



PEOPLE FOR
THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT
OF ANIMALS

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Info@peta.org.uk

David Nye
Organiser
Todd in the Hole Festival

18 June 2018

Via e-mail: hello@toddinthehole.co.uk

Dear Mr Nye,

I'm writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and our more than 1 million members and supporters to urge you to cancel the camel race scheduled to take place at the Todd in the Hole Festival on 21 and 22 July.

In nature, camels run fast only when they're in danger. They live in social herds and spend their time foraging and roaming over vast distances – up to 25 miles a day. Mothers are devoted to their calves, who stay with them until reaching maturity at around 5 years of age. In contrast, camels used in races, in seasonal displays, or for rides are often only days old when they're torn from their mothers and denied the nurturing care they need so that their spirits can be broken and they can be acclimated to human contact. They're commonly transported across the country from venue to venue, kept in small pens, and prevented from moving freely and demonstrating other kinds of behaviour that are essential to their physical and psychological health.

Despite their imposing size, camels are easily spooked by loud or unexpected noises, so they can be skittish and unpredictable. As a result, using camels in noisy public events presents a potentially hazardous situation for bystanders. The liability risk associated with using live animals is very real.

The Todd in the Hole Festival celebrates English eccentricity, and as we're a nation of animal lovers, surely this can be done without compromising animals' well-being. Why not replace the cruel camel race, which has no connection to our traditions, with a truly eccentric English activity, such as barrel racing, toe wrestling, or mud racing? Removing this single event would do nothing to diminish the community's enjoyment of the day – for the animals, though, it would make a world of difference.

Thank you for your time and for considering this important issue. I look forward to discussing it with you.

PEOPLE FOR THE ETHICAL
TREATMENT OF ANIMALS (PETA)
FOUNDATION – a charitable
company limited by guarantee,
with its registered office at
Cannon Place, 78 Cannon Street,
London EC4N 6AF.
Registered in England and Wales
as charity number 1056453,
company number 3135903.

Affiliates

- PETA US
- PETA Asia
- PETA India
- PETA France
- PETA Australia
- PETA Germany
- PETA Netherlands



Yours sincerely,

Elisa Allen
Director

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