



To: Miles & Barr Exclusive
From: Ingrid Newkirk, PETA

Via Email: exclusive@milesandbarr.co.uk

29 July 2021

Good morning.

I'm writing on behalf of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) and our more than 1.2 million members in the UK to learn more about the property listed for sale at 8 Paragon, Ramsgate. Because it was once home to Charles Darwin, we might be interested in converting it into an empathy museum for animals. We have a request in this regard.

While the theory of evolution is Darwin's legacy, many people don't know that this groundbreaking theory laid much of the foundation for modern animal rights, changing our perception of other animals and illuminating the fact that humans *are* animals. Darwin introduced self-aggrandising humans to the idea that our species shares a common ancestry with all forms of life – that we are, in fact, one ape among many, part of the great orchestra of life on Earth. It is because of Darwin's research that people started to realise that other animals are like us in all the ways that matter – we all feel pain, engage in play, parent, and experience emotions such as joy, love, loneliness, and fear. This led to the understanding that all animals should be treated with compassion and respect and that the exploitation of others is an evil to overcome.

At PETA's empathy museum, guests would learn how Darwin spearheaded legislation to regulate experiments on animals in England so as to reduce animals' suffering and campaigned against steel-jaw traps used by game wardens and fur trappers that crush animals' limbs.

Darwin once wrote, "I have all my life been a strong advocate for humanity to animals." Would you consider helping to keep his legacy of empathy alive by donating this home to PETA or selling it to us for a modest amount so that it could be turned into a museum?

I look forward to hearing your thoughts. Thank you.

Very truly yours,



Ingrid Newkirk
Founder

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