



Two months ago we published an advertisement highlighting the problem the Australian wool industry is having with an animal rights group, and in my editorial last month I mentioned the bombs in London. Since then I have been in London myself, just after the second attempt to explode bombs in the underground, one station from the one nearest the Kennel Club. One of my hostesses insisted we use the underground when traveling to Clarges Street for one of those gracious luncheons for which the KC is so famous, because, as she said, "We ALWAYS use the underground, it is so convenient to get to the Kennel Club. And besides we MUST use it now, to show the people who work there that we support them, and also to do our little bit to repay what it is costing to keep them open when many people are using other forms of transport right now." So I pinned my sparkling kangaroo brooch on my jacket and off we went - down with the terrorists! Incidentally the Kennel Club library and art gallery are both absolutely wonderful and if you get a chance to visit them, you will be really thrilled.

The day I came home, the second Cricket Test started, ending on Sunday night (our time) with that incredibly exciting battle which Australia lost by only two runs. It must have been an extremely frustrating few days for those determined to destroy the British way of life, to see such a typical example as cricket flourishing in such a manner, thousands of happy spectators out enjoying themselves, fully supported by one of England's former colonies, both in sport and in spirit. The security which would have had to be undertaken at the grounds is mind boggling - what a tempting target it must have provided!

And talking of terrorism, whilst travelling in the past two weeks, I finally had time to read my review copy of Ron Hevener's HIGH STAKES, and, boy, did I enjoy it!

Everyone interested in the present state of the dog world and the huge pressures we are under generated in no small part by the "greenies" and animal liberationists should read this novel, which clearly identifies them for what they are - eco-terrorists.

The story itself is riveting, but the 185 page appendix which follows is even more so! It reads: To whom it may concern: The sobering information on the following pages is provided by the dedicated people of the National Animal Interest Alliance. To the knowledge of this publisher, it is the only such documentation of its kind for legislators, educators and reporters taking a responsible look into the broad range of crimes and violence committed in the name of animal rights. For entries posted since publication of this novel, readers may refer to naia@naiaonline.org. The section entitled Quotes from the Leaders

of the Animal Rights Movement is nothing short of horrifying, a typical example being one from a PETA pamphlet, **Companion Animals: Pets or Prisoners ...** "it is also important to stop manufacturing "pets", thereby perpetuating a class of animals forced to rely on humans to survive". And from **Elliot Katz, President "In Defense of Animals"** ... "It is time we demand an end to the misguided and abusive concept of animal ownership. The first step on this long road would be ending the concept of pet ownership".

And so it goes, with ranting and raving all potentially targeting our relationship with dogs since man's recorded history, and with many other animals since almost as long.

The section on **Animal Welfare v Animal Rights** highlights how differently responsible dog breeders and owners (and those of all other companion, commercial and zoo animals) think compared to the eco-terrorists' view of Animal Rights. "Not only are the philosophies of animal rights and animal welfare separated by irreconcilable differences ... the enactment of animal welfare measures actually impedes the achievement of animal rights ..." **Gary Francione and Tom Regan "A Movement's Means Create Its End" The Animals' Agenda.** And finally from the section entitled **Criminal Acts and Terrorism ...** "Arson, property destruction, burglary and theft are 'acceptable crimes' when used for the animal cause." **Alex Pacheco, Director PETA.**

These are the people who burn down laboratories and University institutions, who raid mink farms, one example in Spain where 6,500 were 'liberated', 800 of those lost in the wilds, 500 were found dead, and in Washington State, USA, 10,000, causing \$500,000US in damages and incalculable losses in genetic history. Fifty volunteers worked to round up the mink, capturing about two-thirds of the traumatized animals. Scores died of dehydration or were killed on a nearby highway. In Anchorage Alaska, animal activists released five Iditarod sled dogs from their boxes on dog trucks into downtown traffic. Four were quickly recovered but a new lead dog was missing all night before being located. In England, they broke into a chicken farm and stole 1023 hens, taking them away in horse trailers. An ALF spokesman said the hens would be given homes as "companion animals". Huh? They would have about as much chance of that as the mink had on the roads!

And now for a famous quote, "The price of freedom is eternal vigilance", whether it is against regular terrorists or eco-terrorists. There has long been a school of thought which says that animal welfare has been deliberately hi-jacked and confused with animal rights, leading to legislation such as the prohibition of tail docking, the increasing of Local Government restrictions, and the legislation against "dangerous breeds" as opposed to sensible management of dangerous individual canines. Reading HIGH STAKES lends credibility to this theory, as the harder an organization can make it for people to own and enjoy a companion animal, the easier it would become for them to achieve their stated objective that no animal should be owned at all, by anybody, anytime, anywhere!

Stay aware
WENDYE SLATYER

The following people were successful in the elections for Directors of the RNSWCC:
Metropolitan Region - Fred Hession and Colleen Roberts, Hunter Region - Tom Couchman,
Western Region - Wayne Richards, Illawarra & South Coast Region - Keith Irwin

FCI recognises Australian Stumpy Tail Cattle Dog

After 6 long years the Australian Stumpy Tail Cattle Dog is finally a recognised breed by the FCI.

Without the dedicated work of Bernadette Merchant of Ambajaye ASTCD's and her small band of supporters, the ASTCD would have remained "a variety of the ACD" (as per FCI) and not a breed in its own right.

After presenting the submission it was a real blow to have the FCI come back with this statement. However for those that know Bernadette and friends, this was not taken lying down and a DVD presentation of the comparisons between the ASTCD and the ACD (scripted by Narelle Hammond-Robertson, narrated by Robert Curtis, filmed by World Class Videos and with the help of the exhibitors and supporters at the AWD of NSW show in March 2005) was presented to FCI. As of the July 2005 FCI conference, the ASTCD is officially recognised throughout all FCI countries.

A fitting reward to the dedication of Bernadette, Lisa Kennedy (Alkina ASTCD Kennels, Vic) and the small number of serious ASTCD breeders of this rare breed.
NARELLE HAMMOND-ROBERTSON



Drawing by Ian McBain of a Stumpy Tail Cattle Dog in The Courier Mail Dog Book, 1938

One of the nicest things about judging dogs is the friends you make. After finishing judging Kelpies in Finland recently, a lady came up and handed me this picture and note!



You gave us Tiiu's first 'BIG' success in Helsinki on December '99. That was the lucky stroke for us. During the last 5 years, Tiiu has taken part in about 30 shows, at which she has received Excellent grading every time except once, been BOB about 22 times, BOS 4 times and 28 times Best Veteran. Now at the age of 11 and a half years, she is still like a young girl and loving showing. More than anything I would like to show her once again to you today, but unfortunately she was totally out of coat so I left Tiiu at home. A thousand thanks - you gave my Kelpie the keys for success!

Best Wishes, Int/Fin/Est/LV/Rus Ch W-99, 02, 04 Bestseller Dirlan Daa.

For an extensive coverage of Finland's Super Summer Show, see pages 24-26, and our thanks to the editor of showingnews for permission to reproduce their material. Many winners had Australian parents and I am sure many more had Australian ancestors, from what people said to me afterwards and from what I can see from the catalogue! Well done to the breeders who have exported such quality stock which has bred on so well.



Below, Queensland's Thuringowa City Kennel Club Inc won the "Local Members" award for the best overall event at the 2005 Northern Beaches Festival. Pictured is the presentation by the Lord Mayor and QNI representative at a function held on 27 July.



The War Dog Memorial in Tasmania, with Eric, Annette Batchelor's GSD, Rusty Morly (both centre) and Shaun Dobson (left). Both Shaun and Rusty served in Vietnam as trackers and had Labrador crosses in Vietnam, but the mascot for Rusty's regiment was Rommel, a black German Shepherd.
Photo: The Mercury newspaper.

