

FREE THE BEARS NEWSLETTER

BEARS' PRINT



MAY 2019
24 YEARS OF
PROTECTING BEARS

FREE THE BEARS aims to protect, preserve and enrich the lives of bears throughout the world.



MESSAGE FROM MARY



Dear Members, Supporters and Friends,

I hope this issue of Bears' Print finds you healthy, happy and enjoying 2019. Can you believe we're almost half way through the year? Time seems to be passing by faster than ever, especially with the many accomplishments of the past six months, detailed within this issue. As always I'm so proud of the achievements of everyone within the Free the Bears family – our dedicated state supporter groups who work tirelessly to raise awareness and funds, and our bear rescue and care teams who put in so much effort helping bears in need and providing the expert care required to make up for the suffering the bears have endured. But with each passing day I also worry for the bears remaining in bear bile farms. How much more pain can they endure? Will we be able to rescue them before it's too late? I can only hope that time is on our side and we'll see an end to this awful practice in the coming years.

Did you know that 2019 marks the 10th anniversary since the last dancing bear was removed from the streets of India? It was heartbreaking when I first saw the sloth bears in India being used as roadside entertainment for tourists after being beaten into submission and disciplined through fear and pain. Most of the bears were malnourished and some had tuberculosis and rabies, a miserable life for the bears and their Kalandar gypsy owners, who were poor, illiterate and nomadic, living in highly unsanitary conditions. When I agreed to help raise funds to remove the sloth bears from the streets as well as provide alternative livelihoods to the Kalandar gypsies, the enormity of the task didn't strike me until later. All I could think was "One day at a time, one dollar at a time, one bear at a time". Yet somehow we did it and on December 19, 2009, after seven years of fundraising over a million dollars to rescue sloth bears and help Kalandar families, Raju, the last dancing bear of India, entered the sanctuary.

In the decade since Raju was rescued, we've rescued hundreds more bears. In Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam where we now operate five rescued bear centres, we're determined to help every last bear in need as well as protect bears which remain in the wild. Granted it's an enormous task, but I remain hopeful that we'll be successful in our mission.

As you'll see, we've been working with communities and our government partners to strengthen wildlife protections – we've recently provided wildlife training workshops to government officials, wildlife medicine lectures to vet students and recently launched Snare Ware, a project to remove wire snare traps from the forest and recycle them into Snare Ware bracelets, sales of which provide alternative livelihoods to ex-hunting families. It's vital we foster these connections with communities and governments if we're to change attitudes towards the exploitation of bears.

Since our last newsletter, we've added 8 rescued bears to the Free the Bears family. I'm overjoyed that we're preventing more bears from a life of torture (or worse). However more rescues increases funding pressures. I think most of you know that we provide our rescued bears with healthy diets, world class veterinary care, enrichment activities to stimulate their complex minds, and large forest enclosures with swimming pools, caves, hammocks and climbing frames - it's the least we can do. Due to a lack of protected forest, there's very little possibility of release for our rescued bears - we'll be caring for them for their entire lives, which can be 30-40 years.

With the end of the financial year upon us, please keep in mind that any donation or bear sponsorship is tax deductible for Australians. I hope you are able to give generously this year.

With much love and bear hugs, Mary



Laos Rescue #70, Rescued May 9, 2019

With increasing rescues, the bears in our sanctuaries need your help now more than ever! Make a deductible gift of a donation, adoption or sponsorship of a bear before June 30 and claim as a tax deduction!

UPDATES FROM THE FIELD CAMBODIA

We've had an exciting and busy start to the year in Cambodia with two bear rescues in January. On January 19th we collected Cambodian Rescue #205, a female sun bear cub approximately 4 months old, confiscated from villagers in the far northeast province of Ratanikiri. It's unknown what happened to her mother, although it's most likely she was trapped and killed by a hunter's snare as a mother bear would never willingly leave her cub. Just days later Cambodian Rescue #206, a female moon bear cub who had originally been found clinging to a fallen tree branch in the middle of a river, arrived at the sanctuary, stressed and frightened. Under the supervision of our expert cub carer Mr Heng, both cubs are now thriving. Cambodian rescue #205 is super playful, really naughty and unbelievably fast whereas rescue #206 is really warming up to her carers and seems to be a very sweet natured and calm moon bear who loves to swim.



Cambodia Rescue #205, rescued Jan 19, 2019

Our awesome volunteers have also been repairing hammocks and enrichment furniture, painting, cleaning and generally working tirelessly to contribute to the welfare of the bears. Thank you volunteers! Would you like an ethical holiday of a lifetime? Join our Cambodian Volunteer Programme for a week, or more. Email volunteer@freethebears.org for details.

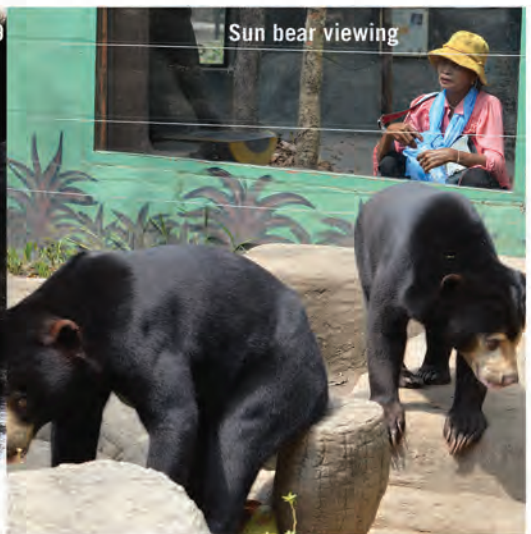
The ACE (Awareness, Communication, Education) team have been hard at work creating the next generation of bear defenders and eco-warriors. Over the past six months, they've enlightened and excited hundreds of school children, who inevitably bombard them with a colourful array of questions.



Volunteers with donated fire hoses



Cambodia Rescue #206, rescued Jan 21, 2019



Sun bear viewing

Our Cambodian Bear Sanctuary is the world's largest sun bear sanctuary, with 78 sun bears (also 39 moon bears and the world's only known sun bear moon bear hybrid, Tom-Tom). Having been established since 1997, many of our bears are getting quite old and we're very sad to report that we've lost five bears in the past six months. We're hopeful that we provided them the best life possible during the time they spent with us and that they had many happy days.

Over the past six months we've had some fascinating visitors including a professor conducting metabolic chamber research to determine the metabolic rates of sun bears, an area in which little research exists. We've also had expert educators from San Diego Zoo Global who conducted an invaluable educators workshop to build the skills of our local teams.

We've also had a constant stream of wonderful volunteers visiting our Volunteer Programme. They've been hard at work installing and repairing viewing windows and bamboo barriers to provide better protection and privacy for the bears.

The real joy is watching their faces light up when they meet the bears for the first time. We hope we've left a lasting impression which will help shape their attitudes towards wildlife conservation well into the future.

Did you know that sun bears were only first described in scientific literature in 1819? They are one of the world's least understood bear species. Our research team is helping address this lack of knowledge by progressing several very interesting projects - studying bear personalities, recording signs of bear activity in the wild and researching the attitudes and usage of bear parts by traditional healers. Fascinating stuff! We can't wait to read the results of this research, scheduled for release later this year. We're also about to publish the first ever range-wide conservation strategy for sun bears, the first of its kind for a terrestrial bear species. The document arose from 2017's first ever sun bear symposium, jointly organised by Free the Bears. This is a huge achievement which will greatly benefit sun bear conservation - congratulations to all involved.



UPDATES FROM THE FIELD LAOS

2018 was an incredible year. We made extensive progress developing the Luang Prabang Wildlife Sanctuary (LPWS) and finished the year with 13 bear rescues - smashing our previous record of 10 bear rescues from 2017. Our final rescue for the year was very special. Just prior to Christmas we rescued a beautiful sun bear cub who was about to disappear into the mountains with a wildlife trafficker. Nicknamed Mary Christmas after our founder Mary Hutton, she was dehydrated and malnourished. At only 4.4kg it was touch and go if she'd survive. Like her namesake, Mary proved to be a fighter. Our only sun bear in Laos, she is now a healthy 25kg (don't worry, she isn't lonely – she gets plenty of attention from her carers).

In February we rescued two young moon bears, both of which were malnourished and stunted. Since their rescue they've put on weight and their coats are beginning to thicken and darken, a positive sign. On May 9 we rescued Laos Rescue #69 and #70, two tiny moon bear cubs around 4 months old. After a hunter killed their mother, the cubs were advertised for sale on Facebook. Thankfully the Bokeo Provincial Office of Forest Inspection were able to set up a sting operation and arrest the trafficker before they disappeared. Nervous at first, the cubs have already gained weight and confidence and we're hopeful they'll make a full recovery from their ordeal.

With all the rescues in the past year, the Tat Kuang Si Bear Rescue Centre (TKSBRC) was once again overcrowded. Thankfully we'd received funding to build an additional bear house at LPWS. Bear House 3 opened in late January, allowing a group of juvenile female cubs to move from TKSBC. The girls are enjoying the fragrant mountain breezes, climbing platforms and swimming pools. They're a young and fun group, constantly wrestling and climbing to the tops of the platforms, an absolute joy to watch (visit our youtube channel to see – www.youtube.com/freethebears).

Bear House 4 at LPWS is about to be completed. This will allow us to move another group up from the old centre,



leaving us with 28 bears at TKSBC (originally designed to house 25).

We recently completed construction of our Wildlife Hospital at LPWS. On International Women's Day, March 8, we were joined by some fabulous women (including the World Expeditions group who had spent the previous two weeks helping build the Vietnam and Laos sanctuaries) for a wonderful monk's blessing ceremony. Our new Wildlife Hospital will be the only fully equipped wildlife facility in the entire country.

In December and March we conducted the first ever training workshops for rescued wildlife with officers of the Department of Forest Inspection. April saw our new vet Kath conduct the first ever wildlife medicine lecture to vet students at the National University. It's rewarding to be partnering closely with authorities and students to ensure the future survival of the country's wildlife. We now have two Education Officers at the TKSBC (welcome Nikki and Olay). With increasing traffic through the centre as Luang Prabang gains in popularity, the team has been busy providing information about the status of bears in Laos. Their enthusiasm is infectious - we've never had so many visitors buying t-shirts to commemorate their visit and help raise awareness (and much-needed funds).

The remainder of the year is going to be very busy. In the coming months we plan to build a Pangolarium (temporary enclosure to hold rescued pangolins prior to release) and put the finishing touches on the Quarantine House and Cub Nursery. Following this we'll get cracking on Bear House 5. Never a dull moment in Laos!



LPWS and Wildlife Hospital blessing



Girls enjoying their new mountain home

Wildlife care training workshop

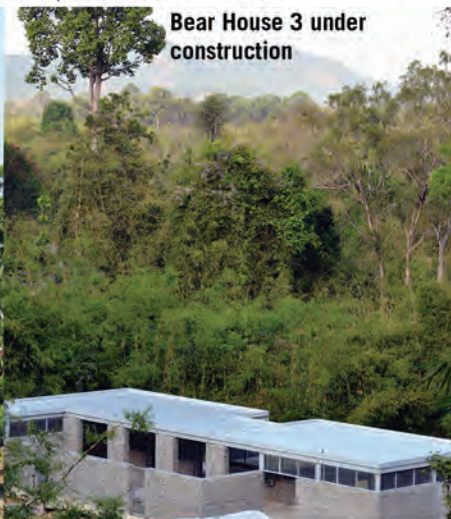
UPDATES FROM THE FIELD VIETNAM

Our small team in Vietnam has been kept busy over the past six months with the expansion of the new Cat Tien Bear Sanctuary. A proud recent achievement has been the completion of our new Wildlife Hospital. This purpose built facility, once fully equipped, will be able to provide more advanced diagnostics and veterinary care than has been possible in the past, benefiting both our bears and other rescued and injured wildlife at the Cat Tien National Park.

Over the past months we've also been building Bear House 3. The bear dens have been completed and are looking great. Next steps involve mapping out the external enclosures before we commence construction, which should take several months. We're really looking forward to moving the bears from the older bear rescue centre we inherited (which has limited space) into the new giant forest enclosures. We've no doubt the bears will also appreciate and enjoy the extra space. We're also planning two enclosures for a couple of older bears with special needs.



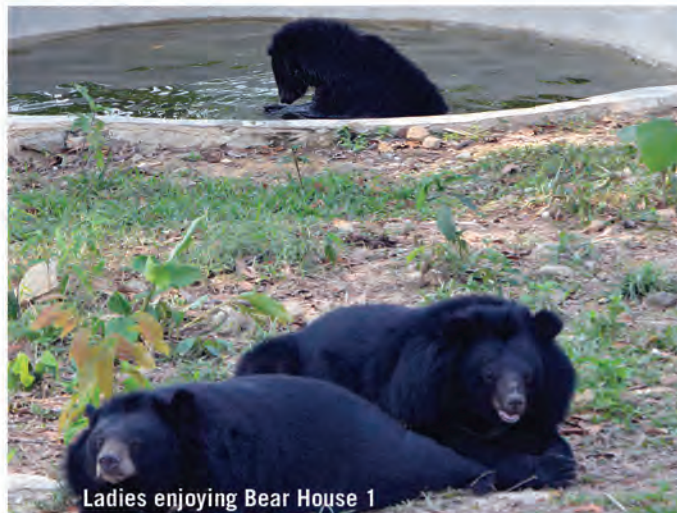
World Expeditions group with vet & enrichment donations



Bear House 3 under construction



Wildlife Hospital



Ladies enjoying Bear House 1

they come back to visit in the future.

We now have an Education Officer at the Vietnam centre (welcome Nga) who is teaching visitors and school groups about the plight of bears in Vietnam. It's great to see progress in this area. Speaking of progress, the Vietnamese government's undertaking to end bear bile farming in the coming years continues to enjoy positive momentum. It is estimated that the number of caged bears in Vietnam has fallen to less than 750 (around 4,500 a decade ago). We regularly hear news of another province in Vietnam becoming free of captive bears.

Most of the bears at the sanctuary are doing well. It's hard to believe the sun bears moved into their huge new forest a year ago. Nervous at first, they now spend their days happily foraging in the forest. In February we lost Tai Meo, an older female moon bear. We were very sad to see her pass however happy that she was able to enjoy many years in a beautiful forest enclosure amongst a lovely group of female moon bears. Three older females, rescued in 2018 after decades of being subjected to confinement and mutilation, continue to recover at the Bear Rescue Centre.

Recently we had a group of Australians (plus a Canadian and Singaporean) visit us with a World Expeditions adventure tour to raise funds for Free the Bears and help develop the sanctuaries. They were a wonderful group who worked very hard scrubbing swimming pools, painting, planting trees, preparing enrichment for the bears and weaving hammocks. The group completed 8 hammocks, a record! They also donated and carried valuable veterinary and enrichment supplies from Australia. We're grateful for their fantastic efforts and hope

The number of bears in the wild in Vietnam is unknown. Our research department is addressing this lack of knowledge with a Bear Signs Survey looking for indications of wild bear populations - we can't wait to see the results.

We have plans to expand the Cat Tien Bear Sanctuary including more bear houses in preparation to accept bears rescued from bile farms (funding pending). Thanks to a key grant from our major donor Welttierschutz-gesellschaft e.v. (WTG), we'll be able to pave roads (currently unsealed and treacherous during wet season), install electricity, construct facilities for bear care and further strengthen and develop our education and bear care capabilities. In October we'll welcome the 2019 VIETNAM EXPEDITIONS. Members of the Vietnam Expedition will help develop the sanctuary as well as visit some of the unique sites of southern Vietnam. Interested to join? You'll need to start planning for the 2020 trip (scheduled for October 2020) as the 2019 Expedition is already full booked. Contact volunteer@freethebears.org for details.



IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Free the Bears Fund Inc change to Free the Bears Ltd

With growing sanctuaries in Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos, and to bring us in line with other international charities, Free the Bears changed its status from an 'incorporated association' to a 'public company, limited by guarantee' with a resultant name change from Free the Bears Fund Inc to Free the Bears Ltd. The change of status will impact memberships.

Life Memberships and Annual Memberships will no longer be offered. Anyone who has been a member will continue to receive updates on all developments within Free the Bears. We'll be sending you email updates and our Bears' Print newsletter. We welcome you to join our events and would love to see you visit one of our rescued bear sanctuaries.

You will no longer be asked to pay annual membership fees. We hope you'll continue to support Free the Bears and ask that you instead register as a Bear Carer. Bear Carers ensure that all our rescued bears receive the lifelong care they deserve - healthy diets, vet care, enrichments to stimulate their complex minds, hammocks, climbing towers and pools - to help make up for the suffering they've endured.

With over 500 bears under our care, increasing bear rescues in Laos and a potential end to bear bile farming in sight, it's vital we register more Bear Carers. There are several Bear Carer levels –Bear Angel (AUD\$100/month), Bear Carer (AUD\$50/month), Cub Carer (AUD\$25/month) and Bear Buddy (AUD\$10/month). To register as a Bear Carer, please visit our website at www.freethebears.org/pages/bear-carer or contact our Perth Head Office on 9244 1096.

Alternatively, please feel free to convert your annual membership fee into a donation, which can be made either through our website www.freethebears.org or by contacting Head Office. Some of you may already be donating or sponsoring a bear and for that we're very grateful. For Australian residents all donations, Bear Carer contributions and bear sponsorships are tax deductible (donate before end of financial year, June 30, to claim the deduction!).

We appreciate your understanding and support of this necessary change and hope to see you register as a Bear Carer and help us to continue protecting, preserving and enriching the lives of bears. Thank you.

2019/20 Entertainment Books

The new 2019/20 Entertainment Book is here. The Entertainment Book provides thousands of 2-for-1 and discount offers all over Australia, New Zealand and Bali! We receive a donation for every book sold. To support Free The Bears in this great fundraiser, contact Head Office on 08 9244 1096 or use this link: <https://www.entertainmentbook.com.au/orderbooks/8355p5>

NEW LOVES AND SAD LOSSES

We welcome new arrivals with open arms each month whilst shedding a tear for those who leave us. With heavy hearts we said goodbye to Tai Meo, Belle (Cambodia), Kiem, Beau, Teeza, Mony. Here are a few of our newest arrivals and sad recent losses:



At the very core of Free the Bears is the belief that the actions of individuals can make a difference. We accept the responsibility to care for rescues for their natural lives, if needed. For many animal lovers, leaving a legacy to help provide a safe future for the bears in our care (as well as the ones who will need us in years to come) is the greatest gift they'll ever bestow upon our four-legged friends. Over the past 24 years, many kind-hearted individuals have helped ensure that we are able to continue to provide world-class sanctuaries and care to bears in need. We thank them from the bottom of our hearts. Email bequests@freethebears.org for more information.

FUNDRAISING UPDATES

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

T: 08 9244 1096 E: office@freethebears.org.au

By Sacha Dowell

PERTH: Late 2018 saw us reinstate the Street Appeal, and what a fun day it was! Over 40 volunteers joined in the tin-shaking and collected an amazing \$3,500! 2019 started with a bang with a garden party organised and hosted by long-term volunteer Michelle and her family which raised \$1,500 – go Michelle! The past few months have been very busy with nine stalls at expos, markets and shopping centres, including Hyde Park Fair, Vegan Expo and the Craft Fair, raising over \$8,000.

We took part in the Perth Zoo Teddy Bears Picnic in March and managed to sell \$2,250 worth of merchandise. Big thanks to Jan for organising it. Another very successful March event was the Art Exhibition “The Owl & the Pussycat” organised by dedicated supporter Ruth Miriam Cohen. The exhibition was held at Ruth’s home over two days and raised a whopping \$9,000. We can’t thank Ruth enough for her efforts, including 6 months of work pre-event to produce paintings, distribute invites and other promotional materials.

In April we organised a BEARfoot Bowls. It was a sell-out event (with additional people asking to join in), everyone had a great time, and \$3,000 was raised. We will be making this one an annual event!

We have lots of exciting events planned for the rest of the year, and we’re needing more volunteers to pull it all off. Please get in touch if you’d like to be part of our awesome team. A HUGE thank you to everyone on the team; you guys are amazing!

By Sue Brehany

ALBANY: Our first fundraiser after Christmas was a Cupcake Stall at popular holiday town, Denmark. The park was bulging with young families and business was brisk. The cupcakes proved irresistible and we raised just over \$1,000 with donations added. We welcomed the baking of newcomer, Les James, who is happy to contribute from his kitchen to future events. Our annual planning meeting was held in early February. By then, Bunnings had already offered us two sausage sizzles - the one on the Australia Day weekend was quieter but the Labour Day weekend was busy and lucrative. Both were worth the effort.

A lot of time and effort (and fun) went into our first Teddy Bears’ Picnic on 24th March. It involved novelty races, a bear hunt, mural painting, craft activities, face painting and a grand parade of bears which proved popular. A real drawcard was the construction of Bee Hotels to attract useful bees to our gardens. The Albany Mens Shed had constructed several wooden “hotels” for us to sell. Our innovator, Janet Traylen, supervised the filling of rooms with hollow sticks and stalks. The event was much appreciated by the young families who attended.

We now look forward to our Mothers’ Day Raffle in early May run in conjunction with yet another Sausage Sizzle! Also, inspired by the success of the SA team, we might run a Bears’ Bingo night in the near future. We are inspired by the efforts of other groups and what Matt and his team are doing for the bears in SE Asia. Keep it going!

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

E: sasupport@freethebears.org

By Krystine and Alan Evans

Team SA again participated in the Vegan Festival, late October 2018 which was a huge success, not only raising \$3,044 but

also winning over many new FTB supporters. Thank you to our wonderful volunteers who made this event such a success (especially those who risked melting in the Sunny bear costume during the warm weekend...you know who you are!). Concluding a very successful 2018, which saw the SA team raise a thrilling \$32,281, the team ended the year with a CeleBEARation at Namaste Nepalese Restaurant, including a raffle that raised yet more funds for the bears and a flurry of calendar purchases.

We kicked off 2019 with Bingo for Bears in February, raising \$3,402 thanks to the brilliant organisation skills of Angela and her team and big thanks to everyone who attended on the night. We also held a stand at the Animal Expo in March, raising a further \$2,070.

Five of our wonderful SA supporters recently visited the Vietnam and Laos sanctuaries as part of a World Expeditions tour. They will be sharing their experiences & fabulous photos as part of our late August information night, prior to the Royal Adelaide Show.

Future events planned for 2019 include: Body, Mind & Psychic Expo 22/23 June (with thanks to the organisers who have donated our stand); Quiz Night 22 June; Movie night 19 July (featuring The Lion King new release!); Royal Adelaide Show 30 August-8 September. 2019/20. Entertainment Books are also available now! Contact us for more info or checkout our Facebook page.

VICTORIA

E: vicsupport@freethebears.org

By Janine Lum

Thanks to the committee for putting on another successful High Tea at the beautiful Mary Eats Cake, Brunswick. We’ve received really positive feedback - everything was delicious and everyone had a great time and we raised \$2,194. Thanks to Mary Eats Cake and Nestar Miss Sweetie chocolates. We’re planning a Movie Night in June and Trivia Night in October. We are a small committee in Victoria and are always seeking volunteers.

NEW SOUTH WALES

E: nswsupport@freethebears.org

By Samantha Lamb

NSW had a great start to our fundraising year. On 6th of February we hosted Comedy for a Cause at Revesby Workers Club. The audience were entertained by 4 comedians, the headline act being Peter Berner. Everyone had a fantastic night and we had some great raffle prizes and auction items taken home by some lucky audience members. The night raised nearly \$4,000 for the bears and we had such a great time, we plan on having another night in 2020. Our next event is the Risotto, Pasta and Pizza fundraiser at Lurgano on 2nd June at 12pm Tickets are \$50 each. Contact Jeanette on 0421109166 or jeanette_akkanen@hotmail.com to book your tickets. All funds raised go directly to the bears.

TASMANIA

E: tassupport@freethebears.org

We have a new coordinator Yvette to organise market stalls and other events but she needs your help. More volunteers are need in Launceston to help Yvette. We are also looking for a coordinator in Hobart. Email for details.



GET INVOLVED

COMING EVENTS

NSW

Fundraising Lunch

73 Valentia Ave, Lugarno
June 2, 12pm

SA

Quiz Night

Unley Community Centre
June 22, 7pm

VIC

Aladdin Movie Afternoon

Palace Dendy Brighton
June 2, 4pm

WA

Indian Dinner

Fusion6, Wembley
August 24

SA

Royal Adelaide Show

Adelaide Showground
August 30-September 8

WA and SA

Lion King Movie Fundraiser

Cygnets Cinema (WA), Regal Theatre (SA)
July 21 12pm (WA), July 19 6pm (SA)

WA

Perth Royal Show

Claremont Showground
September 28-October 5

WA

AGM and Volunteer Party

Perth Zoo
October 18

VIC

Trivia Night

Middle Park Bowling Club
October TBC

WA/Albany

Albany Agricultural Show

Albany Showground
November 8-9

WA

Pet Expo

Claremont Showground
November 16-17

WA

Street Appeal

Perth CBD
November 22

DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO INSPIRE OTHERS?

Our State Support Groups are absolutely vital to the continued welfare of our rescued bears – building the groundswell of support that we need to continue our vital work. We are currently seeking new State Support Group volunteers for Queensland and Tasmania. You'll be involved with building, coordinating and delivering fundraising events and activities within your area. This might include quiz nights, movie nights, dinners, luncheons or raffles, as well as stalls at festivals, shopping centres or local markets. Communication and excellent organisational skills are of benefit – you will help to inspire bear lovers to join us on our mission to Free the Bears!

State Support Groups are supported by Free the Bears office in Perth. If you would like to be a part of an enthusiastic and dedicated team of like-minded people contributing to the long-term protection of the bears, we'd love to hear from you. You are welcome to share this message with anyone you know who may be interested. Please contact office@freethebears.org.au

Special thanks to Nannup Ridge Estate Winery for sponsoring the production of this newsletter:



Cover Photo: Brandy is a rare golden coloured moon bear. She was rescued in 1999 and lives with Yang, rescued in 2006, at the Cambodia Bear Sanctuary.

PLEASE HELP US SAVE ON POSTAGE AND PAPER by receiving this newsletter and receipts via email. Sign up via our website or Facebook page. If your email or mailing address has changed, please let us know. You'll be helping us and the environment.



Laos Rescues #69 and #70, rescued May 9, 2019

With more bears arriving at our sanctuaries, many of them suffering from terrible injuries sustained at the hands of their captors, it's imperative that we have a steady source of funds to ensure we are able to provide lifelong care, which can last up to 40 years. Building a base of recurring donors is vital. Even just a few cents a day adds up and can make a difference. Please visit our website to register as a Bear Carer or contact our Perth office to become a monthly donor. Thank you.



FREE THE BEARS LTD

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ACN: 629 120 449

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Charity Number: 1135682
Founder & Chairperson: Dr Mary Hutton
CEO: Matt Hunt



RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS - THANK YOU TO ALL

Without the courage and actions of our founder Mary Hutton, almost 1,000 bears would be in a far worse situation. The rescued bears have been given lifelong care in beautiful sanctuaries and the lives of thousands of people throughout Asia and the rest of the world have been positively impacted. But Mary did not do this alone – along the journey she had, and continues to have, an amazing support network of like-minded, caring, generous and loving supporters. Yes that's YOU we're talking about. Here are just some of the wonderful achievements of the last few months. Thank you to everyone for your support.



Garden party in Perth, Feb



Bear House 3, LPWS, Laos



Cupcakes in Denmark WA, December



Wildlife Hospital, Vietnam



Quiz Night, Melbourne



Bingo for Bears, Adelaide, Feb



Comedy for a Cause, Sydney, Jan



Teddy Bears' Picnic, Perth Zoo, March



Education team at work, Cambodia



Teddy Bears' Picnic, Albany, March



Wildlife Hospital Blessing Ceremony, Laos



Let them eat cake High Tea, Melbourne, April





Bear House 1 painting by World Expeditions group, Vietnam



Adelaide Animal Expo, April



BEARfoot Bowls, Perth, April

ONGOING PROJECTS - THANKS TO SUPPORTERS

Below are some of our ongoing projects expected to be completed in the next 6 months. It is only with your support that we can expand facilities to care for additional rescues and prepare for impending closures of bear bile farms. Thank you.



Bear House 3, Cat Tien Bear Sanctuary, Vietnam



World Expeditions group making bear hammocks for Bear House 3



Bear House 4 at Luang Prabang Wildlife Sanctuary

HOW ELSE CAN I HELP?

For many of our infrastructure projects we're able to secure funding support from zoo, corporate and other institutional partners. Where we most need YOUR support is to help us provide lifelong care for the rescued bears in our sanctuaries (who live up to 40 years). To help make up for their past suffering and provide the best life possible, our rescued bears require vet care, a healthy diet, enrichment activities, climbing towers and hammocks as well as large forest enclosures with cooling pools.

Please become a **BEAR CARER** to help us provide the ongoing care for our rescued bears and other wildlife. Even a small monthly donation adds up.

Please visit www.freethethebears.org/pages/bear-carer or contact our Perth office to set up a monthly donation.

AUD\$25/mth Cub Carer provides emergency treatment for cubs

AUD\$50/mth Bear Carer provides a healthy diet for 10 days

AUD\$150 will feed a healthy diet to a rescued bear for a month

AUD\$250 will care for a rescued bear for a month - healthy diet, vet care & enrichment to stimulate their complex minds



GIFTS FOR HUMANS



SNARE WARE BRACELET

This project protects bears and helps rural communities

Cost: A\$30 each

Post: A\$7 Aus, A\$10 o/s



FREE THE BEARS PEN

Spread the word (literally) about the plight of the bears

Cost: A\$3.50 each

Post: FREE POSTAGE with order of other merchandise



STUBBY HOLDER/BEER KOOZIE

Keep your drinks beary cold with our cool coolers

Cost: A\$7.50 each

Post: A\$3 Aus, A\$5 o/s



RAJU BEAR

Raju was the very last dancing sloth bear rescued in India

Cost: A\$10 SPECIAL PRICE!

Post: A\$7 Aus, A\$10 o/s



BASEBALL CAP

Protect yourself from the sun.

Free size, green or black

Cost: A\$15 each

Post: A\$4 Aus, A\$6 o/s



ZHU (SUE) RED PANDA

A little cutie, perfect for little hands. Real Zhu lives in Laos

Cost: A\$9 each

Post: A\$4 Aus, A\$6 o/s



FREE THE BEARS T-SHIRT

Cool new design in two colours, black and grey marle

Cost: A\$20 each

Post: A\$6 Aus, A\$8 o/s



CALICO BAG

Perfect for shopping or a day at the beach

Cost: A\$9 each

Post: A\$3 Aus, A\$5 o/s



SHOELACE BEAR

24cm tall, built to cuddle, makes a great gift

Cost: A\$16 each

Post: A\$7 Aus, A\$10 o/s



BEANIES

Winter is coming. Free size, dark or light grey

Cost: A\$15 each

Post: A\$6 Aus, A\$8 o/s



MARY'S BIOGRAPHY

Mary Hutton's biography of her journey with Free the Bears

Cost: A\$20 each

Post: A\$10 Aus, A\$10 o/s+



BRANDY BEAR

Possibly the most beautiful moon bear in the world!

Cost: A\$21 SPECIAL PRICE!

Post: A\$7 Aus, A\$10 o/s



SNARE WARE KEY RING

This project protects bears and helps rural communities

Cost: A\$20 each

Post: A\$7 Aus, A\$10 o/s



SUN BEAR PRINT

Limited edition print by Perth artist Jenny Wildey. 46.5cm * 30cm on fine art paper with Certificate of Authenticity

Cost: A\$58 each

Post: A\$12 Aus, A\$18 o/s



THONGS

Limited edition made from recycled rubber. Funky, long-lasting

UK/AU 4/5 6/7 7/8 8/9 11/12

EU 37/38 39/40 41/42 42/43 45/46

CM 25 26 27 28.5 32

Cost: A\$25 a pair

Post: A\$7.5 Aus, A\$15 o/s

DID YOU KNOW?

- Free the Bears is a registered charity in Australia. Any donation or bear sponsorship can be claimed as a tax deduction (Australians)
- You can pay bear sponsorships by monthly auto-deduction or direct deposit. Contact our head office or check the website

GIFTS FOR BEARS



POT OF HONEY
Cost: A\$20 each



CUB CARE KIT
Cost: A\$35 each



TREAT BALL
Cost: A\$60 each

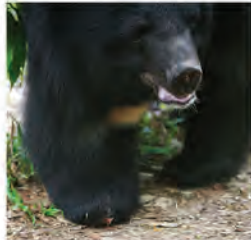


BEAR HAMMOCK
Cost: A\$100 each

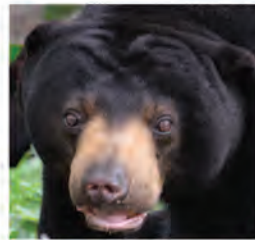
CARE FOR A BEAR - SPONSORSHIPS



BRANDY - CAMBODIA
Cost: A\$200 6 mth/\$400 12 mth



HOPE - VIETNAM
Cost: A\$200 6 mth/\$400 12 mth



MOKIUP - CAMBODIA
Cost: A\$200 6 mth/\$400 12 mth



CJ - INDIA
Cost: A\$200 6 mth/\$400 12 mth

GIFTS FOR HUMANS	Colour	Size	Qty	Cost	Post	TOTAL
GIFTS FOR BEARS	Quantity		Cost		TOTAL	
SPONSORSHIP	6 mth or 12 mth		Cost		TOTAL	

PAYMENT METHOD

- Cheque/money orders payable to: **FREE THE BEARS LTD**
- No receipt required
- Credit card
 - Visa Mastercard

Name of Cardholder: _____

Card number:

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Expiry:

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Signature: _____

CONTACT DETAILS

First name: _____ Surname: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Postcode: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Please post your forms to:
FREE THE BEARS LTD
 PO Box 1393, Osborne Park DC
 Western Australia 6916

Tel: 08 9244 1096
 Email: accounts@freethebears.org.au

