

**After five years at Crufts we are becoming a feature and it is encouraging that people now expect to find us there and ring to order books in advance. Our stand was busier than ever and we enjoyed meeting a number of members and enrolling new ones as well.**



# The BHA at Crufts 95

by Enid Segall

The veterinary surgeon with us on the first day when the Gun dogs were showing, was Mr Mark Elliott of Chichester. He was filmed by BBC TV, talking about the value of homoeopathy particularly in regard to the ageing dog. No doubt you saw him being interviewed by Jessica Holm. He had a busy day with the media as he was also interviewed by BBC Radio Midlands.

Every morning I leave information about our stand and the vet in attendance in the Press Office, in readiness for the daily Press Conference at 10am. Crufts is such an important event that reporters come from all over the world. Crufts have a new Press Officer and chatting with him we got on to the problems he is having with his cat (It's a brave man that mentions the word C-A-T at Crufts!) which was a rescue cat and had suffered who knows what trauma in the past. I told him of the value of *Opium 30* for the effects of past trauma. It turned out that he later told the World's Press about this and we had quite a few visits as a result.

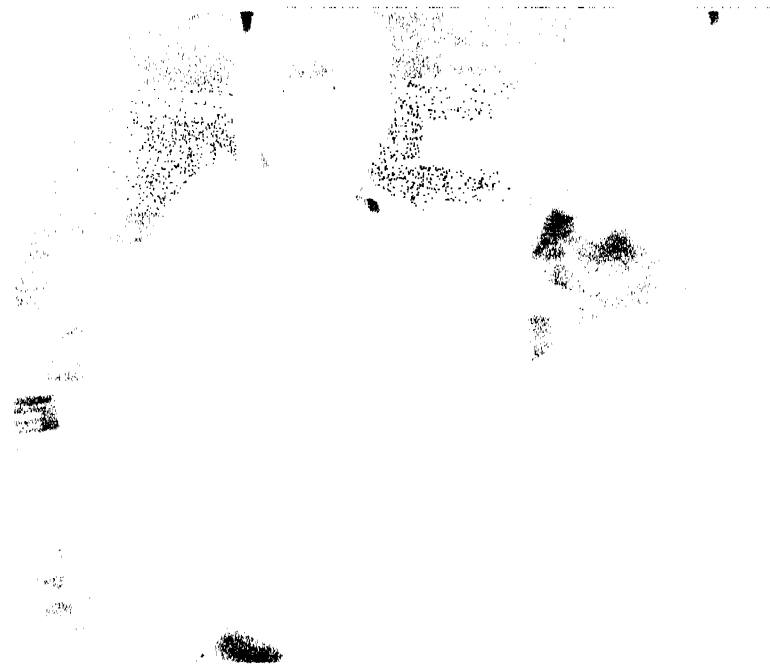
A reporter from The Mail on Sunday came to talk to Mr Hoare, the vet on Day 2. He was looking, as they always do, for unusual stories. Mr Hoare felt that one of his best was successfully treating a giraffe for grief. It was clear that this hard bitten



*The theme poster of Crufts 95 was an Afghan hound admiring herself in the mirror. Our good friend Roğ captured the mood with a not so well dog for us.*

press man could not envisage grief of any kind, most particularly that of a giraffe. Its calf had died and the mother had simply given up on life, separating itself from the herd, not eating and finally lying down to die. Mr Hoare gave *Ignatia* and within a short space of time she got up, joined the herd and started eating.

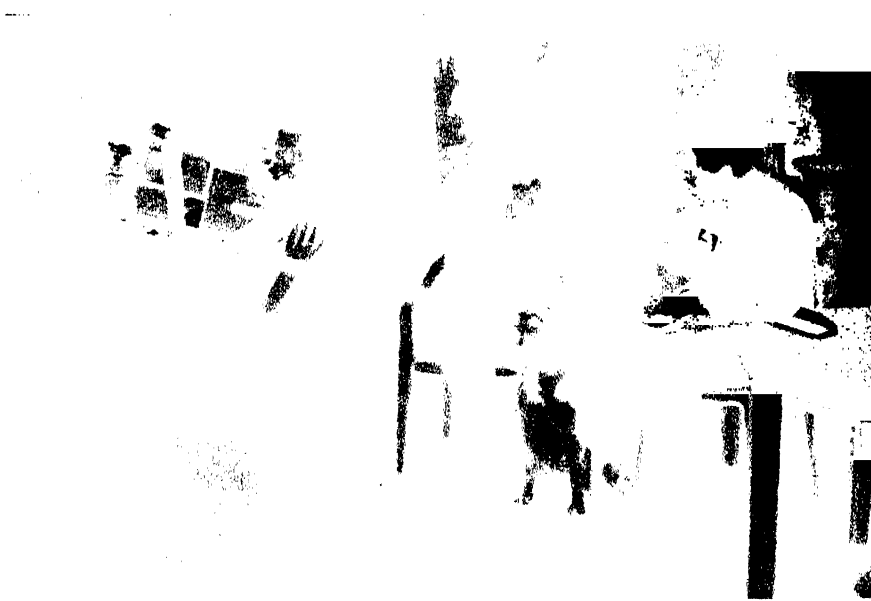
Mr George Macleod and Mr Richard Lockyer were the vets on the remaining two days and they did sterling work for homoeopathy and the BHA. Our grateful thanks to all four gentlemen and everyone who helped, most particularly Ainsworths pharmacy who lent us a van and John to drive it. His help was invaluable. Crufts is an exciting challenge for us as well as the dogs but well worth the effort.



*Shall we dance? A girl's best friend is her bloodhound.*



*Mr John Hoare of Bristol answers a knotty question*



*Mr Elliott being filmed for BBC TV with Jessica Holm*

# Chairman's Message

The BHA has long been a staunch supporter of veterinary homoeopathy, pioneering training long before anyone dreamed of the formation of The British Association of Homoeopathic Veterinary Surgeons. Many members will recall how Mr Ken Biddis MRCVS, who was an active BHA Council Member, travelled around the country lecturing to Veterinary Colleges. It is with great concern therefore, that I have learned that the British Veterinary Association has refused to affiliate the Homoeopathic Veterinary Association for the second time. In protest some thirty of their members who practise homoeopathy have resigned but this has not been published in their journal The Veterinary Record.

I have written to the President of the British Veterinary Association, Mr C.P. Devile to express the BHA's concern at this unhappy situation. I have told him of my 35 years' experience of the Farming industry and that I am currently Chairman of Sussex Ambulance Service NHS Trust. I was also Chairman of Mid-Downs Health Authority for 13 years and am a former Chairman of NAHAT (National Association of Health Authorities and Trusts). In these capacities I can assure you and him how homoeopathy is very much at the forefront of people's minds.

As you know, the BHA takes stands at Crufts Dog and the National Cat Show, always with a Veterinary Surgeon qualified in homoeopathy on hand to answer queries. Never a day goes by at 27A without calls from all over the country from people seeking the name of a homoeopathic vet and they are all too often left disappointed as there is no one in reasonable travelling distance to them with the necessary expertise. They cannot understand why and neither can we. I do hope that Mr Devile and his Council will be able to do something to rectify the very unsatisfactory situation of non affiliation and encourage their members to train in homoeopathy which would give them far greater scope when it comes to treating animals, large and small and enhance their job satisfaction as well as the practice bank account.

## **Grand Opening of Homoeopathic Display Centre on August 12th**

The eagerly awaited Homoeopathic Display Centre at The Raystede Centre for Animal Rescue in Ringmer, Sussex BN8 5AJ, will be officially opened on Saturday, August 12th, during the annual "Friends of the Farm party." Situated in the 400 year old granary, the centre will be opened by BHA Chairman Mr Martyn Long, CBE, Deputy Lieutenant of Sussex and BHA Patrons Actress Jean Boht and her Conductor/Composer husband Carl Davis who have also agreed to act as host and hostess if their engagements permit. The Royal Scottish Dance Company will entertain during tea time. The party begins at 2.30 pm and BHA members are invited to attend BUT you must let them know in advance that you are coming so that the catering can be organised to cover everyone. Please write to Miss M. Raymonde Hawkins MBE, at Raystede to book your place at this fun event. The closing date is Friday, August 4th. **BHA**