



How to... host a letter writing party

A letter writing party is a fun way to get together and have a big impact for animals. By working together, you can amplify your voice for a specific animal issue.

When you write and send a letter to a Member of Parliament's (MP's) office, someone opens it, reads it, and if they receive multiple letters, makes a tally of the opinion it expresses. All the tallied opinions are presented to the elected person at the appropriate time. Typically, MPs assume for every person that writes a real letter it's likely that other voters in their electorate feel the same as you do but didn't bother to write.

That is why writing a letter can be such a powerful action for animals ahead of elections or when an animal issue is breaking in the news.

Letter writing parties can also be a lot of fun as you can connect with like-minded individuals while you work. Here are some ideas for how to host a letter writing party:

1. **Plan:** Set a date, time and location then invite friends, family or co-workers
2. **Gather:** essential items like paper, pens and envelopes for your attendees.
3. **Host:** let everyone know who you are writing to and why. Then turn some music on and get writing. Finally, decide on when and how to send your letters.

Do's

- Do provide a draft for the party as some attendees might not know the animal issue as well as you
- Do know the address/addresses of the politicians you want to contact are available
- Be creative - include children's notes or artwork - personal, original touches, do make an impact
- Put on some music, supply some snacks and have fun!

Don'ts

- Don't be rude or swear in your letter
- Don't add glitter or any crafty objects that will have your letter rejected from the post
- Don't worry if you make a mistake or spill something on the letter.