

# Tom Lonsdale and Associates

## Veterinary Surgeons

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Riverstone Veterinary Hospital  
Garfield Road  
Riverstone NSW 2765  
Australia

Phone: 61 2 627-4011

Fax: 61 2 627-4285

6 March, 1995

The President  
Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons  
32 Belgrave Square  
LONDON  
SW1X 8QP  
UK

Dear Sir,

FORMAL COMPLAINT AGAINST:

The Editor of The Journal of Small Animal Practice, Dr W D Tavenor

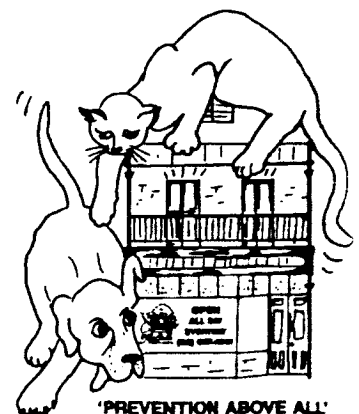
The President of The British Small Animal Veterinary Association - Mrs L Hill

Veterinary surgeons who are members of the Board of Management of the British Small Animal Veterinary Association - Dr F J Barr, Dr P G C Bedford, Mr D A Clare, Mrs J M Dobson, Mr R G Harvey, Mr P H Locke, Mr P W Renwick, Dr W D Tavernor, Mr S V Wolfensohn

Please find enclosed articles and correspondence which details the conduct of the above-mentioned veterinary surgeons. It is my contention that they have neglected their responsibilities and abused their positions of trust within the veterinary profession.

Specifically: -

1. Published material deficient in objective facts which, if left uncorrected, must be perceived by the readership as being substantially true.
2. When provided with a fuller, more accurate explanation, instead of promptly publishing that explanation engaged in undue procrastination.
3. Reversed their decision to publish the letter, which constitutes:
  - a. A disgraceful resolution of the Association and
  - b. Was disgraceful in the manner in which the decision was communicated.



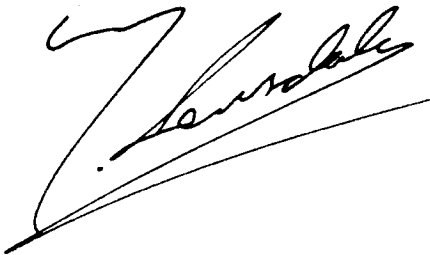
4. Provided contrived explanations for unconscionable conduct.
5. Provided mutually inconsistent explanations which must render either or both of those explanations untrue.

Letters to the editor are a feature of our democracy where the authors' opinions are open to interpretation by the readership. In a self-regulating profession the need for open flow of information and opinion is necessary in order to avoid loss of the privilege of self-regulation.

It is my view that the above-mentioned veterinarians have sullied the name of the profession by suppressing information which could help veterinarians to alleviate much suffering and distress amongst their patients and thus suffering and distress amongst the owners of those patients.

Please, I urge, investigate this matter in accordance with the magnitude of the alleged breaches. Please take such steps to ensure a remedy in the present instance and further ensure that such conduct is never repeated.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Lonsdale', written over a horizontal line.

Tom Lonsdale  
B. Vet. Med MRCVS

encs

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6 March, 1995

The Minister for Agriculture  
British Houses of Parliament  
LONDON  
UK

Dear Sir,

ALLEGED BREACHES OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY BY SENIOR  
MEMBERS OF THE BRITISH SMALL ANIMAL VETERINARY ASSOCIATION

The Editor of The Journal of Small Animal Practice, Dr W D Tavenor

The President of The British Small Animal Veterinary Association - Mrs L Hill

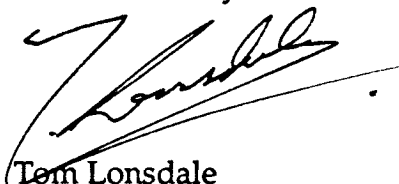
Veterinary surgeons who are members of the Board of Management of the British Small Animal Veterinary Association - Dr F J Barr, Dr P G C Bedford, Mr D A Clare, Mrs J M Dobson, Mr R G Harvey, Mr P H Locke, Mr P W Renwick, Dr W D Tavenor, Mr S V Wolfensohn

Please find enclosed documentation detailing alleged unprofessional conduct by a group of senior veterinary surgeons at the British Small Animal Veterinary Association.

It is my understanding that the veterinary profession in the United Kingdom currently enjoys the privileges of a self-regulating profession. It is my belief that this privilege must depend on the willingness of the profession to identify, diagnose and remedy its own problems. I believe that the above-mentioned veterinary surgeons, whilst uniquely privileged and in a position to identify, diagnose and remedy problems, in fact chose to suppress an issue of major public interest.

I have asked the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons to investigate and take action. I would be obliged if you would monitor the course of any investigation in order to safeguard the public interest.

Yours faithfully,



Tom Lonsdale  
B. Vet. Med MRCVS

encs

