



# Who we are



## Who are we?:

Fur Free was founded in South Africa in February 2009, in affiliation with the International Fur-Free Coalition.

## What is our mission?

To strive for the total abolition of all fur farms and the use of fur worldwide; and, until this is achieved, to work towards ensuring the humane treatment of animals in the fur trade worldwide.

## What projects are we working on?

Putting an end to the Namibian Seal Massacre once and for all



# Meet the team



**Anneke Brits:** I'm honoured to be the Chairperson of Fur Free South Africa, as relieving the misery of fur animals and eventually ending the hideous fur trade has become a passion in my life. I feel deeply for all suffering animals, however, and will fight for them till my last breath. I'm also very involved in the MCs of two cat-welfare organisations, CatPals and the newly formed NCat (National Cat Action Taskforce), and care for several feral-cat colonies in Pretoria. I'm a writer, editor and translator by profession, and live in Joburg with my partner Dani(el) and 8 adored animal companions.

**anneke@furfree.net**



**Merinda Brits:** Hi, I'm Merinda and the vice chairperson of Fur Free. I run my own Animal Welfare Organisation, called Four Paws, since 2006. We work in the poorest sectors of society where the need is the most pressing, namely Townships. We sterilize, dip, de-worm, vaccinate and treat dogs and cats free of charge. We are also very involved in feral projects, where we trap and sterilize feral cats. I have been an animal activist for many years and feel very strongly about our fight for those who cannot speak for themselves!

**merinda@furfree.net**



**Noeline van den Berg:** Hi, my name is Noeline. I am an Executive Member of Fur Free and an animal activist. During the day I work for an advertising agency and in my free time I try and do as much animal charity work as possible. Not only animals are my passion, but travelling and seeing the world too and inevitably I feed stray cats and dogs on my journeys. I'm also a very sociable person and love seeing my friends and family. I have two beautiful babies, pinchers, Biscuit and Eli who are the love of my life!

**noeline@furfree.net**



**Olwin Kleve:** Hi, I'm Olwin and I am passionate about helping animals in distress. Besides working in the marketing department of a consulting firm during the week, I volunteer at an animal shelter in Johannesburg most weekends. I spend a great deal of time trying to find homes for unwanted animals, doing fundraising for animal causes and I am also an Executive Member of Fur Free. I want to stand up for the speechless and fight for those who cannot fend for themselves. I am a seasoned traveler and the proud mother of 2 beautiful cats, Sally & Tom.

**olwin@furfree.net**



**Tricia Davis:** Hi, my name is Tricia and I am the Protest Co-ordinator at Fur Free South Africa. By day I am a Graphic Designer, Spanish Dancer and part-time Bachelor of Arts student. I am a member of various animal rights organisations as I feel passionately about the plight of human abuses against animals and as a result I want to spread awareness and give nature a voice. I believe by doing this and becoming involved in animal rights organisations, I am part of a process that will bring change to peoples' attitudes towards animals and create a healthier environment for all. Sea Sheppard are very inspirational to me as is my favourite quote 'What would you do if you weren't afraid?'. I have 5 "kids", 2 lively cats (Jade and Mickey Knox), 2 rats (Johnny and Sage) and Kiara a rescued tarantula.

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**Nikki Botha:** Although I fight against all forms of cruelty, exploitation and abuse, I have a particular hatred for fur. I work with various organisations around the world and I am currently a Boardmember of the Darwin Primate Group, a Trustee of the South African Mass Animal Sterilisation Trust and a member of Sea Shepherd Conservation Society. I also represent the South African Rat Fan Club (in Cape Town) and The Penlain Foundation (in South Africa). I no longer call myself an animal rights activist, but a civil society activist because no civil society will treat animals the way we do.

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**Dani Malan:** My background is design, advertising, painting, sculpture – a creative handyman and the 'backroom boy' at Fur Free. I got a wake-up call in my teens while being taken on an excursion tour of an abattoir, became vegetarian and ever since have been acutely aware of the callous disrespect human kind have for our fellow beings who share this earth with us and the cruelty meted out to them daily by 'civilised man'.