

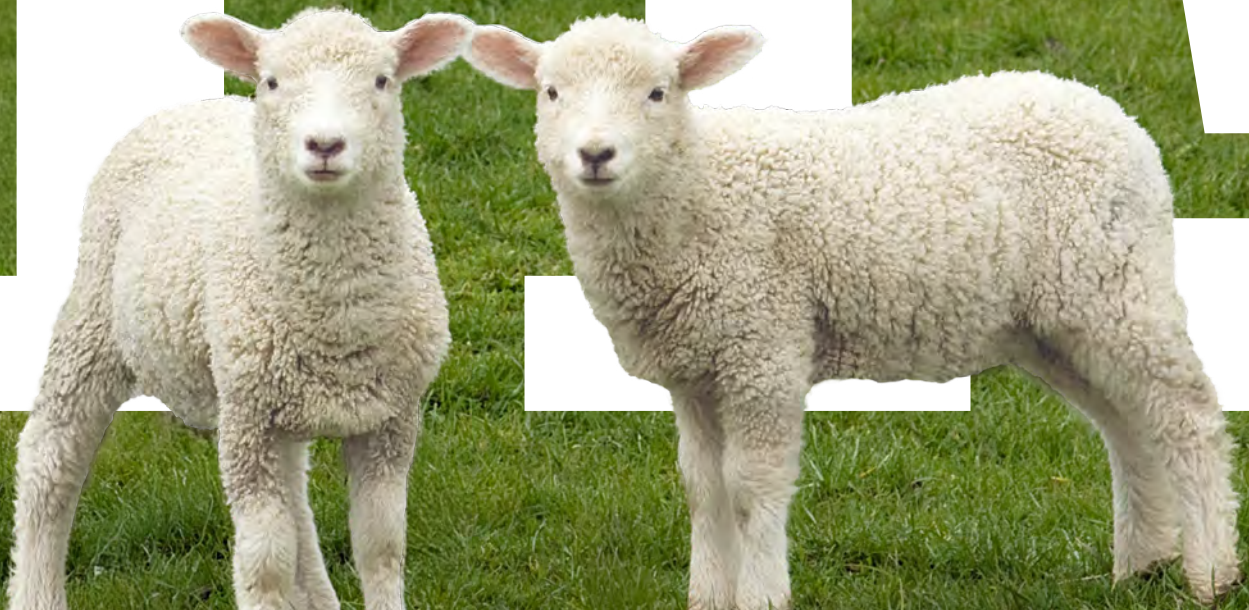
FARM ANIMAL VOICE

YOUR MAGAZINE FROM COMPASSION IN WORLD FARMING

Issue 212 – Summer 2024

WE DID

TTTTT!



LIVE EXPORTS BANNED FROM GREAT BRITAIN!

FARM ANIMAL VOICE

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Farm Animal Voice is published twice a year by Compassion in World Farming International. Compassion in World Farming International is a registered charity in England and Wales, registered charity number 1095050; and a company limited by guarantee in England and Wales, number 4590804. The registered office is at River Court, Mill Lane, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 1EZ, UK.

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INSIDE:
CELEBRATORY
PULL-OUT PAGE!

WE DID IT!

**LIVE ANIMAL EXPORTS FINALLY
BANNED FROM GREAT BRITAIN!**



A MESSAGE FROM PHILIP

Welcome to one of the most exciting *Farm Animal Voice* magazines I've ever introduced. It's with great pleasure that we can finally say that **WE DID IT!** Farmed animals can no longer be exported from Great Britain for fattening or slaughter! And that's thanks to our past and present supporters – all dedicated, generous and compassionate.



Compassion is relentless in its pursuit of justice for farmed animals, and after more than 50 years of campaigning, political lobbying, legal battles, demonstrations, and petition signing, the cruel and barbaric live export trade has been confined to history. Turn to our celebratory centrefold pull-out to find out how, together, we achieved this momentous win. We also highlight how we must now carry on our fight in order to go a step further and end the global trade.

I'm also delighted to welcome Dr Amir Khan (pictured above) to the formidable Compassion team as our newest Patron. Dr Amir is a popular writer, television personality, and full-time NHS GP. He is passionate about wildlife conservation and is known for speaking out on issues important to him, including animal welfare.

As well as delivering this year's Peter Roberts Memorial Lecture (see page 4), in 2022 Dr Amir was among signatories of an open letter to delegates of the COP27 climate conference, calling on world leaders to end factory farming and transform the global food system. He is also a passionate supporter of our campaign to stop the world's first commercial octopus farm opening on Gran Canaria (page 10).

I sincerely hope you enjoy reading this bumper issue, which highlights all that you have achieved – and that you stay by our side until all factory farming is consigned to the history books.



Thank you for all that you do,

Philip Lymbery

Global CEO, Compassion in World Farming International

P.S. As we mark 10 years since our best-selling book, *Farmageddon*, was published, turn to page 4 and page 18 to read about the progress we have made towards our global campaign to end factory farming.

Philip's personal blog is available at: philiplymbery.com or you can follow on Twitter: [@philip_ciwf](https://twitter.com/philip_ciwf)

For the latest news and actions you can take, follow [@ciwf](https://twitter.com/ciwf) on  X and  Instagram, and [@farm.animals](https://www.facebook.com/farm.animals) on  Facebook

COP28: FOOD & CLIMATE FINALLY ON THE AGENDA



In a landmark move at last November's COP28, we witnessed an acknowledgment of the critical role food systems play in climate action.

The conference, held in Dubai and attended by Compassion, saw a dedicated Food, Agriculture and Water Day for the first time, while hundreds of events focused on food systems. These shone a spotlight on the need for transformation to tackle the climate crisis.

Throughout COP28, our team on the ground took part in various events and discussions, contributing insights and perspectives on the intersection of food, animal agriculture, climate, and human health.

On the first ever Health Day at COP (3rd December), we welcomed the announcement by the COP28 Presidency – in partnership with the World Health Organization and UAE Ministry of Health – of its **Declaration on Climate and Health**. This landmark Declaration aims to place health at the heart of climate action and accelerate the development of climate-resilient, sustainable and equitable health systems.

Another noteworthy outcome was the signing of the **Declaration on Sustainable Agriculture, Resilient Food Systems, and Climate Action** by more than 150 countries. This Declaration commits nations, including major greenhouse gas emitters like Brazil, China, the European Union, and the United States to integrate food into their climate plans by 2025.

Later during the conference, we were proud to announce that we had joined a broad coalition of more than 150 non-governmental stakeholders in a Call to Action for **Transforming Food Systems for People, Nature, and Climate**. This declaration reflects the increasingly universal recognition that our food systems can help solve – not just exacerbate – climate change.

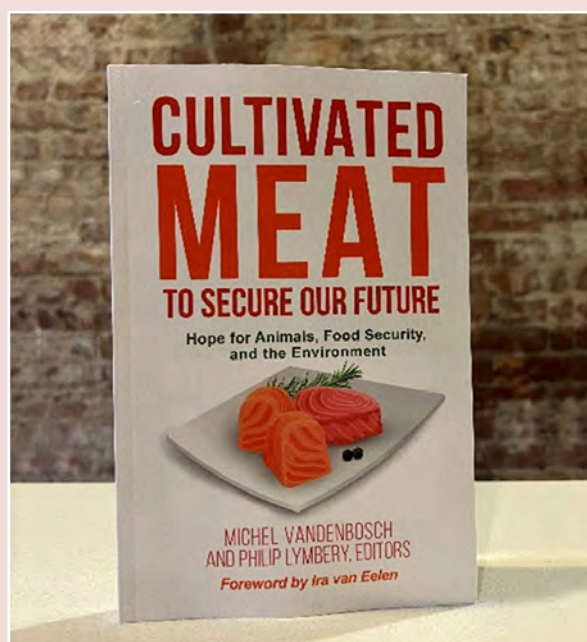
While, overall, significant strides were made at COP28 in recognising the role of food systems in climate action, there is a pressing need to develop this recognition into clear policy actions that will ensure a sustainable future for all. Read more about our UN Global Agreement work at [ciwf.org.uk/UN-Global-Agreement](https://www.ciwf.org.uk/UN-Global-Agreement)

COULD LAB-GROWN MEAT BE THE ANSWER?

Last year, the USA officially approved cultivated chicken – chicken grown from stem cells in a bioreactor – for commercial sale. **For the first time ever, American diners could tuck into chicken produced without harming a single bird.** Whilst tasting the same, it has the potential to use much less land and emits fewer greenhouse gases – a triple win for people, animals, and the planet.

However, despite this progressive step forward, the state of Florida has banned the sale of cultivated meat, and Texas could follow suit, whilst in Europe, Italy has already banned it with Romania looking set to follow.

A new book, co-edited by our global CEO Philip Lymbery with former Compassion trustee and CEO of Belgian animal welfare group, GAIA, Michel Vandebosch, *Cultivated Meat to Secure Our Future: Hope for Animals, Food Security and the Environment*, is a thought-provoking exploration into the potential of cultivated meat being able to beat climate change and extinctions. It explores if cultivated meat could help win the battle against climate change, extinction and ill-health. And the short answer is, yes it can.



The book is available from all good book stores priced £14.99 (paperback) and £8.27 (Kindle edition).

UK GOVERNMENT LAGS EUROPE ON ANTIBIOTIC COMMITMENTS

A new report, *How to End the Misuse of Antibiotics in Farming*, has highlighted the UK Government's failure to deliver on its commitment to ban the routine use of antibiotic treatments.

The report, produced by the *Alliance to Save Our Antibiotics* – of which Compassion is a founding member – was launched in February, 2024, at a parliamentary event and supported by a webinar hosted live on Facebook.

As well as making recommendations as to how farmers can reduce the need for antibiotics, the report argues that many intensive farming methods are putting animals under excessive stress, causing poor health, and leading to unacceptable antibiotic use.

After years of delays, on 17th May, the Government finally produced proposals for new legislation on the use of antibiotics on farms but, despite repeated pledges that it would align with the EU on this issue, they are weaker than the European regulations that came into force in January 2022.



Speakers joined Compassion at this year's Oxford Literary Festival. Left to right: Philip Lymbery, Francine Stock, James Bailey and Henry Dimbleby.

OXFORD LITERARY FESTIVAL 2024

On Saturday 16th March, 2024, Global CEO, Philip Lymbery, was joined by a fantastic line up of inspirational speakers at the Oxford Literary Festival to discuss our broken global food system. Speakers included our new Compassion Patron, Dr Amir Khan, former Archbishop of Canterbury Lord George Carey, author Henry Dimbleby, radio and TV presenter, Francine Stock and executive director of Waitrose, James Bailey.

In total, Compassion took part in five riveting sessions, discussing the issues linked to our food system – from its impact on human and planetary health and the political landscape of food, to how alternative proteins can help improve food security and climate change.

The way we eat impacts every aspect of our lives and it is imperative that we hear from different voices, such as our learned speakers, to find pathways to a global food system that works for animals, people and our planet.

To see some of the presentations, visit ciwf.org.uk/Oxford-Literary-Festival



FOOD LABELLING CONSULTATION

In March this year, we welcomed the UK Government's public consultation on 'fairer food labelling'. This development marked an important step towards ending labelling confusion and creating transparency for British consumers by highlighting different animal welfare standards.

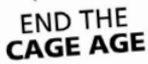
The Government had promised to consult on mandatory animal welfare

labelling in 2023, following a 'Call for Evidence' in 2021. Frustratingly, Defra dropped these plans, but with continued campaigning from our supporters, it has made a U-turn.

Method of production labelling is already compulsory on shell eggs – whether it be caged, barn, free range, or organic. By knowing which farm system has been used, consumers often opt for higher welfare eggs. Similarly, the lives of other UK farm animals could be improved if mandatory labelling providing transparent information was introduced.



As campaigners for *Honest Labelling* and as experts in the field, we have responded to the consultation providing clear evidence about the benefits of mandatory method of production labelling for farmed animals, consumers and higher-welfare farmers.


 END THE
CAGE AGE

WE WANT EMPTY CAGES NOT EMPTY PROMISES

With a startling 8 million farmed animals confined in cages each year in the UK, the campaign to *End the Cage Age* remains at the top of our agenda. **We won't back down until all cages are empty.**

The true scale of caged suffering is immense. In the UK each year, millions of laying hens spend their entire adult lives crammed in cages, without enough space to fully stretch their wings. Meanwhile, 60% of mother pigs in the UK are confined to barren farrowing crates when giving birth to and suckling their litter, preventing them from being able to turn around or nuzzle their young.

CAGED AND MUTILATED

Cramming animals together in pens, crates or cages, prevents natural behaviours such as nesting or foraging. This often causes the animals to inflict injuries on each other out of sheer boredom, frustration and stress. In factory farms, this is often dealt with by methods that cause even further agony.

To reduce such injuries, mutilation has become commonplace. Animals have their teeth clipped, tails docked and beaks trimmed – all carried out without pain relief.

This is at the heart of what makes factory farming the largest source of animal cruelty on the planet.

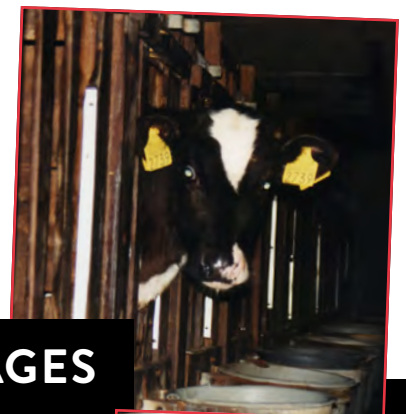
Thanks to you, in December 2022 we delivered a remarkable 400,000 signatures calling on the UK and Scottish Governments to stop dragging their heels when it comes to *Ending the Cage Age*.

The sheer volume of your responses helps demonstrate the will of the people when it comes to ending the cruel practice of caging farmed animals. Put simply, without your support we wouldn't be able

to get these animals the attention they need.

After more than a year of silence, on 2nd April, the Scottish Government launched an industry consultation on banning the use of cages to house laying hens for egg production.

The consultation ends on Tuesday 25th June 2024 – so watch this space as to what the industry says!



25 YEARS OF CAMPAIGNING AGAINST CAGES

1990

UK veal crate ban comes into force. Compassion supporters campaign relentlessly, and back legal action, to end the cruel caging of vulnerable young calves.

2007

EU veal crate ban comes into force. Europe finally follows the UK and ends the suffering caused by trapping calves in crates.

1999

UK sow stall ban comes into force. Pigs no longer have to spend their pregnancies trapped in cages so small they can barely move.

2012

EU battery cage ban for hens comes into force. So-called 'enriched' cages for hens are still permitted, but the barren battery cage ban is a major breakthrough to end caged farming.

DELAYS ARE UNACCEPTABLE

Yet, in England, one year on, still no action has been taken. Therefore we made another visit to Defra on your behalf to remind them that disregarding the will of the people on this issue is simply unacceptable.

On the 13th December we staged a photo stunt at iconic London landmarks and outside the offices of Defra.

Our goal was to raise awareness of the continuing plight of farmed animals and the urgent need for the Government to *End the Cage Age*.

OPENING HEARTS & MINDS

Aware Defra gets a lot of visitors, we needed to stand out from the crowd. Creating our stunt based on Christmas and people opening presents, we were able to create an attention-grabbing act to create media attention.

Dressed as giant, present-wrapped cages and donning animal masks, we made our way over Westminster Bridge, past Big Ben, through Parliament Square, and onto the Defra offices in Marsham Street. It was a bitterly cold winter day, and the harsh wind buffeted us as we crossed the bridge, stopping for curious tourists asking for photos along the way.



We paused for more photo opportunities in Parliament Square. The backdrop of Big Ben behind us created a show-stopping shot that was featured in *The Times' News in Pictures* feature the next day, giving this campaign further exposure and reaching new audiences.

Arriving at the Defra offices around lunchtime gave the perfect opportunity to hand out Christmas cards to staff. The cards contained shocking statistics on the number of UK animals caged on farms, and also urged the Government to finally deliver on its promised consultations on caged farming.

Cards were also handed out to the public en route to help raise awareness of our *End the Cage Age* campaign.

We won't stop until we see empty cages, not empty promises.

TAKE ACTION

There's still time to ask your friends and family to take action. Email Secretary of State for Defra and demand to know where the consultation on cages is:

ciwf.org.uk/cages-consultation

You can also make a difference today by donating to our latest appeal at ciwf.org.uk/donate/cages



WEAR YOUR SUPPORT!

Did you know the Compassion Shop is selling a new line of sustainable branded clothing to help raise awareness about cages? Get your merchandise today. Thank you.

Visit: ciwf.org.uk/shop/cages



2013

EU partial sow stall ban comes into force. Up to 8 million sows each year have their lives greatly improved by the EU ban on sow stalls after the first four weeks of pregnancy.



2014

Compassion investigates rabbit farming in Czech Republic, Cyprus, Greece, Italy, and Poland. Our investigation exposes appalling suffering, with rabbits crammed together in bare cages, unable to even hop.



2016

May: Compassion delivers petition to the EU Agriculture Council in Brussels. Over 600,000 people call for an end to farming rabbits in cages.

Compassion also releases an EU quail investigation. Each year, millions of quail spend their short lives in overcrowded factory farms. Our investigation exposes the shocking truth behind this supposed 'luxury' food.

2017

Progress for rabbits. MEPs vote to secure improved conditions for the 70 million rabbits farmed in the EU each year.

Continued »

WE'RE TAKING THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION **TO COURT**

In 2020, 1.4 million EU citizens – including more than 400 thousand UK citizens – exercised their democratic right to demand a ban on the cruel caging of farmed animals by signing up to our European Citizens' Initiative (ECI) to End the Cage Age.

The demand was backed by the vast majority of Members of European Parliament at the time, and recent opinion polls reveal that 9 out of 10 Europeans still want the EU to stop caging farmed animals.

In response to the ECI, **the European Commission made a promise** to draft proposals for new legislation to ban cages and committed to publishing them by the end of 2023.

The Commission has been working on the legal proposals for more than two years, yet **the deadline has passed**, with no publication in sight. Why?

Was it because the European elections are just around the corner? What does seem clear is that the Commission seems more interested in listening to the demands of the powerful factory farming industry than the democratic wishes of its citizens.

So, in March this year, the Compassion-led European Citizens' Committee – which represents the 1.4 million supporters of the ECI – launched a **legal action**, demanding that the European Commission delivers on its promise to **ban cages across Europe**.

This is our big chance to end this cruel practice in Europe. It's also an opportunity to step up the pressure on the UK Government to follow Europe's example, and would be a huge step towards ending factory farming for good.

This legal action is the first to hold the Commission to account over its failure to act on an ECI. If successful, it would be compelled by the Court to publish its proposals within a clear and reasonable timescale and to grant access to its file on the *End the Cage Age* ECI.

Continued »



2018

Europeans Citizens' Initiative. Compassion and 170 organisations join forces to launch the Europeans Citizens' Initiative (ECI) to *End the Cage Age*.



2020

European Commission receives *End the Cage Age* ECI. 1.4 million citizens call on the EU to end the cruelty of confining farmed animals in cages.

2019

The UK's *End the Cage Age* petition gains more than 100,000 signatures. Compassion-led parliamentary petition, calling on the Government to *End the Cage Age*, reaches the 100k mark in just a few months, meaning Parliament must consider this issue for debate.

2020

***End the Cage Age* debated in Parliament.** The Government announces it is examining the future use of cages for all laying hens and reiterates its commitment to the goal that farrowing crates should no longer be used for sows.



EUROPEAN
TIMELINE



UK
TIMELINE



WE WON'T GIVE UP

There is absolutely no justification for the European Commission to further delay the publication of the cage ban proposal. Therefore, we will be relentless in holding it accountable and ensuring it puts the welfare of farmed animals ahead of the money-making interests of Big Agriculture.

We cannot let this betrayal of farmed animals and European citizens' rights happen:

- **WE WANT** animals to be protected.
- **WE NEED** politicians to respect our democracy.
- **WE DEMAND** empty cages, not empty promises.

Your ongoing support allows us to continue our campaign to end cruel cages and factory farming worldwide. THANK YOU.



2021

European Citizens' Initiative to End the Cage Age gets results. The EU Commission agrees to put forward legislation to phase out the use of cages for farmed animals.



2023

The EU cage ban proposals dropped. Commission President Ursula von der Leyen strongly indicates that the European Commission has shelved its commitment to ban caged farming after lobbying from European agriculture groups.



2024

March: The Citizens' Committee of the End the Cage Age European Citizens' Initiative launches legal action against the European Commission over its failure to deliver its commitment to ban caged farming.

2021

Compassion patron, Deborah Meaden, launches a new parliamentary petition calling on the Government to ban cages for all UK farmed animals.

2022

February: More than 100,000 UK citizens call for a cage-free future. Having reached more than 100k signatures, Parliament must consider allowing time for this issue to be debated.

June 2023: Use of cages for farmed animals debated in Parliament. The Government announces it will bring forward consultations on the use of cages for laying hens and crates for farrowing sows.

December 2023: Petition submitted to Defra and the Scottish Government. Almost 400,000 people urge all UK governments to End the Cage Age.

WHY...

FISH COUNT

It's a disappointing and undeniable fact that huge numbers of fish are killed globally each year for food, but until a recent report laid bare the shocking facts, it was impossible to really grasp the scale of the issue.

THE TRUE SCALE OF FISH SUFFERING

While you'll no doubt know that fish are caught in their masses, did you know the amount is generally reported in weight only, rather than as the number of sentient individuals? However, now, thanks to a groundbreaking new study co-authored by Compassion's Research Manager, Phil Brooke, and lead author, Alison Mood of *Fishcount*, some staggering numbers have come to light.

Published in the journal *Animal Welfare*, *Estimating global numbers of fish caught from the wild annually from 2000 to 2019* is the first peer-reviewed study to estimate the scale of wild-caught fishing.

Findings show that an astounding **1.1 to 2.2 trillion individual wild fish** are caught globally each year. And, shockingly, around half of all fish caught are turned into fishmeal and oil, which are mostly fed to farmed animals rather than providing food for people.

Each individual fish – large or small – can feel pain, just like other animals, yet they suffer very poor welfare during capture and are usually killed without stunning.

SPEAKING UP FOR FISH IN PARLIAMENT

After the release of the Animal Welfare Committee's (AWC) Opinion on farmed fish at slaughter, Compassion has been keeping the issue on the agenda for policymakers.

An estimated 51 million fish are farmed in the UK annually, yet there is very little legal protection for their welfare. Following the release of the AWC's recommendations, the UK now has the opportunity to make world-leading legal improvements, and we're continuing to encourage UK governments to act upon this expert advice.

KEEPING UP THE PRESSURE IN EUROPE

Last autumn we released the shocking findings of our investigation into Polish trout farms, with a campaign video fronted by Zoë Wanamaker. This investigation found fish living in poor conditions and suffering prolonged and painful slaughter practices.

With the European Commission failing to deliver promised proposals on new welfare legislation, we asked supporters for help to send a message to the Commission. We received an overwhelming response with 548 inspirational drawings of fish, all calling for better protection of these sensitive animals, which were hand-delivered to the Commission in March.

In Czechia, more than 10,000 people signed our petition for MPs to change legislation and protect fish from unnecessary suffering caused by live sale to the public.

Our petition was accepted by the Vice-Chair of European Parliament's Environment Committee, Klára Kocmanová in December, who promised to propose and push for legislative change to end this practice.

MAKING HISTORY FOR OCTOPUS

Compassion is also making history in our quest to end the suffering of octopuses, and we scored a huge victory on the 13th of March when octopus farming was officially banned in the U.S. state of Washington! This follows a hearing earlier in the month which saw our U.S. Campaigns Manager, Allison Molinaro, testify in support of a ban. Washington's leadership in banning octopus farming serves as an inspiration for other U.S. jurisdictions. Hawai'i and California are currently echoing this precedent with similar bills to prohibit the farming and sale of specific octopus species.

This resounding victory comes as we step up efforts to stop the world's first octopus farm planned by seafood company Nueva Pescanova in Gran Canaria, Spain. Indeed, we recently joined forces with 75 NGOs, experts, and public figures worldwide to urge the Canary Islands Government to reject the plans.

Thousands of supporters like you also took action, urging the president of the autonomous Spanish community to stop the octopus farm. The Washington state Bill is the world's first legislation to prohibit this cruel and environmentally damaging practice, and we hope it will send a strong message around the world.

URGENT UPDATE!

New evidence has recently exposed the wider risks of Nueva Pescanova's shocking plans to exploit and confine around 1 million octopus in a factory farm.

Nueva Pescanova has previously ignored serious concerns for the welfare of these sentient creatures, and now evidence reveals the company also **failed to consider the farm's risk to wildlife, public health, and the environment.**

This is despite making public claims on its website of its commitment to protecting the ecosystem and minimising its global environmental impact.

The report revealed key points the company failed to consider:

- **A threat to local wildlife**

The octopus farm could endanger protected dolphins, turtles and other species in the surrounding Marine Protected Area through noise and water pollution.

- **Food safety risk**

Nueva Pescanova's planned farm could pose a risk to public health by using contaminated seawater unfit for use in human food production.

- **Risk of pollution**

The farm could increase CO2 emissions and worsen pollution to the marine environment.

Moreover, on an island that is already in short supply of fresh water due to drought, the octopus farm plans would also put an additional burden on freshwater resources.

We cannot let companies place profits before animals, public health and our precious environment. We need to call out Nueva Pescanova's reckless plans and urge the company to stop the farm!

Take action today by sending a powerful message to Nueva Pescanova on X (formally Twitter) and demand that it halts its reckless plans now!



WEAR YOUR SUPPORT FOR FISH AND OCTOPUSES!

Did you know the Compassion Shop is selling a new line of sustainable branded clothing in order to help raise awareness about factory farmed fish and octopuses? Join Deborah Meaden and wear your support for Compassion!

Visit [ciwf.org.uk/shop/fish](https://www.ciwf.org.uk/shop/fish) today!

Turn to page 26 to see how two young inspirational supporters are raising funds and awareness about our campaign to end octopus farming.



THE LEGACY OF COMPASSION

Jean's legacy of compassion and love for animals will live on,
thanks to the gift she left in her Will.

Here at Compassion, we love to remember our supporters and the work they did for farmed animals. In this issue of *Farm Animal Voice*, we put the spotlight on Jean Williams and her remarkable achievements and passion for animal welfare.

Longstanding Compassion supporter, Jean, was an inspirational woman with a profound commitment to making the world a better place.

Born in Hull in April 1930, Jean excelled academically, becoming Head Girl at Kingston High School and later went on to study Divinity at King's College London, where she was the first woman to receive the Jelf Prize for Distinction in the Faculty of Theology.

Jean embarked on a career as a schoolteacher, rising to the position of Head of Divinity and later becoming a 'schools' advisor' in West and North Yorkshire.

Her passion for animal welfare was ignited in her early twenties when she witnessed the heart-wrenching sight of lambs being transported to slaughter. At this pivotal moment, she vowed to embrace a vegetarian lifestyle, a choice that would shape

her convictions and actions for the rest of her life.

Jean's niece, Elizabeth Wilson, fondly remembers her aunt as a fiercely independent woman with unwavering strength. Jean's ability to form lasting connections with people and maintain lifelong friendships spoke to her remarkable character.

Although she wasn't known for her culinary skills, Jean's commitment to vegetarianism was a testament to her belief in creating a more humane and sustainable world for future generations. Her impact extended beyond her personal choices to charitable giving, and she supported Compassion for many years.

When Jean sadly passed away in January 2023, she left a gift in her Will to Compassion, ensuring that her support for farmed animal welfare would continue. She also left a gift to the Vicar's Relief Fund, a homelessness support charity that was close to her heart.

Jean's legacy, both in her compassionate lifestyle and support for the causes she cared about, exemplifies the power of individual actions in contributing to a better world.

**IN MEMORIAM: JEAN WILLIAMS
(1930 – 1923)**

"A fiercely independent woman; she never faltered in anything she did."



TAKE ACTION

Learn more about leaving a gift in your Will to support farmed animals, people, and the planet by requesting your free legacy pack.

Visit ciwf.org.uk/your-legacy or call us at **01483 521 953** (lines open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm).

WILL YOU LEAVE A LEGACY OF COMPASSION AND CARE?

You now have the chance to write or update your Will for free online* or by phone, thanks to our exciting new partnership with **Farewill**, rated the UK's best Will-writing service.

Visit ciwf.org.uk/farewill or call **020 4538 1467** to start writing your Will today.

*Online service available in England and Wales. Phone service available nationwide.

In partnership with
Farewill

WE DID IT!

LIVE ANIMAL EXPORTS FINALLY BANNED FROM GREAT BRITAIN!

We're absolutely delighted that the Bill that will see a ban on the cruel trade in live animal exports passed its final stage in Parliament on 14th May and will soon be enshrined in law. This is a truly momentous moment for farmed animals following more than 50 years of relentless campaigning!

Once it comes into force, the *Animal Welfare (Livestock Exports) Act* will mean that farmed animals can no longer be exported from Great Britain for slaughter or fattening. This horrific, unnecessary, and archaic trade, which for decades has seen millions of animals crammed into vehicles on long, stressful journeys causing suffering, exhaustion and even death, will officially end.

YOU NEVER GAVE UP

The passing of this legislation is the culmination of years of **relentless effort from you**, and all our supporters through the decades. During years of campaigning and donating to create change, **you never gave up**.

When millions of British farm animals were being exported every year in the 1990s, protestors from all walks of life joined together to give these animals a voice. This public outcry pushed passenger ferries to stop exporting animals from English ports to the continent for slaughter or fattening. Meanwhile local protests stopped live exports from Shoreham, Plymouth, Coventry Airport, and Brightlingsea.

You helped fund undercover investigations, highlighting the horror of live exports. And our hard-fought legal challenge against the Scottish Government, saw the trade in unweaned calves halted in 2020. You've also supported numerous petitions calling on the UK Government to end the trade.

In the run up to the delivery of the *Animal Welfare (Livestock Exports) Bill*, our policy team worked hard to deliver on our aim of securing legislation to ban the live export trade before a UK General Election is called, as this would have added further delay. We worked cross-party and sent political briefings to MPs and Peers in advance of each stage of the Bill being debated, actively engaging with them on the topic. Throughout the passing of this legislation, we engaged with Defra, Government Ministers, spokespeople in

This milestone achievement is thanks to supporters like you, past and present, and organisations such as KAALE (Kent Action Against Live Exports) and the RSPCA.



other parties, and Parliamentarians from across both houses to encourage support for the Bill and assist with background information and knowledge sharing.



Compassion's Chief Public Affairs Manager, James West (left), pictured with Kevin Foster MP at a Parliamentary walk-in event, October 2023.

In November 2023, we even met with civil servants at 10 Downing Street to encourage the legislation to be quickly published and passed, with the Bill then being presented to Parliament a week later.



Our *Ban Live Exports* campaign has received unyielding support from celebrities over the years, including our Patron, Dame Joanna Lumley, who on hearing news of the ban said: ***"We're deeply thankful to the Government for taking action at long last and to our supporters for never giving up the fight – I'm so proud to say that, together, we have banned live exports!"***

The Bill must now be enacted so farmed animals can no longer be exported from Great Britain for slaughter or fattening. And whilst the fight here will soon be over, we'll continue our work to bring about a ban of this cruel trade worldwide.



BUT FOR NOW, IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE.

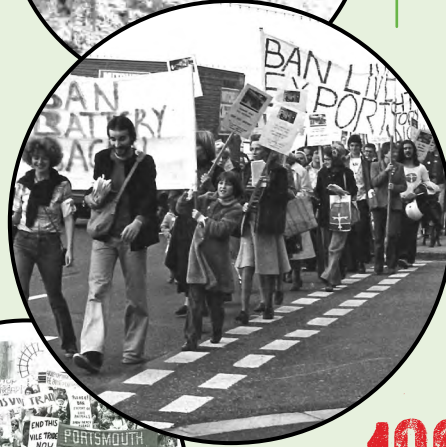
Thanks to the hard work and dedication of so many people, British farmed animals will be spared long gruelling journeys across Europe and beyond. Together, we've **BANNED LIVE EXPORTS!**

THE LONG JOURNEY TO THE END

1990s

By the 1990s, millions of animals were being exported each year for fattening or slaughter.

Compassion staff and supporters attended countless Ban Live Export demonstrations around England, urging the Government to ban the cruel and barbaric trade. From Brightlingsea in Essex, Ramsgate and Dover in Kent, Brighton and Shoreham in Sussex, Portsmouth in Hampshire, to Plymouth in Devon, MPs couldn't avoid public opinion.



1991

The House of Commons Agriculture Committee published its *Report on Animals in Transit*, stating that the transport of animals over long distances to be slaughtered was undesirable.



1993

Compassion supporters joined a postcard campaign to persuade roll-on roll-off ferries to stop taking livestock shipments.

1995

In February, supporters gathered around Coventry Airport to protest the export of live calves. Tragically, Jill Phipps was killed as she and others tried to stop the lorry.



1996

The outbreak of BSE (Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy), otherwise known as 'mad cow disease', imposed a live export ban of British cattle from the UK for nearly a decade.



2002

Our London Underground campaign highlighted how the stifling, cramped conditions animals suffer are similar to commuters' journeys – but commuters can get off if they want.



2005

Our *Stop the Bullship* campaign, spearheaded by Kate Ford and Joanna Lumley, resulted in EU subsidies being withdrawn from farmers who were exporting live cattle from Ireland to the Middle East.



2006

The EU lifted the ban on British beef exports, meaning live animals born after 1st August 1996 and beef products made from cattle slaughtered after 15th June 2005 were once again exported.



2006

Compassion and the RSPCA launched a major project with the dairy industry (*The Beyond Calf Exports Stakeholders Forum*).



2010

Transport ship *MV Joline* started exporting animals from Dover. Shipments later moved to Ramsgate.

For many months, Ramsgate was the only port in Britain where live exports for slaughter and fattening were undertaken, with more than 75,000 animals being transported over the year.



2012

On 12th September, a defective transport truck at Ramsgate caused more than 40 sheep to be put down due to their severe injuries, with some drowning after a floor

collapsed in an area on the port. Thanet District Council placed a suspension on the trade, but the UK High Court decided to rule out the Judicial Review of live exports, allowing them to continue.



2013

Compassion undertook two investigations on the live export of animals out of the UK. It witnessed terrible conditions for these animals travelling for hundreds of miles.

2016

The first annual International Awareness Day took place.

Around the world, this day raises public awareness of the cruelty of live exports. In the UK, it has been supported over the years

by our high profile supporters and patrons, such as Peter Egan, Deborah Meaden, Evanna Lynch, Carley Stenson, and more. MPs from major political parties, including Caroline Lucas, Theresa Villiers, the late Sir David Amess, Craig Mackinlay, and Sir Roger Gale also raised awareness.



2018

Compassion joined forces with 38 Degrees, Avaaz and SumOfUs, to deliver over one million petition signatures to Defra at Halloween to highlight the true horror of live exports.

2020

Taking the Scottish Government to court, Compassion launched Judicial Review proceedings challenging the unlawfulness of calves being exported on long journeys, kept without food on trucks for more than 8 hours. As a result, the Scottish Government stopped live calf exports.



2020

Our supporters helped draw the attention of how appalling live exports are to millions of people in London. Compassion launched a high-profile ad campaign for a week, calling on the UK Government to end the trade.

2021

8th June – the UK Government published its new *Animal Welfare (Kept Animals) Bill*, marking an important milestone for farm animals.

2022

Compassion stepped up a gear in the campaign to get the Government to keep its promise and deliver the live export ban in Britain: we launched a London digital campaign in key tube stations to raise awareness, and took to the road with a digital ad van, visiting the constituency offices of Defra Ministers and the PM calling on them to pass the *Kept Animals Bill* and *Ban Live Exports*.



2023



After eighteen months of delay, Government Ministers announced in May that the Bill was being dropped.

We did not give up – we handed in more than 95,000 supporter signatures on the *Ban Live Exports* petition directly to the Prime Minister at No. 10 Downing Street.

On the 7th November, the Government announced its intention to introduce the *Animal Welfare (Livestock Exports) Bill* to ban live exports.

2024 WE DID IT!





It's taken a long time to get here, but it shows what can be done when people don't give up. Every email sent to a politician or post shared on social media really does count. And now we can finally say that live exports will be banned from Great Britain for good.

Sophie, UK Campaigns team



I pray that others will follow [in banning live exports] and show the compassion that we've craved for over 40 years.

Lynda, supporter



LIVE EXPORT BAN! I am sitting here in tears – happy tears. I have been sending letters to politicians since 1988. How has it taken so long? We protested at Coventry Airport in 1995 when my son was 3 – he is now 31! We protested at Brightlingsea after my daughter was born – she is now 28!

I just want to say a big thank you and congratulations for finally getting to pass the bill outlawing the live export of animals transported for slaughter and fattening!

Gillian, supporter



I'm proud to be among the many willing to stand up and give a voice to the voiceless.

Julia, supporter



What absolutely wonderful news! I listened to your voice message and had a few tears – it's been such a long road but we finally did it. I've passed on your thanks to our group!

We will celebrate as a group and I will check to see if we can hold a celebratory event!

Lucy, Whitby Local Group



This is brilliant news, such a long time fighting for it. I can remember back to when we first joined Compassion 30 years ago, it was one of the main campaigns and part of the reason we joined.

Mary and Laurie, supporters



I'm completely blown away by the news that live exports from Great Britain have finally been banned. Such a massive achievement.

Everyone at CIWF and all their supporters deserve massive congratulations.

Lisa, supporter

IN MEMORY OF JILL PHIPPS

Tragically, in 1995 a protestor called Jill Phipps was crushed to death under a truck carrying calves to Coventry Airport. Now, as live exports finally come to an end, let us remember Jill, who died fighting this cruel trade.

WE ENDED IT IN GREAT BRITAIN NOW THE FIGHT GOES ON

Worldwide, every year, millions of farmed animals are forced to endure journeys of hundreds, or even thousands, of miles, only to be slaughtered on arrival or fattened in often inhumane conditions. Calves, cattle, sheep, pigs and other animals are routinely transported by road and sea, for days or even weeks, and may suffer overcrowding, exhaustion, hunger, dehydration, fear and stress. Many also die on these journeys.

Great Britain has finally ended the cruel and unnecessary trade in live animal exports. It's now time for the rest of the world to follow suit and address the welfare of live animals subjected to long and unnecessary journeys. Australia has committed to phasing out exports for sheep by 2028 and, last year, a Brazilian court banned the export of live cattle from the country's ports, **but we will not rest until these bans come into force and this trade is ended for good across the globe.**

TIME FOR EUROPE TO ACT

In November, along with Eurogroup for Animals, we launched a shocking new report – *A data dump of suffering: the EU's long-distance trade in farm animals exposed* – revealing the suffering endured by around 44 million farmed animals on horrific journeys, some lasting up to three weeks. The report analysed previously unpublished EU records and exposed the inadequacies and mistakes in official records which underestimate the true horror of the long-distance trade.

Peter Stevenson, our Chief Policy Advisor, said:

“Our report reveals some deeply troubling issues, not least that the official data is incomplete, inaccurate and vastly underestimates the scale of – and the animal suffering caused by – the EU's long-distance trade in live farmed animals. Although we knew that millions of animals were enduring cruel and unnecessary journeys in the name of profit, this report shows that the situation is far worse than we feared.”

Just days after our report launched, the European Commission published its proposal to reform the EU's outdated rules for the transport of live animals. Although the draft EU animal transport law shows

some desire to improve animal protection rules, it's a missed opportunity as it's simply not enough to end the suffering of the millions of live EU animals transported on long journeys every year.

We're calling for a ban on the export of live animals to non-EU countries, and much stricter rules to limit transport times.

On 3rd April, the European Commission launched a public consultation on the proposed revision of transport legislation – meaning **we have a new opportunity to call for an end to the ordeal of transported animals** and to influence the legislative debate.

The current proposal is inadequate, with ample room for improvement. Earlier this year, the European Commission launched a public consultation on the proposal to revise transport legislation. Compassion supporters across Europe were asked to take part in the consultation by submitting their opinion. The consultation closed on 12th April, **so watch this space!**

A GLOBAL SCANDAL

In February, this inhumane trade received considerable global media attention when the *Al Kuwait* livestock carrier stopped in Cape Town, South Africa, and engulfed the city in a foul stench, enroute from Brazil to the Middle East. Distressing eyewitness accounts from the NSPCA South Africa revealed extreme suffering for the 19,000 cattle on the long sea journey lasting 35 days.

And in March, a ship carrying around 15,000 animals hit the headlines when it was marooned off the coast of Australia in sweltering heat after it was forced to abandon a trip through the Red Sea. After nearly a month on board, the animals were re-exported to the Middle East from Australia via a different route taking another 33 days.

TAKE ACTION

If you care about ending global live exports and factory farming, you can make a difference today by donating to this latest appeal. Thank you.

Visit: ciwf.org.uk/donate/live-exports

MEGAFARMS: STOP THE SPREAD

Intensive factory farming is much closer to home than you may think. Now, thanks to a major research project commissioned by Compassion, we're showcasing the worst hotspots in the UK, and highlighting ways you can help us stop the spread.

In February this year, Compassion revealed the results of a major research project we commissioned to expose the number of intensive factory farms across the UK. These numbers are plotted on an interactive map on our website, so you can easily check how your county compares with the worst hotspots. This work has only been made possible thanks to your support and donations.

We know that factory farming is the biggest single cause of animal cruelty on the planet. However, the majority of UK consumers would be alarmed to learn that a jaw dropping 85% of UK farmed animals are factory farmed each year. **That equates to one billion animals a year.** The numbers are mind-boggling.

A WAKE UP CALL

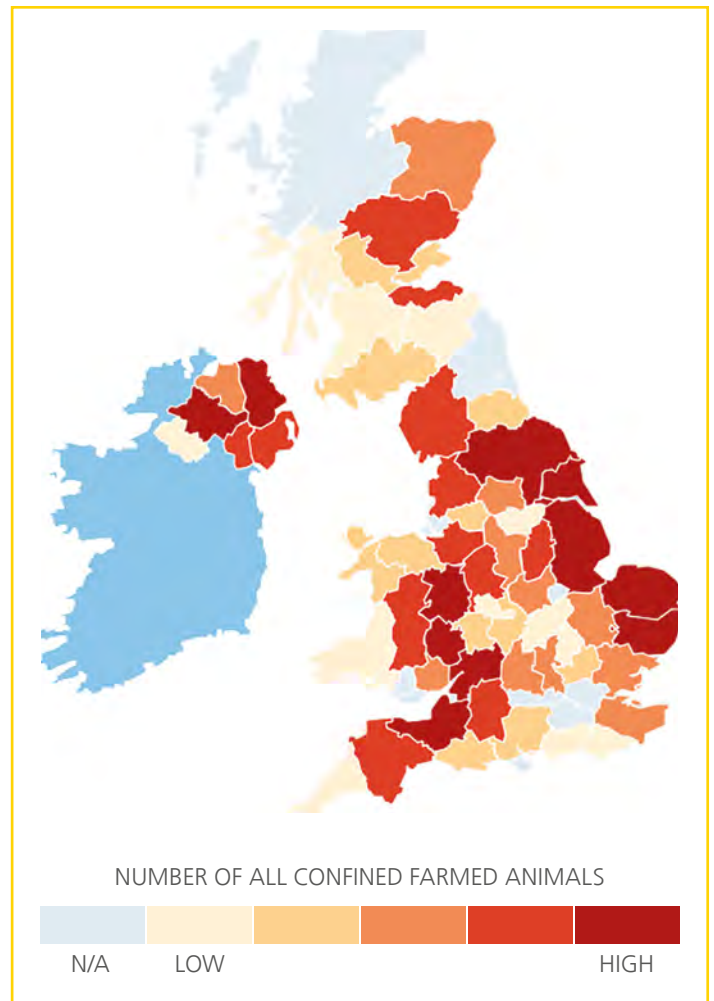
This investigation – a follow-up to that done in 2017 – has proved no mean feat and involved detailed desk and field research to complete the picture. It shocked us to see that the numbers of animals confined in industrial farming in the UK is actually on the rise. As a country we're facing a 12% increase in the number of factory farms, and a 20% increase in large 'mega' pig and poultry factory farm units – within just seven years.

Unless we take urgent corrective action, such industrial scale meat production will become the norm and 'left unchecked' will spread even further.

HOW DOES YOUR AREA COMPARE?

Our latest research data reveals that the number of intensive factory farms is on the rise, instead of in decline.

The map plots the number of farmed animals confined across the UK by county. You can see how your local area compares below:



Find out more about the number of animals confined and suffering in your area, **visit [ciwf.org.uk/factory-farming-map](https://www.ciwf.org.uk/factory-farming-map)**

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

Growing threat to our rivers from rise of US-style ‘mega farms’

Rivers polluted as large-scale agri businesses multiply eight years after environment secretary promised to uphold British environmental and welfare standards



The *Times* newspaper covered the story about our report in an exclusive full-page feature (pictured above), reaching a wide audience. Alongside the investigation, we launched a new action, urging Ministers responsible for planning in each UK nation to strengthen the law. This would enable local authorities at risk from being overwhelmed by factory farms to more easily reject planning applications on behalf of their community.

Thank you to the **20,000** of you who have taken action on this issue so far! We’ve already had a response from the Welsh and Scottish governments as a result.

SUFFERING BEYOND FARMED ANIMAL CRUELTY

WILDLIFE

As well as the terrible level of suffering inflicted on sentient farmed animals, factory farming has a wide-reaching impact on other creatures.

It’s a little-known fact that agriculture is the top cause of river pollution. Chicken poo and other types of manure are a major contributor to the damage being done to our waterways. **It’s time to shout this from the rooftops and act, before it’s too late.**

The case of the river Wye is already well documented. Voted our country’s most loved river, it’s now at risk of ecological collapse, all because of industrial-scale farming.

With as many as **24 million chickens being reared in the Wye Valley**, this vital water course now sees a huge, and constant, influx of pollution from intensive agriculture.

Yet those in charge continue to approve ongoing new applications for industrial farming units.

PEOPLE

Intensive factory farming is not only devastating to animals, wildlife, biodiversity, health, and food poverty, it has real-life consequences for people too. In our *Human Faces* initiative, we throw the spotlight on people who have directly felt the impact of this cruel practice. Told through beautiful imagery and emotive first-person accounts, you can find out more about the exhibition, and the stories behind the pictures, at ciwf.org.uk/human-faces



The Munduruku of the Santarém Plateau, Brazil

THE FULL PICTURE

The rise of factory farming is happening on people’s doorsteps all over the UK. And yet planning permissions for more farms continue to be granted. **We must stop this spread.**

We’re determined to make our collective voices heard, and **we’ll continue to hold those responsible for this problem to account.**

As such, we’ll be running this campaign throughout the year – please look out for actions and continue to support as we ramp up the pressure!

SO, HOW CAN YOU HELP?

If you care about stopping the spread of mega farms and factory farming you can make a difference today by donating to latest appeal at ciwf.org.uk/stop-the-spread

You, and your friends and family, can contact the Minister of your nation, highlighting the need to strengthen the law and help local authorities say no to new planning applications for mega farms – especially in areas already overwhelmed by cruel and damaging factory farms.

If you care about stopping the spread of mega farms and factory farming you can make a difference today by donating to latest appeal at ciwf.org.uk/stop-the-spread

THE GLOBAL PICTURE

Globally, we're seeing an increase in mega farms. These intensive farms confine even larger numbers of pigs, cattle and chickens in cramped and often unhygienic conditions.

HOW MEGA FARMS AFFECT ANIMAL WELFARE

Animal welfare can be very poor in mega farms, which are often extremely stressful, inhumane enterprises. Animals are overcrowded, packed tightly into cages, feedlots or vast sheds. They are usually bred for unnaturally high productivity or growth rate which causes health problems.



They are often mutilated, and without pain relief. They are prevented from performing key natural behaviours.

HOW MEGA FARMS AFFECT THE PLANET

Mega farms are an environmental disaster: the huge volume of animal manure generated by mega farms can pollute air, groundwater and rivers.

Serious ecological problems arise from growing cereals and soy to feed the animals housed in mega farms. A shocking 76% of global soy production is used as animal feed, mainly in the industrial pig and poultry sectors.



Mega farms are an environmental disaster

Factory farming's massive demand for cereals is fuelling intensive crop production. This, with its use of monocultures and agrochemicals, has led to deforestation, soil degradation, and overuse and pollution of water.

Mega farms have significant greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. As UNEP's latest *What's Cooking* report highlights, animal agriculture, including animal feed production, is estimated to contribute 14.5-20% of the global human-caused GHG emissions, thus contributing significantly to human-induced climate change.

HOW MEGA FARMS AFFECT PEOPLE

Mega farms are a public health risk. The crowded, stressful conditions in mega farms contribute to the emergence, amplification and spread of pathogens, some of which are zoonotic – viruses that can transmit from animals to other species, including humans.

Antibiotics are frequently used in mega farms to reduce disease caused by these harmful systems. Conditions are often so squalid that farmers use antibiotics as preventative measures rather than their intended responsive use. This is contributing to antibiotic resistance, making antibiotics less effective to treat serious human diseases.

Mega farms undermine food security. Animals inefficiently convert cereals into meat and milk. If the cereals used as animal feed were instead used for direct human consumption, an extra 3.5 billion people could be fed annually. **This could go a long way to ending the global hunger crisis.**

Mega farms out-compete small-scale farmers, thereby undermining their livelihoods. The current agribusiness model benefits the few at the expense of the many. Small-scale farmers, the essence of rural livelihoods and backbone of food production for millennia, are under immense stress from land degradation, insecure tenure, a globalised food system that favours concentrated, large-scale, and highly and mechanised farms (Source: UNCCD, 2017: Global Land Outlook).

Mega farms rely on an 'economy of scale' where the production cost per unit of meat, milk or eggs is low. Small-scale farms have bigger costs of production per unit – meaning they simply can't compete.



Mega farms out-compete small-scale farmers

WE NEED TO STOP THE SPREAD TO SAFEGUARD OUR FUTURE



In industrial farms, billions of animals are cruelly confined or bred for abnormal growth or high yields. Some 40% of global arable land is used to feed animals instead of people – driving deforestation, biodiversity loss and species extinction.

The enormous demands of mega farms for animal feed and land place tremendous pressures on our environment, contributing to the depletion of critical natural resources like water and soil, which we heavily depend on for growing food.

WHAT WE ARE CHAMPIONING



Citizens worldwide have fought against mega farm expansion, but huge agriculture companies continue to expand and build new factory farms, wreaking havoc on the environment. **It's time for governments to step in!**

We want to scale up regenerative farming practices and reduce consumption of animal-sourced foods in populations where these are overconsumed.

This will reduce the number of animals in farming systems and steer towards higher animal welfare food systems that are fit for the future and work with nature, not against it.

OUR 'END.IT' PETITION TO WORLD LEADERS

There is an urgent need to transform the food system. If the global community is to meet the Sustainable Development Goals, the Paris Climate Agreement targets and the goals of the Convention on Biological Diversity, action must be taken to end intensive animal farming.

Compassion, along with other non-governmental organisations (NGOs) around the world, are joining forces to call on world leaders to develop a Global Agreement on food and farming for adoption by the United Nations General Assembly. The objective is to move away from industrial animal agriculture and:

- **deliver high standards of farmed animal welfare**
- **shift to nature-positive farming systems that help restore biodiversity and soils, and keep the global increase in average temperatures below 1.5°C**
- **reverse over-reliance on animal protein in high consuming populations and support equitable, secure access to nutritious food**
- **ensure a just transition to a global food system that provides fair livelihoods for farmers and protects the rights of indigenous peoples, women, and vulnerable communities**
- **achieve a financial and regulatory environment which helps to secure the transition**

Transitioning away from industrial-scale animal agriculture allows for the redirection of resources towards creating farms that are not just productive but also aligned with nature.

Nature-positive farms can provide nutritious food and restore biodiversity, rebuild soil quality, store carbon, conserve water, and boost the productivity and livelihoods of small-scale farmers.

They also have the potential to deliver much higher standards of animal welfare.

TAKE ACTION

Join us in urging governments to support a United Nations Global Agreement to reform the way we farm.

Sign the END.IT petition at ciwf.org.uk/Glowbal-Agreement – and make your voice count.

ACCOUNTABILITY MATTERS

Holding the world's most powerful food companies to account is essential if we're to help steer the food industry towards more compassionate animal welfare practices. *EggTrack* and *ChickenTrack* are two powerful tools that do just that...

As tireless campaigners dedicated to ending the suffering of farmed animals, Compassion knows that the responsibility of enacting worldwide change lies not only with policy makers and legislation reform, but also with global food companies – those that have the power to change our food system.

In order to help enact this change, our dedicated Food Business team works in partnership with visionary companies to mobilise a movement for far reaching reform. This, in turn, helps improve the lives of billions of farmed animals worldwide.

Making a public pledge to farmed animal welfare is the first important step that we encourage companies to take, but the real impact comes when businesses meet their commitments.

And it's thanks to dedicated supporters like you that our Food Business team was able to develop two powerful tools, *EggTrack* and *ChickenTrack*, to help assess the animal welfare commitments of the leading food companies.

EggTrack and *ChickenTrack* play a crucial role in promoting transparency and accountability, helping shape a more compassionate future for the food industry.

SECURING CAGE-FREE COMMITMENTS

So, what are *EggTrack* and *ChickenTrack* and, more

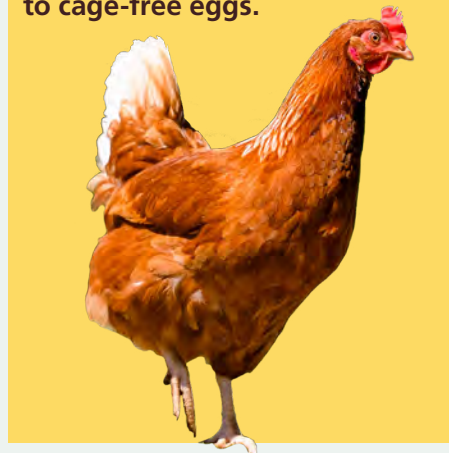
importantly, how do they support Compassion's vital work in holding food companies to account for their important pledges?

Launched back in 2012, *EggTrack* acts as a comprehensive gauge for evaluating the progress made by global food companies in fulfilling their voluntary cage-free egg commitments.

And it's purpose? *EggTrack* works to spotlight achievements and encourages progress by urging companies to report yearly progress on their move to sourcing cage-free eggs.

EggTrack aims to motivate companies by showcasing leading corporations while also highlighting underachieving performers.

Our latest *EggTrack* report monitored the progress of 444 companies, which collectively made 715 individual cage free commitments. Impressively, there is a 75% transition to cage-free eggs.



OFFERING HAPPIER, HEALTHIER LIVES

Our second tracking tool, *ChickenTrack*, differs from *EggTrack* in that it assesses the progress of key companies that have pledged to deliver the higher welfare requirements of the **Better Chicken Commitment (BCC)**.

These BCC higher welfare requirements are aimed at giving chickens happier, healthier lives. The requirements include using slower growing, healthier breeds, increased living space, access to natural light and enrichment, and more humane slaughter practices.

With more than **380 companies across Europe pledging to implement these changes by 2026**, *ChickenTrack* helps us ensure the industry leaders stay on track.

IMPROVING THE LIVES OF MILLIONS OF ANIMALS

Using *EggTrack* and *ChickenTrack*, we can effectively hold the world's most influential food companies accountable for their pledges, thereby not only ensuring compliance, but actively working towards improving the lives of millions of animals each year. By using effective tools such as *EggTrack* and *ChickenTrack*, combined with your valued ongoing support, together we have the power to hold the world's most influential food companies to account and ensure we are **relentless in our pursuit of justice for farmed animals.**



Committed to Better Chicken
Raising standards together

CHAMPIONING CHICKEN WELFARE

In April this year we launched a new social media campaign to raise public awareness about the importance of raising the bar for chicken welfare, breathing life into the principles of the Better Chicken Commitment.

The campaign invites everyone to champion chicken welfare by supporting the move to create a brighter tomorrow for our feathered friends.

You can find out more and get involved by visiting ciwf.org.uk/betterchicken

<p>5 clear steps... that raise the welfare standards for broiler chickens</p>	<p>Slower growing breeds For healthier chickens</p> 	<p>More space to live For active chickens</p> 
<p>A stimulating environment So chickens can be more chicken</p> 	<p>A humane end The whole journey matters</p> 	<p>Compliance with Better Chicken Raising chicken standards together</p> 

“

**I'm glad to be able
to work alongside
Compassion to help
put an end to
factory farming**

”



FIND OUT MORE!

To learn more about Marc's work with the All-Party Parliamentary Dog Advisory Welfare Group, visit apdawg.co.uk or follow him on social media:
X/Twitter: **marcthevet** | Facebook: **MarcTheVet** | LinkedIn: **marcabraham**

BeMoreMosquito: How You Can Campaign & Create Change
is available to buy on Amazon.

CAMPAIGNING FOR CHANGE

Dr Marc Abraham's lifelong love of animals, nature and wildlife led him to become the multi-award-winning media vet, author, and animal welfare campaigner he is today. Here, he tells us more about his journey.

You have dedicated your life to animals through your job and now your campaigning. What inspired you to become a vet?

As far back as I can remember, I always wanted to help animals. At three years old, I removed a maggot from my pet tortoise's leg wound, and my first ever patient 'Speedy' got better. That, plus a love of animals, nature and wildlife – followed by a very geeky childhood and teenage years – all set me firmly on my path to becoming a vet and animal welfare campaigner.

You spend so much of your time campaigning for better animal welfare and raising awareness of welfare issues. What projects are you currently working on?

Working part-time at independent Mewes Vets in Rottingdean, near Brighton, allows me to spend time on campaign work for the rest of the week.

As well as supporting some of my favourite campaign groups like Compassion, I'm also the proud secretariat of the *All-Party Parliamentary Dog Advisory Welfare Group* (APDAWG). This involves organising and chairing meetings in Parliament on current canine welfare topics, and I am privileged to attend roundtable discussions around dog welfare legislation.

I've also just finished making a documentary called *Dogspiracy* out later this year, looking at dog welfare and campaigning, both here and in the States.

We are so grateful for your unwavering support for Compassion in World Farming. How did you find out about us and what inspired you to offer your support?

Honestly, I've supported Compassion for so long now that I'm not even sure how I found out about you guys! But I find all Compassion's evidence-based work, patience, strong spirit of working towards achieving what's 'right', and the caring attitude of good friend and Global CEO, Philip Lymbery, truly inspiring.

What do you like about the way we work?

Literally everything! But I especially like Compassion's tone, content, communications, well-organised events and rallies. That, coupled with, knowledge about the subject, ambition and perseverance, and openness to collaborate with other organisations. I'm also very thankful for your support of my work and books, such as *Be More Mosquito: How You Can Campaign & Create Change*.

You've been extremely supportive and largely involved with our Ban Live Exports campaign over the years. How do you feel about the UK Government finally banning exports from Great Britain?

Banning live exports has been a long time coming. Credit to Compassion, and to everyone involved – those who have campaigned over the decades to end this cruel trade; from risking lives at port protests right through to Parliamentary level. It's been a huge team effort which hopefully marks the end of a lot of unnecessary suffering.



Why do you think the Ban Live Exports campaign has succeeded in the UK?

The *Ban Live Exports* campaign has succeeded in the UK due to some impressive campaigning by Compassion, overwhelming public support, celebrity endorsement, plus the right decision makers at the top, allowing its smooth progress through both Houses of Parliament. Amazing stuff.

Are there any particular farmed animal welfare issues that really get to you?

The use of cages for all animals to confine animals are simply wrong, and every other intensive farming practice complicit in compromising emotional and physical animal welfare (usually both). They represent the worst of humanity.

Plus, the constant animal exploitation and abuse involved in producing any foodstuff is replaceable by a cruelty-free and ever-improving alternative, which these days is pretty much everything! I'm glad to be able to work alongside Compassion to help put an end to the planet's biggest cause of animal cruelty – factory farming.

THANK YOU TEAM COMPASSION!

Getting involved in the fight against factory farming couldn't be easier: from raising funds, to joining a local group or campaigning for farm animal welfare, there are so many ways you can support us. And everything you do makes such a big difference.

SPONSORED SUPERSTARS

In February, committed Compassion supporter, George bravely decided to shave his head in order to raise money for farmed animals. **George raised a fantastic £225** in donations from friends and family. **Thank you, George, you're baa-rillicant!**



LILY



LILY'S SWIM FOR HER FAVOURITE ANIMAL FRIEND – THE OCTOPUS!

With three hearts, the octopus has an advocate with just as much heart – 9-year-old **Lily**. After learning about the proposed Nueva Pescanova octopus farm in the Canary Islands, Lily, from the *Ocean Born Foundation*, decided to take action. She is determined to protect these solitary, complex, and intelligent animals from the cruelties of factory farming.

In June, Lily will undertake a challenging 2km open water swim in the Atlantic to support Compassion's octopus campaign. You can support Lily by visiting ciwf.org.uk/lilys-swim or join her JustGiving team and take on your own challenge!

Lily's dedication has also inspired her 6-year-old brother, **Hunter**. On 24th May 2024, he took on the *Ocean Born Foundation's* epic Octo-Defender Challenge, cycling 40km in the Algarve to raise funds and awareness for octopus. You can find out more about Hunter's fundraising challenge at ciwf.org.uk/hunters-cycle

Thank you Lily and Hunter, you rock-topus!

HUNTER



If George, Lily and Hunter's fundraising challenges have inspired you, ewe too could get sponsored. From taking on a sporty challenge, giving up a vice for a set period, turning your favourite activity into a marathon – a boardgame-athon, yoga-athon, read-athon... you get the idea! – to trying a bold new look by shaving your hair or even dyeing it like a rainbow; there's a sponsored activity for everyone!

You can visit our website ciwf.org.uk/get-sponsored for more ideas and inspiration.

FANTASTIC FUNDRAISERS

After raising **more than £1,000** for Compassion in 2023, incredible multiple award-winning oil painter, Greta Vilidaite, hosted an art sale in March 2024, and donated 40% of the profits to Compassion. **Greta raised a whopping £644** to help improve the lives of farmed animals. **Thank you, Greta, we're clucky to have you!**

Any-bunny can get involved – if you have your own special talent and would like to use it to raise funds for farmed animals, please contact our super Supporter Engagement Team and we'll be here to help!



GIVE THE GIFT OF COMPASSION

Amazing animal advocate, **Anne**, celebrated her birthday in February 2024, and **raised a wonderful £250** for Compassion by requesting donations instead of receiving gifts at her party. What a compassionate celebration!

If you'd like to request donations in place of a gift for a special occasion – or would like to donate a gift for a loved one – get in touch using the details below and we'd be happy to offer you a card or certificate to send them!

You can also find farmed animal-themed e-cards for all occasions on our website: ciwf.org.uk/e-card



Our incredible Norfolk volunteer group at the Aylsham Show in 2023

CARING COMMUNITIES

Compassion is delighted to welcome the new local volunteer groups, Compassion in Canterbury, and Compassion in Glasgow, to the herd! The new group leaders, Jane and Amanda, are keen to spread awareness about factory farming in their local areas, as well as raise funds to help improve the lives of farmed animals.

To join one of our new local groups or to find out if there's a volunteer group in your area, visit ciwf.org.uk/local-groups or contact us on the below details to get started!

Thank you to each of our wonderful supporters for every action you've taken in aid of farmed animals over the past year. Together, we're Team Compassion!

CONTACT US!

We're so grateful for all you do to help transform the lives of farmed animals worldwide. If you'd like to get more involved in the fight to end factory farming, please get in touch with our Supporter Engagement Team. **We'd love to hear from you!**

Tel: +44 (0)1483 521 953 (lines are open 9am – 5pm, Monday to Friday)

Email: supporters@ciwf.org

Web: ciwf.org.uk/contact-us

Post: Compassion in World Farming International, River Court, Mill Lane, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 1EZ, UK

Facebook: facebook.com/farm.animals

Instagram: instagram.com/ciwf



**Hogs & kisses,
Compassion's Supporter
Engagement Team**





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THE COMPASSION LOTTERY

Play today and help transform the lives of billions of farmed animals!

Enter The Compassion Lottery and you could win an incredible prize while supporting our relentless fight against factory farming. For just **£1 a week**, your contribution could help to fund vital investigations, raise public awareness, transform our food industry and advocate for better animal welfare laws.

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**PLAY
TODAY!**

VISIT: ciwf.org.uk/ciwf-lottery
CALL :+44 (0)1628 201 370