

Peaceable Kingdom, The Journey Home with Philip Wollen at the Cygnet Cinema on April 14th 2013 Perth, Western Australia.



The foyer starting to fill at the Cygnet Cinema.

As a child my feelings towards the animals in my life were ones of love and affection and I spent many a happy hour playing with my dogs, cats, chickens, goats and mice that were part of the domestic scene in our household. When they died, their deaths left me devastated not only as I tried to come to grips with the loss of what to me were my friends, but what at that time appeared to me as indifference of those around me to their dying.

Those feelings have always remained but pushed down and unacknowledged surfacing occasionally when a truck of sheep, chicken or cows pass me on the road and I think about them, wonder about their lives and feelings as they head off towards some horrific destination or when I lose one of my own beloved pets.

Peaceable Kingdom brought me face to face with those deep emotions as I heard story after story of those who too felt the same love for these beautiful creatures that we share our limited time on earth with. The beautiful nature, loyalty and fun of animals were demonstrated in a way that was wondrous and captivating. Watching Peaceable Kingdom made me feel as if I had been underwater all my life and were now permitted to breathe beautiful fresh air in a gasp that filled my lungs completely. Thank you Peaceable Kingdom, and all those that were responsible in it's making and bringing it to Perth.



Colleen Senior nurse Vegetarian becoming vegan



From the stage as the audience files in.



That movie had a profound affect on all of us.

For me, it called to mind that which I already knew but have chosen to ignore. I have a number of vegetarian friends but have never allowed myself to consider the moral implications of supporting animal slaughter by buying meat and chicken, especially from supermarket outlets.

The cruelty and lack of consideration for the animals in the film was balanced by the sanctuaries featured and that is where its strength lies. It's giving the good news and a more humane perspective amidst the hopelessness one feels seeing the enormity of the issue if one is trying to change a world mindset steeped in bad farming practice.

For now, I can't face buying, cooking or eating meat or chicken. Not sure how permanent or strong that sentiment is for me, but it is going to present a problem because I am a caterer!

> Kim Caterer



Thanks for recommending that Nari and I come and see Peaceable Kingdom. What an informative look at what agribusiness is all about - namely profit and the inhumane treatment of the animals that facilitate the profit.

On the way home Nari and I decided that we did not want to be party to farm animals being poisoned by pesticide, ground up into fertilizer for being the wrong sex, taken from their mother to keep the milk flowing then turned into veal after being starved for a few days due to the cost of feeding, left at the stock sales to be picked up by a forklift because they were worth nothing due to the stress of transport, maltreatment, overcrowding etc, or mutilated at birth without anaesthetic. When I purchased a couple of T-bones at the supermarket the above wasn't part of the advertising campaign.

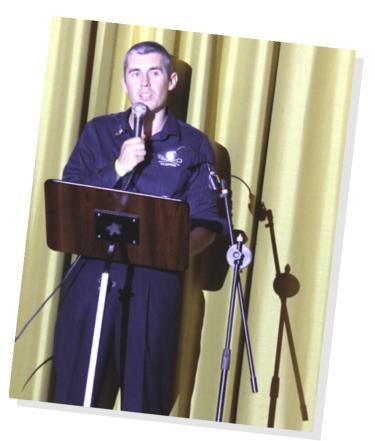
Also, Phil's facts were incredible. 1000 litres of water to make 1 litre of milk, clearing of land for pasture that no longer converts CO2 to oxygen and the loss of habitat for wildlife, the beef and dairy industry being responsible for 50% of greenhouse gas due to methane from cows! No wonder the planet is in such a poor state. Seems as though it's due to a few products that humans don't need but have been marketed exceptionally well. No doubt it won't be long before every country is in a financial crisis due to a health system that can't cope with issues caused by humans eating what they don't actually require to live.

Obviously a drastic change is required if we are to survive on this planet. We can all make a stand immediately at our local supermarkets and I think it would be great for the coming generation of consumers if Peaceable Kingdom and movies like it and information pertaining to the topic should be introduced as part of secondary or tertiary education. We don't need animal products to survive and the sooner humans are introduced to that fact the sooner the planet will fix itself, the sooner humans will be healthy and the sooner animals will be treated with the tenderness they deserve.

> Matt Builder Three steaks a week man

I found it hard to watch and did end up crying at times. It's easy to forget where the food/milk comes from when it doesn't confront you every day. This film acts as a reminder about where our meals and drinks originated. Makes me question what others mean when they say 'humane' and I feel sadder when I see meat.

> Jane Clinical psychology student



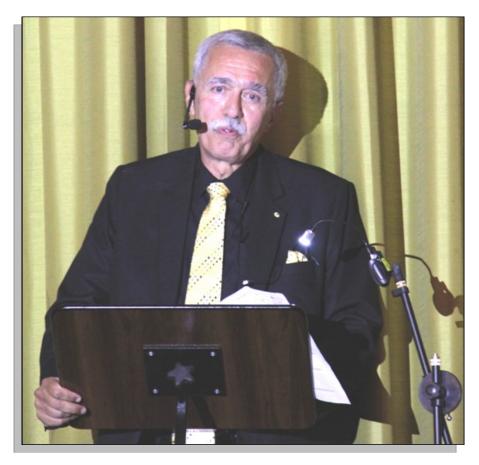
Jeff Hansen from the Sea Shepherd was emcee. Introductory speech.

First of all, congratulations to the organising team for a successful evening. Peaceable Kingdom is, to me, a less direct approach to calling a stop to animal abuse, compared to e.g Earthlings. It is nonetheless powerful in using experiences of those farmers to make a connection to how animals are treated.

One of my invitees has been meat free ever since. And another one, who is mostly vegetarian, is giving up dairy. So that's a win!

The highlight for me is having such a close encounter with the great man, Phillip. I have listened to him speak many times but it's different to hear him speak in person. Watching A Peaceable Kingdom was a life-changing event. Particularly powerful was how it showed the strength of relationships that animals have with their offspring and with their compassionate human carers. It made me know that I want to be no part of the horrors that are inflicted on them.

Mary State library volunteer



Philip Wollen takes the stage and gives an incredibly impassioned speech. The audience responds with a standing ovation.

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I found Peaceable Kingdom to be a mostly gentle, but profound insight into how we as humans, live with and treat the other beings we share the planet with.

Though the producers wisely chose not to scare or alienate the audience with actual or explicit images of slaughter, I feel nobody could have left the cinema without the haunting thoughts of the pain and suffering that is inflicted on these defenceless creatures on a mass scale everyday. Removing the cosmetic images industries would prefer you did not see.

Thank you so much for sharing and spreading the movement of compassion for all living, sentient creatures.

Andrew Chef



Congratulations on organising this important and powerful presentation.

It once again highlighted how crucially important it is for the well-being of our planet, animals and ultimately ourselves that humanity move more towards a plant-based diet.

Michael

It was awesome, shocking, and incredible. My daughter and her friend sniffled right through it. Phil Wollen's speech was amazing and really topped it off.

I was brought up on a farm, I still to this day hear the cries of the cows and calves when they were separated. I also remember my dad's frustration when the little calves wouldn't drink from the bucket.

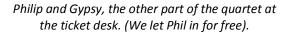
The more I see, the harder I try to be vegan. I will get there one day.

Chris

I went to see The Peaceable Kingdom...quite lost and not sure what path to take. It was amazing to me to see how the values expressed fit into my passion for social justice.

I decided I was going to be vegan that day after being vegetarian for a while as I was inspired to hear from Philip that he believes in the power of one single person making a difference. That alone gave me the confidence to move forward.







Trix and Phil Wollen and three of the wonderful, hard working Peaceable Kingdom Team: Kim, Joanne and Marjie.



Trix with her Compassion bag chatting with Gypsy after the event.



Kim, Trix and Joanne after the event.



Right: People chatting with each other outside the cinema after the screening.