

media release

1,375 CAGED HENS OUT OF WORK

The RSPCA's growing list of *Choose Wisely* restaurants is increasing demand for barn-laid and free-range eggs, with 435,456 eggs every year no longer being sourced from caged hens.

"Ultimately the RSPCA would like to see all hens living a cage-free existence but this is a great start," said RSPCA Australia Scientific Officer, Melina Tensen.

"In less than four months we've signed-up ten businesses throughout the ACT and Western Australia, all committing to use barn-laid or free-range eggs as much as they can in their restaurants and cafes.

"We're hoping a new advertising campaign, launched today, will help drive recruitment in other states."

The RSPCA's new ads can be viewed at <http://www.choosewisely.org.au/media-centre.htm>.

"Unable to express natural behaviours as simple as stretching out and flapping their wings, battery hens suffer chronically throughout their short lives.

"The positive news is that this is one animal welfare issue where every decision you make, whether you're a business or a consumer, can make a difference. In fact the purchase of just six barn-laid or free-range eggs a week can help one hen live a cage-free life."

The RSPCA's first *Choose Wisely* businesses are:

- Crowne Plaza Canberra (ACT)
- National Convention Centre Canberra (ACT)
- Parliament House Catering (ACT)
- All Things Chocolate (ACT)
- Barocca Café (ACT)
- Tosolini's Civic (ACT)
- The Boathouse by the Lake (ACT)
- Cream Café and Bar (ACT)
- Herbrowan Homestead (WA)
- Café Yasou (WA)

Choose Wisely restaurants are easy to spot, just look out for the *Choose Wisely* sticker on their shop front and menus.

For more information or to register your business visit www.choosewisely.org.au.