

KANGAROO

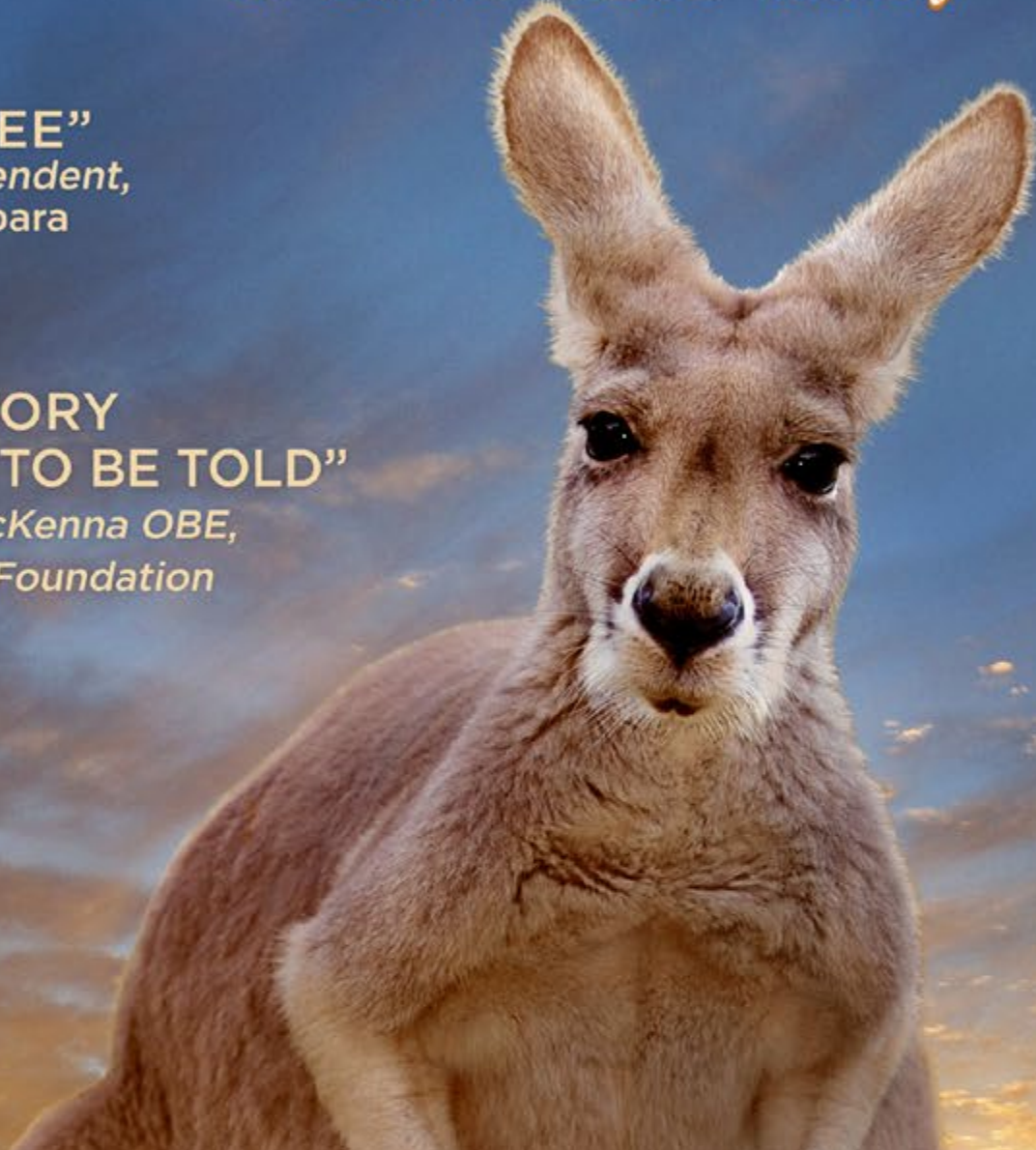
A Love-Hate Story

“MUST SEE”

- *The Independent*,
Santa Barbara

“THIS STORY
NEEDED TO BE TOLD”

- *Virginia McKenna OBE*,
Born Free Foundation



MARCHÉ DU FILM
FESTIVAL DE CANNES



A young kangaroo with brown and grey fur stands in a natural, outdoor setting. It is looking directly at the camera with large, alert ears. The background shows a blurred tree trunk and foliage.

KANGAROO

A film that reveals an unlikely truth about Australia's love-hate relationship with its beloved icon, uncovering disturbing scenes behind the largest mass destruction of wildlife in the world.

"Utterly compelling, intellectually rigorous, persuasive, emotional and beautifully filmed. Just brilliant."

– JULIET GELLATLEY, Founder and Director of VIVA!



SYNOPSIS

This groundbreaking film reveals the truth surrounding Australia's love-hate relationship with its beloved icon. The kangaroo 'image' is proudly used by top companies, sports teams and tourist souvenirs, yet as they hop across the vast continent they are often considered pests to be shot and sold for profit.

KANGAROO unpacks a national paradigm where the relationship with kangaroos is examined.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT



**MICK MCINTYRE &
KATE MCINTYRE CLERE**

Kangaroos are one of the most recognizable icons in the world and have always held a fascination for the directors of this film. We set out to explore the wonder of this magnificent and unique animal that we recognized was the heart of a complex and divided situation in Australia.

We knew opinion was split around this famous icon and that would make an interesting story but once we started the research and interviews were surprised to learn that millions of kangaroos are shot each year as so-called pests and sold for profit. It seemed incongruous to us that Australians' who are immensely proud to hold up the kangaroo, as their beloved national symbol would sanction their nightly killing.

Key to the telling this story was investigating the details behind the largest wildlife slaughter in the world, to find out where it all started and why it still happens today. Where had the ideology come from that a native animal that has lived in Australia for millions of years could be a national problem? How and when did Australians start believing kangaroos are a pest and therefore must be eliminated?

We have travelled thousands of kilometers across the magnificent Australian outback speaking with indigenous Australians, scientists, commercial shooters, farmers, politicians, artists, wildlife-carers, chefs and activist. We have weaved together an unsettling story for the world to see. Hearing from so many angles gives the audience the opportunity to come on the journey with us and make up their own minds.

We learnt that the annual "cull" of millions of kangaroos is government sanctioned and that the shooting is done in the dead of night often miles from anywhere. Although there are humane killing codes of practice in place for farmers and shooters to prevent cruelty, in most cases this seems impossible to police. We came across many first hand eyewitness accounts of the brutal treatment of kangaroos and their young joeys.

We visited one of the kangaroo slaughterhouses that process six semi trailer loads of kangaroos every day for pet food, gourmet meats and leather. The sheer size of this commercial industry was alarming. We found out that with the growth of the commercial kangaroo industry, road kills, pest mitigation and recreational shooting, there is very little national data available of the number of kangaroo deaths that occur daily. Some scientists and conservationists are reporting both local and regional extinctions.

As Australians we do not want to imagine our country without kangaroos. It is timely that people across the world know what is going on with this internationally celebrated icon and ask the question why are Australians not responding to what is happening on their doorstep?



MEET OUR CREW

KATE MCINTYRE CLERE, PRODUCER / DIRECTOR/ WRITER

Kate McIntyre Clere is a multi-award winning documentary filmmaker who brings together key international social and environmental issues with beautiful cinematic storytelling. Her films include *Gaining Ground*, *A Year on the Wing*, *Yogawoman*, *Aussie Rules the World* and *A Hard Place*. Kate's work has been reviewed in the *New York Times*, *Variety*, *LA Times* and *Woman's Day*. She is an author for the *Huffington Post* and has contributed a chapter to a new USA book 'Yoga and Body Image'.

MICK MCINTYRE, PRODUCER / DIRECTOR / CINEMATOGRAPHER / WRITER

Mick was given a super 8mm movie camera when he was 12 years old and has making films since then. He has spent 35 years working in the film industry, starting out as a driver, spent 10 years as an assistant director on feature films before finding his passion making documentaries. He combines his skills as a cinematographer with producing and directing. His films include the award winning film *Yogawoman*, *What to do about Whales* and *Aussie Rules the World*.





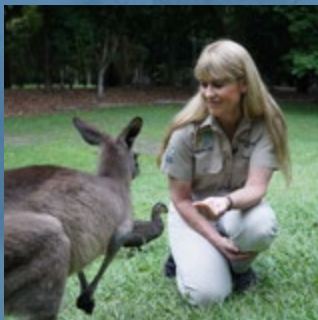
WAYNE HYETT, A.S.E EDITOR

Locally produced children's drama and documentaries have been a specialty for editor Wayne Hyett A.S.E. His career, spanning over 24 years, also includes feature films, adult drama series and documentary dramas for all Australian television networks and international audiences. In 2004 Wayne was awarded accreditation by the Australian Screen Editors Guild "In recognition of excellence in screen editing and outstanding contribution to Australian screen culture." At the 2010 RealScreen Factual Entertainment Awards, Wayne was awarded Best Editing for the December Films documentary project *Catching Cancer*. Drama credits include *The Castle*, *The Murray Whelan Series*, *Stingers*, *The Games*, *Wicked Science*, *The Elephant Princess* and *Pirate Island*. In addition to *Catching Cancer* his documentary highlights include the major ABC series *Captain Cook – Discovery and Obsession*, the science film *Immortal* and social documentaries *The Kindness of Strangers*, *What to do about Whales?* and the award winning film *Yogawoman*.

DAVID BRIDIE, COMPOSER

David Bridie has enjoyed a versatile career as one of Australia's most prolific and innovative contemporary musicians and composers. David rose to prominence in 1983 as a uniquely Australian pianist, vocalist and songwriter in the critically acclaimed band *Not Drowning, Waving*. A decade and nine albums later, David formed the ARIA award-winning band, *My Friend the Chocolate Cake*. David has also enjoyed a venerable solo career. David has scored the soundtracks for over 100 international and Australian films, television series and documentaries. His score for the feature film *In a Savage Land* won 'Best Original Score' at the AFI Awards, 'Best Original Soundtrack' at the Film Critics Circle of Australia and 'Best Soundtrack Album' at the 2000 ARIA Awards. The soundtrack to the film *Proof* gained David the 1992 ARIA Award for Best Independent Release. David works across many genres, ranging from feature films about New York basketball (*Wolves*, 2015) to Australian Indigenous documentaries and feature films (*Satellite Boy*, 2013 and *Motorkite Dreaming*, 2016) and television drama series (*Secret City*, 2016 and *The Straits*, 2012).

CHARACTER SPOTLIGHTS



TERRI IRWIN AM
OWNER AUSTRALIAN ZOO

Terri Irwin is an American-Australian naturalist and author, and the owner of Australia Zoo in Beerwah, Queensland.



CHRIS BROLGA BARNs
KANGAROO DUNDEE/ TV PERSONALITY

Chris Brolga Barns rescued a joey, quit his job and started a kangaroo education centre and rescue service in Alice Springs.



PROFESSOR PETER SINGER AC
UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE/
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY

Peter Singer is an Australian moral philosopher.



STEPHEN TULLY
FARMER

Stephen Tully is a fifth-generation grazier from a 78,000ha property in Quilpie, Queensland.



LYN GYNThER
KANGAROO SHOOTER

Lyn is a former shooter and landowner from Queensland.



RAY BORDA
ABBATOIR OWNER

Ray Borda is the Founder and managing director of Macro Meats – a kangaroo and wild game meat distributor.

CHARACTER SPOTLIGHTS



PHILIP WOLLEN OAM
FORMER VICE PRESIDENT,
CITIBANK

Philip Wollen is an Australian philanthropist.



HON. MARK PEARSON
SENATOR ANIMAL JUSTICE PARTY

Mark Pearson, an Australian politician, has been a Member of the New South Wales Legislative Council since 2015, representing the Animal Justice Party.



**UNCLE MAX
DULUMUNMUN HARRISON**
TRADITIONAL YUIN ELDER

Yuin elder Uncle Max 'Dulamunmun' Harrison, who is an initiated Yuin man, is a knowledge holder and teacher.



DR DAVID CROFT
HONORARY SENIOR LECTURER,
UNIVERSITY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

Dr David Croft holds a BSc. Honours degree and University medal from the Flinders University in South Australia, and a PhD from the University of Cambridge in England.



PROFESSOR TIM FLANNERY
PROFESSORIAL FELLOW,
UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE

Prof. Tim Flannery is an Australian mammalogist, palaeontologist, environmentalist and global warming activist.



PROFESSOR CLIVE PHILLIPS
PROFESSOR OF ANIMAL WELFARE
UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Clive Phillips is Professor of Animal Welfare at Queensland University, involved the development and implementation of State and Federal government animal welfare policies

INT'L CHARACTER SPOTLIGHTS



SENATOR MARK LENO, USA, CALIFORNIA STATE SENATOR

Mark Leno is an American politician who served in the California State Senate until November 2016. A Democrat, he represented the 11th Senate District, which includes San Francisco and portions of San Mateo County. Before the 2010 redistricting, he represented the 3rd Senate District.



JULIET GELLATLEY, UK, FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR VIVA!

Juliet Gellatley is a British writer and animal rights activist. She is the founder and director of Viva! and a former director of the Vegetarian Society. She is the author of numerous books and was the winner of the Linda McCartney Award for Animal Welfare in 1999, sponsored by the Daily Mirror's Pride of Britain Awards.



HON. MARIANNE THIEME, NETHERLANDS, FOUNDER DUTCH PARTY FOR THE ANIMALS

Marianne Thieme is a Dutch politician of the Party for the Animals (Partij voor de Dieren). She has been Parliamentary leader in the House of Representatives since 23 November 2006 and an MP since 30 November 2006. Thieme is a jurist by education, an animal rights activist, and an author by occupation.

SOCIAL MEDIA

POSTING TOOLKIT

ABOUT THE FILM

#KangarooTheMovie: A forthcoming documentary revealing an unlikely story of Australia's love-hate relationship with its beloved icon, the Kangaroo kangaroothemovie.com

JOIN OUR NEWSLETTER

For behind-the-scenes content + forthcoming screening dates, join the #KangarooTheMovie e-list! <http://kangaroothemovie.com>

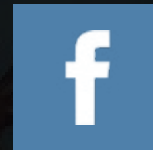
SOCIAL IMPACT CINEMA

This groundbreaking film reveals the truth surrounding Australia's love-hate relationship with its beloved icon. The kangaroo image is proudly used by Australia's top companies, sports teams and for tourist souvenirs, yet as they hop across the vast continent they are considered pests to be shot and sold for profit. #KangarooTheMovie unpacks a national paradigm where the relationship with kangaroos is examined.

[FIND US ON IMDB](#)



30,000+ FOLLOWERS



15,000+ FOLLOWERS



WATCH TRAILER

"Hard to watch, hard to ignore."

– THE INDEPENDENT

CHARACTER QUOTES



“The problem with shooting and culling kangaroos is that when these animals are shot they often not killed and it is extraordinarily inhumane. If we were processing domestic livestock the same way we do kangaroos it would shut down immediately. People would be just horrified. ”

– Terri Irwin AM, Owner Australian Zoo

“Australia really evolved in splendid isolation from the rest of the world and a whole group of organisms live in Australia, which are just not found anywhere else. Among them is the kangaroo family and there’s about 70 species of kangaroos. They range in size from little things that I could hold on the palm on my hand through to animals that are taller than I am.”

– Professor Tim Flannery, Professorial Fellow, University of Melbourne

“Kangaroos are what makes Australia. I see the kangaroo as our greatest natural asset. As Australians we take kangaroos for granted, that they’re always going to be there. What if they’re not?”

– Chris Brolga Barns, Kangaroo Dundee/ TV personality

“I have encouraged industry to come out. I’ve told industry you know, we’ve got great environmental messages here. It utilizes animals that we have great respect for, in a respectful way.”

– **John Kelly**, Kangaroo Industry Association

“We have an iconic animal, which is one of Australia’s most precious animals and we’re advocating bashing its brains out against a rock. That can’t be the right thing to do in the 21st century in my minds.”

– **Professor Clive Phillips**, Professor of Animal Welfare
University of Queensland

“Government raw survey data shows wide landscapes are now significantly depleted of kangaroos, it’s now time to carefully assess what is happening to kangaroos.”

– **Senator Lee Rhiannon**, Senator Greens Party

“The kangaroo is an important part of this nation that they call Australia. Kangaroos have been here for millions of years. This is their land. They are the first Australians. ”

– **Uncle Max Dulumunmun Harrison**, Traditional Yuin Elder

“Our sheep and cattle are competing directly with kangaroos for that pasture. For us here, we don’t believe that the current harvesters make any impact on numbers. They are only allowed to take large males. They leave all breeding females behind. - that’s only going to make the impact of kangaroos worse. They will breed at a faster rate and increase in numbers.”

– **Stephen Tully**, Farmer

“If you see kangaroo on a menu that’s being described as “sustainable” or “healthy,” I think you ought to think beyond that and think about - Why was this animal killed? Did this animal have to be killed for me? What were the circumstances in which it was killed? Was there a joey who hopped off into the dark and starved to death because this animal was killed? There’s a whole lot of questions that are not answered just by labelling this as “organic” or “sustainable.””

– Professor Peter Singer AC, University of Melbourne/Princeton University

“It’s no fun pulling joeys from a pouch and smashing them over the head whether that was up against the wheel of your car or your tow bar or simply if they’re too small you would leave them on the teat and just run the knife over their throat and cut their head off. I mean it’s a really brutal, cruel industry, and for anybody to say otherwise they’re just outright lying.”


– Lyn Gynther, Kangaroo Shooter

“The challenges the kangaroo industry has in Australia is changing the perception. When you start off life as a pet food and then you want to end up as a top end, high protein, highly sought after food- you have a lot of challenges.”

– Ray Borda, Abattoir Owner

“The human consumption of kangaroos, is permitted to have a process where these animals are shot in the dark and eviscerated in the bush. They then bounce around the back of a truck, dust flying all over them, which would be absolutely unacceptable in any other meat industry, or even any other kind of food industry.”

– Hon. Mark Pearson, Senator Animal Justice Party



***"This story needed to be told and has been,
with no holds barred."***

– VIRGINIA MCKENNA OBE

Actress and Co-founder of The Born Free Foundation

CREDITS

ABRAMORAMA and **INDIEVILLAGE** present

a **SECOND NATURE FILMS** production

"**KANGAROO**" music composed by **DAVID BRIDIE**

featuring **PHIL WOLLEN | TIM FLANNERY**

PETER SINGER | TERRI IRWIN | BROLGA BARNES

editor **WAYNE HYETT** ase director of photography **MICK McINTYRE**

sound design **STEPHEN WITHEROW** production manager **SARA KIDD**

written, produced, and directed by **KATE McINTYRE CLERE** and **MICK McINTYRE**

DISTRIBUTED BY ABRAMORAMA AND INDIEVILLAGE

"A harrowing but compelling doc."

– JOSEF WOODARD

QUICK FACTS



The word kangaroo stems from the Guugu Yimithirr word gangurru, which refers to grey kangaroos.

There are over **50** different native species of kangaroos and wallabies.



The name was first recorded as "Kangaroo or Kanguru" on 4 August 1770, by **JAMES COOK** ->



Male kangaroos "box", either in play, when asserting their dominance, or in serious competition over females.

FUN FACTS



1. Kangaroos are the only large animals that move by hopping. Hopping is a fast and energy efficient method of travel, designed to cover huge distances.



Adult male Kangaroo are called **BUCK, BOOMER OR JACK.**



Adult females are called **DOE, FLYER OR JILL.**



A baby kangaroo is called a **JOEY.**

2. Kangaroos cannot move backwards.

3. On land kangaroos can't move their hind legs independently, only together. But when they are swimming (they are good swimmers) they kick each leg independently.

4. A Kangaroo is a macropod which means "big foot".

5. The largest of the kangaroos is the Red Kangaroos. It stands taller than a man and can weigh 85 kg making it the largest marsupial in the world. Red Kangaroos are adapted to the big open plains covering the dry interior.

FAMILY

...

Like all marsupials, Kangaroos have a pouch in which their young live, drink milk and develop until they are big enough to face the world.

...

LIFE



Kangaroos usually have one young annually. The young kangaroo, or joey, is born alive at a very immature stage when it is only about 2 cm long and weighs less than a gram.

...

After several weeks, the joey becomes more active and gradually spends more and more time outside the pouch, which it leaves completely between 7 and 10 months of age.

A DAY IN THE LIFE

The kangaroo usually rests in the shade during the day and comes out to eat in the late afternoon and night when it's much cooler.

They are grazing animals that eat grass, young shoots and leaves of heath plants and grass trees. Kangaroos need very little water to survive and are capable of going for months without drinking at all.

When they are at rest, their body is sometimes positioned like a tripod, using the hind legs and tail. Kangaroos also walk on all "fives".



CONTACT

KANGAROO

A Love-Hate Story

NY/ NATIONAL

FALCO

LA / REGIONAL

JOLSON

AUSTRALIA

BROWN