

Humane Slaughter Association



Caring beyond the farm gate

Spring 2023

Welcome

Welcome to HSA's Spring Newsletter 2023. As you will notice, this year's newsletter has been designed in a slightly different format to reflect our ongoing commitment to sustainability. By switching to a smaller newsletter, we can reduce paper usage and postage expenses, allowing more of our resources to be directed towards improving animal welfare beyond the farm gate.

To make sure that you don't miss out on the latest news and updates, we're excited to announce that we'll soon be starting a more regular email newsletter. Please make sure that we have the correct email address for you by visiting our website at hsa.org.uk/uptodate or providing your details on the Spring Appeal reply form. In addition, you can keep up to date with the latest news via our website and social media channels.

Thank you for your continued support of our work.

Dr Huw Gollidge
CEO & Scientific Director



Save the date!



One-day Seminar:
Animal Welfare at Slaughter
and Killing - Hot Topics 2023

18 October 2023
The Arden Hotel
Solihull, UK

SAVE THE DATE!

Join us for a day of learning and discussion on hot topics in animal welfare at slaughter and killing. The Humane Slaughter Association (HSA) is pleased to be hosting a one-day seminar for the meat and livestock industry on **Wednesday 18 October 2023** at the Arden Hotel & Leisure Club, Solihull, UK.

The seminar is aimed at all those associated with animal welfare at slaughter, eg animal welfare officers, veterinary surgeons, meat inspectors, food business operators, slaughter personnel, lairage workers, enforcement officers and legislators.

More information will be available via the website shortly. Keep up to date with all of the latest information at hsa.org.uk/seminar2023.

Spring Appeal 2023

For our Spring Appeal, we are asking for your help to provide subsidised places for students and trainees to attend our upcoming one-day seminar *Animal Welfare at Slaughter and Killing - Hot Topics 2023*.

Our seminar is a fantastic opportunity for students and trainees to learn from industry leaders, network with other professionals and gain valuable skills that will help them succeed in their careers and improve food animal welfare. However, we understand that the cost of attending a seminar can be prohibitive for many students and trainees. Your contribution will help us to ensure that deserving students and trainees have equal access to the same educational opportunities as their peers.

To help us make it possible for more students and trainees to attend our seminar, please complete the enclosed Spring Appeal form, or donate online at hsa.org.uk/springappeal

Humane Slaughter Association

The Old School, Brewhouse Hill, Wheathampstead, Herts, AL4 8AN, UK
Registered Charity in England no 1159690: Charitable Incorporated Organisation



Humane Slaughter Association

Council News

2023 Annual General Meeting

This year's AGM will be held on the afternoon of Wednesday 15 November 2023 at the Mothers' Union, Mary Sumner House, 24 Tufton Street, London, SW1P 3RB. Full details of the time and business of the meeting will be sent to members in due course.

Council changes at the 2022 Annual General Meeting

Dr Alick Simmons stood down from his role as a member of council. Dr Emily Craven MRCVS, Mrs Paula Junqueira, Dr Dorothy McKeegan and Mrs Emma-Louise Singh were elected to council.

How you can help

At the HSA, we play a vital role in improving animal welfare beyond the farm gate, in markets and collection centres, during transport, and at slaughterhouses by providing funding and support for essential research.

We are committed to achieving practical and long-lasting improvements to the welfare of food animals worldwide. The HSA works with the livestock industry and animal welfare scientists globally to offer guidance and training on animal welfare during transport and slaughter.

You can help us to continue to improve animal welfare beyond the farm gate by becoming a member, making a donation or remembering the HSA in your will. Thank you for your support.

hsa.org.uk/support

Grants and Awards updates

The HSA provides grants to fund research projects that seek to improve our understanding, or develop ways to improve, animal welfare during transport and slaughter. These grants are open to applicants from all over the world. For more information or to apply, please visit hsa.org.uk/grants.

Designing improved containers for transporting spent hens

Dr Frank Tuytens, a senior researcher at the Institute for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (EV ILVO), Belgium, has recently received HSA funding for a project to design, build and test prototypes of improved transport containers for laying hens.

This project was initiated as a result of ongoing research into pre-slaughter poultry welfare in Belgium, which identified several shortcomings with existing transport containers such as narrow openings, poor quality materials leading to damage to and malfunction of containers, and birds frequently escaping. These issues can cause injuries to birds and reduce the efficiency of the catching process, leading to increased stress to the birds.

By developing better transport containers, the project aims to improve individual bird welfare and establish a commercially viable solution for improving pre-slaughter welfare for spent hens.

Agricultural show plans 2023



In 2022 we were able to get back out on the road and attend a number of agricultural shows. This gave us the opportunity to showcase our work and offer advice and guidance to our supporters, both old and new.

As we gear up for the 2023 show season, we're pleased to confirm our team of animal welfare experts will be present at our stand to answer your questions and provide advice at:

- **NSA Welsh Sheep** in Newtown, Powys on **16 May 2023**
- **The Smallholding & Countryside Festival** at the Royal Welsh Showground, Builth Wells, Powys on **20-21 May 2023**
- **The English Winter Fair** at Staffordshire County Showground on **18-19 November 2023**.

Keep checking our website for any additional shows we may add to our schedule. We look forward to seeing you there!