

Newsletter August '98

Huntingdon ~~Life~~ DEATH Sciences CAMPAIGN

PO BOX 325,Cambridge,CB1 2UF.

Huntingdon Life Sciences who will only be referred to as Huntingdon Death Sciences (HDS) are one of the largest animal contract testing companies in the world. They have laboratories at: Huntingdon Research Centre, Woolley Rd, Alconbury, Hunts; Eye Research Centre, Occold, Eye, Suffolk; Altringham Rd, Wilmslow, Cheshire; Princeton, New Jersey, USA.

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National Day of Action at Occold Labs.

Saturday 12th September

Meet at main gates

12.00 noon

Things to do!!

Attend actions and demos and give them hell!!

Success at Huntingdon's lab in Wilmslow!

On Tuesday 7th July 1998 a phone call was received from a reporter for the Wilmslow Express, saying he had received an anonymous phone call from one of the workers at the lab stating they had been given just one months notice by Huntingdon. Two days later the paper ran the story; "Lab's future is in the balance" on their front page. Christopher Cliffe, chief executive gave little more away in his brief quotes in the paper, but we can definitely see this as a move towards their lab in Wilmslow closing. However, it ain't over till it's over, and we plan carrying on our demos and pickets at the lab and monitoring staff and movements to and fro. We will be focussing our campaign now on the angle of releasing any animals left there, out into loving and caring homes, now the lab is closing. We will be pressurising Huntingdon into telling us what species of animals they have and how many they have. We will set up a network of foster homes, and permanent homes, working with animal rescue centres and sanctuaries where possible, to provide for animals if we are successful. We will be seeking as much publicity as possible, hopefully including national coverage, and are hoping to get celebrity support. If people think they can help in anyway please contact the campaign. We are claiming this as a real victory for anti-vivisection everywhere. Huntingdon bought the Wilmslow lab early in 1997, just before the programme "It's a Dog's Life" was shown. The lab cost them around £6 million, and they had to make a big financial commitment. It was bought in their growth period and was seen as a longer-term investment into research and development. The lab was described as a highly specialized research centre and was supposed to employ around 60 "top scientists".

Previously owned by Ciba Geigy, many of the staff carried on working there, and our previous campaigning had discovered that they had carried out some horrific experiments on beagles and baboons. Very soon after Huntingdon bought the lab their troubles started, and as their financial situation deteriorated rapidly we started to realize that the Wilmslow site would be the first to go! It had little profits to offer the company in the short term. We have no doubt that the campaigning in general, and particularly the targeting of shareholders, has enabled us to secure this victory against Huntingdon! They are ready and waiting for us to now stop all their animal torture!



One of H.D.S.'s primates

H.D.S. use Bully boy tactics again

Twice in the last two months, H.D.S. has threatened court action against TV companies to stop them reporting the campaign.

In May, 20/20 television who made the "It's a Dog's Life" update received word from Channel 4's solicitors announcing that H.D.S. would take Channel 4 to court if they included pictures of one of our demos in the programme.

In July , the BBC filmed a campaigner talking about the campaign. The film was then sent by courier to the newsroom. The film crew were then told not to film anything about the campaign because of the threat of legal action by H.D.S.

The resulting news item showed Christopher Cliffe (HDS's chief executive) sniffling about balaclavered people wielding weapons and death threats.

There was no opportunity for the campaign or anyone else to question his ignorant and untrue statements. The campaign has complained to the BBC and taken the complaint to a solicitor.

Once again, H.D.S. are trying to use money and influence to silence any criticisms.

Desperate tactics from a desperate company.

Dog's life update.

On June 25th, Channel 4 showed an update of their HDS expose, "Its a Dog's Life, ". Undercover investigator Zoe Broughton reminded us of the cruelty taking place within the walls of HDS;- the brutality shown towards beagle dogs and primates that led to two convictions for cruelly terrifying beagle dogs and five citations for breaches of US Department of Agriculture Welfare of Animals Act

Maggie Jennings, the RSPCA's leading expert on laboratory animal welfare (Channel 4's words, not ours) felt that the two animal technicians convicted for cruelty at least deserved custodial sentences. Jennings commented "I find it very hard to believe that this was an isolated incident." PETA's undercover expose of HDS's New Jersey lab confirmed her fears. In the light of the Channel 4 film the RSPCA immediately contacted the Home Secretary and asked for H.D.S. to be closed down.

In typical fashion, HDS refused to comment on the findings and refused channel 4 access to film.

One thing, however, was missing. Apart from a shot of a lone protestor giving HDS deserved hell on a megaphone, no mention was made of the highly successful grass-roots campaign by HDSC and the animal rights movement.

Once again, in their typically cynical manner, HDS pulled out the cheque book and threatened to injunct Channel 4 if they filmed and screened one of our demos, claiming that it would be wrongly representing the campaign against the company.

(Does anyone else not remember the 5 protest camps, the countless national demos and stunts or the regular pickets?- please let us know –ED).

So in another scandalous move, Huntingdon bought itself out of another sticky situation. We, however, have something to add.

You may have the money, HDS, but we've got the spirit and you will run out of money!



Start of Whistle Blower Campaign

We have designed a whistle blower card because many employees have come forward offering us information on H.D.S. Our aim is to hand out to everybody connected with H.D.S a card;- all technicians, researchers, breeders and contractors.

We shall be posting cards through letter boxes in villages which have a high number of workers in and around Huntingdon. If you would like to help or would like some cards contact us .

Things to do!!

Give out

whistle blower cards

Financial Troubles

The impending collapse of HDS's Wilmslow lab can be seen as a massive victory for the anti- Vivisection movement. For HDSC, however, it is not simply a case of closing the place down and forgetting about it. Huntingdon still have to pay for the lab which is now in the process of closing down!!

It was the announcement that HDS's second largest shareholder (15% stake in the company), Robert Fleming Holdings, were ditching their investments, that set the wheels in motion to seal Wilmslow's doom. After Fleming pulled out, HDSC share prices dropped from 34.5p to 17.5p leaving them with serious financial problems

Since then, Huntingdon shares have hovered around the 20p mark. Thursday, July 9th saw the Wilmslow Express running the headline "Labs future is in the balance", in which an anonymous, disgruntled worker told how 30 of Wilmslows staff had been issued with redundancy notices. Cheshire police told campaigners at the 1st August demo that the lab is rumored to be closing completely in October this year.

Huntingdon only bought Wilmslow last year, from animal abuse contemporary's Ciba Geigy. They afforded this by taking out a £19 million loan from the NatWest Bank. HDS still have to pay this off, however they secured a short-term solution to the cash flow problems, by deferring payments for two years. Since a Wilmslow closure within two years of purchase could incur a severe financial penalty, this deferring can hardly be seen as a solution.

HDSC's campaign against shareholders has gone from strength to strength. We have now sent 46 copies of our new campaign video, "The truth inside H.L.S." to HDS's largest shareholders, with an explanation to why they should withdraw their money from this callous company.

With constant pressure we will inevitably ensure that others follow Robert Fleming Holdings example.

Arrests and Court hearings

On June 18th a protester was assaulted by an HDS security guard who was later arrested and cautioned. We are dissatisfied with the decision to give him a caution, as we believe that there was strong video evidence from the CCTV belonging to HDS that the police confiscated. In another incident several months earlier a protester was run over by an HDS worker leaving work, but the incident was dismissed and no police action taken, even though the protestor put in a complaint and had several witnesses to the incident. After being run over the protestor was arrested for not having any ID and several weeks later charged with common assault of a security guard, which allegedly took place on the same day. The trial will be held at Huntingdon Magistrates Court in September. At one of the gate pickets at HDS the police decided just as we were leaving for home to report 4 protestors for obstruction and they will appear at Huntingdon Magistrates Court on 19th August to give their plea. Another protestor, was arrested and charged with Section 5 on the day of the Proctor and Gamble action. He was warned by a police officer to stop using a megaphone otherwise he would be arrested. The protester warned him not to be so ridiculous and was arrested! Some months later, he was arrested by anti-terrorist police at Hollyhead docks in Wales, on the way out to Ireland. He was remanded for 2 nights before appearing at Huntingdon Police station where he was bailed to appear on Monday 29th October (Please come along). Another protestor will go to trial in on the 11th August, also at Huntingdon Magistrates Court for alleged threatening behaviour. Campaigners from Huntingdon Action group at Wilmslow who were arrested after being attacked with CS gas have been given bail conditions not to go within 1 mile of the labs.

Pressure on the Co-operative Insurance Society increases



Our campaign against Co-operative Insurance's investment continues, despite their PR man (Mr Taylor, Tel: 0161 837 40430).

He states:

- ⇨ The Co-op has received over 3,000 letters of com plaint.
- ⇨ That there is no way they will give up their invest ment, as a point of principle, because they will not be pressured by a campaigning group!
- ⇨ That the campaign has lied but will not say what the lies are.
- ⇨ That CIS has only 1.4% of Huntingdon's shares.
- ⇨ That there are a lot of grey areas in their invest ment, but the CIS will not review its investment.
- ⇨ That at least 3 directors of the CIS are the same as the bank; that the CIS has lost business over the issue.

The fact is that the Co-op wholesale Society, which owns both the Bank and the CIS, has just started a major advertising campaign about it's "Family of Businesses". Well, its about time they acted together, with an overall ethical stance! CIS invests about £14 billion, so its investment in Huntingdon is minute in proportion. So, if we make them lose enough business we can pressure them to withdraw.
All around the country, local groups have been picketing Co-op businesses. Please contact the campaign for C.I.S. campaigning material. Another victory is waiting to happen, but we have to push 'em hard!

National demo 5th July

On 5th July there was a national demo at Huntingdon's labs in Woolley Road, Alconbury. Over 200 protestors blockaded the gates for several hours preventing any staff from leaving the premises (weekend staff being animal technicians there to administer more cruelty). The police started out fairly amicably but that soon changed after Thames Valley Police spotters arrested people for alleged incidents at a recent Hillgrove demo.

Protestors then moved onto Interfauna who supplied Huntingdon with the beagles shown on "It's a dog's life." The police were obviously expecting this move and several riot vans were already there. Protestors walked around the perimeter fence, witnessing beagles in cages awaiting their fate at the hands of HDS and others. The dogs started jumping around and barking at the arrival of the protesters, as if they thought we were there to take them out of the hellhole. Meanwhile outside, the police were distributing parking tickets to protestors vehicles, whilst ignoring local residents and un-marked police vehicles who also were illegally parked.

The demo continued into the evening when some protestors decided to pay a visit to Dr Pamela Mullins, Director of Rodent Toxicology.. Banners were waved and her neighbours informed of whom she is, where she works and how she earns her blood money. She was seen to be sitting inside her house wielding a large iron bar and laughing on the phone saying what a load of rubbish the animal rights protestors are. After about 30 minutes 3 riot vans arrived with coppers in full riot gear. One officer lost the plot and was screaming that if the protestors didn't leave immediately he would do something he might regret. His anxious colleagues looked on with unease as this lout went completely berserk at the mostly female protestors.

Things to do!!

Why not hold a picket outside a CO-OP business, or hand out Co-op leaflets and post-cards.

HUNTINGDON ACTION GROUP

In the North West, we plan on continuing our pickets of the main CIS in Manchester, and also to travel to regional offices. (If you look in the yellow pages most cities have a branch!) We have given out 1000's of Co-op postcards and leaflets and collected 1000's of names on the Co-op petition. On the same day as the update to the Channel 4 programme, we held a demo at the main CIS building in Manchester, to highlight to the workers and press/public there, all the issues and to encourage people to watch the programme. About 30 people entered the foyer and refused to move; we gave out 100's of leaflets to staff and explained politely what we were doing. We held a banner saying Cruelty Investment Services for the press photographers. Shortly after, 2 people climbed a wall next to a large Co-op sign and held the banner, again as a stunt for the press and also for all passers by to see. Watch out CIS this is just the start!

Video release

HDSC is pleased to announce the release of its new campaign video,"The truth inside Huntingdon Life Sciences."
The film covers the campaign from day one, when animal abusers Andrew Mash and Robert Waters were exposed for punching and shaking beagles dogs, to the recent and ongoing actions against the company.
Videos are available from HDSC at a mere £5 each. These videos will provide useful and educational ammunition for stalls, demo and meetings.

See back page for campaigning materials

Taken from an article in The observer in July by Sarah Ryle

Leading pharmaceuticals companies are still shunning controversial drug research group Huntingdon Life Sciences, even though its animal testing practices now have Home Office approval.

Glaxo Wellcome and Zeneca are among firms that have written to animal rights campaigners at the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection explaining why they will not give research work to the Cambridgeshire Company, *the Observer* has learned.

A damning TV documentary last year showed cruelty to animals in Huntingdon's care. The Channel 4 film showed dogs being punched and shaken. The Home Office intervened and in July last year the firm had to suspend its shares for three months.

Many pharmaceuticals companies responded by withholding new work. They have had nearly eight months to reassess their position since Huntingdon made improvements to the way it looks after animals and was granted a new Home Office certificate.

Glaxo Wellcome, the UK's biggest such firm, told the campaigners: 'We had worked with them (Huntingdon) before the documentary and we were surprised by the programme, which was horrific. We have not placed any contracts there since.'

Healthcare company Smith & Nephew wrote: "HLS has been removed from our suppliers list, and we have no plans to renew links with HLS in the foreseeable future."

Zeneca, which specialises in anti-cancer treatments. wrote that it 'will not be placing new contracts with Huntingdon Life Sciences until it is reassured that actions have been taken and procedures put in place to ensure the proper treatment of its animals'.

However a spokeswoman confirmed on Friday that Zeneca intends to carry out an audit at Huntingdon in the autumn, and might consider renewing the relationship.

Glaxo added that although it has no plans to renew the business links, it could not rule out working with the company again.

SmithKline Beecham, which said in July after the Home Office investigation that its confidence in Huntingdon was 'completely dented' and that it would not 'he giving them any further work', has done a U-turn.

SmithKline said it lifted its ban on further work for Huntingdon in February. But the letter warned: 'Any future failure to maintain good practices in animal husbandry will lead SB to permanently withdraw from working with HLS.'

Huntingdon's chief executive, Christopher Cliffe, wants to rebuild its order book after its value declined by 24 per cent in 1997. According to the firm's most recent annual report. They fell after the documentary and again when the Home Office issued its report.

Cliffe. who declined to comment on Friday, tried to shake off the publicity and has stressed new training procedures. The staff whose cruelty was televised were dismissed.

But two weeks ago one of Huntingdon's big shareholders. Robert Fleming Holdings ditched its 15 % stake. Trading in the shares has been fairly static: the price, which plunged from 124p to about 18p, has not recovered.

The BUAV is hoping to persuade other shareholders, in particular the Co-operative Bank's investment partner CIS, to sell up. Fleming has declined to explain its exit.

LAB'S I IN THE

THE future of Wilmslow's controversial animal research laboratory was unclear this week.

BY PETE TAYLOR

Over 30 shocked staff have been issued with redundancy notices at the site that has been the centre of bitter animal rights demonstrations.

Huntingdon Research chief executive Christopher Cliffe said: "We are not going to compete for any new work at the Wilmslow centre for the time being."

"I think it would be irre-



ANGER: Protesters shouted at workers as they left Huntingdon Life Sciences last night, as part of their renewed campaign against the animal testing facility. (98061090/15)

Campaigners renew protest at animal lab

CAMPAIGNERS have demonstrated outside an animal testing laboratory to mark the screening of a documentary investigating its activities. Last year, Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS), near Woolley, was the subject of a critical Channel 4 film, It's A Dog's Life, which showed secretly-filmed footage of alleged ruelty to animals.

Last night, an update to the documentary was screened, showing further investigations into the activities at HLS.

On the first day of a two-day protest, a small group of about half a dozen members from the Huntingdon Death Sciences Campaign, the pressure group founded to protest against the animal testing facility, picketed the main gates.

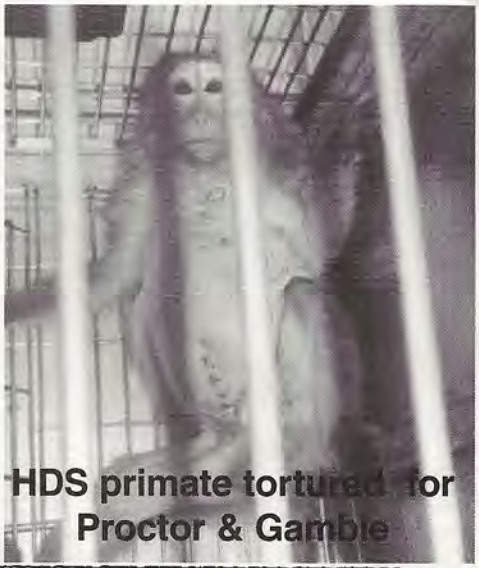
They shouted at staff as they left work.

Campaigner Les Stevens, said: "They go home to the pets they love and leave the other animals in cages. We are trying to jog their conscience because if you are doing something a lot, you become desensitised to it.

The campaigners say they have more than 300 people on their mailing list, and are planning another demonstration outside HLS on July 5.

The demonstrations follow a lengthy and heated protest outside the gates of HLS last summer, when activists dug themselves into trenches and refused to move.

FUTURE IS BALANCE



HDS primate tortured for Proctor & Gamble

ponsible and premature to ay there are plans."

Mr Cliffe said he was in egotiation with clients - tudy sponsors - over the ıture of the Altrincham Road entre.

Animal rights campaigner Iax Weston of Huntingdon ıction Group said: "If it is rue, it is a serious blow to the ompany and a great piece of ews to us."

• TURN TO PAGE 3

Lab's future in balance

• FROM PAGE 1

The group campaigned outside the centre's main gates for months last year. "We have been working hard to put the company under pressure. We do not really know exactly what goes on at the site. They call it a specialised research centre."

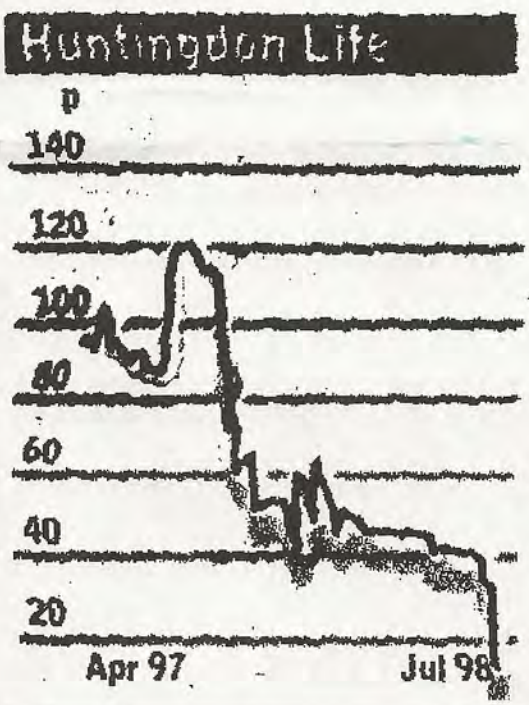
An employee told the Wilmslow Express, as things stand, operations will be severely scaled down soon with over 30 redundancies.

Employees have been given the option of relocating to Huntingdon though, said the employee, only one or two were interested.

Mr Cliffe said: "Perhaps they have embellished a presentation I made."

In response to questions concerning the future of the site he said: "I am not going to give you the details you want because of the sensitive discussions."

"At the appropriate time the company will make a public statement. "I am contractually prohibited to discuss any work we would take on with the sponsors."



Price of protest

ANIMAL rights protesters demonstrating outside Huntingdon Life Science have cost Cambridgeshire Police about £500,000 during the last 12 months. More than 60 incidents were reported, including offences of criminal damage, assault, theft and breaches of public order, which resulted in 34 arrests before the protesters were evicted on December 23, 1997.

■ For more on Cambridgeshire Police's annual report, turn to Page Two.

Complaints don't surprise me at all

COMPLAINTS against the police are rising (*Evening Telegraph*, July 11) and while I have nothing but praise for the Peterborough force, I am not surprised. Let me explain.

I am involved in the peaceful side of the animal welfare, anti-hunt movement. On July 11, whilst attempting to attend a protest rally my daughter and I were stopped, questioned, filmed, photographed and searched.

When we complained we were told our views were "irrelevant" and that if we didn't leave in "two minutes" our vehicle would be towed away. We were five miles from our destination, on a public highway, and warned that if we proceeded we would be arrested.

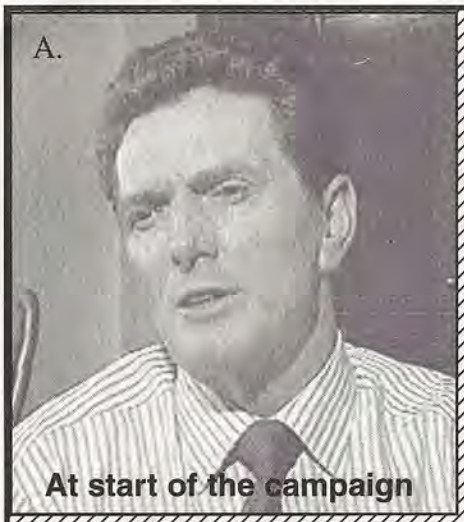
The previous week, at a peaceful protest outside Huntingdon Life Sciences, we witnessed a 75-year-old woman subjected to the same treatment. This intimidation and humiliation is beneath contempt.

It is my view that the hierarchy of some police forces are out of control.

To keep out the known hooligan element, as at football matches, is one thing.

To treat us all like hooligans is quite another.

CLLR JOHN JOHNSON,
Cleatham,
Bretton,
Peterborough



SPOT THE DIFFERENCE!



Each of the above pictures depicts HDS's Chief executive and wannabe PR officer Christopher Cliffe. Can you spot the difference between the two??? See foot of this page for the answer.

Xenotranplantation and Organ Rejection

Xenotransplantation is cross species organ transplants. All organ transplants, including human to human, carry the massive risk of rejection. The body's own defense mechanisms destroy the 'foreign' organ. To try to prevent this rejection the body's defenses must be suppressed. This is attempted through administration of large doses of very powerful and toxic drugs. These immuno-suppressant drugs, as the name suggests, work by suppressing the body's immune system. Without a fully operational immune system the body is left vulnerable to attack by innumerable diseases. According to Professor Sir Roy Calne, a leading expert in human transplants, 20% of organs are rejected immediately and only 50-60% of transplants still work after 5 years. Xenotransplants bring even greater dangers: hyperacute rejection, which destroys the xenotransplant within minutes. Pigs are now being bred with genetically engineered organs to try to overcome hyperacute rejection. Later this year a company in Cambridge, Imutran, plans to go ahead with the first transplant.

It has been revealed at the HLS AGM, that HDS use baboons in transplant surgery. It is unclear as to whether they carry this work out on behalf of Imutran Ltd, who are based in Cambridge. It is understood that Imutran Ltd which is owned by drugs giant Novartis, breed genetically modified pigs, and carried out pig to monkey kidney transplants at the Biomedical Research Centre in Holland, where, macaque monkeys had their kidneys removed, to be replaced by pig kidneys. Two monkeys were used each week and the experiment lasted 100 days. Each monkey received massive amounts of immuno-suppressive drugs, given through the monkey's stomach, which is a very painful procedure. Representatives from BPRC visited HDS in April this year to discuss HDS's xenotransplantation programme.

We attended a planning sub-committee meeting on 22nd July to hear the result of a planning application by Imutran Ltd, who will also be using premises at Church Farm, Maris Lane, Trumpington as well as their Douglas House premises situated at Trumpington Road, Cambridge. The danger of virus transfer is a very real threat to human health and the suffering that the baboons/pigs have to endure is completely unacceptable. In the last year 2 new pig viruses have been discovered. Pigs carry thousands of genes, and only a few are known about.

Professor Sir Roy Calne of Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge has noted, 'If rejection can be controlled, however, a whole series of new subjects will have to be investigated... whether human blood can circulate in the discordant animal organ with its different micro-environment. Will the physiological response from an animal organ to human enzymes and hormones be satisfactory...? And even more importantly, will the synthetic functions of the animal organs be appropriate for the wellbeing of the human recipient?'

Given the species differences between pigs and humans, it seems unlikely that a pig organ will function effectively in a human being, particularly in the cast of kidneys and livers in virtue of their complex species-specific biochemical functions. Furthermore, it should also be noted that the pig has the shortest life span in comparison with other mammals of a comparative size. The relevance of this has been emphasized in an article in 'Nature' periodical, vol.378: '...much research on ways and means of overcoming the recipient's rejection mechanisms might be completely foiled by the fairly rapid ageing of the transplanted heart'.



Answer:
Picture "A" shows the gluttonous "fat-cat" who thinks that money above public opinion and morality can buy you out of any situation. Picture "B", however shows an aged man, wracked with guilt and unable to rescue his wretched business from that inevitable downward spiral.

It just goes to show how wrong you can be! The truth hurts, doesn't it, Mr Cliffe?

THE THIRD NATIONAL ANIMAL RIGHTS GATHERING

AT AN ANIMAL SANCTUARY AT MARSTON MONTGOMERY NR UTTOXETER, DERBYSHIRE,
AUGUST 28/31st
(A demonstration has been planned for the Monday).
The Sanctuary is 2.5miles from Rocester, Nr Uttoxeter. Signs will be put up in the village pointing the way to the sanctuary.
The gathering is a chance for animal rights/liberation Supporters to get together, exchange ideas attend the various workshops, and to get to know similar minded people from both this country and Abroad.

For more details phone: 01902 711935

Dog breeding unit at Occold in Suffolk.

Following Mid- Suffolk District Council's decision to refuse planning permission for a huge dog breeding unit at the Occold laboratory - H.D.S. have put in an appeal to the Department of Environment.

There will now be a public inquiry where all the evidence from both sides will be heard at a public hearing. Date and venue still to be announced.

Ipswich animal rights, who stepped up their campaign against the Occold site following the Channel 4 documentary, are receiving advice from a planning consultant and he will be representing them at the inquiry.

The council and H.D.S. have to present pre-inquiry statements to the Department of Environment which will set out the case which each of them plans to make. The statement will be available for inspection at the council offices in Needham Market, Suffolk.

When the date and venue have been decided the council will notify those within their area who originally wrote letters of objection.(Those from further afield won't be receiving official notification).

It's still too early to write letters of objection to the D.O.E. as we need to see the pre-inquiry statements first, these should be available soon.

Meanwhile Ipswich animal rights are organising a peaceful protest at the Occold site on Saturday September 12th. Meet at the main gates at midday.

Speakers will include Andrew Tyler, Chris Isles and Sarah Kite.

Occold is 7 miles south of Diss, follow the B1077, avoiding Occold village, follow signs to "research centre." See enclosed leaflet.

For further information contact:
Ipswich animal rights
PO Box 97
Ipswich
Suffolk
IP3 0NY.

Things to do!!

Why not write a planning permission objection letter.

Making 'sense' of animal experimentation

Animal experiments are undertaken at HDS for pharmaceutical, biotechnology, medicine, agrochemical and industrial chemical companies. In plain English, this covers just about any product from a toilet cleaner to a prescribed drug – HDS have no qualms about what they test on animals, why they are doing a test or how they do it. This piece will focus on the use of animals in medical research.

Experiments are mainly carried out to test new chemicals and drugs and to investigate human disease. However, we cannot reliably learn anything about human illnesses by experimenting on animals. Most human diseases are different from those which animals get. This is why animals go to the vet for their treatment and we go to the doctor for ours. Vivisectors try to create human diseases in animals, however, these diseases will be different because they have been created artificially. They have not been caused naturally or by the same factors as in reality. Thus, we cannot intelligently compare the two. This is the 'logic' of animal research and is partly why cancer, heart disease and strokes are still major killers. We have been promised for years that a new 'breakthrough' is just round the corner, but this will never come as long as misguided experiments on animals are undertaken. With cancer, if a patient lives up to five years after treatment they are considered 'cured' and added to the 'success' figures. It is often the treatment – chemotherapy, radiotherapy & surgery that kills people. This is nothing but false hope and fraud! The drugs used to treat a disease and tested on animals give no reliable or relevant results and the effectiveness and safety of the drug will only be known in it's final test – on humans. If a drug does happen to work on humans, it is by chance alone and not science.

We all want to be in good health and rightly so. What isn't justifiable is taking a (healthy) life to save a life (especially when the results are meaningless). Where is the sense or progress in this? The one argument vivisectors love to use is "Would you prefer taking a childs life to an animals life"? What nonsense! The fact is that a child (or anyone) is not going to survive because an animal has been experimented on. Animal experiments tell us about animals in laboratories and not about human beings.

Why then do animal experiments continue even though they are useless? First, because it is an old tradition and most people don't like to question old traditions, and secondly because there are a lot of people making a hell of a lot of money from it, ie. chemical/drug companies/ medical institutions. Keeping people in ill-health means that those involved in the medical, pharmaceutical, chemical industries can make a fortune. When it comes to human health it can be said that there is something very amiss. It is known that firstly the products of the vivisection lab (prescribed drugs, vaccines, pesticides, herbicides, chemical substances) are responsible for much ill-health – all passed 'safe' on animals. Secondly, that poor lifestyles (ie. diet, meat and dairy products, smoking, heavy drinking, lack of exercise, pollution etc) can be blamed for a high percentage of the diseases that we now suffer from (ie. Cancer, heart disease, liver failure...). Improving lifestyles, ie. disease prevention and education is something the medical establishment refuses to concentrate on. If prevention was put at the top of the agenda there wouldn't be half the need for prescibed drugs and treatment. Of course, this would also put loads of people out of work if we could all get along nicely without the need for these (which many of us do).

Genuine methods of research (without animals) already exist including test-tube techniques, human cell, tissue and organ cultures, computers, epidemiology, clinical research, population research – the study of human beings who have spontaneously developed disease. This is responsible for all the real advances in medicine.

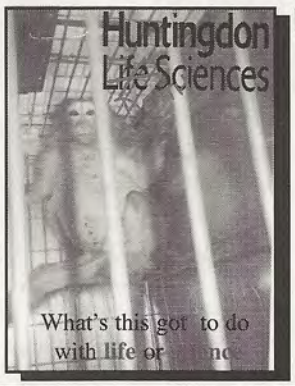
Reference: 'The use of animals in medical research', Tony Page.

Using non-human animals in hideous experiments to find out about problems, we the human race are faced with is one of the most cowardly, arrogant, evil and misguided ideas ever to have been put into practice! For more information on vivisection, prevention of disease and non-animal research – please write to us.

Things to do!!

Adopt a cruelty free lifestyle.

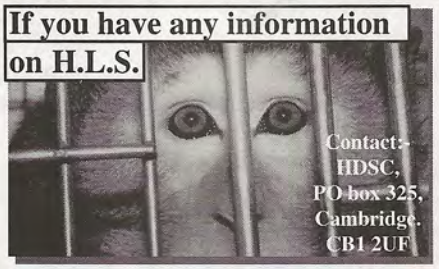
Merchandise and Campaign Material



New Colour leaflet
£2.50 per 100



Factsheet

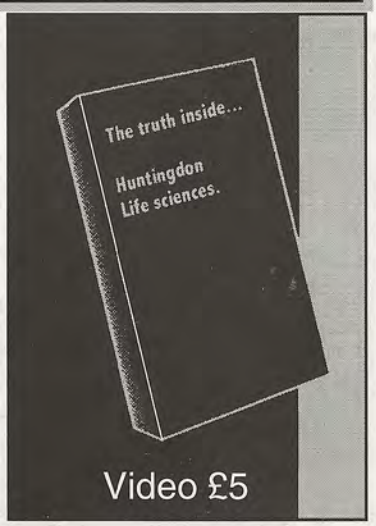


Whistle blower cards
£2.50 per 100



T-shirt £7.50

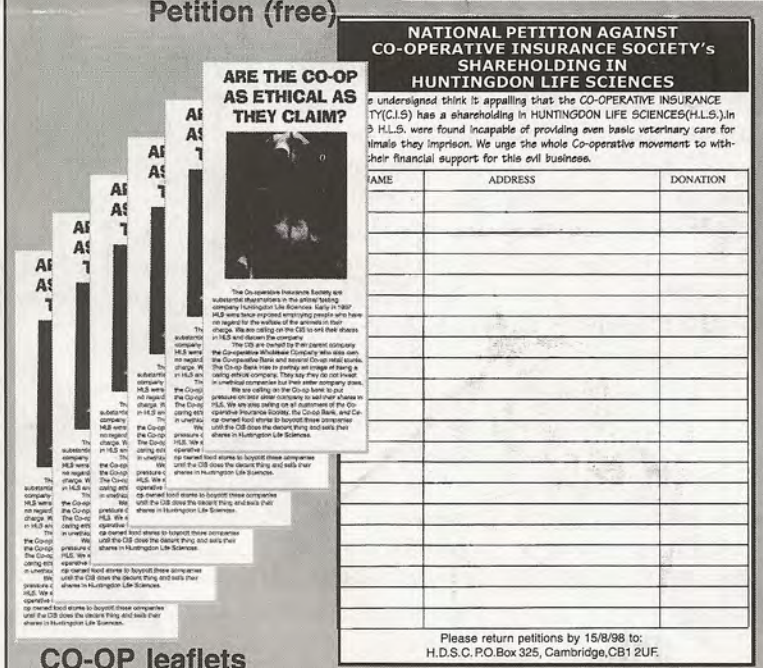
Badges and stickers available soon!



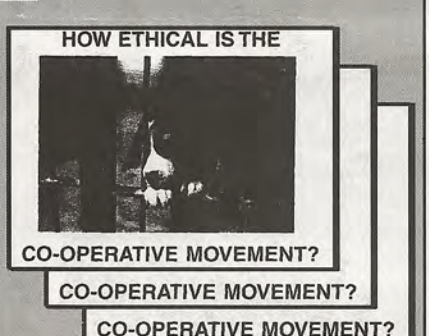
Video £5

CIS

Petition (free)



CO-OP leaflets
£1 per 100



C.I.S. postcards £2.50 per 100



Thanks to all of you who've requested more information and have sent vital donations. HDSC is run by volunteers for the sole purpose of providing information and getting HDS as much bad publicity as possible!! However, HDSC continues to need YOUR help! We are in desperate need of funds to continue the fight against H.D.S.



Please make cheques payable to HDSC.

HDSC,
P.O. Box 325,
Cambridge,
CB1 2UF.

....STOP PRESS - STOP PRESS.....

WILMSLOW LAB CLOSES!

Since this newsletter went to print (3/8/98) news has reached us that HDS's Wilmslow Research Centre in Cheshire has closed. While this can be seen as a monumental victory for the campaign, we must remember the 60 plus beagle dogs and the substantial number of primates held there. More than likely, these animals will be moved to one of HDS's two British sites, Huntingdon Research Centre, Alconbury, or Eye Research Centre, Occold. If you could help the campaign monitor this, please contact us.

HDS FINANCIAL CRISIS

Hot on the heels of the Wilmslow closure came the news that HDS's shares (down 1200% from March 97 to 19.5p at present) have been **suspended** at the Company's request. HDS Chief Executive, Christopher Cliffe, in a BBC East interview tried to paint an altogether different picture of the companys' fortunes only a week previously. **HDS are facing financial ruin**. Support for the campaign is now crucial. Please contact us if you can help in any way.

HDSC, PO Box 325, Cambridge CB1 2UF (0589 026 435)

Animal research firm halts share dealings

■ **HUNTINGDON:** Research firm Huntingdon Life Sciences suspended its shares today.

Shares in HLS, whose use of animals in laboratory work led to demonstrations at its premises, were suspended at a value of 19.5p at the company's request.

The firm asked for the suspension while it negotiates a refinancing deal to meet working capital requirements.

HLS has been the target for protests for many years but campaigning was stepped up by animal rights organisations after a TV documentary allegedly showed staff ill-treating animals.

Shares were also suspended a year ago and the Government threatened to take away the firm's licence to operate unless it carried out improvements.

Earlier this year the firm reported an operating loss of £4.5 million, compared with a profit of £11.1 million in 1996.

HLS chief executive Christopher Cliffe was unavailable for comment today.

EVENING NEWS 4/8/98