

BEARS' PRINT

NOV 2020

25 YEARS OF
PROTECTING BEARS

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



MESSAGE FROM MARY



Mary receiving the Medal of the Order of Australia in August and taking part in the WALK to FREE THE BEARS in November

Dear Supporters and Friends,

Greetings to everyone in the Free the Bears family, I truly hope you are healthy and safe. Over the years we've all faced many difficult challenges - in the 25 years Free the Bears has been protecting and rescuing bears, we certainly have had our fair share. As the years go by, the troubles of the past seem to fade away and we can look back more fondly on the challenges which were presented to us, proud of what we were able to achieve in the face of adversity.

I'm sure you'll agree that we can label 2020 as a rather challenging year. But we'll persevere. Which brings me to my message for this newsletter, a message of thanks. Everything Free the Bears has achieved, every challenge we've faced and conquered, every bear we've rescued, everything Free the Bears is, is thanks to the support and help of our Free the Bears family, it's thanks to you.

I remember back in 1993 after having seen bears in bile farms on television, when I was standing outside a shopping centre with a sheet of paper and a clipboard feeling like a fool, total strangers approached me to discuss the plight of the bears and sign a petition to Free the Bears. Thank you.

In the early days of Free the Bears there were just a few of us muddling along trying to come up with ways to raise awareness about the bile farms and funds to help the bears. We tried everything - movie nights, quiz nights, bake sales, garage sales. Without each other's support, we couldn't have done it and wouldn't be where we are today. Thank you

When in the 1990s we were asked to help rescue sun bear cubs from Cambodian restaurants where they were menu items, we were only able to secure their freedom and provide them a safe future as a result of help received from supporters, politicians, the media and zoos. Thank you.

We were contacted in 2002 to help the sloth bears of India, who for centuries had been forced to beg on the streets and 'dance' when rope threaded through their sensitive noses was pulled. Our supporters raised millions of dollars, enabling

the bears to be rescued to sanctuaries and alternative livelihoods created for the Kalander gypsy tribe who had been forcing the bears to 'dance' for generations, finally ending this cruel practice forever. Thank you.

As we built sanctuaries in Cambodia, Vietnam and Laos, rescuing hundreds of bears from a life of misery, there were many, many obstacles along the way. Our Bear Care teams in each country have done such a tremendous job building world-class sanctuaries where our rescued bears receive the best possible care. Our dedicated state support groups in Australia have constantly raised awareness and funds over the past 25 years. We've received support from donors around the world as well as governments, foundations and zoos, without which we couldn't have expanded the sanctuaries or developed our Veterinary, Research, Awareness, Communications and Education programmes. Thank you.

Over the past 25 years we've achieved a lot. Almost 1,000 bears have been rescued, the Indian dancing bear practice is gone and bear bile farming in Vietnam and Laos may soon end. But while there are bears in need, we have more to do. Despite the many problems and challenges we've faced this year, your overwhelming support and many beautiful messages makes me confident that I'll be able to fondly look back on 2020. For that I offer you my heartfelt thanks. Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable holiday season and a New Year filled with happiness.

With much love and bear hugs, Mary



Bears About the House screening at Perth Zoo

Increased bear rescues & decreased funding activities due to COVID-19 have led to severe funding shortfalls. Please make a TAX DEDUCTIBLE (Australia) DONATION or REGISTER as a Bear Carer at www.freethebears.org

UPDATES FROM THE FIELD CAMBODIA

On September 1 late in the evening Cambodia Rescue #211 arrived into our care, our 4th bear rescue in Cambodia this year. A tiny female sun bear cub weighing only 5.5kg, she arrived in a truck FULL of wildlife confiscated from an illegal zoo, including civets, leopard cats, a gibbon, tortoises & more. She is recovering well under the expert care of Mr Heng, the world's most experienced sun bear cub carer, and is now weighing a much healthier 14kg. She was the star of a recent Halloween video, not quite knowing what to make of a watermelon with a face. We have 5 more rescued sun bear cubs in the cub nursery, providing her with lots of future friends.

With 121 rescued (and destructive) bears in our care and some of our facilities decades old, we're constantly needing to repair, renovate and upgrade the facilities at the Cambodia Bear Sanctuary. We recently renovated a roof and are currently replacing the roof of another of our 8 bear houses. We've also had to replace several water storage tanks, install and replace



Cambodia Rescue #211 with special Halloween melon

In September we received a Travellers Choice Award from TripAdvisor for our Bear Care Tour, placing it in the top 10% of experiences worldwide. Great work team!

In October our Awareness, Communication and Education Team Manager Pesei and Volunteer Coordinator Jen presented to a virtual conference organised by our good friends at San Diego Zoo. The presentation was very well received, resulting in some generous donations - great work Pesei and Jen! While we have a break from visitors, the teams are also developing our education zones, including the Bear Discovery Centre, with a herbal medicine garden to highlight alternative treatments for conditions in which locals have claimed to use bear bile.



Late night arrival of CR#211



Bear House 5 roof replacement



Research team in the field

protective bamboo fencing around enclosures, and upgrade or construct new caves and climbing towers in both the cub nursery and enclosures. We're also restoring and replacing educational and visitor areas while visitor numbers are down. We're very much missing having volunteers around to help!

In October we held a bear escape drill with the bear care team. Our government partners filmed the exercise and were so impressed they have asked our team to turn this into an annual training event to build skills within their wildlife care teams.

Due to COVID visitor numbers to the sanctuary have dropped substantially. A special Bear Care Tour attracted some local residents however border closures have effectively shut down the Volunteer Programme for the moment, although we have lots of interest for 2021 which is a promising sign. We're hoping that as we emerge from the pandemic there will be increased interest in safe and ethical travel away from crowded cities, which may benefit our Volunteer Programme. Please get in touch if you're interested in an ethical holiday of a lifetime!

We're making good progress although it's been a challenge testing which of the plants are monkey-proof! We're also preparing for our Team Spirit workshops to teach about wildlife conservation, build partnerships and boost morale for the travel and tourism industry, which has been so badly effected by COVID.

Our research team has many interesting projects underway. Survey implementation was delayed due to COVID, however the team are busy writing and editing research papers (with several to be published) as well as applying for grants for exciting new research studies to be implemented in the coming years. The Sun Bear Symposium scheduled for 2020, will be delayed until late 2021.

We hope that all of our wonderful supporters as well as visitors and volunteers, past and future, stay healthy and safe. Please enjoy your upcoming holidays, have a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. Thank you for your support.



UPDATES FROM THE FIELD LAOS

Laos has been under lockdown since April, borders are closed and the tourism industry devastated. The normally vibrant Luang Prabang is eerily quiet. Thankfully Laos has reported less than 2 dozen cases of COVID & no deaths however we fear the economic downturn is causing people to turn to the forest for income as we've seen a substantial increase in bear cubs illegally being sold on social media (sadly they've disappeared before our government partners could intercept any).

The good news is we've managed to rescued 4 moon bears over the past 6 months, a set of siblings in June, a female cub in July and a male cub in August (and we're expecting more in the weeks ahead). Our specialist cub nursery at the Luang Prabang Wildlife Sanctuary (LPWS) was completed just in time to receive the cubs, who are both recovering well, growing rapidly and constantly at play since becoming best friends.

It's not only bears we've rescued in the past months. In July we rescued a critically endangered baby white-cheeked gibbon, covered in burns from touching power lines after escaping its captors, now well on the road to recovery. In August we rescued 2 critically endangered pangolins as well as dozens of tortoises and turtles, including Endangered and Vulnerable species. In September we were able to release the pangolins, several of the tortoise and two leopard cats (rescued earlier in the year) to protected forest, our second major release of rehabilitated wildlife - there's no better feeling!

The wet season rains arrived in May, a great relief following a historic drought, turning the sanctuaries a stunning verdant green. While the rains have not been as prolific as we'd have liked, the dams at LPWS are filling and the breaks in rain have allowed us to proceed with construction of 2 new bear houses (Bear Houses 5 and 6), desperately needed following the influx of rescued cubs over the past few years. Once complete we hope to move straight on to Bear Houses 7 and 8 (pending funding), which when complete will allow our government partners to close more bear bile farms (without sanctuary space for rescued bears, bile farm closures cannot proceed).



The internal lockdown in Laos was relatively short, allowing our Education Team to recommence our "Discover, Love and Protect Laos Wildlife" initiative, teaching bamboo straw, paper making and bamboo construction alternative livelihood workshops to the villages surrounding the sanctuary, with Kids Clubs to educate youth about wildlife conservation. The team is currently hosting Team Spirit workshops for groups from the tourism industry and joined the Sustainable Tourism Solutions Expo, as well as completing a permaculture training course.

We were delighted by the overwhelmingly positive response to the BBC Docuseries Bears About the House, filmed over a year in Laos at our sanctuary and broadcast in the UK in July (other countries to follow). We even had our first ever live television interview when our CEO Matt joined British breakfast television from LPWS. Although it was tough having a film crew follow us for a year, the awareness created by the series, the surge of support for the bears and increased interest in visiting and volunteering at our sanctuaries made all the early mornings and late nights worthwhile. Everyone enjoyed our special Luang Prabang screening/fundraiser and we have more planned for the capital, Vientiane, early next year.

In June and July we hosted our government partners at LPWS, followed by visits from the USA, Singapore, Australia and British ambassadors in September, a great opportunity to showcase the progress we've made at the sanctuaries as well as develop valuable relationships.

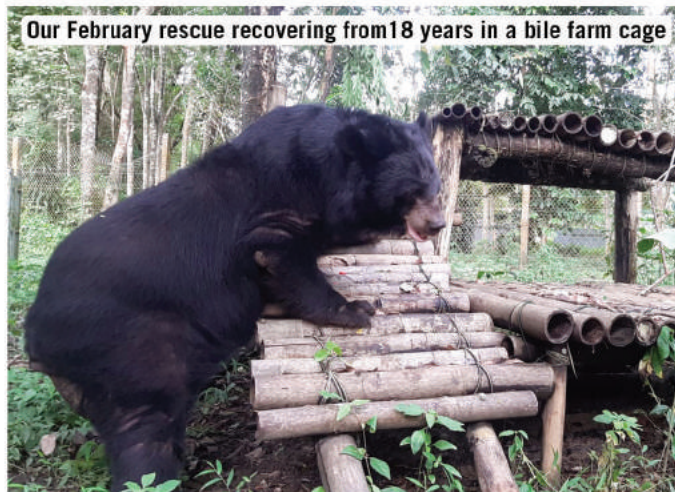
We truly miss visits from our supporters and hope to soon see you in Laos. In the meantime please stay healthy and safe, wishing everyone all the best for a happy holiday season and new year.



UPDATES FROM THE FIELD VIETNAM

On October 1 we rescued 2 female moon bears which had been caged on a bile farm for over 18 years. Both bears were in poor condition with one missing her front left paw. They are recovering at our Cat Tien Bear Rescue Centre and having just passed quarantine now have access to the outdoor enclosure. It was heartwarming this week to see them touching ground for the first time in decades, sniffing their way around the enclosure, digging holes and tentatively dipping into the pool for what is probably their first ever swim. Their journey of rehabilitation will be long but they are already well on the way. They were the last 2 bears in bile farms in Lam Dong province, bringing us one step closer to seeing an end to bear bile farming in Vietnam. The owner, who was caught selling bear paws, is now in prison.

Development of the sanctuary has slowed due to wet season deluges although we've managed to get electricity connected as well as build some necessary roads, thanks to a grant from

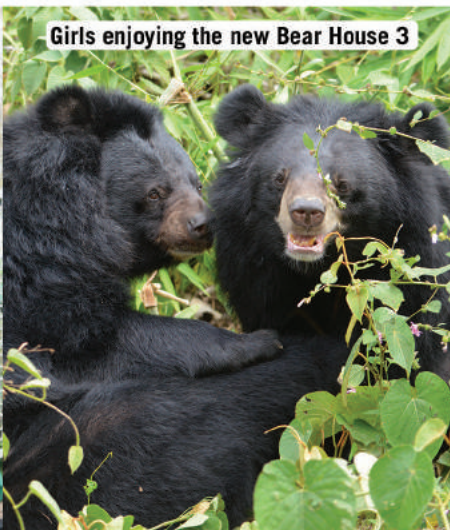


Our February rescue recovering from 18 years in a bile farm cage

Despite the travel restrictions due to COVID lockdowns, visitors are beginning to return. In July our Education Team welcomed a group of school students from the surrounding villages to learn about bears and wildlife conservation. We now have a partnership with the British International School in Ho Chi Minh City, who have already raised valuable funds for hammocks and enrichment for the bears. In July we received our first local volunteers, a mother and daughter who spent a week at the sanctuary helping prepare food, building and installing bamboo fencing, weaving hammocks and creating enrichment treats. They thoroughly enjoyed the experience and we can't wait to have more volunteers visit us.



Bear Rescue October 1



Girls enjoying the new Bear House 3



Learning new skills in the north

Welttierschutzgesellschaft e.V (WTG). It's such a joy to have something as simple as a reliable electricity supply - now we can have a freezer to make ice block enrichments for the bears! Over the past months we've been improving paths around the enclosures as well as installing educational signs, in preparation for future visitors on Bear Care Tours, Volunteers and school groups. We're also progressing sustainability initiatives with water and compost projects in development.

Our next major project, which we're currently fundraising for, will be construction of Bear House 4. Additional sanctuary space will allow us to rescue bears remaining in bile farms, most of which have been stranded there since the national audit in 2006. In the next year we hope to rescue all the bears remaining in bile farms in 4 surrounding provinces. We also hope to progress our Education Centre, already partially funded from grants. This will serve a vital role in creating awareness amongst Vietnamese of the need to protect bears and other wildlife, as well as drive changes in attitudes and behaviour towards consumption and use of wildlife.

Last month our Bear Care Team learnt valuable new skills while visiting Cuc Phuong National Park's Endangered Primate Research Centre and Turtle Conservation Centre, as well as Save Vietnam's Wildlife and Four Paws rescue centres in north Vietnam, as part of a training course funded by the Vietnamese government. A special thank you to Nga and Nu, valued staff members who are moving on due to family reasons, and welcome to Ha, our newest member of the Bear Care Team.

Nobody could have predicted the challenges of 2020. Despite all the difficulties we're very proud to have rescued another 4 bears from bile farms, each of which had spent more than 18 years tortured in tiny cages. As most of the bears we rescue have suffered years or even decades in bile farms, they are elderly and often have health issues, requiring extra special care. We're incredibly grateful for the support you've given, and continue to give, in support of our efforts to rescue bears from bile farms, care for them, and end bear bile farming. Thank you, wishing you a happy and safe holiday season.





WALK to FREE THE BEARS

Please join our WALK to FREE THE BEARS to help raise awareness & funds to rescue bears from bile farms. It's easy! Decide on a challenge (e.g. walk, run or ride), SIGN UP & SHARE your fundraising page. You'll be surprised how many friends & family will want to help. Mary Hutton & supporters from all over the world are completing challenges throughout November. As Mary has shown us, we all have the power to make a difference but it requires us to act. Learn more at www.freethethebears.org/pages/events

Thank you to everyone who purchased tickets for our 2020 Australia-wide raffle. Congratulations to our winners: 1st prize - K Christopher, South Australia; 2nd prize - K Talianis, New South Wales; 3rd prize - G Hillman, Western Australia

NEW CALENDAR & CARDS! Our 2021 calendar celebrates 2 gorgeous Marys close to our hearts, Mary Hutton & Mary Christmas the sun bear. Our new christmas cards feaures six of our star sponsor bears. We have limited stock available so order yours today!



NEW LOVES AND SAD LOSSES

We welcome new arrivals with open arms whilst shedding a tear for those we lose. Thankfully no bears passed away in the last 6 months although we sadly lost a rescued pangolin and macaque in Laos. We've welcomed 7 bears into our family since May



Welcome Pumpkin & Peanut (Laos Rescues #87 & #88), Cambodia Rescue #211 and Vietnam Rescue #54

At the very core of Free the Bears is the belief that the actions of individuals can make a difference. For many animal lovers, leaving a legacy to help provide a safe future for the bears in our care (as well as the bears who need us in years to come) is the greatest gift they'll ever bestow upon our furry friends. We can't begin to describe how grateful we are to those kind individuals who have left legacies to the bears over the past 25 years. Without these invaluable contributions, we'd have had difficulties continuing to operate and definitely would not have been able to rescue as many bears as we have. Email bequests@freethethebears.org for more information.

FUNDRAISING UPDATES

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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

By Sacha Dowell

PERTH: After the worldwide success of Night in a Cage, we continued with online fundraisers with a Cycling Challenge, Facebook birthday fundraisers and a head shaving by one of our dedicated Perth volunteers! In July we recommenced our regular fundraising stalls. From July until September our Perth team were out in force selling raffle tickets and merchandise at 9 different shopping centres and markets, raising over \$5,000! We held a successful Bunnings sausage sizzle, a screening of the BBC documentary series 'Bears About The House', stalls at the Vegan Expo, Craft Fair and more. A stall at the Cockburn Teddy Bears' Picnic raised over \$700 in a few hours, with 'Sunny bear' as popular as ever with the kids. Our Wine Tasting Evening organised by volunteer Michelle was enjoyed by all and a successful night with just under \$3,000 raised. Team Perth took part in the WALK to FREE THE BEARS, with almost 20 walking or running up to 10km. Our small but dedicated crew of volunteers has been working extra hard this year - THANK YOU for all your efforts! (More volunteers wanted!).

By Sue Breheny E: albsupport@freethebears.org

ALBANY: Fundraising events have cranked up in Albany, WA. A fabulous Garage Sale was held late July raising \$1,887 thanks to generous donations from supporters and friends. Bunnings Albany re-opened Sausage Sizzles in September and we were able to secure two in a month, raising a combined \$2,180! That was closely followed by our Annual Street Appeal on October 16. The local community was very generous and we raised \$1,718 at just 8 collection points. Dan Murphy's liquor allowed us to run a 2-day appeal outside its premises over 6/7 November which pushed our Appeal total over \$2K. 8th November was our Walk to Free The Bears with 15 supporters (1 in a bear suit) and 8 dogs walking up to 10km along our glorious boardwalk at Middleton Beach, raising \$500 and still counting. Our two Mama Bears and donation tins continue to collect valuable donations. Although 2020 has been a peculiar year, our supporters in Albany have been able to keep the \$\$ trickling in. Sincere thanks to our Albany supporters who always rally to support the bears.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

E: sasupport@freethebears.org

By Krystine and Alan Evans

As everywhere, the SA team's fundraising plans were crushed by Covid-19 cancellations. However our resilient team bounced back with creative fundraisers, notably Judy's 'monster' garage sales, bottle & can collecting and baking, resulting in donations of \$4,500. Incredible work Judy!! Donation tins and Entertainment Book totals were down on previous years but still yielded \$1,358 and \$418. The team were thrilled the Vegan Festival proceeded 31/10 - 1/11. Our volunteers were kept busy with animal lovers keen to enjoy fun and freedom at one of the first large events since SA restrictions eased. The weekend resulted in almost \$3,300. Twilight Petanque followed hot on the heels of Vegan Fest, drawing a fun-loving crowd of 70 people and raising a further \$2,670! Organisers of the Body, Mind & Psychic Expo, 28 - 29 November, have generously donated a stand so our takings at this event will be heading directly to our beloved bears. A number of volunteers have signed up for Walk to Free the Bears and are madly walking and fundraising throughout November, with a final 'wrap-up' walk planned for Semaphore beach, December 6.

NEW SOUTH WALES

E: nswsupport@freethebears.org

By Jeanette Akkanen

Fundraising has been very limited due to Covid. Our Secretary Paul has come up with some good fundraising ideas but sadly we could not proceed at this time. Our Treasurer and Merchandise officer Beth Roffe has run a stall at Engadine Markets every couple of months and our Mumma Bear brings in regular donations, thanks Sandra at the Heathcote shop. A few of us participated in 'Walk to Free the Bears', thanks to those who participated (the 4-legged variety were an embarrassment with some very shoddy behaviour) and to our sponsors. We hope to get stuck into fundraising again in the new year, Comedy for a Cause will be on our agenda. Thanks to our committee for their good work and thanks to all those who participated and donated. Special thanks to Sacha who is always so supportive and inspirational. Thanks to Matt and all the overseas teams who look after the bears so well in these difficult times. MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL.

TASMANIA

E: tassupport@freethebears.org

By Fee Connolly

Team Tassie (Carol Rainbird and myself) raised just over \$5,000 for the Night in a Cage Challenge. What a fabulous initiative well supported by our family and friends. We even had 2 minutes of fame on the Channel 9 news. Looking forward to Night in a Cage II next year with hopefully more Tassie friends involved. During Covid all stalls were cancelled, recommencing on 14 June every fortnight at Sandfly and the Kingston Beach Handmade Market with funds ticking over steadily. There will be 2 extra stalls in the run-up to Christmas for both markets so we'll be busy packaging up gift boxes. Great news that Vegan Fest will be going ahead on 6 December, we will be calling on friends to help man these stalls. We also have a presence at the St David's Gift Shop again this year. Our new bear glass trinket or soap dishes handmade in Cygnet, Tasmania, are proving popular and selling well. Hoping for a big end to a crazy year. Happy Christmas!

UNITED KINGDOM

E: uksupport@freethebears.org

By Judy Blythe

Setting up a support group in the UK during a pandemic was probably a crazy idea, but that is what happened and there's no turning back! We were fortunate to see a two-part BBC television documentary this summer, called "Bears about the House" which followed the roller coaster ride of rescuing bear cubs in Laos. This has sparked a lot of interest in Free the Bears. We have gathered together (in a socially distanced, virtual way), a group of bear enthusiasts, who are keen to assist Free the Bears in their care of the bears in the sanctuaries. We are organizing ourselves into regional groups, with the aim of fundraising and awareness raising throughout the UK and were hoping to start in earnest as we head towards Christmas. Unfortunately, another lockdown has been ordered across England, but hopefully we will have groups in place, ready to go out and raise vital funds as soon as we are allowed. In the meantime, some of our supporters are doing individual fundraising to hone their skills in readiness for a new year and endless possibilities. If anybody would like to join us, please email.



GET INVOLVED

COMING EVENTS

Perth

Street Appeal

Perth CBD (volunteers needed)

Nov 20, 7am-7pm

Albany

Garage Sale

Anderson Place

Nov 28 from 8am

Tasmania

Market stalls

Sandfly Nov 28

Kingston Beach Nov 22, Dec 6 & 13

Perth

Market stalls

Karinyup Shopping Centre Nov 26-28

Yagan Square Dec 5

SA

Body, Mind & Psychic Expo

Adelaide Showgrounds

Nov 28-29

SA

WALK to FREE THE BEARS

Semaphore Beach

Dec 6

Tasmania

Vegan Festival

"The Hub", Kingston

Dec 6, 10am-4pm

Albany

Christmas Wind-up

Beryl Grant Centre

Dec 13, 2:30pm

NSW

Comedy for a Cause

Revesby Workers Club

TBC

SA

Bingo for Bears

TBC

February, TBC

SA

Animal Expo

Adelaide Showground

May TBC

WA

Quiz Night

South Perth Community Hall

May 15, 7pm



Trinity and Cambodia Rescue #210

BECOME A BEAR CARER

With increased rescues and limited protected forest for release, we'll likely be providing our growing family of rescued bears with lifelong care, which can last up to 40 years. We desperately need help. PLEASE become a BEAR CARER monthly donor. For less than the cost of a coffee per week, you can become a BEAR CARER. Your donation will help provide food, vet care, enrichment & general care to hundreds of rescued bears. Please visit our website to become a BEAR CARER or contact our Perth office. Thank you.



Mary Christmas, Laos

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Tel: +61 (08) 9244 1096

Charity Number: A10004507U

ABN: 23 763 253 031

Email: contact@freethebears.org

FREE THE BEARS UK

PO Box 6395, Basildon

Essex, SS14 0NY, United Kingdom

Tel: +44 (0) 7785 552856

Charity Number: 1135682

Founder & Chairperson: Dr Mary Hutton OAM

CEO: Matt Hunt

VOLUNTEERS OUR BEARS NEED YOU!



Lam at Cat Tien Bear Sanctuary, Vietnam

WANTED: ADELAIDE COORDINATOR

We are seeking someone (or a couple) to coordinate our wonderful team of volunteers. Our SA team does a fantastic job raising funds through stalls at expos, the Royal Adelaide Show, bingo and quiz nights, movie fundraisers and more! While volunteers take on certain events, a coordinator(s) is still needed to communicate with the team via email and meetings, liaise with Perth head office, and make sure everything runs smoothly. Don't worry, you won't be alone as support is given from head office, the Adelaide volunteer team, and current coordinators Krys & Alan will be around to lend a hand if needed. For more info email: office@freethebears.org.au

WANTED: BRISBANE HELP

We are looking for volunteers in Brisbane to help develop our Queensland Support Group. If you are able to contribute time to help us with stalls and events, please get in touch. Email to: office@freethebears.org.au

Cover Photo: Cookie (left) was rescued in August 2019 on the same day as siblings Ollie Roy (2nd left) and Ruby Nicho (far right), as well as 2 more cubs, siblings Bertie and Boo. We'd set out to rescue 2 cubs and it ended up being our largest ever bear rescue in Laos. The cubs were joined this year by siblings Pete (3rd from left) and Margie, our first Laos rescues of 2020. These cubs are just 4 of 11 moon bear cubs we've rescued in Laos in the past 15 months. They are rapidly outgrowing their cub nurseries, requiring a new bear house and enclosures, currently under construction.

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.



RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS - THANK YOU TO ALL

Without the courage and actions of our founder Dr. 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 recent achievements. Thank you to everyone for your support.



Teddy Bears' Picnic, Perth, October



New cub nursery, LPWS, Laos. Thanks to Australian Ethical & Bears in Mind



Wendy at the Garage Sale, Albany, July



Roads, what a luxury! CTBS, Vietnam



Judy's monster garage sale, Adelaide, August



Kingston Beach Market, Hobart, November



Kathleen's fundraising walk, Melbourne, Nov



Team NSW on their walk, Sydney, Nov



New climbing tower for Trinity, Cambodia



Wine Tasting, Perth, October



Golden jackal enclosure, LPWS, Laos



Twilight Petanque, Adelaide, November



Glenda's head shaving fundraiser, May



WALK to FREE THE BEARS, Albany, Nov



Electricity (finally) at CTBS, Vietnam

ONGOING PROJECTS THANKS TO SUPPORTERS

These projects are mostly funded by institutional donors to allow for additional rescues, help prepare for future closures of bear bile farms, create awareness of the issues facing bears and provide alternative livelihoods so as to protect wild bear populations.

Bear House 5 at Luang Prabang Wildlife Sanctuary & rainwater storage tanks. Special thanks to Wildlife Reserves Singapore, Wroclaw Zoo & supporters of our 2to0by2020 fundraiser



**Team Spirit Days - Laos & Cambodia
Thanks Robert HN Ho Family Foundation**



Skills development for wildlife vets



Building relationships with government



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 rescue bears and then provide lifelong care for the bears in our sanctuaries (who live up to 40 years). To help make up for the suffering they've endured and provide the best life possible, we provide vet care, a healthy diet, enrichment, climbing towers, hammocks, pools, caves and large forest enclosures.

Please become a **BEAR CARER** to help us provide this 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\$100/mth Bear Angel provides a healthy diet for 20 days
AUD\$250 will provide a healthy diet and basic care to a rescued bear for a month



GIFTS FOR HUMANS



CHRISTMAS CARDS

Six blank cards featuring 6 of our favourite sponsor bears

Cost: A\$15 each

Post: A\$3.5 Aus, Check for o/s



BASEBALL CAP

Protect yourself from the sun. Free size, green only

Cost: A\$15 each

Post: A\$3.5 Aus, Check for o/s



2021 CALENDAR

Mary Xmas & Mary Hutton will brighten & inspire your 2021!

Cost: A\$20 each

Post: A\$3.5 Aus, Check for o/s



ADULT T-SHIRTS

Bear face, black & grey marle, S/M/L/XL/XXL

Cost: A\$30 each

Post: A\$3.5 Aus, Check for o/s



MARY XMAS BEAR

20cm tall, built to cuddle, makes a great gift

Cost: A\$16 each

Post: A\$8.5 Aus, check for 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, check for o/s



KIDS T-SHIRT

Black, grey marle kids 5/8/10, bear face front, paw print back

Cost: A\$20 each

Post: A\$3.5 Aus, Check for o/s



SHOPPING BAG

Perfect for shopping or a day at the beach, helps raise awareness

Cost: A\$5 each

Post: A\$3.5 Aus, check for o/s



MARY GIFT PACK

Mary Xmas bear 20cm, 6 cards blank, sticker, pen

Cost: A\$35 each

Post: A\$8.5 Aus, Check for o/s



MARY CHRISTMAS CARDS

Six blank cards featuring Mary the sun bear

Cost: A\$15 each

Post: A\$3.5 Aus, Check for o/s



MARY'S BIOGRAPHY

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

Cost: A\$20 each

Post: A\$8.5 Aus, check for o/s



BRANDY BEAR

Possibly the most beautiful moon bear in the world

Cost: **A\$15 SALE PRICE**

Post: A\$8.5 Aus, check for o/s



MOKIUP BEAR

12cm tall, perfect for tiny hands

Cost: A\$9

Post: A\$4 Aus, check for o/s



MEI (MAY) RED PANDA

22cm tall with a big brushy tail, great gift

Cost: A\$18 each

Post: A\$8.5 Aus, check for 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 others



SANTY RED PANDA PUPPET

This cute hand puppet will bring hours of entertainment

Cost: A\$18 each

Post: A\$8.5 Aus, check for o/s

DID YOU KNOW?

- Free the Bears is a registered charity in Australia & UK. Donations & sponsorships can be claimed as a tax deduction (Australians)
- Bear sponsorships can be spread over monthly installments. Contact our Head Office or check the website. You can Gift Aid (UK)

GIFTS FOR BEARS



POT OF HONEY
Cost: A\$20 each



CUB CARE KIT
Cost: A\$35 each

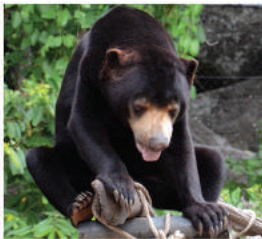


TREAT BALL
Cost: A\$75 each

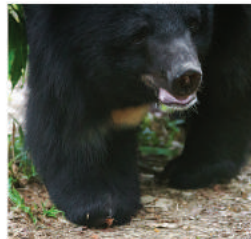


BEAR HAMMOCK
Cost: A\$100 each

CARE FOR A BEAR - SPONSORSHIPS



BLUE - CAMBODIA
Cost: A\$210 6 mth/\$420 12 mth



HOPE - VIETNAM
Cost: A\$210 6 mth/\$420 12 mth



MOKIUP - CAMBODIA
Cost: A\$210 6 mth/\$420 12 mth



MARY - LAOS
Cost: A\$210 6 mth/\$420 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:

Expiry: /

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



*For postage cost on multi-item order or for overseas orders, please check with office@freethebears.org.au