JOANNA LUMLEY: We need compassion in challenging times

YOU DID IT!

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IN A YEAR LIKE NO OTHER, THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMPASSION

This year, the COVID-19 pandemic has brought unprecedented challenges – for so many people personally, for communities, countries and the world. So, I cannot thank you enough for all you’ve done to fight factory farming.

In the face of fundamental changes to our daily lives, you’ve embraced new ways to come together, campaign and reach out – from ‘virtual’ events to huge social media protests and innovative fundraising.

You’ve given so generously to continue Compassion’s work against animal suffering, even when headlines are dominated by human health. And, you’ve drawn public attention to the inextricable links between how we treat farm animals and the wellbeing of people and our planet.

In 2020, together, we’ve broken records with the End the Cage Age campaign, secured a huge victory against UK live exports, and seen the animals set to benefit from our work with food businesses topping 2 BILLION a year!

You’ve shown that nothing gets in the way of your voice for farm animals and you’ve achieved remarkable results. Thank you. Please don’t stop being extraordinary.

Philip Lymbery
Global CEO, Compassion in World Farming International

Philip’s personal blog is available at: philiplymbery.com or you can follow on Twitter: @philip_ciwf

WELCOME JOSPHAT!

In September, Compassion was delighted to welcome a new Trustee – a dedicated champion for animals and our long-term friend, Josphat Ngonyo.

Josphat is founder and executive director of Africa Network for Animal Welfare (ANAW), as well as a co-founder of Africa Network for Animal Welfare – USA. Through his leadership at ANAW, he helped to establish the National Judicial Dialogues, bringing together sixteen law enforcement agencies in Kenya to address wildlife and environmental crimes.

Josphat has worked in wildlife conservation and animal welfare for over 20 years, and has been appointed an Honorary Warden by Kenya Wildlife Service in recognition of his achievements.

To find out more about Josphat and all Compassion’s Trustees, visit ciwf.org.uk/Trustees

FEATURE

END THE CAGE AGE: A MOMENTOUS DAY
NEWS UPDATE

A DISAPPOINTING VOTE

In October, despite intense lobbying from Compassion and other organisations, the European Parliament voted down amendments to the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) which would have cut subsidies for factory farming.

The CAP has aided the expansion of industrial farming methods and factory farms across Europe, and this vote means billions of euros of taxpayers’ money will continue to be funnelled into a cruel, broken food system. That’s why we’re calling on EU leaders to withdraw the CAP and start afresh with EU farm subsidies negotiations.

“The European Parliament has voted to limit its environmental, animal welfare and public health ambitions, undermining efforts to avert tipping points for nature and climate,” says Olga Kikou, Head of CIWF EU. “We must transform EU agriculture for the needs of the 21st century and we cannot afford to waste any more time.”

In July, Colorado became the seventh US state to ban the use of cages for hens.

The law, which will come into force in 2023, also sets minimum standards for cage free farming and bans the sale of all whole eggs from caged systems – whether sourced in Colorado or not.

With almost 5.5 million egg-laying hens housed on Colorado farms, and millions more out-of-state birds providing eggs for Colorado’s shops, this legislation is set to have major, meaningful implications for farm animals across the country.

Stanley Johnson becomes a Patron

We are delighted that conservationist and former politician, Stanley Johnson, has become a Patron of Compassion. Stanley has worked in the field of environment, conservation and animal welfare for over 40 years. As an MEP, he was Vice-Chairman of the European Parliament’s Environment Committee and Founder-Chair of the All-Party Group on Animal Welfare. He has also received awards from the RSPCA, RSPB, WWF and Greenpeace for outstanding services to animal welfare and the environment, respectively.

Stanley has supported our work for many years and is particularly passionate about our campaign to End the Cage Age. We welcome his support in our mission to end factory farming.

Multi-storey misery

*The Guardian* recently reported on the “tallest pig farm in the world” – a site in China with buildings up to nine floors high and a 12-storey unit under construction. When complete, the ‘farm’ on the Yaji mountain could house up to 840,000 pigs a year.

We are shocked to see intensive farming being taken to this new level, and CIWF China is working hard to help pig farmers introduce alternative, higher welfare practices.

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With almost 5.5 million egg-laying hens housed on Colorado farms, and millions more out-of-state birds providing eggs for Colorado’s shops, this legislation is set to have major, meaningful implications for farm animals across the country.

European Parliament acts on pig slaughter

In November, Members of the European Parliament voted to fund a research project aimed at identifying higher welfare methods for slaughtering pigs.

In the EU, which is the world’s biggest exporter of pig meat, the most common method of pig slaughter involves lowering animals into high-concentration CO₂. This causes the pigs to gasp for breath and hyperventilate – leading to pain and panic.

As a member of Eurogroup for Animals, Compassion has previously urged the European Commission to fund research into alternative methods of pig slaughter. So, we fully welcome this step by the European Parliament, which gives real hope for the roll-out of more humane, painless slaughter – and, ultimately, an EU ban on the cruel use of high-concentration CO₂.
**NEW EVIDENCE: UK CALVES IN MIDDLE EAST**

New evidence gathered by Animals International and the German Animal Welfare Foundation confirms for the first time that some calves exported from Northern Ireland to Spain are then shipped to the Middle East, where they are no longer protected by EU laws and may suffer appalling treatment at slaughter.

Reviewing the footage, Compassion’s Global Director of Campaigns, Sean Gifford, said, “I’ve worked in animal welfare for thirty years, and the footage from slaughterhouses in the Middle East is the worst thing I’ve ever seen. I can’t imagine a crueler way to treat an animal.”

**Polish and plant-based**

This summer, Polish dairy brand Jogurty Magda announced plans to switch to 100% plant-based products, reflecting growing interest in alternatives to meat and dairy. The family-owned company has produced dairy yogurts for two generations, but introduced its first coconut milk-based alternative, Planton, in 2017. The switch to entirely plant-based products is being driven by granddaughter, Magda, and the company will be renamed Magda Roślinna in recognition of their new, vegan approach.

**Philip Lymbery elected President of Eurogroup for Animals**

In July, our Global CEO, Philip Lymbery, was promoted from Vice-President to President of Eurogroup for Animals. Bringing together 70 animal welfare organisations from across the continent, Eurogroup for Animals lobbies for legislation to improve animal welfare standards.

Philip was promoted to this new role in recognition of his steadfast dedication to the cause and his tremendous impact on Eurogroup’s work.

**THE QUEEN’S HONOUR**

Compassion’s Chief Policy Advisor, Peter Stevenson, was awarded an OBE in the 2020 Queen’s Birthday Honours List.

Peter’s tenacity, expertise as an economist and lawyer, and over three decades of exceptional hard work for Compassion have brought him leading roles in the UK ban on sow stalls and EU recognition of animal sentience, amongst many other achievements. Congratulations, Peter!

**INHUMANE SLAUGHTER**

Investigations in 2019 in the Netherlands revealed that not all eels are stunned before slaughter. CIWF Netherlands has asked the Minister of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality, Carola Schouten, to immediately halt slaughter in nurseries that do not implement proper stunning procedures.

For more information on our Rethink Fish campaign, turn to page 22.
As you know, every year, millions of animals are transported intolerable distances for slaughter and fattening – at risk of pain, stress, overcrowding, exhaustion, dehydration, and even death.

So, on 14 June, campaigners around the world united for the annual Ban Live Exports: International Awareness Day. And, unable to protest at parliaments and ports, instead, you took the internet by storm.

100 organisations in 36 countries joined the Awareness Day – stirring up a Twitterstorm, and demanding action by governments and international bodies. Posts featuring the hashtag #BanLiveExports reached more than an incredible 13 million views.

“It was fantastic to see such a huge number of organisations and people getting involved,” said Compassion’s Global Digital Campaigns Manager, Elena Artico. “Despite the huge difficulties of the pandemic we came together online, and every action taken brings us a step closer to ending live exports for good.”

EUROPE WAKES UP

This year also saw unprecedented moves against live exports in EU countries and institutions.

In April, a European Commission report about the export of animals by sea documented sub-standard vessels, inadequate checks on ships and poor legal accountability. It also identified illegally high temperatures in trucks and under-reporting of animals who are unfit to travel.

In May, following persistent campaigning by CIWF Netherlands and other groups, the Dutch Minister of Agriculture stopped all live exports that require a 24-hour rest stop outside the EU. This is due to concerns about legal compliance, and exports will only restart if transporters can guarantee animals will be rested.

Meanwhile, three German states – North Rhine-Westphalia, Lower Saxony and Brandenburg – have all restricted live exports beyond the EU, again due to concerns about compliance with welfare legislation.

And, in June, after a wave of campaigning by Compassion and other organisations, the EU Parliament voted overwhelmingly to establish a Committee of Inquiry into violations of live transport law. Inquiries are rare, so the Parliament clearly recognises BAN LIVE EXPORTS: THIS GLOBAL CAMPAIGN WON’T BE STOPPED

COVID-19 may have halted most public events and protests, but 2020 has still seen powerful global solidarity, and historic progress, against cruel live exports.

NEW ZEALAND

A LIVE EXPORT TRAGEDY

In September, New Zealand temporarily suspended live exports after the Gulf Livestock 1 ship, travelling to China, sank in a tornado with 43 crew members and almost 6,000 cows on board.

This latest tragedy highlights the terrible harm that live exports can cause.

New Zealand, which already has an effective ban on exports for slaughter, is currently reviewing its rules to “improve animal welfare and protect New Zealand’s reputation as a responsible exporter”. Compassion has made a submission to the review, which we hope will result in a permanent ban on all live exports.
there is a serious problem with the European live export trade.

Building on this historic progress we are keeping up the pressure, both in Member States and in Brussels, for a ban on live exports from the European Union.

UK BREAKTHROUGH – THANKS TO YOU

From your London campaign to our landmark Judicial Review in Scotland, 2020 has been a huge year for the campaign to ban UK live exports. Here’s what you’ve achieved since our last update, and what’s coming next:

From the streets to the courts

In February, buoyed by the impact of your ad campaign across London’s tube stations, streets and newspapers, we took the appalling live export trade to court. We launched a Judicial Review of the export of unweaned calves from Scotland, arguing that – because the calves weren’t being fed during long journeys to the Continent – these exports were illegal and must be stopped.

Justice for calves

Despite the challenges of lockdown, over 58,000 people urged the Scottish and UK Governments to drop their shameful opposition to our case. Thousands more donated generously in response to this campaign. And, on Ban Live Exports: International Awareness Day, nearly 10,000 selfies and tweets flooded social media, demanding #JusticeForCalves.

Victory

The Scottish Government originally tried – and failed – to get our court case indefinitely postponed. But, following months of your relentless pressure, they finally halted live calf exports on the grounds that the journeys were breaching maximum permitted journey times.

This is a monumental victory – and it’s all thanks to the tireless efforts of people like you. On behalf of thousands of innocent calves who could be spared these gruelling journeys, thank you.

Next steps

Despite a manifesto commitment to end “excessively long journeys for slaughter and fattening”, the UK Government has still not taken action to end live exports nationwide. Instead, they’ve promised – but, at the time of writing, not launched – yet another consultation on this cruel trade.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson has said the UK “can… ban the live export of animals” after Brexit. We believe that, instead of consultation, dither and delay, it’s now high time to turn ‘can’ into a ban.

Thanks to you, we are closer than ever to eradicating the UK’s sickening trade in animals for fattening and slaughter. At this pivotal moment in history, we must unite once more to end live exports, for once and for all.

“I think that what should stop straight away is the transport of animals from Ireland to non EU countries where we can’t guarantee that the same levels of animal welfare are applied to the animals once they leave our jurisdiction.”

Pete Wedderburn
Veterinarian
With the end of the Brexit transition period almost upon us, Compassion’s Senior Policy Manager, James West, explores how the political landscape may affect farm animal welfare.

PROTECTING ANIMAL WELFARE IN TRADE NEGOTIATIONS

Under pressure from Compassion supporters and other campaigners, UK Government ministers have insisted they will not lower UK animal welfare standards to secure trade deals. However, they have repeatedly refused to enshrine this commitment in law.

Earlier this year, after we gave evidence to two parliamentary committees, an amendment was introduced to the Agriculture Bill that would have prohibited imports that don’t meet UK animal welfare, environmental or plant health standards. Although this proposal was defeated by the Government, after further lobbying by Compassion, the House of Lords voted to reintroduce the requirement to protect UK standards, with a majority of almost 100.

Over 14,000 Compassion supporters asked their MPs to back the amendment, and a number of prominent Conservative MPs rebelled against the Government. But, sadly, the Lords’ decision was ultimately overturned.

The relentless pressure from Compassion supporters, other campaigners and the House of Lords did lead to a Government concession that Ministers will have to report to Parliament on whether new free trade deals will protect UK standards. However, the defeat of the Lords’ amendment means there is still nothing to legally stop low welfare imports being permitted through post-Brexit trade agreements with the US, Australia, or other countries.

THANK YOU!

Almost 70,000 people signed our open letter to the UK Government, calling for British animal welfare standards to be protected in trade deals.

At the time of writing we’re preparing to hand in the letter, which also received the backing of Compassion Patrons, Deborah Meaden and Jerome Flynn, actors Mike Beckham and Emma Kennedy, and high-profile vets Marc Abraham, James Greenwood and Emma Milne.

LATEST TRADE DEAL UPDATES

UK and EU

Because UK and EU animal welfare standards are, for the most part, identical, any deal struck regarding a trade in agricultural products is unlikely to threaten UK standards.

However, at the time of writing, a post-Brexit trade deal between the UK and the EU has still not been achieved. If no deal is agreed before the end of December, sizeable delays are anticipated at ports, as exporters and importers face new customs procedures and other non-tariff barriers to trade.

As a result, we are concerned that, if live exports continue from the UK after December, there could be further delays to already unacceptably long journeys. Alongside a number of other NGOs, we have written to Defra Secretary of State, George Eustice, to ensure that whatever the outcome of UK-EU trade talks, animal welfare is safeguarded.

UK and US

Meanwhile, following the most dramatic US presidential election in recent memory, Joe Biden has been named as President-elect.

Mr Biden has indicated that a UK trade deal may not be a high priority. He has also expressed concern that elements of the UK’s Internal Market Bill may compromise the Good Friday Agreement. So, his position on a bilateral US-UK free trade agreement may be influenced by whether the UK and EU reach a free trade deal.

This may allow us breathing space to secure further guarantees on food import standards from the UK Government but, whatever the timeline, we will keep up the pressure to protect British animal welfare standards during any future trade negotiations.
WE ARE NOT ALONE

Compassion formed part of the panel of the Future British Standards Coalition, convened by our friends at Sustain and Greener UK to scrutinise the UK Government’s approach to food standards. This coalition includes public health, animal welfare and farming groups, as well as academics specialising in trade and Conservative and crossbench peers.

The coalition’s interim report was published on 12 October and recommended that the UK Government does enshrine in law the requirement for food imports to meet current British standards.

The report also called for a stronger, permanent and more representative Trade and Agriculture Commission – a body set up earlier this year to advise the Government on trade policy.

Significantly, the Government has since announced the Commission will be given legal standing to scrutinise trade deals, and the report continues to lend extra weight to our lobbying of Ministers, MPs and Peers on animal welfare.

You can read the Coalition’s full conclusions at ciwf.org.uk/Future-Standards.

CAN ANIMALS THINK AND FEEL?

Disappointingly, the Government has not yet introduced the much-needed law recognising that animals are sentient beings, which they promised to deliver before Brexit.

In 2017, the Government initially refused to transfer this important EU legislation into UK law. But, after a campaign initiated by Compassion and supported by activists across the country, they promised to recognise that animals can think and feel.

Yet, three years of delays later, it seems unlikely this legislation will be introduced before May 2021 at the earliest. This means that, from 1 January, when developing their policies, the UK Government will not need to consider animals’ ability to suffer and feel pain or joy.

HONEST LABELLING AT LAST?

Finally, in more positive news, the Government has confirmed it intends to “carry out a serious examination of the role of labelling in promoting high standards and high welfare... before the end of this year.” This move could ultimately give consumers the information they need to choose genuinely higher welfare meat, fish and dairy products.

At the time of going to press, we are still awaiting the promised consultation – but we’re gearing up for a strong response. So far, almost 95,000 people have signed our petition, calling for mandatory method of production labelling, and numbers are growing by the day!

TAKE ACTION

If you haven’t already done so, please add your name to our Honest Labelling petition, which we plan to submit as part of our response to the Government’s promised consultation. Visit ciwf.org.uk/Action-On-Labelling today.

Please contact your MP via ciwf.org.uk/Action-On-Sentience.

Ask them to put pressure on the Government to legally recognise that animals can think and feel, without further delay.
Our global, profit-driven, meat-centred food system is making us sick. We need a radical rethink.

Jan Dutkiewicz, Astra Taylor and Troy Vettese, The Guardian

More giant factory farms will inevitably mean we will create more deadly pandemics.

Isabel Oakeshott, The Daily Mail

“If we don’t do things differently, we’re finished”  

Jane Goodall, PhD, DBE, Founder – the Jane Goodall Institute, UN Messenger of Peace and Patron CIWF

In June, alongside seven MEPs, Compassion co-hosted a unique webinar, Pandemics, wildlife and intensive animal farming. It featured the visionary insights of Dr Jane Goodall, and gained high-profile media coverage. View highlights, or the whole event, at ciwf.org.uk/Pandemics-Webinar
COVID-19 is both a global disaster and the cause of countless individual tragedies. So, it is deeply painful that this terrible suffering could happen again, at any time, because of our cruel, broken food system.

When the pandemic struck, Compassion was quick to highlight how caging, overcrowding and breeding animals for shockingly fast growth creates the perfect conditions for viruses and bacteria to grow and spread. Indeed, the 2009 swine flu pandemic, which killed up to 575,000 people, reportedly originated in a Mexican town just five miles from a major concentration of industrial pig farms. Intensive farming is also complicit in terrible ‘everyday’ pandemics. It helps fuel the overconsumption of certain animal products, which can increase the risk of health problems such as heart disease and some cancers. And, if global agricultural emissions were cut by half, up to 250,000 air-pollution-related deaths could be prevented every year.

Meanwhile, antibiotics are overused in factory farms, to prop up systems that would otherwise make animals sick. This contributes to the spread of drug-resistant bacteria, and could help deliver what the World Health Organization describes as a “post-antibiotic era” in which “common infections and minor injuries can kill”.

As a result, our message to the public and politicians is that we must stop the abuse of power in factory farms – to end animal suffering and avert serious threats to human lives.

YOUR VOICE IS BEING HEARD

We have been overwhelmed by how many people have joined this call for urgent action – signing our petition to global leaders, and donating so generously in response to our campaign.

It has also been heartening to see similar warnings about the dangers of intensive farming emerge from the media, influential commentators, and even some politicians. And, together, we are seizing this moment:

• From the UK’s ‘National Food Strategy’ to the EU’s ‘Farm to Fork’, governments and institutions are debating the future of farming. At every step, we’re lobbying for laws and policies to deliver cruelty-free, safe food for all.

• Our expert teams are working hard to show companies and governments that modern, progressive farming models really can feed the world – ethically, sustainably and safely.

• We are stepping up our unique partnership on food and biodiversity with the United Nations Environment Programme – because environmental protection and safeguarding human health go hand-in-hand.

• We’re building on crucial, direct dialogue already begun with global leaders, to keep influencing key international events – including the annual United Nations High-Level Political Forum and the 2021 UN Food Summit.

• And we are helping concerned citizens around the world to campaign against the cruelty and risks to human lives caused by factory farming.

Together, we will convince those in power to rebuild our food system on the fundamental values of compassion and respect – for the sake of animals and human lives. Together, we will fight exploitation and cruelty, and we could help stop the next pandemic.

YOU COULD HELP STOP THE NEXT PANDEMIC

Thank you for challenging the abuse of power over animals, and the human health threats, inside factory farms.

To make a donation, or to find out more about breaking the links between farming and human diseases, visit ciwf.org.uk/End-Pandemic-Risk

And, if you haven’t already done so, please call on world leaders to take action against factory farming at ciwf.org.uk/Pandemic_Petition
On 2 October, World Day for Farmed Animals, Compassion formally submitted the record-breaking European Citizens’ Initiative (ECI) to End the Cage Age. Once all EU Member States had checked the signatures for their citizens, the verified petition count totalled 1,397,113 – making this the third biggest ECI in history, and the largest ever for animals. This is a massive achievement for every single person who signed, for Compassion, and for the 170 organisations in the End the Cage Age network. A HUGE thank you to everyone who took part.

The handover of signatures now formally triggers a six-month review process – during which the EU Commission must legally respond, explaining what they’ll do to ensure the cage free message from European citizens is taken seriously.

“Before the ECI, the EU had long been ignoring a problem – cage farming. BUT together we’ve been loud and relentless in calling for a ban on behalf of animals that are suffering – and we’ve opened the eyes of those in power,” said Mandy Carter, Compassion’s Senior Global Campaigns Manager.

The call to end caged farming in the EU becomes a record-breaking movement, with 1.6 million signatures (pre-validation).

Lobbying and campaigning continues whilst EU nations check the ECI signatures. In October, 1,397,113 validated signatures are submitted.

The European Commission is legally required to respond, within six months, to this huge, pan-European call to End the Cage Age.
MANY TRY, FEW SUCCEED...

Dozens of ECI petitions have been launched. Only six have achieved the required 1 million verified signatures. A minimum signature threshold must also be reached in at least seven Member States. The End the Cage Age ECI achieved the minimum thresholds in 18 nations and was joined by citizens of every EU country – demonstrating that animal welfare is a common concern across Europe.

MEPs RALLYING TO ACTION

Following the ECI hand-in, no fewer than 86 Members of the European Parliament also rallied behind the call for a cage free Europe.

They sent a letter to the European Commission, noting that many Member States have already introduced national laws going beyond the minimum EU standards, and urging legislation to create a level playing field for farmers.

Italian MEP, Eleonora Evi, a stalwart supporter of the End the Cage Age campaign, said:

“We need to transition away from intensive farming practices and towards the creation of a food system that respects human health, nature and is no longer based on animal cruelty and reckless exploitation. I expect the Commission to take into serious consideration the requests of this European Citizens’ Initiative and come forward with ambitious legislation to ban the use of cages in animal farming.”

* The ECI exceeded the minimum signature thresholds in no fewer than 18 countries, when only seven were required!

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**Total number of signatories**

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Total number of signatories: 1,397,113
THE NEXT STAGE
The submission of the ECI on 2 October was a momentous milestone in the End the Cage Age campaign. But it was just the start of the next crucial phase:

- On 30 October we met with 16 representatives of the European Commission to set out in detail the demands of the ECI and explain why caged farming must end.

- Within three months we will have the opportunity to present our Initiative at a public hearing in the European Parliament.

- Within six months, the European Commission must spell out what action it proposes to take in response to our ECI.

Throughout this period we’ll be calling on citizens and campaigners across the EU to keep up the pressure on European institutions, MEPs, members of national parliaments, and EU Agriculture Ministers.

Watch this space for the next steps in this historic movement against cages.

UNPRECEDEDENTED CHANGE ACROSS EUROPE
Alongside the ECI, recent months have seen other extraordinary steps forward for Europe’s caged animals: all strengthening our call for a ban on this cruel confinement.

- Following campaigning by Compassion and other organisations, Germany finally confirmed a phased-in ban on sow stalls, and plans to restrict the use of farrowing crates.

- Also thanks to a vigorous, collaborative campaign, Czechia will be banning cages for hens from 2027, and has called on the whole EU to follow suit.

- From 2025, in Flanders, Belgium, it will be illegal to keep breeding rabbits in cages. The region is also considering a ban on cages for hens.

Figures released for 2019 show that, for the first time, over 50% of Europe’s hens are now living cage free!
Whilst legislation to ban cages would benefit animals in the future, big food companies have the power to end animal suffering now – and Compassion’s Food Business programme continues to make major progress towards Ending the Cage Age.

SETTING AN EXAMPLE ON EGGS

Leading UK egg producer, Noble Foods, is already making cage-free farming a commercial reality.

Working with Compassion and other industry partners, they have already converted one of their ‘enriched cage’ barns into a brand new, higher welfare aviary barn system, and are well on their way to ensuring millions of hens across their business lead lives free from cages.

Meanwhile, in Italy, our team has been working hard to eliminate the use of ‘combi systems’ which, at the flick of a door, can be converted into cages.

We’ve helped Italian egg producer, Fattoria Roberti, to produce a case study on converting from a ‘combi’ to a higher welfare barn system – paving the way for other producers to follow their lead and bin the ‘combi cage’.

FIRST GLOBAL EGGTRACK REPORT

In October, Compassion launched its very first GLOBAL EggTrack, reporting on the progress of 210 companies towards their commitments to use 100% cage-free eggs by 2026 or sooner.

We were encouraged to find that, despite the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, companies are clearly still taking their pledges seriously.

Key statistics:

- 63% of ALL companies reported progress against their commitments.
- Since 2016, the number of companies with global cage-free commitments has grown from five to nearly 40.

Barilla has become the first company tracked to meet a global cage-free commitment – ending the use of cages in 2019.

Half of companies with US or North American commitments (as part of a global or regional commitment), reported progress – up from 40% last year.

Of the 101 companies with European commitments (as part of a global or regional commitment), over 80% reported progress. And 19 companies reported meeting their commitments in the past year – including Unilever, Caffè Nero, and Groupe Holder in France.

In the UK, as announced in the last edition of Farm Animal Voice, Morrisons met their cage-free pledge for whole eggs two years early, in February 2020. Meanwhile, both Aldi UK and Tesco have made a new commitment this year to cage-free egg ingredients, alongside their whole egg pledges.

Just like our efforts to encourage companies to make higher welfare pledges, our EggTrack reports and our work to help businesses deliver on their commitments are only possible because of your support.

With your backing, we will continue to hold companies accountable, assist them to make progress, and help ensure they invest in the right systems to deliver a truly cage free future.

Turn to page 18 for more news on how you’re helping to convince food companies to improve the lives of animals.
CRAFTING A COMPASSIONATE CHRISTMAS

This year, why not share your compassion and decorate your Christmas tree with our **festive farm animal baubles**? Simply cut out, fold, add string and then glue your baubles together. A **fun project for all the family**!

To add more animals to your tree, or make extra baubles for friends and relatives, **download the template at ciwf.org.uk/Happy-Christmas**
C ompassionate people like you have helped secure huge wins for farm animals: From EU recognition of animal sentience, to millions of calves living free from narrow crates, to over 750 food brands committing to go cage free for hens.

Without legacies from very special, visionary people, much of this progress would not have been possible. And, in generations to come, Compassion’s voice for farm animals will still depend on the generosity of gifts in Wills.

CHANGING THE FUTURE
Every year, instead of being treated as thinking, feeling beings, billions of chickens spend their short lives in crowded sheds. But your legacy gift can end the suffering.

The majority of the world’s pigs still live in confinement. Unable to roam in the sunshine or feel the earth beneath their feet. But your legacy gift can change that.

Sadly, calves, sheep and pigs are still transported on needless, arduous journeys by road and sea. Your legacy gift can help stop live exports.

MAKE YOUR WILL FOR FREE
Our Free Will writing service is open to all Compassion supporters in the UK. It offers a simple Will, drafted or updated by a qualified, local solicitor, and gives peace of mind without the worry of legal costs.

When using this service you’re not obliged to leave a gift to Compassion, but we hope you’ll consider leaving a legacy as a lasting way to spread kindness and continued compassion for animals.

THE LEGACY OF A VISIONARY COUPLE
We were recently honoured to receive a very generous legacy gift of over £85,000 from the late Mr Ronald Jack Wootton.

Mr Wootton, who sadly died in January, was a retired marine artist and commercial illustrator. He and his late wife, Joan, were both keen supporters of Compassion from the early 1980s, and Mr Wootton continued his kind support throughout his retirement.

Mr Wootton’s son, Tim, told us that the family would like his parents to be remembered as “successful folk from humble beginnings, who lived in rural Kent and recognised the harm caused by intensive farming practices.”

We are proud to be able to share Mr and Mrs Wootton’s story, and delighted that, through this wonderful legacy, their compassion will continue to build a kinder future for animals, people and the planet.

To leave your own gift for farm animals, visit ciwf.org.uk/Your-Legacy today.
**TURNING CORPORATE POWER INTO POSITIVE PROGRESS FOR ANIMALS**

Despite these challenging times, your vital support is helping big food companies around the world to forge ahead with higher welfare commitments for farm animals.

**DRIVING CHANGE FOR CHICKENS**

Since our last issue of *Farm Animal Voice*, you’ve helped secure 13 more pledges from big European brands to move to rearing slower-growing chickens in better living conditions.

**UK**

High-street favourites Nando’s, Pizza Express and Greggs have all signed up the Better Chicken Commitment (BCC), along with meal-kit providers HelloFresh and Gousto.

Nando’s BCC pledge was publicised alongside their ambitious sustainability targets, including a goal of absolute zero direct emissions by 2030. They are also committing to increasing their plant-based menu options.

**Norway**

Discount retailer REMA 1000 has worked with their producer, Norsk Kylling, to successfully implement the higher welfare requirements of the BCC. They were recognised with a Good Chicken Award this year for creating a thriving market for their higher welfare chicken.

**France**

A wave of French companies put their corporate weight behind better chicken welfare this summer. These include leading French retailers E.Leclerc, Aldi, Lidl and Schiever – which means that 99% of the French retail market has now signed up to the BCC.

Also making the Better Chicken Commitment are Groupe Holder, which owns the popular PAUL and Ladurée brands, and Fleury Michon – France’s biggest manufacturer and distributor of pork and poultry delicatessen products.

In more good news, the UK’s Red Tractor has launched a new ‘Enhanced Welfare’ certification scheme and label for indoor chicken which meets the Better Chicken Commitment criteria.

We were pleased to work with Red Tractor on this initiative, which will make it easier for companies to source BCC certified chicken and differentiate their products from intensively farmed meat. The new label will also help shoppers identify higher welfare indoor chicken.

**TAKING A LEAD ON TRANSPARENCY**

In July, KFC released the first of what will be an Annual Progress Report on Chicken Welfare, documenting their ongoing journey towards meeting their Better Chicken Commitment.

The report identifies key areas for development and provides the data needed to help them stay on track. It is a great example of progress reporting and transparency, which is essential if companies are serious about improving animal welfare.
Animal welfare is of the utmost importance to Noble Foods and we’re extremely proud of our Good Egg Award. Our aim is to be an example and deliver standards of care that significantly push the boundaries to set new industry goals for responsible farming.

Jean-Paul Michalski, Company Farms Director at Noble Foods

**BETTER LIVES FOR 28 MILLION ANIMALS**

This year we were delighted to present 34 Good Farm Animal Welfare Awards to companies across Europe, China and the US. Their higher welfare policies are set to benefit over 28 million animals each year.

This means that this year’s awards, along with partnership projects and other corporate pledges, take the overall projected annual impact of Compassion’s Food Business programme to over 2 BILLION animals living better lives each year.

**KICK-STARTING A FOOD REVOLUTION**

We are also taking up the challenge of moving the food industry towards a more resilient, sustainable food system – one that meets the needs of animals, people AND the planet.

Through our new Rethinking Food programme, we’ll help companies reduce their reliance on intensive animal farming, reduce the amount of meat, fish and dairy they use – in favour of plant proteins – and encourage regenerative agriculture that restores nature and biodiversity.

Now, more than ever, the pressure is on for businesses to produce nutritious, sustainable food for all, within our planetary boundaries. With your support, we’ll provide the strategies and tools to help them create a more humane, restorative future for our food.

**2020 AWARDS HIGHLIGHTS:**

- **A Cage Free Award for Coop UK**, for their commitment to ending ALL caged farming in their supply chain.

- **A Good Egg Award for Noble Foods** – the biggest egg producer in the UK – for their commitment to be 100% cage free by 2025 (see page 15 for more details).

- **A Good Calf Award for Morrisons**, who have set up a higher welfare scheme for dairy calves.

And, in great news from China, six more companies earned **Good Pig Production Awards**.

**FIND OUT MORE**

From higher welfare turkeys to cage free eggs at Taco Bell, find out more about your 2020 Good Farm Animal Welfare Award winners at ciwf.org.uk/28-million
COMPASSION AROUND THE WORLD

Thanks to you, Compassion’s teams are taking the fight to factory farming worldwide. See how you’re helping them change the future for farm animals.

ITALY

Many Italian ‘delicacies’, like Parma ham, come from factory farms. So CIWF Italia is working with environmental groups, Legambiente and Greenpeace, to campaign for a national, voluntary scheme to show the method of production on meat and dairy products and help stop misleading labels.

Meanwhile, all five of Italy’s top retailers have now committed to go cage free on whole eggs – and the Health Minister has told our team he’s willing to work on a transition away from cages for sows.

ciwfonlus.it

FRANCE

This year, in Europe’s biggest agricultural nation, our team is taking the Government to court for failing to deliver on a pledge to ban new caged farms for hens. CIWF France are also founding members of a ground-breaking method of production labelling scheme, now available on chicken in most French supermarkets.

Did you know that, thanks to you, 99% of the French retail sector has pledged to improve the lives of chickens? Find out more on page 18.

ciwf.fr agrociwf.fr

BRUSSELS

Compassion’s small but mighty EU Office, run by a team of three, engages with politicians and policy makers at the highest levels and plays a vital role in delivering change for animals across Europe.

Recently, they persuaded 86 MEPs to call for a ban on caged farming (page 13) and helped secure a European Parliament inquiry into violations of live transport law (page 6) – whilst simultaneously leading our lobbying in Brussels on the End the Cage Age European Citizens’ Initiative.

ciwf.eu

USA

In the birthplace of factory farming, Compassion’s US team has helped deliver several State-level bans on caged eggs, stopped factory farmed meat being labelled as “humane”, and driven dramatic progress for both hens and chickens by engaging with consumers and food companies.

Since Compassion began working in the US, nearly every major US food company – including the top 25 food retailers – has committed to go cage free on eggs!

ciwf.com

UK

Compassion was founded in the UK in 1967. Have you been with us since then, or recently been inspired to help farm animals? We’d love to hear your story!

With your support, we’re working to make Brexit work for farm animals: Lobbying on trade deals and holding the Government to account on its commitments on live exports and animal sentience.

Find the latest Brexit update on page 8, and your huge Scottish victory against live exports on page 7.

ciwf.org.uk
Shockingly, Poland has more caged hens than any other EU country – over 40 million. So, our team threw tremendous weight behind the End the Cage Age European Citizens’ Initiative (ECI) and helped secure over 54,000 verified Polish signatures.

CIWF Polska are also helping to end the sale of live carp in supermarkets (page 23). So far, six out of eight Polish retailers – B1, Auchan, Carrefour, Kaufland, Tesco and Selgros – have committed to end this cruel Christmas tradition.

Spain is home to almost a quarter of all caged pigs in the EU, and is a major importer and exporter of live farm animals. But many people in Spain want to see improvements in animal welfare – and Compassion’s Spanish representative, Patricia de Rada, worked with other NGOs to secure over 85,000 verified signatures for our ECI to End the Cage Age (see page 13).

“It is so rewarding to have created, for the first time in Spain, a joint movement against cages; and to collaborate with international organisations to expose the cruelty of live exports beyond the EU.”

With high levels of factory farming, the Netherlands has more animals per acre of farms than any other EU country. But our passionate Dutch supporters recently funded huge billboards calling for an end to the Cage Age and cinema adverts exposing the suffering of farmed fish.

So, it’s perhaps no surprise that there were a whopping 154,000 verified Dutch signatures on our ECI! As Annemarie Brijder, of CIWF Netherlands, says, “Like people, animals want to breathe fresh air and have space to be themselves. There is no reason why they don’t deserve that.”

A coalition of German animal welfare groups secured over one third of the total verified signatures on our End the Cage Age ECI – and our German ECI coordinator, Maria Geusser, has now become Compassion’s representative in the country.

Maria has since also helped rally European citizens to secure a German phase-out of sow stalls – and was thrilled to report, this summer, that North Rhine-Westphalia, Lower Saxony and Brandenburg have followed other German states and suspended live exports of all or some species beyond the EU.

Romana Šonková has been Compassion’s representative in the Czech Republic for 12 years, and works with a fantastic network of supporters and partner organisations across the country.

This year, Romana and her part-time team of three helped to achieve a ban on cages for Czech hens from 2027. “This victory finally gives hens a chance for a better life,” says Romana. “Although we’d like cages to be banned immediately, we are very pleased that the end of the cage age is in sight.”

Having ‘imported’ many factory farming practices from Europe and the USA, China is now, sadly, taking intensive farming to the next level. Literally... with pig ‘units’ up to twelve storeys high.

In China, Compassion focuses on educating the food industry on animal welfare and working directly with food producers to help them adopt higher welfare practices. So far, over 284 million animals a year are set to benefit from this work.

Compassion works in South Africa through our affiliate organisation, The Humane Education Trust, which provides educational resources to schools and the public, raising awareness of factory farming and empowering consumers to make a difference through their buying power.

Compassion also engages with South African retailers, farmers’ organisations and politicians to identify and promote alternative, more humane farming systems.
TURNING THE TIDE FOR FISH

There can be no doubt that the welfare of fish is now on the public and political agenda – thanks to your Rethink Fish campaign.

Hidden from public view, the suffering endured by fish confined on factory farms, and those caught from the wild, is shocking. Like other animals, fish are emotional, complex beings. Yet they suffer in silence – in their billions.

A GLOBAL PUSH FOR BETTER FISH LABELS

When seeking higher welfare fish products, many shoppers look to certification schemes for guidance. However, Compassion investigated the welfare standards behind the five largest certification labels and found that the fish can lead miserable lives in overcrowded tanks and cages, or endure prolonged, painful deaths.

Earlier this year, we called on campaigners worldwide to contact the major fish certification schemes, and ask them to do more to protect animal welfare. So far, Compassion supporters have sent over 400,000 emails to the certification bodies, and the campaign has been covered in The Times and iNews.

Four of the schemes have since restated their commitment to fish welfare and will be reviewing and updating their welfare standards in the coming months.

This campaign has also gained Compassion a leading role in the Aquatic Animal Alliance – helping to guide joint responses, alongside eight other organisations, to consultations by the certification bodies.

STOLEN FISH GLOBAL PREMIERE

Stolen Fish, a film co-produced by Compassion alongside the Minority Rights Group, launched globally in June at the Sheffield International Documentary Festival. It has since been commended by Vice’s i-D Magazine as a ‘radical film you need to see’.

Stolen Fish reveals the terrible impact of fishmeal and fish oil factories off the coast of Gambia, West Africa. These factories process fish into feed for animals in industrial farms in Europe, China and South East Asia.

This wasteful exploitation of wild fish stocks deprives local communities of an essential food source, damages local livelihoods, drives migration and depletes the oceans.

COMING SOON: Follow us on social media or sign up for our emails at ciwf.org.uk for the opportunity to watch Stolen Fish.

DO LABELS PROTECT FISH?

We compared the welfare standards of five fish certification schemes against eight key criteria. Find out more at ciwf.org/Fish-Label-Info

TAKE ACTION

Please keep up the pressure for better fish welfare at ciwf.org/Fish-Labelling
IN OTHER FISH NEWS...

ANOTHER WIN FOR POLISH CARP
Carrefour is the latest supermarket chain in Poland to end the cruel practice of selling live carp at Christmas. Thank you for supporting our dedicated Polish team and the Polish Carp Coalition. You’ve helped to secure another fantastic win for thousands of animals.

WHO AM I?
Have you seen Compassion’s new infographics exploring the fundamentals of farm animal welfare? Find out about the needs and wants of the Atlantic salmon at ciwf.org.uk/Who-is-the-salmon

NEW EUROPEAN GUIDELINES FOR FISH WELFARE
For the first time, EU Member States, industry, scientists and NGOs have agreed guidelines on water quality and handling for the welfare of farmed fish. Compassion contributed to these best practice guidelines, for use by EU countries, as part of the fish subgroup of the EU Platform on Animal Welfare.
Here Joanna shares her views on the importance of kindness towards all farm animals and how we can each make a difference.

“I’ve always thought that Peter and Anna Roberts were so wise to use the word ‘compassion’ when naming their fledgling farm animal welfare organisation all those years ago. It’s such a strong word, embracing care, concern and empathy. They were then inspired to think big and use the words ‘in World Farming’, at a time when the organisation was just a handful of staff working above Peter’s health food shop in Petersfield.

But their hopes and dreams have come true. Compassion has led so many fantastic campaigns, and now has offices and partnerships around the globe – truly living up to its name and changing lives for millions of farm animals worldwide.

With the festive season fast approaching, that word compassion, along with peace and joy, becomes increasingly ubiquitous. Yet, in a world devastated by COVID-19, wars, the climate emergency and an unprecedented rate of wildlife extinction, it is hard for any of us to find peace and joy in our global situation.

If we turn our attention to the animals with whom we share our planet, we see more people eating meat, usually of the factory-farmed kind; many wild animals losing their habitats or facing the guns of hunters and poachers. Where is the compassion in all this?

Perhaps it is the awfulness of these scenarios which can inspire us to get going. We can at least put our own house in order. At Christmas and, indeed, throughout the year, we can shop and eat with respect for animals, and show care and consideration for each other. We can bring the qualities of compassion, peace and joy into our own lives and the lives of those close to us.

I think we sometimes underestimate our own power. If we think “But what can I do? I’m just one person”, then we can look to the likes of Greta Thunberg. Just one Swedish schoolgirl, who decided to take action based on her beliefs and who has inspired millions.

Similarly, Peter and Anna Roberts were not daunted when they began to fight factory farming with just a small group of people in a market town in southern England. Now, their global vision is being realised, day-by-day, as Compassion forges ahead.

So, let’s join together in continuing to support Compassion in World Farming through these challenging times, so that its beautiful aims can come to fruition.”

FIND OUT MORE ABOUT COMPASSION’S INSPIRATIONAL PATRONS AND HIGH PROFILE SUPPORTERS:

Visit ciwf.org.uk/Patrons to see what motivates them to fight factory farming and how they use their influential voices for farm animals worldwide.
GET INVOLVED

YOU’RE PUTTING THE FUN INTO FUNDRAISING!

We would like to say a heartfelt thank-EWE to everyone who used their skills and drive to fundraise for farm animals this year. Here are just a few highlights...

MUSIC MAKERS

Greg held his 10th “Storytellers in Song” concert, raising £500, and pianist Frances decided to donate 20% of each sale of her album “A Place That Exists”.

If you’re missing concerts, how about hosting a virtual gig and making a donation for farm animals from the proceeds? Contact us for more information.

www.gregharpermusic.com

www.francesshelley.bandcamp.com

YOUR COMPASSION CAN’T BE STOPPED

Alison wasn’t ‘stalled’ by lockdown and held a socially distanced plant sale outside her home, raising £200!

Maria, Karen and Jo each ran 26.2 miles for the Virtual London Marathon. Together this tremendous trio raised over £3,000!

Tom ran a whopping 72.7 miles in just 24 hours and raised a fantastic £477 to end animal suffering.

Feeling inspired?
We have four places remaining for the Brighton Marathon 2021. Contact us for more information.

PAINTING A BETTER FUTURE

Nina is using her talent to end factory farming by donating 10% of proceeds of her online art sales. Take a look at www.branch-arts.com/nina-murdoch
FLYING FOR FARM ANIMALS

Our daredevil trustee, Jeremy Hayward, had planned a sponsored skydive to celebrate the ECI petition hand-in on World Farm Animals Day. Bad weather sadly intervened but, not one for giving up, Jeremy immediately rescheduled the skydive for later in the month!

“Well I did it! On the morning of Friday 16 October, in perfect weather. It was a thrilling experience, very much a question of ‘Feel the fear and do it anyway’. I thought of the animals and especially all those in caged systems throughout Europe as I let go. The 10,000ft of free fall at 125mph was amazing, a real adrenaline rush. Then the parachute kicked in and it was a slow motion descent from then on, with time to look all over Salisbury Plain in the October sunlight, from amongst the little puffy clouds. A most memorable, unmissable day.”

At the time of going to print this epic leap has raised almost £2,400. If you haven’t already, please consider showing your support for Jeremy’s incredible feat for farm animals: www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Jeremy-Hayward

Founded by Dan in 2014, The Organic Protein Company is a long-standing supporter of Compassion’s work.

With 25p donated for every pack of whey protein sold, the company has, to date, raised an amazing £20,000 for farm animals!

To find out more, visit theorganicproteincompany.co.uk

The Peter O’Sullevan Charitable Trust

The Peter O’Sullevan Charitable Trust is celebrating its 24th year of charitable giving. Each year, a well-known equine artist creates the Trust card. For 2020, we are delighted to share Garry Pereira’s snowy scene, The Bleak Midwinter, proceeds of which will be distributed to the charitable causes the Trust generously supports, including Compassion.

Each pack contains 10 cards with envelopes (size 15 x 20.5cm / 5.9 x 8 inches) and costs £8.00 per pack (excl. UK p&p).

The Bleak Midwinter cards are also available without a Christmas greeting (left blank for your own message).

To order visit: www.thevoiceofracing.org
Tel: 020 8333 1411
Email: mail@reddotprint.org

It’s not too late to give a gift that will change lives. Send a Compassion e-card, and a donation in lieu of a gift – if you wish – via ciwf.org.uk/e-card

WE ARE HERE TO HELP!

Despite the office closures caused by COVID-19, we are here to help. If you have been inspired by any of our fundraisers or would like to take action for farm animals, our Supporter Engagement Team would be delighted to hear from you.

Email: supporters@ciwf.org
Tel: +44 (0)1483 521 953 (lines are open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm)
Web: ciwf.org.uk/contact-us
Write: Compassion in World Farming, River Court, Mill Lane, Godalming, Surrey, GU7 1EZ, UK
THANK EWE! YOU ARE AMAZING

To breathe fresh air, have enough space to be able to be yourself and to be treated with respect. People and animals basically want the same things in life. There is no reason why animals don’t deserve them.

I believe in a world where chickens feel the sun on their feathers, where pigs roam around freely while rooting in the earth and where calves grow up with their mothers. I know there are many people who believe in this and our number is growing everyday. That’s what encourages me; together we can make this dream become reality.

Annemarie Brijder, biologist, campaigner at CIWF Netherlands