

Time Called on Old Pub Law

The British government is to scrap a 75 year-old law that forbids publicans to serve a larger measure than a customer has ordered, reports the *Commonwealth Law Bulletin* (January & April 1996).

The 'long pull' offence was introduced to prevent unfair competition among landlords who were trying to lure customers by offering generous measures of beer and spirits. Offenders could be fined up to £500 but prosecutions have been so rare that the Home Office could not recall the last conviction.

Dog's Best Friend a Lawyer?

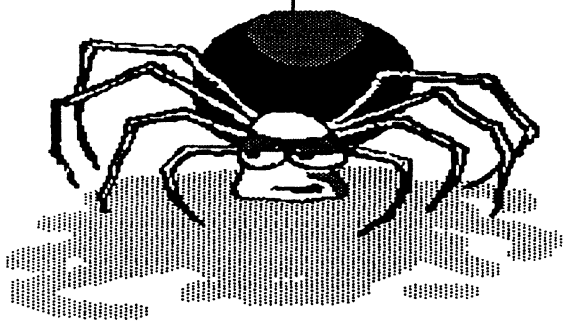
Heroic rescue action from Alice Springs practitioner, Stephen Winter, who, whilst holidaying in Melbourne, took his canine companion for a walk by the Yarra.

Said furry friend was set upon by a local hound who proceeded to savage him/her in a very definitely life-threatening manner until Steve leapt into action and eventually landed a powerful and efficacious uppercut on the attacker which pretty well sorted the matter out.

Following the incident, Steve set off to drive back to the Territory, but by the time he got to South Australia, had begun to wonder who had come off best, as the uppercut-delivering hand was causing him some grief. Medical advice sought in SA indicated that his rescue actions had, in fact, left him with a broken hand (and a very long way to drive).

Maybe next time anyone wants to know if there are any good lawyers in Alice Springs, they might ask the Winter dog.

THE SPIDER'S WEB



Streets Safer For Steer?

Melbourne lawyer Norman Rosenbaum recently addressed the LIV's President's Luncheon on the topic of his search for justice over the killing of his brother, Yankel, in New York six years ago.

LIV President Geoff Provis, in his President's Page, (*LIV Journal* September 1997) reported his enjoyment of the address and noted Mr Rosenbaum's comment on the importing of a Texan to run the NYPD. "Crime was still up," said Mr Rosenbaum, "but cattle rustling was down."

Let Sleeping Judgments Lie

Thomas Moringiello, former lawyer and current guest of Her Majesty, had his appeal on a conviction for deception dismissed by the British Court of Appeal.

Mr Moringiello, in appealing his conviction, cited the fact that the trial judge at Liverpool Crown Court fell asleep during the hearing of his case.

The appeal judges dismissed the appeal on the grounds that Moringiello had provided insufficient evidence as to which parts of his case the trial judge had slept through.

Letter To The Editor

Sir

The mind indeed boggles. *Spider's Web* August 1997, says of a Dutch police expert, "...He researched similarities in ear prints... before concluding that no oral organ is the same as another." I had thought mouth-to-mouth comparison was necessary for that conclusion.

To avoid confusion, aural intercourse takes place when one person listens to another; oral intercourse is not when he answers.

(signed)

A McGregor

STIPENDIARY MAGISTRATE

Too late, I guess, to protest that we really do know the difference (just to be sure, though, will henceforth always apply the intercourse test), but were too busy snickering at the concept to pick up the original error as published in the Commonwealth Law Bulletin.

Naming Game

Did anyone read about the woman convicted of neglecting her children whilst getting heavily involved in the Internet? Her name was Sandra Hacker.

And the woman who made British legal history recently by winning damages from her ex-husband in a rape-within-marriage action? Her lawyer's name was Mark Husband.

Outstanding Strangling

A public spirited legislator in Texas took a dim view of his colleagues' cursory perusal of the bills that passed through their assembly. In 1967, he took the law into his own hands and introduced a bill commending "Mr Albert DeSalvo for his outstanding work in population control".

The bill was duly passed, even though Mr DeSalvo was currently on trial for murdering 13 women, under his more lurid alter ego, "The Boston Strangler".

Gyles Brandreth, *The Law is an Ass*