

RMB Newsletter 5:3 October 2005
www.rawmeatybones.com

Five facets of the pet food fraud

Dear Reader,

Since writing in July 2005 the UK Raw Meaty Bones Support & Action group has continued their terrific work exposing the pet-food industry/veterinary alliance.

They wrote to all Members of the British House of Commons advising them of the *British Medical Journal (BMJ)* endorsement of Pet Food Manufacturers' Association propaganda and how junk pet foods have serious adverse effects, whether directly or indirectly, on human health. To its credit the *BMJ* published UKRMB criticisms on the *BMJ* website: <http://bmj.bmjournals.com/cgi/eletters/330/7496/858>

Work Wonders: Feed your dog raw meaty bones

The new 'how to feed' book is or will soon be available in bookstores in the USA, Canada, UK, Australia and New Zealand. See readers' comments and excerpts at www.amazon.com and www.rawmeatybones.com

In the UK *Work Wonders* is available from www.ukrmb.co.uk All proceeds go to the UKRMB campaign for honesty in the provision of veterinary services and an end to the mass poisoning of domestic pets.

Wishing you and your pets the best of good health.

Tom Lonsdale

Five facets of the pet food fraud

“All that is needed for evil to prosper is for people of good will to do nothing” Edmund Burke

As a reader of this newsletter you will be well aware of the first facet of the pet food fraud. The other facets may be new to you. Let me provide some thumbnail sketches.

1. Junk food induced cruelty, ill-health and suffering affects a majority of the world's pets. Plentiful 'scientific' evidence, common experience and common sense confirm this fact.

2. Misuse of existing scientific paradigms and bogus administrative techniques produces a body of counterfeit science in the service of the junk pet-food industry.

The current mass poisoning of pets starts with the first lie: That processed pet food is as good as or better than the natural alternative. So called researchers swallow the lie whole and then misuse existing scientific methods and compliant professional journals to perpetuate and bolster the lie.

3. Reliance on inadequate scientific paradigms facilitates the junk pet-food fraud. The search for better options is discouraged.

If the current methods of science can be hijacked with impunity then perhaps there's something the matter with the so called science. Chapter 14 of *Raw Meaty Bones* postulates a new scientific paradigm that makes use of existing paradigms without falling victim to their inadequacies. Unfortunately the veterinary authorities have been successful in suppressing any consideration of new approaches.

4. Economic consequences can be measured in the \$billions. The human health and natural environmental burdens are immense.

The junk pet food industry dark satanic mills churn out industrialized food full of dire consequences. In the Pet Food Manufacturers' Association letter below they claim their industry supports 8000 UK workers. The raw food industry is labour-intensive. Tens, perhaps hundreds, of thousands of jobs could be created by a move to more natural pet food. A full economic audit is well overdue.

5. Failure of democratic, administrative and legal systems—whether due to oversight, incompetence or corruption—facilitates the junk pet-food fraud.

Jack Spratt aided by the founder of Crufts Dog Show, Charles Cruft, started the junk pet food industry in the 1860s and it's been downhill since then. We've had endless political representatives, governments have come and gone and the legal profession has been ever present. Yet despite the moral and ethical problems associated with duping people into slowly poisoning their animals and the clear illegality of such cruel treatment, our politicians and lawyers have done little or nothing.

The future does not need to mimic the past. We can make changes. In the first instance may I suggest that you contact your elected representatives and tell them of the Five Facets of the Pet Food Fraud? There are contact details at: <http://www.ukrmb.co.uk/showcontent.toy?contentid=7199>

Below is the British Parliament, Early Day Motion No335 PROCESSED PET FOODS AND VETS and the British Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS) response which they say was produced 'in readiness for any press enquiries we might receive. We did not issue this statement proactively'. In other words the Royal College were careful not to alarm the more than 21,000 registered vets about discussions taking place in Parliament—discussions which centered on the very essence of veterinary activity.

The RCVS confirm that their statement was: 'Based on the same scientific papers and evidence which were documented by the Pet Food Manufacturers' Association in its press release dated 17 December 2004.' From which statement we can conclude that the RCVS rely on self-serving twaddle from those who slowly poison the majority of the world's pets.

The RCVS have several copies of Raw Meaty Bones the 389 page, fully referenced, peer reviewed book on the pet food scam. Chapters 7 and 14 provide close detail of papers written by me and published in 'peer reviewed (veterinary) scientific journals'. Despite this they make the disingenuous claim:

'We have . . . urged him to submit scientific evidence to support his claims and to publish this material in peer reviewed (veterinary) scientific journals. We understand that Mr Lonsdale has not yet accomplished this but we would encourage him to do so.'

QUESTION: Besides denying possession of compelling evidence of a \$multi-billion fraud, which veterinary regulator requires the whistleblower to fund and carry out research to further substantiate that evidence?

ANSWER: The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons.

British Parliament, 7 December 2005 Early Day Motion 335,

PROCESSED PET FOODS AND VETS

<http://edmi.parliament.uk/EDMi/EDMDetails.aspx?EDMID=26858>

That this House deeply regrets the professional endorsement of processed food for domestic dogs, cats and ferrets by some members of the veterinary profession; is concerned at the level of incidence of malodorous gum disease and associated diseases of the kidneys, liver and other organs amongst the domestic pet population; recognises that their health and welfare is best served by foods, such as raw meaty bones, that reflect the full range of nutritional need; applauds and recommends the work of veterinary surgeon Tom Lonsdale and others in this field; recognises also that vets in the UK are trusted and independent advisers on the health of our pets; is therefore concerned by the nature of the relationship between some vets and producers of foods that cause illnesses in pets; and calls upon the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons to make a definitive statement on the active endorsement and promotion of processed pet foods by vets.

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons Position Paper December 2004
Early Day Motion – Processed Pet Foods and Vets

The RCVS is aware of different views within the veterinary profession concerning the feeding of processed pet foods to companion animals, not least those of Tom Lonsdale. However, as the regulatory body for the veterinary profession, the RCVS does not exist to represent the views of veterinary surgeons and is not in a position to provide authoritative scientific comment on the nutritional benefits of pet foods.

Veterinary surgeons are not expected to endorse products without due justification or it they might compromise the clinical care of animals. The RCVS does, however, expect veterinary surgeons to make clinical decisions according to their professional judgement and based on the best available evidence at the time.

We understand that there is currently an abundance of scientific evidence available to support the use of processed pet foods for everyday feeding of companion animals, together with medicated or “science” diets to provide advanced nutrition for animals that may be unwell, nutritionally deficient or at a certain stage in life.

Mr Lonsdale has stood in the RCVS Council Elections for the past eight years in order to promote his concerns. Each time he has secured the least number of votes, which would imply there is little support for his views within the veterinary profession, of whom there are currently over 21,000 registered RCVS members.

We have discussed Mr Lonsdale’s concerns with him on a number of occasions and have urged him to submit scientific evidence to support his claims and to publish this material in peer reviewed (veterinary) scientific journals. We understand that Mr Lonsdale has not yet accomplished this but we would encourage him to do so.

For further information please contact:

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22 December 2004

Dear [Member of Parliament],

Early Day Motion – Processed Pet Foods and Vets

I am writing to you on behalf of the Pet Food Manufacturers' Association. We represent over 50 UK manufacturers, directly employing around 8,000 people. We are very concerned about the nature of the Early Day Motion (335) on Processed Pet Foods and Vets. In particular there are some disturbing inaccuracies within the EDM, which need to be countered.

Firstly, there is simply no evidence that processed pet food causes a higher incidence of dental problems. In fact studies have shown that dogs fed “natural” diets have the same incidence of periodontal problems that are found in pets fed commercial diets. Rather, it is the feeding of bones that can result in chipped or broken teeth, therefore preventing the dog from adequately chewing its food to aid digestion. A 1997 study of foxhounds fed animal carcass showed that older dogs had an average of 50% fractured teeth.

Secondly, it is quite wrong to claim that a diet of raw meaty bones “reflect the full range of nutritional need”. Quite the reverse, as such a diet runs a high risk of nutritional imbalance as eating only the meat and bone of a carcass does not represent a balanced diet. There are many examples of pathological fractures resulting from poor bone mineralization and nutritional hyperparathyroidism where animals have been fed diets containing meat with inadequate calcium supplementation. Vitamins, trace minerals, potassium and essential fatty acids must be added to the diet before the diet will contain the minimum concentration of known essential nutrients.

Finally, to imply that pet food manufacturers produce food that “causes illness in pets” is false, and to suggest that a number of veterinary surgeons are party to this is wrong. Our members take the responsibility of feeding the nation's pets very seriously. They have spent decades understanding the nutritional requirements of pets to develop products that provide optimum nutrition and promote the health and well being of the UK pet population. Industry has done this work often in concert with a number of dedicated veterinarians. Their expertise on the physiology of pet animals ensures we

are providing the optimum nutrition for the pets needs. As a result, knowledge has advanced beyond recognition, and it is now widely recognised by veterinarians that pets are leading longer and healthier lives.

I attach some further background. Please don't hesitate to contact me if you require any additional information.

Yours sincerely,
Michael Bellingham
PFMA Chief Executive

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