

Welcome to the Naturewatch Foundation Review – Issue 28

Animal Abuse in Ukraine

It's been an incredibly productive and successful year for us in Ukraine, with the launch of our new Police Training programme with Hidden-in-Sight on how to fight animal abuse, and why it's important to take animal crime seriously.

Since conducting our first training course in the spring of 2018, the Ukrainian Police and Prosecution Service have sent out a very clear message that crimes against animals will not be tolerated. For example, a man received six years in prison for abusing a cat, someone else received five years for killing two dogs, and a notorious dog hunter was imprisoned while awaiting his trial as it was recognised that he was a danger to society.

After months of training, meetings, networking and media interviews, the year ended on a high when we learnt that over 80 animals, including lions and bears, kept in horrendous conditions at a private



zoo in Donetsk were to be immediately seized and rehomed through a criminal case process conducted by the Ministry of Environment and the National Police.

Tragically, investigations raised allegations of child abuse as well as animal abuse, and the zoo owner has since been arrested awaiting trial in 2019.

Mark Randell, Hidden-in-Sight

"In October 2017, I met with the Municipality, the Police, and Naturewatch Foundation in Kyiv. My background as a Senior Police Detective was mostly with undercover investigative work and partnership working in relation to counter terrorism and serious crime. The new Ukrainian Patrol Police showed willingness to allow a pilot training session in Kyiv where we would also train the Municipality and animal NGOs, which is crucial to advancing an essential understanding of each other's perspective.

The teaching highlighted how dealing with reported animal cruelty cases will not only impact on community confidence but also reduce crimes such as domestic violence and child abuse.

Studies show that 76% of animal abusers are also responsible for crimes against humans, and this was a key thread – also focusing on how to prevent both people and animals becoming victims of the 'cycle', otherwise known as the 'link'. Mostly the instruction was through practical policing case studies from around the world,



including a horrific case of the serial killing of stray animals in Ukraine that led to the serial killing of people – by teenage children.

The training session ended with an exercise involving the deliberate poisoning of a dog (a toy stooge named 'Sherlock') by a woman who was also slowly poisoning her husband. The police loved it and were sold on the training. The Municipality were quite interested, and the animal groups really welcomed some new tools in understanding how to negotiate reporting cases to the Police to achieve the best outcome for abused animals.

Overall there was very positive feedback. Word quickly spread through the Patrol

Police, and 13 cities are now asking for this training. Mykolaiv Police received their training in the summer and, upon request of the Kyiv Police, Naturewatch Foundation conducted a training day on the handling and control of aggressive dogs.

It is worth noting here that word was also spreading around the world about what was happening in Ukraine, and countries that had previously been involved in this 'link' work across the USA and Europe were starting to notice. The Mayor of Kyiv, Vitali Klitschko voiced his support, articles were carried in the English 'K9 magazine' and in Ukrainian newspapers. Through contacts, we managed to secure an appearance on National TV in Ukraine and in the National Vesti newspaper, on Kyiv radio and in podcasts in the UK.

Unsolicited feedback is always a pleasure to receive, and I have been sent two personal messages recently. *"Thank you very much Mark, your training was beautiful and very relevant. Mykolaiv thanks you"* and *"It's incredible the changes that have happened over the last three months after your visiting Kyiv. I think what you are doing is highly important!"*

Humane Education in Ukraine

Now that our Humane Education courses are online, they're much more accessible and flexible. Not to mention that your donations cover the cost of the courses, so they're free of charge for teachers and youth leaders.

As you can imagine, the course has attracted a huge amount of interest, with 116 people registering this year alone. The course covers animal welfare, animal rights, animal cruelty and ethics; the use of animals in farming, entertainment and animal experiments; wildlife conservation; animal behaviour and psychology; and relationships between humans and animals.

Teachers and youth leaders who have completed the course have loved sharing what they've been doing with their pupils. Here are some examples of their wonderful work...



Cruelty-Free Shopping – China

We live in a global market for cosmetics. As a result, the only way to really avoid animal testing of cosmetics is to ban animal testing of cosmetics worldwide.

The UK has led the way since banning cosmetic testing on animals in 1998, followed by the EU-wide ban in 2013. **Now 37 countries and major markets have passed laws to end or limit cosmetic animal testing.** However, 80% of countries still allow animal testing of cosmetics.

China's rapidly growing cosmetics market is worth more than US\$30 billion and is hugely appealing for ambitious skincare and makeup companies. However, Chinese authorities still insist on animal testing of foreign imported cosmetics and domestically produced 'special use' cosmetics. China also conducts additional post-market testing – where brands are taken from shop shelves and tested on animals.

Many growing cosmetic companies are forced to choose between expanding by exporting to China or staying true to their cruelty-free principles and loyal customers by resisting temptation.

International trade, social change - not least a growing pet market – is, however, pushing China to change their approach and explore viable alternatives to animal tests. Chinese regulators have recently softened their approach to Chinese homegrown cosmetic brands which manufacture in China. They are now allowed to bypass animal testing when adhering to pre-approved ingredients and standards. Chinese authorities have also begun educating and training their own provincial laboratories in alternative testing methods, often in collaboration with international brands eager to expand in China.

Throughout 2018, in efforts to remove barriers to economic growth for UK companies, our government has been in ongoing discussions with Chinese authorities, regarding mandatory animal testing. In October, the UK's National Centre for the Replacement, Refinement and Reduction of Animals in Research (NC3Rs), signed a commitment with the China Rural Technology Development Centre (CRTDC). They committed to collaborate on promoting scientific and technological innovations in the



replacement, reduction and refinement (3Rs) of animals in research. China's National Institute for Food and Drug Control (NIFDC) also issued a statement on the Chinese social media platform, WeChat, detailing its commitment to overhauling testing and introducing alternatives to animal tests for the cosmetics industry as used in countries where the practice is banned. According to reports, the NIFDC stated that research, development, and the standardisation of testing methods that don't use animals are its top priorities.

Naturewatch Foundation will continue to follow developments in China closely, as changes in regulation directly impact on cruelty-free companies we have endorsed in the Compassionate Shopping Guide!

Animal Experiments

It's shocking that millions of animals are still being abused in UK laboratories every year.

Despite a ban on animal testing of cosmetics in the EU and household cleaning 'finished' products in the UK, massive loopholes still exist which mean that too often animals are suffering and dying for human luxury products. Each year, the Home Office quietly drip feeds appalling reports of animal cruelty.

In December, Naturewatch Foundation highlighted Home Office figures detailing **40 cases of non-compliance in UK laboratories** ranging from **failure to feed or provide water** to mice and birds **resulting in death**, unlicensed procedures, over-breeding, failure to provide post-surgical analgesia and even the death of a non-human primate trapped in its cage.

In November, the UK government published that, as well as the 3.72 million animals that were used in scientific procedures in 2017, another 1.81 million animals were bred for scientific procedures, but either died or were killed before being used in experiments. Of the 3.72 million live animals used in experiments, 2496 were dogs, 71 cats, 288 equines, 2215 primates, as well as mice, zebrafish and rats.

Apart from the publication of these sporadic reports from the Home Office regulator (Animals in Science Regulation Unit ASRU), little is known about what life is actually like for each of those animals due to the secrecy surrounding the actual controversial testing. Section 24 of the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act – the so-called 'Secrecy Clause' – makes it an offence punishable by up to two years' imprisonment to disclose certain details about the use of animals for scientific procedures, even if the researchers carrying out the procedures want it to be known.

Throughout 2018, Naturewatch Foundation has continually lobbied the government to repeal Section 24 so the British public can finally be truly informed about animal experiments. Back in 2014, the Home Office launched a consultation to repeal Section 24 of the Act but no government response has been published



or action taken. In July and December, Naturewatch Foundation met with and questioned officials from the Home Office ASRU. Throughout the year we've also continued to work with MPs and Ministers asking incisive questions, building on our 2017 report 'Transparency and Animal Experiments'. Throughout the Brexit negotiations, Naturewatch Foundation has also been an active participant in the Wildlife and Countryside Link coalition group, campaigning to press the importance of enshrining in UK law following Brexit that animals are sentient beings who can feel pain.

Government action is long overdue to eliminate animal testing, strengthen animal welfare law and encourage the acceptance of alternative methods of testing including increased investment in the alternative testing sector. In 2018 the Home Office began consulting licensees about rolling out a new multi-million IT system for licensing animal testing facilities, individuals and projects, to go live in 2019. We hope this system will pave the way for more transparency as to what is happening to animals in the labs leading to more humane alternatives and the eventual repeal of Section 24! Naturewatch Foundation will keep up the pressure in 2019!

People Against Dirty Boycott!

In 2018, Ecover and Method, known together as 'People Against Dirty', were dropped from Naturewatch Foundation's Compassionate Shopping Guide after they were bought out by SC Johnson, a company that openly admits to selling products developed using animals.

Hundreds of people like you responded to our call to action to boycott Ecover and Method. Some retailers have responded by removing their products from their shelves! Thank you!

We all remember when The Body Shop was bought by L'Oréal, and the dramatic impact of compassionate consumers' buying habits, which saw The Body Shop's sales fall. After an almost 12-year long campaign, we were pleased to be able to include The Body Shop back in the Compassionate Shopping Guide following its sale to cruelty-free parent company Natura! We hope it doesn't take Ecover and Method so long!

In 2019, we will build on the campaign to ensure that Ecover and Method, who market their products to the public saying they are cruelty-free, are transparent about where their profits go!

ECOVER AND METHOD SAY: "WE SEE THIS AS MORE OF A REALLY GREAT MARRIAGE THAN JUST ANOTHER BUSINESS DEAL."

NOT ENDORSED NOT ENDORSED NOT ENDORSED

Profits will now go to animal testing parent company SC Johnson. Don't be fooled - it IS just another business deal.

Naturewatch Foundation www.naturewatch.org

Stamping Out Puppy Farming

Campaign success! But more still to do!

Puppy farming is a horrific business. Sadly, too many people are unaware of the scale of it, or even that it exists. To see the dreadful places that poor puppies and their unloved mothers are kept caged and frightened is heartbreaking – and these ‘farms’ exist just to make money.

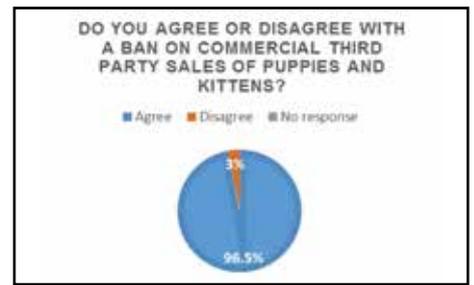


Photograph: Celia Hammond Animal Trust

It's been nearly 10 years since Naturewatch Foundation started campaigning, highlighting the horrors of puppy farming. Working together with a host of other charities and organisations, and now with the media spotlight, we are shedding light on this awful profiteering, and we will eventually stamp out puppy farming for good.

In fact, last year the UK government listened to the pleas of animal welfare campaigners such as Naturewatch Foundation and took action!

In September, the UK government published the consultation to ban third-party commercial sales of puppies and kittens – 96.5% of more than 6000 respondents agreed with the government's proposal, including



Pie chart: DEFRA

Naturewatch Foundation. We believe that such a ban will help to crack down on puppy farms and make it much harder for high volume, low welfare breeders, both licensed and unlicensed, whose trade relies on third-party sellers.

In December, the UK government confirmed the ban will go ahead and be enacted in 2019. This is great news!

More information about what the new law means can be found on our website at www.naturewatch.org



Photograph: Celia Hammond Animal Trust

With great campaigning planned, we hope that the momentum from last year will bring more positive changes for all animals in 2019!

Media quotes

"All of the puppies are sick to some degree"
- Unlicensed puppy farm exposed on TV documentary – April 2018

"A man has been banned from keeping animals for life after 38 dogs and 18 cats were found in "disgusting" conditions at a makeshift puppy farm." – November 2018

"Pet shops are to be banned from selling kittens and puppies by the government in a crackdown aimed at stopping puppy farming... The move, announced by Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), follows public consultation that found 95% of the public supported for such a ban." – The Guardian, December 2018

2018 ANIMAL WELFARE CAMPAIGN SUCCESSES!

- Sales of puppies and kittens under eight weeks old **BANNED!**
- Number of litters **REDUCED!** Now, anyone breeding three or more litters a year requires a dog breeding licence (down from five litters).
- Online pet sales to include licensed seller's licence number, country of origin and country of residence of the pet **REGULATED!**
- Third party sales of puppies and kittens **BANNED** – confirmed on 23 December just in time for Christmas!

The UK government's consultation drew out other important issues to help fight puppy farming including clamping down on illegal sales using internet websites, licensing of rescue centres and developing a government-led public information campaign. The government also indicated their intention to work with the devolved administrations in Scotland and Wales to ensure commercial third-party sale of puppies and kittens are banned across the entire United Kingdom.

Working in partnership with other campaigners is important in tackling puppy farming. At the end of December, Naturewatch Foundation attended a meeting at the Houses of Parliament of the All Party Dog Advisory Welfare Group. So many fantastic organisations, not forgetting the Lucy's Law campaign, have used their strengths to bring forward welcome changes in animal welfare legislation in 2018.

Badger Persecution

We're almost there! We're the closest we've ever been to illegal badger persecution becoming recordable and notifiable to the Home Office, and that's down to you.

From all of us here at Naturewatch Foundation, we'd like to say a HUGE thank you to those of you who wrote to your Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) in early 2018 about why wildlife crime should be better recorded and reported on. Because of your letters and emails, the Home Office received a very clear message that recordable wildlife crime isn't just something wanted by animal welfare and conservation charities, but also law enforcement agencies and the general public.

In the summer, the National Police Chief's Council published their Wildlife Crime



Police Strategy for 2018-2021, which included *'widening the number of recordable wildlife crimes so as to better understand and reflect the range and scale of the portfolio'*. This strategy was signed off by every Chief Constable and every PCC, so don't be disheartened if your PCC didn't respond as positively to your letter as you'd hoped. By signing off on this strategy, they've committed to work towards making more wildlife crimes recordable.

Earlier in the year, we met with the Home Office, together with other members of Wildlife and Countryside Link, to put our case forward about why wildlife crime should be made recordable. We also worked with the National Wildlife Crime Unit to write a submission on why badger persecution should be included in the list of proposed recordable and notifiable wildlife crimes, which will be sent to the Home Office in April 2019.

We have every hope that by this time next year, we'll be celebrating the news that badger crime is being consistently recorded and reported on by the government – something we've been campaigning for, for many years. As always, this coming year, we'll continue to seek every opportunity to end what is one of the most cruel and barbaric forms of wildlife crime – badger baiting.

Andy Swinburne, Wildlife Crime Adviser



"I am honoured to be Naturewatch Foundation's first ever Wildlife Crime Adviser. The first year in post has certainly been busy, successful,

and a joy to work with such an efficient, productive and welcoming team.

Wildlife crime has been part of my life for 15 years. It truly gets under my skin and drives me forward in the fight to combat it. This especially applies to one of my favourite animals, the badger, and despite my experience, the constant and varied forms of illegal persecution against it never fails to shock me.

During this past year, Naturewatch Foundation's Badger Baiting Campaign has grown both in structure and recognition amongst our peer partners within the wildlife crime arena, resulting in a comment at the National Enforcers Conference that we are now known and recognised as one of the key players.

Our influence and contribution has been achieved by being members of key groups such as the UK Badger Persecution Priority Delivery Group, where I sit as the secretariat, the Partnership for Action against Wildlife crime, the Wildlife and Countryside Link consortium of NGOs and our contribution

to their annual wildlife crime reports and, most recently, membership of the newly-developed Cyber Enabled Wildlife Crime Priority Group.

This last group sits nicely alongside our own covert investigations into badger baiting. My experience as a former Police Wildlife Crime Officer and a Field Intelligence Officer with the League Against Cruel Sports, has helped to cement a professional and confidential approach to persons giving information.

I have also been involved in setting up our Badger Baiting School Awareness Programme for delivery to teenagers by the police or badger groups.

In addition, I have facilitated an agreed annual donation by Naturewatch Foundation to the PAW Forensic Analysis Fund, which police can access to assist in the cost of forensic investigations on wildlife crime cases.

With meetings, conferences, networking and presentations complete for 2018, it's been very rewarding to see such progress in a relative short period of time, and provides an encouraging base to further develop our Badger Baiting Campaign in 2019."

On a final note, if you have any information about someone you suspect is involved in badger crime, please contact me and we'll investigate your leads:

andrew@naturewatch.org
07392 185 373

Craig Fellowes, Wildlife Crime Training Consultant

"The police badger crime awareness courses continued throughout the year with several additional police forces receiving what has been described as a best practice and much-needed addition to their professional development training. As a result of the courses, in 2018 we have seen an increase in the number of badger crime cases being dealt with, and an increase in intelligence reported. Plus, in December, five individuals were convicted for the illegal persecution of badgers in Humberside. The case was led by officers who had received our training, and put into practice what they'd learned to assist their investigation.



This has been a valuable partnership project, which targets one of the national wildlife crime priorities as set out by the National Wildlife Crime Unit. The programme was joint funded by Naturewatch Foundation and the Badger Trust, and would not have been possible without that support.

I'd like to say a huge thank you to Naturewatch Foundation supporters! Your donations mean police in England and Wales are now better equipped to prosecute cases of badger crime, and more offenders are being brought before the courts."

World Animal Day Grant Projects

Indonesia

The 2017 World Animal Day grant was awarded to the Jakarta Animal Aid Network (JAAN) to construct two forest enclosures for rescued sun bears. The enclosures are part of a new rescue and rehabilitation centre for confiscated Indonesian wildlife.



Naturally, we are keen to ensure that the centre opens as soon as possible to give every confiscated bear the best chance of being returned to its natural habitat, the rainforests of Sumatra.

Unfortunately, it's been a rocky road as there have been several bureaucratic hold-ups and two violent natural disasters along the way. In late 2017, JAAN was called to rescue animals caught up in the Mount

Agung volcano emergency in Bali, which took several months.

In December 2018, the JAAN team were called upon again to help animals affected by the tsunami that hit the Sunda Strait between Java and Sumatra, caused by an eruption of the Anak Krakatau volcano – and this work will continue into the first few months of 2019.

Construction was all but finished and the centre was on schedule to open its doors in January 2019 when the tsunami reached just 3 kilometres away – a very lucky escape. We're sure it won't be long before we can report that the rescue and rehabilitation centre has finally opened its doors.

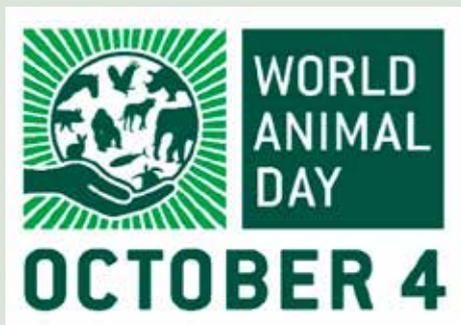


We greatly look forward to showing you photographs and telling the stories of some of the first sun bears to be rescued, rehabilitated (in the enclosures you paid for), and returned to the rainforests of Sumatra.

India

It's too early to report on the 2018 World Animal Day grant awarded to People for Animals in Siliguri, but we would like to thank all the wonderful supporters who contributed towards a battery-operated rickshaw. The rickshaw is currently being modified and equipped as an animal ambulance, including a folding stretcher, veterinary instruments and life-saving medicines. Additional funds were made available to print educational leaflets and brochures, and these are already in use. We will report again soon on this innovative project to save the lives of street animals, livestock and wildlife.

The most successful celebration of World Animal Day yet!



Every year without fail, the celebration of World Animal Day (October 4) continues to grow.

For animals, it's the most important day of the year as it embraces all animals and the unique concerns of each in every country.

Each year, World Animal Day encourages an ever-increasing number of inspiring events to be held around the globe - all helping to raise the status of animals and improve welfare standards. It's something that everyone who cares about animals can join in with. Events don't need to be big budget affairs, it's getting involved that's important. The page opposite highlights just a handful of events from 2018, so please visit the website –

www.worldanimalday.org.uk – where you will find many more.

October may seem a long way off, but it's never too early to start making plans. Why not show the animals you care by visiting www.worldanimalday.org.uk. Click on 'Get Involved' to find ways you could participate this year.

Some of the most inspiring events are those organised on a shoestring budget in developing countries where animals form the backbone of the economy supporting poor communities. Numerous educational events showed people how to care for their working animals properly, which not only alleviates their suffering, but also improves the livelihoods of those who depend on them.

In 2018: Naturewatch Foundation staff worked through the night managing social media across the continents, which resulted in World Animal Day trending in 32 countries – up from 25 in 2017. What a great result! Our Patrons, Rula Lenska, Anneka Svenska and Dan Richardson, made videos to share their personal

messages and our Poet-in-Residence, Susan Richardson, published a specially written poem.

Huge support was shown across international media platforms, traditional and digital. Hundreds of international celebrities such as Pelé, Jackie Chan, Ricky Gervais, Jane Goodall and Daryl Hannah, made sure the world knows they care about animals. It was impossible to track the number of charities, libraries, museums, schools, art galleries, universities and churches that rode the wave for animals. Governments, NATO, United Nations, parliaments, political parties, armed forces, multi-national businesses, police, fire and ambulance services, and city authorities all did their bit to support this special day.

We are working with partners to achieve **formal recognition of World Animal Day by the United Nations**, which would show a global commitment to making the protection of animals a priority. It would inspire international, national and regional change towards a future where people and animals co-exist in harmony.



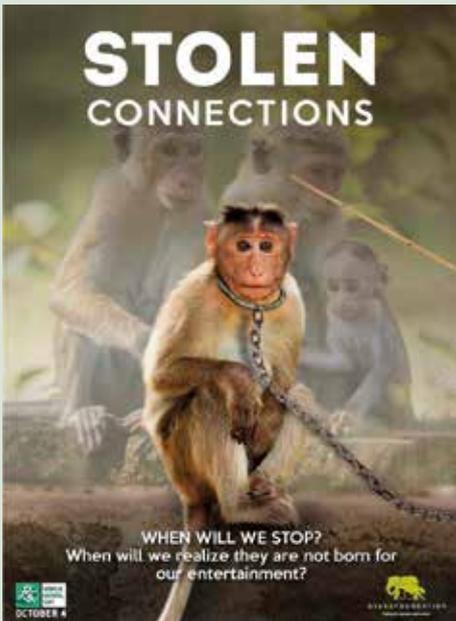
Cameroon - Children were enthusiastic to learn from OIPA (International Organisation for Animal Protection) volunteers about how to care for and interact safely with dogs.



Kurdistan - Stray dogs and cats were vaccinated, fed and watered – just one of several events organised by KOARP (Kurdistan Organisation of Animal Rights Protection).



Liberia - Liberia Animal Welfare and Conservation Society organised outreach community engagement programmes focusing on farm, companion and wild animals.



Sri Lanka - A social media awareness campaign launched by the Otara Foundation showed a series of powerful images depicting 'Stolen Freedom.'



COSTA RICA - SASY held a spay/neuter and veterinary care clinic in a low income neighbourhood of San Jose notorious for its pet overpopulation.



Ghana - Children at the Emperor Academy School marched through the streets of Atta Mensah carrying placards asking everyone to be compassionate to animals.



Panama - 599 pets were spayed/neutered at a mega sterilisation event organised by Spay Panama.



Hong Kong - A pet-themed parent-and-child workshop was organised by the SPCA to draw attention to abandoned animals.



Malaysia - The Sarawak SPCA organised a blessing of the animals at its shelter.



India - People for Animals Siliguri organised a number of educational activities for young children.



Egypt - Cairo University veterinary students held several events to raise awareness of animal welfare to the faculty community.



Bolivia - Organised by ADDA Bolivia, Cochabamba Cathedral welcomed animals through its doors once again.

Smart Survey Results

We've been blown away with the number of responses to our short online 'smart survey' asking for your views on animal testing and cruelty free shopping. Thank you to everyone who has taken the time to respond!

The survey was emailed out in December 2018 and stayed 'live' until the end of January 2019. As this Annual Review goes to print, we are still collating responses so keep an eye out for an in-depth analysis in a future mailing.

The results have been particularly useful as we compile the 15th edition of the Naturewatch Foundation Compassionate Shopping Guide. More news on that publication later in 2019!

Thank you again for helping us.

Dan Richardson



In July, we welcomed actor and passionate animal welfare advocate Dan Richardson as a new patron.

Dan has already been instrumental in raising the profile of Naturewatch Foundation by fronting our badger baiting campaign.

He also joined our other patrons in celebrating World Animal Day, which was even bigger this year!

And finally...

It was a busy year for Naturewatch Foundation. Throughout 2018, we strengthened our collaborations with other animal welfare organisations and, together, we are making great progress. We are becoming more influential and will use this increased recognition to make your voices heard on behalf of animals.

There's no doubt that 2019 will be a year of upheaval due to political instability. Animal welfare will not be high on the agenda for

the UK government. We aim to change that – with your help.

Other aspects of our campaigns are often as important as a financial contribution. This year, we will be asking you to take simple, but effective, actions to ensure that animals aren't forgotten after Brexit. If you would like to check that you are on our 'Call to Action' list, please call us on **01242 252871**.

With your loyalty and support, we will

continue to raise the status of animals both in the UK and overseas.

If you are new to our work or would like to find out more, please visit our websites – www.naturewatch.org and www.worldanimalday.org.uk.

Warm regards,

*The Naturewatch
Foundation Team*

Leaving a Legacy

Leaving a gift in your will is an opportunity for you to continue supporting our work to end animal cruelty long into the future.

Previous gifts have helped fund much-needed veterinary equipment, vital animal welfare training and other essential items that we might not otherwise have been able to provide.

We do not receive government or corporate funding and so rely entirely upon the generosity of our supporters to continue our work. All income is used to pursue the goals of the charity. We direct our funds responsibly, keep our administration costs to a minimum, design our own campaign literature and have no expensive overheads.

Although standard will-making documents are available allowing you to write your own will, it's best to

take professional advice to ensure the document is correctly worded. Many solicitors offer a set price for drawing up standard wills.

Thank you in advance for considering Naturewatch Foundation as a beneficiary.

Important information for inclusion in your will:

Charity Name: Naturewatch Foundation

Registered Charity Number: 1039679

Address: 49 Rodney Road, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL50 1HX

