

SPCA Interview with Janine WALLACE
On 09 November 2017

Present

KP	Kevin PLOWRIGHT	SPCA Inspector
LD	Lori DAVIS	SPCA Inspector
JW	Janine WALLACE	Interviewee
RS	Ray SHEATH	Support Person

KP And, and if any time, if you want a, a break or time out or, or stopping it, just say so. We don't have to, there's no time constraints or anything, so if you want time out for a breather, have a cuppa or a wee chat with each other outside, that's fine as well. So –

RS So are we, am I allowed to ask one question, just to start?

KP Yeah, course you are. Yeah, we haven't started yet.

RS So what, what's the actual intention of the meeting?

LD We're just about to kick off with that.

KP We're just about to, to kick off with that.

SH Cool.

KP But I might actually start that now.

LD Just start.

SH Yep, thank you.

KP So I'll, and this, I'm sure you're aware of the Bill of Rights being, so we'll just start off with, we're speaking to you about your German Shepherd dogs, Volkerson Kennels, and potential breaches of the Animal Welfare Act 1999 as well as your failure to comply with AWS130 notices of instruction. You have the right to refrain from making any statement and remain silent. Anything said by you will be recorded and may be given in evidence. You have the right to consult and instruct a lawyer without delay and in private before deciding whether to answer any questions. You are not detained and you are free to leave at any time. Do you understand that?

JW Yes, I do understand that.

KP Okay, and are you happy to continue with this interview?

RS So it's an interview, so there is charges likely?

KP This, this isn't a, we're in the investigation –

RS Giving the Bill of Rights –

KP Yeah, we have to do that, as you know, to ask any questions about anything. We have to do that one straight off. So what is the outcome? Well there isn't an outcome, this is the interview process.

RS Mm-hmm.

KP So this is the investigation stage.

RS Yeah.

KP We have found some concerns and some breaches.

RS Mm-hmm.

KP Which we've highlighted. So mine and Lori's role in this is to gather as much information as possible and put, and that's why I appreciate you coming in for an interview because it's, I'll just grab that, thanks mate, try those.

RS So we'd be able to seek, under the Official Information Act, anything related to the case?

KP So even a, a copy, not, well it's through the investigation process, but later down the track. But a copy of the interview for today, not a problem, we can get, we'll get it transcribed and of course the recording as well. So we're happy to, to give over that. Now as, as I mentioned, it's, because we've found breaches of the Animal Welfare Act, we've ended up having to seize dogs. We have 15 dogs in our care now. So –

JW Not now, there's only 14.

LD 14.

KP There is 14 now. So our, our main goal for now, a big part, is the welfare of the dogs. That is our, at our forefront of interest, is the welfare of the dogs. I can, at this stage, let you know that we won't be returning them to you. The reason for that is there isn't any facilities to have them returned to. So in saying that, what I'd like to ask, before we, oh that's my one, before we get started, is there anything we should know about the, the dogs that we have in here? Is there any behavioural, is there any medical problems we should know –

JW There is two bitches that are in whelp, that's Debbie and Destiny.

LD Can I just backtrack please?

JW Yes.

LD I just want to officially put on record who we have here. So we have Janine Wallace being interviewed, and your date of birth, Janine?

JW You already have that, on the 9th of February, 1960.

LD Just confirming under Bill of Rights, that's all. And other persons present?

RS Ray Sheath, S-H-E-A-T-H.

LD And you, Ray, are?

RS I'm just a support person via Barbara. I've got a –

JW Support person.

RS An actual letter somewhere that she's, yeah, I authorise Ray Sheath to act on my behalf.

LD Nice.

KP Yeah, like I say, we'll get to that and we'll have plenty of time –

LD So Kevin Plowright's interviewing, Lori Davis, that's me, interviewing, and the interview, we're going to kick off now, starting at 14:08 on the 9th of November 2017 at the Auckland SPCA.

KP So before the, the, the interview starts off, I'd like to, yeah, just backtrack to the, to the dogs that we're holding here now.

JW Mm-hmm.

KP You were, you were saying that two of them are in whelp and that was Destiny and, no --

LD Debbie.

KP And Debbie.

JW Debbie, yes.

LD Yep.

KP Okay, and is there anything else we should know about the dogs that we're, we're holding here for any health or behaviour or anything that may assist in us giving the full care that's needed?

JW Are you having problems?

KP No.

LD No, we just need to know if there was any special dietary requirements, were any under any medication?

KP That's what we do with --

RS Tell them the food that you're on.

JW Well they're being fed on, Destiny and Debbie are being fed on Royal Canin 4800. Caspar and Monty, also 4800. Elite, 4800, Paris, 4800, Astro, 4800 --

RS The males?

JW Yes, that was Astro.

RS Were they all on the same food or different?

JW So they're all different foods, depending. Forellie, oh Retsa was on 4800.

KP And any behavioural type things, likes, dislikes or anything that --

JW They're not used to men.

LD None of them?

JW None of them.

RS None. There's only females on the property until I came along and show me.

JW Mmm.

LD Any of them under any medication?

JW Yes, Danny for ear mites, Debbie for ear mites, Mafia have been treated --

KP Just any-, anything you can think of that might be of use for us and to making sure we're doing, any dogs coming in, we like to know as much information as, as possible about them.

RS Was this asked at the time?

JW No.

RS Is this, how many weeks later?

JW Four.

LD This is the purpose of the interview.

RS I'm just going, how come it's four weeks later?

LD Because we have vet checked every dog and –

RS Oh okay, right, ta.

KP And, yeah, if we can just say, we're going to start kicking off the, the interview very shortly with the –

LD There was only three? Only three dogs that were receiving medical treatment?

JW So there was Dolly, Seta had been treated for it and given Advocate.

LD Who was that, sorry?

JW Seta.

LD Seta.

JW So you've got down Danny as well?

LD Danny, Debbie, Mafia, Dolly, Seta.

JW Seta, Mafia had been treated with the ear-, ah, with the dermatac. Forellie had been treated with it as well. So the ones that have been treated with dermatec were Dolly, Debbie, Destiny, Danny, Forellie, Retsa and Mafia and Seta.

LD So the ones that were being treated at the time that we seized them from the property, Danny –

JW That's right.

LD Debbie.

JW That's right.

LD Destiny.

JW Yes.

LD Dolly.

JW Yes. Mafia.

LD Mafia was being treated at the time? Yep.

JW Mm-hmm.

LD He hadn't finished –

JW No.

LD No. Yeah, Mafia.

JW Seta.

LD Seta.

JW Forellie.

LD Forellie.

JW And Retsa.

LD And Retsa. And they were all currently being treated.

KP Okay.

LD Thank you.

KP Well that's everything that you think you can add, anything we should know for the, the dogs we're holding?

JW For the time being.

KP Okay. If you think of anything, feel free to, now we'll just grab a couple more details now Janine. Your address is the 1478, you live there?

JW Mm-hmm.

LD 1478 Miranda Road, Mangatangi?

JW That's correct.

LD And, and does Barbara Glover live at that address as well?

JW Yes she does.

LD Does anybody else live at that address?

JW Yes.

LD Can I ask who that would be?

JW Anne Glover.

LD Anne Glover.

JW And workers that we have.

LD Workers.

KP And what is your occupation?

JW Occupation, I'm on the farm.

KP A farmer.

JW Mm-hmm.

LD And your mother's occupation?

JW Farmer.

LD She's a farmer.

SH A 78 year old farmer.

LD Yeah, thank you.

KP Right, and just to, to make sure that you're happy now to continue with the, the interview, and, are you happy to continue with the interview?

JD I'm listening.

KP Okay, right we'll, we'll proceed. So yeah, thank you very much for, for coming in. Actually before we start off too, I'll, we'll, just want to make you aware that the, the dogs that are being held here, I think I've mentioned to you before, we charge a board.

JD And what is the board?

KP It's \$15 a day per dog, and of course veterinary costs as well. So that can potentially be around the, the \$1500 a week. So as I, we're potentially, what are we, three weeks or something now, so it's, it is accumulating -

JD Mm-hmm. Blackmail

KP Quickly. Just to put it out there as well, like I mentioned the, one of our main things is the, the best interest for the dogs and yeah, we'd like you to consider surrendering ownership of the dogs and what that would show is workability with what we're doing. And if you decided to do that, you don't have to decide now, but I would look at wiping the, the charges from seizure date to the date of surrender if you were to do that.

RS You're talking boarding charges or other charges? I just want it clarified.

LD Boarding and veterinary.

KP Boarding and veterinary.

RS I think with the death of one of the dogs, it probably could come to that anyway.

KP If you don't mind, if you have questions to ask, if you wouldn't mind just jotting them down -

RS I have.

KP All your, your questions right the way through, and we're happy to go through and, and have a chat through everything like that. Okay, so we'll start off. What can you tell me about Volkerson Kennels? When did it begin and yeah, what is the, what is the journey of Volkerson Kennels?

JW Volkerson Kennels was established by my mother in 1950-, ah, no, my mother started breeding German Shepherds in 1957 under the, under her first kennel name, Alta Dina. She then imported a German import, a, no, a pup from the United Kingdom which was a son of the Double World Sieger Volker vom Zollgrenzschutzhaus, SCH3, and Gundeven [16:26] SCH3. And my mother had the choice of two dogs and she chose this particular dog called Volker, and he arrived on a boat in 1963 or 1962, I'm not quite sure which of those dates. And she then decided, this is how she'll call her kennels, it was the son of Volker, Volker's Son. And that's where her name originated from.

KP Okay. And who was involved with Volkerson Kennels?

JW How do you mean?

LD Today.

KP Who runs Volkerson Kennels?

JW My mother. I help my mother, I suppose my mother, but it's my mother's kennels.

KP Okay. And what experience have you had throughout the time of caring for the dogs? What is your, your background with dogs? What experience have you had? What do you -

JW I've been brought up with dogs all my life. I have exhibited and trained dogs in New Zealand, Australia and Germany, Belgium, Italy, if that's what you're meaning.

KP So what is the, what is the purpose of Volkerson Kennels? What is the, what is the aim that you're trying to achieve?

JW The aim of Volkerson Kennels is to improve the breed of the German Shepherd, to bring in the best, world's best bloodlines because the bloodline gene pool here in New

Zealand is very limited, and only to improve the breed. To have an excellent character, workability, easy to train, intelligent, healthy. They all have more than five generations of good hips and elbows, we x-ray hips and elbows on a regular basis. To provide people with, it's a hobby. Showing the dogs, exhibiting the dogs and showing what a good German Shepherd, quality German Shepherd –

RS Plus your stock –

JW Is.

RS And yourselves, after your attack.

JW And the reason why we've gone down this road is because there was, which we explained, an armed home invasion on my mother and my sister. My sister was left for dead. She was thrown around like a rag dog.

KP Oh dear.

JW A sock shoved down her throat, then they put a mattress on top of her, stood all over it and they thought she was dead. And that's why I explained to you, she cannot hear. She lost 40% of her hearing and she has never got over it. One of them, a 44 year old, who's been on parole, is escaped from Springhill prison, is it called Springhill, in Hampton Downs and he is still on the loose. That's why we've been on high alert, that's why everyone's on edge. It's extremely stressful and this is why my mother wanted a dog that is, had the highest obedience qualifications in the country, that had man/work protection qualifications in the country and she had these with distinction so that this situation never ever happened again. These people were caught, they were sentenced, between 11 and 13 years, and, but my sister has never –

RS Been the same.

JW Never been the same. She's –

KP Oh dear, that's terrible.

JW She's, what you call a traumatic brain injury and yes, I lost a sister. She might be alive, but I've lost a sister.

KP Oh a terrible experience.

JW Mm-hmm. You don't wish it on anyone.

KP No.

JW And this is why we have, we didn't have any dogs. We had one dog and of course that wasn't in the house or close by, and this is why my mother wanted a professionally trained, best dog that she could find, and flew to Germany to purchase that dog and brought her over.

KP So what would be the, your mother's role with Volkerson Kennels now?

JW She's the heart and soul of Volkerson Kennels.

KP So what does that involve? What would her involvement be?

JW Oh, research, genetics, training, showing.

RS She's the matriarch, that's what we call her.

JW Mmm. They're everything. It's her passion, it's her life.

KP Okay, so administration side, is, is that, is that your mum's side?

JW She does some of that, yes, of course she does. What are you talking about, administration, what do you mean?

KP There must be, 'cos we're talking 60 plus dogs, there's got to be emails, bookkeeping, that type of thing. Is it, I was, what I was, my question was trying to establish, is, is it more of a hands-off role that your mother has? Is it just phone calls, emails, book work and that type of thing?

RS No.

JW No.

KP Okay. And –

RS She's hands on.

JW She's hands on, always has been.

KP And what is your role in there, Janine?

RS Same.

JW It's the same.

KP And what do you mean, the same? If you can tell us –

JW Well it's my hobby, it's a passion, I love the dogs. The dogs have, are everything.

KP So the, the potential selling, boarding, paperwork, record keeping –

JW We don't board. We're not a boarding kennels, we don't board.

KP Okay.

JW We're not quarantine kennels, it's private.

KP Okay.

JW It's not commercial, it's a hobby. It, they are working dogs on a working home.

KP So what, what level of experience would you feel, between yourself and your mother, have with running the kennels? How would you rate yourself as, in experience level, to do what you're doing?

RS So, combined?

JW Combined, yeah.

RS Probably, what, 100 years?

JW Mmm.

KP So you'd feel you're, you're very experienced with, with dogs.

JW Yes.

KP Okay, is there anything you'd like to ask regarding that?

LD So Volkerson Kennels is run by you and your mum?

JW Volkerson Kennels is my mother's kennels.

LD Mm-hmm.

JW And I support her in everything she does, yes.

LD Is there anybody else that's involved with the running of Volkerson Kennels?

JW No.

RS As in employees or? I just want to clarify what you're trying to ask.

KP Oh, sorry, I'm going to just ask again, I'm going to, any questions you have, jot them down –

RS As a question –

JW Yeah, yes we'd like to, more specific, what are you trying to establish?

LD Volkerson Kennel is run by Barbara –

JW Glover.

LD And yourself. Is there anybody else run, that runs Volkerson Kennels?

JW Is that workers helping?

LD Well we'll get to that. Anybody who's involved with Volkerson Kennels.

JW If, if it's that, yes, there are other people. Yes, of course.

LD Okay, are you able to tell us who, who is involved with Volkerson Kennels and what their role would be?

JW Well we have a large selection of people that are helping out. That are training, that are exercising, feeding, cleaning out.

LD Are they paid employees or are they helping out people, volunteers, what?

JW They're volunteers.

LD They're all volunteers.

JW Mm-hmm.

LD So you don't have any paid, you don't pay people?

JW We haven't got any, excuse me, we haven't got any employees at this point of time.

RS What are those overseas people called?

JW They're called Workaway, as in workers.

LD And, and what's your sister, Anne's, involvement with Volkerson Kennels?

JW None.

LD She has no, no involvement at all?

JW No. No.

LD Okay, thank you.

KP Great, now breeding. So how many breeding bitches does Volkerson Kennel have and how many stud males?

JW And what is this to do with?

KP I'm asking, how many breeding bitches would you, are you holding and how many stud males would you be holding? Is that you, you don't wish to answer that question or you're unable to or?

RS I'd probably ask the question.

JW I'm not commenting, no comment.

KP Okay, that's fine, we'll move on.

JW Mm-hmm.

KP So what is the, what is the routine with the, the breeding cycle? What is the, do you have a set number of litters you plan per year? How do you work out your, your breeding regime? So this is, I'm asking you, I'm, I'm, Janine, the question, and –

LD Ray.

KP Sorry Ray, I forgot your name momentarily, it's, it's, there's no point me, I'm not, there's no point you answering the questions. We're here to interview Janine, I want to know what Janine thinks. So if you have any questions or thoughts on that, if you can refrain from passing notes to Janine on what your answers would be, that's not what we're –

JW That's not –

RS No it is a question.

KP It's –

JW It's not a, he's not giving me any answers.

KP If you don't wish to answer anything, just pass or I don't –

LD Say no.

KP Wish to answer that, so –

JW I'm just, no comment.

KP Okay, that's fine. How many bitches would you currently have that are pregnant?

JW No comment.

KP Okay, and how many pups do you produce each year?

RS Oh you've got it there.

JW Mm-hmm, I know exactly, 2010 –

RS Just read that.

JW No, I think it's important to hold off, 2010, one litter, 2011, one litter, 2012, two litters. I'll go back to the one litter. There was eight puppies. 2011 there were two puppies. 2012 there were two litters, there were five puppies. 2013 there were three litters, there were 10 puppies, eight are champions, all of these were, are artificial inseminated. 2014, seven litters equalling 24 puppies. From these 24 puppies, seven champions and three were exported. Six of these bitches were AI, which is artificial insemination.

KP Yep.

JW 2015 we had three litters, we had seven puppies. From the seven puppies were four champions and two were exported. 2016 we had three litters, we had 11 puppies. From these 11 puppies, two are champions, one exported. In 2017 we had eight litters and we had 37 puppies. So this was, for us, so there you have it, exactly.

KP Okay. Is there anything you'd like to ask on that, Lori?

LD Do you have a veterinarian that's actively involved with the breeding, of your breeding cycles? Do you get vets to check your dogs when they become in season? Do you ever have to have a vet involved when they're birthing?

KP AI.

JW Oh we've, we don't have to have a vet involved when they're birthing, no.

LD No?

JW If we're having AI, it can only be done by a top vet.

LD And, and how, how often would you breed one particular bitch?

JW Some of these bitches have never been bred from yet.

LD But of the ones that have? Like, generally how often would you, it's just a question, it's not statistics, how often would you breed from one bitch?

JW One bitch? One bitch has had one litter, one bitch has had, and a five year old like Debbie, Destiny, four, maybe five year old, they've only had one litter each.

LD They've only had one.

JW Mm-hmm.

LD Okay.

KP Cool and with showing your dogs –

JW Yes.

KP What, what achievements have Volkerson Kennels made in the showing world?

JW Volkerson Kennels in the showing world have, this year, achieved, yeah, that's the exact, this year, 2017, we, I have, we have shown 18 German Shepherds. From that, six males and 12 females, we have made up nine champions, we have bred seven of those nine champions, we have two, four, six that are nearly champions. We have one, just this weekend, best in show under the world's best specialists down in Christchurch, Best in Show, [31:19] in show, baby puppy in show. Beginning of the year from the German ST top judges, exactly the same, best in show, reserve best in show. We have, for the, for this year 2017, 127 international judges have judged these dogs and 32 New Zealand judges, so.

KP That's, and you would go throughout New Zealand showing the dogs? I don't know the, the ins and outs of the show world. Do you have competitions throughout the country and –

JW There are shows throughout the whole of New Zealand. Depending on the classifications of the shows in the South Island, if they're top world class judges, yes, we will go down there.

KP Is there a, a, like, a particular season or is it all year round? Like a show season, summertime, or –

JW Year round.

KP It's all year round.

JW Mm-hmm.

KP And sort of how many shows is, is normal? How many shows, is it like a weekly thing or a monthly thing or is it, yeah, when do they hold the shows and, and how many would you go to?

JW Yes, it'd be, there are some weekly.

KP Yeah.

RS Different, different areas.

JW It depends on the area.

KP Sorry, yeah, I know it's hard not to, to answer, but –

RS I could show you –

JW Well we've, I have, we have written down here every single show that we've been to.

KP Yep.

JW With the exact date, the name of the show, who was exhibited, what they achieved, name of judge.

KP Yeah. And would you, you use other people to help you show as well?

JW Yes.

KP Is there, yeah, do you have a, a number of people that help you show or just –

JW We have a number of people.

KP And who are the people that help you show?

JW There's a whole page, yes. Absolutely. Yes, absolutely.

RS There's other people as well –

JW There's other people, but I don't have any inclination of saying their names.

KP Okay, that's fine. We'll, we'll move on from that. Is there anything you'd like to –

LD When you're off showing the dogs, who's left at the property and caring for the ones that remain?

JW Very good question. Between three and five people.

LD Three and five.

JW Mm-hmm.

KP What three and five people?

JW My mother is there and workers that we have there and my sister is there.

LD Does your mother, sorry, does your mother not go to the shows?

JW No, no.

LD Did she used to?

JW She used to, yes, and if they're close by –

LD She, she can.

JW Mmm.

LD Is it health lately or?

JW Well she's been very stressed out about all of this, of course.

LD So was there a point where she would be going to all the, the shows and now she's starting to ease off a little bit or? Is it just of recent times, sorry, that she doesn't go to the shows or?

RS I can't answer for her.

LD No, that's alright, I'm just, I'm watching your expression.

RS Yeah, I could, but I can't.

JW She went to a number of shows, yes, yes. Loves going to the shows.

LD Thank you.

RS Particularly local.

JW Yes, local.

LD The local ones.

JW Yes.

LD Thanks.

KP So what size farm are you one?

JW Six hundred acres.

KP That's a lot of land.

JW Yes.

KP And what type of animals do you run on the farm?

JW Angus and Simmental cattle, red deer, South African Boer goats, sheep, those are the main animals.

KP Wow, that's a lot of animals to, to manage.

JW Mmm, it is.

KP And who's the main carer for the stock animals?

JW Anne.

KP Okay.

JW We do, actually just going back, we do have, for the farm, there's a paid worker of course.

KP A, A full-time paid worker or a, a casual contractor?

JW He's a contractor but –

KP Casual or full-time?

JW At the moment he's on holiday. Well, virtually there every week, so you could say, it's not quite full-time but be four out of the seven days.

KP Okay.

JW May I have a glass of water please?

LD Sure, I was just about to say.

KP But if you'd –

LD Sorry, I saw yours was empty.

KP But if you do wish to take a break at any time just feel free to just voice that. We don't have to keep going through. Right, and so what would be Anne's routine with the, with the stock animals? It's a, that's a lot of land and –

JW I think you, it's got nothing to do with this, so no comment.

KP Okay. Have you got anything you –

LD No, just, just one, Anne, just reaffirming that Anne is the person in charge or main carer of the cattle and animal-, the farm animals, and there's only one other paid worker. So there's two of them –

JW There's, there's two of them but there's also other workers there. But I'm not going to comment because it's nothing, nothing to do with me.

LD That's cool, thank you.

KP So the record keeping of that, for, for the dogs that you have, how do you do your record keeping and what record keeping do you have?

JW Would you like to define that a little bit more?

KP So do you have record keeping for your daily routines? For example, we have here a daily care sheet for each dog that's in here and the, the guys, there's information put down for every dog that, whatever, flea treatment, vaccinated, do you have record keeping –

JW We have records of flea treatment, deworming, anything that is important to the dogs, yes, is kept.

KP And what type, what type of record keeping is that? Sorry, Anit, we're in an interview. Do you want something from in here?

(Interruption)

KP So we'll pausing with the interview. Sorry about that. So what I was to recap the question, was yeah, what type of record keeping is that that you, that you keep?

RS Apart from what she's already said?

JW No comment.

KP Do you have sales contracts when you sell pups? Do you have sales contracts with people that purchase them?

JW No comment.

KP Is there anything you'd like to ask on that one?

LD yeah, I mean we're pretty much just trying to establish, do you actually know how many dogs you have at your property?

JW Absolutely.

LD At any one time you could –

JW At any one time.

LD Okay. And are you GST registered?

JW My mother's, my mother, it is a hobby, it is not commercial.

LD Okay, so –

JW My mother is GST registered.

LD Okay, thank you. And so we're dealing with a very large number of dogs. So where we're com-, where we're coming from is, is there any kind of form of records kept so

that you know where any one dog is at any one time? Any, you know, administration? I mean I can imagine it's a big business, there's a lot of dogs –

JW It's not a business.

LD Or hobby, whatever you want to call it, there's a whole lot of dogs involved. Are there records that you keep? Is it paper, is it computerised? Do you have an office worker? You know, it must be quite a big, you know, is there somebody who's role is primarily administration and office?

JW This isn't a business, I'm not going to comment.

LD Okay, thank you. How many dogs do you have?

JW I'm not going to comment.

LD Okay, thank you.

KP So your, your daily routine, with your daily routine with the dogs, how would each day start off with you, Janine?

JW My daily routine begins at all-, getting up at four-thirty to five o'clock in the morning.

KP And what would, what does your day involve?

JW My day involves, first of all, the puppies, that all the enclosures and kennels are cleaned daily, that the puppies are fed, that they are put out in their little day pen so that they're getting sunlight, fresh air. They are fitted out, their little houses are fitted out with newspaper.

KP So what are you calling the, the puppy areas? You clean out the, the puppies first, so which areas are you referring to, the puppy areas?

JW I'd like to take a break.

LD Sure.

KP Sure.

JW And I'd like another glass of water please.

LD Just going to cease the interview, it's now 2:45.

(Paused)

KP And you're happy to continue with the interview, Janine?

JW Absolutely.

KP Thank you for that.

JW Just like to go back to, you asked how many people are involved.

LD Yes.

JW There are seven people on the farm at the moment.

KP I don't know the field of you, I don't –

JW Oh I see.

KP So I'll just put it here –

LD Might be just getting his hairy arm there, we just –

KP Might too.

LD It's all for recording, it's just a double recording. So sorry, Janine, seven people on the farm?

JW At present, yes, and there's been another 20 people this year.

LD And is that for the farm or for the dogs?

JW No, for the dogs.

LD Oh, for the dogs, okay.

JW Farm's got nothing to do with them.

KP Yeah, just to refresh my brain too, on where we're up to, I was talking about your daily routine and that Janine, and what was involved in, oh sorry, you're counting something. I was asking about your daily routine with the dogs and what your, your normal day would involve.

JW As it is a hobby, I work all day with the dogs, from morning till night.

KP Yeah. And that would cover off cleaning, feeding, what sort of things?

JW Cleaning, feeding, training, playing with the, the puppies, grooming them, washing them.

KP And you, you really enjoy the time –

JW I love the dogs.

KP With, with the dogs.

JW Yes.

KP And they'll be a big part of your time, would it be, working with the, the dogs and?

JW The whole time.

KP Oh, the whole time, that's a, that's a big amount of responsibility.

JW Mm-hmm.

KP That's a, oh that's a big one. And you had prob-, the one time with the water blaster, when that broke down, did that cause issues with your –

JW Well we've had it twice. When you first arrived, the, the Toerag that we had pulled it too hard and we couldn't start the machine so it had to be put in to be repaired and the part replaced. And the second time was, the date's here, on the 12th of October when the hose burst and the hose had to be replaced, which happened in the afternoon. And I couldn't get into Carterton in time to pick up a replacement so I organised someone to pick up a replacement hose for us and to drive it down. The fittings didn't fit from the new hose onto the water blaster so I had to go and visit a neighbour and ask if he could help out and change the fittings from the old hose and put it on the new hose so that it would fit into the machine so it could be used.

KP Okay. And what areas on the farm do you use to house the dogs in? And how do you house them?

JW Well you've visited the farm, so.

KP Yeah, so what areas, we've, we've found different areas at, at different times though, I'm just asking what areas –

- JW The dogs, the dogs are rotated. They're all not, the same dogs are not in the same place, that's important. Depends on the dog, depends what, where they're at, which ones are being shown, which ones are not being shown. It's all different. Every day is different. There's no one day the same.
- KP Do you use rotating areas or what, what do you do with the –
- JW What do you mean by that?
- KP On, on occasion we found, we weren't shown any dogs in the garage. In the following inspection, we've had dogs in the garage. On another occasion it was to do with the, in the, in the deer shed, and then of course we asked if there were dogs in the haybarn and –
- JW There weren't any.
- KP You said no.
- JW No, there weren't any.
- KP But, so that is why I'm asking –
- JW Mmm, there weren't any.
- KP Where, where do you –
- JW It was just because the new kennels, which we said we wanted to work in with you, we immediately then spoke to various manufacturers for kennels. We had people come out and view the property, where would be the most suitable place for the, the kennels, and how quickly could they do that because we wanted this done as quickly as possible. The weather hasn't been on our side, it was the wettest winter on winter which made everything much more difficult. But we found a manufacturer. It was given to professionals. The ground, the existing kennels were, the majority were removed and the ground was prepared, trees removed, groundwork prepared, a hundred tonne of metal was put down before the concrete was put down. I had the dates of when it was done and then the, then the kennels themselves have been specifically manufactured. They're not pre-, prefab kennels, they're all, what do you call it, con-, contract? No –
- RS Specialised.
- JW Specialised kennels. All galvanised, every part of it, and that has taken a little bit more time through galvanising and the backlog of their jobs and they are arriving today.
- RS And what cost?
- KP Sorry Ray, I'm going to ask you to, to cease commenting. It's, if Ray does say something and, and you agree with what he's said, you can say that you agree, but I'd prefer, Ray, that you refrain from commenting. I don't want to be repetitive but it's, it's not helpful in our, in our process. So the, the dogs in the haybarn, that was as a result of starting on the, the new kennel block and –
- JW They were put there a few days before, that they had shelter, that they were warm. Retza had been, she'd been prepared for showing, she was being shown at Kerikeri on the 14th of October and she was the only dog that I hadn't prepared for the show before you arrived.
- KP So when was she put there?

JW I haven't got any dates, but she was there on a, as you saw the lead, and it's a top bitch, a young bitch, but I don't really want to talk about at the moment.

LD Can we go back to the daily routine for a moment, I've got a question –

JW Mm-hmm.

KP Yep.

LD If that's alright?

KP Yep.

LD Janine, so are you responsible for feeding all of the dogs on the property every day?

JW It is –

LD Do you feed the dogs on the property every day?

JW I feed the dogs on the property every day.

LD Are they fed once or twice a day?

JW They are fed once a day.

LD Once every day, and the puppies, are they –

JW Puppies are fed twice every day.

LD Fed twice, cool.

KP And what type of food?

JW Up until now they've been fed on Angus beef mince with no fat. They have, the puppies, the puppies then go onto a mixture of Angus beef mince and Troy liquid calcium and Royal Canin. We have had one litter which we have experimented with and that was Nala's litter where we didn't use Royal Canin, we used Eukanuba. But they had the Angus beef mince to start off with, the dogs get flax seed oil, calcium, we spent this year, \$4,000 worth on Troy liquid Calcium just so that they have healthy bones and joints.

KP And I, from the evidence of bones too, there's obviously a bit of –

JW Oh yeah, bare bones, yes.

KP Yeah, yeah.

JW They love their bare bones, yeah, that's, it's most important for them.

KP Great. Is there anything else on that, Lori, you can think of?

LD Yeah, I just want to touch on the cleaning a little bit, part of the daily routine. So who, who's responsible for cleaning the housed caged dogs?

JW What's the relevance? What are you trying to establish? I thought we were here to achieve or discuss –

LD What I'm trying to find out is who, who cleans the dogs and how often are they cleaned out.

JW Cleaned out daily.

LD Cleaned daily?

JW Yes.

LD And is that done by you? Generally?

JW It's done by me and by other workers.

LD And by other workers, thank you. That's all for me, thanks.

KP Okay, thank you. So who is your, your main vet? Do you have a, a preferred vet or a number of vets or is it mainly one?

JW What's the relevance? It depends on what, what it's about.

KP I'm asking about veterinary care, so who is your, your vet?

JW The veterinary care depends, it depends what, what we're doing, what we need.

KP Oh okay.

JW All the puppies are all vaccinated, all bitches in whelp are, before they go in whelp, are vaccinated by –

KP Who –

JW And so that they, that the puppies have their immunisation, then they are health checked for six weeks and receive their first vaccination.

KP So which vet would do the, the vaccinations and the puppy checks?

JW Takanini.

KP Takanini.

JW Mm-hmm.

KP And any other injuries or, or anything like that, would you use Takanini? Or you have other vets for other things, or?

JW Takanini are very, they're very efficient.

KP Yeah.

JW That's why I called Dr Mark Finney.

KP Okay, and how many of the, the dogs are under treatment currently for any ear issues, whether it be mites or-

JW I've already answered that.

KP That's the ones in the, in, we have in here.

JW Oh right.

KP The, the ones at home, are there, are there any under current –

JW Yes there are, yes. Image and Hobbie.

KP And hip scoring, is, is that something that your kennels does?

JW Absolutely.

KP And would you do that on your, both breeding dogs? What's the normal routine with the hip scoring?

JW The hip scoring is, this is why we import and have such royal class bloodlines because they all have excellent hips and elbows. They're not allowed to breed from them if they do not have excellent hips and elbows. Plus they have to have their obedience qualifications, their main work qualifications, to be bred survey-, suitable for breeding

and checked whether they have DM. We do not have any carriers, we do not have anything like that.

KP And, and what is DM?

JW DM? It's, it's a very tragic nerve, what's it called, runs down the back, back line, and it actually, I'll email through the, the exact name on it.

KP It's a nerve type related issue.

JW It's a genetical disorder.

KP Yeah, okay.

JW And you have carriers, you have dogs that are free and you have dogs that are actually affected with it.

KP Yeah, okay. And would you use a, a particular vet for or your experts on breeding type thing with artificial insemination or guided by a vet, to do with your breeding?

JW We actually use the best AI specialist in the country.

KP And who is that?

JW Stuart Badgell.

KP Okay and where is he based?

JW He's in Hastings.

KP Okay. And your, your vaccination, worming and all your, your routine stuff would be done through Takanini Vets, to do with vaccination, or to do with the pups?

JW A lot's done through Takanini Vets, yes.

KP Yeah, is there another vet you use?

JW There are a number of other vets, yes.

KP And who are they?

JW I'll just leave it at that, at the moment.

KP Okay. Lori, is there anything you'd like to, to add to that?

LD No, thank you.

KP Okay. The, the housing and tethering. Who decides who goes where and how they're set up? Is that a, a joint effort between yourself and your mother or who's in charge of that?

JW No comment, no comment.

KP The cleaning routine, with the, who was responsible for the cleaning routine of all the areas? Whether it be pups, adults, everywhere. Just the cleaning of all the, the dogs on your property?

JW Oh, I won't make a comment on that.

KP The dogs that were, were found in the area in the, what I'd call the utility shed, there was a deadlock on the, on the door and you had some dogs in crates in there.

JW We had two dogs, two bitches.

KP Yeah.

JW Right.

KP And how often is that used to, to house dogs?

JW It's not. It's very rarely used, depending on the bitch, if it's in season or depending if the dog needs to be crated or not.

KP Okay, and the dogs in crates in the garage.

JW Mm-hmm.

KP How much time do the dogs spend in the crates in the garage?

JW Well they're there, if they're there, overnight and then they are taken out first thing in the morning.

KP So on the, the times that we've been there, we've arrived at various different times, around early, 11:30 sort of time, there's dogs in the, in the crate on each time that we've been there, the dogs have been in there, so –

JW If other dogs are being exercised, we don't-, some dogs go together, some don't.

KP So where do you, where do you normally house all the dogs? Where do they all stay?

JW I'm not going to make a comment.

KP Okay, and I'd like to talk about, actually I'll just, so back to the, the cleaning and housing, Lori have you got some questions on that one? Do you want to –

LD Yeah, I do.

KP Sorry, I'm skipping along –

LD No that's okay. I just, like on more than one occasion when we visited the property, specifically the deer shed, the garage, when we inspected the puppies and the dogs that were housed in there, the smell of ammonia was so extreme that I was gasping and gagging and my eyes were watering. I just wonder if you, you know, that the smell of ammonia, did it not affect you at all?

JW It hasn't affected me, it hasn't affected any of the people that have been there, it hasn't affected the dogs. We've had no ill dogs through that. When you inspected the deer shed, the deer shed was clean. So you even made the comment that it was, it is, it is the concrete. Well, it's waterblasted and we did use, you made the suggestion using disinfectant, we tried that. But that was resulting that it hurt the dogs feet and so we stopped using the disinfectant because it was too harsh on them.

LD Okay.

JW We've had no kennel cough, no diseases, no sicknesses, no kennel elbow sores or under, kennel sores under their chest or their stomach or anything like that.

LD No respiratory problems?

JW No respiratory problems. Proved that. Showed on the weekend, 29 degrees, and they had to move and if they had respiratory problems, they wouldn't be able to.

LD Thank you. The other comment was, that I had too, was one of the inspections, we were led by you. We wanted you to lead us through and show us all the dogs on the property. We walked past the deer shed and I asked you if there was any dogs in the front in the deer shed there and you said no.

JW Mm-hmm. The deer shed was open.

LD So we continued to walk past and then Kevin heard a dog barking from in there so we asked you again to show us in, and you did. You went back and there was two dogs in there. Is there any reason –

JW No.

LD Did you forget, were you deliberately trying not to show –

JW I was actually quite under shock, to be really honest.

LD Okay. I just wanted to clear that up.

JW Okay. And then, yep.

KP So you, sorry, are you finished Lori?

LD I am, thanks.

KP I'd just like to show you a picture. It's marked Exhibit 8. You're talking about null effect on your, your pups. Are you able to describe what you see in, in that picture there?

JW Yes, it's when the newspaper's being taken out of the puppy run and that's the concrete underneath.

KP And so what else do you see in the, in the picture?

JW I see two rib bones, three rib bones, four rib bones.

KP And that's all you can see? You don't have -

JW I can, I can, I remember you taking this because the puppies were being cleaned out at the time.

KP You don't have any issue with puppies being in a situation like that? Are you happy with world class puppies being kept in that?

JW They weren't kept in that. That was in the process of being cleaned out. We're not boarding kennels, we have all day to clean them out.

KP Okay.

LD Thank you.

KP Thank you, back on track.

JW Mm-hmm.

KP And I'll put another picture forward, that's Exhibit 2.

JW Mm-hmm.

KP And do you see any issue with pups tethered in that manner? What do you see in that picture?

JW I see it's rained a lot. These are cattle yards.

KP Okay, so you're, you're happy with everything in that picture?

JW I'm not going to comment.

KP The other picture I'm going to show is marked Exhibit 4 and can you describe what you see in that picture? And what dog is in that picture?

JW It's, looks like Dolly.

KP And what do you see in that picture?

JW What date is it? When was this picture taken, what date?

KP I'm just asking about the, the picture that you see there. Is that, you recognise the dog as being Dolly?

JW Mm-hmm.

KP And you're involved in the cleaning process for Dolly? Is that correct?

JW Can be.

KP So you don't want to describe what's in that picture?

JW No.

KP Okay. Is there anything else you want to, no, okay. So the next picture I'm going to show you is marked Exhibit A and do you recognise the dog in that picture?

JW She would've gone mental. This is Retsa.

LD So that is how we find Retsa on the day that –

JW You were smashing the door down with sledgehammers and crowbars, the haybarn. You didn't open the latch and open the doors.

LD So what are you trying to say to us, Janine?

JW Nothing, nothing, nothing.

KP So when was Retsa put in there? On the day of seizing the, her, who you've mentioned, you'd given her water that night.

JW No, four years, mm-hmm.

KP So she'd been in, in there, that was the, the previous night. So was she put in there the, day before that or days?

JW She had been, she had been prepared [1:06:36], yep, okay.

LD So when, when was Retsa put into the haybarn?

JW Well she was given water and fed on Thursday evening.

LD And when did you next see Retsa?

JW In your car.

KP So why was she tethered as well as in the cage? Is that for a reason?

JW She was tethered, yes it is for a reason, because there's, so that they don't dig out, we couldn't have them just running loose in the haybarn because they dig out.

KP Oh okay, they can dig out.

JW Absolutely.

KP Oh okay. Was that –

JW And in the haybarn because it was warm and dry and it was temporary.

KP So is the part of the thought process for using the haybarn, was warm and dry and you thought it would be appropriate? Is that, is that right?

JW As a temporary measure, yes.

KP Yeah, and was it you that decided to use the haybarn?

JW No comment.

KP And, or was it, was it Barbara, your mother, that –

JW No comment.

KP Decided to put her there.

JW No comment.

KP Okay. Now just to the, as you can see the tightness around the, the top of the hob there.

JW Mm-hmm.

KP Because it was for a prolonged period of time, what happens is the, the blood flow is cut off which is the option is-, oxygen is cut off to the leg. So she was obviously unable to, to stand at the time. Because it was a prolonged period of time what happens is the, the tissue and the skin area around that dies, and basically it starts rotting. So this is the, some of the stages of, it's marked Exhibit 8, the stages that, decomposing of the, of the dead flesh. This being a tendon through here. Have you had any other leg injuries through tethering?

JW No. And we don't usually have them tethered, no. She was a smart girl.

LD What do you mean, you don't normally have them tethered?

JW When was this photo taken?

LD Which photo?

JW This one here.

LD This one here? It was the day before she was put to sleep.

JW Two weeks later.

LD So because she'd been –

JW We looked at her in your car. There were no red marks, there were no skin abrasions, there was no nothing.

LD There was, and her leg was swollen twice the size as the other. She couldn't place any weight on that leg at all.

JW How did she get out in the –

LD The, the strangulation had already started cutting off the circulation to that leg, and she came straight back here and she started receiving treatment.

JW On the Friday?

KP Immediately.

LD Immediately from your property. She was the first dog that was seen by the veterinarian. The same veterinarian that was at the property with us.

KP I'll ask the question again. Has there been other injuries through tethering?

JW We, you suggested putting a bitch, you suggested using a chain and one of the bitches was on a two metre chain and she hurt her back leg and so that's why we didn't really want to have much to do with chains or young, young bitches on chains.

KP Which bitch was that?

JW Tiffany.

KP When I talked to you about Analie, you said that Analie, who got her back leg caught in the chain, was it Tiffany or Analie?

JW Tiffany

KP So it wasn't Analie?

JW No.

KP She didn't get tangled up in the chain?

JW No, no.

KP With the, the number of 130 instructions that you've bought along with you today, in, in various times we've talked about tethering. Why were you reluctant to follow instruction?

JW We have followed instructions.

KP In what way?

JW When you were there the first time, each dog was then taken, groomed, washed, had a pedicure. More people were engaged to exercise and play with the dogs.

KP So on the, on the 28th of July, was the first visit.

JW Mm-hmm.

KP Instruction was daily cleaning of all enclosed contained pups and dogs.

JW Mm-hmm.

KP Did that happen?

JW Yes.

KP Did you provide adequate ventilation?

JW Adequate ventilation? Yes, but it's winter and you do not have, it's a different air supply and we had our wettest winter on record.

KP Did you provide adequate shelter to prevent the dogs from all-weather elements? Mindful of cleaning opportunity for the dogs?

JW These are working dogs and they are out in all weathers. They have to be capable of being, of working in all weathers.

LD Is it acceptable to tether a dog on, on a short lead and provide it with no access to any shelter? Working dogs, with respect, would be able to find their own, 'cos they would be free. Once you tether, you're obligated -

JW If I'm working with the dog at that point of time, if they're put, put there on a short lead, we spoke to behavioural, behavioural, what do you call them, specialists and they suggested that the dogs were put on one metre lead. They've got to learn what a lead is. One metre long and one metre between each one.

KP So, who is the behaviours?

JW I'm not going to give you any more, I'm not going to give any names at all.

LD Okay.

- KP So did you comply with these instructions on the notice on the 28th of July? Which his what I've just read out -
- JW Yes, oh -
- KP The cleaning -
- JW Right, yes.
- KP In what way? How did you do that?
- JW We discussed that. What we did with the, our existing kennels, we got in people to build new kennels because you said they were substandard. And they are 40 years old and my mother has been wanting to get new kennels for the last 12 to 18 months but it has taken some time. The puppies being, the puppies that you said you came out because of the puppies out in the pen, which is seven metres by seven metres, the large grass pen, yes it had been raining. Yes, they had been going up and down around the fence, that is normal [1:15:05]. I let out one of the bitches today, she won best in show, she's a long coat. Perfect. And what does she do? Straight to the mud. She's covered from mud, from the tip of her ears to the top of her tail. That is just a normal reaction. Yes they do, they do display normal patterns of behaviour put back there -
- KP How?
- JW They're not used to men and strangers that come onto the property. It, they need to react. If the dogs were not normal, then I would not be able to take 18 different dogs of all different ages, of both sexes, to any show where you have hundreds of different breeds of dogs. Where you have hundreds of different people. Children, people of all ages. They wouldn't be able to do that. They're renown for their good character so they know the difference of when they're protecting the farm or where they are, or when they're going out somewhere.
- KP So whether they're protective or not, the, the question was, behavioural enrichment, what are you doing for them, for behavioural enrichment?
- JW They work on the farm, they're exercised, they're -
- KP Sorry, I just, I don't mean to interrupt, they work on the farm?
- JW Yes.
- KP How do they work on the farm?
- JW Herding sheep, cattle, moving. You've actually seen Nala sometimes in, in work and she was with Anne when she was waterblasting, you know -
- LD To be fair, I've only ever seen one dog free running, that would be, on each occasion, that was Nala.
- JW Actually when you came there was two dogs, Nala [1:16:41]. But doesn't matter, it's not -
- LD How many of the dogs that you have at your property would be working dogs, so to speak? Could you use all of them or is there a set number?
- JW Depends on the dogs, it depends on what stock, each one's different. So yes -
- KP On the, on the 11th of August there was another 130, the instruction to prevent or mitigate suffering. Now we've talked through with yourself and your, your mother,

Barbara, to do with trying to, I think we worded it along the lines of steering you into success, not failure.

JW That's right.

KP And the importance of complying with instructions and happy to give any guidance or advice to, to help steer you into success with the dogs.

JW Mm-hmm.

KP On the second visit, we've had to do another 130 instruction with the same things, repetitively. Inadequate living conditions, tethered on short leashes, dirty conditions. We've got a repeat of the same type of things. We've got varying numbers of dogs.

LD And no facilities to house them. In your honest opinion, Janine, do you feel that you were operating quite a successful environment for those dogs?

JW I explained the situation to you both. We have healthy dogs, we have very happy dogs, we haven't had any problems with our dogs. And yes, we took on board what you said and this is why we have gone to such extents with the new kennel complex which will certainly make everything much, much easier and they'll all be in one area. That is the basis and a good start –

LD How many dogs do you have at your property at the moment?

JW I'm not going to comment.

KP On the 11th of August you surrendered five dogs to the SPCA. Why did you do that?

JW I was under shock, to be really honest.

KP You wouldn't have -

JW So I was, so I was, you said to go and speak to my mother, and both were under shock.

KP In hindsight, do you regret doing that?

JW Yes.

KP And why is that?

JW Because of the dogs.

KP Can you explain that?

JW I'm not going to comment any further on that.

KP So to run a, a farm, to be on a farm and well over sixty dogs on the property is a, is a mammoth –

JW Sixty dogs, they were, half of them were puppies, so that needs to be –

LD Regardless, they're still mouths to feed.

JW Yes, they are, yes they are.

LD And people, ah, places to clean, order to provide enrichment, to provide –

JW Mmm, exactly.

KP And with your, on the first occasion, your mother had, you'd just come back from the doctors. I think you mentioned on another occasion your mother had been in hospital on the weekend. Sounds like a, a lot of pressure coming down on you, Janine. And

yeah, honestly, is there, we would rather know exactly what's going on and, you know, potentially even help with a problem, but we have to have the, we've identified problems but we need honesty from you. If there's not, if there's massive stress levels on you for coping, for too many dogs, if your mother's not well, we would like to know that. So we would like to, part of this interview process is, is not, I can mention there's no course of action decided at this stage. Anything can happen from here.

JW Mm-hmm, this is why I'm here.

KP So I've –

JW Because I would like to resolve this today –

LD And we have questions that –

JW And I would like it to go into, on a positive path. That's why I said, we want to work together. Yes there are areas that have room for improvement and thank you for bringing this to our attention. It has in one way sped up the whole process which is excellent. These are not just any dogs, they're very special and thank you for understanding, Kevin, that's much appreciated. We would like to find a good solution.

KP What would you put forward as a solution? And, and not a, me and Lori have done multiple inspections and we know your, your property quite well now.

JW Mm-hmm.

KP A serious solution, what would you put forward? What would you suggest to us? What would you like to happen?

JW What would I like to happen? As soon as the kennels are completed, for you to both come out and have a look and if there's anything that we have possibly overlooked, but it's always nice to get other opinions that, that could be improved on, would be much appreciated.

KP How many dogs could your kennel block hold? I think you mentioned on one occasion 17 kennels, like, was it 1.2, 1.5 wide, whatever it was, I think six metres long.

JW correct.

KP So that's a, a nice big block of kennelling. How many dogs would that hold?

JW Well you suggested when you were there last time, excuse me, that we could have two dogs in each, each one. That was your comments to that. But we're waiting first of all for the kennels to be completed and then we'll see. And then we'll see what the next stage is. This is stage one.

KP Yeah, two dogs to a kennel is something that –

JW No, this is what you said and I just took it on board.

KP So this is if you had two dogs to each kennel, because the difference between kennelling facilities here or, or often they're, they're desexed but of course you've got entire animals –

JW That's right.

KP So it's a little bit different doing the –

JW It is.

KP But even saying, it's, you know, even, even just saying, let's put two in each one. Just say that that works. There would be some difficulties in doing that, but you think of the numbers. So yeah, double, even if you're 35 dogs in there, that's 35 dogs and there's still more –

JW We are going to be reducing some numbers, yes. We're in the process of doing that.

KP Has that been a, an area that has crept up on you and added stress in your ability to, to care for the dogs through numbers creeping up and gradually building over a period of time?

JW Ask me what would we like to achieve, and I've explained we would like our dogs back.

LD Is this the reason why I was asking you how many dogs you had at your property –

JW Mm-hmm.

LD Just to kind of get, you know, some idea of that? And also, I'm curious to know, having 15 less, is it making any easier for you at the property? For 15 less dogs?

JW And actually 15 dogs, it's a huge number.

LD Would you not consider letting the SPCA rehome these dogs?

JW No. They're not just dogs to rehome.

LD We're, we're just trying to think of, of –

JW Of ways, and I do appreciate that, Lori.

LD No, not of ways of all, for the dogs. We're just trying to think about the dogs. We provide them with enrichment and, you know, exercise, but at the end of the day –

JW They have a lot of –

LD They're in a kennel facility and they have the opportunity to be rehomed, you know, to families and, you know, to have that opportunity of life, rather than being confined further. And that, so that's where we're coming from, with the surrender option.

JW Mm-hmm.

LD It just would give the SPCA the ability to, you know, provide the dogs with the ultimate, which is a forever home. And that, that's what we would like to, I mean we don't need you to decide right this moment but if –

JW I can't, they're not my dogs, though I'll take it on board and then discuss that.

LD Okay, thank you.

KP So as we mentioned at the time of inspections, that that is the, that is the crux of the issues. The other things are sub things off the fact of too many dogs. So it's the, that is the, where things have fallen over, is the number of dogs, the number of personnel, is why the sub things have fallen over and the lack of facilities. So the combination of those things has created the situation that we have now. We've tried to really encourage your motivation and energy into solving the problem.

JW Mm-hmm.

KP You've taken on board the, the kennel block which is, that's a great initiative, but it's still the day-to-day care of the animals that you and your mother are responsible for.

JW Mm-hmm.

KP That's where we've had issue and had to step in to, to resolve some issues. So yeah, we, we do want, we see that as something that needs to happen, is reduction in numbers.

LD And we need you to understand, we, you know, we seized 15 dogs from your property on the 13th of October. That was purely failing to comply with instruction. There, you know, we could've taken a lot –

KP What was the reason for Danny?

LD The reason for Danny was because he had an ear infection. He was walking around circling. So if you're able to provide us with evidence that you were treating him, medication –

JW I do that, yes.

LD We can certainly reassess Danny.

JW Yep.

LD Yeah.

JW Monty had just grown for the show.

LD He was tethered to the fence on a short lead.

KP And I'd said the, I'd said the day before –

JW It was a show lead and it was just put there. He was not, he's not tied up there to stay permanently, or whatever, it was while I was picking up 4800 –

LD We found evidence of an injury on Monty's back leg.

KP Scar tissue.

LD Scarring from what looks to us –

KP Around the hock.

LD Very similar to lead injury. He's not injured, he's fine, but there's a –

JW Well he was shown the weekend before and won and he's been under so many shows, so many judges –

KP Well the judge missed a scar.

LD We just, you know –

JW Thank you.

LD No, we're just bringing it to your attention.

KP Do they, the question –

JW Yes, they go over.

KP Do they look for scars and that sort of thing?

JW They go over the whole dog from –

KP Yeah.

JW From tip of their nose –

KP Yeah, so they were vets.

JW Mmm.

LD I mean we're, we're just bringing to your attention –

JW Yeah, thank you.

LD All of our concerns.

JW Mm-hmm, mm-hmm, that's good, thank you.

LD You know, you can sit there and you can shake your head and –

RS Oh no, I'm writing notes 'cos I'm allowed to comment.

LD But, you know, there's a big picture of, of common failures and, you know, that's the whole reason for the, the interview here today, is just so that we can discuss it all and just ask further questions to put the pieces of the puzzle together and get an idea of, you know, where to from here.

JW Yeah.

LD So I do, you know, appreciate you coming in. I know, I know this is hard.

JW Mmm, it is.

LD And I know that you're incredibly passionate about your dogs and what you do. So yeah, thank you.

KP But it's, it's also a difficult problem for myself and, and Lori, that needs resolving. It's something that we're, we're obligated to as inspectors. We cannot walk away and say it's okay when it's not okay. So we, we need resolution, we cannot just say hey, they're doing their best, and walk away, 'cos the best isn't good enough. It's, it's falling over. So yeah, just, I really want you to go away today and just have a real good think about things and, and talk to your mum and, and really decide, well what are you doing? What are you doing as a kennel? How do you, how do you create excellence with 60 dogs with our facilities and that sort of thing? So there's areas falling over -

JW Areas for, room for improvement.

KP So I'm happy to stop asking Janine questions.

LD There was one more thing I just, I did want to ask. Are you aware of the code of welfare for dogs?

JW Yes.

LD Thank you. That's all for me, thank you very much.

KP Yeah, that's all of that. So just for, Ray, you must be busting, so I think –

RS I'm just an ex-cop who writes it down.

LD Is there anything that you would like to say or add at –

KP And just before you do, Janine, if you want to say anything after Ray's had a talk, feel free to say whatever you want to -

JW Mm-hmm, thank you.

KP At all.

RS Okay, thank you. Like I said at the start, my involvement's been 30 years with German Shepherds. The biggest problem that I've ever seen in German Shepherd's is the backstabbing. As in people bringing complaints, people, jealousy, whatever.

KP Not our area.

RS Yep.

LD We deal with that every day as well.

RS Yeah, and here's some of it that's probably come from the complainant and its got to stop. So –

KP We can't do anything there.

LD We have no control over that.

RS Okay, just let me finish. You guys had your turn, my turn no.

LD No, appreciate that.

RS So the biggest issue we've got there is –

LD Can we have this?

RS Yeah, yeah. Just let me finish with them and then –

LD Yeah, sure.

RS I can, you can have them after.

LD 'Cos we don't, we don't look at social media, we can't comment, we can't –

RS Well unfortunately somebody in this organisation, and I'm not saying who it could be, 'cos I don't know, has been leaking information to a person on German Shepherds New Zealand and like –

KP Before, before we, sorry, before we even go into that type of stuff, 'cos that's a, that's a separate type of issue, so what I –

RS I realise that.

KP Yeah, so –

RS But it's a big issue.

KP Yeah, yeah, I realise that.

RS Yeah, yeah.

KP But if we can just park that up to the end –

RS Okay, yeah, I can do that.

KP Because Barbara's asked you to –

RS Yep.

KP To give something on her behalf.

RS Yep, okay.

KP So if you don't mind –

RS Well that is on her behalf because the person's got sire bullshitter from Volker bun and Damn Mrs Fraudster from Volker bun.

LD Why, why do you think that comes from SPCA? We, we –

RS No, no, no, there's information in here that states, like the day you guys took some dogs, it appeared on social media. Now –

LD Why do you think though that it comes from –

KP Yeah.

RS I, I'm not saying it's come from –

KP Sorry, just carry on with –

RS So yeah, so one of the questions I've got is, and it came up right at the start when you said there's 1500 dogs a week in here. The dogs have been in custody for four weeks, why now the concern about their particular feed? And they've already been here for four weeks?

LD It was just a –

KP That's, that's, we, we run all sorts of questions and why we run the questions is up to us. So yeah, that's –

RS So what food were you, have you been feeding?

KP So no, this isn't a, your opportunity to question us, this is, you can talk about what you want to talk about. But it's not you interviewing us now. Which, surely you must understand, having a police background.

RS But isn't it transparent, just to say what brand of food?

KP You're, you're asking questions, I must say, yeah, carry on with what your, what you want to talk about.

RS Doesn't sound transparent. Okay, you declared the dogs would not be returning without any new information and how can this be done? What information do you do need for the dogs to be returned?

KP So that's, it's, how things are now, there's no facilities to return the dogs to. So that is not in the immediate –

RS So whilst the kennel complex is not completed, obviously there's no facility. But when the kennel complex has been completed, is there a facility?

KP Well there's enough facility for some of the dogs in the care, but certainly not for, for all the dogs.

RS Okay, cool. That's, that's one point I want to get onto, was are we, or are, is Barbara and Janine able to swap dogs out?

KP I can –

RS If it's in care to –

KP It'd be unlikely. It'll be unlikely but I can put whatever forward. Anything that you, anything like that –

LD We're open to discuss –

KP If you pop it in, pop it in writing –

RS Yeah, because we'll just, just so you're aware, right, particular dogs that I'm talking about have cost them \$250,000 to get as result of, so it's not a normal German Shepherd.

KP Put something in an email and put it forward.

RS Right, you know what I mean?

LD You know, absolutely, we –

RS And those are the bloodlines that they've specifically bought on at a huge cost.

LD In order to move forward in destocking your property –

RS Yep.

LD Yeah.

RS Yep, cool, thank you.

LD We'd consider.

KP I can't tell you the answer but –

RS Yep.

KP We can, happy to put it forward to the powers that be.

RS Right, so what part of the code of welfare are they being held under, at the moment?

KP Section 1275 is what the, they're seized under.

LD Of the Animal Welfare Act.

KP So, of the Animal Welfare Act 99 –

RS Yep, I figured that.

LD The code of welfare just –

KP So just have a read of that.

RS I know it. Okay, was there any issues found with the fooding and the feeding of the dogs?

KP I'm sorry you're, again, questioning us. It's not your question and answer, you're, we're not being cross-examined by you, Ray.

RS I'm trying to find out –

KP I'm happy to, I'm, I'm happy for you to talk on beha-, what you said is you're here to talk on behalf of -

RS Okay, alright.

KP It's not what you're doing. You're trying to cross-examine us.

RS So I'll make it like this, in regard to the fooding and feeding, we submit that the Royal Canin 4800 is the absolute best food available. Has this been continued?

KP We're not doing question and answers, Ray. Simple.

RS This is, this, it seems to be all one way then. That's the problem.

KP This is a, a, an interview and it's not your opportunity to interview us. We're happy to, to listen, if you're talking on, on Barbara's behalf –

RS Which I am.

KP Well that's not what you're doing now.

RS Okay, well so you won't answer questions, is that correct?

KP Yeah, we're not to be, we're not here, we're, you can put –

LD You're not interviewing us, so to speak.

RS I'm trying, what I'm trying to do is ascertain -

KP I know what you're trying to do, Ray.

RS Is ascertain whether they need a lawyer or not, right? And my questions are aimed at, okay, so that's why that is, that's why that is. I mean I've enforced the law –

LD This is a serious situation.

RS Yep.

LD And there are a lot of dogs –

RS And that's the bit, that's been the thing that's come out –

LD That's right.

RS Is it's the number of dogs relative to what's been available for containment, whether it's tethering or anything. So I've read the, the Act as well, where did the stainless steel buckets come from? Because here's nothing in there. But they were told to have stainless steel buckets.

KP I don't know, show me, but anyway, again, you're just asking questions. There's nothing in here, stainless steel buckets –

RS I know.

KP So, so just –

RS So what about length of lead for tethering, right? Is there anywhere in the Act –

LD In the code of welfare, minimum standards.

RS Yeah, that, that show under –

LD Two metres.

KP So it –

RS 'Cos I haven't found it.

KP You said that you knew the code of welfare.

RS Yeah, I've read it.

KP Yeah, so –

LD Most people know the Animal Welfare Act.

RS Yeah, code of welfare, I've got, there's different things there –

KP So you've, you've got to break things down, Ray. So I just –

RS So there is, it is actually in there, is what I'm asking.

KP I'm, I'm going to tell you this, have a look at the definitions, so go to the Animal Welfare Act and go to Section 10, obligations of an animal owner, and then from there you'll see the physical health and behavioural needs. And have a look in there under the definitions in there.

LD That's not the Animal Welfare Act either, that's the code of welfare.

KP Yeah, it's the code of welfare.

LD The Animal Welfare Act is the, is the law, is the legal side of, of what we deal with.

RS So there's another document again?

LD These, these provide the minimum standards.

RS Yep.

LD That people must comply with.

RS Correct, yeah.

LD But this is not law, this is –

KP This, yeah.

LD Supports –

RS Yes, that's where I was going.

LD Yeah, no, this supports the Animal Welfare Act –

KP That's your code of welfare, this one here, so I'll write down the –

RS Cool, thank you.

KP On top, just the –

JW We'd really appreciate it.

RS Yeah, that'd be great.

LD And you can Google the Animal Welfare Act and it will come up.

RS I just, I went onto SPCA and then hit the link from there and this is what –

LD Yeah, no, this is, this is a guide.

RS Yeah.

LD So this guides people.

RS Yep.

LD And they're minimum, minimum standards, what you must provide –

RS And that was where I was going.

LD Yeah, it's supporting –

KP So I'm just going to write something I'd like you to, so it's the Animal Welfare Act 1999, in particular Section 10 will be the, the main one in there. Also read 11 as well. I'll, I'll put 11 as well.

RS Sure, thank you.

KP So 10 and 11.

LD And 127 which is how we're holding them.

RS Brackets 5.

KP So I'll just go, definitions –

LD It has in there, in owners obligations and it also has the powers that inspectors have. So you'll be able to find –

RS I'm pretty aware of what people can do.

KP So that's, yeah, Google that one –

RS Okay, thank you.

KP It's, it's an MPI –

RS Appreciate it.

KP It's an, it's an Act.

RS Ministry of Primary Industries.

KP Yeah, so Google that one and you can print it all out, it'll be the current one with everything in there.

RS Mm-hmm.

KP It's, and, and that will, go to those particular sections, have a look through and a read through and go from there.

RS Okay, so from here, is it still your desire for this to be a success?

LD We want them to achieve and comply and we want dog's welfare to be –

RS So it's successful.

LD Yes.

KP We're here because of failed compliance. It's the only reason we're here.

RS Okay.

KP We're very, sorry, kicking the chair, we're here –

LD We did multiple visits, we had multiple instruction –

RS Yeah, I saw, I saw that after a while –

LD We did what we feel we had to do to avoid removing dogs from the property. We don't remove dogs from people's care lightly. You must understand, 15 dogs coming into the SPCA, you know, it's a lot of, it's a lot for us to deal with as well.

RS Yep.

LD But we do. So, you know, it was, it was a result of failing to comply with minimum standards.

RS Yep, so the placement of the 15 that we're talking about, you know how you're talking about rehoming and all that sort of stuff -

LD We would like to rehome.

RS Yeah, do the Glovers get an opportunity to do that themselves? Even if they were sitting here and they had people, like, from the South Island who are after those bloodlines, that they can actually come in?

KP We can put things in as a proposal –

LD Yeah.

RS You can see where I'm going –

LD Put them in a proposal, yes.

RS Because I mean they've spent, I'd hate to think, a million dollars over the last many years on doing this.

LD I mean we have –

RS And unfortunately there's been some slipups but they don't want to just put them in pet homes, neutered and spayed and all that sort of stuff.

LD I mean we have 15. There are still 50? Approximately, at the property. That's still a lot of dogs that the Glover's do need to look at.

RS Yeah, I've done the same. I've had 32 when I was into the big breeding and showing but –

LD So if, if –

RS Now my daughter's an Olympian and it's like –

KP Oh very cool.

RS We don't do the dog thing as much. So we have a couple, don't we, of these –

LD I mean when we surrender, when, when somebody surrenders an animal to us, they forfeit ownership, so –

RS Oh okay.

LD The ownership then becomes ours.

RS So the first five, have they been gone, are they gone?

KP Yeah.

LD Yeah, they've gone.

KP Yeah.

RS Right, do you know who has –

JW And they haven't been put down? They have gone to new homes?

LD Well we're not going –

KP We don't discuss, anything that's been surrendered, we don't discuss thereon further with the –

LD When you sign the surrender form –

KP We don't say where they go to, they've gone to, where, what area, anything at all when you surrender –

LD SPCA, what I will say to you Janine, is SPCA do not euthanise because of overcrowding. They do not euthanise for any other reason than health or temperament. So if, if a dog or a cat has a health issue that we can't fix or that's going to be ongoing throughout their lives, they may be put to sleep. If they have a temperament that's dangerous, questionable, we can't put that out into a public home. If it's, if it's something that we can't fix, they may be put to sleep. Otherwise, they can sit here for six months, seven months, eight months, however long it takes for somebody to find, to come in and, and adopt them. So those are the only two reasons a dog would ever be euthanised.

RS Okay.

KP We're about, yeah, obviously –

LD Saving lives.

KP The welfare of animals and that is our first thing, is, is the welfare of the animals.

RS Yep.

KP But it's the –

LD And it's policy that we don't tell people what happens after the, after the fact.

KP Our work is over –

RS I think she'd probably prefer yeah, that they were home-, rehomed than put to sleep.

LD And that's exactly, that's exactly what –

RS You know what I mean?

KP Just be aware, our work that we do is reviewed. We obviously have our bosses look over everything and at the end of the day they make the, the calls. We're in the, the frontline and –

RS Been there, done that.

KP And so we try and put, we can only put factual stuff forward and say it exactly how it is. And unfortunately there has been significant issues that haven't been resolved but in going forward, that, yeah, we need, yeah, workability. But no outcome is set forward, we don't place a file on the, for our bosses to give the final review until it's complete.

RS Okay, does, I think I read that you've given to the 31st of December for these kennels? Yeah?

KP Yeah, so that was something that we sat down and discussed –

LD Right from the beginning.

KP Together with Barbara and Janine.

RS Yep.

KP And a time period was, they came up with, we can have some kennels built within a five month period.

RS Cool.

KP And that sounded like a, like a serious thing going, so yeah, I'll encourage it, but it must be met. Anything else in between we can't, and unfortunately it hasn't been happening.

RS So the 15 that are here –

LD 14 now.

RS 14, are basically safe until the 31st of December?

KP Oh that's, that's nothing to do with that -

LD They're, they're owned by Barbara –

KP Now they're seized.

RS Okay.

KP Now they're seized and so the only, the way that SPCA can dispose of seized animals is, we go through the courts or we get a surrender from the owner.

RS Right.

KP So only one of two.

RS Okay.

KP There is no other, we can't decide –

RS Thank you.

KP Oh I think we'll rehome them today, so.

LD We're not going to rehome, no.

RS That's fine.

KP That is the, the only two outcomes for the seized dog.

RS That's good.

LD Which is why when we, with issues with Retsa, they were informed and –

JW Not right, to begin with.

LD Because we were –

JW When you were putting her down.

LD Yeah, no, but that, that's the only reason –

JW Because I know, because I know my, when you said, if you said when you came, then we could've got Mark, he could've had a look at it and done something.

LD She was receiving the ultimate best care. We had specialists involved and she was provided with all of her needs.

KP It was unfortunate that she was –

RS Do they give a copy of that report?

LD Yeah, we can, well we can –

KP Well no, we're not going to, in the immediate. We're not going to give a copy of that report while it's in the investigation process.

LD Investigation stages.

KP Anything to do with –

RS Well Retsa's not in the investigation, she's dead.

LD No, she's a part of the investigation due to the findings.

RS Oh I see what you, yeah, with the photo.

KP Same as a murdered person, yeah.

LD I mean she was a dog that was tethered by a short lead we found injured at the property that ultimately died. It's quite serious.

RS Okay, right.

KP And so I do want you to read up Section 12 as well, and have a look at penalties and have a look through there too. Be aware –

RS \$50,000 or \$100,000, I think I read.

KP Sorry?

RS 50? Yeah.

KP Yeah. So just be aware of those and it's very serious.

RS But that's only if it goes to court, isn't that right?

LD That's right.

KP That's if it goes to court.

RS Yeah.

KP So we're not in control of that but we have to do everything and put forward everything that, our photographs and everything, we have to, our bosses see those. This is the, everything that we're –

LD And ultimately they decide where to from here. Whether we go to court, whether, you know.

RS So when would they be informed of that?

LD When we get our evidence and –

KP There's, you can imagine the paperwork involved on doing inspections on over 60 dogs on multiple occasions, is quite involved. So there's a, a bit of pressure on myself and Lori to, to move things along.

RS So bearing in mind with that, what are we now, at the end of –

LD November 8th?

RS 9th, 8th.

JW 9th.

RS So when do you propose that that could resolved?

KP Well we don't, we don't know –

LD We're going as fast as we can.

KP But I think one thing I'd like you to, Janine, seriously, and if you can convey to Barbara too, is that there's, we're serious about the, just the board alone, it's like \$1500 a week.

JW Yeah.

KP And, and that's building.

RS It's a week.

KP So I would really like to –

JW To get it resolved as quickly as –

KP To, to get it resolved as, if there was a, we don't want to be giving them back because there are no facilities to give them back to.

RS Sure.

KP However if you want to put in a, something, well swapping dogs over and surrendering, I don't know, I can put that forward.

RS Is there the opportunity then to have them placed in boarding kennels themselves?

KP No.

LD The seized dogs we have in here? No, 'cos they're, we're, we're responsible for them.

RS I'm just thinking of the \$1500 a week, they're probably going to get a cheaper deal somewhere else. And they're still not on their property or anything like that.

LD No, we're, we're ultimately –

KP Yeah, no –

JW No, I understand.

RS Okay.

JW No, we need to find a solution.

RS Yeah, that's what I'm trying to find.

JW A positive solution.

KP So yeah, go, don't, you know, you don't need to do anything today but I, I would like you to have a really serious talk with Barbara, your mother, and have a really good think –

LD And even if it's not all of the dogs. Even if it's some of the dogs that we have, you'd like to surrender, not like to surrender, but would surrender. You know, I mean come at us and –

KP Do, honest, yeah, I would –

JW How are they all?

LD They're good.

KP Great.

LD They've all been washed, they've all been groomed, they all get fed and watered and exercised and loved and space to run around and there's nothing tethered.

KP We're very big on behavioural environment. We have a behavioural enrichment confidence course for the dogs. We have a, a, yeah, so we take a lot of pride in how we look after the dogs.

LD Thank you.

RS It's not pretty.

LD No. And I can –

RS And there's going to be legal action take about that.

LD And all, all I can say to you is, you know, like, we are binded by confidentiality.

RS I know, yeah.

LD You know, like we would lose our jobs if we were to, and it does mean Kevin, absolutely, no favours at all for this to be vomiting all over media.

KP So just the, something to be think about too is –

LD It's not malicious, what we're dealing with here.

KP When you're rural and multiple visits, we're certain to attract attention. Whenever we go rural, we attract attention.

RS Yeah, but that wouldn't tell them how many dogs were removed.

JW There was specifics.

RS You know what I mean?

JW That could only –

LD And is that in here?

KP I'll, I'll have a read through, so.

RS Some of it, yes.

LD Like, just –

KP Can, we can hang onto that?

RS Yeah, mate, you're welcome to it.

KP So if, if we find anything –

RS 'Cos this is the sort, I mean you've picked on a word that resonates very highly is the pressure. So these guys are under pressure not only when they're at home, but if they step out and do a show –

LD Yes, mm-hmm.

RS Barbara's got an issue that has not been diagnosed, and I know Janine will probably tell me off, but that's life-threatening. So there is pressure, pressure, pressure. And when I was showing and breeding, I was at the top of the New Zealand charters and Australia, so I know what they're talking about. It's –

LD And we certainly do not want to –

RS You know what I mean? It's like -

LD You know, add to that. We would ideally not even be involved.

RS Yeah.

LD We ideally wouldn't have any dogs here.

RS Yep.

LD But we're here and so we need to, you know –

RS Just got to act on it now.

LD And honestly, if, if there was the name of a staff member that you've identified –

JW Well yeah, I wouldn't know.

LD Then we would like to know.

RS But I was going to ask one question, but he'd tell me off about it.

KP Yeah.

RS And I think he knows where I was going to go with that one.

KP That's your, yeah, that's your cop instincts kicking in. But –

RS Also I write things down aye? It's like –

KP Look, I, I think yeah, like I say, I'd like to have a really serious think, 'cos we –

RS That's really –

JW We would like to resolve it, we want to resolve it. Initially we wanted to –

RS Especially –

JW Have good results. I said to you we wanted success, that's why we're putting so much into it.

LD But that's the thing with social media, people can sit behind their keyboards and they can say whatever they like.

JW I will go back, I will discuss everything –

KP Can I ask you, do you, do you think anything in here, that we put in our notices, or any photographs we've shown you or anything, we've been unreasonable or biased?

JW There are things in here that aren't correct.

KP You don't think they're correct? In which one?

JW They weren't correct. I could give an example.

KP Yep.

JW Is the deer shed.

KP Yeah.

JW You said it had no natural light.

KP Yeah, there is some, limited, would've been better than no.

JW No, there is –

KP Clear light in the room –

JW Double, double skylights, for, specifically for the natural light to come in.

KP Yeah.

JW We can get it professionally measured. This was built by master builders. It's large, it was built for the deer, not for the dogs.

KP Yeah, it's a great deer shed but it's a terrible dog shed.

JW There wouldn't be anyone in there that had a shed like that for that. But I don't want to argue. I want to find, I want to find positive solutions.

KP I'm going to cease the interview. Unfortunately there's like four of us talking at once there, sorry transcriber. So we'll –

LD Five minutes past four.

KP Five minutes past four, interview ceased.

(end of transcription)