

Date: Mon, 23 Feb 2004 10:29:04 +1000
From: coralmcvean <coralmcvean@bigpond.com>
To: russellm@humbug.org.au
Subject: further re rats

Hello Russell

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<?xml:namespace prefix = o ns =  
"urn:schemas-microsoft-com:office:office" />
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I received both (or more ?) of your e-mails regarding the rats etc and I do sympathize with the plight of you **stated** disability along with your problem of your **stated** poverty.

I must say that I am of the belief (and I freely accept the fact that I am not an expert) that one of the factors encouraging such activities might be the amount of accumulated articles both inside the house and outside. These articles are **I am sure precious to you** but to me they are an accumulation of ^Ó stuff ^Ó which not only makes the area untidy (to say the least) but certainly both the inside and outside ^Óstuff^Ó devalues the house in my opinion and creates (in my perhaps unqualified opinion) an environment where vermin might be attracted. I really do not know whether or not the duck issue adds to or has no relationship to the rat problem

The first mention that you made of rats came when you asked could I provide you with some traps. **I thought that this was not a landlord^Òs normal requirement** but taking into account your financial situation I thought that we might help. I have not heard of your purchasing any except that you told me that you had some quotes and **also the extreme inconvenience which you were going to suffer by getting on buses to go and purchase them.** I have heard nothing more since.

I do not intend to get involved with the rat issue as I don^Òt think it is my responsibility. I know that they are damaging the house but any time I mention someone coming in to maintain the house I find barriers of an emotional nature placed in my way by your stating how much inconvenience and an intrusion on your privacy such activities would be. Furthermore I feel that if I organised someone to come in for repairs etc It would take more than a normal amount of time because so much ^Ó stuff ^Ó is in the way. Now I know that the **first thing that jumps into your mind is the first repair job that I had done** and yes that was not a good outcome but you must understand that I was and still am a **novice landlord**. Also I seem to remember your telling me at the time that you wanted a shower so that your Mum and Dad could come and visit and be able to have a shower without having to climb in and out of a plunge. I may be mistaken but I seem to recollect something like that. Tell me if you think I am wrong. **The further altercation came when you wanted me to add a further bedroom in that area but that was not in my plans at the time** Then there was the time when I wanted (with ^Ö I thought ^Ö your agreement) to do major maintenance for the benefit of both of us and that was an unmitigated disaster and led to further deterioration in our

relationship.

If I am able to come in and do some cleaning up and some maintenance on the house I would be happy to add the rat issue to my list of must-do items but I don't have any plans to follow the issue up as a single entity. If the house deteriorates to an impossible state as a result of my seeming inability to maintain, then I will simply demolish and build a smaller more modern structure on the valuable land

I wish to act WITH you and NOT against you in trying to provide for you an area where you can live close to the university and continue your chosen course of life. I would ask for some help from you in that area.

I welcome your constructive comments

Regards

Hugh