



BEARS' PRINT

NOV 2021

**26 YEARS OF
PROTECTING BEARS**

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



MESSAGE FROM MARY

Celebration of Free the Bears 26th Anniversary (and Mary's 83rd birthday), Perth, August



Dear Supporters and Friends,

Greetings to our Free the Bears family, I hope everyone is healthy, safe and coping with the many challenges we've faced in recent times. In 1993, after seeing a television news report about the bears in bile farms, I went to my local shopping centre and stood with a pen and clipboard hoping someone would stop to sign my petition to help the bears. I can still clearly remember feeling like a bit of a fool standing there alone. Thankfully, many lovely people just like you stopped by to say hello and signed up to help, which led to the 1995 registration of 'Free the Bears'.

I never in my wildest dreams could have imagined the things we would see, hear and achieve in the 26 years that followed. Although we've helped rescue almost 1,000 bears and set up bear sanctuaries in 3 countries, there's still many more bears in need and a lot more work to do. Just when we think we've seen it all, we'll learn of another devastating situation or face another roadblock in our efforts to end bear bile farming. And yet every single time our wonderful team of bear carers and supporters rise up and take it in their stride.

In the past 6 months we've rescued an incredible 18 moon bears across Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam. Our team in Cambodia rescued 4 bears, 3 of which were female cubs. All 3 cubs had lost paws to wire snare traps. The youngest, only 6 months old, had also been hog-tied and had additional wounds on all legs. Her fresh snare wound required multiple surgeries and she sadly ended up losing the entire limb.

Our team in Vietnam rescued 3 moon bears from a bile farm where they had been caged for over 16 years. One of the bears was also missing a paw, which likely occurred when he was just a cub as a result of a wire snare trap. In Laos the rescues just keep coming - 11 bears in 6 months, 10 of which were orphaned cubs, the 11th a stunted young female that had been kept for years in a tiny, dark cage in a restaurant kitchen.

All of the bears are now safely at our sanctuaries, receiving healthy diets, expert veterinary treatment and loving care in an enriching environment with forest enclosures, swimming pools, hammocks, climbing platforms and beautiful bear houses.

You'd think the past 26 years would have prepared me for almost anything. Like most of us I've been shocked by the impact of Covid and couldn't possibly have foreseen that in one hit we'd lose many of our sources of fundraising, or that poaching of bears could suddenly increase (as people turn to the forest to make up for lost income), or we'd be prevented from doing something as simple as meeting.

After postponing our 25th anniversary celebration, in August we were finally able to hold a beautiful 26th Anniversary Lunch in Perth. We enjoyed a lovely meal, great company and lots of laughter as we reminisced and shared stories. Everyone had a wonderful time. I'd like to specially thank Alex Cearn for acting as MC and triple Gold Logie winner Rove McManus for agreeing to serve as the new patron of Free the Bears.

It was so heartening to be surrounded by such loving and caring supporters of Free the Bears. I think everyone who attended left the event feeling a little more hopeful and with their batteries recharged, I certainly did! It was a great reminder that no matter what new challenges pop up, by working together and supporting each other, we can overcome them. Everything Free the Bears has achieved is only possible thanks to your ongoing support and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your kindness. I'd like to wish everyone in the Free the Bears family a very safe and merry holiday season, and a Happy New Year. Bear hugs, Mary



A very special thank you to long-term supporter and triple Gold Logie winner Rove McManus for becoming our patron

Looking for the perfect ethical Christmas gift? If you send a Pot of Honey or Enrichment Kit from the Gift for Bears section of our website, you'll be able to email an e-card to a loved one with details of the gift the bear will receive

UPDATES FROM THE FIELD CAMBODIA

What a rollercoaster of a ride we've had over the past 6 months! As many have experienced, we've had several Covid lockdowns. Now that more than 80% of the population of Cambodia are vaccinated, we hope that things will start to get back to normal (or as normal as they can in this part of the world). We managed to keep our sanity & hope throughout - lucky we did as we've had several dramatic bear rescues. In late June we collected Cambodia Rescue #212, a female moon bear that had been caged for over 12 years. Early July brought a stunning rescue of 2 female moon bear cubs estimated to be around 7 months old, both of which had lost their front right paw to wire snare traps. Although the wounds had healed over by the time the cubs came into our care, these poor little bears, who have been adopted & named Chhaiya & Kannitha (meaning 'beautiful light' & 'angel' in the local Khmer language) are quite severely traumatised & will require a huge amount of loving care by our expert cub carer Mr Heng (& his daughter, our newest vet, Dr Sourphea).

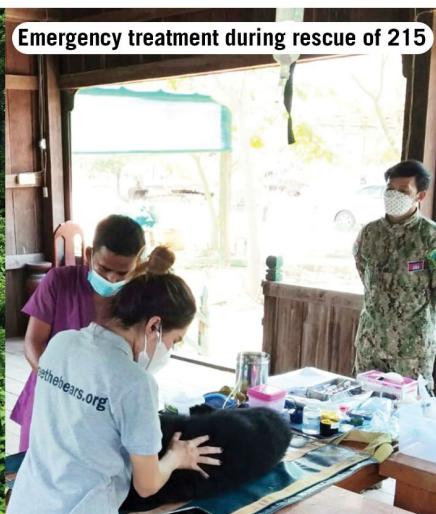


Phoebe & Seripheap, excited to move from Cub Nursery to forest

The additional houses will provide some of the less sociable adult male moon bears with a beautiful space they can call their own, as well as providing additional space for the many cubs we've rescued in recent years that have outgrown the Cub Nurseries. We can't wait to see the reaction of the bears as they move into new houses & enclosures in the coming weeks. The new enclosures also required swimming pools, caves & climbing towers. Everyone has been working extremely hard throughout the hot summer months (thank goodness for regular cooling rains). Great work by our committed & talented bear care team. We've also made a little progress on the Research Centre above Bear House 8 (under construction since 2014 due to funding restraints) which we hope to soon complete.



Climbing platform & enclosure upgrades



Emergency treatment during rescue of 215



Phnom Penh Scouts help with repairs

Both of the girls are improving day by day & we're hopeful they'll be able to enjoy a healthy & happy life.

At the end of September we were in for an even bigger shock when we were informed of a small female moon bear cub who had been caught in a snare trap & then hogtied by poachers. Our rescue team & vets rushed to the location to find a tiny cub missing most of a paw, with a fresh open wound & additional deep wounds on all legs from being tied. The vets had to set up a makeshift clinic on the spot to treat her wounds. She required more surgeries in the days that followed. Due to the extent of her wounds, Cambodia Rescue #215 eventually lost her entire limb. Despite the incredible trauma she's suffered, she's making an incredible recovery. We believe she is now free of pain & is an active, inquisitive & playful cub.

In recent months we've been upgrading enclosures & adding bear houses. We're about to complete a satellite Bear House 7a, connecting to Bear House 7. Special thanks to Brown Bear Coffee for donating this bear house. Construction is underway on Bear House 4a which connects to Bear House 4.

Our small research team is wrapping up an interesting project researching hunters while continuing to monitor wild bear populations. We recently co-authored a paper on bear bile use in Vietnam & completed a Conservation Academy course.

Despite no travel to Cambodia & schools closed for much of the past 6 months, we were very excited to recently receive a couple of small groups to the sanctuary, to learn about & meet the bears, & help with some repairs! Although our Volunteer Programme has effectively shut down thanks to Covid, we hope that in 2022 we'll be able to start receiving volunteers again. Some sad news, Jen Padgett, our Volunteer Coordinator for the past 5 years, will be leaving Free the Bears for a new & exciting chapter in her life. Many of you will know Jen from your visits as volunteers & many more will know Jen from her wonderful Facebook livestream videos. Jen has been a great help to Free the Bears in so many ways (several of the gorgeous pictures in the 2022 wall calendar are from Jen). Thanks for all your help Jen & best of luck in the future. Happy holidays & Happy New Year everyone!



UPDATES FROM THE FIELD LAOS

We've had a VERY challenging 6 months in Laos. Having successfully avoided Covid for most of the pandemic, the Delta variant finally impacted us. Travel restrictions & lockdowns prevented bear rescues, halted construction & even required our amazing bear care team to quarantine themselves in the sanctuary as a biosecurity measure, sleeping in tents on top of bear houses, not seeing their families for weeks. A very special thank you to our amazingly committed team!

Despite all the issues, we managed to rescue an incredible 11 moon bears over the past 6 months, 10 of which were orphaned cubs, their mothers likely killed by poachers (a mother bear would never willingly leave her cub). Roberta & Blossom were rescued in May in an unusual rescue. With provincial borders closed, we relied on our government partners to rescue the cubs. We met them in the middle of a bridge marking the provincial boundary, which neither of us could cross, like a scene from a spy novel! Our next rescue in June was Janey, a stunted moon bear kept for years in a tiny, dirty, dark cage in the kitchen of a Chinese restaurant. Brother & sister Sid & Nancy, just 5 months old, followed in July.

3 rescues of 4 cubs came in rapid succession - Laos Rescue #97, a terrified female cub just 4 months old, brothers #98 & #99, around 5 months old, & our 100th bear rescued in Laos, a male around 1.5 years old. At the end of August we rescued a tiny male cub that was incredibly stressed from being held in a small bird cage. Finally, on Nov 10 we rescued #102, a young female. All of the rescues are on the road to recovery. Roberta & Blossom have bonded with Sid & Nancy, with #100 soon to join the group. #97 & #101, terrified for weeks after rescue, were recently introduced to #98 & #99. The transformation is remarkable - from shy & scared to confident non-stop play, it warms the heart! Janey joined a group & is building confidence by the day. #97-#102 are all waiting for their forever name - if you're interested in adopting & naming a cub (involves donating annually to cover basic care costs), please contact us - we'd love to get names for the new rescues (& we need help coping with so many new bears).



Roberta, Blossom, Sid & Nancy, already best friends

It's not only bears we've helped, we recently rescued a tortoise, pig-tailed macaque, porcupine, 2 binturong & 2 critically endangered Sunda pangolins, a mother & pup. Sadly the mother passed away shortly after rescue. We also sadly bid farewell to handsome moon bear Keo, rescued in 2005 & a favourite of visitors to the Bear Rescue Centre.

Our new Bear House 6 was completed in July (special thanks to AJN Steelstock) & is now home to 7 happy, young male moon bears. With so many rescues arriving, we're already clearing land for Bear House 7 & hoping for it be completed by mid-2022. The older Tat Kuang Si Bear Rescue Centre desperately needed upgrades & over recent months the bear houses received new roofs. New climbing platforms have been installed in various locations (bears are very destructive). Sun bears Mary, Noy & Pandy are loving their new enclosure which has been specially designed for the world's most arboreal bear species, full of walkways & climbing structures.

It was such a relief to have a normal rainy season over the past 6 months, following 2 years of drought, with lakes at our Luang Prabang Wildlife Sanctuary now relatively full. Groundwater bores have been successfully drilled to supply water in the dry season, a vital addition to the sanctuary. Work is slowly progressing on a facility to house visiting experts, government partners (for training), & volunteers to help care for the bears & develop the sanctuary (please visit as a volunteer for a once-in-a-lifetime ethical travel experience).

Although the Covid situation in Laos is deteriorating, we're all staying safe & are hopeful this will soon pass. We wish all of our supporters a healthy & safe holiday season & the happiest of new years. Thanks for your support.



Roberta & Blossom bridge rescue



New climbing platforms for Tat Kuang Si



Jake & Ernie enjoying new Bear House 6

UPDATES FROM THE FIELD VIETNAM

Earlier this year we campaigned heavily for the release of the final 4 bears that were left in bile farms in Long An province in southern Vietnam. In June we finally received approval from the owners of 3 bears to move them to our sanctuary. Just as we were about to set off for the rescue a Covid outbreak sent Vietnam into lockdown. It wasn't until October 26th that we were finally able to proceed & rescue the bears from the bile farm where they'd been caged for over 16 years. The rescue went surprisingly well - we were expecting it to take almost 24 hours however the stars aligned & our team were back to the sanctuary in under 16 hours. All 3 bears are in relatively poor condition. There are 2 males, one of which is missing a paw, likely from a wire snare trap injury when captured as a cub. The female is overweight & missing fur. They're now in a safe & quiet space at our quarantine facility, enjoying a healthy diet, special treats & expert loving care. We hope they'll be able to enjoy many healthy & happy years, free to roam the forest in our beautiful Cat Tien Bear Sanctuary.



Rescue of 3 bears from a bile farm in Oct



Bear House 4 almost complete



Nang enjoying Bear House 3 at CTBS

We're fighting to secure the release of the 4th bear from a different owner before the end of the year. If successful, another province will be free of caged bears & this will bring us one step closer to ending bear bile farming in Vietnam forever.

Although the recent Covid lockdown led to a pause in construction activity at the sanctuary, we've been able to return to work & are now putting the finishing touches on our new Bear House 4. The house, dens & enclosure fences are complete & looking great. While the enclosures contain thick forest, we're also installing swimming pools & caves to make them even better. Several lucky bears will be able to enjoy their beautiful new home later this month. Completion of Bear House 4 will also create additional space to allow for more rescues of bears from bile farms. Special thanks to supporters of our fundraiser for bear houses, Welttierschutzgesellschaft e.V. (WTG) & Marchig Animal Welfare Trust for enabling this project to proceed.

Our second construction project currently underway is a Bear Discovery Centre, to educate visitors to the park about sun bears & moon bears, the issues they face, alternatives to using



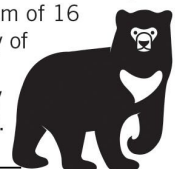
Hope & Chance, both disabled from snares, best friends, & models in our 2022 wall calendar

bear bile as medicine, the importance of wildlife conservation, & the work of Free the Bears. We've made great progress & hope to have the structure completed by the end of the year. Meanwhile we're also upgrading all enclosures & installing wastewater treatment facilities. Always busy!

As Vietnam overcomes Covid & opens up, we hope to welcome tourists & visitors back to the Cat Tien Bear Sanctuary. After a very wet rainy season the sanctuary is looking spectacular. The forest is an explosion of every shade of green imaginable. The incredible birdlife of Cat Tien National Park is everywhere to be seen & we have very happy bears who love to forage all day.

Thankfully, our staff have been able to access vaccinations - everyone is feeling a little more safe & secure. We've welcomed a new Sanctuary Manager (welcome Thuong) & the team recently gave a presentation about bear rescue & welfare to National Park & Forestry Department staff, tour guides & students from the Dong Nai Forestry & Agriculture University, which was very well received.

Although we're a small team in Vietnam, our family of rescued bears is growing. We'll continue to focus on the bears remaining on bile farms as well as increasing awareness & changing attitudes towards wildlife conservation. The 2005 Vietnam law which banned the capture of wild bears & the killing or extraction of bear bile of caged bears, but allowed any bears already owned to be kept, means that all the bears remaining in the bile farms have been caged for a minimum of 16 years. We're doing all we can to rescue as many of these suffering bears as we can, as soon as possible, before it's too late. Wishing you happy holidays & a Happy New Year. See you in 2022. Stay safe! Thanks & bear hugs!





Having lost many fundraising sources to Covid, we're reaching out to you, our incredible supporters, to HELP raise awareness of the plight of sun bears & moon bears as well as raise funds to rescue more bears who need help. Please join our BEAR IT FOR BEARS challenge. It's easy! Decide on a challenge of your choice (perhaps a challenge outside of your comfort zone). It could be a physical challenge such as a long walk, swim, ride or run, or something more unusual like a yoga challenge, shaving your head, giving up alcohol for a month or even jumping out of a plane. Then create a page & share it with family & friends to let people know about your BEAR IT FOR BEARS challenge. You'll find many kind people will want to sponsor your efforts & help the bears.

Although you may suffer a little completing your challenge (please don't hurt yourself), it probably won't compare to the suffering of the bears you'll be helping. Since our last newsletter in May we've rescued 18 bears. 13 of them were cubs with 3 of the cubs having lost a paw to wire snare traps. 3 other bears had spent over 16 years in tiny cages in a bile farm in Vietnam. There are many more suffering bears that need our help. Please BEAR IT FOR BEARS to help rescue more of these bears.

Learn more & sign up today on the 'Get Involved - Events' page of our website or <https://bear-it-for-bears.raisely.com>. Most people are planning to BEAR IT FOR BEARS in November or December, however you can do it any time. This is replacing the Walk to Free the Bears event we held in 2020. Even our founder Dr Mary Hutton OAM has signed up with a 'save electricity to save bears' challenge involving no power in her house for 24 hours. No cups of tea for Mary! Visit the link to learn more about Mary's challenge & sponsor her: <https://bear-it-for-bears.raisely.com> Thank you.

NEW LOVES AND SAD LOSSES

With heavy hearts we said goodbye to Sok & Keo. Since our last newsletter in May we've welcomed 18 bears - Zelda, Chhaiya, Kannitha, Roberta, Blossom, Janey, Sid, Nancy, Cambodia Rescue #215, Laos Rescues #97-#102 & Vietnam Rescues #56-#58



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 26 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@freethebears.org for more information.

FUNDRAISING UPDATES

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

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

By Sacha Dowell

PERTH: We've had a cracker 6 months in Perth! May was very successful. Our annual Quiz Night was our best yet raising over \$15,000. We had a strong Team WA contingent for Night in a Cage, 18 participants raised almost \$18,500. Our awesome volunteers ran 2 fundraising sausage sizzles, 3 educational talks at Perth Zoo, a library & Rotary Club, a winter raffle that raised over \$4,000, & stalls at 16 different locations including the Royal Show. We also held another BEARfoot Bowls event, a fun afternoon of bowling & fundraising. The highlight of the year had to be our 26th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon in August which had 150 supporters celebrating the work of Free the Bears in a stunning rooftop ballroom with city & river views, including special guest speakers Rove McManus & our founder Mary Hutton. An amazing \$16,000 was raised. Huge thank you & bear hugs to our wonderful volunteers who help organise & run our fundraisers!

By Sue Breheny E: albsupport@freethebears.org

ALBANY: Our Winter Luncheon in June featured Sacha from Perth office & a delicious array of home-made food. It was informative & enjoyable. In August our Café at the craft market restarted - special mention of Christine, our caterer extraordinaire. Also in August our Quiz Night was massively enjoyable & successful, raising \$2,817! Thanks to our comic quiz master, Vicki, who kept the evening lively, our quiz mastermind Janet, who compiled a challenging set of questions, & Camille, who gathered a fabulous assortment of prizes. While we were beavering away in wintery Albany, longtime supporter Chris was basking in the sunshine of Broome, using her marketing skills to sell her jams, marmalades & relishes to the camping community, raising a fabulous \$644, not bad for a solo effort! Chris has some great tips: "Make friends with people who grow & donate fruit & veg. Seville oranges make the best marmalade & are as scarce as hens' teeth, ask around & befriend those growers. Strawberry growers sell seconds cheaply. Ask friends for uniform-sized glass jars & collect them - same size; same price! Preserves should be beautifully presented with professionally printed labels & Free The Bears logo sticker on the lid to cover brand names! Look for opportunities to sell your preserves at any event". A mini Street Appeal was held mid October in Albany. Although downsized to 4 collection points & 10 volunteers, we raised \$1,005 in donations. We are so lucky to have a small but very dedicated group of supporters in our town & a generous public. Xmas wishes & thank you to all supporters & our team in SE Asia & Perth. Lets hope COVID doesn't dominate our lives in 2022!

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

E: sasupport@freethebears.org

By Krystine and Alan Evans

Despite the various COVID lockdowns, the SA team have managed a few successful fundraisers over the past 6 months! Our grateful thanks to Vicky & the weekend volunteers who managed a stand at the Body, Mind & Psychic Expo in June raising over \$800 (with all proceeds to FTB as the organisers generously sponsored our stand). Meanwhile Bingo for Bears on 10 July raised over \$3,800 for the bears. Thank you so much to Angela & her hard-working team of volunteers for running this terrific event, with a special call out to Corporal Security for donating our security detail for the night. Tireless volunteer Judy held a small trading stand at the Largs Pier Kiosk in September, raising a further \$270, thanks so much Judy! October 30/31 saw our volunteers working the very

warm and welcoming crowd at the Vegan Festival, raising over \$2,300. Thanks so much for all your great work team & especially to Louise for coordinating the event.

VICTORIA

E: vicsupport@freethebears.org

By Sue Schofield

Unfortunately, as a result of COVID lockdown in Victoria for the past few months (seems like years!) no events have been able to proceed. The six talks planned since August have been rescheduled to early 2022. However, going forward FTB will be one of the charities featured in Local Matters charity pots at Grill'd café at Southland shopping mall during the month of November. The winner will get \$300...so hope this is FTB! Two of us from the Vic FTB committee will also be involved in the Bear it for Bears fundraiser in November too.

NEW SOUTH WALES

E: nswsupport@freethebears.org

By Sarah Gillis

In May, two dedicated volunteers swapped their comfy beds for a Night in a "Cage". Team NSW raised \$10,220 - getting uncomfortable pays off! Thanks to our supporters! We continue at the Engadine Markets every 2nd month. Lockdown has meant a postponement until early 2022 of Jeanette's inspiring & funny talk about her experiences at FTB sanctuaries. We welcome all bear (& animal) lovers to bring your ideas & join the fun at our meetings - 2pm on the 2nd Saturday of every 2nd month at Revesby Workers Club (next is 12 Feb 2022). Our next exciting fundraiser is a 'Champagne High Tea' on 24 April 2022 in the lower Blue Mountains. Crisp air, crisp champers, beautiful garden & good company! Join us to have fun & raise funds! Keep informed of activities via our Facebook page (FreeTheBearsNSW) or email to join our mailing list.

TASMANIA

E: tassupport@freethebears.org

By Fee Connolly

Another successful NiAC for Team Tassie, we doubled our participants & raised almost \$6,500. Thanks to Carol, Kim & my 88 year old mum Marie for participating. We've continued our fortnightly stalls at either Sandfly or Kingston Beach with funds coming in & plenty of awareness raised. Very appreciative of friends, particularly Lin, who drop by our stalls to help out when they can. Thanks to Trish from ARC Tassie & her crafters for making reusable products for us to sell, also to Robyn & Eris from NSW for another big bag of Christmas stockings. We'll be at the St David's Combined Charities Christmas Shop in Hobart from Oct right through until Christmas. Vegan Fest is postponed until Feb 2022.

UNITED KINGDOM

E: uksupport@freethebears.org

By Judy Blythe

The UK is still inching towards creating a meaningful fundraising group but in the meantime a few really fabulous supporters joined the Night in a Cage event to raise £8,823. With supporters taking part from very diverse parts of the UK, a WhatsApp group allowed them to swap stories and photos to encourage them in their caged adventure. The night was cold but dry in most parts of the country which was a relief after the deluge which had happened just a few days before. All of the participants survived the night & some are even looking forward to taking part again next year. Wishing everyone happy holidays and a healthy & prosperous new year & hope to meet some of you at the sanctuaries in 2022.



GET INVOLVED

COMING EVENTS

WORLDWIDE Personal Fundraiser

BEAR IT FOR BEARS!

bear-it-for-bears.raisely.com

November/December 2021

AUSTRALIA-WIDE

Beary Christmas Raffle

rafflelink.com.au/bearyxmasraffle

Ends Dec 14, Drawn Dec 15

Albany

Free the Bears Café

Scots Church, Albany

1st Thurs/Fri every month

Tasmania

Market stalls

Sandfly - last Sat of the month

Kingston Beach - 2nd Sun of the month

Albany

Garage Sale

Miramar, Albany

November 27

NSW

Volunteer Meeting

Revesby Workers Club

Feb 12, 2022, 2pm

SA

Quiz Night

Bedford Hall, Panorama

Feb 2022 (TBC)

Tasmania

VeganFest

Princes Wharf 1, Hobart

March 5, 2022

Perth

Pet Expo

Canning Exhibition Centre

March 19 & 20, 2022

SA

Animal Expo

Adelaide Showgrounds

April 9 & 10, 2022

NSW

High Tea

Springwood, Blue Mountains

April 24, 2022

Perth

Quiz Night

South Perth Community Hall

May 28, 2022, 7pm

BEARY CHRISTMAS RAFFLE!



WIN a Christmas bonanza of prizes while helping feed hungry rescued bears (Australia only).

1st prize: \$1,000 of vouchers for Dan Murphy's & Woolworths

2nd prize: Exquisite 'birdseye' burlwood jewellery box and unique fossilised ammonite pendant (valued at \$600)

3rd prize: Shopping spree! \$250 of vouchers from David Jones, Coles/Myers, Peter Alexander, Hoyts & more

Every \$5 ticket will feed a bear for a day & give you another chance to win.

Tickets sold Australia-wide (except ACT),

available until December 14 at

rafflelink.com.au/bearyxmasraffle

Raffle drawn on December 15

VOLUNTEERS:

OUR BEARS NEED YOU!

Volunteers wanted Australia-wide and in the UK, to help with fundraising and raising awareness. Email office@freethebears.org.au for more info.

Cover Photo: Rose was a small cub when rescued with her brother James from northern Cambodia in 2009. They'd been caught in snare traps & then hog-tied, resulting in terrible injuries to their legs and paws. Rose lost part of her front left leg & James lost part of a paw. Thanks to expert loving care they fully recovered & these days are healthy & active bears. Both are models in our beautiful 2022 wall calendar featuring 13 incredible survivors of snare injuries (order from our website today, makes a great ethical gift). Photo credit: Jen Padgett

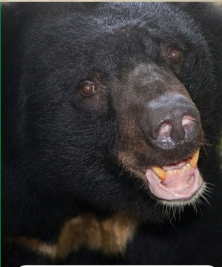
PLEASE HELP US SAVE ON POSTAGE AND PAPER by receiving this newsletter email. Sign up via our website or Facebook page. If your email or mailing address has changed, please let us know. You'll be helping us and the environment.



Laos Rescue #100, August

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.



Vietnam Rescue #56

FREE THE BEARS LTD

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Western Australia, 6916

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



RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS - THANK YOU TO ALL

Without the courage and actions of our founder Dr Mary Hutton OAM, almost 1,000 bears would be in a far worse situation. The bears we have rescued have been given expert loving 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's had 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.



Bearfoot Bowls, Perth, Oct



Bear House 6, Luang Prabang Wildlife Sanctuary



Night in a cattery cage, Albany, May



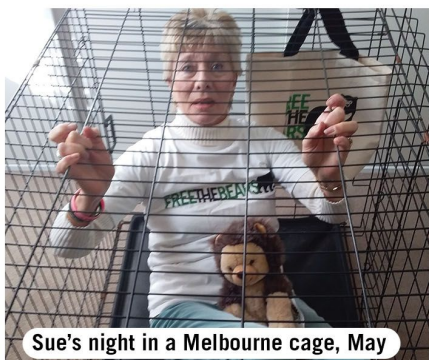
Bear House 7a, Cambodia Bear Sanctuary



Body, Mind & Psychic expo, Adelaide, June



Kingston Beach markets, Hobart, June



Sue's night in a Melbourne cage, May



Jeanette's night in a Sydney Cage, May



New Bear House 4 enclosures, Vietnam



26th anniversary lunch, Perth, August



New bear house roofs, Tat Kuang Si, Laos



Chris with jams, Albany





Vegan Festival, Adelaide, October



Enclosure upgrades, Cambodia



Emma's British night in a cage, May

ONGOING PROJECTS THANKS TO SUPPORTERS

These projects are mostly funded by institutional donors. Thanks to Welttierschutzgesellschaft e.V. (WTG), the Robert H. N. Ho Family Foundation & Mandai Nature for ongoing support, & La Passarelle Conservation for support of the Bear Discovery Centre



Base Station 2 Laos. Special thanks to Perth Zoo



Research Centre, Cambodia



Bear House 4a, Cambodia



Bear Discovery Centre, Vietnam

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.

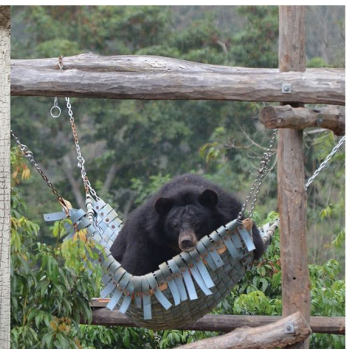
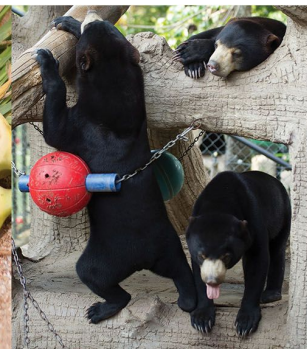
Please visit www.freethebears.org/pages/bear-carer or contact our Perth office to set up a monthly donation.

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

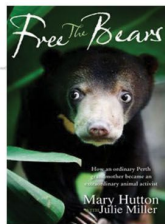
AUD\$50/mth Bear Carer provides a healthy diet for 10 days

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



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



CHRISTMAS CARDS

Six blank cards featuring 6 gorgeous sponsor bears

Cost: A\$15 each

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



2022 WALL CALENDAR

13 incredible snare trap survivors will brighten your 2022

Cost: A\$20 each

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



SNARE WARE BRACELET

Help protect bears & rural communities, 18cm or 21cm

Cost: A\$30 each

Post: A\$3.5 Aus, A\$9.1 o/s



BRANDY BEAR

Possibly the most beautiful moon bear in the world

Cost: A\$20 SALE PRICE

Post: A\$8.5 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



ARYA STARK CARDS

Six blank cards featuring Arya the sun bear

Cost: A\$15 each

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



SANTY RED PANDA PUPPET

This cute hand puppet will bring hours of entertainment

Cost: A\$24 each

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

GIFTS FOR BEARS



ENRICHMENT MIX

Cost: A\$15 each



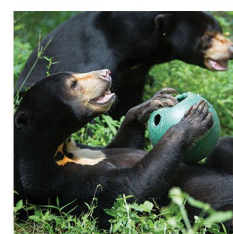
POT OF HONEY

Cost: A\$20 each



CUB CARE KIT

Cost: A\$35 each



TREAT BALL

Cost: A\$75 each



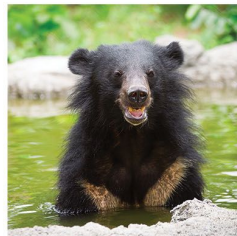
BEAR HAMMOCK

Cost: A\$100 each



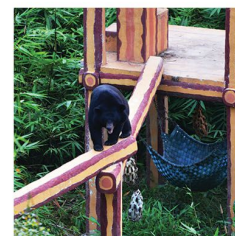
GENERAL HEALTH CHECK

Cost: A\$250 each



BATHING POOL

Cost: A\$700 each



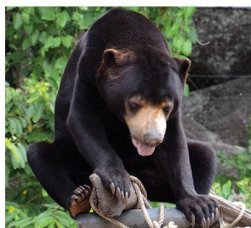
CLIMBING PLATFORM

Cost: A\$1,000 each

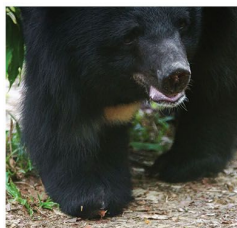
DID YOU KNOW?

- Free the Bears is a registered charity in Australia & UK. Donations & sponsorships can be claimed as a tax deduction (Australians) & you can Gift Aid (UK). Gift for Bears make a great ethical Christmas gift - purchase on our website & send an e-card to your loved one
- Bear sponsorships can be spread over monthly installments. Contact our Head Office or check the website.

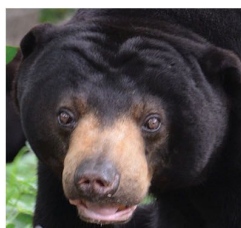
CARE FOR A BEAR - SPONSORSHIPS



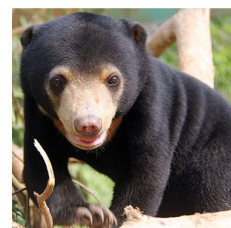
BLUE - CAMBODIA
A\$210 6 mth or \$420 12 mth



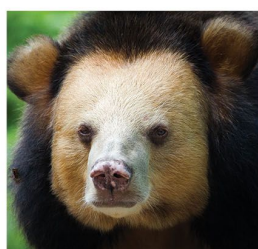
HOPE - VIETNAM
A\$210 6 mth or \$420 12 mth



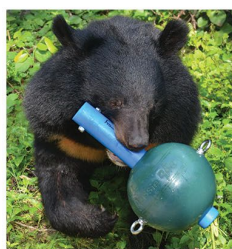
MOKIUP - CAMBODIA
A\$210 6 mth or \$420 12 mth



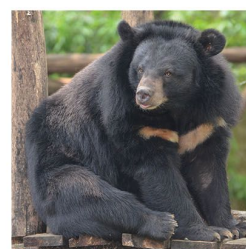
MARY - LAOS
A\$210 6 mth or \$420 12 mth



BRANDY - CAMBODIA
A\$210 6 mth or \$420 12 mth



SHOELACE - CAMBODIA
A\$210 6 mth or \$420 12 mth



KHAM - LAOS
A\$210 6 mth or \$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