

Pet Talk Radio! with Brian and Kaye Pickering

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{ Editors Note: We are absolutely thrilled to have Australia's top animal show on Animal Radio Network™ We've brought together the world's best pet programs under one roof. If you haven't heard our full-time animal channel - [check it out now](#) }



G'day from Downunder... Sydney NSW to be precise.

Did you know October 4 is World Animal Day? - there's a number of great websites with more information for you, but we found this:

www.worldanimalday.org.uk

Basically - the whole idea is to celebrate animal life in all its forms and our relationship with animals.

It's also to acknowledge the diverse roles that animals play in our lives - from providing food, through being our companions, to supporting and helping us, to bringing a sense of wonder into our lives and to acknowledge and be thankful for the way in which animals enrich our lives.

We have to admit those worthy phrases come straight off the World Animal Day website, but what do they really mean to the average pet owner?

In Australia right now there is great debate over whether immigration visas should only be given to those people who can speak our language and have an understanding of our culture. On the back of that we thought we'd start a test of our own for pet owners... We're going to call it 'The Great Aussie Pet Test'!

The idea is that on October 4 this year - and we hope every year - all pet owners do a test that not only helps them understand more about animals, but also helps them learn about stuff they maybe didn't know... 'Like how do Turtles breathe?' or 'Is it better to let dogs & cats have a litter before spaying or neutering?(answers below)

The idea of the Great Aussie Pet Test is that everyone's a winner! Why?, because no matter if you answer correctly or incorrectly, pet owners get to learn a lot more about their own animals, and about some of the other animals in our environment.

So while the official 'World Animal Day' is a great global concept, we think acting locally - starting with Pet Talk Radio! listeners, is another proactive way of helping people celebrate animals.

Ok, something completely different - and it looks like the temperatures are cooling in your part of the world right now heading into fall but here in Australia it's the opposite! - But it's never too late to have a pet disaster plan, and after recent years and the horrendous fires we've had, we're starting to get people to plan for that emergency that may just strike when we least expect.

Fires, floods, hurricanes and even terrorism are now all part of everyday life all over the world - most authorities find animals to be a real problem in emergencies for many legitimate reasons, so it's never too late to plan what you are going to do if (when?) disaster strikes.

There are plenty of good websites out there and no doubt some great books - best of all, check with your local city hall, fire department or emergency services for what they suggest you do in your particular area... Or give the local SPCA a call.

Finally (and we promise we'll bring back the fun next month!) - have you included you pets in your will?... If you have an accident, who will look after them?

We bring you this reminder in honour of 'WildLife Warrior' Steve Irwin who made darn sure his legacy of caring conservation for all animals will be carried on for many generations to come....

Something to think about eh?

Until next month, take care and hugs for your pets from Brian & Kaye

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ABOVE:

Turtles breathe through their 'Cloaca' (basically their bum!) And ALL domestic animals should be spayed or neutered BEFORE their first 'heat'. This helps prevent accidental litters and many problems later in life such as ovarian cancer in females etc. Ask your veterinarian for more information or listen to Animal Radio Network or Pet Talk Radio - (preferably both!!)

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<http://animalradio.com/october2006.html>