Animal Care Australia

The Animal Care Expert

Quarterly newsletter of ANIMAL CARE AUSTRALIA INC.

"Animal welfare by the experts — those who keep, care for and breed animals"

Inside this edition:

⇒ Australian Animal Welfare Strategy

⇒ ACA testifies at Inquiry into charitable organisations

⇒ Laws that fail — what is done to rectify them?

⇒ Responsible pet ownership of Aust vulnerable critters

⇒ RSPCA to have more powers than police in Victoria

June 2024. Volume 6. Issue 2. ISSN 2625-0818

Disclaimer: Opinions expressed in the Animal Care Expert do not necessarily represent those of Animal Care Australia (ACA) Inc . No responsibility is accepted for the opinions, advice and statements contained herein. Readers should rely on their own enquiries/research in making decisions relating to their own interests.

Copyright: All articles in this newsletter are written by committee representative and members of ACA or reproduced from other sources with permission and appropriate acknowledgments. No material herein may be reproduced without the permission of the ACA Committee.

Sponsors & Advertisements: All logos, banners & advertising displayed within this newsletter are the property of their respective owners, and the listing of organisations/ companies, does not constitute endorsement or recommendation by Animal Care Australia. In addition it is not intended to imply, directly or indirectly, that those parties or individuals endorse or have any affiliation or influence with Animal Care Australia.

Hyperlink/URL's: Readers that follow links to the web sites of third-parties do so at their own risk.

Cover Image: wallpaperflare.com

Image this page: wallpaperflare.com

Animal welfare is animal care.

"Animal Care Australia acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we reside, and pay our respects to their Elders past and present."

In This Issue:

4 HEADLINE ARTICLE: Developing an improved Australian Animal Welfare Strategy

6 Submissions, news & correspondence

11 Introducing the ACA Library

12 Containers for cash

14 Membership renewals

15 ACA testifies at NSW Inquiry into the Approved Charitable Organisations under POCTAA

17 Meetings with Government & politicians

18 Have Your Say!

19 Media Release: Horse Riders recognised as vulnerable road users in Victoria

21 Media Release: Victoria to grant RSPCA with more powers than Police.

22 Media Release: Tiny Timmie leads the way for brumby solution

24 ACA Vacant positions

27 Introducing ACA's Insect & Arachnid Representative

28 Responsible pert ownership of Australia's vulnerable critters

30 Laws that fail — what is done to rectify them?

33 Responding to NPWS Dealing in native birds code of practice

35 Cats and Winter

38 President's Round-up

39 Vet Help & Resources

41 ACA Committee

42 ACA Information

Watch out for our next issue in Sept 2024.

Click to read our previous issues

Headline Article:

Developing an improved Australian Animal Welfare Strategy

Renewal of the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy

Animal welfare is animal care.

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) has commenced public consultation on the renewal of the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy (AAWS), with the objective of providing a framework for a national approach to animal welfare in Australia.

The previous AAWS lapsed in 2014. A renewed AAWS will establish Australia's commitment to modern, sustainable, evidence and science-based welfare practices.

The renewed AAWS will be jointly led by the Australian, and state and territory governments, built on a principles-based framework, and informed by broad engagement and feedback during consultation.

The strategy will be released in chapters, each dedicated to one of 6 animal groups: livestock and production animals; aquatic animals (including aquatic animals in production and wildlife); animals in the wild (native, introduced and feral animals); companion animals; animals used for work, sport and recreation; and animals used in research and teaching.

DAFF is now inviting written submissions on the renewal of the AAWS. Share your views and insights on the challenges and opportunities for animal welfare in Australia through **www.agriculture.gov.au/haveyoursay/aaws**.

There will be further consultation opportunities over the next 3 years as the strategy is developed. If you would like to receive updates on the progress of consultation, you can subscribe for AAWS notifications through the Have Your Say page, linked above.

Find out more about the strategy on DAFF's website: **agriculture.gov.au/agriculture-land/animal/welfare/aaws**

Animal Care Australia's perspective:

It is important that everyone subscribes via the Have Your Say link above.

The animal rights groups will be flooding each stage of this strategy with their ideological demands. The only way we will be able to counter that and balance the feedback is if everyone responds.

As each stage is released Animal Care Australia will provide the necessary points of concern through our Species Advisory Groups and Members E-mail-out. All we will ask is that you and your organisations take the time to respond either via a submission or complete the surveys.

It is important that when answering you focus your responses around the following:

⇒ improving animal welfare outcomes

⇒ ensuring animal keeping stakeholders are involved in all aspects of the strategy

⇒ educating the public

⇒ animal rights and ideological viewpoints and the organisations that lobby for these have no place within the strategy or Australia's animal welfare legislation.

Of course you must respond in your own words but keeping the above points in mind will send the right messages to the Strategy Task Group.

Animal welfare is animal care.

Submissions & Correspondence Reports

Victorian Cat Management Strategy

April 2024: Animal Care Australia responded to the strategy.

ACA supports the protection of native flora and fauna above that of introduced species, therefore ACA supports the removal of feral cats from the environment, however with strategies that maintain humane methods of removal.

ACA continues to support initiatives that are designed to educate the public on responsible pet ownership.

The term 'Cat Welfare' as it is used in the CMS appears to be used to describe the shelter and pound industry and not the welfare outcomes of cats.

"pre-pubertal desexing (by 4 months)," is not supported by ACA as this is not prioritising a cat's wellbeing

While ACA welcomes the opportunity to review laws and processes it is vital to remind everyone that 'restrictive pet ownership is NOT responsible pet ownership'.

You can read our full submission here:

Mount Barker Draft Animal Management Plan

May 2024: ACA has responded to the draft Plan.

It is pleasing to see Council acknowledging the health benefits that dogs and cats can bring. We remind Council that this also applies to ALL pets and not just dogs and cats.

ACA commends Council on their approach and policy of educating residents about responsible pet ownership.

ACA commends Council for participating in the National De-sexing Network (NDN) for low-income earners to receive subsidised desexing of their animals.

Highlights of our feedback:

It is also important that consideration is provided by Council for fostering of cats and dogs which currently do not appear to fit within the permanency requirements of the permit system.

ACA notes the requirement of lost dogs to be held for only 72 hours (under the Act) while cats must be held for 7 days. We strongly argue 72 hours is insufficient time for owners

Cont'd next page...

Animal welfare is animal care.

and therefore the same time to be provided by Council as for cats.

You can read our full response here:

Consultation on Central Highlands state forests

May 2024: Animal Care Australia responded to the consultation.

ACA does not support the use of surveys as the sole means of consultation especially when the response is limited to 1000 characters and has a restricted required postcode field applicable to postcodes within the area of concern. This excludes state or national organisations from responding. Accordingly, ACA submitted a written response to the Panel and the Minister responsible outlining these concerns AND providing our responses to the questions.

In order to ensure our feedback was heard, we completed the survey questions — providing an acceptable postcode. Our feedback included:

Existing easements via freehold land should be kept open, to ensure trails are kept clear and are fire safe. Where this is genuinely not possible, an alternative access route is created nearby from a public road or crown land.

All Central Highlands state forest trails that are suitable for vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians be made accessible to horse riders, seven days a week unless there is a valid reason to temporarily close access – such as bad weather.

Our correspondence can be found here

City of Mitcham — Draft Animal Management Plan 2024 -2028

May 2024: Animal Care Australia responded to The City of Mitcham's draft Animal Manage-ment Plan 2024-2028.

Some of our feedback included:

Not supporting a survey only form of consultation that was restricted to residents only.

Animal Care Australia therefore corresponded with the Mayor, Councillors and the department conducting the survey in order to ensure our feedback was heard.

Animal Care Australia does not support Council's stance on dog training methods.

Animal Care Australia does support 24/7 cat containment to the owners property — but with additional caveats.

Animal Care Australia supports the additional elements utilised by Council when processing excess animal permits, however do not support restrictions on the number of pets a resident can keep when those pets are having all of their welfare needs met.

Cont'd next page...

Animal welfare is animal care.

Animal Care Australia provided additional feedback on a number of issues, requested we be included as a stakeholder moving forward and welcomes the opportunity to meet with Council to discuss our concerns.

You can read our full response here

Draft Core Skills Occupations List consultation

May 2024: Animal Care Australia provided feedback on the proposed list of positions within the Animal Care & Management category for inclusion in the Migrant Employment Strategy.

Animal Care Australia Committee members have experience in and carry out the training of individuals who occupy the proposed occupations.

Our feedback supported most of the proposed list.

You can read our full response here:

Banyule Council Public Order for dogs & cats

May 2024: Animal Care Australia responded to Banyule City Council's Public Order for dogs & cats.

Our feedback included:

* Support of a 24 hour cat confinement to the owners property — but with outlined caveats.

* Not supporting the proposed restrictions for dogs in open spaces particularly sporting fields.

* Called out the lack of appropriate stakeholder feedback to date.

* Called for ambiguity relating to permit requirements for breeders to be clearly outlined.

* Called for Council to adopt initiatives that support the keeping of dogs & cats rather than the proposed restrictions.

* Supported the need for greater community inclusion in decision making as well as transition periods for implementation of any changes.

* Requested to meet with Council to discuss all matters further.

You can read our full response here:

FEI Equine Welfare Strategy

May 2024: ACA has responded to the Fédération Équestre Internationale (FEI) strategy.

ACA commends the Equine Ethics & Wellbeing Commission Final Report for its recommendations for FEI to introduce horse welfare science, Ethics and Regulation for its horses in sport. ACA supports a Good Life for Horses.

Cont'd next page...

Animal welfare is animal care.

It is long overdue that FEI also adopt these principles and in principle, ACA supports the adoption of all thirty recommendations by the FEI and its National Federations (NFs). ACA also agrees with all of the concerns identified within the six priority areas of focus of the Final report. ACA noted the Final Report appears to be primarily concerned with Social Licence to Operate and the potential ramifications of losing public support for equestrian sport, rather than concern for the horses involved in FEI sports.

ACA sincerely believe that this report represents a significant step toward effecting real change within the FEI. However, we remain cautiously optimistic.

You can read our full submission here

Residential Tenancies Amendment (Animals in Residential Premises) Bill 2024

May 2024: Animal Care Australia provided feedback to NSW Members of the Upper House in support of the proposed amendment related to preventing landlords unreasonably refusing permission for tenants to keep animals on residential premises.

In light of the current housing crisis, Animal Care Australia hopes this Bill is assented without delay.

The text of the Bill can be found here:

Our letter to the Ministers is here:

NSW Inquiry into the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Amendment (Virtual Stock Fencing) Bill 2024

May 2024: Animal Care Australia provided a submission to the NSW Inquiry.

Highlights of the points from our submission include:

Animal Care Australia supports the amend-ment to permit virtual fencing.

Animal Care Australia questions why this amendment only applies to livestock and farm animals.

Animal Care Australia recommends that the Bill is not limited to stock animals and incudes companion animals.

Animal Care Australia also made recommendations that allowed for a greater inclusion of GPS and tracking devices to be recognised as part of the Bill, including providing an exception to the legislation when a device is emitting an audio or illumination warning.

You can read our full submission here:

South Australian Animal Welfare Act Draft Bill

May 2024: Animal Care Australia has responded to the draft Bill.

Cont'd next page...

Animal welfare is animal care.

This Bill makes unacceptable changes giving authorised officers (RSPCA & Local Council Officers) greater powers that are equal to and in certain sections greater than South Australia Police. The top points:

* Animal Care Australia DOES NOT SUPPORT the RSPCA as authorised officers.

* Animal Care Australia DOES NOT SUPPORT the licensing of animal events, activities, shows etc simply because they include animals.

* Animal Care Australia TOTALLY OPPOSES the removal of your right to remain silent by ordering you to answer questions without legal counsel.

That was just in the first few sections of the Bill. There was more including the possibility of aquarium owners being charged with animal cruelty offences because their fish fed on other fish or other pets fed on fish. ACA is seeking this to be cleared up before the Act is finalised.

Animal Care Australia will be seeking meetings with all relevant Ministers & Parties in order to voice our concerns with this Bill.

You can read our full submission here

Breeder reforms: Updating the Dog and Cat Management Act

June 2024: Animal Care Australia has responded to the consultation of the draft Bill. Some of the feedback included:

1. ACA opposes the RSPCA as Authorised Officers enforcing this Bill. ALL authorised officers MUST be employed by the State and not charitable organisations.

2. ACA opposes the RSPCA holding a seat on the Dog and Cat Management Board.

3. ACA supports the inclusion of animal welfare into the Objects of the Bill.

4. ACA opposes the insertion of IGP Dog Sports and their dogs into the definition of 'attack trained dog.'

5. ACA questions the requirement of an owner of a semen/ova provider to be registered as a breeder. The functionality of this is not clear and raises doubt as to how it will be viewed/considered by the Dog and Cat Management Board when samples can be frozen and not used for up to a decade.

6. ACA supports publishing and adopting standards and guidelines BUT only AFTER public consultation.

7. ACA recommends provisions that allow for a period of time to appeal the revoking of the breeders' license – to ensure animals are not immediately seized until said appeal is heard and a determination finalised.

8. ACA supports a register of breeders – BUT – not where private details of breeders can be accessed by the public. Suitable precautions (such as blind linking) must be implemented to protect the breeder's privacy.

Cont'd next page...

ACA requested meetings with the Board and Minister to further discuss our concerns.

You can read our full submission here:

Introducing the Animal Care Australia Library

This is the location to find all of our important documents.

- Links to our submissions and other communications
- Organisational documents - such as our Operations Manual
- Animal Welfare Policy documents
- ACE Newsletters and more.

It is all located right here: https://www.animalcareaustralia.org.au/aca-library/

Containers for Cash

Do you have a recycling bin FULL of bottles and cans! Did you know these can help organisations like Animal Care Australia to continue supporting the rights to keep pets?

You can now support Animal Care Australia by returning your cans and bottles to Containers for Cash stations in QLD, WA, VIC and NSW. For each returned bottle or can, Animal Care Australia will get a donation!

This is a great way for you, our supporters, to make a donation and recycle! Showing your love for the work our volunteers do and for our planet at the same time!

To donate in NSW : Get the app: https://returnandearn-app.com/ or,

Select us from the charities list at the Return & Earn Collection Point.

Donate TODAY!

C11377668

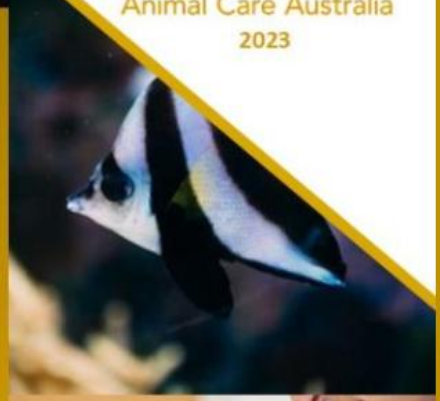
The code to donate in QLD and WA is C11377668—and scan the barcode above to get the app.

In Victoria: Use the barcode below to upload the app and donate when returning your containers for cash at local CDS VIC West, CDS VIC East and CDS VIC North (Visy) Zones.

C2000011352

ACA needs your support!

Animal Care Australia
2023



IT'S TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

So we can support you and your pets!

"Animal welfare is animal care"

www.animalcareaustralia.org.au

Animal welfare by the experts — those who keep, care for and breed animals

Membership Renewal Time

We'd like to thank you for your membership with Animal Care Australia.

Ways to renew:

Login and renew online - https://www.animalcareaustralia.org.au/join/

Go to our Join page and download the membership form & return it with your receipt of direct deposit payment or cheque (via post or email).

Membership Category & Fees:

Small Member Association (Club/Community Organisation): $25.00 per year. *Available to organisations with 50 members or less.*

Large Member Association (Club/Community Organisation): $100.00 per year. *Available to large organisations with greater than 50 members.*

Supporter (individual): $10.00 per year. *Avail to individuals (18+ yrs.)*

Small Supporting Business: $25.00 per year. *Available to small businesses*

Large Supporting Business: $100.00 per year. *Available to large businesses*

Renewals are due by 31st July 2024.

Members get access to our Members & Supporters Discussion Group as well as our Species Advisory Groups.

We have been busy over the past 12 months & we hope you have been keeping up to date via our Facebook Page, Newsletter and Website.

ACA is recognised as a primary stakeholder by all animal welfare agencies nationally. ACA continues to advocate for you and your pets.

Please remember, ACA is not government funded, we rely solely on your membership fees to continue to speak up for you. We are a 100% volunteer run organisation, and we need you to help us, so that we can support you at all levels of government.

If you joined on or after the 1st March 2024, then your membership has been extended to expire 30th June 2025, so no need to renew this time.

We look forward to your continued support over the next 12 months.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Thanks,

Michelle Grayson

Secretary – Animal Care Australia

(secretary@animalcareaustralia.org.au)

ACA testifies at Inquiry into the operation of the approved charitable organisations under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979

Animal welfare is animal care.

Pictured on story cover: Michael Donnelly (left) - ACA President and Sam Davis (right) - ACA Vice President.

26th April 2024 - Opening Statement.

Good morning Chair and Committee,

I request this statement be tabled.

In 2019 Animal Care Australia supported a recommendation that resulted in the creation of this annual Inquiry in order to address concerns that the charitable organisations were not accountable for their actions or the services they provide on behalf of the state.

Some five years later Animal Care Australia is not in a position to confidently state that much has changed. Having said that, it is pleasing for us to continue to support the ethos of the Animal Welfare League and while we would like to see some additional breakdown of financial reporting, we wish to make it clear that today the AWL will not be the focus of our testimony.

This morning, I was originally intending to outline the major points from our submission.

Instead though I will simply make the following points:

- Early 2023 the NSW Govt gave the RSPCA an additional $20m for enforcement and in the same financial year an additional $10.5m for various upgrades. This year the RSPCA testified that $20m must continue for them to be able to continue to provide that enforcement.
- RSPCA has their shiny new shelter while other shelters have either closed or are providing a reduced service.
- Local Councils across the State have been told they are now solely responsible for the intake of surrenders. Makes one wonder what will be filling that new shelter?
- The CEO and Chief Inspector have publicly stated the RSPCA has a new focus of being enforcers – perhaps that's due to a potential annual $20m incentive?
- Touted as animal welfare experts by the current and previous Governments and yet:
- Supported and were complicit in the removal of a prohibition of aerial culling during foaling season. In fact to then defend their position claimed there is no such thing as a foaling season.
- Declared taking an average of 7 to 15 shots to kill a horse meets animal welfare standards.
- Euthanised 50 birds seized from an animal hoarder – all who had been diagnosed with an affordably treatable disease. Something any bird owner could have completed within a few weeks.

Cont'd next page...

-

- While not isolated cases these two examples illustrates the lack of concern about the welfare of the animals and a determination to prosecute the owners at all cost.

Animal welfare is animal care.

Since previously appearing at this Inquiry the Queensland government has altered the procedures the RSPCA QLD must follow before any prosecution can proceed. They are now being held somewhat more accountable. This falls in line with Western Australia. In the ACT the DPP prosecute cruelty cases.

There is a growing catch-cry of what meets the social-license for actions being taken by organisations and the social appetite for the RSPCA is diminishing. Almost every state has been forced to look at the actions of their RSPCA and each of them found the need for greater accountability.

Importantly when asked during the Brumby Inquiry to explain the RSPCA's position on the welfare impacts of aerial culling Mr Coleman stated:

"Any submission that's provided, be it by RSPCA NSW or RSPCA Australia, is theoretical in nature, based on references. It's potentially dangerous to restrict certain activities where processes can be improved."

I leave the Committee with those

Meetings with Govts and Politicians

2024:

10th April: Emma Kealy MP—VIC Shadow Agriculture Minister

17th April: Trevor Pisciotta — Executive Director Regulatory Policy & Programs, Animal Welfare Victoria

17th April— Janie Finlay MP— TAS Shadow Agriculture Minister

8th May: Australian Animal Welfare Strategy — Animal Welfare and Strategy Section, Animal Welfare Branch, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (Aust Govt)

Animal welfare is animal care.

Have your say!

Have Your Say – Renewing the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy

All Australian Governments are working together to renew the Australian Animal Welfare Strategy (AAWS) with the objective of providing a framework for a national approach to animal welfare in Australia.

Written submissions on the renewal of the AAWS are now being invited, through the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry's Have Your Say platform.

Share your views and insights on the challenges and opportunities for animal welfare in Australia. Have Your Say here: www.agriculture.gov.au/haveyoursay/aaws

Additional engagement opportunities will be advertised through the Have Your Say platform, make sure to subscribe for updates.

Send feedback to us: **aca@animalcareaustralia.org.au** no later than 11.59pm 26th June so that we have time to include it.

NSW Dealing in protected birds draft code of practice

NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service seeks feedback on the draft dealing in protected birds code of practice.

The draft code of practice (COP) sets out the compliance and management requirements for the private keeping of code regulated birds as listed in the Code regulated bird list.

You can have your say directly via the link: https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/licences-and-permits/wildlife-licences/wildlife-licensing-reforms/dealing-in-protected-birds-draft-code-of-practice?

ACA will also be submitting to this Review so if you would prefer to send us your feedback please email to aca@animalcareaustralia.org.au by no later than 26th June 2024 to ensure we have time to include it.

Image: Wallpaperflare.com

Animal welfare is animal care.

MEDIA RELEASE: HORSE RIDERS TO BE RECOGNISED AS VULNERABLE ROAD USERS IN VICTORIA

The Victorian Legislative Assembly Economy and Infrastructure Committee's Final Report for the Inquiry into the impact of road safety behaviours on vulnerable road users has been released, bringing particularly positive news for horse riders.

In May 2023, peak animal welfare body Animal Care Australia worked together with national equestrian association Bitless Inc, to conduct a survey of equestrian experiences on Victorian roads. The results of that survey were presented in submissions by both organisations and witness testimony to the Inquiry.

All but one of Animal Care Australia's recommendations were adopted by the Inquiry Committee.

Between 2019 and 2023, two riders and at least six horses were killed on Victorian roads.

Karri Nadazdy, Horse & Livestock Representative of Animal Care Australia said: "We were concerned to see that horse riders and carriage drivers were not recognised as vulnerable road users in the establishment of this inquiry, but today, we are delighted to see the Committee recommend that horse riders be included in the definition of vulnerable road users in future. This means horse riders will be considered when policy is made that affects us."

Beyond being recognised as vulnerable road users, horse riders stand to gain from several of the 56 Recommendations in the Final Report, many of which were advocated for by Animal Care Australia. These include the development of a vulnerable road users' advisory group to contribute to development of road safety interventions; awareness campaigns and new avenues on where to report dangerous driving; adding the words 'Pass wide and slow' on diamond road signs alerting drivers to horses in the area; and review the need to specify a lower speed limit when motorists pass horses in the road rules.

Recommendation 1: The Victorian Government develop a road user hierarchy system to provide guidance so that all road users understand their responsibility towards others' safety on the road was adopted from Animal Care Australia's submission, and could be the most significant to benefit horse riders.

"The recently implemented hierarchy of road users in the UK prioritises the safety of the most vulnerable individuals - pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders - by placing them at the forefront" said Ms Nadazdy. "This system de-

Animal welfare is animal care.

emphasises the convenience of motor vehicles, which has traditionally overshadowed the needs of others."

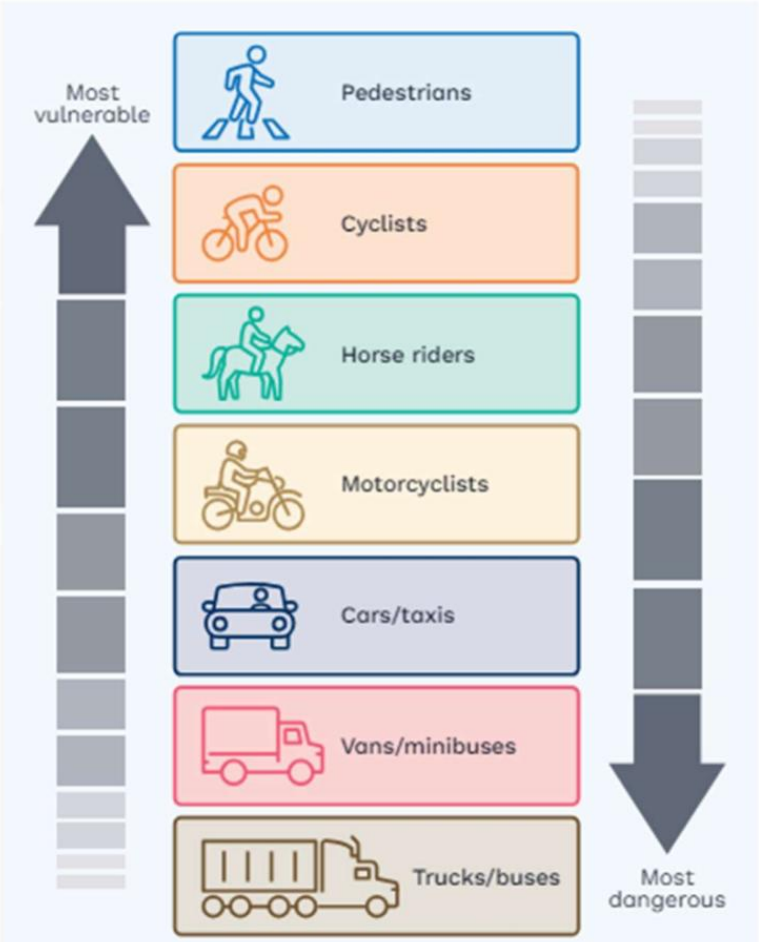
The Final Report by the Committee still needs to be accepted and then implemented by the Victorian Government. Animal Care Australia thanks the Legislative Assembly Economy and Infrastructure Committee's work to date, and will continue to engage with the Victorian government to ensure these recommendations come to fruition.

The full report can be found here:

ACA's Opening statement for the Inquiry:

ACA's Submission to the Inquiry:

2022)



Source: Adapted from Slater and Gordon Lawyers UK, 'The new 'Hierarchy of Road Users' gives those most vulnerable on the roads, the highest priority putting pedestrians and cyclists at the top of the list'. Facebook post. 2 February 2022, <https://www.facebook.com/slaterandgordonUK/photos/a.10151273354153366/10158580032623366> accessed 28 November 2023.

Animal welfare is animal care.

MEDIA RELEASE: VICTORIA TO GRANT RSPCA INSPECTORS MORE POWERS THAN POLICE

Peak Animal Welfare organisation Animal Care Australia has raised significant concerns regarding Victoria's draft Animal Care & Protection Bill, which is currently in its final stage of review.

The draft Animal Care & Protection Bill will replace the current Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986 (the POCTA Act).

Animal Care Australia has expressed deep concerns over the unwarranted expansion of powers granted to Authorised Officers. Authorised Officers, as defined by the Bill, included but may not be limited to, RSPCA inspectors and some Council officers as well as Victorian Police Officers.

Animal Care Australia strongly opposes the appointment of authorised officers under the Bill who are acting in the same, if not greater, capacity as Police. The Bill gives RSPCA and Council Officers the right of entry without consent or a warrant to look for any evidence of an offence – they do not need to have any suspicions or reports of an offence having been committed.

"Police and Councils have certain levels of accountability for their Officers' actions and behaviour at work, without indemnity if they break the law while carrying out their duties" said Michael Donnelly, President of Animal Care Australia. "This Bill enhances the ability of the RSPCA to abuse its powers, as it has no such oversight or accountability. More concerning is that all authorised officers have been indemnified from legal repercussions while enforcing this legislation. This is completely unacceptable."

Animal Care Australia also opposes Section 236: 'Requirement to give information to authorised officer during entry'. "The bill's blatant disregard of a person's right to be silent is appalling" said Mr Donnelly, "While there is a clause which provides for a person to remain silent so as not to incriminate themselves, most people will not be advised of this right or even worse not realise they are in fact incriminating themselves until it is too late. It is unthinkable that charitable organisations should be granted more power to interrogate people than the Police have."

"For far too long the RSPCA has been stepping outside of the acceptable boundaries other law enforcement agencies are bound by with state governments too afraid to reign them in. Here we see the Allan Government actively encouraging the RSPCA instead of making them work with Police."

Complicating matters further, The majority of the Regulations referred to in the draft bill do not yet exist, making it even more difficult for welfare organisations to consult on the appropriateness of the draft bill for Victorian animal owners.

Animal Care Australia also highlighted other anomalies in the bill, including the term 'animal welfare' being replaced by animal rights jargon; the requirement of a license to hold any event, activity or exhibition involving animals; and undeveloped foetus and eggs being included in the definition of 'animal' and subject to animal cruelty investigations.

Media Release is here::

MEDIA RELEASE: TINY TIMMIE LEADS THE WAY FOR BRUMBY SOLUTION

Animal welfare is animal care.

On Friday, 14th June, 2024, a group of up to 200 brumby supporters met at Hyde Park in Sydney to protest the ongoing aerial culling of wild horses in Kosciusko National Park.

Protesters congregated with a wide array of placards, banners, slogans and even a miniature horse called Tiny Timmie. The 64cm grey equine proudly and confidently lead the protest march from Hyde Park to Parliament House, and certainly drew a crowd in Sydney's city centre!

Timmie wore signs depicting Animal Care Australia's proposal for 'Brumby Wonderland'. It's a tongue in cheek name for a serious proposal for NSW government to support the creation of an all-purpose facility to manage the legislated ongoing care of wild horses as well as wildlife in Kosciusko National Park.

"Brumby Wonderland would not just be a centralised facility for the horses to be counted, monitored and rehomed" said Karri Nadazdy, owner of Tiny Timmie, and the Horses & Livestock Representative of Animal Care Australia. "It would also include brumby tourism activities, as well as a veterinary clinic, wildlife sanctuary and visitor accommodation. The tourism and all-inclusive nature of Brumby Wonderland would provide benefits to the community while being financially self-sustaining."

A Parliamentary Inquiry into Proposed aerial shooting of brumbies in Kosciuszko National Park was established in August 2023, has completed 4 days of hearings and is still ongoing. However aerial culling was commenced by NPWS without waiting for the outcome of the Inquiry. The proposal for Brumby Wonderland was presented to the Parliamentary inquiry as well as directly to the NSW Environment Minister, Penny Sharpe.

"The brumbies of Kosciuszko National Park, while valued for their heritage and highly sought after as riding horses, are subjected to being shot on average 7.5 times per animal. This practice undermines the principles of humane treatment of animals." said Ms Nadazdy. "Brumbies are completely neglected and then mass culled – how is this responsible animal or Park management? Our proposal ensures that the horses are cared for properly while under the responsibility of NPWS, are captured and rehomed appropriately, while also restricting their access to sensitive areas of Kosciusko National Park. Tourists would be able to visit and see the progress being made to restore the natural environment, interact with brumbies and see the local wildlife for themselves."

Animal Care Australia's full submission can be found on the Parliamentary Inquiry website:

Photos: Tracey Dierikx

ACA Vacant Positions

Social Media Coordinator

Experience

- Current social media marketing experience
- Communication skills (oral & written)
- Time management
- Able to work as part of a Team
- Proficient in MS Office and a working knowledge in Adobe Photoshop and other editing tools
- Solid editing and presentation skills
- Creative and innovative

Specific Tasks

- Work with the Animal Care Australia Executive to ensure policy issues are coordinated and effectively communicated.
- Develop and implement innovative campaigns to actively promote the organisation, its objectives with the aim of increasing membership across all social media platforms, with a particular focus on Tik Tok, Instagram and X (formerly Twitter).
- Liaise with the Animal Care Australia Animal Species Representatives to ensure species relevant information is presented with accurate, science-based facts.
- Assist with the development and scheduling of social media posts and other content.
- Draft press releases, and develop relationships with media representatives. and monitor relevant news and content.
- Maintain awareness with the latest social media platform developments.
- Provide up to date reports and articles for Animal Care Australia's social communications – social media, website and newsletter. This includes:
- Track key metrics such as audience engagement, impressions, reach, etc
- Abide by and support Animal Care Australia's Code of Ethics, Mission Statement, Objects, Constitution, Communication Policy and Anti-discrimination & Harassment Policy.
- Other duties as necessary

If you would like to join the Animal Care Australia Team or you know someone who would be ideal for the position please apply via SEEK Volunteer or email us at: aca@animalcareaustralia.org.au

State & Territory Advisory Team (STAT) Representatives

Experience:

ACA is seeking a person who has reasonable advocacy experience and an understanding of the differences between animal rights and animal welfare.

Essential:

- ⇒ **Communication skills (oral & written)**
- ⇒ **Time management**
- ⇒ **Able to work as part of a Team**
- ⇒ **Specific Tasks**
- ⇒ **Monitor the increasing activities of government, local councils and animal activism within a designated State/territory or local area.**
- ⇒ **Undertake work including drafting of advice, research and analyse current legislation and policies and prepare associated reports for consideration by the Animal Care Australia Committee.**
- ⇒ **Work with the Animal Care Australia Committee/Animal Species Representatives to ensure policy issues are coordinated and effectively communicated.**
- ⇒ **Provide support to the Animal Care Australia Executive to allow effective coordination of the organisations' response to individual situations.**
- ⇒ **Abide by and support Animal Care Australia's Code of Ethics, Mission Statement, Objects, Constitution, Communication Policy and Anti-discrimination & Harassment Policy.**
- ⇒ **Other duties as necessary.**

Additional (optional) Tasks

- ⇒ **Provide up to date reports and articles for Animal Care Australia's social communications – social media, website and newsletter.**
- ⇒ **Assist in the promotion of Animal Care Australia and its objectives with the aim of increasing membership.**

STAT will be watching out for issues of concern in each state or territory, advising and supporting the ACA Committee in responding.

We are always looking for more members of the Team, especially members who live in WA, SA, TAS, NT & the ACT.

ACA hopes to have multiple representatives in each state or territory.

seek volunteer

If you would like to join the Animal Care Australia Team or you know someone who would be ideal for the position please apply via SEEK Volunteer or email us at: aca@animalcareaustralia.org.au

Animal Species Representative – Fish/aquatic species

Experience:

Animal Care Australia is seeking a person who has reasonable advocacy experience and an understanding of the differences between animal rights and animal welfare.

Animal Care Australia is seeking a person who has reasonable experience in the keeping & breeding of fish – tropical, freshwater and marine.

Essential skills:

⇒ Communication skills (oral & written)

⇒ Time management

⇒ Able to work as part of a Team

Desirable – but not essential:

The inclusion of cephalopods in animal welfare legislation will result in Codes of Practice needing to be examined and in some cases to be drafted. Knowledge of keeping these species will be of great benefit.

Having a membership of an Association for the keeping & breeding of fish species or contacts to groups.

Specific Tasks

⇒ Represent all species specific member organisations to communicate current animal-related community and welfare issues.

⇒ Undertake work including drafting of policy advice, project work of a specialist nature, research and analyse current legislation and policies and prepare associated reports for consideration by the Animal Care Australia Committee.

⇒ Assist Animal Care Australia to work with government, non-government & community stakeholders to ensure policy issues are coordinated and effectively communicated as per community and government expectations.

⇒ Provide support to the Animal Care Australia Executive and ensure effective coordination of the business of the association, including up to date reports for Animal Care Australia's social communications – social media, website and newsletter.

⇒ Abide by and support Animal Care Australia's Code of Ethics, Mission Statement, Objects, Constitution, Communication Policy and Anti-discrimination & Harassment Policy.

⇒ Other duties as necessary.

seek volunteer

If you would like to join the Animal Care Australia Team or you know someone who would be ideal for the position please apply via SEEK Volunteer or email us at: aca@animalcareaustralia.org.au

Animal welfare is animal care.

Introducing Michaela Storen — ACA's Insect & Arachnid Species Representative

Michaela Storen is the current Insect and Arachnid Representative for Animal Care Australia. Michaela is a Forensic Entomologist by trade and holds memberships with the European Conference of Forensic Entomology, Australian and New Zealand Forensic Science society. Michaela has presented her own research Australia wide and internationally and continues to publish papers and teach at Deakin University. Michaela also keeps jumping spiders, a giant rainforest mantis, leaf insects and a moss mantis to name a few, and is very passionate about educating others about any insect she can manage to get them excited about.

Visit your Exotic Veterinarian without hesitation, knowing that you and your beloved small mammal, bird, turtle, or reptile are covered in case of an emergency.

To get peace of mind coverage for your exotic pet and to redeem your exclusive Petcover member's discount, visit petcovergroup.com/au/

Responsible pet ownership of Australia's most valuable critters.

by Michaela Storen — ACA Insect & Arachnid Representative

Article cover pic: Longhorn Beetle (Excastra albopilosa James Tweed

How are insects and arachnids the silent victims of kidnapping?'

Did that get your attention? I hope so. It is well documented that some species of insects. including tarantulas and praying mantids, are amongst the many facing threat from illegal removal from the natural habitat where they play a vital role in the ecosystem. Whilst there are thousands of individuals nationally who enjoy and celebrate their uniqueness, with the popularity of insects as pets only on the rise, it has become more important now more than ever to ensure that the new additions to the family are ethically sourced and responsibly owned.

How do you become a responsible pet owner of an insect?

Long answer is do your research; short answer is read this newsletter.

There are many businesses within Australia that sell and breed Insects and arachnids, however there are few that do so with the appropriate permits, procedures, and care to ensure that there is no negative impact to the wild community of insects and these little creatures arrive in the best health possible.

Australia's biggest online bug store is Bug Frenzy, located in South Australia, they are renowned for sustainable and responsible breeding, with a wide collection of insects for public purchase. Another is Mini Beast, located in Queensland, they also stock a vast range of insects and educational resources to hobbyists and schools.

Purchasing from an ethical business is the first step, the second is caring. Each of the business above have educational material on how to care for the little critters, their needs, and how to keep them happy.

EXCITING UPCOMING EVENT:

National Entomology Expo

The highlight of the year for budding entomologists is the National Insect Expo! The largest collection of all things insects and the dream event for all hobbies and enthusiasts. Held in Victoria's Macedon Ranges, the event held over the 4 to 6 October 2024 is gearing up to display over 100 exhibitors from all over Australia and New Zealand, some being displayed to the public for the first time! I highly recommend attending if you are able, and it is a great way to spend a day with friends and family.

Hierodula majuscula (female)

Laws that fail, but what is done to rectify them?

By Kylie Gilbert — ACA Dog Representative

(Story cover: Puppies, Brumby, Dingo)

It is now a daily battle to keep up with the changes to animal legislation, with government being steered by animal rights agendas and emotive call outs. Most of these decisions are made with little knowledge or investigation on what the outcomes will be and are then just referred to as "unintentional consequences". Let's look at a few of the main ones that are currently playing out in our society that the public may or may not be aware of.

First let's look at Victoria's Domestic Animals Act which was heralded as a way to improve the welfare of animals in the state of Victoria by holding breeders accountable and to reduce the number of unwanted pets. Most of this was to occur with the development and roll out of the Pet Exchange Register. So has it worked? The simple answer is no. Our pounds and shelters are full of unwanted dogs and cats, and sadly there has been a huge increase in litters of puppies. So how can this be as breeders were supposed to be made sign up to the register in order for their litters to be tracked, and puppies could be traced from the breeder throughout their life?

You will find the majority of people registered for a government source number are registered breeders not backyard breeders, or those that thought their dog just needed one litter before desexing, or those looking to earn what they thought was a quick buck. As a result, there has been no reduction in these sorts of breeding practices or information circulated to people to inform them of the new compliance requirements. So how are they to know especially if, as we know, most are not microchipping their puppies and in turn not registering.

Which means it's just a way to have further vision of those that are already registered with their membership organisation and are already tracked. The dogs and cats in our shelter and pound system are not from reputable registered breeders and historically they never have been but the government took the lead and followed the animal rights advice, the same groups that would just like to see animal 'ownership' stopped.

This is then compounded by the changes to Victoria's planning overlays. In Victoria if you plan to breed on your property you are required to change your planning overlay to include breeding. This was a change made under the disguise of agriculture intensive breeding. Most dog owners with over 2 dogs or cats would have an excess animal permit which has been a requirement for many years, and apart from the cost there is no difference in these two processes. They both include an application, and inspection and then issue of a permit, but as the government gave registered breeders concessions in the Domestic Animal Act when it was contended, this is the way they knew they could still stop that breeding. All the government has done again is stop reputable registered breeders who either cannot afford the hefty price tag associated with DA demands ordered by councils or have a council that will not issue the land use changes.

Has it stopped those doing the wrong thing? No, because who is willing to look at this? No one. The Planning Minister has been contacted on many

Cont'd next page...

occasions and the response is “there will be no amendments made.” Again they call these “unintended consequences.” No one is willing to visit them and rectify or clarify, and up until this point we haven’t even been able to get a justification for the changes.

Elsewhere we have a State that thinks it acceptable to shoot horses from the air, all while the results of field studies on the damage caused by these animals and the actual number of horses is so ambiguous, it is laughable. Where is the welfare concern? Why do we not have concrete data and reports before we even start a process let alone one that is being carried out in a barbaric manner.

It is on par with the many years as a country we called dingo’s wild dogs and put bounties on their heads all while we lost other native species to predation by feral cats etc. that the Dingo’s would of usually kept away. Again this has taken international scientists to travel here and collect data to build a case.

And lastly lets quickly touch on the ducks. While I haven’t seen the test results I don’t think it would take Einstein to figure out that in years where duck hunting has been reduced we have what seems like an increase in bird flu. We now have huge outbreaks in Victoria, the State that reduced bag rates and hunting times, so less birds were obviously shot which has left us with an increase of these birds. These ducks carrying disease= our bird populations at an increased chance of disease. Was this another “unintentional consequence” brought about by the emotive animal rights agenda?

Its time now that we all have to band together, it doesn’t matter what you own or who you got it from. It is about a voice and a very loud one. I have heard enough times it will never happen to us. Well let me tell you if it hasn’t it will. We need to demand that this country is legislated properly and that activism does not belong in our law making system. That is not what Australia is built on.

Response to NPWS draft Code of Practice

By: Sam Davis — ACA Bird Representative

(Story cover: wallpaperflare)

Many of you may have received an email from the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) late last month announcing the release of a draft code of practice for native birds. This process first began in 2014 and while many options were negotiated and seemingly agreed none have ever been implemented.

Any requirement to notify NPWS, including register or lodge returns was hotly opposed by birdkeeper reps for all common in aviculture species.

The licensing system is broken. There is massive non-compliance somewhat encouraged by promises of change to a more realistic risk based approach removing commonly kept aviary birds from the need for a licence completely.

In a nutshell, the intention was always to remove all native species that are common in aviculture from any need to have a licence – this was known as a "risk-based" system. This has occurred in Queensland. Over $2.5 million was spent by the NSW government resulting in a package of recommendations that would do similar. Sadly, there is a reluctance in NPWS for any meaningful change, the agreed option was never progressed – it was filed.

This recent process is a cynical attempt by NPWS to say they have implemented a "risk-based" system. In reality it is little more than a licensing scheme in disguise – registration required. annual returns required, etc. nothing changes.

NPWS want to appear to have implemented a "risk-based" system when they have not. If this goes through, then removing common species from licensing will be off the agenda for decades. Ten years of effort , since 2014 down the gurgler.

From past experience with this process, the NPWS hierarchy will likely push to move all currently exempt species into the new Code system. Effectively even budgies, zebs, stars, etc. could then require a licence.

We expect NPWS will also use the process to implement licensing for bird sales just like occurs for reptiles. For reptiles, licence numbers for sellers along with a table plan identifying each seller's table is submitted prior to the sale. NPWS officers attend and inspect. As you can imagine, this would be a huge (and pointless) impost for sale organisers.

You can and should make a written submission to let NPWS know our concerns by any one of the three options below:

• completing the online submission form at https://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/get-involved/have-your-say

• emailing your submission to wildlife.reforms@environment.nsw.gov.au

• posting your written submission to:

Title: Draft Dealing in Protected Birds Code of Practice

Manager NPWS Wildlife Strategy and Reform Unit

Locked Bag 5022, Parramatta NSW 2124.

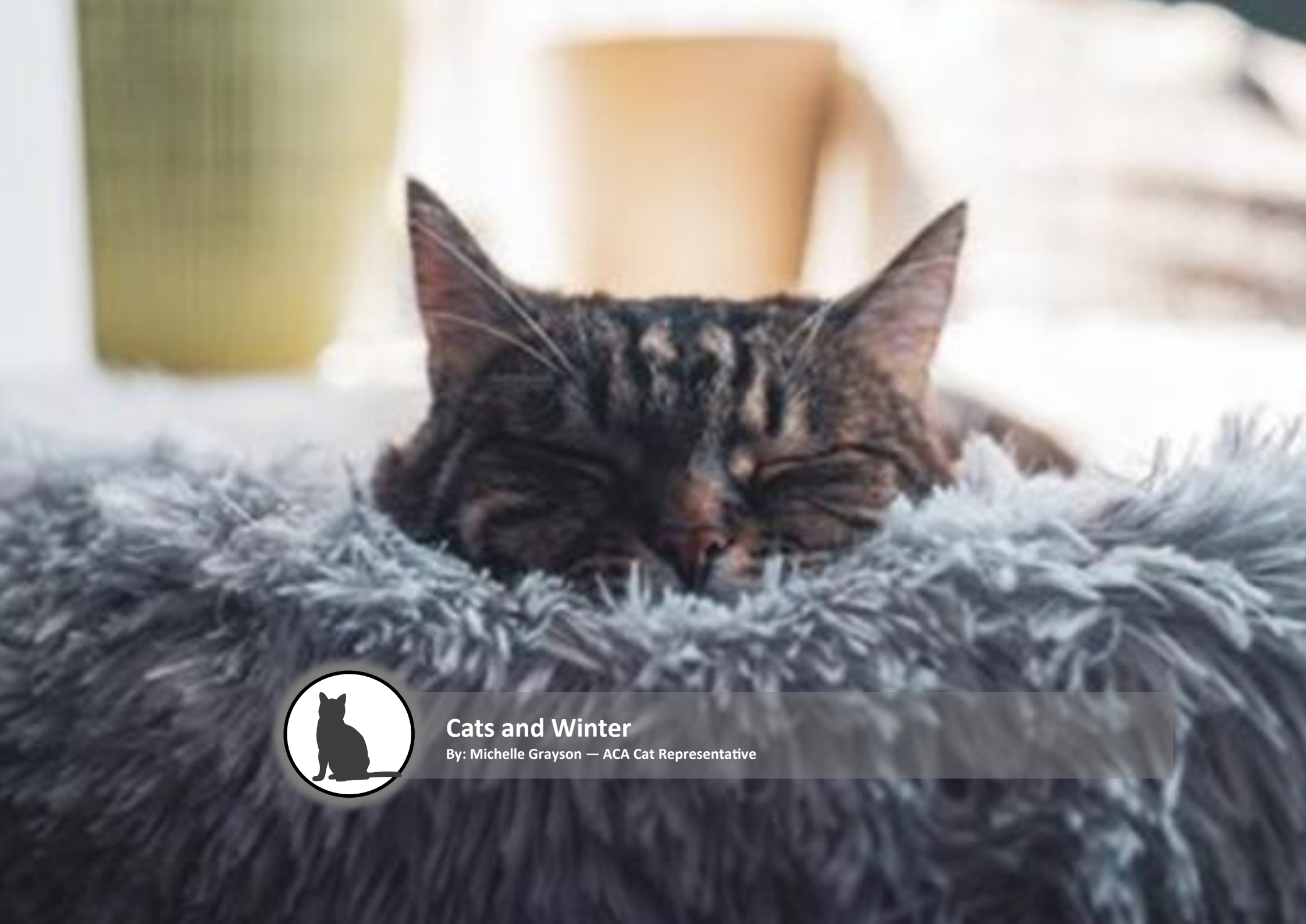
Written submissions must be received by **Sunday 30 June 2024.**

Our recommendation is to complete the survey questions as No to all four questions and include the statement "I remain in agreement with the CCBFA letter dated 3/11/2022 which is attached."

This was the previously proposed option as negotiated by CCBFA, the link to it is here:

https://www.ccbfa.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/NSW-NPWS-CCBFA-Minister-Griffin-031122.pdf

It is critical that all of us let NPWS and the Minister know our views and instead progress a reasonable outcome for a process that has been stalled by NPWS for the last 10 years. You can also assist by encouraging fellow birdkeepers, friends and family to also make a submission.



Cats and Winter

By: Michelle Grayson — ACA Cat Representative

(Article & pics sourced from: Petbarn.com.au)

If you're wondering whether cats get cold through their fluffy coats, the answer is yes. The cool winter weather not only impacts our lifestyle, but it also affects our feline friends too.

Follow these tips to keep your cat warm and toasty this winter.

Make sure their bedding is as warm as it is comfortable

Cats love having a cosy space where they can feel sheltered and secure, and you may find that some outdoor cats may prefer to wriggle their way inside to escape the winter chills.

Get them a cat igloo they can snuggle into and coax them in with their favourite blanket or treat. Or get an open-topped basket bed, donut bed, or hammock to get them off the cold floor as they watch the world go by.

Where should you put your cat's bed?

Great places you can keep their bed are on your bed or couch, on a high shelf, at the top of their scratching post. Another prime position is near the heater, though make sure not to put it too close due to fire risk.

What about cats that need a little bit of extra warmth?

For kittens, senior cats and other felines that feel the cold more acutely, like hairless Sphynx, provide them with a microwavable heat pad to cuddle with. Cover the heat pad with a towel to prevent burns.

Encourage them to be active

Most cats will move at their own pace and create their own exercise. However, some indoor cats will need to be encouraged to exercise when the weather turns cold.

Cont'd next page...

Help your cat stay healthy by engaging in extra playtime, for example, rolling ping pong balls for them to chase and using other cat toys that encourage movement.

Watch their food intake

Remember that cats eating the same amount of calories but exercising less will soon put on weight.

For more physical and mental stimulation during mealtimes, try hiding small amounts of food in different places around your home which will encourage your cat to sniff and search for their food.

Make sure you're feeding your cat the optimal diet for their age, breed and lifestyle.

Watch for the signs of arthritis

Cats can develop arthritis at any age, but it's most common in senior cats over the age of seven.

Symptoms of arthritis can become especially pronounced during winter if your cat becomes cold and inactive. By learning the signs of arthritis, you can recognise them early on and take action to care for your pet before their joints become too sore.

Signs of arthritis in cats include:

⇒ Difficulty jumping or hesitating to jump onto furniture

⇒ Matts in their coat (because they find bending to groom themselves painful)

⇒ Uncharacteristic aggression or aloofness

⇒ Soreness when they're patted or picked up

Animal welfare is animal care.

President's Roundup

By Michael Donnelly

There has been so much happening on far too many levels to highlight them all.

The most welcoming event was Michaela Storen joining the ACA Committee as our Insect & Arachnids Representative. I know Michaela will bring another confident voice to the Committee which will only strengthen our resolve to continue to educate responsible pet ownership to a new audience — those who keep insects and spiders.

In an endeavour to ensure we hear your input we have been promoting consultations on our Facebook page and in our Species Advisory Groups. If you see those posts, make sure you take the time to respond. You can let us know your thoughts or you can follow the direct links and complete the online surveys or submit submissions.

Your voice adds to our voice and together we can drown out the activists voices!

ACA has also been heavily weighed down responding to the numerous legislative changes across the country and this doesn't seem to be stopping any time soon.

To achieve this takes a lot of time to be committed and creates a lot of frustration.

The next step for ACA is to try and personally meet the politicians who are making these horrendous changes to legislation. It really is a cliché — but it is coming down to 'not what you know but who you know'.

To do that, we will need greater funding—and that's where you come in. Please donate to us. Please recycle your cans and bottles and make ACA the beneficiary of that small change — but very much need change.

If you haven't yet, please tell your friends to JOIN us or you can DONATE to assist us in our ongoing costs.

Hope you've enjoyed this edition.

DONATE at: (**https://www.animalcareaustralia.org.au/donate-to-aca/**)

Animal welfare is animal care.

Vet Help & Resources

Are you currently having difficulty with the cost of living and genuinely cannot afford the vet bills or even get your pet to a vet?

Below is a list of organisations or options that can support people on limited incomes.

Desexing

If you have a unwanted litter a lot of rescues will rehome the kittens or puppies and desex the mum for free.

In **South Australia,** Paws & Claws offer free desexing. CATS – is low-cost desexing for cats only.

In **New South Wales & Queensland** the Animal Welfare League also run free desexing clinics:

Animal Welfare League – NSW

Animal Welfare league – QLD

National Assistance:

National Desexing Network

National payment plan option – VetPay

State Assistance:

South Australia

Safe Pets Safe Families – Vet Crisis program have partner Vet clinics and put people on a Centrepay payment to pay off their vet bill.

Pay it Paw-Ward program

Victoria

Pet Medical Crisis

Pets of the homeless

Tasmania

Hobart Community Veterinary Hospital – financial assistance

New South Wales

Great Western Animal Hospital – Pendle Hill – offers treatment assistance via VetPay or Zippay.

Australian Capital Territory

ACT Pet Crisis Support

Queensland

Palliative care and end of life for pets – Sunset Vets

Northern Territory

PAWS Darwin Community Vet

Western Australia

Perth Vet Bill Assistance Inc.

Photo by Gustavo Fring

Cont'd next page...

Outreach Services & Other

There are also some outreach services for people who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of, some of these services are free and offer other supports.

National – assistance for homeless persons with pets

Pets In The Park

Pets of the homeless

South Australia

Paws & Pals – homeless support

We run free pop-up vet clinics in Adelaide (City), Smithfield, Riverland, DV shelters across SA, and some other locations. We also have other supports we provide. Talk to your support agency for a referral to our clinics.

New South Wales

Regional Community Vet Assistance – not all services are free.

Vets & Pet Services that accept Afterpay

Animal welfare is animal care.

Executive

Michael Donnelly
President

Sam Davis
Vice-President

Michelle Grayson
Secretary

Sue Kowalczyk
Public Officer/Treasurer

Species Representatives

BIRDS:
Sam Davis
birds@animalcareaustralia.org.au

CATS:
Michelle Grayson
cats@animalcareaustralia.org.au

DOGS:
Kylie Gilbert
dogs@animalcareaustralia.org.au

EXHIBITED:
Tracey Dierikx
exhibited@animalcareaustralia.org.au

HORSES & LIVESTOCK:
Karri Nadazdy
horses@animalcareaustralia.org.au

INSECTS & ARACHNIDS:
Michaela Storen
insectss@animalcareaustralia.org.au

NATIVE MAMMALS:
Michael Donnelly
nativemammals@animalcareaustralia.org.au

REPTILE & AMPHIBIANS:
Joanne Payne
reptiles@animalcareaustralia.org.au

SMALL MAMMALS:
Rachel Sydenham
smmammals@animalcareaustralia.org.au

Animal welfare is animal care.

MISSION STATEMENT

"Animal Care Australia (ACA) is the Peak Animal Welfare Body representing the keepers and breeders of pet and companion animals in Australia".

ACA encourages continued development of animal welfare standards and Codes of Practice for animal husbandry, breeding, training, sale and sporting exhibitions for a wide range of animal species. Our goal is to promote and encourage high standards in all interactions with the animals in our care. To encourage responsible pet ownership, and the respectful treatment of all animals in our community ACA continues to promote welfare education over regulation

OBJECTIVES

- To represent Animal Care Groups as the peak animal welfare body
- To engage and advise Government and legislators on welfare issues relating to pets and companion animals.
- To protect the rights of ethical hobbyists & animal keepers to breed and keep pets and companion animals.
- To clarify the difference between animal rights and animal welfare
- To promote higher animal welfare outcomes

ACA GENERAL MEETINGS 2024

7.30 to 8.30pm

MARCH 11th

MAY 13th

JULY 8th

SEPTEMBER 9th

NOVEMBER 11th — AGM

Meetings in 2024 will continue via Zoom to ensure members nation-wide can attend.
Any member wishing to join a meeting will need to RSVP by no later than 5pm on that Monday via email: **aca@animalcareaustralia.org.au** with your details. A link for the meeting will be emailed to you.

Animal Care Australia Inc.

PO Box 314 Macarthur Square Post Office NSW 2560

Website:

animalcareaustralia.org.au

Email: aca@animalcareaustralia.org.au

ABN 36 438 686 995

Tax File No 508 268 553

CFN: 25599

Back cover image: WallpaperFlare