



Janet and Jack Commence Walk Across Australia

Setting off on what will be a months-long journey, Janet and her rescue dog Jack started their long walk from Federation Square in Melbourne on Sunday 29 March at 10am and made their way down to Janet's old stomping ground of the Mornington Peninsula. The journey continued to Sorrento, then on the ferry to Queenscliffe, and as of 2 April, they have reached Torquay, making the total kms travelled so far an amazing 151.89 km!

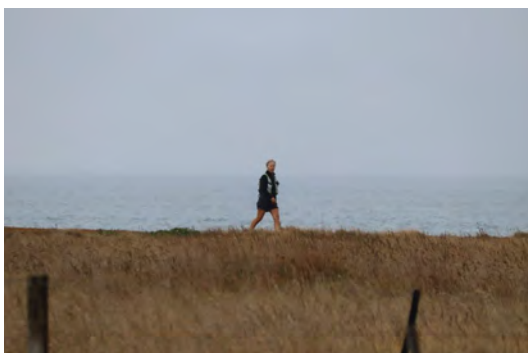
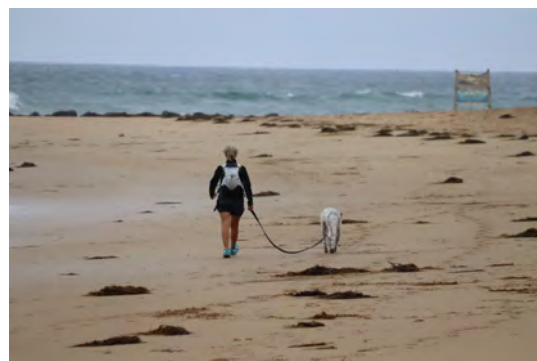
On a combination of paths, bush trails, road and beaches, Janet has been joined by Jack each morning, before he takes a break and rejoins Janet for the last leg on most days.

Always mindful of health and safety with the Corona Virus situation ever present, and following government guidelines always, Janet has had to forego a lot of the planned interaction and face to face publicising of the walk and the cause it aims to raise awareness for. With a loyal following on social media, and the newsletter mailing list, it is hoped that the word can be shared through these avenues.

Whilst sensitive to the financial plight and health concerns facing the whole country right now, the working animals around the world still need our help, and the partner groups are still operating and in need of support. As such we hope

that people can appreciate the message and aim of this walk across Australia, and support it in whichever way they can, whether that is simply liking the Facebook posts, or making a donation, it all helps.

So far, an amazing \$30,760.96 has been raised! If you would like to donate, please visit www.gofundme.com/f/walking-for-working-animals. For regular updates on the walk, like the Facebook page at www.fb.me/animalaidabroadwalk. For more information on the walk, Animal Aid Abroad, and the various ways you can get involved, visit www.animalaidabroad.org/walk-across-aus.



Addressing the Plight of Working Animals in Guinea

One of AAA's newer partnerships is with Liberia Animal Welfare and Conservation Society (LAWCS) in Guinea. Their overall aim is to improve the health and welfare of working animals, including cattle, donkeys and horses. LAWCS hope to end unnecessary suffering, pain and starvation by providing direct veterinary care for 4000 working animals and instigating a widespread educational program for 25,000 animal owners and children. During February, the LAWCS team treated 821 donkeys and 645 cattle in the Kankan region. They also conducted animal welfare education with 798 adults and 921 children.



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Improving Welfare for Donkeys in Zimbabwe

In Zimbabwe, our partner group Tikobane Trust reported they had soaking rains for two weeks in February. Whilst the rain provided plenty of fresh water and green grass for working animals, it also exposed donkeys to rain and mud in their open stables. Tikobane Trust therefore encouraged farmers to place straw and grass inside donkey stables to provide them with a dry place to rest. During February, Tikobane Trust visited 5 villages with their Donkey Clinic, treating wounds and injuries in working donkeys as required. Many of the wounds seen were on the backs of donkeys, caused by farmers beating them with sticks, rubbers or wire as they work in the fields. Unfortunately, myths persist in this region that donkeys do not fatigue and must be beaten hard in order to follow instructions. For this reason, the team spent time educating 28 farmers on donkey welfare as part of their clinic.



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Overworked Donkeys in Somaliland Receive Free Vet Care

There are approximately 120,000 donkeys in Somaliland and they play a significant role in supporting poor communities and people's livelihoods. The majority of donkeys pull heavy carts for their owners, filled with water containers, building materials, firewood and other essential supplies. Unfortunately, donkeys here are overworked, overloaded and not provided with adequate feed, care or veterinary treatment. Harness equipment is frequently poor quality and causes needless wounds and pain for donkeys. These vulnerable working animals often die of treatable illnesses and are forced to work while injured or ill. Animal Aid Abroad are providing funding and support for Social and Animal Welfare Service (SAWS) to enable them to provide free veterinary care for working donkeys in Hargeisa and thereby improve their lives.



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Unique AAA Book Now Available!

Have you purchased a copy of our special new book, “Nuru’s Moment of Courage” yet? This story for all ages, written by Franklin Hynes and illustrated by Liz Oldmeadow, features Animal Aid Abroad’s founder, Janet Thomas, and how she turned unbearable suffering into hope for working animals. All profits made from the book will go directly towards AAA’s partner projects. “Nuru’s Moment of Courage” is now available from:

Amazon (from \$12.90): <https://www.amazon.com/Nurus-Moment-Courage-Franklin-Hynes/dp/1922368156>

Book Depository (\$16.95): <https://www.bookdepository.com/Nurus-Moment-Courage-Franklin-Hynes/9781922368157?ref=grid-view&qid=1582176227019&sr=1-1>

Secure a copy of this unique book today, knowing that your purchase will also be assisting abused and mistreated working animals around the globe.



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