

Prologue

Michael Banyard - Urban Animal Management Convenor

The proceedings for the sixth annual National Urban Animal Management Conference follow the mould which has provided a valuable information resource in the past. The topics in this year's proceedings can be grouped into three broad headings: harnessing technology; animal behaviour; and management. Human behaviours are covered by speakers such as John Dommers and Bob Nash who explore issues such as dispute resolution and human factors affecting pet ownership. Animal behaviours are covered by Robert Holmes and Graham Adams. Technology is addressed by Denise Humphries and Dick Murray and will be further enhanced by hands-on opportunities at the Conference. These core areas are complemented by other speakers who widen and deepen our knowledge of these themes. We are all most grateful to the speakers who have provided their notes for these Proceedings and to Sandra Hassett, the editor for her excellent work in producing them in a consistent and informative format.

Interlaced with the growth in our knowledge of these topics has been the increase ease of access to this information. The use of the Internet and other modern technologies like CD ROMs is covered within the proceedings. Readers will also find current abstracts and full text copies of earlier Proceedings of the Urban Animal Management Conference available on the Internet www.ava.com.au/conferences. These can be used, along with search facilities, to find specific information or search more widely.

I would like to thank Ian McBryde and his hard working Local Organising Committee in Adelaide. They have done an excellent job in putting together an interesting program and bringing it to completion. Thanks also to Doreen Culliver who has coordinated the whole event and produced and printed the People and Pets Newsletters and these Proceedings. Finally I would like to thank all the sponsors who are acknowledged below. Without their financial help it would be impossible to host these conference and produce these Proceedings.

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