



THE GREENS GIVING A VOICE TO ANIMALS

STANDING UP FOR ANIMAL WELFARE
IN THE VICTORIAN PARLIAMENT

THE
GREENS



SUE PENNICUIK MLC

I am proud to be the Greens' spokesperson for animals in Victoria. Along with my colleagues, Greg Barber MLC Leader of the Victorian Greens, and Colleen Hartland MLC, we have given animals a voice in the Victorian Parliament for the last eight years.

As I said in my inaugural speech to the Victorian Parliament in 2006, "Animals cannot advocate for themselves. They need people to do it for them, and in this parliament I will work to see an end to anachronistic activities such as duck shooting and cruel and unnecessary intensive farming practices."

In our first year in parliament alone we worked on the following issues, amongst others:

- the danger posed by native forest logging to our threatened species;
- the threats to the habitat of the beautiful red-tailed black cockatoo;
- the damage to biodiversity from bushfires;
- the recreational shooting of native waterbirds as recommended by the government's Animal Welfare Advisory Committee;
- the failure of the revised pig code because it continued to allow sow stalls;
- the need to protect the St Kilda penguins' colony;
- the yabbie nets which drown baby platypus; and
- the inadequacy of Victorian legislation to protect animals from cruelty.

REMOVING SUFFERING AND PROVIDING BETTER CARE FOR ANIMALS SHOULD COME BEFORE BIG PROFITS FOR CORPORATIONS.

Since then we have actively campaigned in both the parliament and in the community for the better protection and care of animals across the board.

We understand that people have a duty of care to ensure animals are not abused and a responsibility to remove, wherever and whenever possible, the physical and psychological suffering of animals due to human activities.

You can trust the Greens to be a voice for animals and to stand with the majority of Victorians who want to see an end to cruelty and suffering for animals.

This booklet is just a small snapshot of the many important animals' issues that you can expect to see the Victorian Greens work on in the next term of government.



BAN DUCK SHOOTING

The Greens are the only major political party in parliament calling for an outright ban on the barbaric duck shooting season. We stand with the majority of Victorians who want to see the end of duck shooting.

"I HAVE ATTENDED THE OPENING OF DUCK HUNTING SEASON FOR MANY YEARS, WITNESSING THE CRUEL SHOOTING OF NATIVE BIRDS AND THE SUFFERING OF DUCKS AND SWANS SHOT BUT NOT KILLED. THIS CRUEL AND BARBARIC ACTIVITY HAS TO END." - SUE PENNICUIK

Last year when duck shooters at Box Flat indiscriminately slaughtered hundreds of protected birds in a single weekend, Sue raised the issue in parliament, demanding answers from the Minister for Agriculture and Food Security, Peter Walsh.

Sue has been relentless in campaigning to outlaw duck shooting. The Greens opposed the regulations introduced by the Liberal government and supported by Labor to allow children as young as 12 to shoot ducks and to increase penalties for duck rescuers found within 25 metres of the water.

The Greens also moved motions in Parliament to outlaw duck shooting but the Liberal / Nationals and the Labor parties opposed the motions, and have focused on restricting the democratic rights of duck rescuers rather than preventing the slaughter of protected native birds.

WE ARE NOT AFRAID TO STAND UP TO THE SHOOTERS.

"I first met Laurie Levy in 1991. Along with many thousands of people in the Victorian community, I have admired Laurie's efforts to end duck shooting in Victoria. While so far no government has moved to end duck shooting, in the last 25 years the number of shooters has declined dramatically as public tolerance of duck shooting is evaporating." - Sue Pennicuik

DUCK HUNTING IS BANNED IN NEW SOUTH WALES, QUEENSLAND, AND WESTERN AUSTRALIA, AND IT IS TIME TO BAN IT IN VICTORIA.





BAN JUMPS RACING

“JUMPS RACING IS A DEADLY SPORT. ALONG WITH MANY VICTORIANS, I FIND IT DEEPLY DISTRESSING THAT VICTORIA CONTINUES TO ALLOW HORSES TO BE KILLED AND SUSTAIN HORRIFIC INJURIES IN THE NAME OF ENTERTAINMENT.” - SUE PENNICUIK

More than 100 horses have been killed in jumps races and trials in Victoria since 2000. Jumps racing is banned everywhere in Australia except Victoria and South Australia.

Sue and the Greens have long campaigned to have jumps racing banned in Victoria.

Jumps racing should have been stopped permanently when it was suspended by Racing Victoria in May 2009. Yet neither Labor or the Liberals / Nationals will stand up to the racing industry and ban jumps racing in Victoria.

“Because this industry employs people and money is lost and won there seems to be a general acceptance that animal cruelty is to be completely overlooked.” - Colleen Hartland.

The Premier, Mr. Napthine, who has retained his portfolio of Minister for Racing, and has links to the racing industry, is not only allowing jumps racing to continue but actively defends it.

ONLY THE GREENS WILL CONTINUE TO CAMPAIGN IN AND OUT OF PARLIAMENT TO END JUMPS RACING ONCE AND FOR ALL.



CLOSE DOWN PUPPY FARMS

“THE SUFFERING OF DOGS SUBJECT TO A LIFETIME OF CAGED HELL IN NOTORIOUS PUPPY FARMS MUST END. NO MORE BROKEN PROMISES BY THE MAJOR PARTIES. YOU CAN RELY ON THE GREENS TO TAKE ACTION ON CLOSING DOWN THESE NOTORIOUS PUPPY FACTORIES.” - SUE PENNICUIK

Four years ago, before the last election, both Labor and the Liberals / Nationals promised to crack down on puppy farms. While there have been some changes to the law and the code of practice, large scale puppy farms continue to operate where hundreds of animals are caged for up to 23 hours a day for the purposes of breeding puppies for profit. Breeding females are usually bred every time they come into heat, until they can no longer produce puppies – this is still allowed under the revised code.

“I said in parliament, when calling on the Minister Peter Walsh to immediately revise the Code, people feel furious and betrayed by the process, the minister and the government, which promised to crack down on puppy farms.” - Sue Pennicuik

Meanwhile Labor, unsurprisingly, has jumped back on the bandwagon just before another election. You can't trust either of the old parties to stand up for the rights of animals once in government. Only the Greens will hold them accountable.

Any operations that fail to meet the psychological, behavioral and social needs of dogs, no matter the size of the operation, should be closed down. We can end this form of animal cruelty by banning the sale of animals through pet shops and abolishing puppy farms in Victoria now.

PROTECTING NATIVE WILDLIFE

“LIKE MANY IN THE COMMUNITY I AM DEEPLY CONCERNED BY THE DECLINE OF MANY VICTORIAN NATIVE ANIMALS. CLIMATE CHANGE, HABITAT DESTRUCTION FROM LOGGING, BUSHFIRES AND COAL MINES AND THE UNDERMINING OF OUR NATIONAL PARKS SYSTEM ARE ALL PUTTING PRESSURE ON OUR NATIVE SPECIES.” - GREG BARBER

Victoria's faunal emblem, the Leadbeater's Possum, is in danger of extinction. The possum lost over 40 percent of its habitat in the Black Saturday bushfires, while logging continues to destroy its remaining habitat. The Greens will establish the Great Forest National Park in the Victorian highland forests to save the Leadbeater's Possum.

The Victorian Government is showing scant regard for the crucial role national parks play in protecting our native fauna. From allowing cattle to graze in the Snowy Mountains to proposing to open up national parks to greater commercial interests, the government is putting more and more of our native species at risk. The Greens will always stand up and fight for our precious native habitats and the animals that rely on them.

“We will continue to fight to reverse the nonsensical decision to introduce commercial kangaroo culling to Victoria. We know kangaroo shooting permits are handed out easily. There is close to zero supervision and no-one can even tell us how many kangaroos were killed last year.” - Greg Barber

Through questions to the Minister Peter Walsh and freedom of information requests, Greg has attempted to shine a light on the thousands of permits issued under the authority to control wildlife provisions that are meant to protect wildlife but which in many cases license their destruction. In 2011, 2,000 permits were issued last year by the government. Over a four year span, under Labor and Liberal governments, as many as 350,000 protected wildlife creatures, have, under license, been shot, poisoned or in some other cases disturbed, but no-one can know how, when or why. As well as the indiscriminate culling of kangaroos we have raised our concerns about koalas being killed in plantation forests, the risks facing native species due to development and the dangers of aerial baiting.

WE STAND UP FOR VICTORIA'S NATIVE ANIMALS.



REPLACING CRUEL AND INTENSIVE FARMING PRACTICES

“AS MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ACROSS AUSTRALIA ARE ACTING TO SUPPORT FREE-RANGE ANIMAL PRODUCTS FOR ETHICAL REASONS, IT IS TIME VICTORIAN REGULATIONS CAUGHT UP AND FOCUSED ON LOOKING AFTER THE ANIMALS NOT THE OUTDATED INDUSTRY.” - SUE PENNICUIK

Factory farming such as battery hens and sow stalls for pigs are inhumane causing immense suffering, pain, discomfort and loss of dignity for the animals and denying them their basic needs. These cruel practices can be replaced with humane systems of animal husbandry.

In 2007, Sue moved to disallow the revised code of practice for the welfare of pigs. The code of practice was misnamed – it should have been called the code of practice for the welfare of the pig industry.

It was not a code of practice for the welfare of pigs because it allowed the continuation of the confinement of pregnant sows in sow stalls up until 2017. These practices are being outlawed in the European Union and all around the world.

In 2014, Sue introduced a private member's bill to ban sow stalls, battery cages and de-beaking, and to provide for truth in labeling for free range eggs saying, "Present laws are failing farm animals which are subject to cruel and unnecessary practices".

The Greens have a strong record across the country in campaigning for and winning improvements to animal farming practices. In the ACT, the Greens introduced laws that ban the use of cages for egg production, the de-beaking of chickens and the use of sow stalls and farrowing crates for pigs. We can do the same here in Victoria.

We are also the only major political party to call for the end of the live export trade.

YOU CAN TRUST THE GREENS TO CONTINUE TO ADVOCATE FOR BETTER FARMING PRACTICES AS WELL AS SUPPORTING FARMERS TO TRANSITION TO SUSTAINABLE AND HUMANE SYSTEMS OF LIVESTOCK MANAGEMENT.



MEET OUR CANDIDATES

COLLEEN HARTLAND

**WESTERN METROPOLITAN
UPPER HOUSE LEAD CANDIDATE**

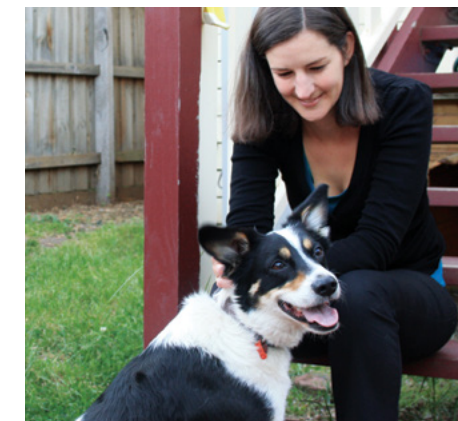
Our pets don't come from pet shops. Pudding came from the Lort Smith Animal Hospital. Socks was rehoused from our vet as was Waddle Piddle. Patch came from a lost dogs home. Fang and Poppy also came from our vet, as well as a cat named Horse.



ELLEN SANDELL

FOR MELBOURNE

I grew up with a Blue Heeler called Freckles, and my parents taught me that how we treat animals is a reflection of us and our society. The Greens have a strong history of protecting animals' rights and ending cruelty. I am proud to stand with them to fight to shut down puppy farms and ban duck shooting and jumps racing. We know action on these issues is important, and success in other states shows that it's possible.



LLOYD DAVIES

**WESTERN VICTORIA
LEAD UPPER HOUSE CANDIDATE**

Some of my fondest memories are of following my father around when he was working as a vet. He taught me the importance of taking care of and respecting animals. His passionate speeches about wishing an end to jumps racing have stayed with me all of my life and are one of the reasons I decided to be a Greens candidate, as they share my vision of a more caring society.



TIM READ

FOR BRUNSWICK

Right now I'm reading 'Charlotte's Web' to my daughter. For me it's a gentle reminder that we humans are animals enjoying a privileged position so we have a special responsibility towards other animals. And we still have a long way to go in recognising this. Some of our practices are remnants of an earlier era and can't be justified. I'm particularly thinking of duck shooting, jumps racing and whipping racehorses.



SAMANTHA DUNN

**EASTERN METROPOLITAN
LEAD UPPER HOUSE CANDIDATE**

I've long campaigned for the protection of Victoria's state faunal emblem the Leadbeater's Possum. It's native to Victoria and lives in the forests near Melbourne. I've been lucky enough to see first-hand where the critically endangered fairy possum lives and forages. There's something very special about the animals that live in these forests and they are far too precious to lose.



NINA SPRINGLE

**SOUTH EASTERN METROPOLITAN
UPPER HOUSE LEAD CANDIDATE**

The hen featured in this photo is an ex-battery hen. She has recovered from having her beak cut and being lame in one leg from the conditions at the farm she had been on. We have a number of displaced animals that we have adopted. All three of our cats are adopted, one from the RSPCA and the other two were unwanted kittens, as well as all of our chooks.





FOR A PLAN YOU CAN TRUST

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON OUR WORK TO GIVE
ANIMALS A VOICE VISIT: [GREENS.ORG.AU/VIC/ANIMALS](https://greens.org.au/vic/animals)**