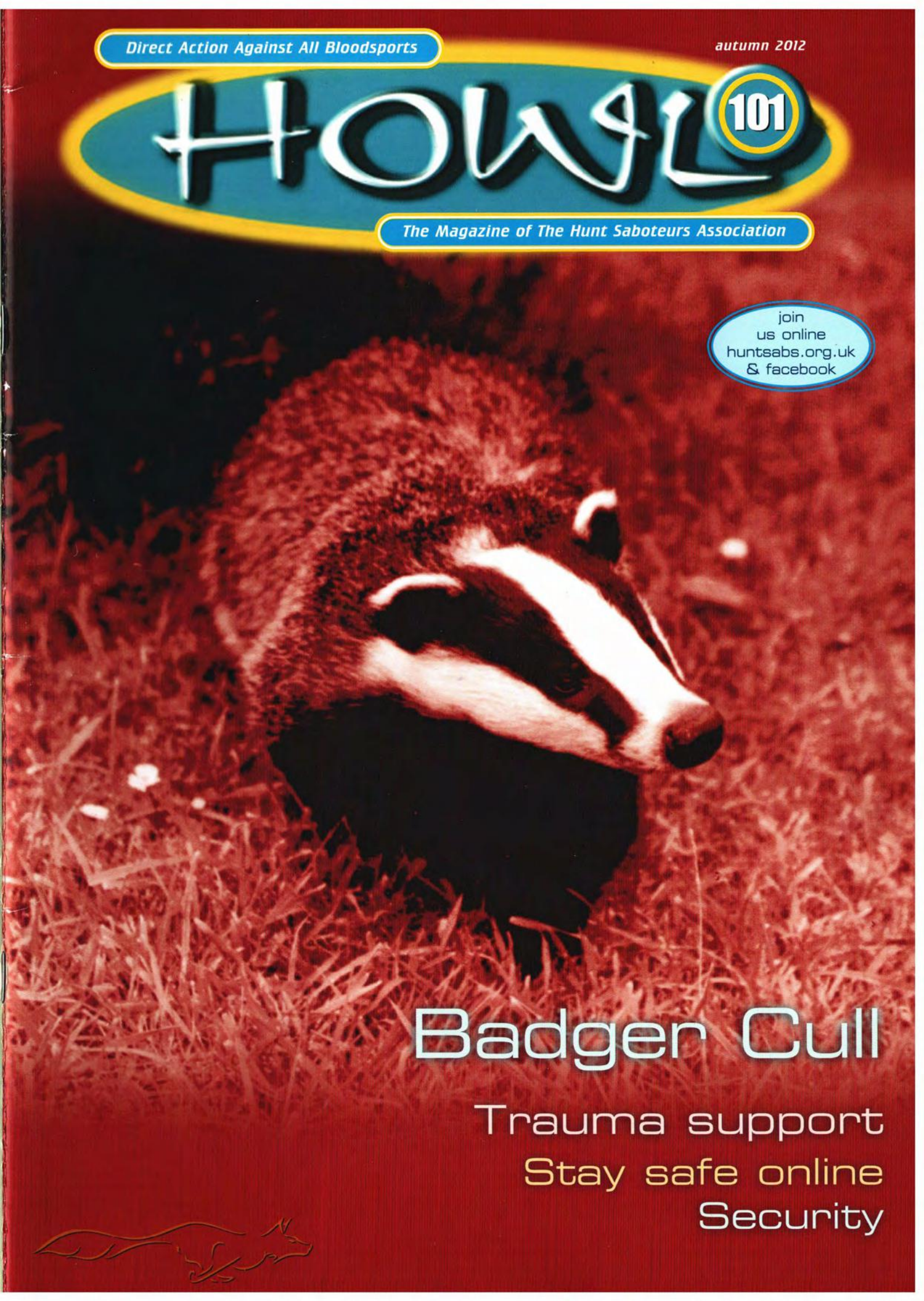
Direct Action Against All Bloodsports

autumn 2012

HOWL 101

The Magazine of The Hunt Saboteurs Association

join us online huntsabs.org.uk & facebook



Badger Cull

Trauma support

Stay safe online

Security

NEW

Want it faster? order online



HSA flag - 1.6 x 1m
Big, bold and perfect for demos, festivals etc!
Waterproof, with two eyelets
ONLY £15

FLG

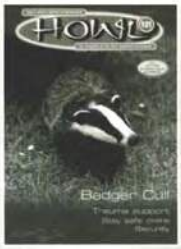
NEW HSA Stuff

items not shown to scale or actual size

See our new merchandise flyer for our full range, inside this copy of Howl.
Or order online for speedier deliveries!

place an order, join, renew or make a donation online now

www.huntsabs.org.uk



HOWL 101

Cover image - badger cull

Magazine of the Hunt Saboteurs Association
BM HSA, London WC1N 3 XX Tel. 0845 450 0727
Howl e-mail: howleditor@huntsabs.org.uk
HSA e-mail: info@huntsabs.org.uk
website: www.huntsabs.org.uk

The Hunt Saboteurs Association has been in existence for over 40 years, and is dedicated to saving the lives of hunted animals directly. Prior to the Hunting Act of 2004, hunt saboteurs used non-violent direct action to prevent the horrific deaths of thousands of hunted animals every year. Post hunt ban the primary tool of hunt sabotage has switched from the hunting horn to the video camera, as saboteurs monitor hunts with the aim of capturing their illegal activities on film. This in turn can immediately save lives on the day, and can lead to police action against the hunt concerned. Our range of pre-ban nvda tactics remain in active service, and saboteurs will continue to use them should they be deemed the best way forward on the day for the hunted animal at risk.

The HSA committee is made up of a maximum of 12 voting members, supported by as many non-voting members as is deemed necessary. **All posts are voluntary and unpaid** – no-one on the HSA committee is paid – as we believe that all money raised by membership and donations should go towards the running of the organisation, and to directly help saboteurs in the field. As a member of the HSA your contribution is vital – thank you.

Editors:	Mel
Contributors:	All groups who sent group news in.
Design/Artwork	Chiccicocoa.
Photos:	HSA archive, Imageriot, Ian Rentoul & foxyrehab, Lush and the Fox Projec.
Vermin Patrol:	Paul T.
Distribution:	HSA.
Big taverymuch:	All HSA members & anyone who we've pilfered stuff off and forgotten to credit.

MYSpace:
http://profile.myspace.com/index.cfm?fuseaction=user.viewprofile&friendid=223173774

Facebook:
http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=32757379750

Follow us on Twitter - @HuntSaboteurs

INSIDE

REGULARS

News roundup 4
Prosecution roundup 8
Vermin patrol 12
Group news 14
AR prisoners 22

FEATURES

Badger cull 6
Trauma support 9
Security 10
Facebook 11

Copyright: All material in Howl is anti-copyright (unless otherwise stated) and indeed we would encourage its repetition elsewhere. Please do remember to credit us (or the appropriate stated source) should you reproduce what you see here. Ta.

The views express in Howl do not necessarily reflect those of the editor(s) or the Hunt Saboteurs Association Committee. Nothing printed should be construed as HSA policy unless so stated. Nothing in Howl should be taken as encouragement to commit illegal acts. Printed on recycled material, using vegetable inks.

EDITORIAL

Undoubtedly the most talked about wildlife issue this summer has been the badger cull. There has been widespread anger at the idea of the free-shooting of badgers in Gloucestershire and West Somerset. Organisers of the cull have largely done our work for us. It has largely been an ill thought out shambles. Everything from surveying, DNA sample collecting, training marksmen/women and collecting money from farmers has been last minute. A final blow for the badger cull was the discovery that there are more than twice the number of badgers as they thought in the area. Wildlife experts against the cull have known this all along.

The campaign against the cull has been awesome (check out the article inside). As always it has been inspiring to be part of the hunt sab movement as sabs from all over the country pledged to be in the areas protecting badgers if the contracted killers started shooting.

Although the cull has only been postponed at the moment, the campaign will continue until all plans to cull badgers have been scrapped.

Check out our improved website, it looks great and you can now buy merchandise online. www.huntsabs.org.uk

Facebook:
http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=32757379750

Twitter:
@HuntSaboteurs



NEWS ROUND UP

WHY WON'T THE EU LET US VACCINATE OUR CATTLE?





In a recent trip to Brussels, Gavin Grant, chief executive of the RSPCA, and Brian May asked why. It has long been claimed by the likes of the previous DEFRA minister Caroline Spelman and then more recently Owen Paterson that vaccination of cattle as a way of controlling bTB isn't an option because one of the EU directives would not allow it. Currently vaccination makes it impossible to distinguish a vaccinated cow from an infected one. Therefore cows can't be exported as buyers won't risk bringing bTB into their country. However a 'DIVA' test has been designed to get around this and is currently ready and awaiting use.

Owen Paterson has claimed that the vaccination of cattle is "years away" and yet on arriving in Brussels, campaigner Brian May claims he discovered "a bomb that will blow the idea of culling badgers out of the water for ever. We were warmly welcomed at the European Parliament by MEPs of all parties – 90 per cent against culling wild animals, and 100 per cent in favour of helping us make cattle vaccination in Britain happen".

When asking Georg Haeusler, Chef de Cabinet for Agriculture, how quickly the directive could be changed now that the DIVA test has been designed, he was told that once the DIVA has been shown to work the directive could be changed quickly. So much for Mr Paterson's claim this would take years. Mr. Haeusler also labelled the idea of trying to cull 70% of badgers in the areas as "ludicrous" and pointed out that for meat and dairy products remaining in the UK the directive wouldn't apply anyway.

OPPOSITION TO ANIMAL RESEARCH IS GROWING



Public opposition to the use of animals in medical research is growing and trust in both scientists and the rules governing the controversial practice is falling, new government-funded research shows.

More than one in three people (37%) now class themselves as "objectors" to the practice. Their number has been rising steadily since the 29% recorded in 2006 and 35% seen in 2010, though is still lower than the 39% found in 2002, according to the latest research into public attitudes on the issue by Ipsos MORI.

Objectors either do not support the use of animals in experimentation because of concern for animal welfare (32%) or believe the government should ban experiments on animals for any form of research (21%), or both. They are more heavily female (41%) than male (33%) and more likely to be those aged 15 to 24 (55%) and also those in the lowest socio-economic class ranked as DE (51% compared to 23% of ABs).

That hardening of attitudes is part of what Ipsos MORI called a "significant" shift away from people endorsing the need for use of animals in such projects. While 85% of the 1,026 Britons aged 15 and older questioned "conditionally" support the practice, this figure is down from the 90% found in 2010, according to the poll, paid for by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills. Among those, the proportion backing the use of animals provided it is for medical research has fallen from 76% in 2010 to 66%, with 16% disagreeing. Approval is also down among those who "unconditionally" accept such experiments. Those agreeing that animal experimentation does not bother them or that they support it for all types of research when there is no alternative, or both, have fallen from 60% to 55%.

The poll's findings also show that: "In 2012, the public are less trusting of scientists not to cause unnecessary suffering in the animals involved (47% now, 54% in 2010), but are also less alert to the possibility of experiments being needlessly duplicated (51% now, 61% in 2010)."

While 54% trust the government's inspectorate and 53% think Britain's rules governing animal experimentation, 43% do not trust the regulatory system – down from 56% in 2010. But overall 40% said they wanted to know more about animal experimentation before forming a view.

The findings have prompted scientists, medical research charities, drug firms and universities to pledge to be more open about the use of animals in experiments in a bid to gain more widespread public support. Professor Sir John Tooke, president of the Academy of Medical Sciences, said they were "concerned" at the poll's results.

The poll also found that 9% believe it is acceptable for protestors to occupy research facilities or disrupt firms providing services to such research centres, 8% see roadblocks as acceptable and 2% and 1% respectively see destroying property and physical violence in the same light.

David Willetts, the science minister, confirmed that talks are going on with airlines and ferry companies about resuming the import of some live animals which are specially-bred overseas for use in trials into conditions such as Alzheimer's disease.

WHY IS LUSH WORRIED ABOUT WILDLIFE?



High street retailers Lush cosmetics has once again supported the HSA with its campaign to highlight a lack of wildlife crime funding. They had meetings with wildlife crime specialists and the police Wildlife Crime Unit and were horrified to learn how little funding and resources the national unit gets to cover wildlife crime across the whole of the UK.
We along with our fellow anti-hunt organisations would love to hand over the task of protecting foxes to the police, where it rightly belongs.

The campaign raised concerns about how much money is spent on watching peaceful protestors, the Police National Extremist unit budget is around £9 million compared to just under £400,000 for the entire UK's Wildlife Crime unit. The HSA and sab groups know well enough how low a priority policing hunting is compared to policing sabs!

Once again Lush staff dressed up and really supported the campaign. Lush customers always list animals as one of their top priorities and want them properly protected from cruelty and harm, so a shop window, postcards and a dedicated website were rolled out to encourage customers to express their concerns to prospective candidates. Very little information was forthcoming as to the candidates position or views on a number of issues that were addressed to them.

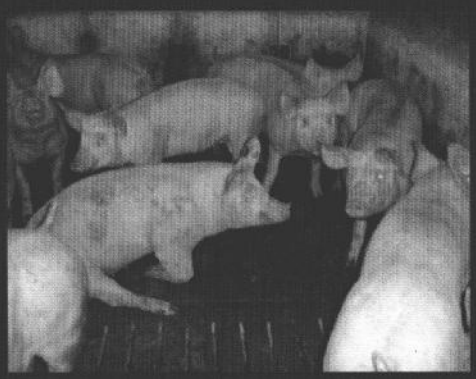
Current protection for wildlife is inadequate. The officers in the Wildlife Crime Unit are dedicated to the task – but with so few of them they cannot make a meaningful impact on animal crime across the country. With the first ever elections for Police Commissioners on Nov 15th, the public had the chance to tell their candidates the issues they would like to see the police's focus and budget target. If you think animals deserve the full protection of the laws that were passed for them, then contact your local elected commissioner and ensure they know your views, they have a an impartial duty to ensure public funds are spent where the public want them.



RAMSGATE PROTESTS

Angry protestors gathered at Ramsgate harbour after Dutch exporters won a court order overturning a ban.
Exports had been stopped pending an enquiry after 46 sheep died at Ramsgate harbour in September. A lorry carrying 500 sheep was stopped and a RSPCA inspector found some of them to be unfit to travel. The animals were moved but during the bungled process some of the sheep fell into an underground tank. Two of the sheep drowned, two more were then shot due to having broken legs and a further 42 were shot by RSPCA inspectors for being lame.

CIWF AWARD FOR INTENSIVE PIG FARM

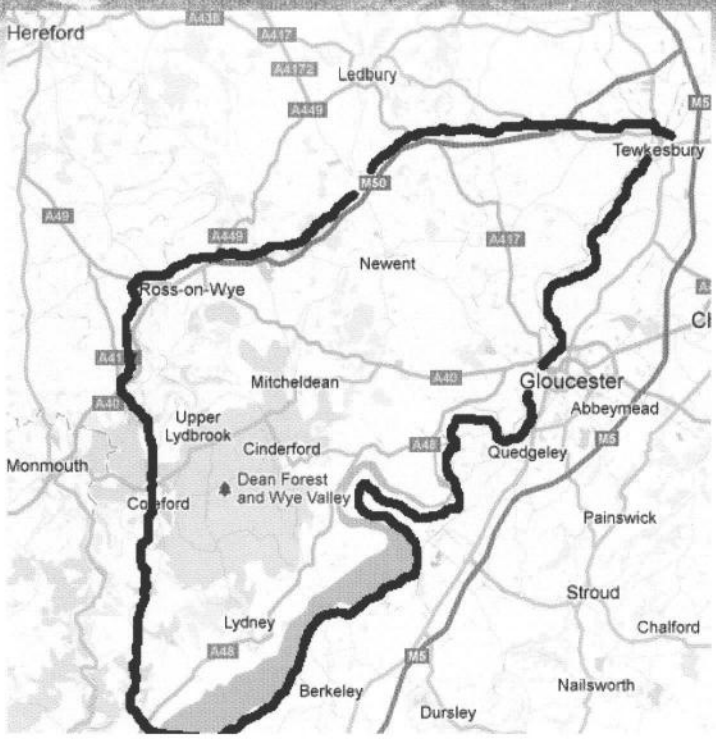


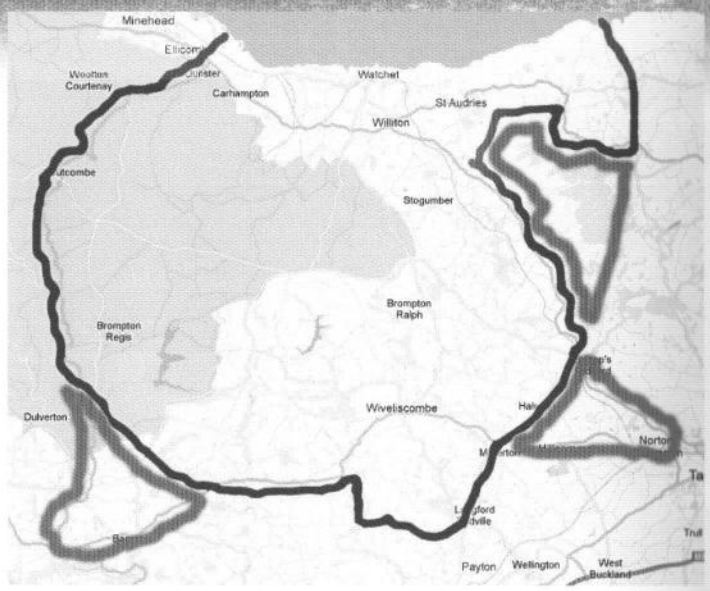
A proposed controversial intensive pig farm has been given a Good Sow Commendation from Compassion in World Farming. The bizarre decision was made by CIWF despite an intense campaign by animal rights campaigners to stop the proposed farm from being built. Plans for the intensive production unit have been made by Midlands Pig Producers who applied to Derbyshire County Council for permission for a 25,000-sow farm adjacent to Foston Prison. Proposals have faced fierce criticism from residents and animal rights protesters nationwide and attracted thousands of objections, citing fears over noise, odours and cruelty to animals. More than 7,000 objections have been submitted to the county council.
The Good Sow Commendation celebrates companies that use or are committed to using higher welfare systems for sows and those that work in a sustainable and responsible way to improve animal welfare. Pitiful steps which MPP have taken to get the CIWF award include 'freedom' farrowing crates which allow the sows to turn around 360 degrees, and straw to lie on rather than a hard floor.

Local activist Mr Swain who has campaigned against the massive proposed pig unit said "I am surprised Compassion has given MPP this award."

CULLING IN T

Stop the cull





How did we get here?

The first thing we did was of course set up a website, we covered "why, where, who, what". The first piece of intel that we thought was vital was the "where" we did this by posing as journalists and ringing round the dairy farmers. Phone blagging has been and is our number one method of gathering intelligence. If you don't do it, have a crack at it, its good fun to do with some mates (throw in a bottle of vodka for extra nerve power and giggles). You can do it with throw away mobiles in a pub and some notebooks or sit at home and put on your favourite accents. Plug in devices can be bought from maplins so you can record conversations, they plug into a voice recorder. These are useful if you need to go over later what was said.Our initial phone blag was that we we're journo's covering the milk crisis. After asking the farmers a few sympathetic questions about milk the poor dears couldn't stop talking. Then onto the question of bTB and the badger cull.

Spill the beans? This lot spilt them then cooked them and served us a big vegan enchilada.

At public meetings and wherever anyone would listen we then touted our maps of the badger cull. It was a crucial piece of intel that all the groups needed so when we also added that we were against the personal harassment of farmers and also against personal property damage the mainstream groups didn't have too much problem with us. Some of them even spoke to us!!

After the "where" it was time for "who", the national press then got a little bit excited as did the NFU when the names and addresses of the organizers went up on the website. About a week or so after that, the social media and general public went crazy when the judicial review failed. A week later the preliminary licences were issued. In the background to these big news events we banged the drum as hard as we could, spinning stories in as many directions as possible.

Very few press were ever given a phone number to ring, instead they had to email in, they were then rang back usually within 15-30 minutes. On some days phone conversations to journalists would add up to around 8 hours. As there was so much speculation as to what may or may not happen a lot of

HE NAME OF...



questions from the press would be "what are you planning?" So we could really tell them anything, but surprisingly a lot of what we told them was true!

We did buy 120 vuvuzela's and 50 high viz jackets and we did discuss protest camps (the crown estate being a target can be blamed on the daily mail and the telegraph, they wanted a royal connection) For the most part it was a question of coming up with new twists or hyping up little things that would make interesting sound bites.

Somewhere in amongst all this Owen Paterson came into office, a white middle aged crazed extreme right winger was a perfect hate figure. On his first day in office we put up the "badger badger" song and told people to play it down the phone to his office all day and night so they couldn't even get their messages. We then leaked to the press that a high up civil servant had told us he was "furious" they liked that. However, Owen didn't and he took legal action to gag us. After the gag was in the "streissand effect" kicked in and mirrors of the old site pre-gag popped up all over the place (one within ten minutes). One of them now infamously has high court judges, NFU & DEFRA chiefs, the Prime Minister, Owen Paterson and a plethora of other high up bods home addresses and phone numbers. They tried to take the site down but it's hosted in America where they have freedom of speech, so they just wailed and nashed their teeth hopelessly.

As we neared the start of the cull we started to up the ante, posters of "cull busters" went up in the zones asking for secrets about farmers. They didn't like it, but the press had another field day. The licence for the cull states that 70% of the zone must be included in the cull and if at any time a landowner pulls out and the % drops below 70 then the cull stops IMMEDIATELY. Also the cull cannot start without 70% take up, this is reflected in the money received and shown to Natural England by the cull organizers. So we then started to look for large land owners, Forthampton shooting estate in Gloucestershire is 3,000 acres which is approx 3% of the cull zone, they happen to do pheasant shooting at very high prices. They have become the campaigns number one target and one Sunday when sab groups from across the country came over to help out with sett surveying it became an obviously good idea to have a lovely stroll through the estates many footpaths. Huge pheasant rearing pens were spotted as well as red faced estate workers and a police helicopter. Walking along footpaths it seems is not illegal and everyone had a fab day out. The estate is run by a Mr.Yorke who is landed gentry, if we can get them to pull out and high light the pheasant shooting industries in both the cull zones we will have achieved more than just an end to a badger cull.

On that point, we have threatened to expose any and all farmers inside the zones with an interactive map of all the animal abuse problems that we come across, hoping that may encourage them not to be involved in killing badgers.

Over this winter we plan on finishing off the sett surveying and to carry on with the milk boycott at the supermarkets & coffee chains, whilst pressuring the pheasant shooting industry within the zones. See you there?



HUNTING ACT CONVICTIONS

Three members of the Crawley and Horsham hunt have been convicted for multiple offences of illegal hunting. The evidence was gathered by the West Sussex Wildlife Protection Group during the 2010/11 season. Sussex Police investigated the evidence and the CPS prosecuted. Ex-huntsman Andrew Phillis was convicted of two offences; joint master Neill Millard of one offence and hunt secretary Rachael Holdsworth of two offences, all of which occurred in January 2011. Joint master Henry Hawksfield had also been charged but the case against him was dropped during the trial.

All had denied the charges, claiming to have been trail hunting, though none chose to give evidence in their defence in court. Video footage showed Holdsworth holding a whip with a duster on the end as if laying a trail, but Judge Nicholls found that this was done "for the benefit of the cameras". He also called the evidence given by the defence a scam and found that after a fox had been seen no steps were taken to call the hounds off, in fact they were encouraged to pursue the hunt with calls like 'get on it'. According to prosecution expert witness Professor Stephen Harris there were no signs of trail hunting in the video footage. He pointed out that the hounds showed no interest in Holdsworth or her duster with its 'artificial scent' and that the hounds did not follow the trail she was supposedly laying.

Having been found guilty the defence proceeded with some embarrassing mitigation, claiming that Holdsworth's PR company would suffer due to the adverse publicity and that fining Millard, who works at a wealth management company, would damage his business interests. However Holdsworth was fined £500 for each of the two offences and ordered to pay £2,500 costs. Millard was fined £1,000 and ordered to pay £2,500 costs. Phillis was fined £350 for each offence and £2,500 costs. A prosecution request for driving bans (allowed when an offender has used a vehicle to aid the commission of a crime) and confiscations was turned down by the judge.

In a recent low key move it was announced that the three will not be appealing against their convictions despite the initial protestations from the CA.

Two members of the Meynell and South Staffs Foxhounds have been convicted under the Hunting Act following an incident in October last year. This is the first cubbing conviction under the Hunting Act. The case was based on evidence filmed by two hunt sabs who filmed the Meynell holding up coverts in traditional cubbing style.

Hunt master Johnny Greenall was fined £3000 with £515 in costs and Glen Morris was fined £250 with £265 in costs. Foot follower Morris was filmed turning a fox back into the covert by running towards it shouting and clapping his hands. The hounds could be heard in cry. A second fox was later filmed escaping from the covert and running past the two sabs. It was followed by hunt riders, including Greenall.

Greenall had admitted in police interview to being present; being in charge on the day and to briefing the hunt staff on the day's events ahead of the days hunting. The two men were convicted of a joint enterprise to hunt foxes. Though Greenall had claimed in police interview that he had an innocent explanation for what happened that day he did not give evidence in court in his own defence. The judge concluded that "perhaps that innocent explanation would not bear scrutiny". Prof Harris also gave evidence to the court, interpreting the sounds of the hounds in cry and explaining that they showed that the hounds were chasing a fox.

Finally the defence shamelessly attempted to argue Greenall's innocence by virtually conceding Morris's guilt. Once again we see hunts happy to dump the lower ranks in order to protect the masters.

The RSPCA has launched a massive prosecution of the Heythrop hunt, issuing more than 50 summonses under the Hunting Act. Those accused include Joint master Vanessa Lambert (daughter of MFHA chairman Stephen Lambert); ex joint master Richard Sumner; Duncan Hume, whipper-in and Julian Barnfield, ex huntsman.

The case is believed to be based on evidence filmed by POWA monitors during the 2011-12 season and includes evidence of fox hunting from numerous days. The summonses include up to 10 charges against the hunt as a whole, as a body corporate; the section 10 offence under the Hunting Act. This is the first time that this section of the Act has been used and is a major step up in hunt prosecutions.

Hapless Barnfield was already facing two counts of illegally hunting a fox, both arising from the previous hunting season. That case is due to be heard by magistrates later this year and again is being prosecuted by the RSPCA on the back of film taken by POWA monitors. Increasing divisions inside the hunt have seen Barnfield demoted to kennel huntsman with Charles Frampton moving up from the Portman to become huntsman and joint master.





Trauma Support

Whilst it's true that during most weeks our expeditions into the countryside pass without anything noteworthy happening, there are weeks when the hunt can be violent or aggressive, when we witness kills, when the police are shitty or when tensions in our groups make the day feel heavy and long. There are also days when we feel 'off it', tired, ill, worried, more anxious then usual or just plain crappy.

Sometimes it's hard to talk. Even without the time pressures of a busy sab, or the security conscious environment it can be hard to open up and say how we really feel. At the start of the day everyone is preoccupied - at the end, even with a stop off to debrief, most people want to put the day behind them and move on. However, left ignored tensions can rise; people can feel panicky and easily distressed or become so overwhelmed they stop sabbing altogether. In order to stay safe we need to make sure the people we sab with feel supported and that problems are dealt with rather than suppressed.

What groups can do to help.

Debriefs. Have a quick go round at the end of the day to see how people felt it went and check if everyone feels okay. Some of this will be about tactics and skills but it gives people a chance to include an emotional response. Support your newbies. Try and make sure someone is watching their back during the day and giving them some reassurance. Plan some socials. It creates a space where people can relax, develop relationships and talk. Think about the diversity of your group and try and be inclusive.

Check in. It's easy to get the boots off and think the sabbing for the day is over, but if you noticed someone having a bad day try not to leave it a whole week before you see them again. A quick text or call is often enough to show them they are not alone.

Don't pressure people into coming out if they have asked for a break. A few weeks rest can enable us to do more in the long run. If you are having a bad time try to tell someone. If you don't feel like sharing with the whole group perhaps just let those closest to you know. If people know you are feeling a bit 'off' they can support you.

If your group witnesses a kill don't expect everyone to react the same way. Some of you may be angry or frustrated, there may by tears, numbness, hysterics or no visible response. Everyone feels it differently.

What individuals can do.

Listen. Sounds easy but good listening is quite a skill.

Don't give advice. People don't like being told what to do and what works for you may not for them. ,Help them find their own ideas and solutions.

Don't interrupt. You may have had similar experiences or 'know how they feel' but let them talk through their shit first. They may need to process their feelings by telling the same story several times, they may need to cry, rant, swear or pace up and down. They may need some pauses in the conversation to clarify their thoughts. Give them the time they need without rushing.

Dont trivialise. We are all unique. What may be water off a duck's back to one sab may be a heavy blow to another.

Don't make promises you can't keep. It's easy to say "I will look after you / make it better / not tell a soul / meet you next week" but vulnerable people often take you at your word and don't need the added burden of disappointment. If you feel out of your depth then it's fine to say so. Help them find some support elsewhere. Think about what you can really offer and stick to it.

Keep your boundaries. Hugs, taking people home and giving out personal phones numbers can put you in difficult situations or be misinterpreted. If it's someone you don't know well meet in cafes or social centres to stay safe.

Don't be afraid to ask. Some people prefer to deal with things by themselves. Some will want to be alone, others will want company. If you want to help but are not sure how then ask them what they need. Sometimes the answer will be chips!

Above all don't suffer in silence! If you are feeling low, having panic attacks, getting angry too easily or dreading the day then say so. Be aware of the effect sabbing has on the rest of your life, and the effect the rest of your life has on sabbing. Family problems, work worries, poorly pets and health issues can be hard to leave at home and may well affect your mood and interactions with others.

Useful Contacts:

Activist Trauma Support : www.activist-trauma.net. A list of counsellors, listeners, alternative therapists and groups who provide support to activists across the UK.



"I haven't done anything wrong, what have I got to hide?"

This is the normal response of the more naive of the general public regarding ID cards, CCTV or the raft of agencies that monitor anyone with any opinion which doesn't tie up with the aims of the Establishment.

Animal Rights Activists have been increasingly targeted by new draconian legislation since the late 80s. The first dedicated monitoring of animal rights started in 1988 with the setting up of the "Animal Rights National Index" (ARNI). This had no operational role but simply collated information in a central location to help local police forces with information on activists. You didn't need to have a criminal record to appear on this database and peaceful and law-abiding protesters would be logged as well.

This disturbingly evolved into the "National Public Order Intelligence Unit" (NPOIU) which took a more proactive role in policing activists. The dirty deeds that this unit gets up to were thrust into the media spotlight with the exposure of their agent provocateur and undercover police officer Mark Kennedy. Despite national criticism of this unit, evidence suggests that a number of undercover officers similar to Kennedy continue to monitor, and are actively involved in protest groups around the country at the taxpayer's expense.

Another infamous organisation called the "National Extremism Tactical Co-ordination Unit" (NETCU) ran in parallel to this. Bizarrely, despite being a private registered company (and therefore exempt from Freedom of Information requests) it employed serving police officers and was run under Home Office control. This company not only collated and stored information on AR activists but shared this confidential information with corporations and other 'interested parties'. For example if you've ever been logged as an AR protester on their database, there's no way you'll ever get a job as an 'animal technician' in a lab, no matter how well qualified you are. NETCU had a very incestuous relationship with Huntingdon Life Sciences and it is easy to imagine that there was a free exchange of information between the two. NETCU has now been absorbed into the Metropolitan Police and rebranded as the National Domestic Extremism Unit.

What is perhaps more of a worry for hunt saboteurs is the data held on anti-hunt activists by the well-financed Countryside Alliance. This information has been obtained "from sources including private detectives, political groups, police and debt collection firms". It declared in its entry to the Data Protection Register that "it discloses information on its opponents to the police, the Inland Revenue, judges, the prison service, Customs and Excise, the Home Office and the armed forces." (Ref. "Hunt lobby holds personal files on thousands", The Guardian, 1 Nov 2002)

Our sab group suspects they have personally experienced the dirty deeds of the CA. When we were just starting up we attended a small hunt a good few miles away. A senior CA representative was a member of this hunt. One day the huntsman came up to us and reeled off our driver's name and address but claimed the details had been obtained by following us home. This was unlikely due to the distance involved and we always went for a curry and drinks in the centre of town after a sab anyway. In contrast, a much larger, closer, and more prestigious hunt we had started doing regularly, never had an idea of his details - until the smaller hunt passed them on. We suspect the CA financed the investigative legwork and then passed the information onto the hunt.

So what if they have my details?

- Sabs (and monitors) have had dead wildlife dumped on their vehicles/outside their front doors on many occasions
- Two Midland groups have had their vehicles torched just outside their homes in the middle of the night
- abs have received death threats through the post and phone calls both at home and work
- The child of one sab was cornered on his way home from school and threatened by hunt thugs
- Some sabs have been locked up and interrogated when simply entering a foreign country on holiday

If not for your own preservation then think about your family, friends and pets

Being open with information on the internet and elsewhere puts them all at risk. When out at hunts avoid calling someone by name as every little piece of information can be recorded.

Nobody wants to be in the situation that some of our members experience, of sleepless nights and the expectation of a home visit after a particularly successful sabbing session.

If you're well known anyway it might be worth your while finding out how much information the authorities do have on you. The Guardian ran a nice piece on how to request this information last year:

www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/apr/11/domestic-extremist-police-databases



Facebook is a great way to make contacts, share information and organise events. Unfortunately, the police are well aware of this and are sure to use it too, both as straight surveillance and through the creation of undercover profiles. Not to mention of course, computer-savvy hunters. As well as finding personal details of activists they can build up a map of our political networks and disrupt actions by spreading misinformation. Just because your local terrier boys may still think their zippo lighters can take photographs of you, don't underestimate the nerds in their ranks! Can each sab group honestly say they PERSONALLY know each person on their "friend's" list? Just because someone is friends with every sab group in the UK, doesn't mean they're not pro-hunt or a copper.

Our group is constantly getting friends requests from dodgy looking profiles. Take a bit of time to have a look at people's profiles. If you're not sure, see who their friends are, and if you're suspicious spread the word. Hunters have set up fake profiles with sab's names and added many sab groups/supporters to their friend's lists before being sussed. With the amount of info, photos and videos that some groups are adding to their profiles, this adds up to the sort of info that a hunt would have previously gained by hiring private detectives. Scary.

And of course, it's totally up to individuals to put whatever they wish onto their own profiles. But, given that over the years, sabs have had vehicles burnt out, had death threats, been visited at work, had attacks on their homes etc. I still cannot see what the reason is to share so much info around? All it takes is one lone nutter in a hunt to spend too much time in front of a flickering screen, and you could be getting home visits. And of course, are your pets safe with these sort of people about? Our group has had dead animals dumped outside houses and a home delivered death threat featuring photos of a fox cub being tortured. This was years before Facebook, let alone the internet. Just think twice before you get back from a sab, crack open a beer and upload those photos...

Always assume your posts are being read by the police. I recently saw a Facebook post from sabs saying they were on their way to sab a hunt, giving the hunts name/meet as well...again, do you really need to alert the police/hunt thugs in this way?

But let's be positive, Facebook has been great for getting new members (if it wasn't, why have so many groups profiles been removed due to complaints from hunters?).

So, how can you use Facebook safely? Using the range of security measures that Facebook provides and limiting what personal information you make available, it is possible to make surveillance harder – at least as difficult as the traditional police methods of bugging, phone-tapping, infiltration etc.

Account security

The biggest security measure you can take if you have something you would like to hide (political activity, drug use, sexuality) is don't use you real name on Facebook. Use at least a fake surname. If you are really concerned don't even use your first name or a nickname but something completely made up. If you need to introduce yourself to someone you can always send them a private message or let them know offline.

Of course many of us want our real name on Facebook so that old friends can find us. In this case set up two accounts – one with your real name so people can find you and another profile that you can invite only selected people to 'friend'. If you want to be really secure don't make your two profiles friends of each other – at least not until you have lots of other friends.

It would also be a good idea to use different email addresses to create each account and for these to be something other than your name. Make sure your password is hard to guess and not the same as every other site you use. Try and base your passwords upon the name of the website with some modification. For example my password rule might be 'the name of the website but with each letter one further on in the alphabet with the numbers 1,2,3,4 etc interspersed. So my password for facebook would be g1b2d3f4c5p6p7l8. If you do all your passwords like this it is relatively easy for you to remember, but very hard for someone to hack you. Even if they get the password you use from one website it is hard to work out what rule you have used to generate it.

Friend security

Only accept as friends people who are known to you. If they aren't personally known to you e.g. political contacts then add them to the 'limited profile' contact list when you confirm the friendship request. Remember that people browsing your profile can see your friend's list. To restrict this go to 'privacy settings' under the 'account' menu on the top right of the Facebook page. Go into the first section 'connecting on Facebook' and change 'see your friend's list' to custom. Select 'friends' only' and in the 'hide this from' box type 'limited profile'.

Profile security

Consider how much information you need to add to either of your profiles. You really do not need to put your date of birth, home-town/place of birth, current location, mobile number or name of your partner. Access to all this information can be restricted on the 'connecting on Facebook' page mentioned above.

Sharing security

You can also control who sees stuff that you post on Facebook. If you go to 'privacy settings' under the 'account' menu on the top right of the Facebook page you can access all the privacy controls. Under 'sharing on Facebook' select 'friends only' and then go to 'customise settings' to restrict this even further to exclude people on the 'limited profile' list from seeing specific bits of information.

Photo security

If you are concerned about surveillance don't use a photo of yourself as your profile picture with your real name. It is not beyond possibility that a good photo of you on a demo could be matched to a portrait photo on your Facebook profile and reveal your name. If you have a fake name and your other security settings are restrictive then it won't reveal much except that you are on Facebook. It is possible to restrict who can view photos you are tagged in on the 'sharing on Facebook' page. It is also possible to remove your name tag from any particular photo. You can see all the photos you are tagged in on your profile page under 'photos'. Generally don't allow tags of your real name on photos and videos.

Facebook chat

There is scope for Facebook chat to be used to get the IP address of your computer. Whether it is possible to use this IP address to target your computer with malware or Trojans or to find your geographical address depends on your particular internet access and security set-up. More information on this and whether it is a significant security threat would be a great addition to this document.

Group and event security

Groups and events are one of the best things about Facebook but if used incorrectly they are one of the easiest ways to allow surveillance. When an event is created, tick the 'friends can invite guests' box but neither 'anyone can view and rsvp (public event)' nor 'show the guest list on the event page'. For existing events these controls can be accessed under 'edit event' in the top right. For groups under 'edit group settings' select either 'this group is closed' or 'this group is secret'.

Be careful about joining groups or events if you don't recognise the person inviting you. There is a possibility that it will be used to gather information about who responds or to mislead people – for example messaging everyone that a demo has been cancelled. If you are running groups or events create a profile specifically to do this and make people aware off-line that this is a profile they can trust. This will also protect individuals being targeted as ringleaders.

If you feel people are not being tight enough on security politely point this out to them and either explain the issues or point them to this document or similar. If you think someone is behaving suspiciously don't be scared to share this information with others in a discrete way.

Most of the procedures discussed here are also described on the Facebook 'privacy settings' page under 'learn more' in the bottom right of the screen. The main things they don't mention are the use of fake names on profiles and the use of the 'limited profile' list to restrict access of some friends to personal information.

Stay safe but stay active

VERMIN PATROL

CRUELTY CASES IN THE COURTS

To keep up to date on all Vermin Patrol cases visit www.nwhsa.org.uk

bloodsports
VERMIN

Three men appeared before Selby magistrates on 16/4/12 charged with digging for badgers. Before the court were Lee Whinfrey, 28, Nathan Whinfrey, 25, and Richard Whinfrey, 43, all of Carcroft in Doncaster. All were charged with interfering with badger setts, hunting a wild mammal with dogs and digging for badgers. Richard Whinfrey is also charged with causing unnecessary suffering to Jake and failing to ensure the welfare of the dog. The defendants were admitted to conditional bail – not to enter North Yorkshire unless attending court – until a three-day trial at Selby.

Two men accused of digging for badgers were cleared of all charges by a judge on 25/4/12. Keith Williams Keith, of Ty Cerrig bungalow, Bethel Road, Caernarfon and friend Dennis Dwayne Williams, of Llys Tryfan, Caernarfon, both 31, at Llandudno magistrates had denied the offence and also pleaded not guilty to attempting to take a badger and interfering with badger setts.



Three men appeared in court over alleged badger baiting. The defendants are all accused of causing unnecessary suffering to a terrier dog and badger and interfering with a badger sett. At Newtownards magistrates on 30/4/12 were Graham Arthur Officer, 40, from Rose Park, Donaghadee and brothers Chris and Ryan Kirkwood, aged 21 and 19, from Island Street, east Belfast. Another defendant did not appear in court for medical reasons. He is Darren Millar, 39, from Rainey Way Belfast. Ryan Kirkwood is also charged with resisting police.

Anthony Lee who urged his dog to attack and kill badgers and kept footage of the fights on his phone has been jailed. A magistrate wiped away tears while watching three videos of animal fights that Lee recorded. Lee, 23, of Coronation Way, Keighley, West Yorkshire, admitted three counts of animal fighting and was jailed for 23 weeks at Bradford magistrates on 22/5/12. The RSPCA said the case was "as bad as one can get" and described Lee's actions as "twisted and sick". In the first video played to the court, a badger could be heard squealing alongside the sound of laughter from Lee and another person. The second video showed a badger being killed after being shaken around in Lee's dog's mouth while another dog had hold of it. The third video showed a dog fighting a badger in its sett. Lee was given a three-week discount on the maximum sentence the court could hand down because he entered a guilty plea. Lee was also banned from keeping or looking after animals for the rest of his life. Both of his dogs have been re-homed.

Two men who crossed the Border into Scotland on a "hunting expedition" for foxes or badgers escaped a ban on keeping or owning dogs. Ryan Lowe, 30, of Baird Road, Harraby, Carlisle and Brian Sanderson, 40, of West Lane, Shap, were appearing for sentence following a three-day trial in which they were found guilty of deliberately hunting foxes or badgers. They were also found guilty on 31/5/12 of being in possession of items capable of being used for an offence contrary to the Protection of Badgers Act – the electronic equipment, dogs, two spades and two walkie-talkies. Lowe was made the subject of a community payback order with a condition that he carry out 180 hours unpaid work, while the case against Sanderson was continued for three weeks to allow him to produce £1,000 to the court in which case the van worth £2,500 in which they had travelled north, would not be confiscated.

A twisted sadist was jailed after he bred dogs to hunt down and kill foxes and badgers so he could film it for a sick thrill. Richard Atkins from Oversetts Road, Newhall in Derbyshire was sentenced to 24 weeks behind bars after a photo showed him smiling with glee as he held a still live fox by the throat. The 45-year-old, who captured the stomach-churning acts carried out by his dogs for posterity on video, admitted nine charges when he appeared at Burton upon Trent magistrates on 29/6/12. In addition to his prison sentence of nearly six months Atkins also received a lifetime ban on keeping all animals and the forfeiture of all his dogs and equipment used for baiting and hunting. The nine charges he admitted included causing animals to fight, keeping dogs for the purpose of animal fighting, causing unnecessary suffering and animal welfare offences. Atkins, 45, trained his hounds to hunt down and attack wild animals. He then filmed the sickening attacks on a digital video camera which he showed to his pals. They were able to successfully bring the prosecution to court when forensic examination of badger baiting footage seized from a digital

video camera proved a voice heard in the background was that of Atkins. The court saw graphic footage of Atkins's black Patterdale terrier and bull lurcher type dog carrying out attacks on two badgers and a fox in separate incidents. In another clip a badger is seen having its leg torn off, while men - including Atkins - can be heard laughing in the background. As well as the harrowing clips which showed the wild animals being attacked, the dogs used by Atkins also suffered sickening injuries during the attacks. The defendant admitted that he would attempt to treat his dogs' injuries at home, rather than take them to a vet and raise suspicion. Both the Patterdale terrier and bull lurcher seen in the footage were found at Atkins' home when a warrant was carried out by police and the RSPCA. The Patterdale terrier had suffered huge injuries to its jaw and it was partially blind in one eye. Four other dogs - also believed to have been bred for fighting and hunting - were seized during the warrant, along with paraphernalia, digging equipment and search lights.



Two brothers accused of killing a badger have been cleared of all charges. William Crotty, 30, and his 22-year-old brother, Ricky, were charged after they were caught with spades and a Lurcher-type dog in a field near Bassingbourn. Following a three-day trial at Cambridge magistrates, they were found not guilty on 26/7/12 and have each been cleared of all three charges. William, of Field Crescent, Royston, and Ricky, of Willowside Way, Royston, William Crotty said outside court "On the day in question we were on a farmer's field, with his permission, in pursuit of foxes, which is entirely legal. The brothers denied three charges each in total – interfering with badger setts, digging for badgers and wilfully killing a badger. The same charges were also denied by Scott Brown, 28, of Boldon Colliery, Tyne and Wear, Kevin Cowell, 33, of Enfield, Middlesex, David Fox, 45, of Ongar, Essex, and Gabrielle Freeney, 31, also of Enfield. They too were found not guilty by the jury.

Six members of the same family appeared in court along with others charged with almost 200 counts of animal cruelty. Samuel and Cathy Kirkwood, from Parkgate Crescent, east Belfast, appeared with their sons: Chris, Ryan, Wayne and Gary, from Island Street. Two other men also face charges. They are Daniel Scott from Tower Court and Jamie Morrow from McAllister Court, Belfast. The charges follow a police operation at the Kirkwoods' home. A number of dogs were taken away by the USPCA in the operation. Officers also removed equipment, mobile phones and computers from the house and an adjoining yard. On 2/8/12 they faced a range of charges at Belfast magistrates including causing unnecessary suffering to animals, attending animal fights, having equipment to be used in animal fights, photographing and video recording animal fights and disturbing a badger sett.

Thomas Marvell, 25, was jailed and banned for keeping dogs for 10 years after an RSPCA investigation into badger baiting. Marvell was sentenced on two charges under the Protection of Badgers Act. He was ordered to serve 10 weeks in custody for killing a badger and another six weeks for possessing a dog for baiting. The court ordered both sentences should run consecutively. His home on Vicars Walk, Worksop, was searched and a brown terrier was seized along with hunting paraphernalia. A second man, Mel Gibson, 21, of Shrewsbury Road, Worksop – was also investigated and three dogs were discovered at his home, including one, which had an untreated septic hole in the side of its face. Gibson was given a 12-month conditional discharge and banned from keeping dogs for five years when he too was sentenced at Worksop magistrates on 7/9/12. He was also ordered to pay £150 costs after admitting one charge of causing unnecessary suffering to Smudge by failing to get the dog's injuries treated by a vet.

A farmer was sentenced by Scarborough magistrates on 26/9/12 after he pumped 5,000 gallons of slurry into a badger sett. Malcolm Brian Foster, of Grange Farm, Bulmer, near Malton, was found guilty of recklessly damaging an active badger sett. He was fined £500 with a £15 victim surcharge and £700 costs. Magistrates heard how Foster, a tenant cattle farmer on land which is part of the Castle Howard estate, pumped the liquid cattle slurry into an active badger sett.

Three men admitted interfering with a badger sett and causing unnecessary suffering to a dog. Chesterfield magistrates heard on 5/10/12 how a terrier-type dog got facial injuries after entering a sett. Barry Scott, 23, of Norman Crescent, Sunnyfields, Doncaster; Liam Smith, 21, of Denaby Avenue, Conisbrough; and Daniel Davey, 21, of Manor Court, Denaby, pleaded guilty on the basis that the offences resulted from reckless behaviour rather than deliberate intent. The trio also denied digging for a badger, attempting to kill, injure or take a badger, attempting to cause an animal fight and unnecessary suffering to three other dogs. The case was adjourned for a trial to be fixed.

An Argyll farm manager was fined £1,200 on 8/9/12 for being in possession of a deadly poison which has been banned after being linked to the killing of birds of prey. At Oban Sheriff Court Tom McKellar, 50, of Fir Park Cottage, Auch Estate, Bridge of Orchy, pleaded guilty to possessing carbofuran, a pesticide outlawed for more than 10 years. In December 2010, at the High Court in Glasgow, McKellar was convicted of possession of two hand guns, and was sentenced to 300 hours community service.

Two men and three teenagers will go on trial accused of animal cruelty after cats were set on by lurcher dogs in Workington. Daniel James Porter, 18, of Eskdale Crescent, Jamie Atkinson, 19, of Minster Close, a 17-year-old and two 15-year-old boys, have been charged with causing unnecessary suffering to a protected animal. They pleaded not guilty at West Cumbria magistrates on 14/9/12 and were bailed on condition they are not in custody or control of a dog or cat in a public place. The case was adjourned.



South Scotland are a small group and with four hunts to keep busy with, really need to appeal to new sabs. If you are in that area, get in touch southscothuntsabs@cyber-rights.net



Since our last group report, **Cumbria** sabs worked doggedly until the end of the season, keeping as much pressure on local hunts as possible and concentrating most of our efforts on the Blencathra and Ullswater packs. We felt our diligence had paid off when the hunts began changing and cancelling meets in an attempt to shake us off.

This was most evident with the Blencathra who suffered the most at our hands. Two meets that gave great satisfaction were 'Mid-Farm' at the end of January and 'The Farmers Arms' during early February. The former saw five sabs from the Cumbria group, plus one sab from Lancaster working in three teams. We had Barry boxed in from first contact in Dodd woods, until he reached the foot of High Side. Unable to move and with nowhere to run, he stood around for over an hour twiddling his thumbs! Eventually sheer frustration got the better of him and he packed in just before midday! The latter meet witnessed Barry going to ground early in Swinside woods. Although only five sabs were present, we had all exits covered and Barry had to suffer the indignity of smuggling his pack out one by one in the back of supporter's cars.

However, the icing on the cake was 'Mungrisdale week' during mid-February. The group stunned the scum by turning out five times in six days, catching them out even at unscheduled meets. It was this week of action that essentially forced the Blenie to go underground in an attempt to hide from us. After this it became increasingly difficult to find them, although we did have a couple of more successful days before their seasons end on March 10th! It was due to this that we began focusing all our attentions on the Ullswater pack. Despite having a reputation for violence, which a couple of sabs were subjected to on more than one occasion, we visited the Ullswater a number of times before the season was over! Three meets stand out as being very successful. On 25th February four sabs attended the 'Inn on the lake' meet. Keeping the hunt on the move all day in the valleys surrounding Glenridding, we eventually caught them digging out with a Patterdale terrier down the hole on the side of Sheffield Pike. Attempts at intimidation didn't work and they were forced to pack up and leave. Suffice to say they weren't best pleased, we even got a sarcastic "well done" from one irate supporter. It was as a result of violence on this day that other sab groups came up to support us for two separate meets, both are worthy of mention. On 17th March twenty-five sabs, many from as far afield as Nottingham and Birmingham, joined us to attend the 'Travellers Rest' meet. Again operating in the valleys around Glenridding, our actions resulted in the scum being unable to move. The huntsman, 'daft John Harrison', quickly bottled it and it was all over by Noon. On March 31st we again fielded many sabs from sibling groups for the, 'End of season Kennels' meet. A slow start to the day soon turned in our favour, and it ended in great success. Once again a very peeved 'daft John' threw his toys out of the pram, and was packed up well before midday. Overall we've had a very successful season against the fell packs. The only downside was the growing levels of violence against sabs towards the seasons end. The worst example of this was a sab brutally beaten whilst attending a meet of the Coniston foxhounds; thankfully they made a full recovery. The police are still investigating the incident, let's hope they get somewhere and these sick thugs finally face justice. Finally we'd just like to say a big thank you to all the sabs who helped us out during the season. Many travelled great distances to support us, respect. Also a big thank you to all our supporters who've donated to the group over the past season, without you none of this would've been possible, cheers!



Sheffield and Doncaster saboteurs have visited many hunts since the New Year – three of which (the Brocklesby hunt, the Claro Beagles and the Holderness hunt) hadn't been visited by sabs for a long time. We paid regular visits to the Badsworth & Bramham Moor hunt and the York & Ainsty South hunt, as well as visiting the Blankney hunt, Meynell & South Staffs hunt, Quorn hunt, Rockwood Harriers hunt, South Notts hunt and making a trip to Cumbria to visit the Ullswater hunt. Although we've had our share of hunt violence, no sabs have been seriously hurt and except for a sad and frustrating day at the Holderness hunt, the hunts we have visited have been unable to kill in our presence. Having sabbed fox hunts, harrier packs, beagles and pheasant shoots (sometimes all on the same day!), taken control of the hounds numerous times and seen many foxes, hares, pheasants and other wildlife escape to freedom, it's been another successful season for us. Thanks to Cumbria, Derby, Grimsby, Liverpool, Manchester, Nottingham and West Yorkshire sabs for their help! To get involved please email sheffield-saboteurs@live.co.uk or:doncastersabs@live.co.uk

Nottingham sabs, 2nd half of the season, continued in a positive vein sabbing locally, on our own, and at times joining up with our comrades from Derby, Sheffield, W. Yorks and Manchester. Numbers remained high and cars were used to deal with our overspill from the van. We continued our focus on the Quorn who seem less keen on Saturdays these days due to the amount of attention they've been getting. Upon arrival one morning we discovered huge numbers of support and quickly worked out they were having a joint hit with the Belvoir. Some violence from the Belvoir thugs occurred but sabs were not deterred and the hunts had both disappeared by early afternoon. The South Notts Hunt cheekily decided to try hunting on a Saturday so we turned up in force to help them see the error of their ways. Some of their boys decided to throw bricks at our moving van. When police were called they asked the perpetrators to leave the area. This is clearly the future of crime prevention in Nottinghamshire and cuts down on that tedious paperwork! Despite this we had a good day and the hunt immediately cancelled any more Saturday meets.

We are now planning a busy summer of fundraising in order to buy another/bigger van. If you can help in any way please contact huntsabs@hotmail.com

Well that's another season and over and done with for **North West** sabs and pleased to say the handful of arrests we had all ended up with their charges dropped.

During the second half of the season we continued to meet up with other local groups as well as occasionally travelling a bit further afield. Our first visit to the York and Ainsty South in the New Year was a cracking day out. A full van of sabs teamed up with several other groups to make up numbers following some crap off them towards the end of 2011. One way or another sabs were all over them during the day and Manchester sabs spent a very enjoyable half hour or so with most of the hounds sat in a wood towards the end of the day.

Early February we had a very chilly day out at a pathetic meet of the Badsworth & Bramham Moor who went out on foot at Bramham Park (home of Leeds festival). Frustrated? Oh after two hours of us literally being on their heels, that would be an understatement. So frustrated that they decided to try and start a punch up in full view of the cops. Fail. Not that the cops did anything of course.

A week later we joined up with other groups to visit the South Notts hunt for a very rare Saturday out for them. As soon as we turned up the bullshit started with them trying to block us in, start fights, etc. Our numbers and a blank refusal to give up though saw a difficult day come to a safe end with the hunt cancelling the following Saturday meet.

Late Feb and March flew by with repeat visits to Yorkshire and Staffordshire – all good days – and a trip down to the Quorn after some nastiness there earlier in the year. Different story this time with them packing up by 2pm.

Towards the very end of the season we had two trips up to our least favourite place in the word...Cumbria! It's always good to see the local sabs and always an absolute pain to go up the fells but we had two decent days up there and we finished the season determined to come back in August fitter than ever. What? You've heard that one before??

West Yorkshire Group struggled a bit with low numbers after the New Year but still made it out each week, often joining our neighbouring groups. We focused mainly on local hunts but had a few trips further afield when numbers were needed elsewhere. We would love some new recruits before the next season starts! Email us on wysabs@yahoo.co.uk



Coventry sabs started 2012 with a meet at the Ledbury, at least one farmer very angry with the hunt. A fox was seen with hounds in close pursuit at Keyses Farm and sabs ran in to intervene. As the sab car drove after the pack, a member of the field kicked in the driver's wing mirror. Later on they hunted 3 foxes by Glebe House. The driver was assaulted by several men when she tried to help them. There was another altercation at Green Farm with some of the field trying to stop sabs getting onto the road.

The following day, 7th January was the turn of the North Cotswold hunt at Broadway Tower. During the day it became very apparent that a pheasant shoot was in progress as well. Sabs stood in front of the guns and remonstrated with them but many pheasants died in agony on the ground. As that drive finished sabs ran on to the hunt, picking up a wounded pheasant en route who we regret to say did not survive.

10th January - the Cotswold Vale Farmers Hunt met at Church farm, Norton. They did appear to get rather nervous when a camera was pointed at a fox and hounds opposite the Church at Down Hatherly and moved on rather quickly. They were lost and then found later digging out a fox in the dark with the pack and field all present near Ridgeway. They were stopped when a sab with a camera turned up to ask them what they were up to. A few weeks later when the scene was revisited in daylight it transpired that they had trashed a badger sett.

13th January - the Ledbury at Maismore. On arrival one fox crossed in front of the car and as foot sabs ran out another ran out the back. As sabs tried to stop the hounds and film events a couple of the field tried to run the 2 foot sabs down .The huntsman soon took his hounds on, we think that these two were safe. We kept on top of the hunt and they did not draw some coverts that they would have liked to have done. However, regrettably they killed in front of sabs at the back of Ashleworth Ham and Meerend Thicket Nature Reserve (where apparently they are not permitted) retrieving the body quickly from the hounds and putting it on a quad bike and retreating as sabs ran towards them. Only a few bits of skin, blood and a couple of organs remained and as sabs surveyed the scene the hounds were immediately in full cry once more running through the water meadows across the road after the probable mate of the victim, we do not know the fate of the second fox. The remains were respectfully buried after enquiries as to any evidential value were made to the appropriate authorities, under the present legislation there was not enough evidence.

14th January - with Northampton and Southampton sabs the Pytchley were visited at Cottesbrook Park in freezing conditions with a massive field although other hunts had cancelled or at least left their horses at home. The Pytchley were rather grumpy at several foxes being helped by sabs and hunted on into the dark.

17th Jan - CVFH, went out on foot at Longhope, only 5 of them. Monitored by 2 sabs, thought to have drawn blank.

20th Jan - with Bristol sabs, the Ledbury at Eldersfield Gadbury bank. First off a concrete slab was found mysteriously covering a drain or maybe not too mysterious as it was right by the meet! It was soon disposed of. Good day whereby the hunt was kept moving and a dig out was stopped. Ledbury hunt followers then decided that they wanted to damage another car wing mirror...

21st Jan - South Shropshire at Middle Shadymoor. Six vehicles surrounded the sab vehicle for 45 minutes holding us captive on a narrow lane. By the time the police arrived they had all gone except for one and WE were threatened with arrest. We went on to find hounds just as they marked to ground at a badger sett. With cameras pointed the hunt were very reluctant to dig out or bolt. They got very stroppy and pushy but were straight on to another fox. Sabs were in hot pursuit and managed to at least lift the hound's heads.

27th Jan - Ledbury at Longdon Heath, we stayed with the hunt most of the day but not much opportunity to act safely.

28th Jan - Back at Cottesmore. Good day, hunt packed up early.

10th Feb - CVFH the Stag pub Blaisdon , heavy snow, hunted on foot in Ley Park

18th Feb - North Cotswold Cutsdean Farm with Bristol sabs. The hunt tried to whip sabs, then ran away and then the whipper in threatened to cut someone's throat. They were pushed on throughout the day. Sabs were also positioned well

and aided 2 foxes escape from a wood in front of hunt support.

21st Feb - CVFH Dryslade Farm.

24th Feb – Ledbury at Millets Court. Hounds all over roads yet again, spent a lot of time with odd hounds making sure that they did not get hurt as no-one else cared.

25th Feb - South Shropshire at Atcham. Despite a very over the top police operation and one ridiculous arrest for which all charges were later dropped, a fox was still assisted in his/her escape and the hunt had to flee the area.

2nd March - Ledbury at Buckbury. Warm day in which the hunt moved fast but was apprehended by sabs on numerous occasions. Nail-biting finish at the end as the hounds ran full pelt and in full cry towards the M50 motorway just before 18.00. Alas we were not featured in the CA film which was shot that day and stated that they would have more fun if they were actually allowed to hunt and kill foxes. The lament about poor old Will the huntsman facing prosecution every time a fox got onto the "false trail" (on purpose of course) and got themself killed was ermm really interesting.

3rd March - North Cotswold. Three foxes helped. One fast sab stopped hounds from killing a fox much to the anger of the hunt.

6th March - CVFH at Bozards Farm. Hounds were all over the roads including the A46 and the A435. Sadly hounds killed in a covert near Bozards Farm. As the foot sab filmed, a rider ran up to where the hounds were breaking up the fox and a couple of known miscreants jumped the wire fence and put something in one of the quad bikes. Later sabs went back to the kill scene finding 6 fox cub foetuses, placenta and adult remains, including fur and parts of organs these were retrieved and filmed as evidence and to expose the fact that hunts kill heavily pregnant vixens. Not enough evidence for a case under the current legislation.

13th March - Croome and West Warwickshire at Pound Farm, Norton. Three foxes were hunted, one after the other. A female rider was overheard lying to a householder that her cat was quite safe with the pack in full cry through nearby gardens. The cat escaped by getting under a car.

20th March - CVFH Dryslade Farm. Sabs split the pack and the hunt packed up early.

27th March - CVFH Coombe Hill. An eagle eye sab saw a fox break covert and due to prompt action that fox escaped. There was an incident on the road between the hunt and passers-by and sabs continued to keep up with the pack. Things got bad at Apperley with a serious incident between



the hunt and members of the public.

South Wales Hunt Sabs have had a rather eventful New Year's season, joining up with our pals from Bristol, Bath, West Wales and beyond.

We did have a couple of days off (which is always a treat!), the first being a Cotswold Vale meet which was cancelled due to frosty ground and then a Carmarthenshire meet which was cancelled because of a nearby point-to-point. On both occasions we were out and visible, sending a clear message to hunt scum that although they may decide to skip a day or two, sabs are always willing and able to get out there and protect wildlife.

One highlight of the season was on the Ledbury when a fox broke from a covert closely followed by hounds, sabs sprang into action, masking the poor animal's scent, then, with a few cracks of the whips, an array of voice calls and a blast on the gizmo managed to stop the hounds in their tracks, enabling Mr Fox to make good his escape and providing a great example of textbook sabbing!

We also held a very successful benefit gig which raised over £300. Still recovering from the benefit the night before, we were back in the field the next day, this time to visit our old chums (or should that be 'chumps'!) at the Ross Harriers (the hunt which, a few weeks before, physically assaulted a member of our sabbing entourage). It proved to be a long and arduous day with the usual intimidation and general numptiness by the terrierboys (which included climbing on top on the landy and snapping off one of its wing mirrors). Regardless, we managed to keep up with them all day and kept pushing them on. However, towards the end of the day and despite our best efforts, they did manage to kill a hare. As the day was drawing to a close, the support played their usual trick of blocking us in a narrow lane. Clearly baffled as to why his quad bike wouldn't fit through the tiny gap past our blocked in landy, one particularly moronic terrier boy took it upon himself to first rip off the number-plate and then smash the back window of our landy after which he produced an iron bar from his quad and began attacking sabs with it.

All in all we've had a good season saving wildlife from red-coated thugs and plan to up the ante ready for next season. If you'd like to get involved contact us on southwaleshuntsabs@gmail.com or visit our facebook page.

2012 begins for **Bath** sabs at the Ross harriers. The day began with the huntsman and his cronies riding down a busy road with the harriers all over the place, then threatening and verbally abusing the occupants of one Landy and surrounding the others. Blocking it in and continuing their threats, they phone the police and accuse us of threatening them and having baseball bats, etc! They return to the meet and finally leave again, blatantly hunting illegally, with us following to put a stop to it, not long after, the police arrive questioning a sab driver, asking if he had any offensive weapons and if they had been abusive, passing on his details and convincing the officer that he wasn't we're allowed to move off. Even with our 'boys in blue' around they still continue to hunt illegally and again we stop this. The huntsman, a little upset by this rides to the back of a Landy to vent his distaste and shouts 'they've got an F'ing W** in there', which was overheard by a member of the public, who reported it to the police. The police took statements and asked a hunt follower to contact the huntsman. His reply is 'get their number and I'll ring them later', which seems to aggravate the officer! So the huntsman goes on the run and starts hunting on foot, with sabs and police in pursuit.

A rider takes a fall and is seriously injured, an ambulance arrives only to be blocked in by hunt support, finally an air ambulance arrives! As sabs regroup the huntsman is seen being driven off in a police car. Hopefully the West Mercia police will treat Mr Peter's the same as they've treated sabs in the past!

28/01/12 Together with Bristol Hunt Saboteurs we visited our favourite racist, at the Ross Harriers. After a couple of half-hearted attempts of blocking us in, the hound van parks up in another farm and at 12:30pm the harriers are released and we follow them back to the original meet where a massive field of seven riders are waiting. For the next hour and half we're with them all the time, in and out of cry, the 'Gizmo' is put to good use. A different 'Cop Squad' arrives with more aggressive and threats of arrest for stepping off public highways, but when offered evidence of illegal hunting they leave. A fox runs out in front of the Landy, we're out and spraying...Citronella... the fox gets away. At 2:30pm they pack up - 2 hours, no kills, 2 police forces, 1 peed off hunt

and a Landy full of happy sabs.

25/02/12 Wessex and Welsh sabs close down the Cotswold Vale...Sabs had a great day moving on the Cotswold Vale and it's ever deceasing field which can't have been more than 15 riders, maybe the same number of foot followers, plus the usual suspects on Quads. Right from the start of the day sabs were with the hunt, each time the hounds went into cry sabs went into action calling them off, first they riot after a deer, sabs are thanked for gaining control of the hounds. A female rider who's blocked from filming excellent sabbing, attacks sabs with riding crop. Now the hounds decide to go off after a hare, the huntsman has no control of his hounds, yet again they're spread all over the Cotswolds... again at 2.30pm they box up and head home. Not sure how long this hunt can keep going, with falling support and only being out 2 or 3 hours a time.

03/03/12 Another day out with the Cotswold Vale Foxhounds, thanks to Gloucestershire's plod over-kill, 2 dog units, 5 marked cars and at least 1 unmarked, stopping vehicles and allowing the hunt to disappear for 1_ hours. But after a lot of driving around and some luck we find them, straight away pulling the hounds off a scent, the terrier boys who drove quads at sabs, forcing them out of the field. But with 5 vehicles out the huntsman has no chance of getting away again. A rider uses his horse as a weapon, riding at sabs, and an officer warns the rider off and when he complains about masked up sabs, his firmly told there's no law against being masked up!

10/03/12 It's not often the Ledbury foxhounds go out on a Saturday. Can't believe the meet, is only a couple of hundred metres from the M50! Right from the start the hunt are off, with 3 Landys out, they have no chance, with some excellent sabbing, horns & 'Gizmos', much to the annoyance of the terrier boys. A landowner goes after the hunt with a rifle, which the sabs think is great until he starts on them, a tactical withdrawal is made...Next the hunt attempts to cross land with some very excited livestock, they're ordered off again, at this point the hunt seems to give up, entering a farm to pack up, mad rifleman's mate drives at the hunt, then at sab vehicles, but the hunt's finished so time for home...WHEN WILL LANDOWNERS WORK OUT, IF THEY DON'T WANT SABS, DON'T ALLOW THE HUNT ON YOUR LAND...

17/03/12 So, out again with the Ross Harriers, they started by giving us the run around, but we kept up with them, we pulled the hounds off 3 hares then the hounds are on a 4th hare, sabs are there and rate the hounds, the hare and hounds get past us, we're not sure, but think they



got this one, gutted. Surprisingly, the huntsman reacts like it got away, ordering the terrier boys to block us in, one getting on our roof. Back with the hunt, a terrier boy takes out the wing mirror of one vehicle in front of us, then blocks us in again, the terrier boy tries to break into the Landy, his mate trying doors, hitting windows, the driver's door is torn open, the back door window's put though, a metal bar is pulled, riders arrive, off horses and attack the Landy, huntsman and whip join in. Incredibly with the violence of the attack no sabs are badly hurt, although the terrier boy does receive a face wound from smashing the Landy window! This hunt seems to want the award for most racist and violent in the west, sorry no we'll close them down first. So the season ends with a Bang! But all in all not too bad, no serious injuries and no arrests on our side! Dozens and dozens of animals saved and hunt support dwindling! With the summer of sorting the Landy, fund raising and recruiting new members!



Berkshire sabs had a particularly good day at the Eaton beagles in February. Aside from them wearing the most ridiculous outfits, we followed them from all the way from Eaton College and discovered that they had been given some land to hunt on due to a fox hunt being cancelled because of poor weather. We followed them miles and miles away out of the county and they had no clue at all even when they stopped and unloaded we were right behind them, literally inches away. We think they hadn't had any antis in a long time and probably trail hunt most of the time but we were lucky that day as they had planned to illegally hunt and we caught them. When they did eventually realise what was going on they literally turned around and loaded the hound van back up proving their guilt. After discussion outside the hound van they unloaded the hounds again and went for a walk and tried to lose us, we called police and they were thoroughly pissed off!! That day we were joined by one of the Guildford sabs, and one east Kent sab. We have also had other memorable days, one being on the 21st Jan when we found the Kimblewick hunt in Wendover. We were joined by Guildford sabs on this day and they trail hunted and were on their best behaviour, although not to the sabs! On the 28th of Jan we sabbed the Royal Agricultural beagles. We also had a good day doing the Christchurch and Farley Hill Beagles down in Oxford on the 3rd of March.

Guildford sabs had one of the best seasons since the early nineties, from New Year to the end of the season we sabbed 27 hunts. The Surrey Union foxhunt rarely had a day free of us, we did a lot of mid-week hunts which made all the difference (even stopping them digging out a badger sett on one occasion). We also had a few away days at other foxhunts and sabbed five different beagle packs all of which packed up within a few minutes of us turning up. We had over 50 different people out with us all of the season, normally getting about a dozen people out most days. Next season we hope to expand our numbers and buy another landrover so we can double our numbers and be more effective.

First Saturday of the year, **East Kent** sabs went off to a meet of the East Kent foxhounds The hunt had managed 12 (yes, 12!) riders on a gorgeous day, so was all rather tragic...sabs kept up with them all day, and watched sadly as they put their hounds over land they had been asked not to. They packed up before three, and sabs were subjected to a colourful display of abuse from the hunt staff back at the meet. No kills, not even near. So that was the East Kent area sabbed fairly nicely that day.

The next week was a long tiring Saturday, sabs split into four groups, and staked out half of Kent waiting to intercept the West St & Tickham Foxhounds, a pitiful hunt with no kennels. When we arrived and approached the hunt, supporters were heard using the "Halloa' call (this meant they had seen a fox, and were trying to

attract the huntsman- all completely illegal of course). When they clocked us they stopped, and hunt vanished, there then followed many miles of trudging after the swiftly moving huntsman with the four quads of terrier boys following us. When we realised that the hunt had as many terrier men out as adult riders, its painfully obvious how these people are getting their "sport". It looked like it was going to kick off halfway through the day, but as the boys were matched in numbers, they kept to gurning and driving at us when they could. It was obvious that the hunting was over for the day, and they packed up very early. We had a good search through the areas where the terrier scum had been lurking in case they were digging, but all was peaceful. So a decent day, in beautiful sunshine, nice one to the new people, and all other drivers involved in stake outs.

Back at the EAST KENT foxhounds the next Saturday, another quiet day, no kills or violence, a well behaved huntsman even whipped the hounds off a rabbit! They do seem to be behaving a bit better at the moment, scared of more convictions?

The following week we all came thankfully back in one piece from a day of constant intimidation, harassment, violence and blatant illegal hunting. The WEST ST. & TICKHAM, now sore at being found again, decided to carry on illegally hunting, this time doing all they could to shake us off. The day started with a supporter driving at us, and threatening to "stuff my camera down my fucking throat". This happened whilst we were calling out the police yet again, to witness the blatant law breaking. Terrier boys and a gamekeeper stuck with us like glue all day, blocking roads and looking up for it, but it wasn't until the end of the day that it kicked off. There was little scent due to the heat, but at about 4, the hounds got onto a fox right in front of us, a long way from the hunt. We piled out to rate the hounds, and whilst doing so, the boys decided to have a go, and drove at us at high speed with one sab only just getting out of the way in time. Tough guys, but it got sorted out, and the fox got away.

Another shit day the next week....a planned stake out of beagle pack was abandoned when sabs stumbled upon some illegal hare coursing. The police were called and turned up almost instantly. Funny considering we called them twice last week to report illegal fox hunting and threats of violence and they never showed up. Anyone would think they turn a blind eye when the criminal is wearing a red coat! Anyhow, the coursers soon left the area, and the police failed to apprehend them. They told us that they didn't follow one vehicle as it had children in the back! We explained that these



people take children to these events, and as always the plod were as much use as an ashtray on a motorbike. Details were supplied though of other vehicles, and we hope it is followed up.

A search of the meets then failed to find the beagles so sabs attended a joint meet of two foxhound packs undercover. The meet was thronging with supporters and vehicles, and sabs sadly witnessed the huntsman blowing for a kill in the woods at the end of the day. Absolutely nothing we could do due to the sheer weight of support/thugs, and our position at the time. We filmed what we could, and it's just yet more evidence for the national picture that hunting is going on as normal. Sabs returned to the estate later that night and sadly their worst fears were confirmed; a disembowelled fox was found with his/her tail (brush) removed, this would have been kept as a "trophy" by the hunt. The fox's body has now been removed, and the incident is under investigation by the relevant authorities. Caught out! Amazingly, after a press release a photo of the dead fox was plastered over the local papers and both hunts cried "it wasnt us!" The hunt switched their last meet but we managed to find them. Tiny in numbers, they packed up early. You can't hide hunt scum, we will always be watching...

The back end of the season after the New Year saw **North East London** sabs continue to join up with SES colleagues. We mixed up our visits between the east Essex and the Essex and Suffolk tailing off our visits to the farmers and with a return to the Essex union in spite of the level of violence. The attendance of plod was mixed but still usually in their favour. Numbers out remained steady filling our vehicle 'shortbus'. We stopped kills and kept up the pressure with the camera. Our success at our job was consistent and we were even getting info from hunt insiders trying to set us up and spoil rival hunts at the same time. The sense in our region is that they are losing hunting land in general and competing with each other more. This at a time when our groups are upping our co-operation and covering more areas. So it was great SES travelled and joined NELS for an end of season party to wind down and laugh at our end of season film - a student mockumentary with not enough mocking for some.

Well, its official, the Waveney Harriers' huntsman has got so sick of the **Norfolk & Suffolk** sabs that he is clearing off. After 19 years he is returning to his roots and going back to the Essex and Farmers Union. He never even said goodbye to us! Still never mind, the Essex sabs will give him a warm welcome from us. If we say so ourselves we had an excellent last season. Considering there are five of us at most, and sometimes as little as just two of us, we do pretty well to make a difference out there. Since New Year we have fitted in a visit to the Easton Harriers and done the Waveneys twice weekly, including all their joint home meets with Norfolk and Essex hunts (one week included a visit by the West Norfolk Foxhounds who are obviously not used to saboteurs). Just when we thought we had seen it all out there with the Waveneys we happened upon a supporter who also appears to enjoy flashing as well as abusing animals. He appeared keen to show us what little he had but not so keen to show us his face afterwards when we were trying to get a photo of him. The passenger in his vehicle (who can be seen in the background of the photo) is Karen Davison-White, a nationally renowned and respected hunt photographer. We have had many stressful days out there but it seems that we are not the only ones who get stressed as one Saturday the huntsman got so scared that he hid up behind a tree for over 10 minutes (he doesn't even make a very good job of hiding) leaving us with his pack of hounds running up and down the road. Despite our pleas for him to come and get his dogs and take them to safety, he was too cowardly and stayed hidden up. So, having a new huntsman next season could prove interesting for the Norfolk & Suffolk sabs. First whipper-in from the Cottesmore Hunt, Joe Tesseyman appears to be coming to join us and the Waveneys. If any of you sabs out there have any experience of him and any useful information to prepare us for next season then it would be gratefully received to ns.sabs@yahoo.co.uk

February started with snow, so no sabbing for **Croydon** sabs on the 4th or 11th. The 18th saw us with two vans out plotted up with Brighton, Hastings and Guildford in a

car park close to the Crawley and Horsham kennels. The Worthing sabs were on kennel watch, but the hunt didn't go out. We later learned that we had been spotted by hunt who had phoned the police for extra cops due to our numbers. When this wasn't forthcoming they decided not to go out. Result! Meanwhile, other elements of Guildford had found a beagle pack, so we headed off on a long haul to join them. After some initial difficulties locating them we picked them up. They ran away so hard that their own vehicles couldn't find them. Towards the end of the day a shamefaced bumpkin approached the Croydon driver to ask if he knew the location of the hunt so they could pack up and go home!

Mid-week saw violence against sabs on the Surrey Union, so Saturday the 25th we linked up with Guildford, Brighton and Hastings to pay the S.U. a visit. They were on the run all day and seemed strangely disinclined to start any trouble.

March was ushered in with a visit to the C and H, again in the company of our friends from the south coast. This normally aggressive hunt seemed very subdued. The shock of having some of its members arrested and charged with illegal hunting and the sudden lack of unlimited backup from the Sussex police had obviously shocked them to the core.

On the 10th we returned to see our old mate Mark Bycroft, huntsman of the Old Surrey, Burstow and West Kent foxhounds on a joint meet with the Ashford Valley at Four Elms in Kent. The Kent cops don't police hunting and the day started with hunt vehicles trying to run us off the road followed by Bycroft and several other Red Coats blocking us in with their horses. Plod totally failed to respond to the ensuing 999 calls, but luckily things settled down a bit after that apart from a couple of half-hearted attempts to block us in with vehicles late in the day. Foot sabs were up on the hunt for almost the whole day, and we are certain they didn't kill.

We linked up again with Guildford for the 17th on a Surrey Union 'bye day'. This is a date not on their meet card that they used to make up for the days lost to snow. Hours of fruitless searching failed to reveal them and we later found out that the hunt had consisted of six horse boxes hidden in a barn.

And so for our final outing of the season, again accompanied by Brighton and Hastings we made our way to the Burstow at Penshurst. This is always a bit of a nervy one for Croydon as it's the scene of the attack in 2007 that left the sab driver injured and the van minus all its windows. For much of the day it looked as if history was about to repeat itself, with bumpkin thugs blocking in vehicles on the roads and being very threatening. The bravery of the sabs in the field again kept them up with the hunt for most of the day in the face of a lot of aggression, and a kill free end to the season was ensured.



Over the Christmas period the Guildford sabs had their own catapult incident (see last Howl) so South Coast sabs travelled to help them the next time out. It was great to watch the idiot accused of the previous catapult attack incident nicked and his vehicle towed away for breaking bail conditions, but his friends were not to be outdone. On the first venture into the field we were blocked while travelling down a footpath, after a bit of shoving we got past and carried on, all became clear as we were close to the hunt. The supporter's numbers were swelled by two quad bikes of terrier men with faces even a mother couldn't love. These friendly lads barrelled into sabs throwing punches and a general melee ensued. When the dust had settled we carried on in the direction we had intended, on the footpath which miraculously they agreed had appeared there. Complaints were made to the cops but as usual no arrests from assaults on the day but video of the attack has been submitted with complaints.

We did the Surrey union on a mid-week meet. Having taken the day off work we popped up to help out Guildford sabs. Landy was full but it looked like the Hunt was not going out so walked up to Leith Hill tower and had a snow ball fight. On way back we realised there was the hunt on Forestry Commission land but only on foot (and quad bikes). We proceeded to follow them, started down a green lane path in the landy only to meet an irate Forestry commission man who called the police on us even though we were legally ok, and he didn't bother to speak with us. Cops turned up to say we were okay but FC man had contacted his bosses who ordered the hunt off the land which works for us. While this was going on the Surrey Union terrier man Keith Nicholson ran his quad bike into a sab while on a footpath. Bad bruises and possible nerve damage to her leg and a complaint made to police as he was then filmed admitting he did it. Hunt went home with less than an hour in the field.

C&H at Shipley for some reason have lost their 'stewards', perhaps due to the upcoming court case planned for April. We kept them under observation all day until right at the end one of their supporters flipped out and pushed a sab in the river. We blocked this idiot's car in until the coops arrived only to let him go without charge.

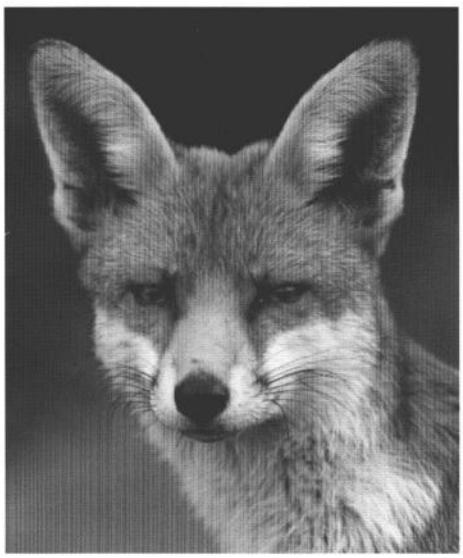
Old Surrey & Burstow at Paddockwood was an odd day, we are used to this hunt being the worst when it comes to violence, but this day they were very passive. The day started badly with a supporter nearly ramming us off the road and the red coats then blocked the road for 15 minutes even with sabs in the field. Cops called but did not bother to turn up. It was obvious they were hunting normally but no kills to our knowledge due to intervention from our horn blowers. For once the local press was interested and we had articles in two newspapers.

Southdown & Eridge at Plumpton which is up on the South Downs was the usual hard day as there is not road access, so once sabs are in the field they stay there. Tabs were kept on the pack most of the day and their boys stayed away for once.

Went to sab the Crawley and Horsham but they failed to go out (later heard because they saw the three landrovers waiting for them) so we popped over to a suspected beagle back meet. Took some time to find them but when we did they went home straight way, one land rover full of sabs fed up had located the Chiddingfold and Leconfield so they were followed at the end of their day as well.

Old Surrey & Burstow at Lingfield to end the season saw us keeping the pack away from three foxes. The hunt had returned to the usual aggression, riding at sabs and also one in a 4x4 blocking in vehicles and supporters walking in front of our landies. Once again Kent police refused to turn out to 999 calls and we are beginning to think that the Tories plans for a private police force might not be such a bad idea.

Another seasons over but we still have regular seats available in our land rover so if anyone in the South East wants to come out get in touch.



SUPPORT ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS

UK prisoners

Mel Broughton (A3892AE)
HMP Bullingdon, PO Box 50, Oxford OX25 1WD.
Mel was remanded on 14 December 2007 and was sentenced on 13th February 2009 to 10 years.
Birthday: 5th July

Gavin Medd-Hall (A3624AD)
HMP Coldingley, Shaftesbury Road, Bisley, Woking, Surrey GU24 9EX
In January 2009 Gavin was sentenced to 8 years in relation to charges in connection with HLS campaigns. (One of the UK SHAC 7)
Birthday: 20th March
What you can send: stamps (12 in letter); Self-addressed envelopes, cheques/postal orders made out to 'HMP Headquarters' with Gavin's name and number and sender's details on reverse. (Please remember that Gavin has poor eyesight and will appreciate if you write in clear, large writing). Also you can email using: www.emailaprisoner.com

Heather Nicholson (A3158AJ)
Just released!

International prisoners

Abdul Haqq (formerly Walter Edmund Bond), 37096-013
USP Marion CMU, PO Box 1000, Marion IL 62959, USA
Abdul Haqq was arrested by federal agents on 22nd July 2010 after his brother informed on him and he was sentenced on 11th Feb 2011 for burning down the Sheepskin Factory in Glendale, Colorado. On 14th Oct 2011, Abdul was sentenced to a further 87 months in prison for the ALF arsons in Utah. This new sentencing will run consecutive with his time in Colorado. This gives Abdul a total of 12 years for his actions as the ALF Lone Wolf.
Support page: www.SupportWalter.org
Birthday: 16th April

Marie Jeanette Mason, 04672-061
FMC Carswell, Federal Medical Center, P.O. Box 27137, Fort Worth, TX 76127, USA.
Marie was sentenced on 5th February 2009 to an outrageous 21 years and 10 months imprisonment for ELF/ALF actions.
http://freemarie.org/ and http://supportmariemason.org
Birthday: 26th January

Eric McDavid, 16209-097
FCI Terminal Island, Federal Correctional Institution, PO BOX 3007, San Pedro, CA 90731, USA.
Eric was sentenced to just under 20 years imprisonment for conspiring to think about actions! (Part of an FBI sting operation)
Birthday: 7th October
www.supporteric.org

Daniel Gerard McGowan, 63794-053
FCI Terre Haute - CMU, P.O. Box 33, Terre Haute, IN 47808, USA.
Sentenced to seven years imprisonment for his part in two arsons and his role in an ELF/ALF conspiracy.
Birthday: 2nd May
Support site: www.supportdaniel.org

Steve Murphy, 39013-177
FCI Beaumont Medium, Federal Correctional Institution, PO Box 26040, Beaumont, TX 77720, USA
Steve Murphy has been charged with a 2006 E.L.F. action in Pasadena, CA. and was recently sentenced to 5 years on April 5th, 2010 after previously pleading guilty. Steve is also an animal rights activist and vegan.
Birthday: 3rd September
Support site: http://supportsteve.org/

Viktor Padellaro
Anstalten Kirseberg, Box 3097, 200 22 Malmö, Sweden
Viktor was sentenced to three years and six months in prison for arson at a McDonald's in Gothenburg, for smashing windows at a restaurant he believed to be serving shark-fin soup, and for sending allegedly threatening letters to fur store owners, AstraZeneca employees and others involved in animal abuse. Viktor has been detained on remand since his arrest in August 2011.
You can also send emails of support to: S.GBG.VEGAN@gmail.com and they will be printed out and sent to him.
Birthday: 27th December
Note from ALFSG: ALFSG are aware of Viktor's past links to fascist groups. Viktor has released a statement in which he expresses shame at his former association with fascists before his AR actions. We are convinced that Viktor is being truthful about his change of heart. We believe that people can change for the better. But individuals can make their own decision on whether to support him or not.

Justin Solondz, 98291-011
FDC SEATAC, Federal Detention Centre, P.O. Box 13900, Seattle, WA 98198, USA.
Justin Solondz has been sentenced to 7 Years in prison for part in arson from 2001, after being on the run and then later in custody in China for a non-activism offence. He was accused of actions under the Earth Liberation Front/Animal Liberation Front. Briana Waters, his former comrade and friend turned informant.
Birthday: 3rd October

Save us some dosh! if you re moving?

If you move house, please don't forget to tell us.

The HSA has a disproportionate number of returned envelopes due to unknown addressees, this inevitably means wasted funds.

Make sure we know where you are!!





HELP SAVE A LIFE AFTER YOUR DEATH

REMEMBER THE HUNT SABOTEURS ASSOCIATION IN YOUR WILL

You may think that it is not worth your while making a Will but you may be surprised at how much you are worth, especially if you own your own home. Most people in this country die without making a Will and that means that the government gets more than their fair share. Making a Will need not be complicated or time consuming and it could save your loved ones a lot of unnecessary heartache. If you do not have a Will when you die there is no guarantee that those closest to you will benefit from your wealth and property. In addition, many people like to know that the organisations they support whilst alive will continue to benefit after their death.

The Hunt Saboteurs Association relies entirely on the generosity of its membership to function. As the organisation has no paid staff and minimal running costs more of the money coming in can be put to good use where it counts most – in the hunting field. Leaving a gift to the H.S.A. in your Will helps to ensure that the good work carried out by active hunt saboteurs can continue. With a ban now in place, and so many hunts blatantly flouting it, the role of sabs has never been more important, so your gift will still be put to good use – the HSA will continue until no sentient creatures are abused in the name of sport.

A Will is a legally binding document and needs to be prepared properly. The services of a solicitor should be employed. A solicitor is the only person who can give professionally qualified advice. Have a look in Yellow Pages (under 'Solicitors') or call the Law Society on *020 7242 1222*. If you already have a Will you can include a gift to the H.S.A. by adding an amendment (known as a 'codicil') – you will need to consult your solicitor about this.

If you are able to remember the H.S.A. in your Will it would help if you could let us know.

I plan to / have already prepared a Will and have remembered the Hunt Saboteurs Association as follows (please tick as appropriate):

☐ **Residual Legacy** - a percentage of my estate once my family and friends have been provided for.

☐ **Pecuniary Legacy** - a cash gift of £.....

☐ **Specific Gift** - an individual item of value e.g. jewellery.

Name.....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

Signature.....

Date.....

HOW YOU CAN HELP END BLOODSPORTS

Organisations such as the Countryside Alliance are backed by some of the richest people in Britain, and can spend millions on advertising and paid campaigners. Their wealth and power gives them a stranglehold over most of the media and some of the most influential people in government.

The Hunt Saboteurs Association, in comparison, runs solely on funds from you, the public, who keep the organisation afloat with donations and membership. It depends on the small band of volunteers who give over their spare time to keep the HSA running smoothly, who produce leaflets and adverts and salesgoods, who staff stalls, who give advice to other sabs and deal with the press. And most importantly of all it depends on the dedication of the men and women who, week in, week out, defy the hunts on their own turf, and in the face of increasing violence and police powers, *still* manage to save the lives of thousands of hunted animals every year.

There are several ways you can help the HSA.

- Get in touch with your local sab group (details from the office) and either go sabbing yourself or help in other ways such as fundraising or mechanics.
- If you are not already a member of the HSA, please join now by using the form below - it only takes a few minutes to fill in and return to us.
- If you are already a HSA member then please photocopy the form and pass it on to someone else you think may like to join us.
- Ask the office for back copies of HOWL to leave in places where they can be read by members of the public (ie. doctors' waiting rooms). If you are still at school or college why not leave a copy in the library reference section?
- Support us by buying HSA T-shirts and other merchandise. Contact us if you don't already have a salesgoods order form, page 2.
- Let the hunters know what you think! Write to your local newspaper's letters page and write to your MP to let them know your views on Government plans either regarding hunting or hunt saboteurs. Your MP's address will be House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA



HSA MEMBERSHIP AND DONATION FORM

PHOTOCOPIES WELCOME

I would like to become an active / supporting* member of the Hunt Saboteurs Association
(**delete one*)

I enclose my membership subscription of: (*tick one*)

❒ £15 waged ❒ £100 life membership

❒ I enclose a donation of £..... to help fund the H.S.A.'s work

Name (Ms / Mrs / Miss / Mr) .....

Address .....

.....

..... Postcode .....

Telephone Number.....

Cheques / PO's should be made payable to "HSA".

Please return to HSA, BM HSA, London WC1N 3XX

For a standing order form, to pay via Paypal or for more information phone 0845 450 0727
or email us - info@huntsabs.org.uk

USEFUL ADDRESSES

A.L.F. Press Office
BM 4400, London, WC1N 3XX
01623 746470 alfpressoffice@yahoo.com

ALF Supporters Group
BM 1160, London, WC1N 3XX
www.alfsg.org.uk

Animal Rights Coalition
PO Box 339, Wolverhampton, WV10 7BZ
0845 458 0146 www.arcnews.redblackandgreen.net

ARPS (Animal Rights Prisoner Support)
PO Box 2174, LEIGH-ON-SEA, SS9 0AZ
Website: http://www.arprisoners.org
General email enquiries: info@arprisoners.org
Newsletter email enquiries: newsletter@arprisoners.org

The Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade (CAFT)
PO Box 38, Manchester, M60 1NX
0845 330 7955 caft@caft.org.uk www.caft.org.uk

Digging Out (Campaign for the Abolition of Terrier Work)
BCM Digging Out
London WC1N 3XX info@diggingout.org www.diggingout.org

Earth First!
www.earthfirst.org.uk www.eco-action.org

The Fox Project
The Lodge, Kings Toll Road, Pembury, Kent, TN2 4BE
01892 842111 mon-fri 9am-3pm
fox@foxproject.org.uk www.foxproject.org.uk

Hunt Watch
PO Box 487, Norwich, NR5 8WE
07952 550054 contact@huntwatch.info www.huntwatch.info

League Against Cruel Sports (LACS)
New Sparling House , Holloway Hill
Godalming, Surrey, GU7 1QZ
0845 330 8486 info@league.org.uk www.league.org.uk

The National Anti Snaring Campaign (NASC)
PO Box 3058
Littlehampton West Sussex BN16 3LG
info@antisnaring.org.uk www.antisnaring.org.uk

National Fox Welfare Society
135 Higham Road, Rushden, Northants, NN10 6DS
01933 411996 natfox@ntlworld.com www.nfws.org.uk

POWA (Protect Our Wild Animals)
www.powa.org.uk

SchNEWS
PO Box 2600, Brighton, BN2 0EF
01273 685913 schnews@brighton.co.uk www.schnews.org.uk

Sea Shepherd
BCM Bass, London, WC1N 3XX
uk@seashepherd.org www.seashepherd.org

SPEAK Campaigns
PO Box 6712, Northampton, NN2 6XR
0845 330 7985 07906 497317 info@speakcampaigns.org
www.speakcampaigns.org

Stop DEathFra Badger Killers
www.badger-killers.co.uk

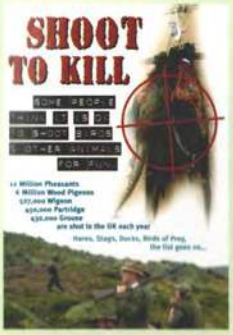
Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC)
C/o FRIEND, 89 Bush Road, East Peckham, Tonbridge, TN12 5LJ
info@shac.net www.shac.net

Vegan Prisoner Support Group (VPSG)
BM 2107, London, WC1N 3XX
020 8292 8325 info@vpsg.org www.vpsg.org

The Vegan Society
Donald Watson House, 21 Hylton Street, Hockley, Birmingham,
B18 6HJ 0121 523 1730 0845 458 8244
info@vegansociety.com www.vegansociety.com

Veggies Animal Rights Calendar
http://www.veggies.org.uk/events/arc/

HSA PROMOTIONALS





Full colour A5 'Shoot to Kill' leaflet. Explains what you can do to stop our wildlife being killed and persecuted by shooters.

'Shoot to Kill'
FREE (+p&p +DONATION)

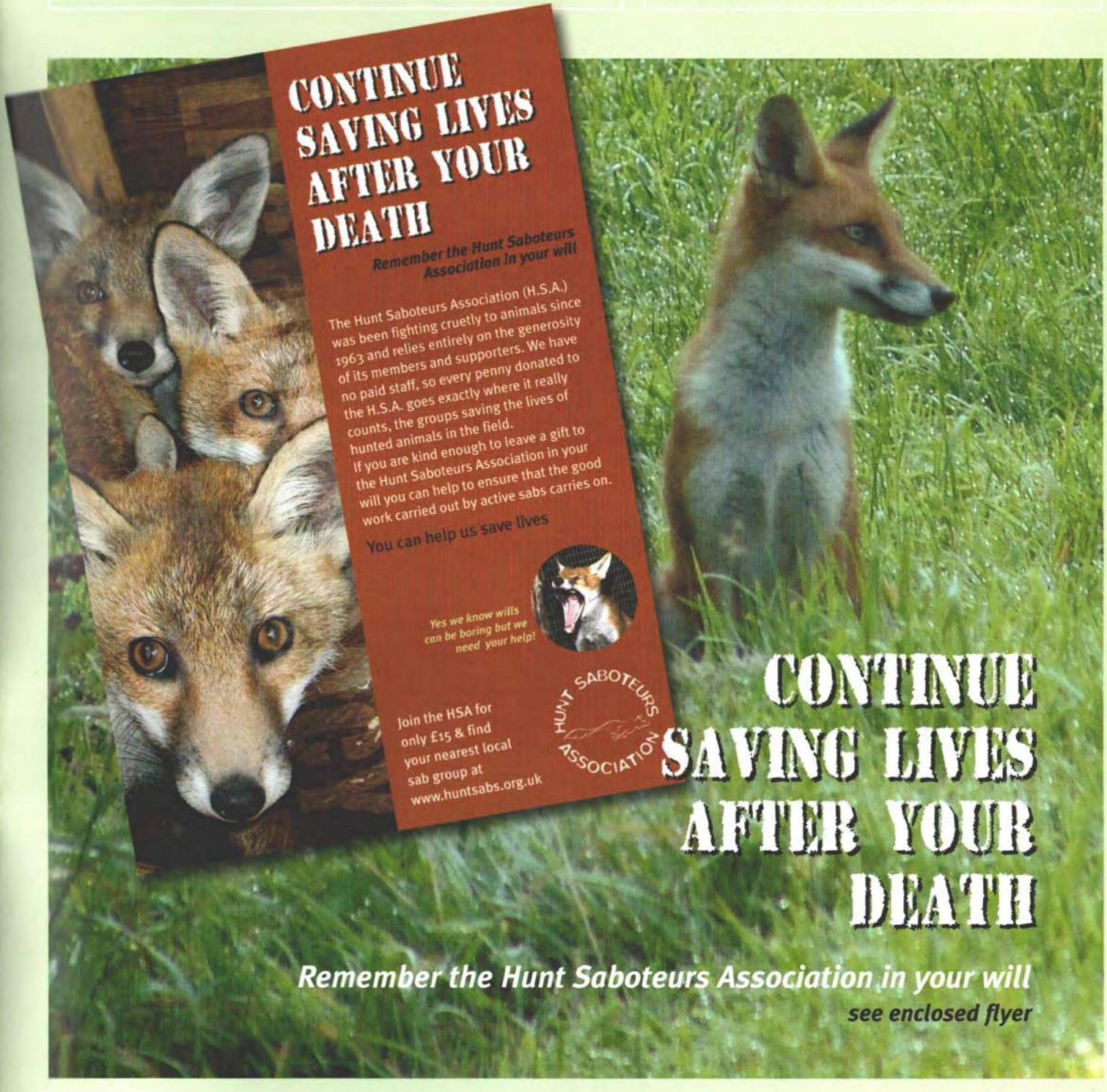
BACK ISSUES OF HOWL
FREE (+p&p +DONATION)



You can also affiliate to the HSA for £30 for 4 issues of Howl. Affiliated groups will receive 10 copies of each Howl in the course of their subscription. (The cost of affiliation includes postage)

All sab groups receive a discount of 20% when ordering
Please quote the name of your group contact when ordering.

POSTAGE & PACKING
To keep promotional material free we would ask you to make a donation to cover postage.1 Howl costs 72p to send as do 5 posters. 250 leaflets cost approx. £3.75, 500 leaflets £4.25 and 1000 leaflets £6.25.



LUSH

FRESH HANDMADE COSMETICS



SABS ARE ONCE AGAIN SUPPORTED BY LUSH COSMETICS



Did you know that throughout history the UK has led the world on passing animal protection laws?
We even created the world's first animal protection charity, when the RSPCA started in 1824.

All this protection came about because the Great British Public demanded action across the years to end the cruelty they saw happening and Parliaments through the ages felt they needed to respond to the wishes of the voting public.

Laws are of no value if they are not enforced.
If no one is investigating and enforcing these laws, then they were fought for and passed for nothing - animals will continue to be subjected to cruel, inhumane treatment.

Crimes against animals are sadly still a part of modern British life.
In particular the police are struggling to tackle wildlife crime due to lack of funding and priority. In a report by the Association of Chief Police Officers they state *"gathering of evidence of offending behaviour has proved a difficult task for the Police and with available resources it is likely to remain so"*







The high street retailer has again supported the HSA and our much beleaguered wildlife with a new campaign to call for better funding for wildlife crime.

Lush staff love to dress up for animals and this campaign was no exception, with shops all over the uk getting involved and encouraging the public to tackle the lack of wildlife crime resources and approach their candidates in the UK wide Police and crime commissioner elections to express their concerns.

This has given the HSA a much needed boost in support and exposure as well as enabling local groups to re-connect to their nearest Lush shop, get more support and offer fundraising opportunities, as well as gaining some new sabs to boot!!



For more information visit www.huntsabs.org.uk