

Resource Guide. The guide is divided into seven chapters – Education, Public Relations, Outreach, Spaying/Neutering, Laws, Statistics and Studies, and Coalitions. Most chapters have subcategories.

This resource book will be most useful for the many animal welfare groups in the United States who are attempting to deal with the pet overpopulation problem. It will give them access to much useful information and experience. There are a number of items listed which are of relevance to the companion animal overpopulation problem in other parts of the world.

Companion Animal Overpopulation Resource Guide. Edited by Kim Sturla (1995). The Fund for Animals: Vacaville. 268pp. Paperback. Obtainable from the publishers, 808 Alamo Drive, Suite 306, Vacaville, California 95688. Price US\$10, computer disk (IBM compatible) US\$5.

Ferrets and ferreting

Over the past few years hunting and shooting organizations have been producing codes of practice covering various aspects of field sports. In this journal *The Code of Good Game Rearing Practice* was noticed and commented on in February 1995 (*Animal Welfare* 4: 61) and *The Code of Good Shooting Practice* was similarly covered in August 1995 (*Animal Welfare* 4: 255).

The National Ferret School in association with the Shooting Times and Country Magazine, the British Association for Shooting and Conservation and the British Field Sports Society have now issued a *Code of Practice for Ferreting*.

It is stated in the Introduction that practitioners of country sports have to consider public reaction to their activities, and that they should conduct themselves in a truly acceptable manner at all times. The ferreting Code attempts to outline the common-sense ways of causing as little disturbance to the environment as possible and of ensuring the well-being of both the animals, ie the ferrets, dogs and hawks, and the humans involved in the sport. Many animal welfarists, however, might not go along with the claim that ferreting is a humane method of rabbit control.

If field sports are going to survive then it will only be if they are carried out in what is perceived as a reasonable and disciplined way. The firm and consistent following of the recommendations put forward in this ferret code will at least give the sport a better image and, it has to be admitted, will to some extent improve the welfare of the animals involved.

Code of Practice for Ferreting. Produced and published by The National Ferret School, Shooting Times & Country Magazine, British Association for Shooting and Conservation, and the British Field Sports Society (1995). 12pp. Booklet. Obtainable from the British Field Sports Society, 59 Kennington Road, London SE1 7PZ, UK. Send sae.

Whales and whaling

Since 1971 the Animal Welfare Institute (AWI) of the United States has campaigned to save the great whales. Numerous articles on the whaling industry, whale hunting/killing and whale conservation have been published over the years in the *AWI Quarterly* (formerly the *Information Report*). Many of these articles are now reprinted in the 1995 edition of *Whales vs Whalers 1971-1995: A Continuing Commentary published by the Animal Welfare Institute*.

This book was first produced in 1981 and the present edition incorporates the original compilation, five supplements and additional articles printed in the Spring–Summer of 1995. Future updates are promised.

The material in this compilation illustrates the scale and complexity of the campaign to stop whaling. The AWI under Christine Stevens has certainly been one of the major players both in the United States and in the international scene. Those who finally write the history of the banning of whale hunting – and one must assume that eventually all whaling will be stopped – will certainly turn to this volume for information and inspiration. The interplay of government policy, commercial interests, political intrigue, conservational concern and personal endeavours is amply displayed. It is a treasure trove for the social historian.

Whales vs Whalers: 1971-1995 A Continuing Commentary published by the Animal Welfare Institute, (Revised Edition) (1995). Produced and published by the Animal Welfare Institute (AWI): Washington. 168pp. Paperback. Obtainable from the Animal Welfare Institute, PO Box 3650, Washington DC 20007, USA. Price US\$5.