Viva!

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Issue 52 Spring 2013

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The Menopause explained

## Campaigns update

New *foie gras* footage

# Horse Meat and Hypocrisy

Vival's 10 year campaign

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Viva!'s fight is a fight for life - for animals and ourselves. Through effective campaigning, we take the brutal reality of intensive farming to the people who can effect the most change: consumers. Our wide-ranging campaigns promote vegetarianism and veganism as the best ways to save animals from suffering, protect the environment, improve health and help those in developing countries.

We have cleared the shelves of socalled 'exotic meats'; our campaign against the factory farming of pigs, turkeys and ducks saw deaths dive; we are closer to a *foie-gras* free Britain and meat consumption is down in the UK thanks to Viva! and our loyal supporters.



Viva! Health promotes the health benefits of a vegetarian and vegan diet. The diseases that kill many of us prematurely can mostly be prevented by consuming a plantbased diet - Viva! Health explains why. We provide accurate information about healthy eating to the public, health professionals, schools and food manufacturers. We campaign on important issues including children's health, the harmful effects of dairy foods, heart health, how to help combat obesity, diabetes and breast cancer and the dangers of eating fish and white meat.

#### How to get this magazine

Join Viva! to get your copy of Viva!life magazine three times a year for only £15 (£12 unwaged). You'll also receive a supporters' card - giving you discounts at hundreds of shops and on services and holidays - plus a free car sticker. Call 0117 944 1000 (Mon-Fri, 9am-6pm) or join online at www.viva.org.uk/join.

# Horse Meat and Hypocrisy Vival's 10 year campaign

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## Life Science

Latest in veggie research

# Campaign News Nikon exposed - new foie gras footage – reindeer slaughter

# Welcome

What a remarkable few weeks these have been. Almost daily some beef product has been withdrawn as it unfolds that the contents are not macerated cow but horse flesh. It has prompted a cosmopolitan response from indignation to disgust: "It's just a question of labelling" through to "I'm horrified, I'll never eat meat again."

There is no moral difference, of course, between eating a horse or a cow. However, pervasive propaganda persuades us to think that eating a handful of certain species is normal and we are taught not to question. But society's moral framework crumbles when confronted with the concept (or in this case reality) of eating a species that we do not collectively perceive as food.

Humans are morally corrupt when it comes to our relationship with animals. We are taught to view dogs, cats, horses as our companions and see them as loyal, friendly, playful, loving, fun, intelligent, mischievous and emotional – all positive attributes. We generally perceive horses as noble, hardworking, handsome, athletic and proud.

By contrast, we imbue pigs, chickens, sheep, cows and turkeys with largely negative attributes based on an ignorance actively encouraged at a scale that is gargantuan yet so accepted that it is hardly noticed.

The fraudulence of recent revelations bothers some; that criminals use the trade to smuggle illegal drugs disturbs others. But for the four million people who have turned vegetarian in the UK in the last few weeks, the reason given, thankfully, is concern for the horses. It is an acknowledgement that all animals are individuals and want to live without suffering. See more on pages 24-25.

Talking of crooked ethics, see page 11 for our new campaign to stop global company, Nikon from sponsoring hunting. They produce a rifle scope specifically for killing lions and other large predators in Africa. Please

boycott Nikon – and tell them why.

Another giant, Amazon, is another of our targets. Although the UK has banned the production of *foie gras*, we are one of the biggest importers in Europe. Amazon sells many brands – some from a company we and our French colleagues expose on page 13.

On a happier note, Viva! Poland has taken over a failing sanctuary and transformed it. Korabiewicach cares for hundreds of animals including 350 dogs, 16 horses, four bears and three pigs – and its staff are utterly

dedicated to these animals and work hard to rehome as many as possible. Obviously we have a no-kill policy! If you'd

like to help – please adopt Peppa, Fargo, Texa, Beton, Borys or Ofilia – jump straight to page 10!

Finally, Viva! Health has launched a ground-breaking campaign showing that dairy hinders bone health. To see the myths surrounding the white stuff exposed, go to page 32. And we have a special and immensely helpful report on the menopause that disentangles truth from hype.

Yours for the animals

Juliet Gellatlev

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#### viva!life magazine

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# lifelines

Juliet Gellatley's gorgeous, rescued St Bernard, Alfie, has gone. With a heart almost as big as he was, it was that which finally gave out, not long before his eighth birthday. His personality was enormous and his nature beautiful and he will be remembered fondly by everyone. Bye bye Alfie.

> Lovely Helen Rossiter, who edited Viva!life (and wowed us with her cookery and photography skills for the last four years), has left to follow other interests – namely her little son, Iolo (Welsh and pronounced Yolo) and husband-to-be, Gwilym. Journalist Helen brought to Viva!, cheerfulness, professionalism, efficiency and boundless enthusiasm and will be sorely missed.

# Can't Stop Talking!

Director Juliet Gellatley will be giving a talk at Hugh Cubitt House, 48 Collier Street, Islington, London N2 9QZ, on Sunday, May 12 at 2.45. The subject is: *Foods Your Body Loves and Hates* and is about why meat and dairy cause harm and the secret to a healthy vegan diet. It is part of London Vegans' campaign 'Pledge to go vegan for a month.'

Juliet is also the key speaker at the Vervet Monkey Foundation of South Africa's meeting at the Inn on the Lake Hotel, Shorne, Gravesend, on May 18. The talks are called *Wild Thing* (how eating animals destroys wildlife), and *Why You Don't Need Dairy*. All are welcome to both talks. Juliet has several other talks booked – see viva.org.uk/events.

# More Talking

Viva! talks are now online. Viva! staff travel around the country to give these talks on all the veggie issues. If you can't make it to the talks, the talks can come to you. At the Cardiff Roadshow we had many of our public talks televised and the first two have just gone up online. *Why you don't need dairy* is by Juliet Gellatley – outlining the health and animal welfare disaster that is the dairy industry. *Saving the world with your knife and fork*, by Tony Wardle, traces the role that livestock production plays in almost every global environmental catastrophe. We will announce other talks as they go online.

Why You Don't Need Dairy is presented by Juliet in her special, confident and inclusive way, carrying her audience with her through the myths and marketing hype that promote dairy. She outlines the many diseases that are linked to dairy consumption and then tackles the appalling cruelty that is endemic. And – surprise, surprise – the one is linked to the other.

www.youtube.com/watch?v=S7iov4Gq-Mo

Tony Wardle bases *Saving the World With Your Knife and Fork* on his environment report *Diet of Disaster*. In his own inimitable style, he combines politics, greed and arrogance to show how the livestock industry has become the greatest threat to the planet. He not only outlines how all the big disaster are liked to livestock but also the whys. www.youtube.com/watch?v=246kSlc3guY



# Veggie Fund to the rescue

Carolyn P, a vegetarian in her late 70s, has had her life transformed with a grant from the Vegetarian Fund, administered by the Vegetarian for Life (VfL) charity. A long-term vegetarian, Carolyn has problems with mobility and hearing and her carers' time was largely taken up with shopping for her and visiting the laundrette.

Through the grant, Carolyn now has her own quiet washing machine and a laptop so can now choose her shopping online and have it delivered. She was even able to get her overgrown garden sorted out. It has transformed Carolyn's life:

"I have a keen interest in science and history and I'm looking forward to being able to use the computer to research interests and connect with others". VfL provides older vegetarians and vegans help with independent living and can improve the lives of those in care homes – there are currently funds available.

Look on www.vegetarianforlife.org.uk or call Tina Fox on 01683 220888.

# Veggie Martians

PayPal co-founder and billionaire entrepreneur, Elon Musk, is planning one day to build a settlement for 80,000 people on Mars – and they will all be vegetarian.

Musk is no stranger to space and supplies the International Space Station for NASA with his company's own Falcon 9 rocket. Musk estimates the cost at \$500,000 per person: "The ticket price needs to be low enough that most people in advanced countries can make the trip," he says. I won't be losing many friends, then! I don't want to sound churlish, but wouldn't it be a good idea to solve the attitudes and problems on Earth before exporting them into space? I presume you can pay via PayPal.

# Triumph of the Empanada

Bolivia has become the first Latin American nation to be McDonalds-free

after the multinational closed its eight restaurants. The whisper is that seven other countries will also be stripped of their golden arches.

So disbelieving are people that there has been a rash of investigations and a documentary trying to find the reasons why Bolivians refuse to surrender their empanadas. One blog says: "Fast-



food represents the complete opposite of what Bolivians consider a meal should be. It has to be prepared with love, dedication, certain hygiene standards and proper cook time."



#### The Progress of Man

If you fancy a gallows chortle then cast your eyes over this little cartoon. It would be funny if it wasn't true. http://goo.gl/ThP2t

## Your help needed

Gina Shaw, DSc MA AIYS Dip Irid Dip NH, is a vegan health and nutrition consultant who is doing a research project on diet and blood pressure (BP). It will compare the blood pressure of vegetarians and non-vegetarians and Gina is looking for 2,000 participants. It will involve having a BP reading taken by your GP, pharmacist or with a home BP machine and completing a questionnaire. Gina can be contacted on ginashw@aol.com or by phone - 01626 352765 www.vibrancyUK.com.

#### Vegetipple – Android app

If you want to know if a particular brand of booze is vegan, simply select the category on your phone and

enter the tipple's name. If you get a green tick you can start working on a hangover. Info is built from the colossal Barnivore vegan alcohol database. Download free at www.barnivore.com/ mobile. Only for Android at the moment.



#### Appi Day

Ven.io – 'a wholesome lifestyle solution' – has produced an interactive iPhone recipe app for

vegetarians and vegans based on their taste and things they want to avoid. Dietary restrictions are built into the app and gives access to 500 recipes (and growing). It's making an impact in Canada and the US and can be downloaded free from iPhone App Store.



# Stand by for contact

If you want to meet other veggies across the world then VegIntros might rattle your cage. It's free and it's aimed at just about everything – business, joint projects, holiday home sharing, travelling, dating, you name it. It's new so is still building its database and maybe your ideas can help.

# Sweet Bobby

A former Met policeman has swapped the nick for pick and mix by opening Britons first entirely vegetarian sweet shop,

Sweet Expectations, in Rochester. John Baldock was brought up on a farm

and became vegetarian at the age of 12. "I gave up meat because I loved the animals too much," he says. John then found that his sweet tooth was restricted by dead beetles, extracts of hoof and other animal bits that find their way into some confectionery as gelatine or colouring.



John's solved the problem by using his

retirement money to open an animal-free sweet shop. It's as traditional as it comes, with jars of sweeties lined up on shelves and weighed out to order. What isn't traditional is the carnauba wax, beetroot, agar agar and other plant extracts that replace bits of dead animal.

After 30 years in uniform, John (56) says his wife had reservations about

#### Our sincere thanks

- Heather Eden donated £500 to Viva! in memory of her adored dog, Vippy. Thank you for you kindness, Heather, and truly sorry at the passing of your best friend.
- The Vegan Cakery raised £40 for us at the Compassionate Derby event recently. Thank you very much indeed.
- Julia & David Russell raised £250 from opening their Mill Garden in Warwick to visitors. A huge thanks.

#### Whoops - sorry!

In the last issue of *Viva!life* Lifestyle we introduced five new ready meals from Rosemary Conley and said that two were vegan. In fact all five are vegan! Order online at www.rosemaryconley.com says his wife had reservations about his new life but no longer – business is booming. There's a lot of us around, John!

# My Lidl Pony

The horse meat scandal has really made people think - and encouraged many to choose veggie. Viva! were delighted to team up with ad agency Pulse Group (www.pulsegroup.com) who produced a free film to help even more people dump meat. Called My Lidl Pony, it uses a racing commentary alongside images of beef burgers to highlight both the cruel racing industry and the horse meat scandal. It has been a massive hit on the internet! You can view and share it at www.viva.org.uk/helphorses



## 100 Chimpanzees Saved

The US's National Institutes of Health (NIH) were intending to transfer more than 100 chimps to a research facility in Texas, with a track record of fines for animal welfare violations.

Our great US colleagues, the Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM) refused to accept this and along with other groups campaigned for months. It was announced in January that they had triumphed and

that they had triumpned an every one of the animals is to be permanently retired to the Louisiana Chimp Haven sanctuary. At their new home, the chimpanzees will have space to explore and trees to climb and, best of all, will be free of invasive experiments.

# Adopt a turkey- then eat it

An organic Scottish farm near West Linton has launched an adopt-a-turkey scheme. Like most adoption schemes, you pay for the animal's board and lodging, visit to see how they're doing and even choose a name. And when Christmas comes, you eat it!

Farm owner, Heather Anderson, says: "Quite a few women want to name their turkeys after their husbands." Freud would have a field day with that!

Sonya MacDonald adopted a turkey for her two-year-old

daughter and said: "What's great is that she'll grow up thinking this is how it should be, that you see the animals happy and free and that they end up on the dinner table." No madam, there is another way – she could learn to respect the turkey's right to life!

#### More news on page 20





Top: Peppa pig loves visitors. Right: Former Viva! employee, Sam Gould, does her bit on the tractor. Bottom left: Viva!'s Kat Himmel has a chat with Fargo the bull



(and a lot of elbow grease) in a Cold Climate

#### By Kat Himmel (director's pa)

How would we cope? Speculation was rife as Claire Morley, Sam Gould and I prepared for our journey to Viva! Poland's animal sanctuary at Korabiewicach. What could we expect to find in a place that is home to 350 dogs, 16 horses, eight cats, four bears, three goats, three pigs, one wolf and a bull?

How would we three pampered souls, who panic at the sight of snow, cope with persistent amounts of the white stuff and temperatures that average a relatively balmy -10°C! We had willingly offered our help, but why oh why had we done so in the middle of January... in eastern Europe? So how do all the residents, human and non-human, contend with these conditions day after winter day, we wondered, and how does the organisation cope?

Everyone at Korabiewicach makes it look simple, but that's because they've got a system in place. So precise is it that, suddenly, 350 dogs didn't seem inconceivable. Once we realised that they're all well fed, given ample attention and that their walks are monitored like clockwork, the idea that the task of looking after them was insurmountable quickly subsided. Given their maltreatment by human hands, all the dogs were remarkably welcoming – as is a dog's way.

The number is constantly fluctuating, as dogs are rehomed – four during our 10 day stint – and new ones are brought in by Viva!'s astounding Intervention Team, who have the legal clout to seize abused or neglected animals.

Making good on our promises to put in some hard graft, we were soon humbled by the warmth, dedication and staggering achievements of the staff and their network of volunteers in the twelve months since they took over the reins. Under the previous owner it had become hellish for the animals and she is still trying to wrest back control. "She will not succeed," says Cezary Wyszynski, manager of Viva! Poland, with absolute assurance.

Even while he was building Viva! into Poland's pre-eminent animal group, for five years Cezary volunteered at Korabiewicach and played a pivotal part in compiling the evidence that was used to help Viva! Poland to buy its 30 plus acres, seven buildings and a house.

Agata Rybkowska got involved with Viva! Poland at the age of 16 and now at the age of 23 is director of the sanctuary and a veteran of animal rescue. On a skeletal budget, she oversees her core team of stalwarts and an army of weekend volunteers. She remains smiling and indefatigable. 'Remarkable' and 'highly organised' are the words that describe this woman. Workaholic though she is, she could not do what she does without the tireless assistance of the rest of Team Korabiewicach.

Rafal Polec turns his hand to anything that needs doing; Katarzyna Solecka is the clinic administrator; Magda Slowinska is an all-rounder and part of Vival's Intervention Team, as is Pawel Artyfikiewicz; Irena Gu Kowalczyk is full of ideas for promoting adoption through social media (their Facebook page is below) and we'll be helping to translate the pages into English so that the animals receive widespread exposure outside Poland, with a view to generating sponsorship.

Despite having managed miracles in such a short time, and despite a good infrastructure of endless fencing and runs for the animals, there is still a huge amount to do. The clinic is inadequate and underequipped but essential. Whilst we were there, one of four vets who assists performed four neuters and one spay procedure. Toilet and washing facilities are basic and there are no water taps in the dogs' runs. Drinking water has to be delivered to each one in a huge vessel hauled on the tractor. The house, essential to accommodate volunteers, is in disarray.

Funds are desperately needed as we are determined to help carry out these improvements to ensure Viva! Poland can continue to provide the devotion these traumatised animals need.

You might want to ponder a working holiday at Korabiewicach or perhaps make a contribution to help them – just a few pounds will provide warm straw bedding for three or four dogs! You can donate via Paypal to **korabiewice@viva.org.pl**. Check them out on **www.facebook.com/ Schronisko.w.Korabiewicach** 







Top, Borys, who will eventually go to a huge sanctuary. Centre, some of the sanctuary's 350 dogs. Bottom, Viva!'s Clair Morley with Kasia



# **Meet Some Polish Friends**

Meet some of the animals from Viva! Poland and help raise vital funds for their upkeep and the important work of Viva! in the UK and Poland. Words and pictures by Claire Morley, deputy director's PA

#### Ofilia the horse

Viva! Poland was initially set up to help end the transport of horses to Italy for meat We slashed it and 70.000 fewer animals faced that horrendous ordeal. Ofilia, along with her 15 horse friends, are now able to live a life free from the threat of the slaughterhouse – which is where she was headed. Ofilia loves the freedom of the sanctuary, with fields to

Adopt one of these animals for just £18 per vear and receive email updates about their progress

## Borys the bear Borys is one of four bears at

the sanctuary. He arrived here after years of cruel treatment in a circus where he was forced to perform. Thanks to the sanctuary, Borys is now able to live a life free of cruelty with specialist care. He does Viva! proud by refusing to eat any animal products at all but he

loves his fruit and veggies! Such a gentle giant, he surprises everyone with his soft nature,

especially after the abuse he has suffered from humans.

roam, specialist veterinary care and a warm stable at night, Ofilia really is one of the lucky ones.



#### Peppa pig

Peppa was born on a farm in Silesia, Poland – small, skinny and unwanted by the farming industry. A permanent home was found for her at the Viva! Poland animal sanctuary where she now enjoys the great outdoors with her new found goat and human friends. Peppa is extremely friendly, loves human company and a tummy rub, at which she grunts with satisfaction. Peppa was received at Korabiewicach with open arms and lights up everyone's day, all who meet her never want to eat pigs again.

#### Fargo the bull

Fargo has lived at the sanctuary for years and appreciated the fresh start when Viva! Poland took over in February 2012. His conditions have now improved beyond recognition. Fargo goes entirely against the bull stereotype for despite his enormous size he is a warm and friendly chap. He loves the outdoors and spending time with his dearest friends, Peppa and the goats.



Korabiewicach animal sanctuary www.shronisko.info.pl



#### Beton the goat

Beton, like many goats in Poland and the UK, was another cog in the farming industry. His female mates were to be used for milk production but Beton was destined for the slaughterhouse to be used as meat. Luckily Viva! Poland intervened and now Beton lives a peaceful life free from the prospect of pain and suffering with his

two female friends. He adores Peppa pig, Fargo the bull and the 16 horses at the sanctuary.

#### Texa the dog

Texa is a beautiful girl and her eyes hold a thousand tales of a past life we can only guess at. She is just one of 350 dogs at the Korabiewicach sanctuary. Texa was found weaving in and out of traffic, lost and afraid. Luckily, her hunger overcame her fear and the Viva! Poland team were able to take her to safety. She was riddled with worms, covered in ticks and her intestines were

full of plum kernels - the only way she could survive. Now, safe, Texa would like nothing more than your adoption.

In fact, all of these animals would love you to adopt them. Not only will you directly fund their keep, you will also help fund the vital campaigns of Viva! UK.

Please send a cheque or postal order for £18 (payable to Viva!) with your name, address and email as well as the name of the animal you would like to adopt. Send to Viva!, 8 York Court, Wilder Street, Bristol BS2 8QH. Alternatively call 0117 944 1000 (Mon-Fri, 9-5).



"I have used Nikon since I was a young boy, fascinated by nature and wildlife. I always saw Nikon as a company close to nature but I was wrong. I do not understand and cannot agree with their support for trophy hunting which sends out entirely the

wrong message to global photographers who love nature. Wildlife needs protecting now more than ever. I urge the company to end its support for trophy hunting." Stefano Unterthiner, Wildlife Photographer of the Year 2008



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# **Never a Nikon** Shooting wildlife with a lens and a gun

By Justin Kerswell, campaigns manager

Many wildlife photographers use Nikon cameras. Their latest catalogue shows a beautiful photo of two polar bears touching noses with the line, 'Nature is full of moments of timeless beauty, to be captured before they are gone forever.' Nikon should know because they are contributing to their disappearance.

A Viva! investigation has uncovered that Nikon not only facilitate the shooting of wild animals with cameras – they also do it with guns. The hypocrisy of this global company is one they have fought hard to keep from UK consumers.

Nikon declares that wildlife should be celebrated while producing riflescopes and other hunting equipment to enable people to kill those same animals. Most of their market is in the US where Nikon produce riflescopes designed for turkey hunting and one called the Coyote Special. The say they are "... proud to introduce the first line of riflescopes built specifically for predator hunters".

Nikon also produce a riflescope specifically designed for killing 'large game' – the Monarch African. They boast: "Africa has long been a continent of dreams for hunters around the world. For those seeking their dangerous game adventure on the Dark Continent." Trophy hunters have contributed to a massive 50 per cent decline in lion populations in the past three decades and lions may soon be declared an endangered species.

With just a trace of embarrassment, they have recently renamed their hunting website to one called 'sports optics,' have dispensed with the photos of grinning hunters holding up dead animals but still sell the same riflescopes.

Nikon still sponsor hunting and in 2012 declared they were proud to be a strategic partner with Texas Trophy Hunters. Jon B. LaCorte, Sr Product Marketing Manager, praised the organisation as being a "... testament to the passion that drives us in a sport we hold so rich with tradition (Sic)."

On the other hand they say: "Nature is a gift to

be appreciated, treasured" and at the same time do their best to obliterate it

Join us in telling Nikon to dump hunting and tell them why you will not touch their products until they do. Complain to Nikon: Online: www.viva.org.uk/nikon Phone: 0330 123 0932

Write: Nikon UK Limited, 380 Richmond Road, Kingston upon Thames, Surrey KT2 5PR

www.viva.org.uk 11

# Reindeer meat... turns the snow red

### By Justin Kerswell, campaigns manager

Producers call it 'exotic,' the media jokes about it as 'Rudolf pâté' and Harvey Nichols, Fortnum & Mason and even Lidl try to cash in on it. But the new push to sell reindeer meat is devastating some truly magnificent wildlife.

Viva! has been successfully campaigning for years against the sale of wildlife as 'exotic meat' but reindeer steaks and pâté carry a cruelty double whammy. It isn't just the reindeer who suffer but wolves and bears, lynxes and other beautiful animals.

Along with Scandinavian wildlife groups, Viva! has played a major role in highlighting the fate of large predators killed to protect reindeer herding. And the greater the sales of reindeer products, the greater the destruction of wildlife.

These magnificent predators are simply not tolerated in large parts of Northern Scandinavia and are shot on sight. In Sweden, wolves in the south are essentially marooned and without an influx of new blood face possible extinction through inbreeding.

With staggering stupidity, in February, the Swedish government announced the launch of a two-week open season for killing wolves. They say it is to remove genetically inferior stock. Will hunters demand to see a copy of a wolves genome before killing it? And how will their failing genes be refreshed? The country is hardly teeming with them as the estimated population is 270 animals!

Sadly, it isn't just Sweden as large

predators are also under threat in parts of Siberia, where there is a reindeer industry and hunting is encouraged by the authorities. It has led to a decline in wolves, wolverines and foxes. Many see them as pests that should be eliminated and calls to use snares, poison and traps are being heard.

We know from past campaigns what the outcome of vilifying wild animals will be. In Australia, when kangaroo killing was turned into an industry, the numbers of those species targeted plummeted. It can – and has – led to extinction.

Reindeers are semi-domesticated but are essentially still wild animals and suffer greatly as rearing intensifies. Snowmobiles, helicopters and motorbikes replace traditional herding and cause acute stress as does capture and transportation – so severe that their muscles can waste away.

Harvey Nichols sells reindeer pâté alongside worm lollies and chocolate ants – oh what a jolly jape! Not so jolly when pregnant bears and wolves are slaughtered as a result. Once budget stores such as Lidl start to popularise reindeer meat the problems will be exacerbated. That is why campaigning against so-called novelty or exotic meats is not a niche pursuit – it is quite literally a fight for survival for many of the world's surviving wild animals.

Get active online at www.viva.org.uk or contact us for sample letters on 0117 944 1000.



# Viva! fighting crue

# Foie gras update

Viva! have again exposed the horror of foie gras production with new footage from France, the country with the largest output. Working in association with our French colleagues, Stop Gavage/L214, we have sent cameras into the sheds of producer Labeyrie to show distressing scenes of ducks being force-fed huge amounts of grain with pneumatic pumps.

This company has introduced a new device to incapacitate the birds and prevent them from taking any evasive action. Automatic bars descend and pin the ducks to the floor of the cage. There is no escape and the workers grab each one in turn and thrust a pipe down his throat and into his stomach.

Online giant Amazon declares it has an ethical policy and won't allow whale or dolphin meat to be sold on its pages but it has no such qualms about foie gras.

Producers queue REE Brita up to offer this diseased product under the Amazon banner, some from this very same unit that Viva! has exposed.

Viva!

#### What ethical retailer would support such cruelty?

Vival's campaign for a foie gras-free Britain continues to grow, with a successful Day of Action being held on the run-up to Christmas (see box overleaf). We are continuing to push politicians for a ban and are now taking the fight online by challenging the largest internet seller of them all!

Tell Amazon to dump foie gras! Details about how to get active online can be found at www.viva.org.uk/amazon or contact us for a free action pack on 0117 944 1000.



#### <u> The story so far</u>



"Thanks to the hundreds of Viva! supporters who took part in our Christmas

action against foie gras! Tens of thousands of leaflets and postcards have been door-dropped and sent to restaurants and businesses, and some are removing this

This duckling could be caged, tortured ind killed just for a delicacy DON'T BUY FOIE-G **Go Veggie!** Viva!

hideous product from their menus. We've been swamped by requests for more information and packs to get active so the effects are already being seen - another step in the fight for a *foie gras* free Britain!" Liam Nolan, Viva! Campaigns Assistant and Groups Coordinator



# TEMPTED

Viva!'s Wine Club stocks over 200 types of wine, beers, spirits and cordials – all vegan, organic and lovingly sourced from independent vineyards around the world. Our wine is free-from hidden nasties such as gelatine (from pig or cow bones), isinglass (fish swim bladders), egg white and milk protein, so you can enjoy a cruelty-free glass of the good stuff. Choose from three different cases of 12 bottles designed for Viva! to suit every occasion.



Viva! Easy Drinking Case Highly quaffable and affordable, this case is a great introduction to vegan-organic wine.

£76 plus £6.95 delivery\* Whites: La Nature Le Blanc (France), Airen Camino Blanco (Spain), Fair for Life Chenin Blanc 'Moonlight Organics' (South Africa)

Reds: La Nature Le Rouge (France), Tempranillo Camino Tinto (Spain), Fair for Life Shiraz 'Moonlight Organics' (South Africa) Choose from: a) 12 White b) 12 Red c) Mixed (2 bottles of each)

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£86 plus £6.95 delivery\* Whites: Era Pinot Grigio (Italy), Caylus Cotes de Gascogne (France) Fair-trade Ventura Chardonnay (Chile) Reds: Era Montepulciano d'Abruzzo (Italy), Señorio de Landibar (Spain), Fair-trade, Carmenère Ventura (Chile) Choose from: a) 12 White b) 12 Red c) Mixed (2 bottles of each)

Viva! Special Occasion Cas A superb selection of wines for that special occasion that everyone will enjoy.

£99 plus £6.95 delivery\* Whites: Entre Deux Mers Chateau La Blanquerie (France), Rioja Blanco 'Noemus' (Spain), Prosecco Era (Italy)

Reds: Chateau La Blanquerie Rouge (France), Rioja Tinto 'Noemus' (Spain), Malbec Caligiore (Argentina) Choose from: a) 12 White b) 12 Red c) Mixed (2 bottles of each)

Or order on 0117 944 1000 (Mon-Fri, 9-5)



By Veronika Powell MSc, Viva! Health Campaigner

## Love your lentils

A new study suggests that eating pulses (beans, lentils, chickpeas, peas, etc) on a regular basis can prevent metabolic syndrome – characterised by being overweight or obese with the accumulation of fat mainly around the waist, raised blood pressure and increased fat and sugar levels in the blood (considered to be pre-diabetic).

In the study, people who consumed the most pulses (around 2.5 portions per week) had lower blood pressure, blood sugar levels and a better ratio of bad versus good fats in the blood than those people who consumed less. Researchers calculated that these people had 75 per cent lower risk of developing metabolic syndrome.

Hosseinpour-Niazi, S., Mirmiran, P., Amiri, Z., Hosseini-Esfahani, F., Shakeri, N., Azizi, F., 2012. Legume intake is inversely associated with metabolic syndrome in adults. *Archives of Iranian Medicine*. 15 (9): 538-544.





# Mercury rising

The journal *Environmental Research* published a study investigating the effects of fish consumption on children's health. It confirmed that regular fish intake is responsible for increased levels of mercury in the blood. Even though the levels of fish consumed by children were below the potential risk level, researchers found that they had disrupted hormone (adrenocortical) function that may result in the development of physical and psychological disorders. These fish-consuming children also had elevated markers of inflammation, which are a sign of the body's emergency response in trying to fight infection.

The authors also pointed out that children are more sensitive to environmental pollutants than adults and this is the first study of its kind. The results will probably have broad public health implications.

Gump, B.B., MacKenzie, J.A., Dumas, A.K., *et al.*, 2012. Fish consumption, low-level mercury, lipids, and inflammatory markers in children. *Environmental Research*. 112: 204-211



#### Thyme Tea

This delicately flavoured loose tea is made from the leaves and flowers of organic wild thyme grown on ancient Armenian mountainsides. It helps to stimulate and rejuvenate your senses.

#### Slim & Fit Tea

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#### Red Espresso

Red Espresso is simply Rooibos tea that has been ground to an espresso like consistency so that it can be brewed just like coffee It's delicious, caffeine free and packed with antioxidants.

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This 1.9 litre, handmade, mouth-blown jug simply oozes style. It can be paired with any of the glasses in the range to make a great table setting or a stunning gift.

#### Rosella Flowers

from £7.49

Pop one of these gorgeous, edible flowers in a glass of fizz and watch it open up to reveal its full beauty. The syrup adds a gentle flavour note and a soft pink hue too.

#### Cacao & Cinnamon Kale Chips

This delicious, very moorish snack not only tastes good, it does you good too! Made from dehydrated kale with cashew, cacao, palm sugar, cinnamon and vanilla.



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#### Syrups

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These colourful, biodegradable colanders are made entirely from bamboo and natural dyes. They can be safely washed on the top rack of a dishwasher.

#### LSA Long Drink

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A A

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MOLECULAR INGREDIENTS KITCHEN LAS ECLIPMENT SOLLS VIDE SEAWVEEDS SYRUPS BAR TOOLS SMOKERS JADANIESE TEAS BITTERS BARISTA TOOLS BOOM KIT WHIPPERS

# Take the pressure off

Many studies have found that vegetarians have lower blood pressure than the population at large but the latest one decided to look at a geographically diverse population containing vegans, lactoovo vegetarians and omnivores.

The research team concluded that vegetarians, especially vegans, do have lower blood pressure and suffer less often from hypertension than meat-eaters. Vegans were also less likely to have to take hypertension drugs than vegetarians and meat-eaters. These results were attributed not just to lower average weight but also to a higher intake of fruit and vegetables, nuts and wholegraping resulting in insersed amounts of fiber witamin K and m

nuts and wholegrains resulting in increased amounts of fibre, vitamin K and many other nutrients. Researchers also tested calcium levels of the study volunteers because low levels of calcium can increase blood pressure. However, they found that the vegans in the study did not have low calcium levels, which demonstrates that they get enough calcium from plant sources.

Pettersen, B.J., Anousheh, R., Fan, J., et al., 2012. Vegetarian diets and blood pressure among white subjects: results from the Adventist Health Study-2 (AHS-2). Public Health Nutrition. 15(10): 1909-1916

## Beating hearts and beating cancer

An analysis of studies of over 124,000 people investigating vegetarian lifestyle, cancer risk and heart health, revealed very interesting facts. It was found that vegetarians are at a lower risk of heart disease and death from heart attack or stroke. It was also confirmed that vegetarians have a lower incidence of cancer and generally

live longer.

Huang, T., Yang, B., Zheng, J., et al., 2012. Cardiovascular disease mortality and cancer incidence in vegetarians: a meta-analysis and systematic review. Annals of Nutrition and Metabolism. 60 (4): 233-240.

# Allergic to junk

A new study has found a possible link between junk food and an increased risk among children of developing asthma, eczema and some childhood allergies. The massive research involved more than 319,000 teenagers from across 51 countries and more than 181,000 children (six to seven years old) from across 31 countries.

The results suggest that eating fast food three or more times a week could lead to developing asthma, eczema and rhinoconjunctivitis (a condition characterised by runny or congested nose, sneezing, itchy and irritated eyes). Teenagers who ate three or more servings of fast food were 39 per cent more likely to suffer from severe asthma, while in younger children the risk was 27 per cent.

On the other hand, children who ate fruit three or more times a week were 15 per cent less likely to develop the above health issues. The study did not differentiate between the types of junk food but the authors stated that the link is likely to be related to the higher content of saturated fat, trans (hydrogenated) fat, sodium and sugar levels in fast food and probably also preservatives.

Ellwood, P., Innes Asher, M., García-Marcos, L., *et al.*, 2013. Do fast foods cause asthma, rhinoconjunctivitis and eczema? Global findings from the International Study of Asthma and Allergies in Childhood (ISAAC) Phase Three. *Thorax*. Jan 14 [Epub ahead of print]

# Be a know-it-all

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#### End of the Line Tony Wardle

Over-fishing, fish farming, by-catch and political betrayal – it's all here. The cries to save our seas are still being ignored while fish farming is not the cure it pretends to be but is part of the problem.



Wheat-Eater or Meat-Eaters Amanda Woodvine MSc (Nutrition)

Did evolution intend us to eat plant foods or animals or both? With an anatomy chart of carnivores, herbivores, omnivores and humans, the message is clear – we eat animals at our peril!



Viva! Kids' Cook Veggie Bright and colourful help for seven to 17 year olds. Easy-to-follow recipes for breakfast lunch and dinner. Learn how to cook great foods such as bean burgers, fishless fish and chips, cheese cake and pancakes.



#### Nutrition in a Nutshell Juliet Gellatley BSc, Dip Nut Med

Your questions about protein, iron and calcium answered. Where to obtain all the vitamins and nutrients you need. Why plant foods provide the best health – includes handy vitamin chart.



Feed the World Introduction by Jeremy Rifkin

Who in the world is hungry. Why are developing countries in debt? And why is factory farming a disaster for them? There are several reasons but meat and dairy production is high on the list.



The Food of Champions Laura Scott MSc (Nutrition)

Why vegetarian and vegan diets are ideal for sports people – and a list of famous veggie athletes to prove the point. Includes easy meal ideas. Introduction by Dr Christine Fenn.



#### Your Health in Your Hands Dr David Ryde & Tony Wardle

How diet influences many common diseases. A review of the research shows that a veggie diet is the healthiest you can get.



Martin Shaw Cooks Veggie A Viva! favourite! Delicious collection of animal-free recipes from TV's popular actor. Ideal for pros and novices alike.



#### Planet on a Plate Tony Wardle

At the heart of almost every environmental disaster is livestock production. Global warming, soil erosion, loss of forests and chemical pollution – it's all here. A strong case for an immediate change in global diets. (Tony's fully referenced environmental report, *Diet of Disaster*, is available from our online shop).



Matter of Life and Death Juliet Gellatley BSc, Dip Nut Med

Exposes the truth behind modern farming and slaughter. Accessible, fascinating and examines the treatment of most farmed animals. Colour pictures throughout.



#### Stop Bugging Me

Amanda Woodvine MSc (Nutrition) What are the nasties that give you food poisoning – bacteria, viruses and superbugs? Guess what – nearly all come from animal farming and are carried in meat and dairy (and fish). Steps you can take to avoid them.



#### Justice Denied Tony Wardle

A personal view of the the link between human and animal suffering and how it threatens the world. How justice is still being denied to the most vulnerable inhabitants of our planet.



#### The Soya Story Dr Justine Butler

Soya's bad for you? No it's not – it's extremely good for you and all the scientific evidence is here, including its beneficial effect on many diseases. Plus some superb soya recipes.

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#### Continued from page 7

#### Quote of the Week

A supporter rang to say she had seen live lobsters for sale in Harrods – definitely alive because they were moving. She tackled the assistant who said: "Because they're on ice they're sedated. They enjoy it!"

#### Raffle Winners

The lucky winners of Viva!'s Christmas raffle are: £1,000 – Mr Robert Porter of Littleborough £300 – Ms Zoe Edden of Hove £100 – Ms Carolyn Ketchum of Battle

The five runners up were: Mrs A M Bell of Gloucester; Mr B Hills of Ely; Mr I Baines of London SE3; Mrs M Whewell of Inverurie: and Mrs R Chick of Horsham. Each received a selection of goodies from Cocoa Loco, Seggiano and Viva! Wine Club.

#### Fundraising Film You can view a new, short but very powerful Viva!

You can view a new, short but very powerful Viva! fundraising film on www.viva.org.uk/film/donate. It goes right to the heart of what we do and was professionally made at a very low cost. Please share with friends and family.

# Bloggin' It

If vou're looking for cookery inspiration and fantastic recipes there are three blogs that will do the trick. Two come courtesy of passionate Viva! staff and the other is long-time activist and Viva! supporter, Sue Daniels.

#### www.lotsofnicethings.com from

Viva!'s own Helen Rossiter – gorgeous recipes and crafts. Helen is an endless fount of food inspiration and experimentation as well as being an ace crocheter.

Veggie Sue's Recipes – on Facebook – everything from Vegan Lemon Meringue Pie to an award-winning Tomato & Mushroom Roast. And Bakewell Tart.... lovely stuff www.facebook.com/pages/Veggie-Sues-Recipes/209686565809111

www.justbloggs.wordpress.com from Viva!'s own Justine: cook, and witty, self-confessed 'slightly grumpy old vegan scientist.' Thousand Island Tofu Rosso or Chocolate & Lime Cupcakes with Coconut Milk give you some idea.

#### The Unseen ... Judge Deed ..

The extraordinarily talented vegan TV producer and writer, G F Newman, contacted us to say that the two banned episodes of his great drama, Judge John Deed, can now been seen on YouTube –

#### www.youtube.com/JJDfan.

From season 5, they are One Angry Man (banned after a single complaint) and Heart of Darkness (banned because of its treatment of the MMR argument). Gordon says: "You might like to see them before someone in the BBC Compliance Dept finds them and tries to take them down."

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#### Special Viva! Health Report

# Menopause<br/>madnessAre you a hostage to your<br/>hormones?

Up to 70 per cent of British women experience menopausal symptoms, with many feeling unable to tell their partners. Juliet Gellatley, founder & director of Viva! and nutritional therapist, says don't suffer in silence. She explores the science to see what remedies work and whether HRT deserves its bad press

There are two passionately opposed sides on the theory of menopause. One claims it is entirely natural and its symptoms are part of a fear campaign to promote hormone replacement therapy (HRT); that most symptoms may be just part of the ageing process; and that psychological symptoms may be due to the stresses of middle age, such as children leaving home. They tend to promote alternatives to HRT such as herbs and supplements based on soya and red clover.

The other camp believes that symptoms are due to the disruption and depletion of sex hormones and that HRT has a place. For some women this may mean saving their sanity, or so it feels. They also claim that although natural, the menopause only became a problem because life expectancy increased. Women never used to live long enough to experience it so evolution never prepared us for it. Their conclusion is that balancing sex hormones with HRT is therefore as important as giving insulin to a diabetic.

I've scoured the science, looked at the safety and efficacy of foods, supplements and HRT and talked to nutritional clients to get at the reality and there is right on both sides.

The perimenopause is when a woman's ovaries gradually begin to produce less oestrogen and usually starts in her forties, but can be earlier. It can last months or be protracted for 10 years but the average is four years – until the menopause, when ovaries stop releasing eggs and menstruation ends. In the UK this is usually at 52.

According to women's health specialist at Bristol Nuffield Hospital, Dr Annie Evans, most women don't find their periods ending suddenly in their early 50s but instead, they experience menstrual irregularity, perhaps heavy, painful periods and increased premenstrual symptoms such as breast tenderness, joint aches and headaches. She says: "To make matters worse, other symptoms such as irritability, aggression, weepiness, panic attacks and forgetfulness often kick in and have led to women mistakenly being treated for depression."

Perimenopause can make life a misery but often, symptoms are not properly

explained when just a slight adjustment to their hormone balance could make women feel and function more normally again. Many are left feeling that their symptoms are 'all in the mind' because they are too young for the 'change.' This is true of my client Katherine Hough, 46, who told me:

"I always thought of myself as a coper, the one who organised and propped things up! I've run my own business, have three children and two dogs. When I hit 44, I felt like crying at the tiniest thing, became unreasonable with my husband and panicked when he went away for work. I knew it was illogical but couldn't control my feelings and PMT got much worse.

"I went to my (male) GP who said I was too young to be menopausal and gave me antidepressants, which didn't help but just made me feel slightly distanced from my feelings. Months later, I asked to see a female GP, who had a different attitude. She gave me HRT, which worked within three months. I improved further after seeing you, improving my diet and exercising. My energy levels have soared and I am me again, warts and all, and boy am I (and my family) grateful!"

### Symptoms of the perimenopause can include:

- Shortening of menstrual cycle, erratic, increased or decreased length of bleed.
- Altered bleeds: spotting, clots, heavy bleeds or 'flooding', dark 'tarry' bleeds, mid cycle bleeds, very painful bleeds.
- Overwhelming tiredness, insomnia, poor quality sleep and recurrent waking, not related solely to night sweats.
- Headaches and migraine (especially premenstrual/menstrual).
- Night sweats (often drenching) may occur before daytime hot flushes.
- Joint aches, especially on waking, including hips, knees, shoulders, hands and feet.
- Cyclical breast tenderness, fluid retention and bloating before periods.
- Palpitations (often occurring alongside hot flushes).
- Bladder irritability, urgency, need to get up at night to pass urine.
- Loss of libido and interest in sex or difficulty with arousal and desire.
- Inability to multi-task, poor concentration and forgetfulness leading to 'list making,' driving in the wrong direction, losing the point of what you were saying, inability to remember names.
- Loss of emotional control (crying at sad films etc).
- Declining feelings of self-worth.

Source: www.drannieevans.com/The-Perimenopause.html



"My energy levels have soared and I am me again, warts and all, and boy am I (and my family) grateful!"

#### Vegan diet, stress and the menopause

A woman's sex hormones fluctuate throughout her life and perimenopause is similar to puberty in that hormones vary more widely than normal. According to Marcy Holmes, NP, Certified Menopause Clinician: "What's not normal is for the fluctuations to become so extreme that they make your life miserable. That's not perimenopause, that's hormonal imbalance!"

Apart from oestrogen and progesterone declining at menopause, there are also changes in the ratio of hormones. "Fortunately, our bodies have back-up systems to compensate but the effects of poor diet, chronic stress, lack of sleep, too little exercise and environmental toxins often undermine them and our sex hormones can get pushed out-of-sync. The problem tends to escalate over time, unless you offer your body the support it needs."

This is where a vegan diet and destressing your life come in! For at least 12 years after the start of menopause, ovaries produce declining amounts of oestrogen. Adrenal glands start to produce oestrone, which works alongside the declining ovarian oestrogen so it's important your adrenal glands are not compromised by chronic stress.

Oestrogen and progesterone are steroid hormones made from cholesterol which is produced in the liver. Testosterone (yes, women have some albeit less than men) and the stress-hormone cortisol are also steroid hormones. We have to balance their production depending on our needs.

Nutritional therapist and author, Natalie Savona, explains that if you are under stress, your body produces high levels of cortisol to cope, at the expense of the other hormones and so there is an imbalance. This is why sex drive diminishes when you are stressed, because the body produces less testosterone which controls sex drive.

If you are stressed during peri- or postmenopause, your adrenaline glands will find it hard to produce its version of oestrogen, making symptoms worse. In addition, an unhealthy diet ensures the body does not have the raw ingredients it requires to produce the right amounts of hormones.

Natalie says: "Stress also places a greater demand on the body's nutrient

#### Continued on page 40

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#### Tony Wardle has seen the horse meat trade at work and says it is a symptom of a much bigger problem

Viva! can take some of the blame (or credit) for the current horse meat scandal, during which not a single word has been spoken about the welfare of the horses involved. Ten years ago we discovered that 100,000 horses annually were being shipped from Poland to Italy by road, often in dilapidated lorries with a single driver. Journeys were sometimes taking days with the horses not rested, fed or watered for the entire time. Veterinary inspection at Gorizia, the port of entry, was abysmal and the horse's suffering would often continue as far as Sicily, where some would have to be dragged from the transporters with chains as they were incapable of standing. Other horse transporters from further east – Lithuania, Latvia and Belarus – were transiting through Polish check points without hindrance from Polish vets.

No one gave a damn – not the Polish or

Italian authorities, not the dealers, not the handful of EU inspectors and certainly not the vets. This disinterest wasn't specific to horses but reflects their attitude to all live animal transportation. They see themselves as part of the industry and there to facilitate it not censure it.

We decided that this appalling abuse of animals had to be challenged and so opened offices in Warsaw to campaign against the trade. We filmed in Polish markets where the horses were bought and watched them being nervously loaded onto the-long distance transporters with no sign of food or water and no partitions between them.

The German Group, Animals Angels, worked with us and filmed these transporters along the route, recording on camera the injuries, death, despair and sickening abuse of the animals. Viva! cut this footage into a heart-breaking film and used it as the central plank in our Polish campaign. It shows scene after scene of abuse and despair and can be viewed at www.viva.org.uk/campaigns/horses/view Journey to Death. You'll need a strong stomach.

One sequence sums up the utter disregard that was allowed to flourish without sanction. It shows a transporter arriving at a 'rest' station in the Czech Republic, pulling in out of the dark and lowering its tailgate onto a dimly-lit wooden platform. Some of the horses are down and have to be made to stand as excreta pours out of the back of the lorry. One by one they are led away with about 10 others and disappear into the dark, trembling and obviously exhausted

Attention then focuses on a pile of what looks like excreta furthest from the tail gate and after minutes of vicious prodding it suddenly moves and reveals itself to be a little grey mare. As the filth pours down her body, vicious cuts can be seen from where she has been trampled – possibly for hours - in the swaying lorry. She is clearly close to death and is also removed, shaking and guaking but collapses when she is forced down a ramp. She remains there for a further six hours until euthanaised by a vet no one was prepared to foot the bill for a night call out. We were not aware of this until afterwards

The other horses, despite their condition, are immediately reloaded without rest, food or water. The little grey mare, who died in such appalling circumstances, became the centrepiece of our campaign and her death was not entirely in vain.

This shocking Viva! film, *Journey to Death*, was shown on Polish TV more than 30 times and caused a public outcry. It ended with the trade collapsing by more than two-thirds and Poland's chief vet blaming Viva! for its decline. The strong public criticism provoked by our campaign made the Polish authorities concentrate on properly monitoring the trade for the first time and demanded far better facilities and modern lorries but the trade still continues, albeit at a much lower level. More importantly, 70,000 horses every year were saved that appalling journey.

The outcome of Viva!'s campaign was not only to choke off the outlet for live horse exports but also to decrease its profitability. We suspect that some of those horses who were being exported are now being slaughtered in Poland and other eastern countries and new markets have been sought for the chilled and frozen meat.

One disturbing aspect of the trade we discovered through various testimonies



was the involvement of criminal gangs who, we believe, use the stench of the lorries to camouflage illegal cargos of cigarettes. It is also believed that hard drugs are secreted in the vaginas of mares. Impossible to prove, particularly as the various authorities seem to have no interest in investigating it.

There is little doubt that the mob is involved and is maybe one reason why the illegal use of horse meat is so widespread – why wouldn't they be active when it can be increased in value five-fold simply by labelling it beef? Almost as good as drug profits!

As with anything that threatens the meat and dairy industry, the Government's instant reaction is always to offer

reassurances that everything is alright – remember John Gummer and BSE (it wasn't alright but fortunately for him, not as bad as it might have been). And so it was with Secretary of State Owen Patterson, a man who made his millions from the leather of livestock.

Like the proverbial rabbit caught in headlights, he immediately claimed that everything was okay and it was just a question of labelling. He had no idea how or where the horses were slaughtered and under what conditions or what their drug regime had been. He leant on Jeff (Baron) Rooker's assurances (just resigned as head of the Food Standards Agency), a

> man who also cosied up to the livestock industry by heading up the dairy farmers body.

No one has expressed concern over the possible welfare issues for the slaughtered horses but then, why would they? We live with the pretence that farming and slaughter in the UK is the gold standard and it's only Johnny Foreigner who's cruel to animals. And it continues no matter how frequently groups such as Viva! go inside factory farms and slaughterhouses and show the abysmal reality.

There is a huge stench of hypocrisy emanating from this whole frenetic news story. We fill our cheap pies and pasties with macerated mush, refuse to seriously tackle health labelling for our own consumers. allow multinationals to continue diseasing our children with their fatty, sweet products, drag in cheap meat from every corner of the planet and pretend that cancer. heart disease. strokes. diabetes, obesity and all the other degenerative diseases are an act of God and can be tackled only by giving money to charities to aid their research. To hell with

prevention through diet!

We are a society where the promotion and protection of the livestock industry is paramount because it is the largest industry on Earth, and anyone who's anyone is involved in it – from the Royals to the Church of England, Tory ministers to big pharma. Their panic over horse meat has nothing to do with the treatment of horses or even public revulsion – it is because they do not want a spotlight shone into the dark recesses of meat and dairy production because the reaction of intelligent people is increasingly to reject the whole lot.

I'm not sure there's a lot to choose between the Government and the mob when it comes to meat.

# Old Favourites -

Despite the taste of spring in the air the weather can still be chilly and wet and fresh produce is still in the ground. So here are some tasty dishes for produce which is still widely available in the shops!

## 4 Neeps 4 Tatties

Swede and Potato Mash to the

non-Scots! Neeps and tatties are

traditionally served with haggis on January 25 – Burns' Night – but they're always delicious. Serve with McSweeney's Vegetarian Haggis or nut roast and gravy.

- > 250g/9oz swede peeled and cut into medium chunks
- 450g/1lb potatoes, peeled and quartered
- 2 tbsp vegan margarine such as Pure, Vitalite, Biona or Suma
- 1 tbsp Oatly or other vegan cream alternative
- Salt and lots of freshly ground black pepper
- Soya or rice milk for extra creaminess

**1** Place swede and potatoes in a saucepan and cover with cold water. Bring to the boil, add salt then reduce heat.

**2** Simmer for around 40 mins, until the vegetables are very soft.

- **3** Remove from the heat, drain, then tip them back into the saucepan.
- 4 Add the margarine, vegan cream and seasoning and mash.
- **5** Stir in a little soya milk or rice milk, if desired and serve.



Brussel Sprouts Salad (with Smoked Tofu, Radish & Apple in a Lemon and Thyme Vinaigrette)

There's nothing mushy or bitter about these gourmet little numbers. If sprouts are not available, try green cabbage.

- 500g/1lb fresh Brussel sprouts
- 8 radishes
- 1 tart, crisp apple washed, cored and sliced thinly
- One pack firm smoked tofu, such as Taifun or Cauldron

#### Dressing

- 120ml/4fl oz extra virgin olive oil OR cold-pressed rapeseed oil
- ▶ 60ml/4 tbsp fresh lemon juice
- 1 tbsp Dijon mustard
- 1-2 tsp brown sugar or date syrup to taste
- 1 large clove of garlic, peeled and halved
- 1 tbsp fresh thyme or 1 tsp dried
- 1 Trim the sprouts.
- **2** Slice lengthways thinly until virtually shredded. Place in salad bowl.
- **3** Slice radishes thinly and add to sprouts.
- 4 Cut smoked tofu into small cubes and stir in.
- **5** Mix dressing ingredients together in screw-top jar and shake.
- 6 Leave for 30 minutes to infuse flavours.
- 7 Pour on to the salad and mix thoroughly. Serve.

# New Twist

#### Savoury Pancakes Makes 6-8 pancakes. 25-30 minutes total.

Make the pancakes or use wholemeal wraps. Also try using peppers, broccoli, courgettes, diced potatoes, peas, mushrooms... And serve with our Brussel sprouts salad.

#### Batter

- 175ml/6fl oz soya milk
- 175ml/6fl oz water
- 90g/3oz buckwheat flour
- 90g/3oz plain white flour
- 2 tbsp chickpea flour (also known as gram or besan flour)
- 1½ tsp baking powder
- 1 tbsp plain vegetable oil (eg rapeseed or sunflower)
- Pinch of salt
- Additional oil for frying or low-cal spray

#### Stuffing

- Oil spray or 1 tbsp oil
- 2 large handfuls of well-washed spinach or chard, chopped fine.
- 4 tomatoes, roughly chopped
- Pinch of nutmeg
- Lots of fresh black pepper
- Salt
- Small block of melting vegan cheese, grated.



**1** To make the batter – sieve flours and blend or whisk all the batter ingredients until smooth.

**2** Fry up spinach/chard and tomatoes for 3-4 minutes. Add nutmeg, pepper and salt.

- 3 Pre-heat the grill to medium.
- 4 Heat the frying pan, add a little oil or use low-cal spray.
- **5** Pour in batter to cover the bottom and smooth with spatula.
- 6 Fry until golden then turn or flip for another minute.
- **7** Arrange cooked vegetables on top, sprinkle with vegan cheese, salt and pepper, place under grill to soften the cheese. Roll up and serve.

8 Repeat to make the rest of the pancakes, keeping each one warm. Serve with vegan mayo or chutney.

#### 4 Liqueur Marinated Oranges 30 minutes plus marinating overnight

A taste of sunshine in the cold grey late winter or early spring when oranges are at their best. You could use 6-8 blood oranges but they may require extra sugar.

- 4 large oranges
- 500ml/18fl oz quality fresh orange juice
- ▶ 60g/2oz brown sugar
- Orange liqueur Cointreau, Grand Marnier, Curaçao or triple sec

1 Peel oranges and remove white pith gently to avoid squashing.

2 Cut each orange into rounds 1cm thick, remove core and place in serving bowl.

**3** Heat sugar and orange juice over medium heat and reduce to a thick syrup (about 20 minutes) stirring occasionally. Remove from heat and cool by placing saucepan in a basin of cold water.

4 Add orange liqueur to the syrup and stir well. Pour liquid over orange slices, cover and leave in fridge overnight.5 Serve chilled.



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## The **co-operative** phone & broadband



This great scheme is attracting a growing list of talented artists who support Viva!'s work through their creations

## Aura Beckhöfer-Fialho

Originally from Canada, Aura arrived in the UK via Switzerland before going to Kerala, India, for six months to work with street dogs and help run a rescue centre. She currently works for International Animal Rescue as their full-time web and graphic designer. Aura recently adopted a Romanian stray named Ladybug who every day reminds her of the important things in life. She became vegan in 2002.

"I decided I would do everything I could to avoid adding to their suffering. I have never looked back."

#### Why Aura supports Vival's Art for Animals

"Art is inspiring, as are animals. I have been an admirer of Viva!'s campaigns since I moved to the UK in 1999, vital in their efforts to raise awareness of the plight of animals. I am proud to be part of the Art for Animals project."

Twenty per cent of every sale of a commissioned portrait goes to Viva!. Contact her at www.portraitsbyaura.co.uk or by email aurabf@gmail.com. Her portraits cost from about £32.





## Karen Aston

"I was bitten by the glass bug over 15 years ago at a night class in Brighton, where I learned the methods of making traditional stained glass windows. Despite having made hundreds of objects, I still get really excited when it's time to open the kiln – especially when I've just completed a new design.

"I stopped eating meat in 1981 after watching the *Animals* film, which highlighted the plight of animals in so many industries. It showed an elephant being electrocuted and that image still haunts me."

#### Why Karen supports Vival's Art for Animals

"If every person on the planet was compassionate towards living creatures, we wouldn't need to fight for their rights – but at this moment we need to help charities like Viva! be our collective 'Voice For Animals'."

Buy any glass plates by Karen direct at www.animalglass.co.uk and Karen will donate a very kind 20 per cent of the sale to Viva!.

You can read more about Aura, Karen and all the other artists who are part of our great scheme on Viva!'s website www.viva.org.uk/artforanimals.

# An animal-

friendly trio of inspiring Viva! designs that tell it like it is!

> of our clothing is fairtrade, designed by veggies and ethicallyproduced

#### Eat Your Own Babies £12.90 Black

This very popular T-shirt leaves no room for doubt - if you eat lamb, you are eating babies! Help meat-eaters make the connection between what they eat and live animals with this striking T-shirt.

a) close-fit small b) close-fit medium c) close-fit large d) unisex small e) unisex medium f) unisex large



#### Cod Father Special Offer £8.90 Black

Witty and hard-hitting, this T-shirt exposes the dangers of eating fish – the only food that carries a government health warning because of the high levels of toxic pollutants it contains! This T-shirt comes with a free copy of Viva Health's Fish-Free for Life guide (see www.vivashop.org.uk for details).

a) close-fit small b) close-fit medium c) close-fit large d) unisex small e) unisex medium f) unisex range



#### Milk is for **Babies** £12.90 Black

AIGO

Drinking cows' milk is not normal, natural or healthy! Inspire others to go dairy-free with this contemporary



is for baby cows, not humans. The women's T-shirt is printed on a flattering, loose-fitting, three-quarter sleeve raglan T-shirt in soft, fine jersey made from lyocell - a new-age, all-natural fibre.

a) women's small b) women's medium c) women's large d) unisex small e) unisex medium f) unisex large

This year, Viva! launched three new dynamic designs – something for everyone!

#### Gotta Face? Don't Eat It £12.90 Eggplant Purple

Show you care with our best-selling, eyecatching design that hammers home the point! Printed on a bamboo viscose/organic cotton jersey mixed fabric.

a) unisex small b) unisex medium c) unisex large

#### Viva! Logo (women) Raspberry £12.90 Raspberry

New! Viva! animals logo design printed in bright orange on a close-fit combed cotton jersey T-shirt in vibrant raspberry. Perfect for spring!

a) close-fit small b) close-fit medium c) close-fit large

#### Viva! Logo (men) B&W baseball £12.90 Black and White

Viva!'s new animals logo design printed in classic colours on a combed cotton jersey retro three-quarter length sleeve baseball shirt in black and white. Stylish and compassionate!

a) unisex small b) unisex medium c) unisex large

#### How to Buy

By web: www.vivashop.org.uk By phone: 0117 944 1000 (Mon-Fri, 9-5) By post: Viva! Shop, 8 York Court, Wilder Street, Bristol BS2 8QH By fax: 0117 924 4646

#### Payment

of the

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Find more cruelty-free clothing on our web shop WWW.ViVashop.org.uk

# Growing up big and strong

#### by Veronika Powell, Viva! Health Campaigner

Parents, it seems, are constantly under pressure as to the best way to feed their children. During your own childhood, and throughout the lives of your own children, you will have heard many times the constant claim that children need milk and dairy products to grow up big and strong and have healthy bones.

It's the dairy industry's most successful myth and you have to wonder how this simple marketing fib has managed to penetrate our education system all the way up to university level. Many people, including healthcare professionals, believe it and keep spreading this not-so-little white lie to new generations.

Perhaps it's not such a mystery when you look at the mass of dairy industry education materials provided to schools and parents, bus sides and buildings plastered with adverts and TV commercials. As for medical doctors – they get no nutrition training other than a few lectures. Unless they take special interest or choose to educate themselves they may not know what constitutes a healthy diet any better than you do (and there's a good chance you might know more than them).

Truth is, no one needs cows' milk apart from calves. Human babies need their mother's breast milk, or special formula milk if breastfeeding is not possible, but after weaning there is no need to consume milk at all – and certainly not of another species. Nature has made this clear by ensuring most of us cannot digest lactose (milk sugar) after the age of four. It is estimated that 75 per cent of adults worldwide cannot digest lactose and are therefore lactose-intolerant. It is because our bodies gradually stop producing the enzyme lactase, which makes lactose digestion possible.

Lactose intolerance causes symptoms such as bloating and stomach cramps, flatulence, diarrhoea, nausea and sometimes vomiting. Several studies also suggest that milk consumption can cause irritable bowel syndrome (IBS).

Cows' milk certainly isn't essential for children's health and might be damaging in many ways. It is often a cause of eczema, recurring ear infections, asthma, digestive problems and can contribute to type 1 diabetes and high cholesterol levels and weight issues. It has also been linked to many types of cancer. And when it comes to bone health, dairy products are not the bonebuilding wonder foods the dairy industry wants us to believe.

So where do we get calcium from if not dairy products because that's what the health claims say – you need milk for calcium. There are plenty of plant foods that contain calcium and you can get enough of it from these sources (see table on opposite page). Children actually absorb calcium better than adults so it's even easier for them.

However, we need much more than just calcium to produce strong bones. In the previous issue of *Viva!life* I described the importance of alkalising foods to healthy bones. That means eating lots of fruit and vegetables, nuts and seeds (almonds, Brazil nuts, pumpkin and sesame seeds, flaxseed).

pulses (lentils, beans, soya) and wholegrains. These are not only healthy foods but are also important sources of many nutrients that bones need, such as

Age	Recommended calcium intake (mg/day)
0 to 12 months 1-3 years 4-6 years 7-10 years	525 350 450 550
<b>Males</b> 11-18 years Over 19 years	1,000 700
<b>Females</b> 11-18 years Over 19 years During lactatio	800 700 n +550

potassium, magnesium, calcium, vitamin K, vitamin C, beta carotene (vitamin A) and others.

Animal protein, found in meat, fish, eggs and dairy products, produces sulphuric acid due to its higher sulphur content compared to plant protein. The only way this acid can be neutralised quickly is by the body leaching calcium from the bones. This is a major problem because the lost calcium cannot be easily replaced and certainly not from calcium-rich dairy foods. They come with their own burden of animal protein and the large quantities of calcium they contain can't be instantly absorbed and are excreted in urine.

It is crucial to avoid acid-producing foods to build strong bones.

Many studies show that children whose diet is largely based on animal products have as much as 20 per cent less bone mass compared to children who eat mostly plantbased diets and exercise on a regular basis. The best you can do for your children to grow up big and strong is to feed them a healthy, plant-based diet and avoid acid-producing animal products and sugary foods, which also cause calcium loss. And they need to exercise. With bones it's a case of use 'em or lose 'em!

If your kids are resistant to eating some foods, below are a few tips to help you.

#### New guide alert!

Building bones for life is a brand new guide offering nutritional guidance for building strong bones and teeth in kids, advice on how to prevent and treat osteoporosis and easy and gorgeous recipes for both children and adults.

Go to www.viva.org.uk/health/bones to read or order it (available from March 18, 2013). Or call 0117 944 1000, (Mon-Fri, 9-5).

# Tips to get 'em eating

- Chop fruit and vegetables in small, bite-size pieces.
- Keep freshly cut vegetable sticks in the fridge.
- Add dried fruit (unsweetened) and berries to your child's cereal.
- Always pack a small box of nuts and dried fruit in the lunchbox.
- Always add vegetables to main dishes (at least two types of veg per dish).
- Serve fresh cut vegetables on the side of the plate.
- Add tahini (sesame paste) to sauces.
- Make or buy smoothies rather than juice.
- Switch from peanut to almond butter healthier, a good calcium source and can be spread on thinly sliced apples or pears as well as bread.
- Add beans and lentils to stews, soups (blend them if necessary).

- Add to salads and use them puréed as sauce bases. Serve pancakes with fresh fruit (bananas, strawberries) or
- savoury vegetable filling (eg spinach and tofu).Soya yoghurt with chopped dried and fresh fruit is a great snack.
- Avocados a great source of energy slice them for
- sandwiches or blend with beans or chickpeas into a spread.
  Make fruit and veg visually attractive arrange cut pieces in a
- fun shape and play with colours.
  Lead by example if your children see you eating the same foods, it'll encourage them.
- Let your child choose some fruit and veg in the shop.
- Involve your child in meal preparation get them interested in what they eat.

	Wildleineal blead	00-100
	Granary bread	209
	Muesli	110
	Broad beans	56
	Chickpeas – boiled	46
	Green beans – boiled	56
	Lentils – boiled	22
	Kidney beans – canned	71
1	📕 Soya beans – boiled	83
	Tofu	510
	(calcium-set; if not, the	
	value is	150)
	Peas	35
	Broccoli – raw 56 (boile	
	Cabbage – raw	52
	Celery – raw	41
	-	
	Kale – boiled	150
	Okra – boiled	120
	Spinach – boiled	160
	Watercress	170
	Beanburger	69
	Nutroast	77
	Vegetable kiev	105
	Cinnamon	1230
	Mixed herbs (dried)	1653
	Rosemary	1280
	Thyme	1890
	Dried apricots	73
	Currants	93
	Figs – dried	250
	Cantaloupe melon	20
	Olives	61
	Orange	47
	Pineapple	18
	Raisins	46
	Raspberries	25
	Satsumas	31
	Almonds	240
	Brazil nuts	170
	Hazelnuts	140
	Pecans	61
	Sesame seeds	670
	Tahini (sesame seed pas	
	Sunflower seeds	110
	Tortilla chips	150

Food

Mg calcium/

Wholemeal bread 106-186

100g food

# 10 years of VegfestUK

A super three-day celebration will mark the 10th birthday of VegfestUK in Bristol, starting on Friday, May 24.

Previous events have seen up to 25,000 visitors to what has become the world's biggest veggie event. The 2013 show promises to be even bigger with The Happy Mondays headlining on the Saturday. There will be an extended kid's area, a third sound system as well as the usual mix of stalls, caterers, cookery demos, talks, films and entertainment. Something for everyone!

Viva! will be there selling a wide mix of vegan goodies as well as our own T-shirts and branded goods. Viva!'s associate director and editor of *Viva!life*, Tony Wardle, will be giving a talk on the Sunday on how you can protect the environment by simply changing your diet. Tony will explain how farmed animals have now become the greatest threat to the global environment and are at the heart of almost all the world's great environmental catastrophes.



He will reveal the scale of the problem and unmask the political and industrial deceit that allows it to continue. Not to be missed!

The first Bristol VegfestUK in 2003 attracted 40 stalls and 1,500 visitors. It has grown and grown since then attracting many meat reducers as well as vegetarians and vegans.

"More and more people are looking to reduce their meat and dairy consumption without actually going veggie," says organiser Tim Barford, "and VegfestUK events are perfect for them. Meat and dairy reducers will find a whole load of tempting new pleasures to replace their current dietary choices and will walk away with all the information they need."

The event starts at 6pm on Friday May 24, through to 11pm for the tenth birthday party. Saturday and Sunday is 11am-10pm. Admission is £2 before 5pm and £5 after (kids under 14 & OAP's £1/£2). Admission to evening events is by advance ticket only – see website for details.

VegfestUK also runs the big Brighton veggie event each year (2013 – March 16-17). See www.brighton.vegfest.co.uk. For the first time, there will be a London event later this year – October 5-6. For more information please visit the website www.bristol.vegfest.co.uk or email info@vegfest.co.uk





Viva!'s Media Blitz... for the animals



by Tony Wardle, Editor

# It Was the Sun What Did it!

Any media story involving reindeer usually has something about red noses in the headline. And so it was in the *Sun* but that's where the jollity ended. Our campaign against the sale of reindeer pâté by Harvey Nichols at £20 a tin, and reindeer steaks by Lidl, was taken very seriously by the tabloid.

Wild wolves and bears are being slaughtered just to

protect herds of reindeer destined for posh Brits' dinner tables," the Sun said. It went on: "But outraged conservationists say scores of wolves, lynx and brown bears are being butchered in legalised hunts to protect the herds – and the £15 million a year reindeer industry. Last winter, a pregnant wolf was killed with her partner four weeks before she was due to give birth to five pups. She was gunned down by marksmen in a helicopter after straying into reindeer areas during the calving season."

But still it hadn't finished and Britain's largest circulation newspaper went to town about our campaign, adding: "Bears are also slaughtered to safeguard reindeer calves, with 55 being exterminated earlier this year." The story on its website was huge with pictures of slaughtered bears and wolves. No holding back there!

The story was picked up by Finnish newspapers, and it was run for two days in one of its biggest titles.



# Pippa's **Behind** the Times

The *Sun* came back to us again over a Pippa Middleton story that did not involve her anatomy. We discovered she had attended a hunt in Gerpinnes, Belgium, hosted by that country's richest man. The happy, 20-strong party killed six boar and nine deer.

As Viva!'s Justin Kerswell was so rightly reported as saying: "It's a shame she's so desperate to be royal by association that she's now seemingly aping their hunting bloodlust. There is nothing classy about shooting terrified wild animals for sport."

And who said the class system was dead?

PIPPA HUNT R

# Sodbury Protestors target butcher's

Viva!'s Claire, Justin and Liam braved the cold for this *foie-gras* demo outside Hobbs House butchers in Chipping Sodbury. The Gazette covered it on the front page. Justin Kerswell went on to participate in a debate on Voice of Russia as our reinvigorated foie gras campaign gets underway. A whole host of newspapers - from Grimsby down to Jersey ran our urgings for people not to buy foie gras, despite the usual Christmas sales push.





boar and deer

#### Vival on the Road Again

# V-Delicious June 7-9 The Veggie Good Food Show

#### National Hall, Olympia, Hammersmith Road, Kensington, London W14 8UX

Three-day, fabulous gastronomic and culinary entertainment day out to indulge your passion for vegetarian and vegan food, drink and living. V-Delicious is co-located with The Allergy & Free From Show – two shows for the price of one! The Viva! team will be there and our director and founder, Juliet Gellatley, will be speaking. Watch this space to a link for free tickets for Viva! supporters! Go to www.viva.org.uk/events

#### Mini Roadshow

We're off to Wales again – this time Monmouth on September 21, 2013. It will be at the Shire Hall, Agincourt Square, NP25 3DY

# William joins Hamish and Dougal

William, the Limousin bull, was a close friend of Hamish and Dougal, who you gallantly helped to rescue. They now lead a lovely life at Hillside Animal Sanctuary in Norfolk but it was a different story for William.

With their departure, William not only lost his friends but seemingly the will to live. He almost died back in November and dropped in weight from over a tonne to 800kg as a result of



overwork as a stud and possibly lack of food in his sparse, moorland range. It was decided he too should be rescued but his farmer owner played a power game – yes you can have him, no you can't.

On Sunday, January 27, the die was cast and the deal done. Five days later and after an epic journey, William arrived at Hillside and entered his spacious quarantine barn in the company of three rescued horses saved from the notorious Nantwich slaughterhouse.

As soon as he has finished his quarantine, William will join Hamish and Dougal in their pasture and that has to be a reunion worth recording. We realise these are just three animals out of many but their story has gone far and wide and has inspired meat eaters and veggies alike and the widespread publicity has affected many thousands.

Viva! Supporter Heidi Stephenson has been instrumental in saving these three big boys and as she says: "Change is definitely in the air!"

Heidi's much longer and touching report can be viewed on our website www.viva.org.uk/william

the veggie good food show
lifeSty



Viva!'s self-professed 'veganorak' Kat Himmel takes the strain out of cruelty-free product spotting!

# Tattoo You

Without a doubt, Missy Lepink is a hero of mine – a real-life animal advocate and a talented performer who promotes veganism from within the tattoo industry. Before Missy introduced her 100 per cent natural, organic and vegan Tattoo Tonic, there was simply nothing available in the UK that has been created specifically to aid the healing of inked skin. I have no fresh flesh art on which to test the tonic, so I rubbed it into my seven-year-old tattoo and was so impressed that I began to use it on my hands and elbows. Its mélange of wheat germ, lavender, neroli and rosemary oils not only lends it a splendiferous nose bouquet, but also keeps it smooth and remarkably spreadable. I'm impressed and I've recommended it to anyone (whether vegan or not) who is looking for tattoo aftercare. Buy it directly from Missy Lepink at **www.missylepink.co.uk**.

# Vive Soy

# The Gaia Effect

Hopelessly seduced by their ingredients and ethos (not necessarily in that order), I was beside myself when Anna McGurran, the founder of Gaia Creams, contacted me about her products. Kindly, she provided two of her magical potions: Argan & Strawberry Cream (£18.60 for 30ml) and Raw Veggie Cocktail Cream (£15 for 30ml), both of which are made entirely from raw, organic ingredients and cold-pressed oils. They are deliciously luxuriant and can be used over the entire body. Feeling altruistic, I gave the Argan & Strawberry to one of my colleagues. Instantly in love with the soufflé-like texture, she recommends using it at night because of its slightly oily consistency. Absorb they did, but not instantly. In addition, I love the fact that the beta carotene from the carrot oil in the Raw Veggie Cocktail lends a slight luminescence to the skin. It's recommended for both eczema and psoriasis.

You'll find myriad other products online at www.gaiacreams.com. If you use the code ILOVEMYSKIN during the checkout stage, you'll receive 10 per cent off.

AWA

Wake up your

summer mornings with

a reviving, iced

cappuccino. You know you'll like it! Three winners

will be chosen at random and

will receive a selection of four

I've always scratched my head in wonderment over the dearth of flavour diversity when it comes to the UK soya milk market. Mercifully, I can give my scalp a rest now that Vivesoy has arrived from Spain – available in no fewer than six varieties (light, unsweetened, vanilla, chocolate, cappuccino and natural). It doesn't take much to excite us at Viva! so when I announced its arrival, everyone swarmed. Conclusion was that it is refreshing although quite sweet – aided by several sweeteners, sadly including Aspartame! There's more info at **www.vivesoy.co.uk** and Tesco is the first UK stockist, where they're available for £1.25 per one-litre Tetrapak.



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## InSpiral Out of Control



Chocolate is dangerous for my mental health for I often wax too ecstatic about any form of the stuff. I must now proclaim my undying love for Artisan Raw Chocolates, brought to us by the alchemical geniuses at InSpiral Café in London. Despite the blurb on the box that speaks of an 'embellishment with sweet dried raspberry shards', I took the plunge. Raw chocolate goes from strength to strength, I'd say. They are packaged attractively so are suited for alloccasion gift giving, particularly as you'll be bestowing superfoods (lucuma and yacon fruit, for instance) upon the recipient. Priced at £5.99 for a box of six, these truffles can be bought at www.creamsupplies.co.uk or ring Cream Supplies on 0845 226 3024.



Five chosen ones will each win a box of Artisan Raw Chocolates! To enter, simply answer the

following question: The lucuma fruit is native to which country? Send your name, address and response to: Arty Choc Giveaway, 8 York Court, Wilder St, Bristol BS2 80H or email kat@viva.org.uk with "Arty Choc" in the subject. Closing date May 30, 2013.



# On the Sauce

If you're a resident of Manchester, you may be familiar with Sweet Mandarin restaurant. Established in 1950. It has been nourishing Mancunians for over six decades. That's staying power! Here's wishing the same sort of longevity for their new venture, Sweet Mandarin Sauces. Thanks to incessant hectoring by their patrons – not to mention, a successful turn on Dragons' Den – you will now find three varieties of the celebrated sauces gracing the shelves at Sainsbury's and Selfridges. Priced reasonably at £2.59 for 300g, you'll probably vacillate wildly between choices. Whether the

We've got five sets of each sauce and they're up for grabs! To enter, send your name, address and response to: Sweet & Saucy Giveaway, 8 York Court, Wilder St, Bristol BS2 8QH or email kat@viva.org.uk with "Sweet & Saucy" in the subject. Closing date May 30, 2013.

renegade Barbecue, the classic Sweet & Sour or the versatile Sweet Chilli, you can't go wrong. Just give free reign to your imagination.

# Be Mine, Clementine

Yes, it's more chocolate! Well, who can blame me? There's so much astoundingly creative and sensational tasting vegan chocolate about these days! If you're somewhat daring in the realm of confection, you must try Seggiano's chocolate-drenched clementines or rum-soaked figs. They are pure class and would be the perfectl accompaniment to an après diner coffee or tea. Produced in Italy by the Garritano company, these delights utilise fruits and nuts from the local Calabrian region. A 200g box can be purchased for £9.99 directly from the Viva!Shop (www.vivashop.org.uk or via telephone on 0117 944 1000 from 9-6 Monday-Friday).





#### continued from page 22

reserves, leaving you tired and in a vicious circle of feeling less able to cope". Any measures to try to rebalance your hormones are unlikely to work while you're stressed.

A diet high in animal fats, dairy and sugar and low in wholefoods disrupts our hormone balance. Refined carbohydrates such as white bread, white pasta, cakes, milk chocolate bars, jam and sugary drinks cause a rollercoaster effect in insulin production. They rapidly release glucose into our bloodstream and insulin is released to control it. Junk food causes insulin levels to rise only to then slump.

Excess insulin can increase levels of testosterone, which in turn disrupts the production of oestrogen and progesterone! Everything is connected! Erratic insulin levels can produce hot flushes by causing blood vessels to dilate, which is why wholegrains, nuts and seeds, essential fats, fresh fruit and vegetables can reduce the impact of the menopause and PMT.

#### Brain drain

Can oestrogen play havoc with our moods or is it all in the mind (ha!). Dr Annie Evans told me: "It's not so much the decline in oestrogen but its erratic rise and fall during perimenopause that the brain really does not like."

Oestrogen acts everywhere in the body, including parts of the brain that control emotion. It can raise serotonin levels (our 'happy hormone') and affect the production of endorphins (the 'feel-good' chemicals).

Its actions are complex and not fully understood. For example, many women's moods improve after menopause, despite oestrogen levels being very low. Again, the bad mood during PMT and perimenopause are connected to the rollercoaster of hormones rather than the actual levels.

How does it feel to experience oestrogen's mercurial nature? Jenny Carter recalls it vividly: "It started at 39 and I was unable to live a normal life. I cancelled my 40th birthday party because I couldn't cope with the organisation. I became a dithering idiot! I had to run a home, look after my children and husband and run my shop but I felt so ill. I had terrible headaches, would shake, had no energy and didn't want to get out of bed. I overreacted to everything and got into rages over nothing.

"The first two types of HRT I took didn't suit me and the final straw was when my coordination went and I drove into a curb. My husband took me to my GP and implored him to help. It was third time lucky and within two months I felt much better and could cope again, I was back to my normal lively self. It was a truly terrible experience so I stayed on HRT for 11 years."

# Mollifying the menopause

I have no doubts that the menopause is very real. So what route should women take – 'natural' or HRT? I looked at the science behind the claims for both.

#### So-ya so-good?

Soya beans and red clover are two of the most commonly used plants to alleviate symptoms because of their high concentration of phytoestrogens (plant oestrogens), particularly isoflavones. These natural hormones are concentrated in both soya and red clover and benefit our health. The theory is that as a woman's oestrogen declines, plant oestrogens have a soothing effect and reduce symptoms, including hot flushes.

#### "Hot flushes are a nightmare. I used to sit in business meetings – the only woman with about 15 men – sweat pouring down me. It was so embarrassing, so uncomfortable. Soya isoflavone supplements really helped me." Debbie Paterson, 53.

Oestrogen partly controls our skin temperature, hence the disruption as hormones fluctuate. You can feel like opening all the windows one minute and shivering the next. Flushes usually occur four or five times a day and last from a few seconds to a few minutes. Night sweats can cause the bed linen to be drenched and seriously disrupt sleep, leading to irritability and low mood.

There are some statistics that support the idea that plant oestrogens help. Only seven per cent of Japanese women and 10 to 20 per cent of Indonesian women suffer from hot flushes and night sweats. In Western women it's 58 to 93 per cent. Soya is a dietary staple in Eastern countries and many varieties are fermented (miso and tempeh), so concentrating their isoflavones. Consumption in the West is much lower.

In 2010, the North American Menopause Society reviewed the best science on soya and hot flushes. Eleven out of the 14 studies showed a significant reduction – 24 to 60 per cent.

Soya products high in isoflavones include edamame (raw green soya beans), miso soup, soya flour, soya protein isolate and tempeh – 100g of any of these contain the minimum dose needed daily. Tofu and soya milk are lesser sources while soya hot dogs and soy sauce are poor sources. If taking a supplement, the isoflavone genistein shows the strongest benefit and should provide at least 50mg isoflavones daily – 12 weeks is long enough to know if they have an effect.

Other studies on soya also showed an improvement in memory and function but no influence on anxiety or depression. A different study also showed significant improvements in memory but did reduce depression and fatigue. And a study of 84 middle-aged women, who were given either soya protein or cows' milk protein, found that the soya group had significantly improved sexual desire and much decreased hot flushes.

There has been limited research on red clover but what there is has shown it may increase bone density and reduce hot flushes but not impact on forgetfulness. Importantly, isoflavones from both soya and red clover are considered safe although a small number of people may have an allergy.

#### Black knight to the rescue

Black cohosh is a tall, flowering plant found in North America. Native Americans discovered that its root helped relieve menstrual cramps and symptoms of menopause and it is used by women across Europe and the US.

The University of Maryland Medical Center, USA says: "Quite a few clinical studies confirm that black cohosh is effective for improving menopausal symptoms, although some have found no improvement. Early German studies found it improved anxiety, hot flushes, night sweats and vaginal dryness. In a clinical study of 120 women, black cohosh was more effective in relieving hot flushes and night sweats than the antidepressant fluxetine (Prozac)."

A 2010 review found it provided a 26 per cent reduction in hot flushes and night sweats but experts don't agree on either its effectiveness or safety. Some doctors recommend it be used for just six months or less.

#### Evening primrose oil

The NHS say it may be helpful for breast pain and tenderness and to control mood swings but trials have not shown any effect on hot flushes. They recommend 240mg daily for at least two months for maximum effect.

#### HRT: good for me?

There is no doubt that HRT relieves many symptoms of the menopause and is the most effective treatment for hot flushes and night sweats. According to the most recent Cochrane review, it cuts hot flushes by up to a whopping 79 per cent.

One study showed that women had significantly improved memory after using HRT for three months. Others have shown it alleviates vaginal dryness, eases an overactive bladder – that 'gotta go' problem – and maybe even recurring urinary tract infections with vaginal oestrogen.

HRT helps prevent bone fractures later in life and there is good scientific evidence to show it lowers the risk of type 2 diabetes, may reduce the pain of osteoand rheumatoid arthritis and cut the risk of colon cancer. It can also reduce mood swings and improve a general sense of well-being.

For my nutrition client Hayley Bell, 48, HRT was her saviour: "I seem to have experienced most of the peri-menopausal symptoms but insomnia and mood swings were the worst. I wasn't in control of my emotions and overreacted, was unable to function normally and this interfered with relationships at work and with my husband. With HRT, I still have my moments and the odd night where I can't sleep, but overall life is brighter and I feel back in control."

Menopausal problems are linked with reduced oestrogen levels so the main component of HRT is oestrogen. If the womb is still present, then oestrogen is taken with a progestogen, mostly from plant sources and which resembles the progesterone produced by the ovaries.

There are two basic forms used for replacing oestrogen.

- Oestradiol replicates our own oestrogen, is derived from yams and soya and is the HRT mostly used in the UK and Europe.
- 2. Conjugated equine oestrogen is derived

from horse's urine, involves terrible cruelty and is in the Premarin range extensively prescribed in the US and to be avoided.

#### **Risks of HRT**

Despite all the positives for taking HRT, the media, some health professionals and many women have turned against it. Dr Annie Evans, at Bristol Nuffield hospital, specialises in treating menopausal women and says: "Many women are wary of taking HRT and those who do are often made to feel guilty that they have not been 'strong enough' to cope 'naturally' and others believe it increases the risk of breast cancer."

It was originally believed that the benefits of HRT would outweigh the risks but this changed after two trials in the early 2000s – the WHI trial (Women's Health Initiative) in the USA and the UK's MWS (Million Women Study).



## One thing's sure – you're not alone

However, according to some scientists both these trials had serious flaws.

Dr Evans explains: "The WHI trial recruited 17,000 women who had no symptoms of the menopause, who had not had a hysterectomy and so would need both oestrogen and progestogen. They were allocated either HRT or a placebo and it was intended to follow the women for 10 to 15 years but it was stopped early after five years because of reportedly unacceptably increased rates of breast cancer, heart attack and stroke."

She states that the main flaw was the average age of the women; 63, with nearly a quarter being over 70. It didn't reflect the 96 per cent of women who start HRT below the age of 60. The older women could already have been developing arterial and heart disease. Over a third of the women were medically obese, and just as many had hypertension (high blood pressure). Obesity increases the risk of heart disease and breast cancer.

At the time the trial was stopped, the HRT users had shown a reduction in bone fractures and colorectal cancer. Death rates overall were no higher but the media focussed on the increase in breast cancer and stroke risk.

"The way risk is reported has a massive effect on how it is viewed", continues Dr Evans. She says the media claimed a 26 per cent increase in breast cancer risk, not that it was an increase from 30 to 38 women per 10,000 per year. The reported 41 per cent increase in stroke was actually an increase from 21 to 29 women per 10,000 per year, some of whom were 79 when the trial was stopped!

In the 5.2 years of the HRT arm of the WHI Trial, there were seven extra heart attacks and eight extra strokes per 10,000 women. This puts the claims into perspective – as with all drugs there are gambles but women should be allowed to decide, with the help of their GP, whether benefits outweigh risks. See Dr Evan's web site for much more information

#### www.drannieevans.com.

One thing's sure – you're not alone! Difficulties with the menopause doesn't mean you're going mad – your hormones are! And their tumultuous behaviour can be gently controlled so that you – the real you – re-emerges.

A referenced version of this feature is at www.vegetarian.org.uk/features

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# Carnism - the Psychology of Eating Meat By Dr Melanie Joy; 60 minutes at

www.youtube.com/watch?v=7vWbV9FPo Q

An excellent, impassioned, thoroughly reasoned and empowering presentation. Melanie Joy spent 10 years researching the psychology of eating animals, the work became her doctorate and this speech is a summary of her findings. She convincingly argues that eating meat is due to cultural conditioning. Its foundations are a mentality of dominance, subjugation, privilege and oppression. She asks how do millions of individuals who believe they are against cruelty, allow torture and needless death on an unimaginable scale. Her answer is the culture of carnism. A powerful belief system but one which is built on deception and can be torn down. An engaging and elegant talk.

Juliet Gellatley, Founder of Viva!



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# US Starts to Shun Meat ...and it's happening in Britain, too

Even before the scandal of horse meat hit the headlines, meat consumption had started to fall in the UK. That decline is now mirrored in the US, according to its Department of Agriculture (USDA). It predicts that this fall will accelerate sharply while the World Watch Institute reckons that global meat consumption is also heading downwards.

US beef consumption has fallen by 2.5 billion pounds since 2007 to 25.6 billion pounds in 2011, according to their Cattle and Beef Industry. It terms of animals, it means that 400,000 fewer cows, 500 million chickens, 12 million pigs and 22 million fewer turkeys were killed over this period. A statistical analysis of meat demand suggests that price plays a part but the overwhelming reason is the Americans simply don't want to eat as much meat! It is prompted by health reasons and disgust at the cruelty of factory farming and mass slaughter.

Surveys as to how many US vegans there are varies widly – between one and six million. And the disparity in the UK is similar. In 2005, the *Times* estimated there were 250,000. In 2006 the *Independent* put it at 600,000 and a 2007 British Government survey claimed it to be an extraordinary

two per cent – more than three million people. One thing is certain, the numbers are dramatically increasing.

#### More Vegans – Fewer Vets It also seems that an increasing number of veterinarians no

It also seems that an increasing number of veterinarians no longer want to work with food animals. In 2009, there were 61,000 US veterinarians in private practice – 41,117 exclusively treating companion animals and only 1,103 exclusively treating farmed animals. The American Veterinary Association has expressed concern that there an insufficient vets to ensure a safe food supply. It gives various reasons for the decline but ignores morality.

Eric Barchas, a small animal vet in San Francisco describes treating an animal that's being raised to be butchered as "unsavoury." He says factory farming and animal slaughter are not what motivates people to pursue a career in veterinary medicine.

### And Another Reason ....

On May 14, 2012, the *Los Angeles Times* added another twist to the decline by reviewing a new study by the Harvard School of Public Health. It found that eating red meat results in an increased early death rate from heart disease because of saturated fat and cholesterol in beef, pork and lamb. It also found that the iron in red meat known as haem iron, was linked to fatal heart disease. TW

> John Alleman (52), official mascot of the tongue-in-cheek Heart Attack Grill in Las Vegas died recently of a heart attack. The grill boasts such dishes as the triple by-pass burgers and flatline fries. Alleman was the second mascot to die in two years.





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## Whitewash: The Disturbing Truth About Cow's Milk and Your Health

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JOSEPH KEO

The Disturbing Truth About Cow's Milk and Your Health

### The Costs and Benefits of Animal Experiments

#### Andrew Knight, Paperback, £19.99

In this book, bioethicist and veterinarian Andrew Knight asks if animal experimentation is ethically justifiable. He investigates how useful animal research has been in advancing human healthcare and reveals how much animals have suffered as a result. Well-referenced and full of useful information, this book is highly readable. Knight presents a balanced view and makes a strong argument, based on sound scientific evidence, for ending animal experiments in both clinical research and education. This book challenges the outdated view that the overall good outweighs the overall evil. It includes a chapter on non-animal research and testing methodologies. Essential reading for anyone interested in the ethical issues raised by animal experimentation, including scientists, pharmaceutical and cosmetic manufacturers, philosophers, policymakers, students and educators.

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