



students for animal awareness newsletter – april 2002

HUMANE EDUCATION CAMPAIGN

Animal Awareness is aiming to educate fellow students on their rights to refuse to harm animals as part of their university degree, this is known as conscientious objection. We also hope to reduce the number of animals harmed and/or killed at universities by negotiating with the relevant university bodies and individuals to increase or introduce the use of alternatives to animal-based teaching lessons.

UTS Progress: Members of Animal Awareness who are science students have begun informal inquiries into the number of students who morally object to harming and killing animals in their degree. This “word of mouth” approach is being used, as opposed to making public announcements or surveys, to avoid a possible hostile confrontation with science teachers. As these informal inquiries are taking place students who have expressed interest in conscientious objection will be encouraged and supported by the collective and the resources of various national animal welfare bodies to approach their teachers and begin negotiations about changes to the course or assessment content that the student ethically objects to.

SYDNEY UNI Progress: The same process as explained above will begin in the next few weeks at Sydney University, subject to the amount of members who are science students. The campaign will also be aided by the VET Student Animal Welfare collective who in the past has had success in reducing the amount of animals used in the Vet Science department.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED: If you would like to get involved in the humane education campaign contact Samantha Flack (UTS), David Owens (Syd Uni) or Michael Bates (Syd Uni) whose details are on the bottom of this newsletter. Be sure to let them know if you are a science student, but you don't have to be one to help!

VEGAN COOKING CLASSES

Animal Awareness would like to help students learn to cook yummy and nutritious meals. The classes will be a time to exchange recipes, discuss health issues and share tips like how to cook for one or on a limited budget.

At the moment we are attempting to find a venue for the classes, which we then hope to be held on a regular occasion. A few members have KINDLY offered their assistance in sharing their cooking skills and their homes, however we are also waiting to hear if we can use a health food store in Bondi. Also, we have had an offer from a professional vegan chef to help out with the classes. Updates about the cooking classes will be communicated via email and phone. If you have any suggestions or resources regarding the cooking classes please contact Sam Flack (contact details on bottom of newsletter).

ANIMAL AWARENESS WEBSITE

As you all are aware (hopefully!) we have a website located at: <http://www.geocities.com/sfaro2>

The website contains information about:

- The collective's aims and campaigns
- Vegan recipes
- A message board to communicate with members
- Info about upcoming events
- Collective resources (posters, info pamphlet and newsletters)

The website very soon will also feature photographs from O Day, O Week and the social dinner at Green Gourmet. If you would like to contribute to the website either with technical skill, written articles or poetry about animal issues, pictures of your pet or anything else please contact David Owens (contact details below). The website is YOUR website.

ANIMAL CRUELTY AND THE LAW

Mr. Paul O'Donnell, President of the RSPCA (NSW), has invited Animal Awareness members to attend court cases involving the prosecution of animal cruelty offences. Mr. O'Donnell is a barrister and does a lot of legal work for the RSPCA. The times and location of the court sessions vary. If you would like to attend a court session please contact Sam Flack (contact details at bottom of newsletter) to see if a time and location can be found to suit you.

Students for Animal Awareness

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