

Date: Wed, 21 Jan 2004 13:55:16 +1000  
From: coral mcvean <hmcv6560@bigpond.net.au>  
To: Russell Mathews <russellm@humbug.org.au>  
Subject: re rent/ducks/ house/ and other things

Hello Russell

There are a number of issues and I shall simply put them in order not necessarily of importance.

The ducks - the saga continues. I have today received a letter from council informing me of the need to remove the ducks in excess of six from the St Lucia property. I see the need to pay a fine if the ducks are not removed from the property by 17/2/03 - I presume that this is simply a copy to me of the fine potentially liable by you and I am not being exposed to litigation by the keeping of ducks at St Lucia. This is something I shall follow up of course. I presume the whole area of discontent is between yourself and council. Could you let me know?

The rent - in one of your letters when I went to some trouble outlining a scheme whereby some of the financial pressure upon yourself would be reduced, you said that you did not want such schemes and the rent was not really an issue with you anyway. It certainly is an issue with us and I must note that it must be an "issue" with you since you are mostly behind in the rent payments - as at this time your rent ( not altered since February 1994 ) is paid until 2/1/04. This is NOT a great concern to me. I have said in the past that our concern is to allow you to help yourself as well as being helped by us. Most arrangements call for rent to be paid in advance. I cite James in Sydney as an example - if he fell behind in rent he has been told that he would simply be evicted. That was probably a threat as an extreme outcome but that outcome would eventually be shown to occur. I would certainly like to do something along the lines of helping you as we outlined but want to do so with your approval and understanding in the matter. You said in the past ( a long past ) that to help pay the house off you would be willing to take in boarders for that purpose. I think that the value of the house might have increased to the point that the option of purchase might have passed. I ask you why would you not want to take in boarders to do the same now to be able to reduce any financial pressure that you might be facing?

I have not seen the house for some time now as I tend to stay away because you and I disagree on the way that the "benefit to the owners" is perceived by you. I must come and have a look at the state of the house because I should do so. When would a time suitable to you be available and I will try to arrange such a time?

You have not sent me an invoice for the plumbing work done by yourself - you said that you would send it in the name of your publishing company. I

need that invoice to be able to pay you the money that I owe you. I can pay it by BSB but I still need the invoice. Could you please do that for me?

I look forward to your thoughts on the above matters. Your mother is well and I think is happy. Her sight is poor but she is having a full and healthy social life and is, I think, happy while being depressed about her eyes. We took her out to dinner last night in Caloundra. She has plenty of visits from our friends and her friends and at least looks forward ( I think ) to every day, The dogs are good for her and good with her. Is there any likelihood of your coming to visit her as I am sure that your visitation as her son would be welcome?

Congratulations on your achieving your LLB - I understand that you are going to hope to enrol for your Ph D at Rockhampton. Have you ever thought about living up there near that Uni - if in fact that is the Uni where you will further your educational aspirations? The choice of course is yours.

Regards

Hugh and Coral