

## What can you do to further animal rights?

The single most powerful step we can all take to help animals is to go vegan. It has never been easier to follow a cruelty-free diet, and more and more people are embracing this compassionate way of life. You can order a free information pack at [animalaid.org.uk/veganpack](http://animalaid.org.uk/veganpack), or by phoning the office on 01732 364 546.

There are lots of other steps we can take, from opting for animal-free entertainment, to adopting animals rather than buying into the pet trade. For more information, please visit [animalaid.org.uk](http://animalaid.org.uk).

We hope you feel inspired to help us create a cruelty-free world. To join our email list and stay up to date with how you can help, please visit [animalaid.org.uk/enews](http://animalaid.org.uk/enews)



## ABOUT ANIMAL AID

**Animal Aid is one of the UK's largest animal rights group and one of the longest established in the world, having been founded in 1977.**

We campaign peacefully against all forms of animal abuse and promote cruelty-free living. We investigate and expose animal cruelty, and our undercover investigations and other evidence are often used by the media, bringing these issues to public attention.

Animal Aid, The Old Chapel, Bradford Street, Tonbridge, Kent, TN9 1AW.

**Tel: 01732 364546 | Email: [info@animalaid.org.uk](mailto:info@animalaid.org.uk)**



[AnimalAid](https://www.facebook.com/AnimalAid)



[@AnimalAid](https://twitter.com/AnimalAid)



[@animalaid\\_uk](https://www.instagram.com/animalaid_uk)



[animalaid.org.uk](http://animalaid.org.uk)

Incorporated under the name Animal Abuse Injustice and Defence Society Limited, a company limited by guarantee. Registered in the UK no. 1787309. Registered office as above. VAT no. 395 2761 19.

# Why Animal Rights?



[AnimalAid](https://www.facebook.com/AnimalAid)



[@AnimalAid](https://twitter.com/AnimalAid)



[animalaid.org.uk](http://animalaid.org.uk)

## What is the campaign for animal rights?

Animal Aid campaigns for a world where animals are no longer exploited and harmed for the benefit of humans, but allowed to live out their lives in peace. So we would ultimately like to see an end to practices that involve harming, exploiting and killing animals, such as animal farming, wildlife culling and animal experiments.



## Why do animals' rights matter?

Animals are sentient beings who feel pain and fear, as well as more positive emotions. While this will be obvious to anyone who has ever interacted with animals, there is also a wide body of scientific evidence to demonstrate that animals are sentient and capable of suffering. 'Unpopular' animals, such as mice and rats, are just as able to suffer as the dogs and cats with whom we share our homes. As well as mammals and birds, scientific studies have shown that fish and crustaceans are sentient and capable of suffering.

## What rights do animals currently have?



the law does not prevent cruel industries from operating. It is hard to think of anything more unnecessary than imprisoning a pig in a factory farm, or shooting a pheasant for fun, but this is all perfectly legal.

Animals currently have very little in the way of legal rights, and they are still treated as property in law. It is unthinkable that living, feeling animals should fall into the same category as inanimate objects.

The Animal Welfare Act is supposed to prevent animals from being subjected to 'unnecessary suffering'. In reality though,

There are other regulations which cover animals used in particular industries, such as experimentation or 'sport' shooting. Sadly though, Animal Aid and other organisations have found that even these basic protections are often ignored.

## Who are these animals?

We often hear about animals as statistics. But behind each of the millions of animals experimented on, killed for food or shot for sport, is an individual. Each of these animals felt pain, had their own story, and none of them wanted to die.



One animal whose story we do know is Aries the sheep (above). He was saved from certain death after being born on a farm, and he suffers from a neurological disorder. He loves people and his sheep friends, and lives happily at the Retreat Animal Rescue in Kent.

## Are animal rights the same as animal welfare?

Animal rights and animal welfare are fundamentally different approaches. Animal welfare campaigners believe that it is acceptable to use or kill animals, but that their suffering should be reduced as much as possible. Animal rights campaigners, on the other hand believe that no animal should be harmed and killed for the benefit of humans. In fact, animal rights campaigners do not think that animals should be used or exploited at all.