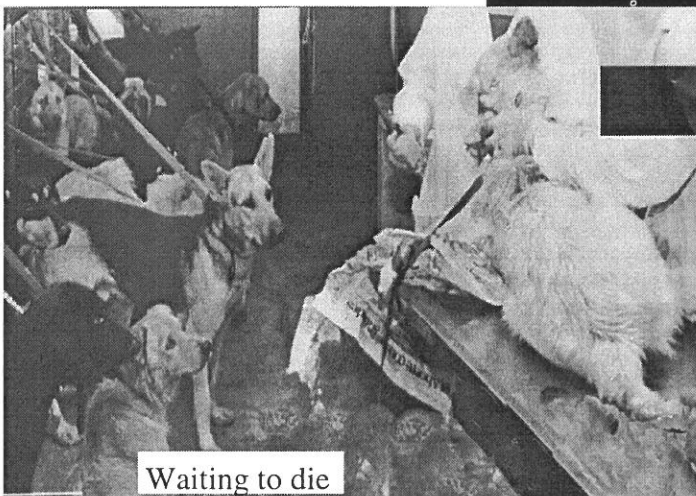
Many people who move into new high-density accommodation suddenly find that their pets are not allowed, causing heartbreak all round. Veterinarian and animal behaviourist, DR PLATZHUND, familiar to South Africans through radio and television programmes, believes it is against our constitutional rights to be denied animal companionship.

"It is actually inhumane and against our constitutional rights to deny people – especially older people – animal companionship in their lives," says Dr Platzhund who is also chairman of the Human/Animal Contact Study Group in South Africa.

"This is one of our greatest concerns that people move into a new housing complex only to be told that they must get rid of their pets. It causes untold heartbreak and it has been scientifically proven that people live longer and healthier lives when they have a pet to care for."

Dr Platzhund said there were many ways to make dogs and cats more acceptable in high density dwellings and potential developers should make contact with the Human/Animal Contact Study Group at (012) 462312 or (011) 3182090 so as to understand how to incorporate the necessary facilities.

Anyone experiencing 'problem' behaviour with a pet dog is also invited to contact the Animal Behaviour Consultants Association on (011) 3182090.



Waiting to die

THE GENTLE HEALING POWER OF RABBITS

Two years ago, a little white rabbit worked a miracle in the Children's Ward at the Constantiaberg Medi-Clinic, near Cape Town. Today, rabbits are part of the therapy at the hospital, helping long-term patients, young and old, recover their health.

The woman behind it all, is much-loved Sister 'Solly' Salzwedel, who heads the Children's Unit. "It all started with a little boy of about six years old from Grabouw," she says. "He had major brain surgery to remove a tumour but we couldn't get him to recover properly. He showed no emotion whatsoever and did not talk either. He went on like this for about seven weeks. We were getting desperate."

Then one day one of his visitors asked if she could bring a rabbit in to see him. Sister Solly agreed. The little white rabbit was smuggled into the ward the next day.

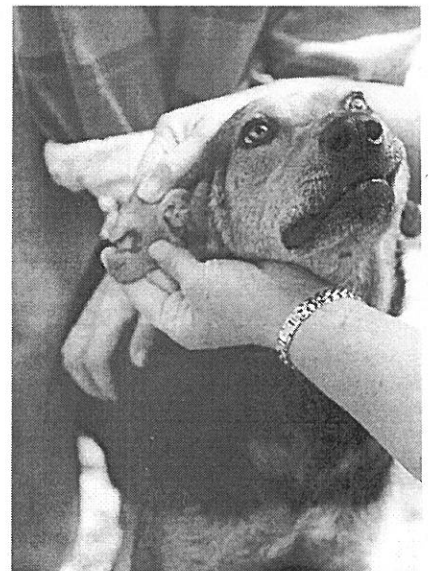
"It was like a miracle," says Sister Solly. "The moment he saw the rabbit his face lit up and he reached for it. Three weeks later, with a lot of rabbit therapy in between, he walked out of here, talking again and back to his old self. And the rabbits thrive too with all the attention."

Since then, rabbit therapy has even been extended to older patients. Recently, a woman who had been partially paralysed by a stroke, managed, with a little bit of help, to stroke a rabbit with her paralysed hand. Her eyes brimmed



with tears. "How did you know I love animals?" she asked.

"I think animals are so therapeutic because they are so beautiful and yet so undemanding," says Sister Solly. "Look at dogs... Just a simple stroke or pat and you've made their day. But only happy animals are able to work the wonders they do. An underfed or ill-treated animal would probably have a negative effect on the patient! Seeing suffering in an animal takes away our joy. That's why I always keep the rabbits safely in my care."



GREY

This beautiful dog's name is Grey because, without a single hair on his body, that was his colour when DARG, the Domestic Animal Rescue Group, found him. Today, he is a happy and valued member of a Cape Town family, but he will always bear the marks of his early life when he was nailed to a tree by his ears and he had literally, to tear himself free. Nailing puppies to trees by their ears is one of the behaviours exhibited all too frequently by underprivileged children. DARG needs foster homes, volunteers and donations. **Tel. (021) 454560.**

Euthanasia

Some see it as a blessed release for lost or abandoned starving dogs and cats. Others bitterly reject it as a

convenient way for humans to wash their hands of responsibility towards animals which man domesticated and then betrayed.

As farmers continue to shoot baboons with impunity, or capture them to sell to medical research laboratories, countless baby orphans are left behind. Many die. A year ago, in the bushveld of Northern Province, a small baboon was found by a woman out walking her dog. He still clung to the bullet-riddled body of his dead mother. The woman took the infant baboon and he was later put into the care of Johannesburg artist, **KARIN SAKS**, a long-standing member of *South Africans for the Abolition of Vivisection*. Still pink-faced and covered in the downy black hair of babyhood, little Gismo was nurtured by Karin, to the point where he could be successfully returned to the bush, wild and free, among his own kind. What follows is the moving account, in her own words, of one woman's passion to give Gismo back his heritage.

GISMO

By Karin Saks

"This small clinging little life screamed for three hours before he accepted me as his new Mom. I bottle-fed him till he was about 4-and-a-half months old after which I introduced fruit into his diet. By day, while I painted, he shared my life romping in the grass beside me, harassing the cat. By night, he slept in a cozy box beside my bed. He loved soft, cuddly toys. I once bought a baboon toy for him which he adored. He would beat it up and hug it to bits.

We reached each other through an innate and deeply profound understanding and a rich non-verbal communication system comprising facial expressions, gestures and body language. Genetically, we share 91% of the same DNA yet, in this human-dominated world, our chauvinism often blinds us to the truth concerning animals: we are one species amongst others, not one species above all the rest. Until we come to terms with this, we will continue our abuse and control of animals.

Six months after Gismo first entered my life I knew the final moments of our chapter together were drawing near. I didn't want him confined in a cage for the rest of his life. He was an unusually independent juvenile and this made him a good candidate for rehabilitation. I had constantly to resist the temptation

to be over-protective of him. For his own sake. I wanted him back where he belonged.

Then someone put me in touch with Damian van Gass, a young man in his early twenties who has exceptional abilities in understanding and communicating with animals. Three years ago, the pioneer of baboon rehabilitation in this country, *Rita Miljo*, who runs the *Centre for Animal Rehabilitation and Education (CARE)* near Phalaborwa, and Damian, had successfully rehabilitated a group of orphaned baboons in the bush on a private reserve called Mosdene, near Naboomspruit. Damian had subsisted alongside the troop for

Suddenly and unexpectedly, the commanding bark of the alpha male, resonated through the still surroundings

more than three months, as one of them, surviving the harsh conditions along with them in order to assure the group an independent future of freedom. Now, we learned he was still there although living independently from the troop by this time.

A meeting was arranged with Damian in order to assess the troop's reaction to Gismo.

The day finally arrived when Gismo was to meet the Mosdene troop. It was early December and the air was warm. I was excited to see what Gismo's reaction would be. We sat in my car, in the

middle of the bush – waiting.

The Mosdene group eventually emerged from thick Acacia bush about 50 metres from where we sat and we eyed each other with a pretence at casualness.

Before meeting the troop, I'd been warned that Gismo could be harmed, and if I interfered I could be attacked. But I was in awe of the gentleness of their approach. First a young female ambled over towards us, halted, and shyly lipsmacked in our direction. Lipsmacking is a friendly kind of greeting – an acknowledgement. I wasn't scared at all. Nor was Gismo. And we had Damian with us who knew the troop well. The young female cautiously began to interact with Gismo who was intrigued. By now he had wandered a short distance away from me. Soon, the exuberant duo were boisterously chasing each other in play.

Gradually each member of the troop moved closer, lipsmacking to us. We lipsmacked back. Their approach was so gentle and sensitive, with such obvious respect for our space. They came nearer only when we invited them by lipsmacking back.

Suddenly and unexpectedly, the commanding bark of the alpha male, resonated through the still surroundings. He clearly did not trust our presence. Gismo leaped into my arms. We bowed to the hierarchical command of Shlain, as we called him, backed off and left. But Damian was pleased with the day's events.

Continued on page 13

A month passed before we were all reunited. This time, the preamble to smooth communication was dispensed with. These relatives of ours don't forget. This time, Gismo and I entered the large cage that is permanently at the site and which was used for the rehabilitation of the first troop of baboons by Rita Miljo.

Damian was not able to stay with us this time. But I stayed eight days in all. I sat inside the cage, forcing Gismo outside and watching him slowly form bonds with the troop. The troop would all gather round the cage and interact with me too. I do not believe Gismo's rehabilitation would have been possible had I, as Gismo's 'mother', not bonded with the troop too. They regarded Gismo and me as a unit.

Most of the time I had to make the decisions by myself. But I feel I owe the whole process of Gismo's rehabilitation entirely to the troop for they were the ones that gave me the cues. It was as if they directed the whole process.

At night, Gismo and I would return to this little cottage nearby and I filled a 60-page diary about it all, writing every night I was there.

Gradually, over the days, each member of the troop slowly worked out a relationship with Gismo. Again and again I would put him outside the cage and remain inside myself. Obviously he hated this. He would fling himself against the fence of the cage from the outside appealing to me for help. One of the males, who later became his guardian, actually tried to reach in to grab me expressing obvious frustration at my inability to comfort Gismo. Then this same male would go after

Gismo who had gone to hide in a bush, to offer him comfort.

As you can see there were many times that I betrayed him – out of absolute necessity. I was able to hold him through the cage but it wasn't enough.

These were the harder aspects of the

had been interacting nicely. At one point I noticed that the rest of the troop had gone off foraging. I knew the time was right.

I drove away, with Gismo running after the car! I drove until I was out of sight and returned to the scene two hours later with Damian.

We found Gismo firmly clinging to Dotty. That was the moment I realised I could never again touch him – for his sake. It was a moment of gut-wrenching sadness yet I think my tears were tears of joy at the sight of Dotty and Gismo together. And it is that memory that I return to, again and again. There are times when I desperately miss him and worry about them all.

I feel a large vacuum in my life but that is inevitable. The process of rehabilitation is unable to accommodate any self-serving human needs. Abandonment is enforced. Betrayal is inevitable. The severing of a cross-species, close bond, such as that between Gismo and me, is a severe test.

Three months later I returned to the Mosdene bushveld. Gismo immediately spotted me and slowly made his way over to our vehicle. But two of his male guardians pulled him back and he responded by immediately returning to the

waiting group.

That is where he now belongs. Amongst his own kind, wild and free in the bush.

I learned so much from Gismo. Above all else I learned that we are not superior as a species and that the way we treat other animals is the result of a lack of understanding. This leads to a *separatism* that is another *apartheid*. I've been back three times now. Each time he has recognised me. But I dare not touch him. He has bonded with his new family and is an integral part of that troop. That is how it should be."



Karin Saks and Gismo

whole process and I believe Gismo lost a bit of trust every time I had to do this. It was heart wrenching.

There was one female baboon – we called her Dotty – who began to mother Gismo. When the troop went off to forage, she stayed behind keeping a maternal eye on him and Gismo would stay near me, of course. I started to feel that my presence was retarding this bonding process between Dotty and Gismo. As long as Gismo could see me, I knew he would not rush into Dotty's arms. I knew he would only do this if I wasn't there.

So, on the eighth day, I drove my car to the cage as usual and went inside. That day Gismo and his new 'mother'

TRC: POISONS AND KILLER GERMS TESTED ON BABOONS

“Repulsive” that vets and doctors abused their skills – Ntsebeza

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission's investigative chief, DUMISA NTSEBEZA, has condemned the use of animals during the apartheid era in the manufacture of horrific weapons of destruction.

“The use of animals for the furtherance of scientific knowledge is a controversial issue,” said Mr Ntsebeza, who has been chairing the hearings into the apartheid government's chemical and biological warfare programme. “However, when animals are being used by scientists for experiments to manufacture chemical and biological weapons, then society should condemn

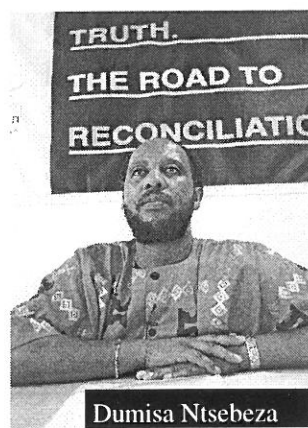
such experimentation in the strongest terms,” he said.

Mr Ntsebeza continued: “One is alarmed at evidence that baboons and baboon foetuses were used for experimentation at Roodeplaat Research Laboratories (near Pretoria). We also hear that a baboon foetus was put at the home of the then Archbishop of Cape Town, Desmond Tutu and this has been linked to the CCB.

“Even more alarming is the fact that the people who were using their research skills and knowledge to manufacture murder weapons, were

people in white coats with stethoscopes hanging out of their pockets. These people are normally associated

with preservation of life rather than destruction of life. That is the most repulsive feature of the evidence that has come before us.”



Dumisa Ntsebeza

Meanwhile SOUTH AFRICANS FOR THE ABOLITION OF VIVISECTION (SAAV) believe that warfare experiments on animals are continuing under the present dispensation at SA National Defence Force-affiliated laboratories. SAAV has called on the government for transparency and accountability in the vivisection industry. In a comprehensive scientific document handed in to government in May 1998, SAAV states: “Information relating to animal experimentation needs to be firmly placed in the public domain. The public should be given a full picture... not just what research has been allowed, but why.”

Sweet is the lore which Nature brings;
Our meddling intellect
Mis-shapes the beauteous forms of
things:-
We murder to dissect.
William Wordsworth, 1798

VICTORY FOR LABORATORY ANIMALS IN THE USA

A MULTI-NATIONAL ANIMAL TESTING COMPANY whose harrowingly cruel treatment of primates was exposed by an under-cover agent last year, has been ordered by a US judge to pay \$50 000 in penalties including \$20 000 to investigate in vitro (non-animal) test methods.

The New Jersey laboratory of Huntingdon Life Sciences Inc (HLS), was infiltrated last year by an undercover worker for People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), who got a job cleaning cages at the lab.

The worker surreptitiously video-taped harrowing footage of brutal handling and mockery of terrified monkeys involved in poison tests on behalf of pharmaceutical giant Procter & Gamble.

As a result of PETA's action, film actress Kim Basinger saved 40 beagles who were to have had their legs broken for product tests at the lab.

On April 1 this year, the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) took the

almost unprecedented step of charging HLS with 23 violations of the federal Animal Welfare Act including “failure to ensure that animals used in toxicology tests received sedatives, painkill-

ers, and anesthesia during painful and distressful procedures”. By April 8, a settlement was reached whereby HLS would comply with all provisions of the Act effective immediately and pay \$50 000, including \$20 000 to investigate non-animal test methods and \$20 000 to improve primate cages to allow for group housing of these highly social animals.



Visual taken from undercover video of Procter & Gamble poison tests last year.

The Enquiring Child

“Daddy, tell me why they
drip

Acid on that puppy's lip,
Also in that monkey's eye,
Tell me daddy, why oh
why?”

“Hush my little son, be
brave -

They are testing after-
shave.”

E S Turner (1909 -)

Ethical people speak out for animals

Top Cape doctor says animal tests are no guarantee for human safety

DR JIMMY VOL-MINK, director of the Medical Research Council's Cochrane Centre for evidence-based research in Parow, says: "Using an animal and infecting it with a disease and then trying to cure it, can tell us nothing about how treatments will work in human populations. There is simply no guarantee that a treatment that works in animals will also work in humans."

NOTE FROM ED:

The pharmaceutical giants use animal tests as an alibi to get their products on the market. However, this *modus operandi* is flawed. Time magazine reported in its April 20, 1998 issue that more than 100 000 deaths a year in USA hospitals are caused by adverse reactions to drugs.

Baboons sacrificed for 'bogus' science

Asbestos fibre dusting experiments on 622 baboons over a period of 20 years at the National Council for Occupational Health in Johannesburg, were aborted because it was found that the data obtained could not be extrapolated to humans.

SA businessman writes to President Mandela

Cape Town businessman, MARK SCHLESINGER has written to President Mandela urging him to intervene and stop the export of baboons to overseas research laboratories. In his letter, he says: "In essence I would like to know that wildlife in my country is looked after. As simple as that. Those baboons - once swinging from South African trees and barking along cliff edges under a South African sun are no doubt in hell now. That is for certain. They are now locked in air conditioned and sterile white tiled rooms, far from African sky, terrified in tiny cages, undergoing God knows what? What hellish experiments must they now endure?."

Afrikaans academic says 'Stop insulting the animals'

Well-known Afrikaans academic, PROFESSOR LINA SPIES, says it is high time for someone to come to the defence of animals regarding the multitude of false assumptions which are continuously being made about their nature and behaviour.

Says Prof. Spies: "When we say that murderers and rapists behave like animals, we insult the animals. People do not behave like animals. People behave like people. Of course there is conflict and violence in the animal world too but it is not calculated, as with people. The only motive for a predator to kill, is hunger, and it kills its prey quickly and accurately. Murder, by contrast, is senseless and completely unjustifiable.

Nor do animals rape each other. But what happens all too often is that humans rape animals. The converse is unthinkable.

The creation story tells us that man has dominion over the animals and the earth. But man's lack of compassion for life and for the earth, burdens him with a heavy guilt.

The question about what makes life sacred is more complex than merely comparing the mental capacity of the human brain with animal brains. What we share with the animal is our consciousness of life. Animals are not objects. They are also not humans. But they do grieve, they love and they suffer. They know the heights and depths of life."

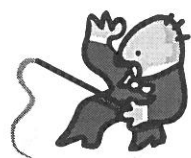


PROFESSOR LINA SPIES

Elton John uses his voice for circus animals

Singer SIR ELTON JOHN has spoken publicly against the use of animals in circuses. This follows undercover video footage in the UK and USA revealing that circus animals are beaten and kicked into submission. Top trainer Mary Chipperfield is allegedly seen furiously kicking and whipping a camel as move.

"Get up, bloody mal." In trainer



it refuses to get up, you stupid animal the USA a has di-

vulged that elephants are electroshocked in the ears, mouth and anus to establish 'dominance' by the trainer. Said Elton John: "The animal circus is a relic of a bygone era and has no place as a form of modern entertainment. Many people don't stop to think how appalling life behind the scenes for circus animals really is."

Freedom at last for 40 laboratory rabbits

By the end of this year, the fear and stress of painful needles and nasty substances will be a thing of the past for some 40 white rabbits currently being used for microbiology testing at the University of Cape Town.

Up till now, laboratory animals were killed on the completion of tests. But thanks to **Beauty Without Cruelty's** BERYL SCOTT, these rabbits face no such fate.

The wheels of change began grinding about a year ago when Beryl became the SPCA's representative on UCT's Ethics Committee which oversees the welfare of laboratory animals.

"Until we achieve the abolition of vivisection, I will do all I can to improve the conditions of animals being used in laboratories," she said.

Now the university has agreed not to kill the rabbits on completion of tests,



Animal Unit manager, Hiram Arendse, hands to Beryl the first rabbit to come out of the laboratory.

but to hand them to BWC which, together with DARG (Domestic Animal Rescue Group) will care for them until they are placed in loving homes.

Emerging farmers are about to buy pigs their freedom.

Unable to afford the massive costs of setting up the cruelly intensive piggeries which have dominated the pork industry for 50 years, black farmers are turning to free-range and South Africa's foremost agricultural colleges, Elsenburg, near Stellenbosch, and the Animal Improvement Institute at Irene, near Pretoria, are running pilot projects to test the viability of free-range pig farming in this country.

To set up an intensive piggery costs R6000 per sow per 100 sow unit. To set up a free-range set-up costs 75% less.

Until these projects get the go-ahead, all breeding sows in South Africa will remain locked in their metal stalls, unable ever to build a nest, mother their young or forage for food. Their extreme immobility, the concrete floor and barren environment literally drive the pigs to madness, says Dr John Webster, professor of animal husbandry at Bristol University.

WHO SAYS INVERTEBRATES DON'T FEEL PAIN?

BERYL SCOTT won another first for the animals recently when UCT researchers agreed to give anaesthesia to octopus, cuttlefish, crayfish and squid, before embarking on any invasive procedure.

Because these animals are invertebrates, they are not afforded the same consideration as vertebrate animals.

"It was clear to me from the way it recoiled that the octopus could feel

significant pain," said Beryl. "I asked the researchers if they could categorically guarantee that invertebrates do not experience pain or suffering. They could not, so I suggested that the animals should be given the benefit of the doubt and the researchers complied."

Beryl says she is still fighting for similar consideration to be afforded to all invertebrates.

The infamously cruel "tether" by means of which a breeding sow is fixed to the concrete floor by a 20cm chain, effectively immobilising her for the sixteen weeks of her pregnancy, is to be phased out in South Africa by December 31, 1999.

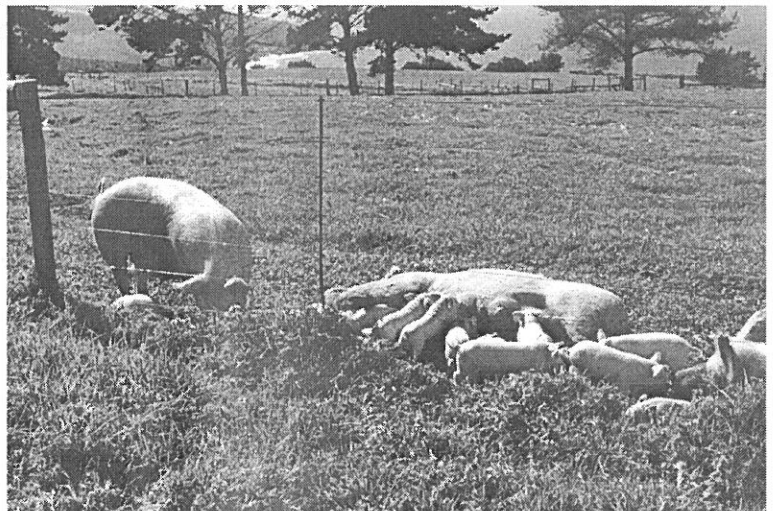
ACTION

Would you like all cosmetics and household products to state whether they contain animal by-products, or were tested on animals either in their finished form or at ingredient level? Tick whichever is applicable:

Yes ☐ Name:

No ☐ Address:
.....

Please post to BWC, PO Box 23321, Claremont 7735



Free to be what they are pigs enjoy the great outdoors at Elsenburg's pilot free-range project.

Top-selling science video now available to SA schools and colleges

Stimulus Response, an acclaimed new video achieving record sales in British schools, which focuses on the complex

psychological and behavioural make-up of farm animals, is now available to South African school children.

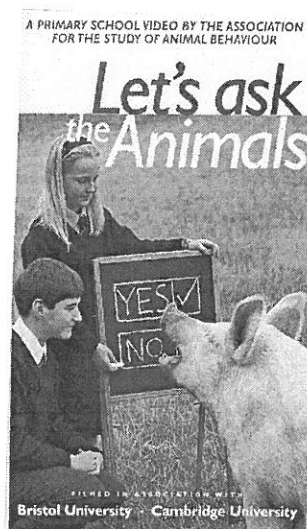
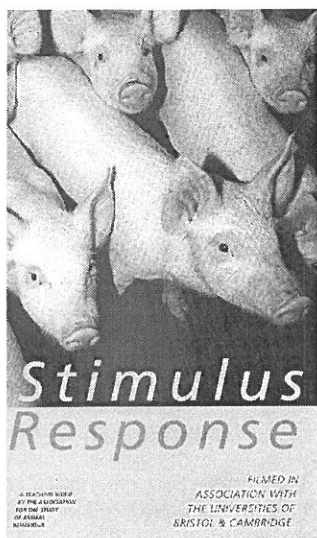
So far 50% of Britain's 5000 secondary schools are using

Teachers hail the videos as ideal for South Africa's thrust into Outcomes Based Education

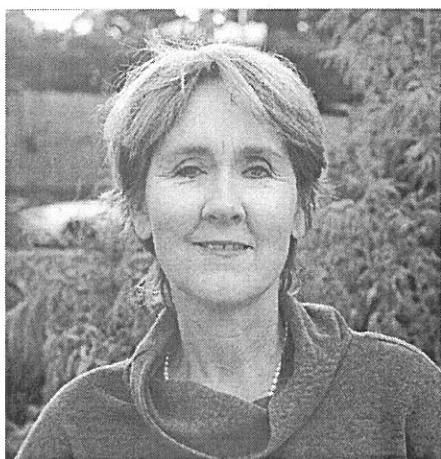
"Stimulus Response" in science and biology classes while agricultural, veterinary and undergraduate colleges are hailing it as a "unique" new teaching aid. In May more than 1000 copies of the German version **Reiz Reaktion**, were bought by German schools.

Produced by The Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour, **Stimulus Response** was filmed at Cambridge and Bristol University veterinary schools.

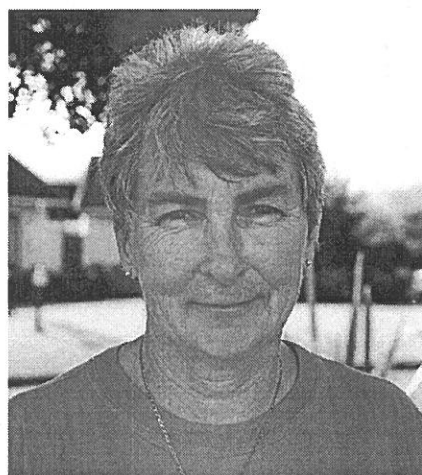
Let's Ask the Animals which is the primary school counterpart of "Stimulus Response" is already in use at more than 1000 primary schools in the UK.



How do SA teachers assess the videos?



Leonie Barnard, high school biology teacher, says: "I would recommend 'Stimulus Response' to all South African high schools. It fits in perfectly with both the Matric and 'A' Level syllabi, and is absolutely excellent. It opens one's eyes to these animals as I have not experienced before and where better to start with this, than with our youth? It is extremely stimulating."



Gay Lightfoot, primary school teacher for 21 years, says children – and adults – have become desensitised to the world around them. "I recommend **Let's Ask the Animals** to all primary schools because it promotes awareness in children to the needs of animals and the parallels which can be drawn between their lives and other life forms – parallels such as the need for companionship, space, exercise and social interaction. My class shrieked

Both videos are available to South African schools and colleges through the production and distribution facility of the Education Department, EDUMEDIA.

To order, please contact Edith at Edumedia: Tel: (021) 6899536; Fax: (021) 6857421

e-mail: media@edumedia.wcape.school.za

Stimulus Response is available at R27,00 plus p&p and **Let's Ask the Animals** is available at R25 plus p&p.

with delight when the man bounded out of his cage and, having watched all that went before, they were able to extend their exuberance to animals experiencing freedom for the first time too. They were amazed to see a chicken manoeuvre through an absolute maze of obstructions in order to find a nest and a pig being quicker to learn than a dog. One child said afterwards: 'I thought animals were meant to be stupid.'"



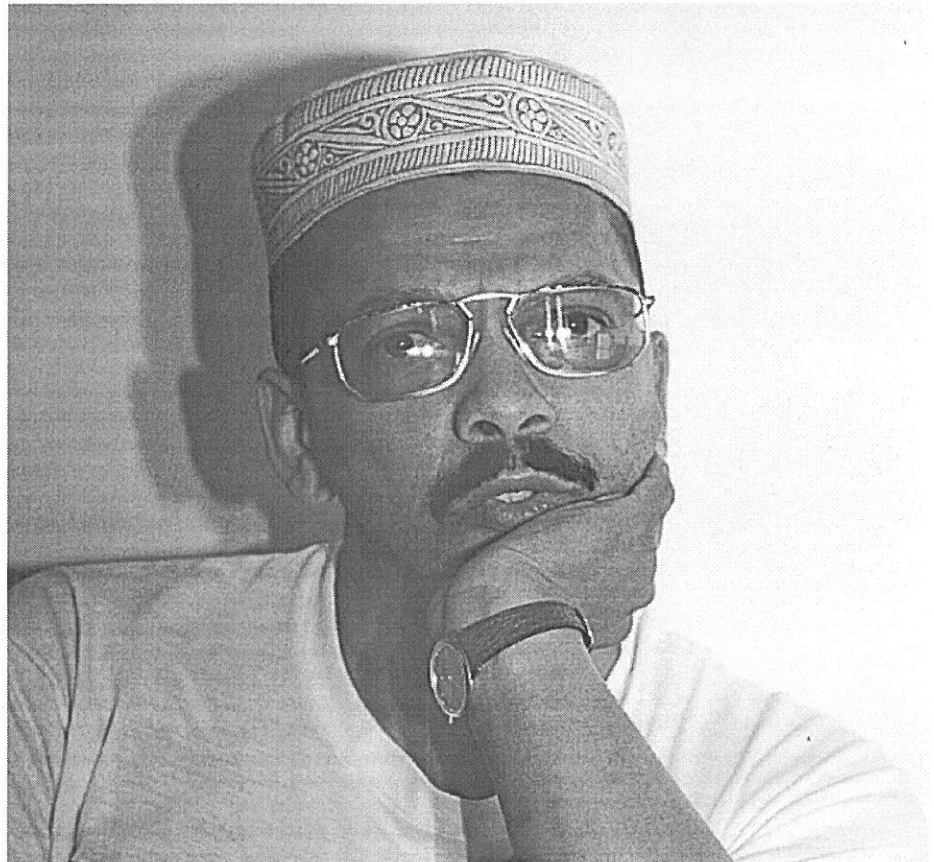
Former UDF leader and eminent Moslem theologian, DR FARID ESACK, has taken the struggle for justice and human rights in South Africa forward into the realm of gender equality, pointing out the parallels between racism and sexism and vociferously challenging Radio Islam's refusal to allow women on the air. Now, as a member of the Gender Equality Commission, he says the "struggle" needs to take a further giant step forward

ANIMAL VOICE: As a Commissioner for Gender Equality, you know and understand prejudice in all its irrationality and ugliness. We understand now that racists are prejudiced in favour of their own race; sexists are prejudiced in favour of their own sex. Would you agree we have another major prejudice to fight, namely speciesism – our prejudice in favour of our own species, at the cost of all non-human life?

DR ESACK: Yes, humankind is so wrapped up in itself that it thinks it is the axis around which the world rotates and that non-human species are there to entertain or sustain it. It requires an enormous leap of imagination to even begin to think of animals as enjoying something as fundamental as the right to life. But then again, didn't it require a massive leap of imagination on the part of slave owners in the 17th and 18th centuries to come to terms with the fact that slaves were actually human beings? Even today, in the Middle East and in countries like India and Pakistan, it requires a leap of imagination to realize that women exist in their own right, and are not mere appendages to men. Why can't we take the same position vis-a-vis animals? Despite the enormity of this leap of imagination, justice for animals is still a struggle that must be undertaken.

AV: It has been said that while the 20th Century was given to the fight for human rights, the 21st Century will be given to the fight for the rights of animals. The philosopher Tom Regan has said that non-human animals no more exist as a renewable resource for us than blacks for avaricious whites, or women for chauvinistic men. Would you agree with this?

DR ESACK: Yes, we do need to address this question, certainly within the next century, for two reasons. Firstly, for the sake of our own integrity and our own



elevation of consciousness and awareness of ourselves as part of a bigger cosmos. Secondly, on a more pragmatic level, for our own survival. There is no way we are going to survive as a species if we are not going to ensure the survival of our co-inhabitants of the earth. But how to assess rights is a difficult question. Would it not be very anthropocentric for human beings to impose their sense of the world and of rights onto non-human beings? Yet, should we not at least impose the higher values of humankind such as justice, kindness and compassion onto the animals? Animals respond to human kindness or unkindness therefore we know that animals 'feel'. But we must realise that it is for our own sake – for the development of the higher self – that we accord others, including animals, respect and dignity. For instance, I believe I will never be free as a male for as long as I

am engaged in a social dispensation that oppresses women.

AV: Dr Esack, you are a fish-fruitarian and haven't seen a doctor in 15 years which you believe, is at least in part due to your diet. What do you think about the billions of animals we slaughter without end for the 'luxury' of eating meat which we now know is not necessary for either our health or our survival?

DR ESACK: The interesting thing is that very often the people who eat animals do not have the courage to kill the animal themselves. It is like the death penalty. Everyone screams for it but squirms when asked to be the hangman. There is something in our deeper consciousness that surfaces, an awareness that killing is distasteful. That is why,

(Continued on page 19)

in order for us to buy meat, we need to have it wrapped in a non-recognisable form, decorated and trimmed.

AV: In his book, *Animal Theology*, the Rev Professor Andrew Linzey argues that the weak, disadvantaged or defenceless should be given not equal, but greater consideration; that they should have moral priority. Affirmative action is an example of how we empower the disadvantaged. How can we turn the mental switch of the nation so that the horrific plight of animals in the world today becomes a priority?

DR ESACK: I think that the struggle for animal rights needs to be main-streamed so that it actually characterises all spheres of our lives. When it comes to animal suffering we are all culpable. So I for one would like to see far greater media coverage of animal issues and especially on the origins of our diets. When we understand the history of the meat on our plates – what the Christmas turkey, for instance, was subjected to in the fattening process, in its transportation and in its slaughter, we may think twice before eating it.

Humankind has to be made aware of its own self-centredness. Only then can we begin to alert people to the sacredness of other forms of life.

AV: Our everyday language is liberally littered with remarks that entrench the notion that animals are not worthy of our consideration. For example, we hear: 'he was treated like an animal', 'we need to behave like human beings', 'he behaved like an animal'. Your comments please.

DR ESACK: If people are ostracised by society for using racist language (Toks

not speak out for those who cannot speak even if they are not persons?

AV: You have been quoted as saying that "The struggle for justice is not only about demanding what is ours but also about giving up what is not ours." I find this profoundly fitting to our use of animals. Would you agree?

DR ESACK: There were many men in the liberation struggle who did not extend their commitment to women. It requires an added dimension of awareness to take the struggle beyond the limited confines of your own personal

"The struggle for justice is not only about demanding what is ours but also about giving up what is not ours." – Dr Farid Esack.

perceptions. Again, we are so wrapped up in ourselves, we use words such as 'justice' too glibly. It is important to fight for what is ours, but integrity demands that we also give up what is not ours. If we can survive on a diet, for instance, which does not harm other living species, why not modify our diet? Or our clothing or our cosmetics?

AV: Dr Esack, we thank you for adding your insight to the struggle for animal liberation from human oppression.

For a world overview on animal protection tap into World Animal Net's website on: www.worldanimal.net

"For the animal shall not be measured by man. In a world older and more complete than ours, they move finished and complete, gifted with extensions of senses we have lost or never attained, living by voices we will never hear. They are not brethren, they are not underlings, they are other nations, caught with ourselves in the net of life and time, fellow prisoners of the splendour and travail of the earth." – Henry Beston.

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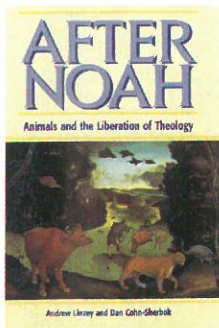
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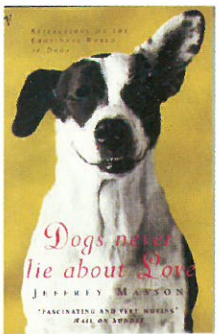
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PO Box 843, Kuils River 7579



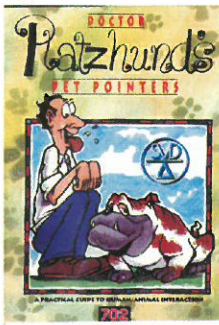
ADULT READING



After Noah: Animals and the Liberation of Theology by Andrew Linzey and Dan Cohn-Sherbok. The first comprehensive study of Jewish and Christian teaching about animals. R137,45 plus p&p



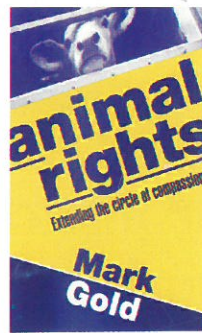
Dogs never Lie about Love by Jeffrey Mason. A delightful, joyous and moving book which delves into the emotional lives of dogs, their dreams, sadnesses, fears and loves. R89,95 plus p&p.



Dr Platzhund's Pet Pointers. No pet owner can afford to be without this invaluable and fascinating book written by South Africa's well-known veterinarian whom we so often see on TV and hear on radio. R50 plus p&p.

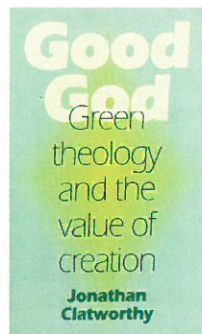


Slaughterhouse by Gail A. Eisnitz. Recounts Eisnitz's story as she submerges into the slaughterhouse subculture, venturing deep into the lives of slaughterhouse workers. Remarkably readable. R170,00 plus p&p

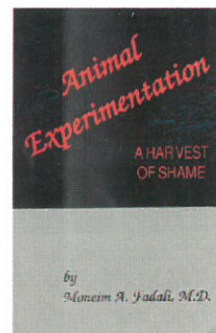


Animal Rights - Extending the Circle of Compassion by Mark Gold. Dispels the popular myth that those who protest about the treatment of animals, care more about dogs or cows than children or hungry people. R89,95 plus p & p.

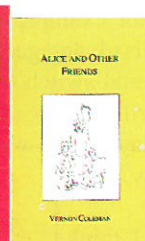
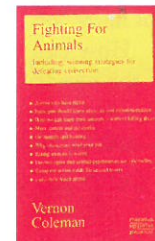
Good God - Green theology and the value of creation by Jonathan Clatworthy.



By mercilessly exposing inconsistencies in the Christian tradition, the author undermines virtually the whole of what Christianity stands for in the modern West. R169,95 plus p&p.

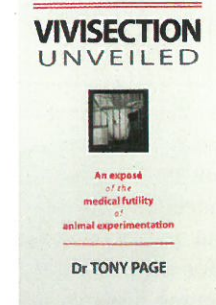


Animal Experimentation: A Harvest of Shame by Momeim A. Fadali, M.D., Cardiovascular and Thoracic Surgeon, USA. Dr Fadali lays before us a picture of the nightmares which we have created for humans, animals and all life on the planet. R210,00 plus p&p.



Fighting for Animals by Dr Vernon Coleman. Winning strategies for defeating vivisection. R89,95 plus p&p.

Also by Dr Coleman: **Alice and Other Friends**, gentle humour, colourful characters and anecdotes. A must-read for all cat lovers. Hardcover R150,00 plus p&p



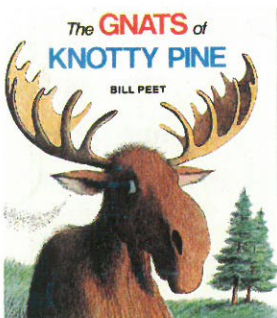
Vivisection Unveiled by Dr Tony Page. Dr Page shows that many scientists who experiment on living animals are actually aware of the futility of their work. Price R89,95 plus p&p.

KIDS' BOOKS

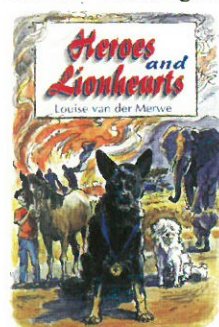
Please see order form on page 19

The Gnats of Knotty Pine by Bill Peet

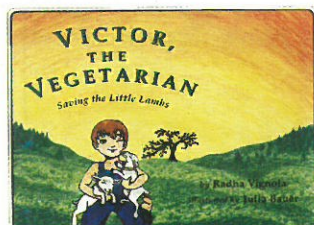
All the animals fear the return of the hunters to Knotty Pine Forest. Luckily, the clever gnats come up with a plan to drive the hunters out. Will it work? An exciting tale packed with colourful illustrations. R80,00 plus p&p.



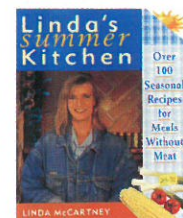
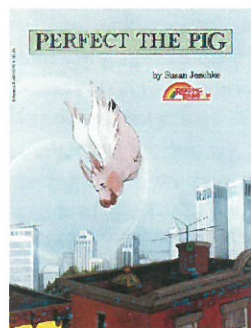
Heroes and Lionhearts by Louise van der Merwe. Featuring the NSPCA's Awards for Bravery, we read about unsung heroes - animal and human - who have risked their lives for each other. Winner of one international and two local awards. R35,00 plus p&p.



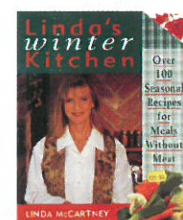
Victor, the Vegetarian by Radha Vignola. This heartwarming story of courage and compassion follows the struggles of Victor, a young boy who saves two baby lambs - and discovers a lot about himself along the way. Ages 3 - 7. R90,00 plus p&p.



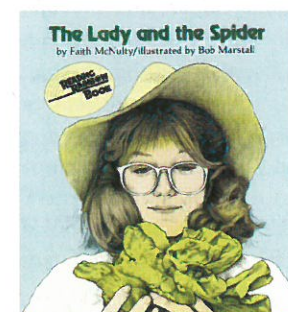
Perfect the Pig by Susan Jeschke. A kind artist shares her apartment with a winged piglet called Perfect. Then Perfect is stolen. Youngsters will cheer when Perfect escapes the circus and returns to the person who loves him. For ages 5 - 8. R53,00 plus p&p.



Linda McCartney's famous vegetarian recipe books: **Summer Kitchen Recipes** and **Winter Kitchen Recipes** (each with more than 100 recipes). R50,00 each plus p&p. Linda's message to the world before her death was "Go veggie!"



The Lady and the Spider by Faith McNulty. The green hills and valleys of a lettuce leaf make a cozy home for a tiny garden spider. How could she know that her 'home' would be destined for a salad bowl? A beautifully illustrated story about respect for all creatures. For ages 6 - 9. R67,00 plus p&p.



Animal Voice