

Media Release 25 November 2014

Humane Research Australia recognised in awards to end animal testing

Humane Research Australia is delighted and honoured to be amongst the winners of this year's Lush Prize, recognising their work in promoting more humane and scientifically-valid non-animal methods.

Scientists and campaigners from ten countries have been recognised for their contributions to ending animal testing in this year's Lush Prize. The 12 winners will share \$445,000 prize money in what is the largest annual fund of its kind.

They received their awards at a ceremony hosted by comedian Lucy Porter on Friday 14th November at the Royal Institute of British Architects in London.

Craig Redmond, Lush Prize spokesperson:

"We were delighted to be able to recognise the important work of Humane Research Australia in highlighting the cruelty and scientific uselessness of animal testing. Using the story of Leo, the cat saved from a laboratory and now in a loving home, is a great way of creating public awareness about the individual character of each animal used in experimentation. We are sure that HRA's campaigns not only open many people's eyes to the reality of animal testing but help promote real science without animal use. Congratulations to a well-deserved winning team."

Helen Marston, CEO, Humane Research Australia:

"It is an honour to have received this award as recognition of our efforts to end animal testing. Around seven million animals are used in research every year in Australia. Leo provides a face to those statistics and is a wonderful ambassador for all laboratory animals." "It is hoped that Leo's story will provide children – our next generation - with an understanding of how wrong animal experimentation is, and serve to influence future generations of researchers, donors and philanthropists."

"But most importantly, Leo provides a face to the millions of animals used in research every year who are not so lucky. Our sincere thanks to Lush and all the judges for helping us to continue with this very important work."

- ENDS -

Notes to editor:

"Leo escapes from the Lab" is available from <u>Humane Research Australia</u> and on <u>Amazon</u>. Leo's Facebook page: <u>https://www.facebook.com/leo.exlabcat</u>

☐ The Lush Prize, now in its third year, is a partnership between Lush Fresh Handmade Cosmetics and Ethical Consumer Research Association to support animal-free toxicology. See www.lushprize.org