

BROTHER AND SISTER USING THEIR NOSES

Two of the latest recruits from the Customs detector dog breeding and development program are brother and sister Taipan and Tilda.

The black labradors are gainfully employed - using their noses to protect Australia - but Tilda joined the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) while Taipan is with Customs.

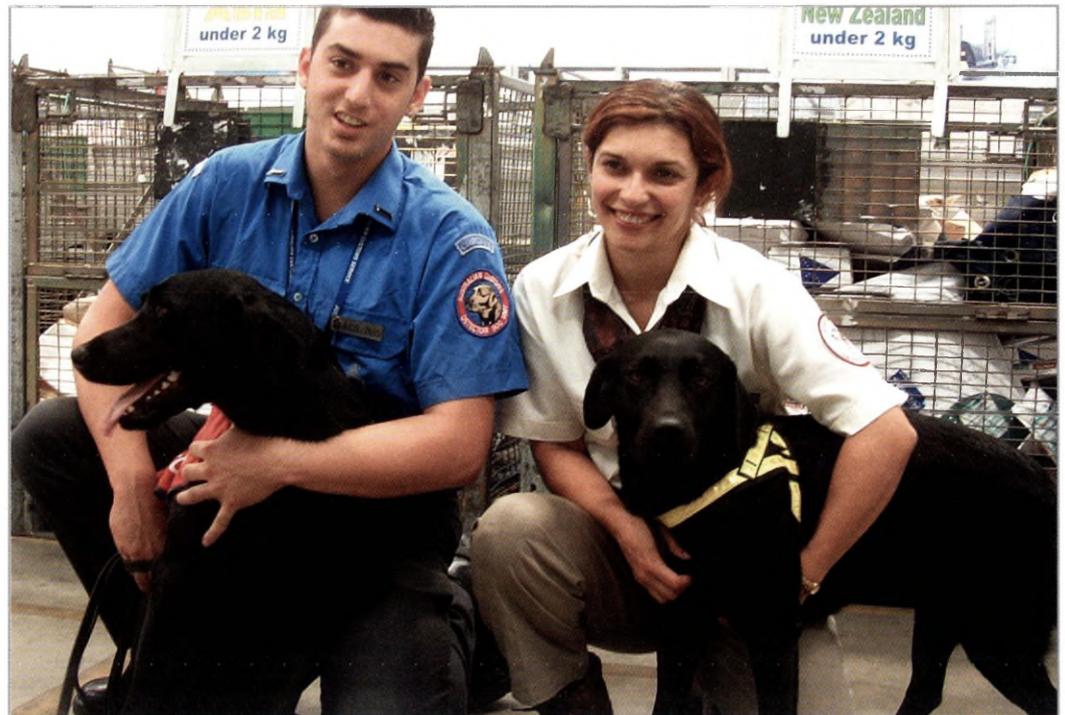
Tilda's job is to work at international mail centres and courier depots inspecting all mail and parcels that arrive in Western Australia from overseas.

Taipan's role is of an entirely different nature.

Customs detector dog handler Anthony Karpanos said, "Taipan is a multi-purpose response dog.

"He has been searching people, cargo, ships, yachts and aircraft in Perth and Fremantle since his graduation last December."

Taipan and Tilda have a sister named Taffy who graduated from Customs training and now works for Queensland Police searching for explosives.



Customs detector dog handler Anthony Karpanos and Quarantine detector dog handler Suzette Williams with brother and sister recruits Taipan and Tilda.