How to… create a local animal group/club

Every day, billions of animals experience unbearable cruelty. Staring a local animal group or club can be a powerful way to be a voice for animals and a great way to meet like-minded people.

Whether it's to stop live export or encourage people to eat less meat, volunteer run animal groups fill an essential role in our community that cannot be replaced by larger non-profits or government groups.

Here are some things to consider when starting your own group or club.

1. Is there another animal group in your area/school/university? If yes, explore what they are doing and whether you can contribute to their efforts instead of starting your own group.
2. If there are no other groups, is there local support for animal issues? Ideally you need at least three committed people to start a new group or club.
3. Firstly, you'll need to choose a name for your group and then agree how you will work together. Agreeing a working culture at the beginning will ensure everybody feels heard and no one person takes on all the work.
4. Then decide on your purpose, the issue, or issues you want to address and some key actions you want to achieve? This is a great opportunity to look at what other groups or organisations are doing, go and talk to them or even network to succeed.
5. Recruit others to join your group! Find out their interests and passions up front so you can give them roles in the group that will keep them interested and engaged.
6. Start to plan some key actions or events and plan your meetings. You should dream big but start small and achievable with clear timeframes.
7. Make a list of the resources (volunteers, social channels, money, equipment, etc.) you will need.
8. Remember to have fun! You all care about animals so even if you and other group members disagree during meetings, keep positive and carry on.

Finally let us know about your group by emailing comms@worldanimalprotection.org.au so we share information and invite your groups to events.