

## **Corrupt protection of illegal and unsafe activity involving wildlife displayers in Victoria by Glenn Sharp and others at the Victorian Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE).**

Following are breaches of Worksafe laws (OH and S Act 2004) and the Victorian Wildlife Act by licenced demonstrators and Zoos Victoria, including Melbourne Zoo and Healesville Sanctuary, that are not being prosecuted and are being corruptly protected by Glenn Sharp and others at the DSE compliance branch. All the following breaches involve the illegal demonstration of dangerous and venomous reptiles in violation of DSE permit requirements and more importantly the OH and S Act 2004. All the images herein have been taken from publicly available sources and made known to DSE compliance staff on many occasions since mid 2009 to 2011 as they have become available and yet they have chosen to ignore all the breaches even though public safety has been repeatedly put at risk.

In all the following cases, demonstrators are allowing people to hold and handle venomous or dangerous reptiles in contravention of relevant laws, or using barriers deemed by DSE and Jon Birkett, their advisor from Melbourne Zoo, as unsafe and illegal when handling venomous reptiles.

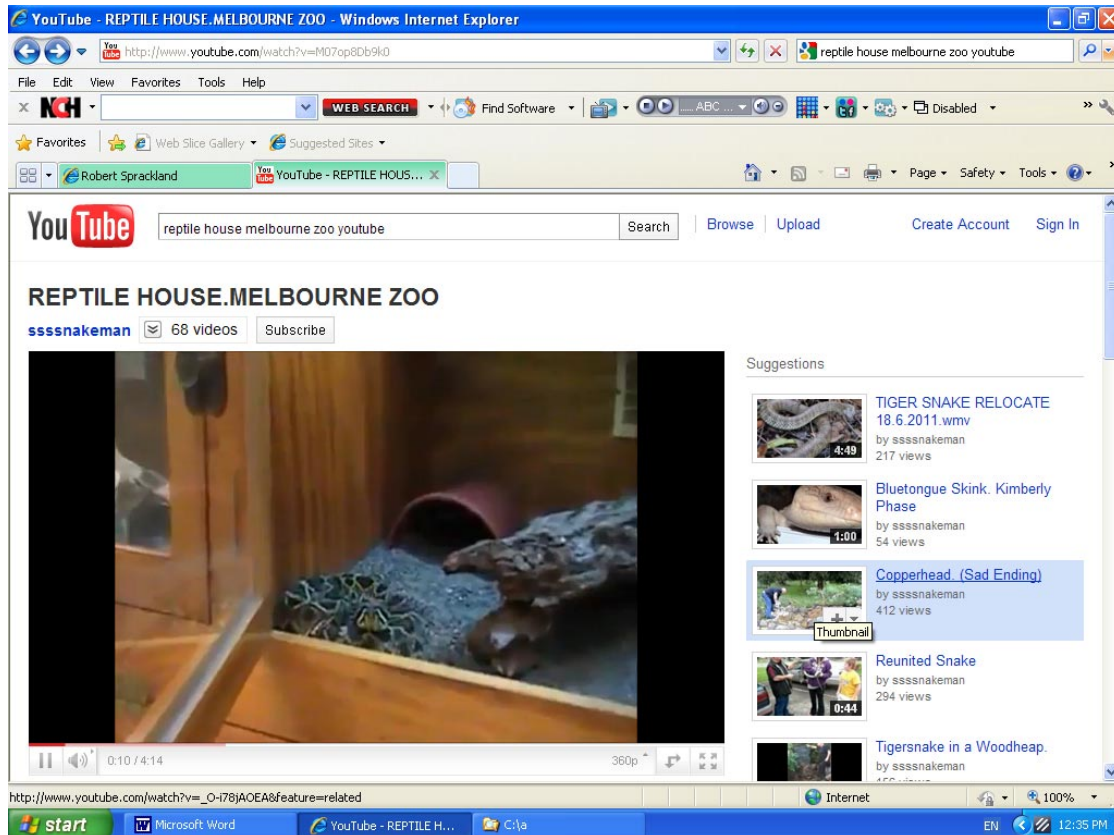
Note that Zoos Victoria and Snakehandler, between them have had six cases of staff rushed to hospital for venomous snake bites since 2004 while Snakebusters have had none! (Snakehandler two incidents, Zoos Victoria, four cases. All the Zoos Victoria cases required anti-venom).

In 2010, and following the publication of "Australasian Journal of Herpetology" Issue 8, that detailed DSE fraud involving "Sam the Koala" of Black Saturday bushfires fame, Snakebusters, Raymond Hoser was prosecuted by DSE for 13 alleged permit breaches, all arising from a sudden and unannounced change of the DSE definition of a "pit", noting that the "pit" Raymond Hoser had spent \$5,000 on in 2006/7 was exactly as specified and demanded by DSE enforcement head, Ron Waters and in line with what others in the industry were using and still use.

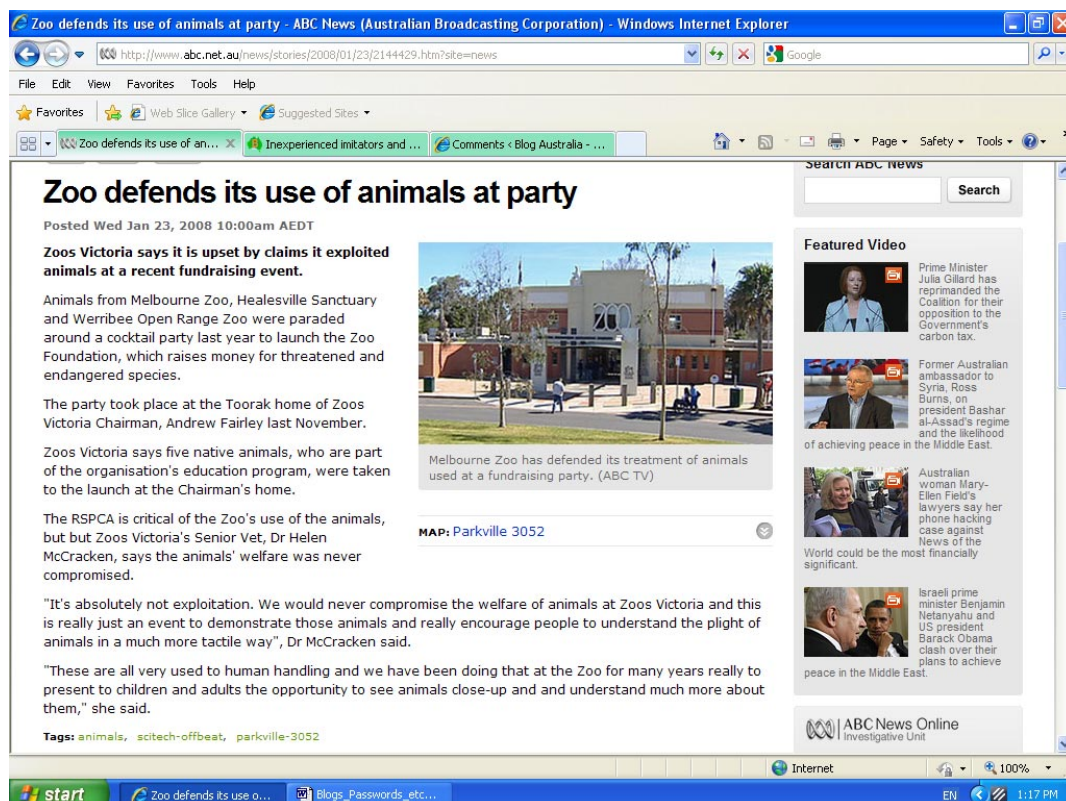
Also note that all "venomous" snakes used by Raymond Hoser were the only ones in Australia that had been surgically devenomized and therefore made totally safe.

In other words, the one demonstrator with the highest standards of safety and animal welfare has been prosecuted on the basis of false claims and evidence, while clear and undeniable breaches of the laws and safety, have remained untouched by the DSE enforcement branch.

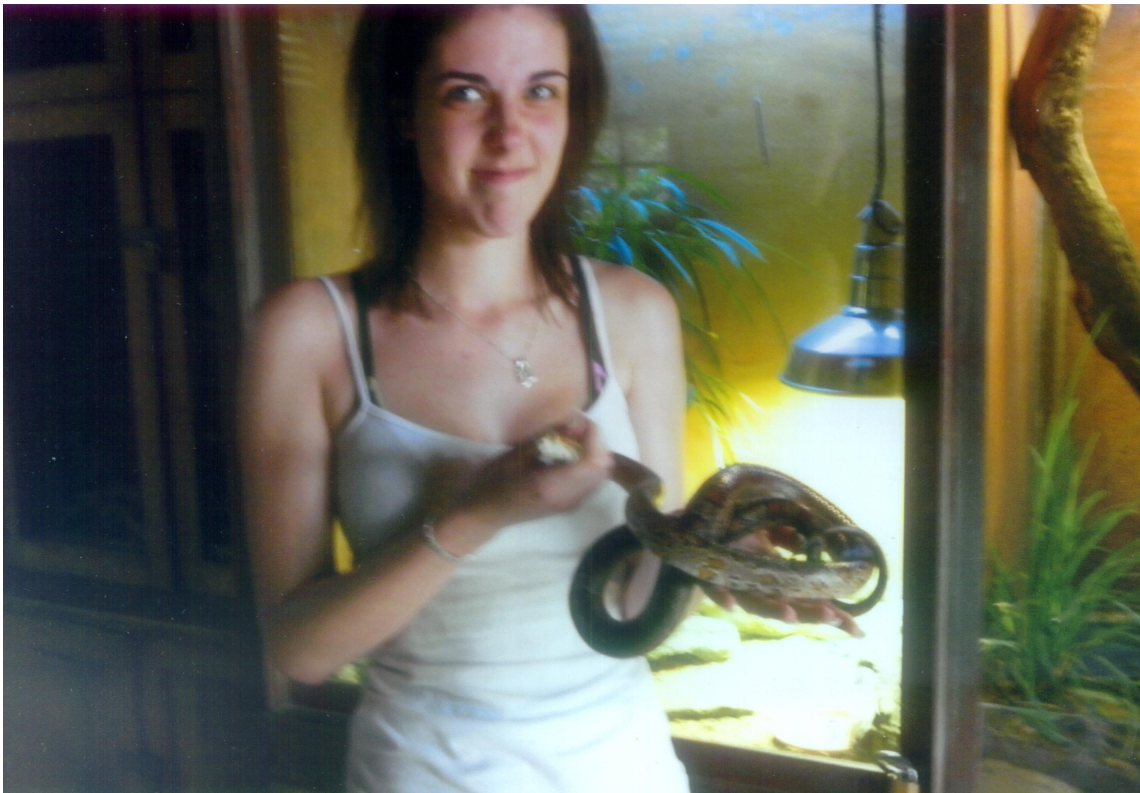
Below: Jon Birkett Melbourne Zoo, allowing a member of the public (to wit Barry Goldsmith) within 9 feet of a venomous Rattlesnake via an open cage door to take the following video images and without a permit for the purpose. This video made illegally in 2011. The video is posted on youtube.



Animal cruelty at reptile parties - Melbourne Zoo again!  
No charges were laid.



Person (Sammy Watson) holding an American Corn Snake at Melbourne Zoo, unsupervised and able to steal it. A breach of condition 11 of demonstrator's permits. Melbourne Zoo claims exemption from this rule, but such exemption is illegal under competitive neutrality laws. This photo was taken in February 2011. Note that Helen McCracken committed perjury at Ringwood court days later in Feb 2011 when claiming that Zoos Victoria never allows the public to hold snakes. This was recorded on the tape made at the time. In Court in July 2011, DSE claimed it was illegal for wildlife displayers to let public hold non-venomous reptiles and yet Raymond Hoser remains the only demonstrator in the world prosecuted for such an offence. Contrary to false claims by Sean McCarthy (calling himself "Snakehandler") on the internet, Raymond Hoser never illegally handed out Venomous or de venomized reptiles, although other demonstrators, including McCarthy's good friend Michael Alexander, regularly break this rule by handing out venomous reptiles and with total immunity from prosecution (see later photos here).





Mike Taylor at Healesville Sanctuary (Zoos Victoria), illegally demonstrating two venomous snakes at a time (Tiger and Black)(see two snakes in bottom left image) and in violation of conditions 13-14 of the demonstrators permit, to which Zoos Victoria claims exemption. They are not however exempt from Sect 32 of the OH and S Act, which is also being breached. Note the barrier fails to comply with what their own "expert" Jon Birkett claimed was the minimum needed in legal proceedings in February 2011

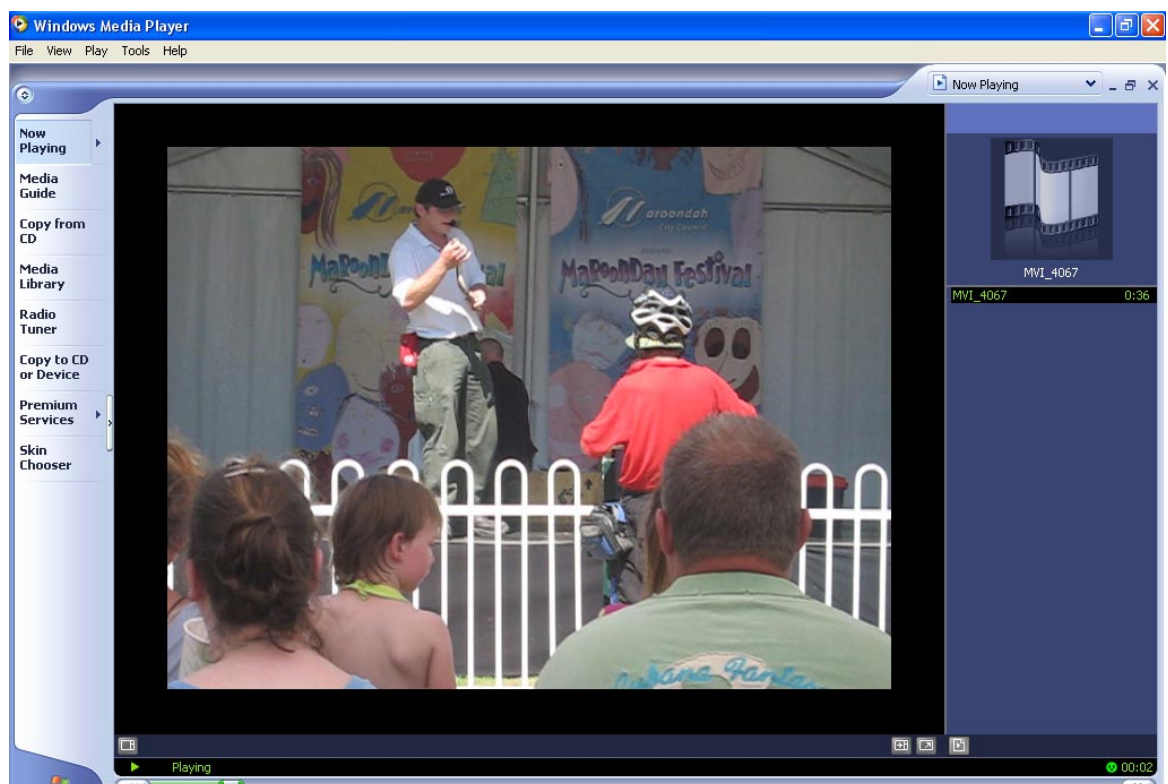




Mike Taylor at Healesville Sanctuary (Zoos Victoria), illegally demonstrating a venomous lizard and letting the public touch it in violation of conditions of the demonstrators permit to which Zoos Victoria claims exemption. They are not however exempt from Sect 32 of the OH and S Act, which is also being breached. Lower photo he is showing a member of the public a deadly snake (Black snake) less than 3 metres from the member of the public who took the image, again in breach of demonstrators permits (exemption claimed) and Sect 32 of the OH and S Act.

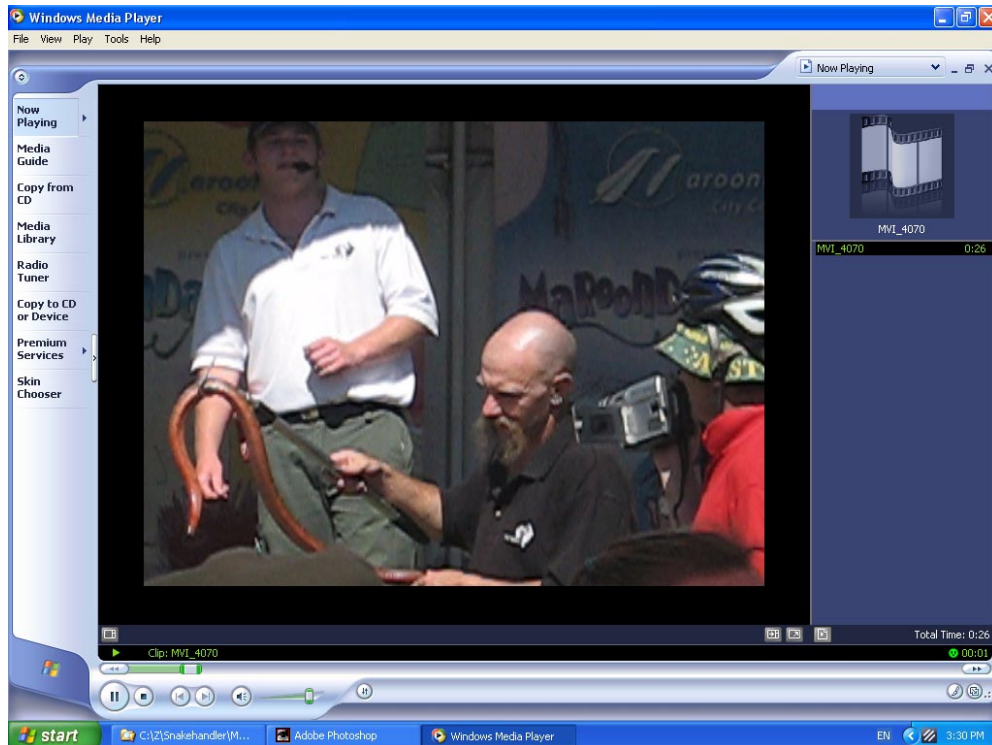


Sean McCarthy and Paul Fisher ("Snakehandler") showing a highly venomous Collett's Snake (Jaffa Snake), in close proximity to public, (less than 9 feet) and without a DSE approved barrier. See fourth image depicting barrier end, showing it as one piece only. These images from a video. DSE lied to MP Ryan Smith and told him the snake was a harmless Python. However in the video McCarthy identifies it as a deadly Jaffa Snake. Images taken in November 2009

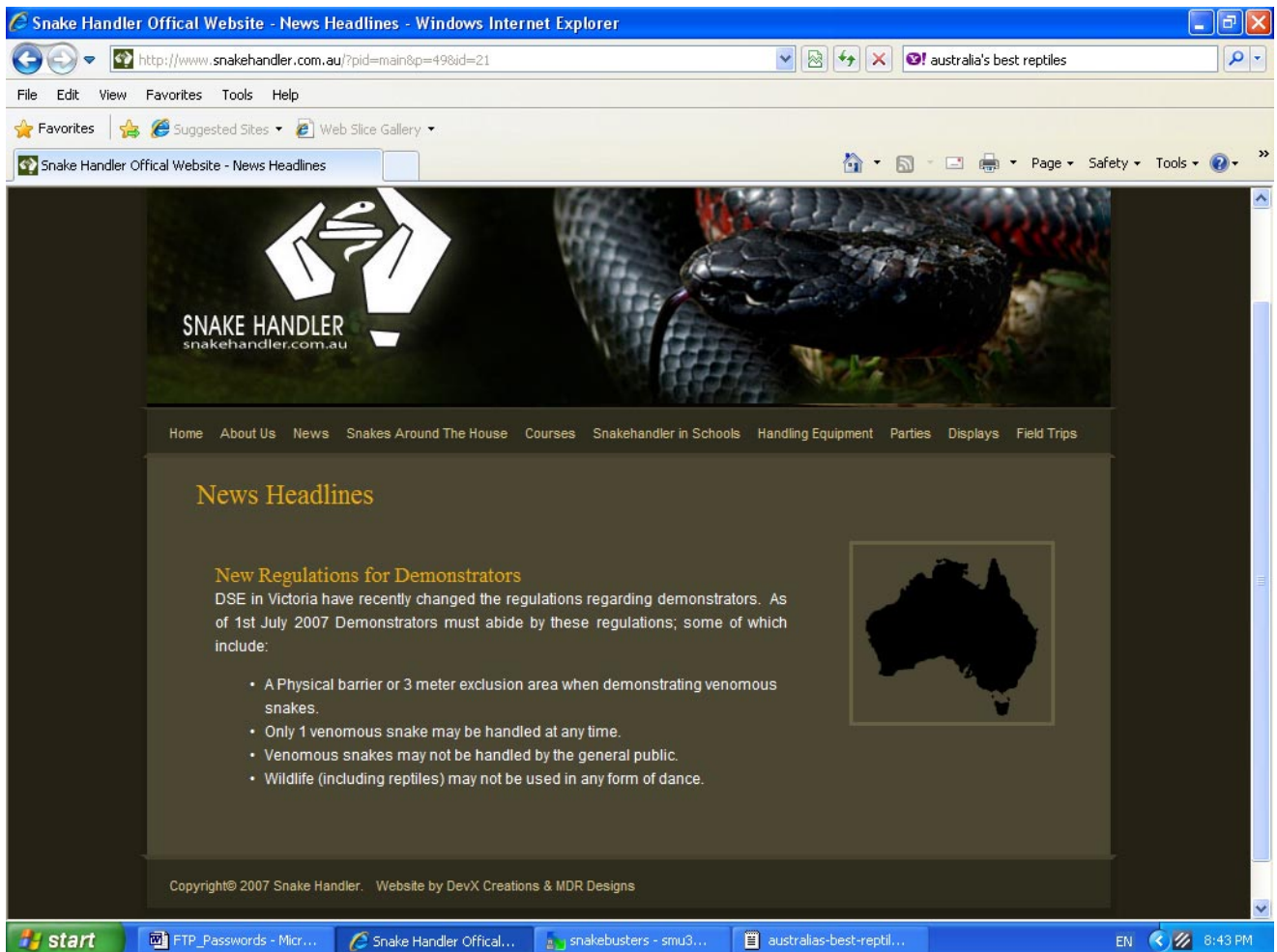




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Proof that McCarthy knew he was breaking the rules (images on previous pages) with a 2006 or 2007 entry from his own webpage. McCarthy is “protected” and not prosecuted for numerous breaches of rules.



[http://www.wintv.com.au/central\\_queensland/news/item/38571](http://www.wintv.com.au/central_queensland/news/item/38571)

### **Snake Wrangler**

Friday 21, Jan 2011

During his ten year career catching snakes. Paul Fisher has not once been bitten. But all that changed yesterday afternoon.

"The snake was quite active, as I've gone to catch him, he's got a bit upset."

So upset, the highly venomous Eastern Brown took a swipe at Paul's face.

He spent the night in hospital. but miraculously the venom didn't get into his blood, and today he was back at it.

Sean and Paul have been flown up from Melbourne, to clear the Hastings Deering site of snakes, and there certainly hasn't been a shortage.

"So far we've collected 95 since Monday."

"Basically we've been catching things like eastern browns, red belly black snakes, carpet pythons, death adders, killbacks and lots of other critters around the place."

The floods have displaced hundreds of snakes with Darren hoping to reopen by next Tuesday, the race is on to clear them all out.

"As you can see they are very quick, even across this muddy ground."

These two are certainly the boys for the job owning several of these slithering reptiles as pets back at home.

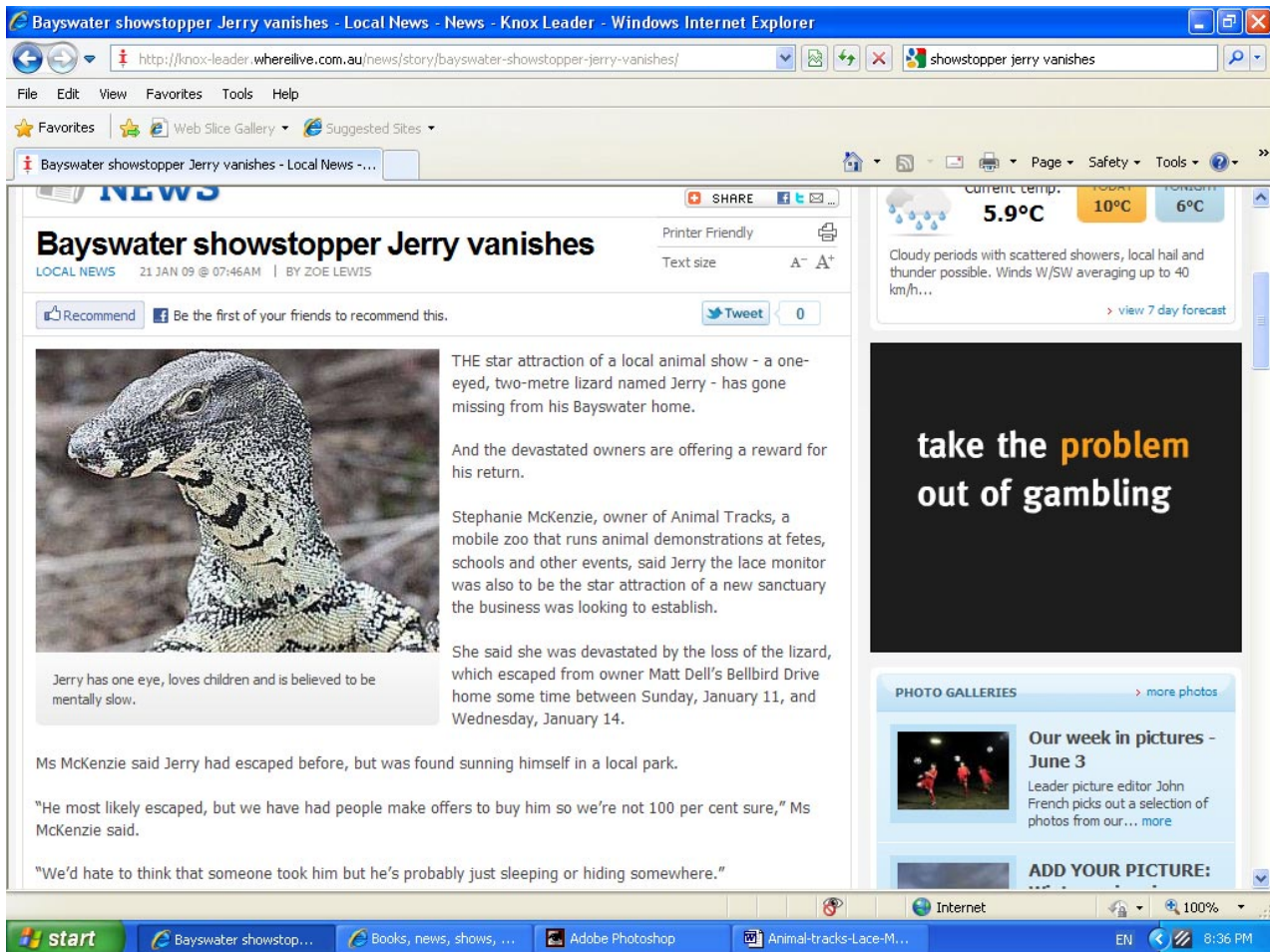
"We've also been getting calls from some of the local places like the Rockhampton golf club to go out and have a look around their site as well, so we could still be up here for quite a few weeks."

It's not uncommon for these guys to be hanging about after a flooding event, and while these guys make it look easy, they warn if you do come across one to contact a snake catcher and don't try and catch it yourself.

And for those that are worried, don't be, the boys do release the snakes back into the wild, but far away from the public of course.

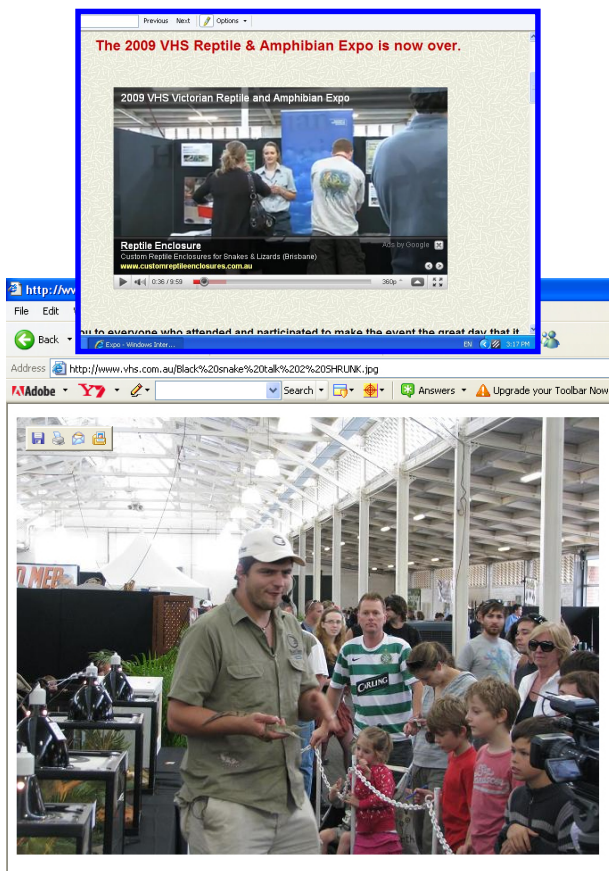
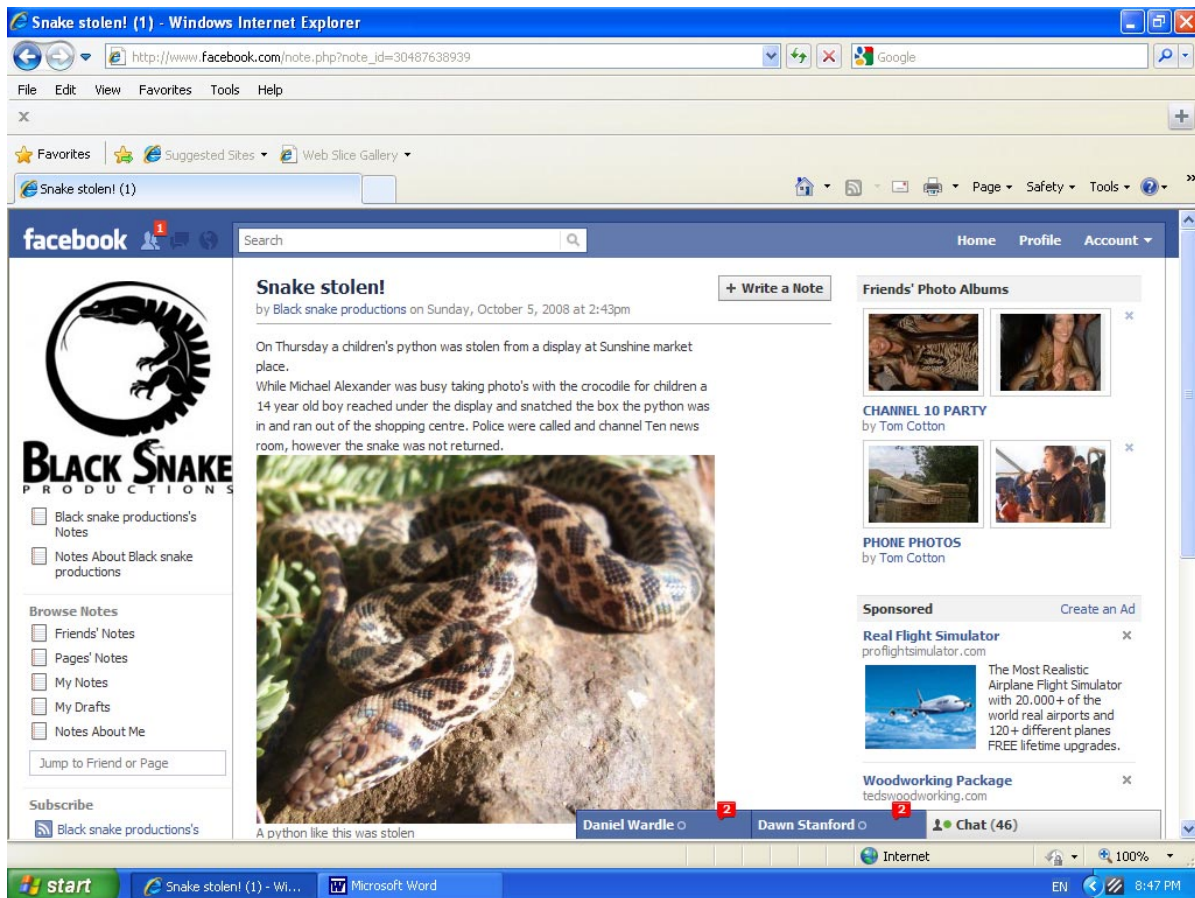


Animal tracks (Andrew McKenzie) - repeated breaches of condition 11 of their reptile permit.



Animal tracks - illegally handling out venomous reptiles to the public, to wit a monitor lizard, see image as published in the print edition of Whitehorse news for the Whitehorse festival in 2010. Also note that in July 2011, this company was filmed at Ringwood Square handing out venomous reptiles and using a barrier essentially the same as that used by Snakehandler at the Maroondah Festival as shown elsewhere. All these acts breach their wildlife permits and yet they have not been prosecuted.

Below: Michael Alexander, “Black Snake Productions” - repeated breaches of condition 11 of their reptile permit. His neglect led to a snake being stolen and he was not charged.

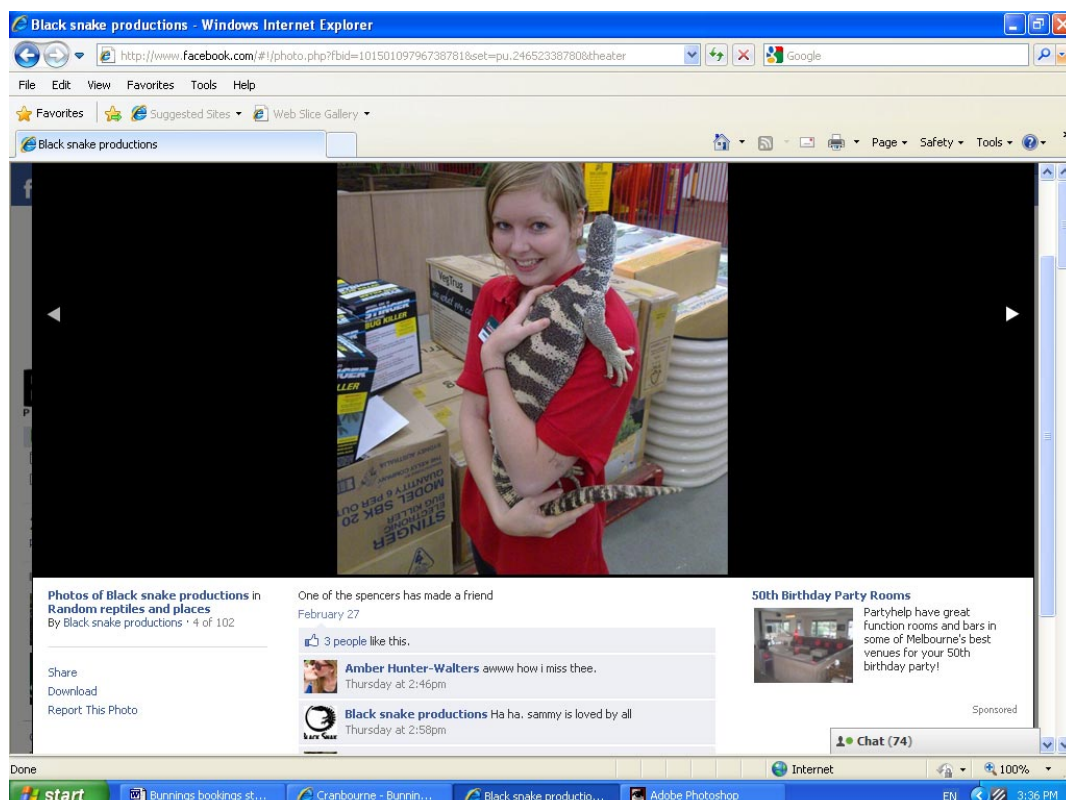


Left: Michael Alexander, “Black Snake Productions” - repeated breaches of conditions 13-14 of their reptile permit. Note the pole and rope barrier that he uses to keep public away from venomous snakes. This has been done two years running (most recently in 2011), at the VHS reptile expo, just three days after Raymond Hoser was convicted and fined over \$30,000 for displaying venomous snakes behind a more substantial barrier and with snakes that had been de venomized and made safe anyway!

Also this was all done in the presence of and approval of the very same DSE Officers who charged and prosecuted Raymond Hoser, proving the corrupt double standards of the officers and their reckless disregard for public safety, noting that the Alexander snakes are not de venomized and therefore highly dangerous.



Below: Michael Alexander, "Black Snake Productions" - repeated breaches of conditions of their reptile permit - handing out venomous reptiles to the public. First image of a police officer at Moomba 2011 and second from same time frame at a Bunnings Store (Feb 2011), noting that they had misused the Snakebusters trademarks to gain bookings at the said stores!



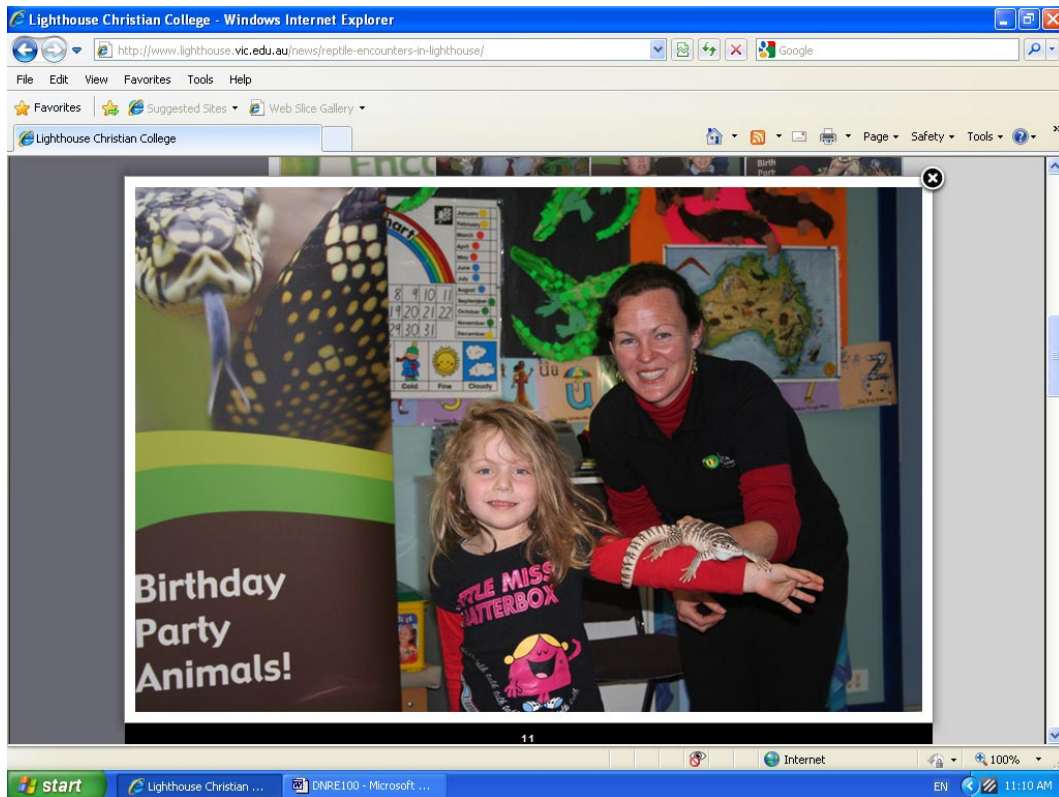
Below (top), the “pole and rope” type of barrier Michael Alexander used for venomous snakes. Illegal according to DSE in the case of Hoser in court 2011, but here used with DSE approval at the VHS reptile expo in 2009m by Michael Alexander, and for snakes not de venomized.

Lower image of Alexander illegally allowing public contact with a venomous reptile, to wit a Spencer’s Monitor





Josh Cox, "Reptile Encounters" in breach of permit conditions here allowing a child to hold a venomous reptile (Spencer's Monitor) at Lighthouse Christian College in 2010.



Below, Image taken on 10 June 2010 and published on the website of Oxley PS of Wild Action (Chris Humfrey) illegally allowing a student to hold a venomous lizard, to wit a Spencers Monitor. He and his staff does this repeatedly and has not been prosecuted. A search of the web finds many similar images taken at various venues.

