

15-16 OCTOBER 2016

Southport Community Centre, Gold Coast, Queensland

BECOME AN  
INFORMED  
ACTIVIST  
PROGRAM



[activistsforum.com](http://activistsforum.com)

[info@activistsforum.com](mailto:info@activistsforum.com)



## SATURDAY TIMETABLE

TIME	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	ROOM 3
8:30am	<b>Registration</b>		
9:00am	<b>Introduction &amp; welcome</b>		
9:30am	<b>All groups reviews</b>		
10:00am	<b>Michael Webermann (via Skype)</b> Moving the masses towards compassionate eating	<b>Tahnee Barnes</b> Ending extinction	<b>Leigh-Chantelle</b> Marketing yourself using social media
11:00am	<b>Morning tea</b>		
11:30am	<b>James Aspey</b> How to be a peaceful vegan activist	<b>Dr Reem Lascelles</b> "Down the rabbit hole of animal use" – A reveal on the rabbit industry	<b>Peter Chen</b> Lessons from history for animal activists
12:30pm	<b>Chris Delforce</b> An update on the Aussie Farms initiative: Combating the myth that 'it doesn't happen here'	<b>AA Executive Campaign Review Reports</b> (open to all) i. Companion Animals ii. Wildlife iii. Animals in Sport and Entertainment iv. Introduced Wild Animals v. Animal Ethics in Education vi. Animals in Research	<b>Kate Garland and Asha Mortel</b> The future of activism – Engaging young people to change the world
1:30pm	<b>Lunch</b>		
2:15pm	<b>Joshua Agland and Angela Pollard</b> "Killing Time – Where time is money and compassion is a cost"	<b>AA Executive Campaign Reports</b> vii. Animals and the Law viii. Animals Used for Food & Fibre <b>AA Staff Presentations:</b> Reaching students and inspiring the next generation: Thomas King, Youth Campaigner NSW Greyhound racing ban; what it means for all animals: Lisa Chalk, Communications Director How we convinced Aldi to ditch battery cages: Karen Nilsen, Creative Director <b>AA Campaign Team panel:</b> <b>Q&amp;A session</b> Thomas King, Lisa Chalk, Karen Nilsen, Jesse Marks (Community Engagement Manager)	<b>Mandy Carter</b> David vs Goliath: The story of SAFE's campaign against NZ's sacred cow of dairy
3:00pm	<b>Jonathan Clark</b> Sea Shepherd's Apex Harmony: bringing transparency to the Queensland government's "Shark Control Program"		<b>Tamasin Ramsay</b> Sustainable activism: Developing resilience of heart and mind (meditation for vegan activists)
3:45pm	<b>Afternoon tea</b>		
4:15pm	<b>Jesse Marks</b> Campaign strategy: Tools to plan and win campaigns	<b>Anna Ludvik</b> Domestic violence and animal abuse – International perspectives and intersectionality	<b>Daniel Beecher</b> Adventures in animal law
5:30pm	<b>Event finish – please vacate building by 6:00pm</b>		

## SUNDAY TIMETABLE

TIME	ROOM 1	ROOM 2	ROOM 3	ROOM 4
8:30am	<b>Registration</b>			
9:00am	<b>Introduction &amp; welcome</b>			
9:30am	<b>All groups reviews</b>			
10:00am	<b>Anita Krajnc (via Skype)</b> The duty to bear witness	<b>Amanda Benham</b> The three things every animal activist needs to know about nutrition, and why	<b>Anna Hall</b> Liberating rabbits from food to friend	
11:00am	<b>Morning tea</b>			
11:30am	<b>Kelly Levenda (via Skype)</b> How biotechnology can help humans, non-human animals, and the environment	<b>Tammy Fry</b> Advocacy for plant based diets based on science and research. How to best market the "VEGAN" brand	<b>Alex Vince</b> Challenging the pest epithet	
12:30pm	<b>Mike Rosalky</b> How animal activists can utilise legal advocacy skills	<b>Wally Fry</b> The Fry's story: From piggery's to veggies	<b>Marianne Macdonald</b> Understanding and using values in creating change for animals	
1:30pm	<b>Lunch</b>			
2:15pm	<b>Helen Marston</b> Lies, cover-ups and monkey experiments	<b>Gayle D'Arcy</b> Rethinking rodeos – campaigning against 'an essential part of Queensland's identity'	<b>Alexandra Sedgwick</b> Animals used in science	
3:00pm	<b>Damian Mander</b> Anti-poaching	<b>Jaime Singleton</b> Ban puppy farms – Protecting man's best friend	<b>Kobe Steele</b> "Saving Orangutans"	
3:45pm	<b>Afternoon tea</b>			
4:15pm	<b>Brad King</b> The private lives of farmed animals – How they love to live and how we love to hurt them	<b>Phillip Hall</b> Organising and running effective peaceful protests at a grassroots level and tips for the best way to conduct ourselves for meaningful communication of the message	<b>Douglas Leith</b> Vivisection: The evidence is all on our side	<b>AAF 2017 planning</b> (please attend if you wish to volunteer in 2017)
5:00pm	<b>Wrap-up meeting</b>			
5:30pm	<b>Event finish – please vacate building by 6:00pm</b>			

10:00AM, ROOM 1



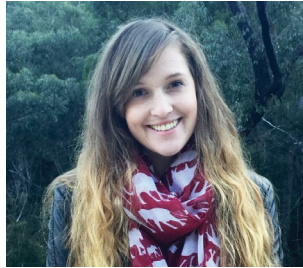
## MICHAEL WEBERMANN

### Moving the masses towards compassionate eating

**Bio** For the past decade, Michael Webermann has sought to improve upon tired tactics, invent new outreach methods, and quantify the results of the vegan movement. In his 7.5 years at Farm Animal Rights Movement (FARM), concluding as Executive Director, he refocused their mission towards sparing the most possible animals from being bred, abused, and killed for food. He serves as the Environmental Specialist Advisor to A Well-Fed World and on the Research Grant Oversight Committee for the Animal Charity Evaluators.

**Presentation Overview** Why are some people persuaded to explore a vegan diet but not others? Why do so many people return to meat-eating? Michael will break down current research about people's motivations for vegan eating and offer simple tools for how we can reach more people, keep them on our team for longer, and ultimately save more animals!

10:00AM, ROOM 2



## TAHNEE BARNES

### Ending extinction

**Bio** Tahnee is a conservationist currently studying a Bachelor of Zoology and is the Founding Director of End Extinction, an organisation dedicated to ending flora and fauna extinction through education, motivation and inspiration.

**Presentation Overview** Tahnee's talk will be focused on the increasing number of species headed towards extinction and the ways we as humans can help save them.

10:00AM, ROOM 3



## LEIGH-CHANTELLE

### Marketing yourself using social media

**Bio** Leigh-Chantelle is a published author, international speaker and consultant, singer/songwriter and blogger who lives mostly in Brisbane, Australia. She gives lectures, workshops, consultations, and coaching for Understanding Social Media, Staging Effective Events, and Vegan Health & Lifestyle. She has run the online vegan community 'Viva la Vegan!' since 2005, bringing positive education, information and vegan outreach to a worldwide audience.

**Presentation Overview** Being vegan is not enough, we need to be using our skills to promote the positive and inclusive elements of the vegan lifestyle every chance we get. Leigh-Chantelle shares her expertise on how to effectively use our time to promote the core ethics of veganism online, and inspire others to become more effective activists in every possible arena. Learn more about working together, dealing with trolls, online etiquette and leading by example from a 20-year vegan veteran. Find out more about how you can help promote and market yourself, your product, your brand or your vision for a better world using Social Media and other means online.

11:30AM, ROOM 1



## JAMES ASPEY

### How to be a peaceful vegan activist

**Bio** James Aspey hit mainstream media with the vegan message after completing his year long vow of silence for animals. Since then, he has given nearly 100 free talks on veganism and continues to increase the peace and spread the vegan vibes.

**Presentation Overview** James will be sharing what he believes is the best way to continue to grow the vegan movement through education and encouragement as well as leading by example. He will also be sharing effective communication techniques and ways to remain positive being a vegan in a not-yet vegan world.

11:30AM, ROOM 2



## DR REEM LASCELLES

### “Down the rabbit hole of animal use” – A reveal on the rabbit industry

**Bio** Former physicist and astronomer, now animal rights activist and independent researcher for EVER sanctuary, Dr Lascelles main current research interest is into the different ways rabbits are being exploited in Australia including the key players and trends in the rabbit industry.

**Presentation Overview** Dr Lascelles will run an information session including the involvement of the CSIRO and RIRDC's Crusader GMO program on rabbits; factory farmed rabbits for meat and angora; the use of Pindone poison by land-care and councils; the current situation and legislation with rabbit farms and slaughterhouses; and who is pushing the future trend with rabbit farming. The talk also introduces EVER's new campaign and alliance programs for rabbits.

11:30AM, ROOM 3



## PETER CHEN

### Lessons from history for animal activists

**Bio** Peter John Chen DipMR, BComm(Hons), PhD is a lecturer in Australian politics, media and policy at the University of Sydney. He is the author of *Electronic Engagement: A Guide for Public Managers*, *Australian Politics in a Digital Age*, and the forthcoming *Animal Welfare in Australia: Politics and Policy*.

**Presentation Overview** Leading up to the turn of the century new animal activist organisations have emerged, promoting a new vision of human-animal relationship and highlight industrial excesses leading to cruel animal mistreatment every day. These organisations are internationally-networked, dynamic, and look to achieve change through a twin track of engagement with public opinion and legislation to ban excesses. Within two decades the dynamism of this first wave of animal welfarists will have run its course, retreating largely into socially-respectable, but conservative RSPCAs. What lessons can animal activists take from the successes and failures of a century ago? Can the movement learn from the past, and how does understanding the policy environment of contemporary Australia inform animal activism?

12:30PM, ROOM 1



## CHRIS DELFORCE

**An update on the Aussie Farms initiative: Combating the myth that 'It doesn't happen here'**

**Bio** Chris is a website developer and filmmaker, responsible for the Aussie Farms network of websites and the 2014 documentary *Lucent*, aimed at exposing the inherent cruelty within animal farming and exploitation in a wholly Australian context.

**Presentation Overview** Chris will talk about the effectiveness of using graphic imagery as a means of advocating veganism, and will share his perspective on recent Aussie Farms exposés and actions, from the Australia Day "behind the scenes" and dairy crisis videos, to Australia's first-ever footage of male chick maceration and the subsequent lockdown and rescue at the country's largest hatchery, upcoming documentary *Dominion*, and the pending ag-gag court case against him.

**Warning** Presentation will involve graphic footage.

12:30PM, ROOM 3



## KATE GARLAND AND ASHA MORTEL

**The future of activism – Engaging young people to change the world**

**Bio** Kate Garland and Asha Mortel are two young animal activists and the leaders of Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots in Queensland. Kate is the State Coordinator for Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots and an aspiring evolutionary scientist. Through both research and outreach, she wants to ensure that the spectacular show of Australia's and the world's diversity does not have a final curtain call. Asha is a 17-year-old student, Eco-Warrior and member of the Roots & Shoots National Youth Leadership Council. For the past two years, Asha has traveled to the small town of Tembak, Borneo to volunteer at local schools and orangutan rehabilitation centres, and used these experiences to inspire students here in Australia. Both Kate and Asha hope to follow in Dr Jane Goodall's footsteps – acting as leading voices for those that cannot by working with young people to share their stories and passion for conservation.



### Presentation Overview

Primatologist, environmentalist, writer and activist Dr Jane Goodall is a woman whose way with words inspires conservation and animal activism throughout the world. She uses the power of her stories of scientific discovery and connection to convey the urgent need to protect animals and our shared environment. In 1991, Dr Jane founded her youth program, Roots & Shoots, which now thrives in over 140 countries around the world. It is a global youth movement inspired by Dr. Jane's vision of creating a better world for animals, people and the environment by placing the power to create solutions into the hands of young people. This presentation explains how Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots engages young people to become our future activists – drawing on examples of projects here in Queensland and around the world.

2:15PM, ROOM 1



## JOSHUA AGLAND AND ANGELA POLLARD

**“Killing Time – Where time is money and compassion is a cost”**

**Bio** Josh Agland – Ex-industry insider who worked in an abattoir for 3 years and like last year will use this insider knowledge to explore the realities of a modern slaughterhouse and the affect they have on animals, workers and the surrounding community. He will touch on the issues of exploitation, greed and power that the industry uses to further disconnect society at the expense of the non-human and human victims. Angela Pollard – Animal Lawyer will give an overview of the Model Code of Practice for the Welfare of Animals: Slaughtering Establishments and utilise her background and experience in social justice and regional communities to expand on the relevant legal obligations and social duties the industry has to animals, the environment and the community.



**Presentation Overview** The presentation will illustrate the realities of the modern day slaughterhouse and how it has evolved over time to deliberately distance people from the act of industrialised killing. It will highlight the impact on individual workers, their families and the wider public and more specifically how the slaughterhouse creates economic dependence in small towns and classifies both animals and humans. The presentation will include an overview of the regulatory framework of slaughter practices, animal welfare and legal protections for workers.

2:15PM, ROOM 3



## MANDY CARTER

**David vs Goliath: The story of SAFE's campaign against NZ's sacred cow of dairy**

**Bio** Mandy Carter is Head of Campaigns for New Zealand animal rights organisation SAFE. Mandy has worked in animal advocacy for 10 years, both in the UK and NZ.

**Presentation Overview** In November 2015 SAFE, alongside investigators from Farmwatch, released a ground breaking hidden camera investigation into the dairy industry. The exposé attracted headlines worldwide. Mandy will be talking about the investigation, the response from the public, media and politicians, and what happened next. She will also discuss what they learnt from the investigation and how it can be applied to other campaigns on dairy.

3:00PM, ROOM 1



## JONATHAN CLARK

**Sea Shepherd's Apex Harmony: bringing transparency to the Queensland government's "Shark Control Program"**

**Bio** Jonathan Clark is the Queensland Coordinator of Sea Shepherd's Apex Harmony campaign. Sea Shepherd started to change Jonathan's life in 2013. He is a beginning scuba diver and in his day job teaches primary school children.

**Presentation Overview** Sea Shepherd's Queensland Apex Harmony campaign regularly check the drum lines and shark nets for marine life captured in one or more of the 365 drum lines and 30 shark nets spread across Queensland. Over 84,000 marine animals have needlessly been caught within the QLD Shark Control Program; needless as there are a range of non-lethal shark bite mitigation measures available such as eco friendly shark barriers, sonar technology and shark spotting solutions currently available and proven to increase safety for beach users. The presentation will share some of the finds they have made, demonstrate the damage the Qld Shark Control Program reeks on marine life and highlight non-lethal alternatives to reduce the chances of unwanted shark encounters.

3:00PM, ROOM 3



## TAMASIN RAMSAY

**Sustainable activism: Developing resilience of heart and mind (meditation for vegan activists)**

**Bio** Tamasin is an environmental anthropologist (PhD). Before entering the animal rights activist movement in 2015, she worked for five years at the UN, participating in negotiations around environment, climate change and sustainability. Tamasin has had more than 30 years of experience teaching and practicing meditation, having spent over two decades as a dedicated sister within the Brahma Kumaris.

**Presentation Overview** Tamasin will discuss ways that animal rights activists can bring meditation into their lives in authentic and non-religious ways. She will discuss how activists can deal very practically with their heightened sense of awareness which can so often translate into experiences of pain, anger, grief and frustration. By looking after our own minds and hearts we can become stronger and kinder, and more resilient to the stresses of our activism. This can only help our movement, and encourage people to adopt a vegan life. Tamasin will give a talk and guide everyone in meditation to calm the mind and strengthen the heart. There will be a chance for questions and answers.

4:15PM, ROOM 1



## JESSE MARKS

**Campaign strategy: Tools to plan and win campaigns**

**Bio** Jesse is the Director of Education and Outreach at Animals Australia. He's been campaigning for animals for over a decade and has played a key role in some of Animals Australia's most significant campaigns, including securing commitments from ALDI and McDonald's to phase out their use of cage egg, and the campaign to end live animal exports.

### **Presentation Overview**

Campaigns don't win themselves. If we want to be the strongest voice for animals we need good strategy. Good strategy can turn a momentous challenge into a momentous win. Luckily, there are simple tools and ideas everyone can use to harness effective strategies. In this workshop, Jesse will share tools he's found useful in campaign planning and give practical examples of how Animals Australia has implemented these to win campaigns.



4:15PM, ROOM 2



## ANNA LUDVIK

### Domestic violence and animal abuse – International perspectives and intersectionality

**Bio** Anna Ludvik has been a passionate campaigner for animals for over 20 years in Australia, Japan and Thailand. She founded the Southern Cross University Animal Law Club, was the NSW Young Lawyers Animal Law Committee Regional Members representative for 3 years, representing them in the RSPCA Puppy Farming Roundtable. Anna founded Lucy's Project in 2013 to raise awareness of the link between animal abuse and domestic violence. Anna is standing as a candidate for the Animal Justice Party in the upcoming Federal Election in the seat of Page.

#### Presentation Overview

Anna will be presenting on the issues of domestic violence and animal abuse with a particular focus on homelessness caused by people unable to find pet suitable accommodation in times of crisis. The presentation will give an overview of what Lucy's Project has been doing for the past three years, the upcoming conference in Sydney bringing together delegates from Australia and around the world and some of the key issues and challenges of the movement.

4:15PM, ROOM 3



## DANIEL BEECHER

### Adventures in animal law

**Bio** Daniel Beecher is an Australian animal protection lawyer.

**Presentation Overview** Animal protection lawyer Daniel Beecher will discuss the trials and tribulations of his working life in what (he hopes) will be an inspiring and informative presentation suitable for lawyers and activists alike.

10:00AM, ROOM 1



## ANITA KRAJNC

### The duty to bear witness

**Bio** Anita Krajnc is a co-founder and co-organizer with [www. TorontoPigSave.org](http://www.TorontoPigSave.org) and [www. TheSaveMovement.org](http://www.TheSaveMovement.org). She coordinates weekly vigils at Toronto area slaughterhouses, the SAVE leaflet door-to-door canvass and the [www. ClimateVegan.org](http://www.ClimateVegan.org) campaign.

**Presentation Overview** Do you love animals? Love is defined by Tolstoy as “giving another your time and strength” even if it wears down your body. When seeing a suffering creature, bearing witness is not succumbing to the initial desire to look the other way, but on the contrary--says Tolstoy--coming closer, as close as you can to her/him who suffers and trying to help. Moreover, we have a positive duty to seek out places of utmost suffering and to repeatedly bear witness in order to end the injustice. Toronto Pig Save and The Save movement uses a love-based community organizing approach inspired by Tolstoy, Gandhi and others. The movement’s aim is for everyone to bear witness of every animal in every slaughterhouse, in every country.

10:00AM, ROOM 2



## AMANDA BENHAM

### The three things every animal activist needs to know about nutrition, and why

**Bio** Amanda Benham has been involved in the vegan movement for over 30 years and her main focus has been on promoting the end of the use of animals as food. She is an Accredited Practising Dietitian and Accredited Nutritionist and her main area of interest and research has been on planning vegan eating patterns for optimum nutrition to help make vegan eating easy and sustainable to people no matter their age or health status. Amanda is currently undertaking a PhD study on vitamin B12.

**Presentation Overview** Amanda aim’s to inspire activists to eat well to help them stay healthy and keep their energy levels up so they can function at their best. It’s a valuable form of activism to demonstrate that vegan eating can be not only delicious but nutritious and health-sustaining too. With an understanding of vegan nutrition activists can help others switch to a vegan diet without any nutritional issues or health hitches as a result, and answer the inevitable questions about protein, iron and other nutrients. Her talk will include tips on how to find reliable sources of nutrition information, distinguish nutrition facts from myths and be prepared for the trickiest of questions.

10:00AM, ROOM 3



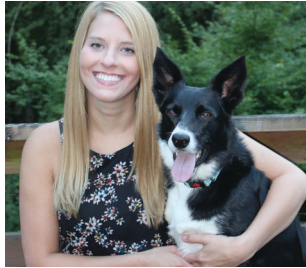
## ANNA HALL

### Liberating rabbits from food to friend

**Bio** Anna has lived with house rabbits for more than twenty years, she co-founded the Companion Rabbits Advocates. She holds senior positions with a number of animal charities, including the Treasurer of Animals Australia, Vice President of the Animal Justice Party and President of Animal Liberation. She is also a member of the National Health and Medical Research Council, Animal Welfare Committee. She works on a casual basis for the World League for the Protection of Animals.

**Presentation Overview** Anna will be representing Animal Liberation NSW, to present the work they have undertaken exposing industrial rabbit farming and what we can now all do to help these wonderful creatures.

11:30AM, ROOM 1



## KELLY LEVENDA

**How biotechnology can help humans, non-human animals, and the environment**

**Bio** Kelly Levenda is a communications coordinator for Vegan GMO. Vegan GMO's mission is to lead the call for a rational evaluation of biotechnology, and its potential for positive change. She completed her bachelor's degree in Pre-Veterinary Animal Science at the University of Illinois, and received her Juris Doctor with an emphasis in animal law from Lewis & Clark Law School.

**Presentation Overview** Why is it important for animal rights activists to stay open-minded about genetic engineering and biotechnology? Genetic engineering, and, by extension, genetically modified organisms (GMOs), are important and crucial technologies that reduce the suffering of human and non-human animals, and reduce our impact on the environment.

11:30AM, ROOM 2



## TAMMY FRY

**Advocacy for plant based diets based on science and research. How to best market the "VEGAN" brand**

**Bio** Tammy Fry Kelly is a passionate ambassador for all things sustainable, green, and good for the planet, your body and your plate. Her over-a-decade experience at the helm of marketing at Fry's Family Food Co (an International Producer of Vegan Foods) is guided by nutritional expertise, a love of fitness, love of the environment and outdoor lifestyle. Enabling others to live a happier and more energetic lifestyle through plant-based nutrition is the cornerstone of her passion.

**Presentation Overview** How to be effective at inspiring change: Tammy will talk about strategy and communication, vegan advocacy, making compassion easier, the science of animal advocacy, to be great at doing good, and lessons from fry's experience.

11:30AM, ROOM 3



## ALEX VINCE

**Challenging the pest epithet**

**Bio** Alex works for Animal Liberation NSW and is a dedicated abolitionist who has worked on issues from factory farming to the slaughter of wildlife.

**Presentation Overview** With recent government initiatives to broaden the scope and allocation of the 'pest epithet,' there is a growing need to consider and critique the manner by which animals are positioned as outside the sphere of protection. Technology and public involvement have become guiding themes in recent control methodologies, necessitating a broad and critical response from activists and the concerned public alike. This presentation will seek to outline the ways in which language is implemented to act as authority in the often lethal control of animals designated as 'pests'.

12:30PM, ROOM 1



## MIKE ROSALKY

### How animal activists can utilise legal advocacy skills

**Bio** Mike Rosalky volunteers as a lawyer and director for the Animal Defenders Office, a not-for-profit animal law centre based in the ACT. Mike assists and advises clients about animal law matters, speaks to groups about the animal law framework in Australia, and advocates for animal law reform through public forums and meetings with ministers. Outside this role, Mike works as a government lawyer.

**Presentation Overview** The first part of Mike's talk will provide an overview of some laws of which activists should be aware such as defamation, criminal trespass and the constitutionally implied freedom of political communication. He will then explore how activists can utilise practical advocacy strategies learned from the legal profession to advocate persuasively for greater animal protection. These skills can be used when talking to family and friends, members of the public, social media trolls (tip: don't engage!), and politicians alike to advance the interests of animals.

12:30PM, ROOM 2



## WALLY FRY

### The Fry's story: From piggery's to veggies

**Bio** Wally Fry is passionate about the environment, particularly where food production and farming is concerned. More specifically, he is well known for his determination in highlighting the detrimental impact that the meat, fish, poultry and dairy industries currently have on the planet. Wally and Debbie Fry started Fry's Family Food Co 21 years ago by experimenting in their family kitchen to find protein alternatives for their own consumption. Today, this company has become an international success producing thousands of tons of vegan-only products per year, and employing over 300 people. Fry's Family Food Co recognise that their day to day activities have an impact on the environment. Wally is an inspirational speaker – he speaks at a number of sustainability conferences and covers a wide range of topics including how to reduce our impact on the environment, food choices and climate change, consciousness and "making a profit without compromising ethics and values" and entrepreneurship.

**Presentation Overview** Wally will present the inspiring story of The Fry Family Food Co: from piggeries to veggies.

12:30PM, ROOM 3



## MARIANNE MACDONALD

### Understanding and using values in creating change for animals

**Bio** Marianne Macdonald is a Campaigns Officer with New Zealand animal rights organisation SAFE. She has extensive training in communications technologies including NLP and hypnotherapy, and has a particular interest in how to use language and an understanding of the way people think, to promote social change.

**Presentation Overview** Values play a key role in shaping people's concerns and behaviour. Find out which values are crucial to the positive changes we seek for animals and how we can 'prime' the activation of those values in our audiences. Also learn what to avoid in our communications with the public, whether it be a campaigns message, for volunteer recruitment or for fundraising.

2:15PM, ROOM 1



## HELEN MARSTON

### Lies, cover-ups and monkey experiments

**Bio** Helen Marston was employed by Animals Australia for eight years, during which time she participated in the NHMRC's public consultation on xenotransplantation, and founded Humane Charities Australia Inc. After leaving Animals Australia in 2004 to produce 'Animals Matter' – Australia's first television program about animal welfare and rights issues, Helen completed the Grad. Certificate in Animal Welfare at Monash University in 2005 and is the CEO of Humane Research Australia Inc.

**Presentation Overview** Few people are aware that primates are used in Australian experiments, yet we use baboons, macaques and marmosets in highly invasive procedures here. Australia also has three government-funded breeding colonies where these animals are bred specifically for research purposes, yet still we import more. As the breeding of these animals – as well as much of the research – is funded by us through our tax dollars, why is the industry so hidden? Shouldn't we have the right to know what WE are paying for? According to government authorities, no, we don't!

2:15PM, ROOM 2



## GAYLE D'ARCY

### Rethinking rodeos – campaigning against 'an essential part of Queensland's identity'

**Bio** Gayle D'Arcy, Vice President of Animal Liberation Queensland, and its lead rodeo campaigner, discusses the ways in which ALQ has begun to chip away at the positive view of rodeos that many Queenslanders still hold.

#### Presentation Overview

How do you campaign against an entertainment that is very popular, very prevalent and, according to former Qld premier, Campbell Newman, an event that represents the character of the state? Hopefully, strategically! Gayle will share how the successes already experienced in its re-energised rodeo campaign in 2016 were achieved, and the specific goals for the next 18 months. She will also discuss the particular challenges of engaging regional Queenslanders, given that rodeos are the most common way for regional communities to come together, and given that hostility and derision are the typical reactions to any suggestions from animal advocates that farm animals used in rodeos are, at the very least, distressed by their participation.

2:15PM, ROOM 3



## ALEXANDRA SEDGWICK

### Animals used in science

**Bio** Alexandra is a Science Student from Victoria who started making YouTube videos, and following video made about lab animals at her University, decided to have a go running a campaign for the animals used in Science. Her organization, Cruelty Free Labs Victoria, are a 100% vegan organization run by Science Students and are including all animals, from the live animals used in research to the animals bred and killed for dissection, as well as 'wastage' organs and body parts from knackereries and slaughterhouses.

**Presentation Overview** "I am not special and started this as a bit of an experiment, hoping to prove how easily you can start a movement through social media with limited resources, funding or experience. Generating a lot of attention for a cause can be a little easier with an understanding of media and advertising, and I want to share the techniques that have worked for me."

3:00PM, ROOM 1



## DAMIAN MANDER

### Anti-poaching

**Bio** Damian Mander is a former Australian Royal Navy Clearance Diver and Special Operations military sniper turned anti-poaching crusader. An environmental and animal welfare activist, he is outspoken about the priorities of mankind in an increasingly challenged society. He frequently advocates the use of military equipment and tactics for the purpose of protecting animals, including the use of Unmanned Aerial Vehicles. Damian used his life savings and liquidated his investments and assets to fund the start-up and running costs of the International Anti-Poaching Foundation – an organisation dedicated to the protection and preservation of wildlife in some of the world's most volatile regions.

**Presentation Overview** Damian will talk about his recent work in Africa with the International Anti-Poaching Foundation and the issues surrounding wildlife poaching.

3:00PM, ROOM 2



## JAIME SINGLETON

### Ban puppy farms – Protecting man's best friend

**Bio** Jaime Singleton is a current committee member of Animal Liberation Queensland and Lead Campaigner against puppy farming. She has liaised and worked closely with Oscar's Law, educated at schools, and has argued Animal Liberation Queensland's case in parliamentary hearings for the total ban of puppy farming in Queensland.

**Presentation Overview** Jaime will endeavour to explain the pitfalls of the current legislation in Queensland, and compare it to what is actually needed to bring change to this state and across the country. When the Queensland Labor Government promised to "Protect Puppies" in their election campaign, Animal Liberation NSW waited with baited breath... Sadly, they've not only left Queensland dogs grossly unprotected, but left loopholes for other state puppy farmers to start up shop here too as they escape changed laws in their home states.

3:00PM, ROOM 3



## KOBE STEELE

### "Saving Orangutans"

**Bio** Kobe Steele is the Founder and President of Orangutan Foundation International Australia (OFIA). OFIA has two core campaigns; caring for orphaned and displaced orangutans at the OFI Care Centre & Quarantine in Pasir Panjang Village, Central Kalimantan, Indonesian Borneo; and, securing habitat for their future release. Kobe was honoured to be the recipient of the Women at Work 2015 International Women's Day Leadership Award for Global Charitable Endeavours for her work for orangutans and their rainforest habitat.

**Presentation Overview** Kobe will be talking about how she became involved with orangutans, the work of Orangutan Foundation International and some of the many problems they are facing, with the biggest threat of course being palm oil. OFI currently care for 330+ orangutans at their Care Centre. These orangutans have been orphaned due to the destruction of their habitat for palm oil plantations, illegal logging, and mining. Without the OFI Care Centre, these beautiful, gentle apes would be homeless and more than likely dead.

4:15PM, ROOM 1



## BRAD KING

**The private lives of farmed animals – How they love to live and how we love to hurt them**

**Bio** Brad King is President of Farm Animal Rescue, a free-range farmed animal sanctuary in Dayboro, Queensland where animals rescued from the commercial food industry are given homes of safety, comfort and freedom. Brad also speaks at public events, universities and at animal protection group events about the hidden suffering of the animals exploited for their flesh, fur, eggs and milk.

**Presentation Overview** While many provide evidence such as battery and gestation crates as the rationale for humans to adopt a vegan diet, a quick look into the evolution of the modern food animal exposes unavoidable pain and suffering by these creatures, simply from being born. Brad will cover the real technical reasons why backyard eggs are bad, organic milk from a kindly farmer is evil, and why so many food industry derivative creatures would be better off never having been born at all. This presentation provides any activist with an armory of hidden and rarely understood reasons why support of animal agriculture is inherently evil despite the size of the paddock or the greenness of the grass.

4:15PM, ROOM 2



## PHILLIP HALL

**Organising and running effective peaceful protests at a grassroots level and tips for the best way to conduct ourselves for meaningful communication of the message**

**Bio** Phillip Hall is the Youth Engagement Co-Ordinator for Animal Liberation NSW. He has organised public demonstrations against fur, ag-gag laws, rodeos, circuses, puppy farms, and more. Phillip also initiated the Sydney chapter of the international March To Close All Slaughterhouses in 2014, 2015 and 2016. Phillip has given talks in school, groups, and universities and engages the public through stalls at council fairs and music festivals, and runs an Animal Liberation student group at Macquarie University.

**Presentation Overview** Animal activists love attending a protest, but organising your own can be a daunting task. For every great protest you've attended, you may also remember one that has devolved into chaos or felt like the message was just lost. This talk will go through some of the basic logistics of organising a protest, tips for effectively communicating your message, how to choose your approach, and what to do when things go wrong!

4:15PM, ROOM 3



## DOUGLAS LEITH

**Vivisection: The evidence is all on our side**

**Bio** Doug has been involved in animal rights activism for over 25 years. From having yelled "Close your piggery Paul Keating" in Parliament to standing in freezing lakes for ducks for over 20 years and speaking on vivisection at World Vegan Day, ICAS, the Animal Activists Forum, WEEAC etc, presenting on the Freedom of Species radio show and attending demonstrations and information stalls for veganism and specific and varied animal issues. He aims to contribute to an erudite AR/vegan community on the subject of vivisection so that we can confidently bring that knowledge to the public.

**Presentation Overview** "If your Mum had cancer would you still want to save a mouse?" This is a question I, and I expect most of us, have been asked. The unreliability of animal experimentation across a wide range of areas undermines scientific arguments in favour of the practice... animal experimentation often significantly harms humans through misleading safety studies, potential abandonment of effective therapeutics, and direction of resources away from more effective testing methods.

## FORUM TEAM

Leticia Johnson • Roy Taylor • Shane Simms • Ashley Jago • Chamindri Samarakoon  
Matthew Boyd • Casey van Reyk • Helena Knapik

## VOLUNTEERS

Ric Allport • Paul Bevan • Naomi Boscoe • Donna Brackley • Rheu Brown  
Sue Clarke • Jason Egbars • Lisa Foo • Paul Foo • Cameron Green • Tina Hall  
Natalia Jones • Adrianna Mammino • Linda McCarthy • Jennifer Moore • Antje Nebel  
Grace Sinclair • Carol Slater • Alyce Taylor • Lauren Taylor • Rochelle van Heerden  
Zade Watson • Rob Wilkinson • Alison Worthing



More information on our presenters and their talks can be found at:

**[www.activistsforum.com](http://www.activistsforum.com)**  
**or [www.facebook.com/activistsforum](https://www.facebook.com/activistsforum)**

Disclaimer: The views and opinions raised in this forum are those of the speakers themselves and do not necessarily reflect the opinion on the Animal Activists Forum team or any associated organisations. Attendees should be aware that some of the content of the presentation may be distressing. Attendees are advised to exercise their own discretion as to which presentations they attend, and the organisers and associated organisations take no responsibility for emotional distress. Wherever possible, we will endeavour to warn of graphic images, but no responsibility is taken for the material conveyed in the presentation by the organisers or associated organisations of the Animal Activist Forum.

## FORUM SUPPORTERS

