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**Book Review by Clive Dalton:**

### RAW MEATY BONES

by Tom Lonsdale. Published by Rivetco P/L.  
ISBN 0-646-39624-2.

The book can be obtained from:  
**Education Distributors in Auckland**  
Phone: (09) 836-2999  
Price \$49.95.

If you keep your teeth clean you won't get fleas - provided you're a cat or dog! This may need a bit of swallowing, but it's well explained by Australian Tom Lonsdale in his revealing book about the health of cats and dogs.

Dr Lonsdale points out that cats and dogs were never designed by nature to eat the modern prepared diets - designed to appeal to humans through extensive advertising and promotion. Carnivores were designed to eat periodically and the whole carcass of their prey (minus stomach contents) with some soil and grass thrown in. And this needed a lot of physical tearing, chewing and digesting - hence the book title stressing the value of raw meaty bones.

But can you imagine his mission to get the mega-zillion-dollar pet food industry to accept this, and many of his veterinary colleagues who make money from selling prepared pet foods from the big corporates in their clinics. Worse still, the large corporates support research on pet diets. It's revealing (but not surprising) to read the battle he and his "meaty bone" colleagues had with their professional association to get their views published.

The book clearly explains their simple message. Apart from a pet diet being nutritionally adequate, it should have physical qualities like texture, abrasiveness and chewiness. Making the animal's teeth, jaws and digestive system work like nature intended will reduce visits to the vet to fix bad breath, bleeding gums, and bad flatulence. Vets make a lot of money from this trio.

The book contains a wealth of common sense (when pointed

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### PEDIGREE MEATY-BITES WORKING DOG

PEDIGREE MEATY-BITES Working Dog is a complete and nutritionally balanced dry dog food for adult working dogs. The level of fat in PEDIGREE MEATY-BITES Working Dog is formulated to provide for the special energy needs of the working dog. As hydatids is still a major health risk, feeding PEDIGREE MEATY-BITES Working Dog helps eliminate feeding fresh meat and offal which may contain the hydatid cyst responsible for infecting the dog. PEDIGREE

out) that when an animal is healthy, then it's immune system works well and it can naturally fight horror diseases like cancer and diet-induced AIDS, and things like fleas and skin problems.

It's a very educational read on cat and dog health. It has a good index and glossary, is extremely well referenced if you want to check the science, and has a good appendix giving a diet guide for dogs and cats. It's also got an appendix offering advice for anyone brave enough to become a whistleblower!

MEATY-BITES Working Dog provides complete and balanced nutrition for adult maintenance, substantiated by testing performed in accordance with the procedures established by the American Association of feed Control Officials (AAFCO).

It's a book serious cat and dog enthusiasts should read, and if your veterinarians haven't read it, go to a clinic where they have. It could cut your costs of pet care substantially and this would easily cover the price of the book.

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