



ADO STALL OVERWHELMED WITH INTEREST FROM FESTIVAL GOERS IN SYDNEY

ADO Stalls Attract Record Crowds in Canberra and Sydney!

The ADO kicked off October at the Living Green Festival (LGF). The LGF is an annual festival held in Canberra all about animals and the environment. The event attracts thousands of people, and the ADO was proud to be a Gold Sponsor of the event this year. It was a great opportunity to chat with festival goers interested in the ADO's mission of using the law to protect animals.

By promoting a 'kinder shade of green', the LGF brings together the themes of environmental sustainability and animal protection, and emphasises their interdependence. ADO stall volunteers dealt with a wide range of enquiries from the public ranging across these two broad themes. The topic festival

patrons were concerned about the most was the live export trade!

The ADO then packed its bags for the next big spring event, Sydney's Cruelty Free Festival at the enormous Australian Technology Park. The ADO's stall had lots of interest from festival goers, as captured by the photo above. Our supply of fact sheets and membership and volunteer brochures was depleted long before the festival wrapped up.

The ADO promises to be well stocked for its next festival outing at the National Multicultural Festival in Canberra on Sunday 14 February 2016, so we look forward to seeing you there!

ADO Newsletter

October/November 2015

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THE ADO AT THE BAN LIVE EXPORT RALLY



Animal Law at Parliament House

Tara Ward (ADO), Anne Greenaway (Lawyers for Companion Animals), Glenys Oogjes (Animals Australia), and Clare O'Sullivan (Animal Liberation ACT).



ADO Executive Director Tara Ward opening the Ban Live Export Rally on the front lawns of Parliament House.

ADO 'MC' at Ban Live Export Rally

On Saturday 17 October 2015 rallies against the live export trade were held across Australia. The Canberra rally attracted a large crowd on the front lawns of Parliament House. The ADO's Executive Director, Tara Ward, was the MC for the event.

followed. She spoke about the live export trade's PR strategy, noting that the trade's "spin is top class". Next came Senator Nick Xenophon, who spoke about the legal abuses of the live export trade. "No one is above the law," he reminded the crowd. Finally, Glenys Oogjes, Executive Director of Animals Australia, brought the rally to a close stressing that the live export trade has "cruelty at its heart".

FAST FACTS

93%

Proportion of the income of Western Australian live export farmers derived from sources other than live export.

12%

Proportion of cattle producers in the north of Australia who derive 50% or more of their income from live export.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To find out more about the live export industry, have a look at Animals Australia's Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) webpage at <http://www.banliveexport.com/facts/frequently-asked-questions.php>



The event kicked off with a powerful message from Lyn White, Campaign Director at Animals Australia. Lyn's reminder that "compassion will always defeat cruelty" ensured the rally got off to a positive and optimistic start. The audience then heard from Professor Steve Garlick, Founder and Party President of the Animal Justice Party, Australia's first political party dedicated to providing a voice for animals. Bidda Jones, the RSPCA's Chief Scientist



Professor Steve Garlick of the Animal Justice Party addresses the rally at the Ban Live Export Rally in Canberra.

Mike Addresses RSPCA Forum

RSPCA ACT turned 60 this year and to mark the occasion it organised a major Forum at the National Library of Australia as part of its week of celebrations. The Forum was titled *2015-2075: A Vision of Animal Welfare in the ACT*.

The ADO welcomed the opportunity to speak at this important event. The speaker lineup featured a varied range of perspectives, canvassing several positions in the debate over animal welfare. The ADO was represented by Director Mike Rosalky.

Other entities represented at the forum included the ACT's Animal Welfare Advisory Committee (AWAC), ACT Rescue and Foster (ARF), ACT Wildlife, ACT Greyhound Support Network, Australian Veterinary Association, as well as a local farmer and Shane Rattenbury, the current Minister responsible for animal welfare in the ACT.

Mike argued persuasively for laws that would protect the fundamental interests of all animals, based on their shared capacity to suffer and to feel pain and emotions. As Mike said in his talk: "In their ability to suffer, a kangaroo is a pig is a dog is a human!"

Mike's speech can be viewed online via the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sml26a2MvuY>



Here Mike raises the plight of greyhounds in the greyhound racing industry.



Mike presenting the scientific evidence for animal sentience, with Charles Darwin's memorable quote in the background.

THE ADO'S VISION OF ANIMAL WELFARE



Mike Takes the Podium

ADO Director Mike Rosalky makes the case for recognising fundamental animal interests in ACT laws.



Dispelling Some Common Myths

Mike reassures the audience that the case for the legal recognition of animal interests does not involve cows partaking in elections.

CLC Training Week

Community Legal Centres NSW

In late October 2015 the ADO's Principal Solicitor Vicki Stylianou and Executive Director Tara Ward joined other Community Legal Centres (CLCs) at a Legal Practice Management training course in Sydney. The training was held at



the NSW College of Law. Vicki and Tara valued the opportunity to learn about the important work other CLCs do to help the vulnerable and disadvantaged in society which, with the ADO in the mix, now also includes animals!

HARD AT WORK IN SYDNEY

ADO Principal Solicitor and Executive Director Vicki and Tara are seen here alongside Jeremy from the Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT).



Mike and Tara outside the ADO office.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

The full *Lawyers Weekly* article is available at: <http://www.lawyersweekly.com.au/news/17322-egregious-animal-abuse-completely-legal-ado>

Lawyers Weekly Interviews the ADO

Australia's leading legal news source, *Lawyers Weekly*, recently featured an interview with ADO Director Mike Rosalky and ADO Executive Director Tara Ward. In the article Tara and Mike explain how the law as it currently exists both sustains "egregious animal abuse" and yet also affords opportunities for reform.

"Nine times out of ten," says Tara, the law "doesn't treat the animals very well." Given that animals are considered property in the eyes of the law, notes Mike,

"essentially they are able to be treated however humans like, and in a lot of situations that results in horrific suffering."

But it's not all gloom and doom. The law can be reformed, as has been the case with regard to the environment over the past few decades. And Mike predicts this will happen "as more and more lawyers learn about the horrific ways in which animals are legally able to be treated".

Animal Law Teaching Workshop 2015

Animal law is a great way to teach law students to think about ethics, and about how law can contribute to social and political change and even challenge anthropocentrism.

This and other insights about the value of teaching animal law were gained by the ADO's Executive Director, Tara Ward, at an animal law teaching workshop at Monash University Law Chambers in early November 2015. Tara teaches animal law at the University of NSW.



In the photo above are some of the animal law teachers and researchers who attended the workshop. From left to right:

- DIANA AYI WONG (ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY)
- JED GOODFELLOW (MACQUARIE UNIVERSITY)
- BRODIE EVANS (QUEENSLAND UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY)
- GYORGY SCRINIS (MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY)
- AARON TIMOSHANKO (FLINDERS UNIVERSITY)
- MEG GOOD (UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA)
- EMMANUEL GIUFFRÉ (VOICELESS LEGAL COUNSEL)
- JOANNA KYRIAKAKIS (MONASH UNIVERSITY AND WORKSHOP CONVENOR)
- JACKSON WALKDEN-BROWN (BOND UNIVERSITY)
- TARA WARD (ADO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND ANIMAL LAW LECTURER AT UNSW)



Below is a photo from one of the panels at the workshop, titled 'Factory Farming of Animals: Welfare Labelling'.

Tara's next animal law course at the University of New South Wales (UNSW) is scheduled for semester 2, 2016. It will be run intensively on consecutive Saturdays in August and September. Here is the course description:

Law plays a substantial role in the ways in which our society relates to animals. As our society increasingly accepts that the protection of animals from cruelty and other forms of mistreatment is important, the study of legal matters relating to animals – ie animal law – becomes more and more important.

This course looks at the ethics and jurisprudence on the way humans think of and treat animals, the historical and present status of animals as property, the law and science underpinning our approach to animal welfare, standing to represent the interest of animals, and the laws and codes of practice relating to the use of animals for food, research, and entertainment.

Check out UNSW's website for more information:

<http://www.handbook.unsw.edu.au/postgraduate/courses/2016/LAWS8194.html>

ADO Gets Its Own Fundraising Wine!

The ADO celebrated the arrival of its very own labelled wine in October. This boutique wine is produced by Goodwill Wine, a fantastic social enterprise in Victoria that sources the best boutique wines from around Australia while donating to charities with every bottle. The ADO wines are not 'fined' with any animal or fish products. A donation is made to the ADO with every purchase of a bottle of wine. Word is the Shiraz in particular is to die for. Get yours today at:

<http://www.goodwillwine.com.au/charities/animal-defenders-office>

Thank you for helping us help animals.



The ADO's very own fundraising wine makes an excellent 'gift that gives twice'.



Maxie looking perhaps a little too excited at the arrival of the ADO's wine.

New ADO Volunteer Program to launch in early 2016

We are currently reviewing our Volunteer Program, with a view to launching it in the New Year.

These are just a few of the many and varied projects and activities that volunteers will be able to choose to be involved in:

- ➔ research, draft, write, and present fact sheets on various issues in the promotion of animal interests
- ➔ help provide advice to those defending or advocating on behalf of animals
- ➔ represent the ADO on stalls at festivals and other events
- ➔ visit local animal sanctuaries to meet and learn about rescued animals
- ➔ attend and represent the ADO at conferences and other speaking events
- ➔ help extend the ADO's presence on social media
- ➔ learn more about animal law, animal ethics, and animal advocacy

The Volunteer Experience

Anyone with an interest in the defence and protection of animals, and in the promotion of animal interests, will be welcome to volunteer for the ADO as part of our new Volunteer Program. The ADO is a community animal law practice so we welcome volunteers with any legal experience, from first year law students to seasoned barristers.

We also welcome non-legal volunteers, so no matter what your background or set of skills, if you would like to advocate on behalf of animals, then we will love to hear from you when we launch the ADO Volunteer Program.

Join the ADO as a Member

The Vital Role Our Members Play

The ADO receives no government funding, and it is entirely reliant upon membership subscriptions and donations from the public. While we don't need much to keep going, we do need to pay the rent on our office, maintain our online presence, print our fact sheets and information brochures about animals and the law, and attend events to promote animal law and the work we do. Our members therefore play an invaluable role in ensuring that the ADO is able to continue its work in the protection and defence of animals.

Membership Benefits

ADO membership is an ideal way to contribute to a cutting-edge animal advocacy organisation. As a member of the ADO, you will receive free attendance at all ADO events, an exclusive members-only visit to a local animal sanctuary to meet and learn about rescued animals, and a members-only newsletter providing a behind-the-scenes look at recent cases taken up by the ADO with your help.

Join now

To become an ADO member, please contact us on contact@ado.org.au for a membership form.