

EUROBODALLA SHIRE COUNCIL

PUBLIC FORUM

All members of the community who have registered have been advised that they have a **maximum of five minutes** to put their case.

Ordinary Meeting of Council on 24 April 2018

| Name | Subject/Comments |
|---|--|
| Public Forum – 10.00am | |
| Trish Hellier | NOM18/005 Albert Ryan Park |
| Leah Burke | NOM18/005 Albert Ryan Park |
| Sue Frazer presenting for Margaret Park, on behalf of the Animal Justice Party South Coast branch | NOM18/006 Animal Cruelty and The Live Animal Export Industry |
| Fraser Paterson | NOM18/006 Animal Cruelty and The Live Animal Export Industry |
| Jessica Bateman | NOM18/006 Animal Cruelty and The Live Animal Export Industry |
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| Coral Anderson | NOM18/006 Animal Cruelty and The Live Animal Export Industry |
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Good Morning Mayor, Councillors General Manager, Staff, Gallery and those comfortable Live Streaming at home. My name is Patricia Hellier from North Batemans Bay. I would like to speak on Item NOM18/005 Albert Ryan Park.

I would like to thank Cr. Pat McGinlay for his continued efforts and support to have this item placed on the Agenda on behalf of our group Save Albert Ryan Park, I also thank Cllrs. Mayne and Constable as without their support we would not have this on today's Agenda.

For the benefit of the newer councillors my attention to ARP was drawn when it appeared on Council Agenda in April 2016 I was not able to attend this meeting but I had a person raise questions in relation to this park within weeks of this meeting the group Save Albert Ryan Park was formed and we started a petition and within a short period of time we had nearly 1800 signatures I have those Petitions with me today. Over a 2 year period I have spoken a number of times on Albert Ryan Park.

Today I would like to draw your attention to the fact that in my presentation at a meeting on the 27th February in relation to the ROSS report I asked that the Medium listing on ARP be upgraded to PRIORITY – I also pointed out at that meeting yet again there was an error by this Council in relation to the ownership of ARP in the revised report. I would also like to question WHY was ARP and Rotary Park listed together in the revised report when in the initial report these two areas of land were listed separately as they both have separate DP's and separate ownership?

Clr Pollock motion on CAR18/010 it was "noting the technical corrections that were pointed out in the public presentations". The definition of TECHNICAL – "detailed point" – WELL I now argue one of my detailed points was to have ARP upgraded from MEDIUM to PRIORITY and therefore I believe that Clr. Pollock's motion covered the upgrade of ARP to PRIORITY.

Today I will attach a copy of the National Public Toilet Map for Batemans Bay. At a meeting on the 27th March a Director in response to a question from the Mayor stated that there were 8 toilet blocks within the vicinity of ARP what that director failed to add was "that a number of these blocks are only open during DAY LIGHT HOURS". Also Lions and Korner's Park maybe affected for 3 years.

There are only 3 toilet blocks open 24hrs one being at ARP, one at Casey's Beach North which indicates a disabled access the other being Casey Beach South. Councillors I ask you to look at the first photo I have given you, this is the toilet block at Casey Beach North, you will notice that the foot path is relatively level to the road which is fairly easy access for the disabled, if you have a look at the second photo that is a night time photo of these toilets with my car light shining onto the toilets NOW no one would be able to access these toilets at night as it is too dark this is the only toilet block that is listed as a 24hr with disabled access and it is not acceptable.

I have Live Streamed the meeting of the 27th March and I would like to address some of the points that were raised in relation to the upgrade of these toilets at the park.

Clr Tait I believe that there is a very rare occasion these days that you can just wiz into the Marina Toilets and find a easy and an accessible park. I am familiar with these toilets and as a female I find it daunting to walk in a relatively small area between a fence and a brick wall I challenge the fact if one was busting and looking for a loo, trying to get a park at the Marina that one could end up Pirates of Penzance and it should be noted that these toilets are only open during the day light hours. It was obvious that Clr Tait was conflicted with his vote as he initially raised his hand.

Clr. Mayne at the previous meeting you made a statement that heading south on Beach Road you cannot make a right turn into ARP – this is incorrect - on Beach Road providing there is a driveway anyone can make a right turn, you just cannot do a U Turn, there are 2 driveway entrances into ARP

Clr. Pollock made a statement that there will be a medium strip down the centre on Beach Road, I have spoken to a person associated with the RMS and they have told me that there will be a revision on the Traffic on Beach Road once the Spine Road has been completed. I was also told that given the location of the BB Hospital in Pacific Street there will be a pull in lane that will give access to Pacific Street and this could extend to ARP which is only metres away from Pacific Street.

Clr. Thomson I would have hoped that you would have shown a lot more empathy given your family's great loss.

The one Councillor that has disappointed me the most has been Clr Brown as it was a plight that he was facing in 2015 which he freely discussed with me that drew my attention to much needed facilities that were required in public toilets. Clr. Brown stated that he realised the importance of simple things as to where he could put a bag in a sanitised area in a public toilets.

Clr Brown has made a statement "Which toilet block do you want taken out BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE THE MONEY" . In 2015 we the Rate Payers of this shire were hit with a 21.6% SRV under Clr, Browns watch. A number of works is carried out in the community by way of GRANTS and as I stated in my last presentation there are grants for disabled toilets. In August 2016 the then Mayor Clr. Brown met with the group Save Albert Ryan Park at JJ's for coffee at that point in time he fully supported the groups endeavours.

I ask the question "If we don't have the money is it due to the fact that WE the Rate Payers of this shire are paying interest on a loan for the purchase of the Bowling Club when Clr. Brown was Mayor and let us not forget the cost was actually \$2.73 million plus costs and over a 2 year period we have paid I believe \$80 thousand dollars in interest.

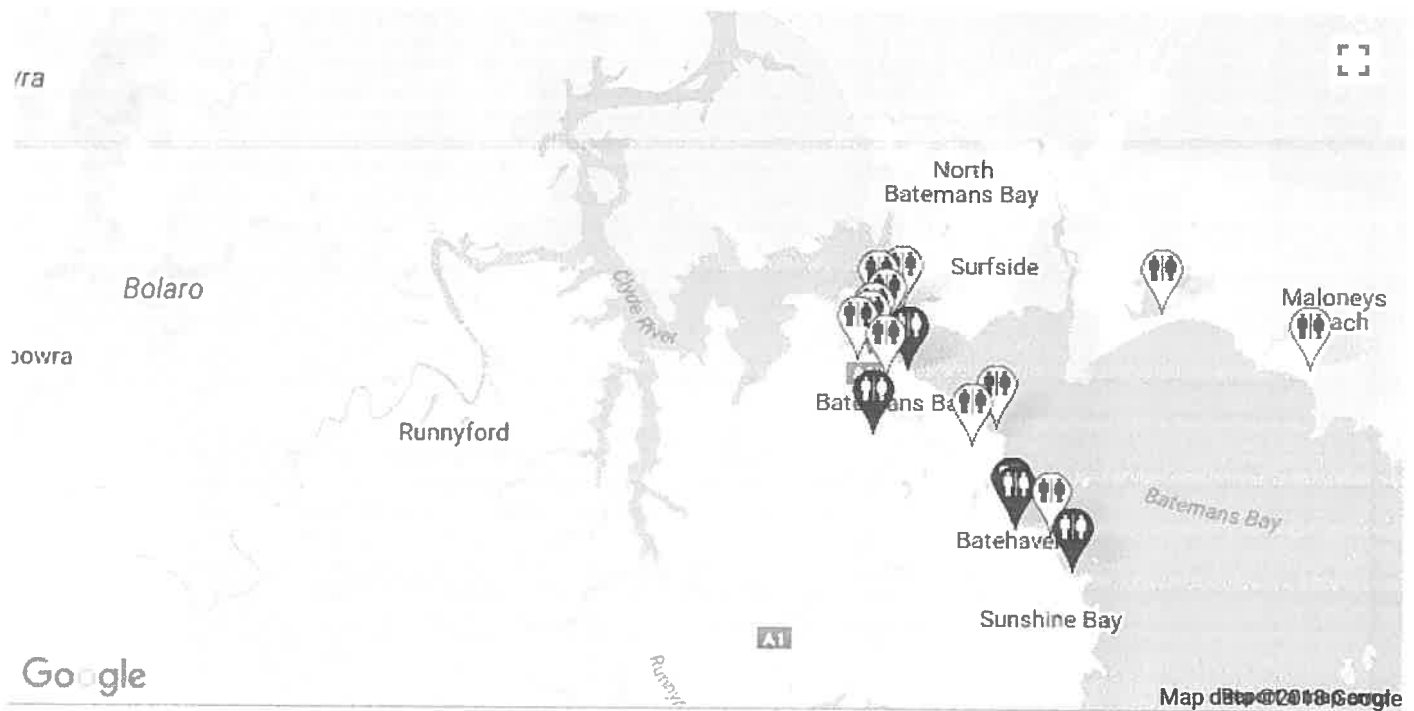
I ask why this loan was taken out at all, why pay interest above a rate that maybe achieved on interest funds where there is no opportunity for a Tax deduction and this Council as an entity has nearly 100 million dollars in investments.

I understand that a group of business people have offered to purchase the Bowling Club site as a rate payer my view is put this property out to tender and sell it as it has caused too much conflict within our community.

Councillors you have seen the condition of the toilets at ARP and you have to agree they need an upgrade and you might be interest to know in my discussion with the Supervisor/Cleaner which occurred at ARP she told me that the toilets at ARP are used more frequently than the toilets at Corrigans (possibly according to number of toilets) TO FINISH – I have a quote from a person who hoped to be here this morning – "Councillors people who don't embrace the installation of public facilities that will improve the quality of life for people less fortunate are seen not to be showing compassion. This especially relates to people holding position making decisions that could improve the quality of life for those less fortunate for many rate payers and voters of this shire." Geoff Fielding . Thank you Trish Hellier on behalf of Save Albert Ryan Park and Eurobodalla Concerned Citizens.

National Public Toilet Map

Department of Health



Batemans Bay NSW 2536, Australia

Batemans Bay NSW 2536, Australia

Murramarang Boatramp



Banyandah Street, South Durras

Open: Open 24 hours

Korners Park



Wharf Road, North Batemans Bay

Open: Open daylight hours

Lions Park



Clyde Street, Batemans Bay

Open: Open daylight hours

Corrigans Beach



Beach Road, Batehaven

Open: Open daylight hours

Caseys Beach - North



Beach Road, Batehaven

Open: Open 24 hours

Tourist Information Centre



Beach Road, Batemans Bay

Open: Open daylight hours

Batemans Bay Foreshore Park



Clyde Street, Batemans Bay

Open: Open daylight hours

Maloneys Beach



Hibiscus Close, Maloneys Beach

Open: Open 24 hours

Coastal Patrol



Hanging Rock Place, Batemans Bay

Open: Open daylight hours

Batemans Bay Community Centre



Museum Place, Batemans Bay

Open: Mon-Fri 8:30am-4:30pm

Progress Hall



Corilla Street, South Durras

Open: unknown

Village Centre



Perry Street, Batemans Bay

Open: Mon-Wed, Fri 9am-5:30pm; Thu 9am-7pm; Sat 9am-4pm; Sun 10am-4pm

Batemans Bay Community Library



Hanging Rock Place, Batemans Bay

Open: Mon-Fri 10am-5pm; Sat 9:30am-12pm

Batemans Bay Swimming Pool



12 Vesper Street, Batemans Bay

Open: Mon, Wed-Fri 6am-6pm; Tue 6am-10am; Sat 8am-2pm; Sun 10am-2pm

Sandy Place



Sandy Place, Long Beach

Open: Open daylight hours

Coles Express Batehaven - Shell Australia



198 Beach Road, Batehaven

Open: Open variable hours

Albert Ryan Park



Beach Road, Batemans Bay

Open: Open 24 hours

Caltex Woolworths



Corner Princes Highway & Hughes Street, Batemans Bay

Open: Open 24 hours

Caseys Beach - South



Beach Road, Sunshine Bay

Open: Open 24 hours

PRESENTATION COUNCIL MEETING

24TH APRIL 2018

Good morning, my name is Leah Burke and I would like to speak on the motion NOM18/005 Albert Ryan Park.

I extend my thanks to Council for the privilege of speaking on the above motion.

I sincerely thank Councillor Patrick McGinlay for bringing this motion to the meeting today.

And today I am speaking on behalf of the group Supporting Albert Ryan Park .

We hope today council will see their way clear to have the priority of Albert Ryan Park upgrade moved from Medium priority to High priority. That Albert Ryan Parks open space, toilets, seating and landscaping be achieved within a 2 year time frame.

At the council meeting of the 27th March it was noted that the toilets at Albert Ryan Park were a level four from a scale of 1 to 5. 5 being the worst scenario. Also at this meeting one councillor stated he wouldn't use these toilets no matter how urgent the matter, another described them as a shocker. These sentiments in one form or another have been relayed to us time and again over this entire process.

The fact that the Eurobodalla Shire has a toilet in such a prominent park, along one of our most popular tourist drives, a very convenient convenience known to tourists, locals and the elderly but is just one point from the very worst amenity in the shire, should be ringing alarm bells. If these toilets are a level 4 as stated, they definitely qualify for an urgent upgrade with a high priority status.

Our council prides itself on its care for the elderly, inclusiveness for the disabled and the promotion of tourism. Here is a good place to put all three values to work, and considering the level 4 status of the toilets sooner rather than later would be the preferred option, and within the 1 to 2 years that Councillor McGinlays motion refers.

Albert Ryan Park as a whole should and can be a show piece of our foreshore along with the Bridge foreshore parks.

We have beautiful foreshore Parks on both the north and southern side of the Clyde River that both locals and tourists enjoy, but within a 2 minute walk along Murra Mia Walkway and opposite the beautiful sculpture of Djungaa (Joongar) sits Albert Ryan Park looking old, neglected and unwanted. Murra Mia connects these two parks. They should be complimenting each other, each being a unique space, each with a unique history, but united together with Albert Ryan Park the workhorse for the Bridge Construction, the Bay's ferry repairs and its rock face quarried for some of the original foreshore retaining walls.. We truly believe that Albert Ryan Park because of its exceptional location, its history and relevance to The Bay, deserves to be upgraded to its full potential and accomplished within the 1 to 2 year time frame.

Again at the 27th March meeting it was noted that in the future there would be a medium strip along Beach Road and southbound traffic from the Bay CBD would not be able to access to the park. This should not be a deterrent to an upgrade of the park.

Korners Park on the north side of the bridge on the foreshore cannot not be accessed with a right hand turn when travelling north from the Bays CBD. To gain entry to this park travellers must drive to the Kings Highway roundabout (one of the busiest in the area), turn around and come back. The very same way you will access Albert Ryan Park when a medium strip is installed. Travelling south from the CBD drive to the roundabout on Beach Road and Bavarde Avenue and access the park coming back.

We are aware of the costs involved for the upgrade of Albert Ryan Park and that changing the priority to high may disadvantage another project.

However we, as a group, are prepared to apply for grants through the Clyde River and Batemans Bay Historical Society, who are experienced with the grant application process. We would also seek assistance from council to apply for grants that comply with guidelines for this project. Should we be successful this would help spread the financial burden, and hopefully lessen the drain on other projects.

Before each councillor casts a vote today we ask that you consider these points about Albert Ryan Park. Its amenity block is in the 2nd worst category, it's old run down wooden seating and benches. A mile post monument that has been let run down until its almost unrepairable. To contemplate the Parks position

along the foreshore and the impact it has on tourists who frequent the area. The toilets alone are reason enough to move the priority to High.

I have been involved in this campaign since late April 2016 in one form or another and over those 2 years I have spoken to Albert Ryan's Grand Children and personally know his Grand Nieces. They have described Albert as a gentle man, very quiet and reserved. A man who was community minded and did what had to be done to get things accomplished, I just wonder what Albert would be thinking of all this attention around a park that bears his name.

Lets hope the outcome will be something he is proud of.

Sue Frazer

Dr Margaret Park, Regional Group Leader, Animal Justice Party, South Coast

Address: 18 Jerupa Close, Surf Beach

Nominating Sue Frazer of 14 View Street, Batehaven to speak on my behalf to

Eurobodalla Shire Council – 24 April 2018

Motion Number: NOM18/006

**Title: ANIMAL CRUELTY AND THE LIVE ANIMAL EXPORT
INDUSTRY**

Madam Mayor, Councillors, staff and members of the public. I am Sue Frazer speaking on behalf of Margaret Park on motion number 18/006. Thank you for the opportunity to address council and to Clr McGinlay for raising this important issue. As the local representative of the Animal Justice Party, I wholeheartedly and firmly support the views expressed in the motion and the means by which we can work towards ending the live animal export trade, including the establishment of an Independent Office of Animal Welfare.

We've all heard the saying – "Think Globally, Act Locally", this is attributed to the great Scottish Town Planner, Patrick Geddes, to ensure that town planning relates directly to those living within villages and towns, and how decisions that are made for us, affect all of us. These words have relevance still.

I stress, especially to those who may doubt why we should encourage a local government response, that we are 'Thinking Nationally, Acting Locally'. By acting locally and stating that we want to effect change to this cruel and inhumane practice, we must start at the local level. The Animal Justice Party is a companionship of people against cruelty to animals. We are a voice for animals in a political sphere where there was once only silence and at best, ignorance.

I urge you, as our local representatives, to make this difference by writing to the federal government as outlined in this motion. If local councils nationwide represented the number of Australians who stand against the live

export trade, the general consensus is that you would be representing 80% of the local population.

Just as many of us who remain outraged, upset and appalled by the 60 minutes Live Export Expose wrote to our local federal members, you too can and should add your significant voice by writing to the federal government advocating for change. Hearing the news on a daily basis, we know that many politicians in government now and from the past, at local, state and federal levels, are standing up, and like Sussan Ley (MP) has said, 'calling time' on this sordid business. At the state level, Mark Pearson, Animal Justice Party (MLC) in the NSW Upper House, has repeatedly advocated to stop the live export and for the introduction of an independent regulator for animal welfare.

Thousands upon thousands of people are enraged and impassioned. This deplorable industry is of no benefit to anyone – certainly not to the animals, or to the farmers who entrust their animals to the exporter, nor to the nation as a whole. So many people I have spoken with over the last two weeks have commented on how “UnAustralian” it is.

I know this because last week I volunteered, alongside others, to gather petition signatures at the Village Centre, Batemans Bay. Over 250 people signed the 'Animals Australia' and 'Animal Justice Party' petition.

Many expressed their horror and anger at how long this trade has been allowed to continue. How many governments have come and gone, and what has been done to transition this trade away from live export to a humane method of exporting meat. We talked with people from a wide cross section of our local community and at all stages of life. We all know how many politicians, animal advocates, supporters and activists, investigative journalists and distressed ordinary citizens have been attempting to bring this hidden and ugly secret into a clearer and more public view.

You may be surprised to hear that the voice of a retired meat processing worker was the first to sign. He wanted to see the end of this diabolical business and a return to what he called the home-grown meat processing industry. We spoke to farmers and those who work with animals. All signed with one voice to enact this moral change and to do it now.

Some people walked by, no time to stop, not wishing to sign, and this is expected in our busy modern world. One person, when asked “had they seen the footage on TV” said “Yes, but it has nothing to do with me”.

But it has everything to do with us as people, as human beings, as an ethical and more humane society, as a nation acting nationally ... and as citizens thinking how we can effect change for the good ... beginning ... here, now, locally.

Thank you for your time.

Council Meeting 24 April 2018

Motion regarding Animal Cruelty and the Live Animal Export Industry

Speaker: Fraser Paterson
94 Yugura Street
Malua Bay NSW 2536

Thank you for the opportunity to speak in support of Councillor McGinlay's motion on Animal Cruelty and the Live Export Industry.

My wife (Tracey) and I have been advocating for the phasing out of this industry for over 20 years. Let me say, this issue is NOT about attacking farmers and their livelihoods. This IS about showing compassion towards Australian animals.

I'm sure that some of you are sitting there thinking, why is this topic on our agenda for today? We all know that very few businesses in the Eurobodalla would even be involved in the export of animals and fundamentally it is a Federal govt issue. Just because this isn't happening in our own backyard doesn't mean that we as individuals or groups, or you as a compassionate Council shouldn't try to influence those that **do** have the ability to act. The recent Batman by-election and the proposed Adani coal mine in Qld is another example.

The reality is that this footage is not an isolated incident. Most of the horrific footage has been the cruel treatment at their destination. BUT now we have been exposed to the even more horrific treatment on the way to their destination. My wife and I are personal friends with Dr Lynn Simpson who was a vet on 57 live export transportations out of Australia. She is also a whistle blower and she recounts stories where she was not able to humanely slaughter enough animals fast enough when inevitably the conditions became hopeless for many of them. She recently addressed the Israeli Parliament on the inhumane conditions that confront these animals to destinations such as theirs.

BUT, just last week yet another ship left WA. And here is the rub. It was reported that animals had already died from crush and they could not get to clean water, and the ship hadn't even left the port. The company, even with all this publicity, had refused government officials on board to inspect conditions, until a warrant was issued. Imagine their condition now on the high seas on the way to Turkey. 3 weeks standing up, unable to lie down on a moving ship in open waters with inadequate ventilation, and inadequate access to food and unpolluted water, and then entering a northern hemisphere summer. We as a society seriously need to do better than this. Out of sight should not mean out of mind for these poor defenceless animals regardless of where they came from. And yet, we have the Live Export Industry describing these vessels as "floating cruise ships for animals".

So, what does that have to do with the Eurobodalla and why we are here today?

1. We need to do everything we can to put a stop to this industry and transition to the chilled meat industry. BUT, the current coalition

- government through Barnaby Joyce and now David Littleproud are proactively expanding the live export trade into countries that have:
- a. a history of poor animal welfare outcomes
 - b. are located so far from Australia that the trip is unacceptably cruel from the outset
2. So, what will it take to change the Federal Government's and the oppositions mind on this issue? ANSWER: PEOPLE POWER, plus other levels of govt such as state and local councils, ALL speaking up and continuing to speak up together. The Federal Government usually only has to wait for a new news story to pop up and distract everyone from the current issue. But it is our intention that THIS IS THE TIME to stop this industry, and we seek your support to be part of that.
 3. Public polls indicate that 80% of Australians are in favour of ceasing the Live Export Industry. Last Saturday I participated in a Fairfax Media poll which was at 89.94%. And yes, I do not have a poll that relates specifically for the Eurobodalla, however, given that we are the "Nature Coast" and that probably few businesses in our area are affected by this industry (yet), then I am comfortable that we probably sit close to the Australian norm on this issue. So what harm is there for "The Nature Coast" Shire to publicly endorse the sentiment of probably around 80%+ of its constituents and send a message to those in the federal government who can make a change for the better?
 4. I suppose, if this motion is not endorsed then yet again we will see elected officials voting against the sentiment of their constituents.

In conclusion, just because there is a dollar to be made doesn't make it right. I believe that the Live Export Trade is one of those industries which over time will be exposed as an industry that exploited helpless animals and exposed them to a cruelty that thrived because these animals were out of sight and therefore out of mind. The TV vision and this presentation mean they are now no longer out of your mind and this is your chance to take the high moral ground on a pathetic, greedy, cruel industry.

This should be win win win win for the Eurobodalla Shire and really send a message that we are not only the "Nature Coast", but a shire that shows compassion and are of high moral fibre from its residents and councillors alike.

I implore you to support this motion if for no other reason than to make a symbolic statement to both the Eurobodalla residents and to the Federal Government to make them aware that other levels of government are watching them to show leadership on this issue.

Thank you for listening.

Presentation to Eurobodalla Shire Council

Tuesday 24th April 2018

Presenter: Jessica Bateman

(Moruya NSW resident)

**Re: Notice of Motion that Council write to the Australian Government advocacy to
phase out the live export of animals**

Good morning Mayor, Councillors, Ladies and Gentlemen,

My presentation today is in support of Councillor Patrick McGinlay's motion: that Council write to the Australian Government advocating to phase out the live export of animals.

On the weekend I was discussing an article with my family that was reporting on the conditions aboard the MV Maysora, the first livestock ship to depart Western Australia after the Industry's horror was exposed. Now this was a different ship to the ship at the centre of the horrific animal abuse exposure. And a different exporter.

Upon arriving in Fremantle, after first loading sheep and cattle in Adelaide, Inspectors from the Department of Primary Industries boarded the vessel.

What the inspectors found was distressing. Sheep so tightly packed that they couldn't lie down without being trampled. Many water troughs were empty, and the troughs that did have water in them, were heavily contaminated with faeces. Many sheep had escaped from their pens and at least two sheep were observed to be dead.

And it wasn't just sheep that were suffering. Cattle were being trampled on. And the floors were so slippery from the slurry of manure that fallen cattle were unable to regain their footing, and so were left helpless on the floor.

And on top of all this, it was also believed that there was no vet on board!

Now this was all observed on still water. This ship was still docked at Fremantle. The main voyage (to Turkey) had not even started. And it was not in the middle of Summer, yet conditions were already atrocious. Can you imagine the conditions after three weeks of travelling like this? Of course you can. You only have to think back to the horrific images of that harrowing 60 Minutes report. In fact, as we speak, the animals on that ship are living those images because that ship, the MV Maysora, left Fremantle last Wednesday with 82,000 Australian animals on board.

Despite all the expose, recent and past, animals are still suffering, and they will continue to suffer for as long as this industry exists.

When we'd finished discussing the article, my 14-year-old son said to me "You know what makes all this even more horrible Mum?This is Australia!".

This is Australia!!

These words, and the way he said it, said it all. There was sorrow in his voice. There was bewilderment. There was shame. This is Australia! This is not what we're about. In fact we condemn the actions of animal cruelty in other countries. We are appalled with Japan's whale hunting in the name of science. We are outraged by China's cruel and extensive animal testing policy. And we shudder at the thought of Asia's horrific dog meat trade. Yet here we are...Australians, allowing these horrible acts of cruelty to be carried out, and knowingly sending innocent animals to countries where animal welfare standards are well below ours, or non-existent. Our Government, our leaders, are letting this to happen, and have let this happen for decades.

You might argue that this is not a local issue. I would disagree.

Last week, a few community members, myself included, set up a table in Batemans Bay, collecting signatures for petitions to Ban Live Animal Export.

We did not harass people, or pressure them to sign. But when they realised why we were there, they came, and they signed. They voiced their outrage, their disgust. They were signing a petition to ban live export. They weren't signing a petition to "fix" live export or make a few changes. And they were not signing a petition to ban live export **only** during the Middle Eastern Summer months. No, this was a petition to ban live animal export, period.

Members of our community, myself, my 14-year-old son, we want to see the end of this cruel industry. And that's why, as representatives of our community, we are calling on you, the council, to write to the Australian Government, urging them to phase out this horrid, barbaric trade.

This is Australia! We the community of Eurobodalla are part of Australia. And this is an industry that we do not want.

Thank you.

Ref: Not sheep shape: Livestock trampled and dying on ship docked in Fremantle, Author: John Flint
<https://www.perthnow.com.au/news/wa/not-sheep-shape-livestock-trampled-and-dying-on-ship-docked-in-fremantle-ng-b88813093z> , 22/4/2018.

Public Forum 24 April 2018 – Peter Cormick

Item NOM18/006 ANIMAL CRUELTY AND THE LIVE EXPORT INDUSTRY

Rarely if ever has it been truer to say that a picture is worth a thousand words than when we see those shocking images of the brutal, hellish suffering and torture inflicted upon innocent, defenceless, gentle creatures condemned to export for barbaric slaughter in foreign lands. No normally-developed person can but be greatly moved and distressed by these images: and be moved to actually do something to stop this monstrous practice.

And yet we have not seen these images first hand. How much greater then, the impact on us, if we were to be actually present in the midst of this suffering, aboard the ships that take them to their nightmarish end. The remoteness of the suffering of others can too easily cause an easy disengagement from the sufferers – and, I suggest, we need to be cognisant of and alert to this phenomenon and do what we can to overcome it.

With Councillor McGinlay's proposed motion you are being asked to do no more than agree to send a couple of letters, imploring our federal government to phase out this abomination and to advocate for the creation of a long overdue Independent Office of Animal Welfare. Nothing could be simpler and less controversial. What would be controversial would be to not agree with what is being proposed by Councillor McGinlay. That would bring a swift and heavy hail of condemnation upon oneself; but that should not be a motivation for doing the right thing. The motivation should be to condemn the barbarity on moral grounds.

To state the obvious, what we have witnessed in the footage that has been appearing on television, is a level of barbarity that could not be more at odds with the values of the civilised society we all believe we belong to. We are meant to have developed to at least a moderate state of enlightenment.

I want to see this barbarism stopped immediately but I can of course appreciate Councillor McGinlay's politically realistic approach of seeking to have it phased out. I would like to suggest that the letter on the phasing out of live exports, propose a time scale: one that would seek to bring the practice to an end as soon as possible and certainly to have it suspended during the northern hemisphere summer months.

For those of you who might be concerned about the effect of ending the practice, on farmers' incomes, I point you to the recent report produced by Pegasus economics, on behalf of Animals Australia and to the recent article in the Sydney Morning Herald, the links to which I emailed to you last night. The moral cost of allowing the barbarity to continue is immeasurably higher than any financial cost that might be experienced by those who benefit from the suffering of these defenceless, voiceless creatures.

And for those who may feel that they are absolved from a position on this matter, in the belief that it is not one that concerns local government – then I ask you to please not attempt to insult our intelligence by expressing such a view.

This is a matter that concerns every thinking, caring human who has even a scintilla of morality about them and demands of us all to take positive action to bring the barbarity to an end.

The following links are provided in support of my presentation:

<http://www.animalsaustralia.org/features/tv-ad-spots-live-sheep-export.php>

<https://www.smh.com.au/national/live-sheep-exports-are-not-worth-the-moral-cost-20180421-p4zawf.html>

<http://www.afr.com/news/shutting-down-sheep-trade-would-have-little-economic-impact-on-farmers-report-finds-20180409-h0yi7c>

<https://www.9now.com.au/60-minutes/2018/extras/clips/clip-cifqah0td003u0qs8g3pgsbl8>

<http://www.dominionmovement.com/#>

NOM 18/006 Animal Cruelty + The Live Export Industry

Firstly, I would like to congratulate former Liberal Party's Health Minister Sussan Ley on her recent public stand against the live export business. This was on the back of National Party's Minister for Agriculture & Water Resources, David Littleproud firmly ruling out a summer ban on the export of sheep, proposed by Labor's WA Agriculture Minister Alannah MacTiernan.

Whistleblowers for decades have been reporting companies breaking the law in relation to animal welfare and our weak successive governments have done nothing, no prosecutions, nothing. We, all of us, have a duty of care to all vulnerable beings.

The WA Labor Minister for Agriculture must be congratulated for her effort to have these criminals brought before the court and attempting to put an end to the export of live sheep.

That's a start but it doesn't go far enough.

According to the Financial Review, shutting down the live animal export trade would have 'negligible' impact on Australian farmers. When the nation's leading conservative economic journal says there is little benefit to the Australian economy- surely it's time to stop!

The Australian Meat Industry Employees Union has worked tirelessly over the years to highlight this appalling trade which is of no benefit to the animals, to the workers and the consumers.

Every animal welfare agency in Australia condemns the live export trade.

Veterinarians have spoken for years about the conditions on board these 'ships of shame'. They have provided to successive governments damning evidence of breaches of animal welfare legislation yet there has been little to no action, no prosecutions brought against those who would consistently flaunt our laws.

Thousands upon thousands of people all over the country – in fact 80% - oppose the live export trade. We all remember back in 2011 when the ABC exposed the diabolical treatment of cattle exported from Australia and the then Labor government's attempt to close it down.

Seven years on and our politicians still haven't got the message. We need representatives who are prepared to represent the community at a local, state and federal level.

While the Australian Government and live export industry have talked over the last couple of weeks about improving animal welfare and greater transparency in the trade, they're secretly loading further shipments of sheep for live export right now. And despite the tough talk, it's unclear if any new conditions have been applied. In fact, I am informed that it's 'business as usual' no change at all to stocking densities.

Right now, animal welfare agencies and an unprecedented number of everyday Australians including our farmers are demanding answers from the government.

Here in NSW the relevant legislation is the Animal Welfare Act 1992. Under that Act corporations can be fined a maximum of \$110,000 for each offence. Those found guilty of breaching the legislation can be jailed for a period of up to five years.

Time for talk is over. Time for action. This will be an election issue for all levels of government.

Councillors, it starts with you to at a local level to ensure that the residents of Eurobodalla Shire are heard in the corridors of power.

Nothing short of a total BAN on ALL live animal export is good enough.

Thank you for listening.

Coral Anderson
BATEHAVEN