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Left: Hunters in Taiji cove pursue a dolphin. Centre: Cetacean food products for sale in Japan.

## SEA LIFE IN THE SPOTLIGHT

### JAWS funding continues to support the EIA's vital work in Japan.

Funding from JAWS enabled the Environmental Investigation Agency (EIA) to return to Japan in February 2015 to continue their crucial work in exposing the cruel killing of whales, dolphins and porpoises (cetaceans) and the trade in their products. EIA director Jennifer Lonsdale and campaign assistant Sarah Baulch update JAWS with this fascinating, yet alarming report.

#### The products of cruelty

During our investigative trip, EIA met with Japanese non-governmental organisations (NGOs) working on cetacean-related issues to network and share ideas. EIA also carried out surveys of supermarkets to find out about cetacean products that are being sold, and visited the vast Tsukiji fish market to discover more about the trade in Icelandic fin whale in Japan.

New cetacean products were also purchased from online retailers and sent for analysis. The analyses will go into a new report on pollutants found in Japanese cetaceans to be published later this year.

#### Taiji cover-up

EIA also visited Taiji, witnessing and filming two dolphin drive hunts, both for the trade in dolphin meat and the trade in live dolphins for marinas and aquaria around the world. The dolphin killing largely takes place under cover to try to avoid the huge international criticism

it has attracted in the past.

Now, Japanese hunters plug the main artery to the brain of the dolphins with a wedge as they cut behind the blowhole through to the spinal column, resulting in far less blood escaping into the water. However, scientists have concluded that this may actually increase the cruelty of the killing process as it prevents immediate loss of consciousness and death. EIA, thanks partly to JAWS, will continue to expose

the hunt and the trade in dolphin and whale meat which lies behind it.

#### Push for ban on live trade

Pressure is also being placed on the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums and the Japan Association of Zoos and Aquariums by Japanese and international NGOs to ban the highly profitable live trade in wild dolphins. This contributes to sustaining the hunts for meat and blubber – in the face of declining demand for dolphin products. EIA's review of the Japanese small cetacean populations reveals worrying signs of overexploitation and in some areas numbers are declining fast.



A fin whale landed at Hiosandur whaling station.

# BREAKING THE BAN

Japan continues to import thousands of tonnes of whale products from Iceland in defiance of the bans on commercial whaling and trading in whale products. The terrifying scale of these cruel activities is exposed here by EIA's Jennifer Lonsdale.

In 2014, the shocking and cruel slaughter of 137 endangered fin and 24 minke whales in Iceland was accompanied by the export of over 2,300 tonnes of Icelandic whale products to Japan, defying the ban on commercial whaling and the ban on international trade in whale products by the

Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). Exploiting loopholes in both conventions, Iceland is undermining vital conservation decisions that have allowed whales respite from the ravages of commercial whaling and gradual recovery from the brink of extinction.

Iceland also ignores the

welfare issues associated with its hunts that the International Whaling Commission (IWC) requires. It has not reported any data on the time each whale takes to die in either its fin or minke whale hunts, nor has it reported on the efficiency of its exploding harpoons and secondary killing method (used when a whale is not killed by the harpoon). Essentially, we can only guess at the extent of the cruelty inflicted on these whales.



▲ The report exposes the sheer scale of the fin whale hunts.

For one southern hemisphere summer, whales have had a brief respite from Japanese hunts as the whaling for 2014–15 was cancelled. Very disappointingly however, the Japanese government, in defiance of the ICJ and the IWC Resolution, has published a revised whaling programme which plans to take 333 minke whales a year, starting in the 2015 Arctic summer season.

◀ The Taiji hunts continue to send shockwaves around the world.



*EIA and their campaign partners are calling on the international community to take tough action to end Iceland's ongoing slaughter of endangered fin whales.*

### Ongoing slaughter

During an investigation in Iceland in August, EIA documented a huge fin whale being landed: fin whales are the second largest animals ever to live on Earth. By following a lorry loaded with flensed whale (this means the meat and blubber have been removed), EIA discovered meat and blubber being processed in facilities belonging to Iceland's seafood giant HB Grandi – despite the company denying it has any links with whaling.

A joint report called *Slayed in Iceland* – published by EIA, Whale and Dolphin Conservation (WDC) and the Animal Welfare Institute (AWI) – for the 2014 IWC meeting, exposed the sheer scale of the fin whale hunt and overseas trade as well as the links between the whalers and some of Iceland's largest companies.

As reported in JAWS newsletter 78, Iceland's fin whale hunt revolves around Kristján Loftsson, a multi-millionaire and the Executive Director of Hvalur hf, the company through which the fin whaling operates. In his bid to create a viable market for fin whale products in Japan, he has used the resources of HB Grandi, a company for which he serves as Chair of the Board.

### Calls for tough action

EIA and their campaign partners are calling on the international community to take tough action to end Iceland's ongoing slaughter of endangered fin whales. This includes pressuring companies, including supermarkets, to stop buying seafood products from companies associated with Iceland's whaling, particularly HB Grandi.



▲ It took these Japanese whalers four harpoon shots to finally kill this badly injured whale.

The evidence in *Slayed in Iceland* contributed to a formal diplomatic protest (a demarche) by 35 countries that was delivered to the Icelandic government in Reykjavik on the opening day of the 2014 IWC meeting. Iceland was called upon to “respect the IWC's global moratorium and end its commercial whaling and international trade in whale products”.

### Pollution threat

For years, EIA has been working with Japanese retailers to end the sale of cetacean products, particularly due to the pollution threat to consumers. This has resulted in thousands of

supermarket stores plus internet giants Amazon and Google ending their sales, so reducing demand. During a trip to Japan in 2013, supported by JAWS, EIA purchased products from Rakuten, Japan's leading internet retailer. As expected, scientific analysis exposed high levels of pollutants in these products. In early 2014, EIA launched a new report and social media campaign exposing the extent of cetacean meat and ivory sales by Rakuten. As a result of the campaign and huge public support, Rakuten announced in early April, pleasingly, that it was ending all sales of cetacean products through its Japanese marketplace.



▲ Processing fin whale in Iceland.

Both the report *Slayed in Iceland* and an accompanying short film can be found on EIA's website at: [www.eia-international.org](http://www.eia-international.org)

# Letters

At JAWS UK, we receive a lot of letters and emails from people who are concerned about animal welfare issues they have seen while in Japan. While we know that cultural attitudes differ, it seems that the current lack of effective animal welfare legislation may be the root of many of these problems.

Here are some of the letters we have received in the past few months.



## BEAR EXISTENCE

I am a lifelong member of JAWS and I am concerned about the distressing conditions in which the bears at the Ainu Museum in Hokkaido are kept. I would like to initiate a letter-writing campaign through my blog and wonder if this matter is being investigated.

J Dougill (Tokyo)

## COFFEE SHOP CAGES

I was visiting Inoda Coffee, a cafe in Kyoto, and noticed they have three very small cages with birds in them. I'm not even sure that the birds could stretch their wings, let alone fly. The first cage had a cockatiel, which was subdued, another contained a very distressed parrot with a twisted head, which was shaking and rocking. The last cage contained two poorly-looking lovebirds. I hope you are able to help them.

S Delaney

*Response: JAWS instigated an inspection by a veterinary officer from Kyoto City Animal Welfare Bureau. He was able to report that, although the lovebirds' cage was deemed satisfactory in size, the cafe owner was directed to provide larger cages for the cockatiels. The cafe owner assured the inspector that the birds were kept clean, healthy, fed and provided with fresh water and that he moved their cages to a quiet space when the cafe was busy. JAWS hopes to be able to alleviate concerns.*

## HOT SPRING HELL

I used to live in Japan and have wonderful memories, yet I often think of a very young elephant at the Beppu Jigoku hot springs.

There were lots of animals in very confined spaces in the 'zoo' there, but the elephant was chained in a shed without even enough space to lie down. He had no company or exercise and he poked his little trunk out of a slit in the fence.

Elephants live a long time and have many needs. I still think about him and have adopted several of Kenya's baby orphaned elephants due to the dreadful trade in their poached ivory.

I would be grateful if you could update me on this noble elephant.

A Jones (UK)

## OSAKA SUFFERING

I would like to draw attention to my local zoo in Osaka, Tennoji Zoo. Many animals there are kept in dire conditions, especially the wolves and bears, which appear to be suffering from zoochosis, a term used to describe abnormal or distressed behaviour by animals in captivity, such as constant pacing.

There is a lack of understanding of this condition in Japan and this worries me.

I have started a petition but I have found it difficult to get contact details for the people who matter. Is there any assistance you can offer to bring attention to this zoo?

Ms S (UK)

*Response: JAWS Tokyo is aware of the poor conditions for animals in Tennoji Zoo in Osaka, and has put pressure on the zoo, through the Japanese Association of Zoos and Aquariums, to make improvements. JAWS intends to inspect the site in the near future, and if no improvement is seen, will take further action.*

## BEAGLE PROBLEM RESOLVED

I am worried about a beagle I have seen and wondered if JAWS could help. He is kept in a small space day and night and never seems to be taken for a walk. There are dog faeces on the ground and he badly needs a bath!

I would like to make small contribution to the work of JAWS.

Mr G Symonds (Tokyo)

*Response: JAWS is happy to be able to report that, after*



*JAWS Tokyo is working hard on the problems associated with the Age-uma horse festival.*



the owner was spoken to, he understood he needed to care for his beagle properly and the dog's conditions have improved. JAWS thanks Mr Symonds for his kind donation.

**EBISU MISERY**

A friend went to Japan on holiday recently and visited the Ebisu Circuit, a race track at Nihonmatsu. She was shocked by the 'safari park', located right next to the race track, where there were elephants kept in chains and lots of lions in small cages. I think it's incredibly cruel to do this to these beautiful animals and would like this place to be inspected.

R Waine (UK)

**HORSE SENSE**

I'm Canadian, and am interested in connecting with an equine rights, welfare or advocacy group in southern Japan. Is this something JAWS is involved with, or do you partner with any such groups in Japan? Any suggestions on who to contact would be greatly appreciated. There is such a great global need to work for the welfare of animals and I congratulate JAWS on its work.

S. Sargent

*Response: JAWS UK is currently researching reliable Japanese equine welfare groups with a view to supporting their work. In addition, JAWS Tokyo is working hard on the welfare problems associated with the Age-uma horse festival, mentioned in the Japanese Coalition for Animal Welfare report on page 9.*

**LOBBYING FOR CHANGE THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA**

I came across your website as I am actively involved in campaigning, from London, against the Taiji cove slaughter of cetaceans. As you will understand, I have come up against many obstacles and without having anyone to work with directly in Japan fighting for animal welfare, I have found it difficult to be taken seriously.

It seems such a shame that a lot of anger is aimed at Japan generally because of the fishermen at Taiji. It's frustrating because most of us who campaign to stop the hunts know that it is not the whole nation that is to blame, yet we

are accused of this when trying to converse with pro-whalers and pro-dolphin hunters.

I have been in debate with Japanese citizens on Facebook and Twitter who seem to think everyone in Japan is aware of what happens at the cove, but do not see it as a problem as the dolphins are 'no different from cattle slaughtered at the abattoir'. This may well be the general view; however the brilliant work done by the EIA, and their research on dolphins and whales, clearly calls for the hunts to stop as they are obviously cruel and the animals suffer immensely. I have also been told that the science behind animal welfare is laughed at in Japan, and that nobody is taken seriously if they stand up against it. I am happy to discover this is not true, having found your website and read about all the great things you have achieved and what you fight for.

I was hoping that we may be able to work together to raise awareness of the work you do within Japan itself, and especially in expanding your social media presence with Facebook and Twitter. I believe this will go a long way in helping to raise the status and the importance of animal welfare within Japan, as I know there are many people like you that DO care and would like to spread the word.

E. Heward (UK)



# NEWS from Ashlea Haselgrove



As honorary officer of JAWS UK (Australia), Ashlea Haselgrove continues to raise awareness of the plight of animals in Japan. Here is her latest report from Victoria, Australia.



▲ The V cut into the right ear indicates that these cats have been neutered.



▲ Ashlea and Constable Sotani greet a dog at the Horikes' cramped farmhouse.



▲ Cat therapy: In this cat café, in a narrow Kobe street, for ¥1,000 an hour (about £5.50) you can enjoy unlimited green tea, a snack and "spend time with playing with cats to heal and soothe".

## News from Nakafujikai

The Nakafujikai ladies are ever-grateful to Sheila Clayton's 'Friends of JAWS', who help them via the JAWS UK London office. They are always 'in the red', yet carry on their valuable work capturing and neutering cats and liaising between feeding groups, managing to help eight or more cats each week – all at great speed! Time is short for finding new homes, but the indomitable ladies do manage to rehome some, after they are health-checked, neutered, vaccinated and wormed.

The ladies are on the road from early in the morning – for capturing – until dusk or even later, with a quick return home to treat sick and injured cats and clean out litter trays. It's hard to get in touch with the ladies when they're on the road, as their mobile phone rings constantly – even during a final gathering of the Hanshin branch's former committee members, the phone rang persistently. I admire Mrs Nakajima's patience in dealing with sometimes rather irrational callers!

## Dedicated cat rescuers

On my visit to the Nakajimas' small home, I saw how they have dedicated their house – and their lives – to the comfort and welfare of rescued cats. They are presently looking after about 80 unwanted animals, some with injuries and illnesses. They do not consider euthanasia for cats that are not rehomeable, so their home has reached bursting point. Their living room is stacked with cages containing cats recovering from surgery, to be kept on in the upstairs rooms or to be returned, once neutered, to feral colonies.

## Well-intentioned hoarding

After meeting up with Constable Sotani's wife and delightful baby son Toshiya, he and I drove out to the countryside to visit an animal-loving couple, the Horikes, who live in an ancient farmhouse.

Until early October, the Horikes had cared for more than 60 animals – dogs and cats – that had been abandoned at their door by irresponsible pet owners. They have managed to rehome a lot of the dogs to new owners in their district, including a bed-ridden Borzoi, but the remaining dogs are not being kept in good conditions. They have bedding, food and water, but they are housed in small pens, without natural light. Some of the cats fare better, at least those in the higher section of the farmhouse.

*Without proper legislation neither JAWS nor officials are able to help*

A small akita-cross, which was prone to aggressive behaviour, was housed in a carry cage in which he couldn't move easily or even stand properly. He'd developed a way of twisting himself around in a tight circle to avoid upsetting his tiny water bowl.

When we arrived, officials from the local sanitation department and the area veterinary association were already at the farmhouse. Although they told us they were there in an official capacity, they said they could only "offer advice" and weren't able to give funds or practical help. To me, this demonstrates the hopelessly inoperable state of the law at present

There are similar cases of well-intentioned animal hoarding to be found throughout Japan and without proper legislation neither JAWS, nor officials, are able to help. The Horikes and their helpers are doing all they can out of compassion for animals, but "advice" simply does not go far enough. With the main living areas of the farmhouse devoted to the cats, the Horikes themselves seemed to be living in a cramped cave-like space in an adjoining room under the wide eaves and sadly, a few months ago, Mr Horike discovered he had a serious degenerative illness and the future looks uncertain.

## Rumiko's rescues

Rumiko Yanese and her husband Shigeru, now in their early 70s, have been working for animal

*There is a huge problem with feral cat colonies... the population is out of control.*

welfare for 40 years while running their rice and bean cake (ohagi) shop in the well-known 'red-light' district of South Osaka. They rescue, neuter and, wherever possible, rehome dogs, cats and kittens.

Sadly, there is a huge problem with feral cat colonies, particularly in the tiny park areas (many are only the size of a tennis court). Rumiko works with several co-operative vets and sometimes euthanasia is their only option, as the cat population is out of control.

Typically, Rumiko receives calls from people who live near the tiny parks whenever new animals arrive, usually cats and kittens. If she doesn't try to capture them on her way back from work (usually around midnight) there's a risk of them being poisoned. There's simply not enough space for such a density of humanity, and feral cats and kittens too, to exist alongside each other without problems of faeces, urine and disease arising.

### Campaigning in Kobe

On a more positive note, I witnessed three different animal welfare organisations campaigning one warm Sunday morning in the elite shopping area of downtown Kobe. They all had dogs with them, and were handing out information leaflets and interacting with passers-by asking for support and donations. They were: The Seeing Eye Dogs Japan, Japan Rescue Association (JRA) and the local Hyogo Service Dog Association. This last one was run by a very conscientious retired man, who devotes much of his time to the organisation, assisted by a young woman. They obviously understood and cared for the dogs in their charge and were eager to involve the public with information about their cause. I was able to tell them that I'd seen a young man in a wheelchair a few days earlier, with a Labrador-cross service dog, in a busy station mall. I'd told him what a beautiful dog he had and his face had lit up. He'd said, with some difficulty due to his disability: "Thank you, he's my best friend."

▶ It is rare to see a dog free in a garden in Japan but this happy shiba-ken was free to watch passers-by on the steep mountainside road, bossing them around with obvious pleasure!



▲ Not all the 'welfare' organisations seem very enlightened – this girl from the JRA had, moments before, been senselessly teasing the Pomeranian (left) until the man took the lead from her.



▲ The Hyogo Service Dog Association even had leaflets prepared in English!



# Constable Sotani's Report

On top of his duties as a police officer on Awaji Island south of Kobe in Osaka bay, Constable Sotani manages to rescue, help and rehome animals across the area. Here is a selection of stories from this local animal hero.



## Toothy poodle

A white poodle was found in the north of Awaji Island in the site of a college in the mountains. There are very few houses in the area, so I checked every house for his owner, with no luck.

The poodle had a very distinctive double tooth in his bottom jaw, so I looked on the internet and found a person who was looking for her lost white poodle that was very similar. She lived a four-hour drive from Awaji Island, but I knew of cases in the past where a dog had been stolen and sold some distance away, so I emailed her. She replied, saying: "Our dog has a double tooth at the bottom of his mouth, too."

I asked for close-up pictures and compared them. It seemed there was a slight difference. However, she still wanted to come and check for herself. So, the very next day, three family members arrived all the way from Ishikawa prefecture. Unfortunately, when they met the poodle and called his name, he didn't respond, even growling and snapping when they tried to pet him. Disappointed, they had to admit he wasn't theirs, so they headed home. Happily however, the lost poodle was soon adopted by a new, loving family.

## Skin trouble

A stray dog with a serious skin condition was found in downtown Kobe in late July.

The poor dog was in a terrible state, with powdery, flaking, sore skin and fur loss in places. His teeth, however, were in good condition, showing that he was only two or three years old. My fellow police officers enjoyed playing with him, but nobody was willing to adopt him due to his skin condition, so curing that was a 'must'!

The first vet I visited told me he had an allergy and gave me some medicine, but his skin didn't improve at all, so I took him to a vet who specialised in skin diseases. He diagnosed a fungal infection called *malassezia pachydermatis*.

The vet said *malassezia* was a very unpleasant disease, would take around three months to cure, and would be very expensive, so I asked Mrs. Ueda, a volunteer animal-carer, to look after him. I took him back to the vet once a fortnight for three months and washed him gently with special anti-fungal shampoo. Eventually, his skin became much better.

A friend of Mrs Ueda, called Arima, was looking for a dog so I took him to visit her. From the first moment, the friendly dog spread his charm, wagging his tail and fawning at his new owner's feet! Needless to say Arima fell for him straight away, he was rehomed with her and they look forward to a happy new life together.



## Injured heron

At the beginning of August, I had a call from a lady who runs a hairdressing salon in a fishing port called Kariya, in Awaji city. She was worried about a seabird that was injured and exhausted. I managed to capture the bird, a heron, which had a bleeding head wound. I cleaned his wound, put him in a cardboard box and hand-fed him some raw fish.

After finishing my day's work, I took the heron to a vet, who said that his wing was injured but there were no broken bones. I took the bird home and to keep him safe and secure while he recovered, put him in a dog crate big enough for him to stretch his wings, covered it with a sheet, and hand-fed him raw fish twice a day.

My wife (who is not keen on birds anyway!) happened to be away at the time, so I asked my parents, who live nearby, to feed the bird while I was at work. My parents love animals, so they really enjoyed taking care of him.

After 10 days, the bird was flapping his wings well, so I decided to release him where he had been found. I invited the lady to meet me, and together we opened the heron's box. The bird looked around for a few moments, then flew away to join the large group of herons on the nearby jetty.

The lady was delighted to see him return to the wild, saying: "I'm so happy to see him fly again!"

# THE IMPORTANCE of GRANT GIVING

JAWS UK has been able to provide grants to support some vital animal welfare work happening in Japan over the past year, thanks to your generous donations. Each of the five JAWS branches received grants of £2,000. The Japanese Coalition for Animal Welfare (JCAW) also receives regular grants, and in this issue we have dedicated this page to bringing you a range of stories on their important activities.

## GRATITUDE FROM JCAW

We would like to say a huge, heartfelt thank you to all at JAWS UK for your generous and valued support.

The JCAW Board meets once a month to discuss our actions and plan new strategies, and we continue to recruit new organisations to join our federation. We believe that expanding our network is key to accomplishing positive change, so we work with government agencies and a range of other groups, sometimes in times of disaster, to resolve situations concerning animals of every kind; zoo animals, school pets, abandoned animals and marine mammals.

We look forward to continuing to work with you in the future.

JCAW



▲ JCAW meets with its 11 member organisations across Japan to plan the year's activities and budget.

## SEMINARS ON CRUCIAL CRUELTY ISSUES

In May 2014, Dr Takita presented 'Tears of the Elephant', an in-depth look at the poaching situation and the plight of elephants in Africa.

In July, Phil Arkow's presentation, entitled 'The Link', examined the connection between human violence and animal abuse. This presentation was a part of the International Conference on Animal Care in Kobe and was given at the special session coordinated by JCAW.

In August, a presentation was given on the issues around the keeping of exotic pets. Guest speakers were invited from the Ministry of the Environment and the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Labour. JCAW has been concerned about the increase in the keeping of wild animals as pets and is currently trying to address this issue by presenting this topic to the public through seminars.



## AGE-UMA STILL RUNNING

JCAW representatives visited the Age-uma Shinji again this year to observe and report on the cruel practices. This festival, held in Inabe and Tado Shinto Shrine, uses horses in a shockingly abusive way, where they are ridden at high speed and encouraged to jump a high, vertical stone wall.

Unfortunately, the abusive actions of festival staff have continued despite numerous warnings issued by JCAW, including a request for action officially filed with the local police department. JCAW will continue to monitor this festival and devise new ways in which to change the current situation.

*This festival uses horses in a shockingly abusive way, where they are ridden at high speed and encouraged to jump a high, vertical stone wall.*

# NEWS AND EVENTS

JAWS Tokyo continues its tireless work in Japan rescuing and rehoming animals as well as raising funds and awareness. Here is what has been happening recently.

## JAWS TOKYO'S NEW OFFICE TEAM

The new JAWS Tokyo office staff have been looking forward to introducing themselves to JAWS UK! Here are some words from two members of the brand new team.

### Dr Nai Machiya (second from right):

**I replaced Dr Yamaguchi recently, as special adviser to JAWS.**

When I was in college, I made a study of wildlife then worked with farm animals at local government level in Aomori prefecture. Moving to an animal hospital I worked as a vet, taking care of companion animals. Through these experiences I came to feel that behind all veterinary medicine should be the concept of animal welfare, so I am very proud of my current job with JAWS.

While I was a local government officer I decided to visit the UK, a dream of mine since high school. I worked at the RSPCA's Brighton branch for six months, which showed me that the current state of Japanese animal welfare is far behind the UK and other developed countries. People buy pets casually from pet shops and abandon them without a thought, and this bad cycle continues. People in Japan need decent education to open their eyes to animal welfare. I want to put my energy into finding responsible pet-owners, into encouraging more people to visit shelters, rehome animals and look after them for life.

### Chihiro Hayashi (far right):

**I joined JAWS last April as Dr Machiya's assistant.**

In 2013, Japanese animal-related law was amended. Due to this, sometimes the local government or agencies can refuse to accept deserted animals. As many in Japan oppose animal euthanasia no matter what, even if the animal is severely injured, very ill or simply not rehomeable, we at JAWS now receive many calls from pet-owners, asking us to accept these animals. We work incredibly hard to find new owners over the internet, for example through an online partnership with Kyoritsu Pharmacy. I am happy to say this has been a huge success so far but there is much more work to do, for example in producing more promotional material to encourage people to avoid buying animals from pet shops.

*"We work incredibly hard to find new owners over the internet, for example through an online partnership with Kyoritsu Pharmacy."*



### NEW SECRETARY FOR JAWSTOKYO

JAWS Tokyo is delighted to introduce their new secretary, Mr Yasuhiro Ikeda (above). Mr Ikeda's background is in economics, banking and foreign exchange and he comes to JAWS from his position as auditor at Kowa Real Estate Facilities Co. Ltd.



### STAMPS FOR CASH

JAWS Tokyo's lady trustees have been meeting at least twice a month to cut used stamps from envelopes. The stamps can then be turned into cash (with foreign stamps commanding a particularly good price) and they have been raising over ¥ 500,000 a year – around £2,700!

If you have used stamps, please post them to the JAWS UK London office.

▲ From left: Toshiko Tanimoto, Sachi Matsumoto, Takako Inoue and Mariko Shimizu.

▼ From left: Mr Uchida, Shizumi Koinumaru, Dr Nai Machiya, Chihiro Hayashi.





### RSPCA host Tokyo training with JAWS support

The RSPCA returned to Japan in November 2014 to deliver the fourth animal welfare training course for local authority inspectors, with support from JAWS and the Ministry of the Environment.

Around 25 inspectors from all parts of Japan attended the course, held in the Suidobashi area of Tokyo. Paul Littlefair, head of RSPCA International, and senior prosecutions manager Phil Wilson led the training, which focused on animal welfare assessment and evidence gathering in cruelty cases.

Phil Wilson explains: "We introduced some case studies of deliberate cruelty, neglect and hoarding from the UK, and invited the inspectors to identify the key welfare and legal points. Ministry officials then gave some guidance on how Japanese animal protection law would apply in each case. This generated some fascinating discussion.

We included group visits to a range of Tokyo pet shops of varying quality. The inspectors then had the chance to compare their observations, and in the long run this should help them refine their animal welfare assessment standards."

Paul Littlefair added: "The RSPCA really values our partnership with JAWS. Through JAWS' excellent standing with the Ministry and contacts across the country, together we have trained more than 120 inspectors over four courses since 2009. We hope this has helped to make a significant difference to the quality of animal protection and cruelty investigation in Japan."



### A word from the editor...

Hello again and welcome to the 83rd issue of your JAWS UK newsletter!

A lot of impressive animal welfare work has been done in Japan since I last wrote to you and I can hardly believe that JAWS has been involved in so many worthwhile ways in just one year.

Our lead story focusses on the plight of sea life – both in Japanese waters and beyond, and the many serious issues it raises. EIA have, once again, sent their up-to-the-minute report on how they, supported by JAWS, are tackling the problems at Taiji, the whaling issues and the trade in cetacean food products. I have to admire the bravery of their investigators, who never give up in their quest to uncover poor practice and improve the prospect of survival for so many of the world's endangered and exploited sea animals.

One theme seems to stand out for me this year, the inadequate state of animal welfare law in Japan. That's why I have brought you an extended letters page this time, so you can read for yourself about the huge variety of concerns people have – and about how JAWS staff, supporters, grant recipients and partners are all working hard to make things better for animals. JCAW add their voice to this on page 9, where you can also read about their campaign to stop equine cruelty at Age-uma Shinji.

Two people I hugely admire are Ashlea Haselgrove and Constable Sotani. If only they were in charge, animal suffering in Japan would be a thing of the past! Their pages are crammed with fascinating true stories of the animals (and the no less interesting people) they have encountered in their tireless work.

Finally, on the news pages you can enjoy being introduced to JAWS Tokyo's fabulous new team of office staff.

As we all look forward to the summer here in the UK, let's remember all the animals in Japan that still need our support.

Thank you for being part of JAWS UK.

*Helen Kedie*

Don't forget, all the previous JAWS UK newsletters are online at: [www.jawsuk.org.uk](http://www.jawsuk.org.uk)

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JAWS Tokyo office: Yasuhiro Ikeda SECRETARY

## PLEASE HELP US TO RESCUE ANIMALS IN JAPAN!

With so many demands on your pockets today, it is hard to respond to every appeal. But we make a special plea for animals that cannot ask for themselves – those in Japan, where there is still desperate need to improve legislation, local pounds, pet shops and zoos, and to relieve the harsh daily life of thousands of other suffering animals.

## MEMBERSHIP FORM

Title:  Name:

Address:

Postcode:

Email:

Signature:  Date:

I WOULD LIKE TO JOIN/RENEW MY ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP AND ENCLOSE:

UK membership £10  Retired/under 18 £5  Lifetime membership £50

## DONATION FORM

Title:  First name:  Surname:

Address:

Postcode:

Email:

Signature:  Date:

I enclose a donation of: £5  £10  £25  £50  Other £

(Please make cheques payable to Japan Animal Welfare Society Limited)

I would like to donate to JAWS on a regular basis and have completed the standing order form:

Please send me an acknowledgement YES  NO

## REGULAR GIVING: BANKER'S STANDING ORDER

Name of your bank:

Address of your bank:

Postcode:

Bank sort code:

Your account no:

Please pay Japan Animal Welfare Society Limited Sort code: 60-22-15, Account No: 71168648 my donation of £  annually/ monthly (delete as applicable) on the /D/D day of /M/M and until further notice.

Name

Using Gift Aid increases the value of your donation to Japan Animal Welfare Society Limited. So if you want your donation to go further, Gift Aid it. *giftaid it*

JUST COMPLETE THIS FORM AND SEND IT TO US.

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

POSTCODE

TODAY'S DATE

I want all donations I've made in this tax year and the six years prior to this declaration (but no earlier than 6/4/2001) and all future donations to be treated as Gift Aid donations, until I notify you otherwise.

To qualify for Gift Aid, what you pay in UK income tax or capital gains tax must be at least equal to the amount we will claim in the tax year.