



## Pedigree Dogs Mystery

It is sometime in the future and all dogs have to have their own passport complete with their DNA fingerprint, their pedigree tree and pedigree certificate. In the London area a number of dog rustling gangs are operating. At first they were stealing small numbers of pedigree dogs and then illegally selling them abroad. Now they have expanded and are thought to be illegally breeding dogs and falsifying their pedigree certificates. What is worse there are rumours of fur coats and no one wants to see a repeat of the Cruella De Ville story and those poor Dalmatians.

The dog handling division of the police have just been called to a deserted warehouse near the old docks after a lot of dog barking was reported. It was worse than the police feared there were hundreds of dogs there and the noise was horrendous. What possibly could be happening? As they managed to make there way through the dogs, by a strategic use of dog biscuits and a lot of patting, they realised what had happened. The evil and clearly incompetent villains had been cornered by a group of large and rather fierce looking dogs that had managed to break lose and attack their attackers. A splendid piece of police work, not surprising really, as they were the police dogs that had recently been stolen.

That was the easy bit over, but how now were they going to be able to return all these dogs back to their rightful owners and in many cases match the illegally bred puppies with their families. There was nothing for it they were going to have to call in the forensic dog experts.

### Forensic Evidence

But where to start that was the difficult thing. Where possible they kept family groups together, mothers with young puppies were easy, but identifying the fathers was going to be more difficult. This is where we need your help.

DNA samples have been extracted and simple DNA patterns obtained. Using the DNA evidence can you match the fathers with the mothers and puppies? There are six Family Groups of mothers & puppies, look carefully at the DNA patterns and match these groups with the correct father dog. However, take care with Family Group 6 as this seems to be a bit muddled. Good Luck.