The Magazine of The Hunt Saboteurs Association Spring 2014 £2 (free to members)

HOWL

Direct Action Against All Bloodsports

www.huntsabs.org

HUNT SABOTEURS 50 years 1963-2013 still saving wildlife

Hunting down the hare hunters

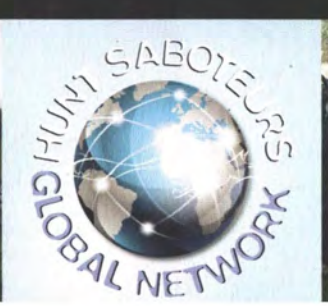
Hunt saboteurs global network

The bitter taste of hunting

Zero tolerance











HUNT SABOTEURS 50 years
1963-2013
Still saving wildlife

Life begins at 50!



On 18th January, Devon sabs with friends from all over the country celebrated people's dedication to the cause by marking the 50th anniversary year of the Hunt Saboteurs Association. The first ever sab was upon the South Devon Foxhounds on Boxing Day in 1963. 50 years on, Mr Ian Pearse, the South Devon's' current huntsman, found himself unexpectedly surrounded by sab groups from all over the country. He needed the company, though, as he barely had any field or support, and looked a bit lonely out there!

Despite the number of sabs and the presence of seemingly every police officer in Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, the huntsman and dirty terriermen blatantly flouted the Hunting Act again and again. As The Plod were only there to delay us, look at the nice scenery and turn a blind eye to all the illegal hunting going on, sabs did what we do best.





From the moment the hunt was spotted on the moor near the meet, all groups worked together in vehicles and on foot to ensure they had few places to run. Pearse repeatedly drew coverts and hounds frequently went into cry, but sabs from all groups were always close at hand to step in, rating hounds, spraying, playing 'ping pong' with the pack and blasting gizmos.

At one point, Pearse told sabs, "You're going to see some action in a minute". Minutes later, the hounds went into cry in front of sabs, and we suspect a bagged fox had been released by the terriermen. Sprays and rating hopefully ensured any fox escaped.



By late afternoon, Pearse seemed to tire of all the new company and tried hiding in a deep valley, but we'd predicted he'd end up there and sabs went in through mud and floods and successfully split the pack and called hounds away from him yet again.

We left him in the dark, on his own, still trying to gather his hounds back together. The Plod stayed with him though, and gave the hound truck a guard of honour when it arrived. Anyone would think they were hand in glove with the hunt! We questioned the waste of public funds and their total lack of interest in enforcing the Hunting Act. One response from the police was that, if we had an issue with hunting, we should refer it to DEFRA! Need we say more really? They seem to have no comprehension of the Hunting Law or what constitutes a criminal act under it. Video footage of Plod's responses to follow.



A tiring, typically wet and very long day (yeah, ok, not as long as the other groups had with all their travelling!), but a successful one. Thank you so much to all groups who made the long trips south and west. We'd love to return the compliment in the future!

Devon Hunt Sabs - coming to a hunt near you soon!

www.huntsabs.org

Hunt Saboteurs @HuntSabs

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The Hunt Saboteurs Association has been in existence for over 50 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. As a member of the HSA your contribution is vital – thank you.

Editor(s) Mel
Contributors All groups who sent group news in.
Photos HSA Archive, Sab groups all over the country - Ta folks!
Distribution HSA
Big taverymuch to: Cee and Dave Wetton, Paul Vegan Anarchist, all HSA members & anyone who we've pilfered stuff off and forgotten to credit.



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Howl is printed on recycled paper using vegetable inks.



This issue of Howl is dedicated to the memory of Hunt Saboteurs

MIKE HILL & TOM WORBY

Killed

9th February 1991 & 3rd April 1993 respectively

whilst lawfully trying to prevent hunts from killing our wildlife.

YOU WILL NEVER BE FORGOTTEN



EDITORIAL

There is so much going on in this issue, it's hard to know where to start!

There is a new campaign just launched targeting hunts from a slightly different angle. Great for everyone to get involved in, especially if you don't really fancy marching around fields up to your ankles in mud after the hunt.

There is also news from groups all over the country who have been slogging away at their local hunts as usual. If you don't go out sabbing yourself, find your local group and offer them some support. Help them fundraise or make them a cake to celebrate at the end of a hard day in the field. Everyone has a part to play in bringing down these misguided people - see the flowchart on the back cover!

Check out the inspiring article on the hunt sabs global network, page 10. Sharing ideas with folks all over the world who have to deal with all sorts of animal abuse can only strengthen our global movement.

Oh and talking about unity and strength, have a look at the awesome antifa article (titled Zero tolerance) on page 8. That's what we are all about, standing up to narrow minded bullies. Tolerating any kind of oppression encourages the kind of world we are trying to avoid. We are fighting for respect and equality; we want this for our wildlife, our domesticated animals and ourselves.

Have fun, stay safe, get involved in whatever way you can....



HUNTING DOWN THE HARE HUNTERS



This article is a follow up to '50 Years 50 Hare Hunts' which appeared in the last HOWL. It is intended to bring you the latest news, as of January 2014, on the HSA's ongoing campaign against hare hunting.

In 2011 the HSA established a national task force to instigate a new campaign against beagling. This has been a huge success so far, with the hare hunters reeling from their worst two seasons in years, but now is not the time to let up.

The 2013-14 season, too, has begun terribly for the beagling fraternity. In early October the HSA announced it had rumbled a 'Young Hare-Hunters Day' to be held at the Eton College Beagles kennels. This bizarre event was set to involve experienced hunters training public school pupils in the 'art' of beagling. Local sabs decided publicity was the best way forward and the college PR phone line was quickly overwhelmed by calls from national newspapers and outraged members of the public. The college attempted to deny knowledge of the event, but fell silent when sabs were able to list the galaxy of stars from the beagling world (including Steve '37 Brace' Duckmanton and AMHB Chairman Max Rumney) who were due to attend.



On the day itself - a Sunday - demonstrators gathered at the eerily quiet venue, while hunt sabs patrolled other local beagle kennels in case the event had been moved. Nothing was found - it had clearly been cancelled. An early victory for us and a psychological blow for our opponents.

Sabs from the north east then decided to join the beagling campaign in the most spectacular fashion: by targeting the Alston Hare Week. This week-long hare hunting festival, held in October, sees packs travel from around the country to hunt the moors above the market town of Alston in Cumbria. The rugged landscape and strong hares are meant to get hunt staff and hounds back in shape after the summer recess. Nice,eh? The fact that it takes place in some of the remotest country in England has no doubt enhanced its appeal to the publicity-averse beaglers.

In preparation the HSA archive was trawled for old fixture cards, local pubs were visited and the entire area was reconnoitred. Enough likely-looking past meets were identified to make successful sabotage a realistic possibility. Devon sabs then came through with the decisive piece of intelligence: the West Somerset Beagles would be attending - and from this we were able to deduce the exact dates for the event. It was on.

Accommodation was booked and transport organised. But then, just three days before kick-off, came the devastating news that the Somerset badger cull was to be extended. Sabs agonised over what to do, but ultimately it was clear that exhausted colleagues in the south needed support. The cull was a one-off and demanded our attention; Alston Hare Week happens every year...we will be back.

The frustration of Alston was quickly forgotten when sabs in the south east (who've been leading the way in sustained sabbing of foot packs) organised a well-attended Beagles Tactics Day. The focus was not so much the disruption of hunting but rather how to find your local pack in the first place. Our hosts were keen to emphasise some fundamentals: get a meet, then use it to gain as much intelligence as possible. In particular this means obtaining good quality photos of vehicles, especially as beaglers are increasingly attempting to anonymise themselves when travelling to meets. Most hunt staff will not wear their uniform while driving and supporters are strongly discouraged from displaying Countryside Alliance or other incriminating car stickers.





In another session a Midlands-based group introduced their team of non-sabbing drivers: they follow vehicles to meets, 'call in' sabs and then retire from the action before they are detected - something others should certainly consider. The day finished with sessions on eliciting tip-offs through targeted social networking and advice on how to engage with bodies like land trusts and the Forestry Commission who are often aware of where hunts will meet. Not very punk, maybe - but whatever works. Anyway, many thanks to southern sabs for laying on the event - even if those of us from the north had to remind them that 'our' beagle packs are not all run by school boys and retired colonels...(as anyone out with the Colne Valley on Boxing Day will confirm!).

The success of the day was quickly shown with reports of increased action around the country. The Old Berkeley were hit mid-week at Leverets Farm (hmm... wonder why they meet there?) near Marsh Gibbon. Their kennel mates, and HOWL cover stars, the Four Shires Bassets, were pursued many miles to a meet at an Oxfordshire campsite. The Colne Valley were caught out on a Thursday (not even their official midweek day - nice one!) at a pub outside Rochdale. The North Warwickshire were tracked down and sabotaged for the first time in a decade. The Trinity Foot & South Herts were humbled at Flamstead (again). The New Forest were followed to a car park in the New Forest and hurriedly switched to trail hunting when sabs appeared. You get the picture.

Boxing Day 2013 saw the most comprehensive action against beagles in years: sabbed packs include the Old Berkeley at Great Kimble, the New Forest at the Turfcutters Inn and the Colne/Holme Valley (two packs who have not quite officially merged) at the Fleece. Other groups used the cover of the Boxing Day 'crowds' to gather information at the Black Combe, the Wyre Forest and the Leadon Vale Bassets amongst others.

Success breeds success. The word is now out on beagling and we receive an increasing number of tip-offs via social media. The mulberry-coated Warwickshire Beagles (again, not sabbed in at least a decade) had a poor start to 2014 when sabs were messaged about their New Year's Day meet at Norton Lindsey. A few days later, another Facebook tip-off resulted in a sab for the beagling connoisseur: a joint meet of the Stour Valley and Eton College. Keep them coming!

As with last season, we've shown what can be achieved with a combination of traditional sabbing skills and a forward-thinking, flexible approach. After years of hunting with impunity the beaglers are now firmly back in our sights. We must continue to make them a priority, hunt them down and stop them killing hares.





The Bitter Taste of Hunting

The hunt sabbing movement is building up a large following on facebook, with many local groups having in excess of a 1,000 followers and the main HSA page facebook.com/Hunt SaboteursAssociation now having over 13k+ and rising rapidly. We thought it was time to try and harness the energy and support that is out there into an effective campaign that people could get involved with from the comfort of their own homes.

Usually referred to as "armchair warriors", our online sabs have already started to take on pubs that allow the hunt to meet on their premises. The hunts need these pub meets as they are often a focal part of the village where the hunt has traditionally met for many years. We know the general public doesn't like hunting and pubs can't afford to ignore their customers. We would ask all our members to try and get in touch with their local sab group and find out which pubs have meets and ask for some campaign materials.

We know from years of experience of local campaigns that pubs do pull out, some quietly, some very vocally and of course a number of pubs are run by obsessive blood junkies who will never give in. Each one pulling out is a victory for us, and we have in the past gotten some good local press out of pubs holding meets and then receiving complaints because of it.

SO WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO DO TO CAMPAIGN AGAINST A PUB?

Here are a few simple ideas:

1) Make a complaint to the pub directly over email about the hunt.

2) Ring the pub up and ask them why they are allowing the hunt to meet and ask them if they are aware that hunts regularly kill and that the pub may end up being linked to illegal activity.

3) Write a letter to a newspaper local to the pub and include the illegal killing of wildlife as your concern.

4) Do a little bit of research and find out if the pub is owned by a brewery and then write to them. Outline your concerns and explain that hunts regularly have "accidents" and the brewery may end up getting negative press.

If your local sab group is joining in with this campaign they will have leaflets, beer mats and stickers. All of which will be ideal for pubs.

We are currently aware that Samuel Smiths allow hunting on their land, please send them a polite letter/email outlining your concerns. They specifically use the vegan symbol on their pumps.

Samuel Smith Old Brewery, High Street, Tadcaster, North Yorkshire LS24 9SB.
Tel: 01937 832225 Fax: 01937 834673

Please keep all communications polite.

Fox Away!

We were down a wooded lane, and the hounds had been picking up a scent for a while...

Three of us were standing a little way down from the landy and we were just about to head back to it when I saw a fox bolt from the far corner of the field, the same direction we could hear the hounds. My stomach dropped and my mouth went dry - probably a good thing as it stopped me making any noise. It's difficult (for me anyway) to stay still and quiet when you see a fox running for his/her life - you desperately need the other sabs to know they are there but you don't want to do anything that could scare them and turn them back towards the hounds. I grabbed the other two who had turned to start walking back and yanked them to the ground. They figured it out pretty quickly.

The fox passed us and ran on. Next it's a blur of "Who's got sprays?" and "Get over that wall!" and I'm gesturing like some mad air traffic control person so they know where to spray. All the while just hoping and hoping that we have enough time before the hounds - who are by now in full cry and getting closer - get to the field. Sabs get over the wall and get spraying. We're joined by our other two foot sabs. I'm the last over the wall so by the time I'm in the field there are already three or four lines of spray cutting across where the fox ran, buying them time if the hounds get past us. We get our whips out and stand in a line across the field. I'm on the radio to the landy trying to give a calm message about what's happening despite my churning stomach and jelly legs. That fox's life feels like our responsibility.

The hounds come into sight and are right on the line, noses to the ground and making that hideous noise that means a life is in danger. As they get into our field, we go for it - cracking the whips and rating them back with shouts. The front hounds literally recoil which is great as their heads are up and they are retreating - responding exactly as we need them to. They go back a little, circle and then pick up the line of scent again and come back towards us, so we go again, and again they recoil and retreat. They have lost some of their momentum and are now working to try and find the scent. Some hounds head for the lane to our right – where the landy sabs are waiting with whips - and some to the wood to our left, as if to go around us, but we keep them back and none of them pass us.

After a while, they pick up the original scent but in the wrong direction - back where they came from - and start following that. It feels like that's when I start breathing again. We stay for a while but can hear them heading away, speaking a little every now and then.

This whole thing probably lasts minutes but feels much longer and as we all regroup, there's a moment of collective relief and it feels, quite simply, that this is why we do this.



ZERO TOLERANCE

Many of you will probably have seen the recent photo of Nigel Farage, UKIP leader, shaking hands with violent huntsman Mark Bycroft at the Old Surrey, Burstow and West Kents Boxing day meet. It's no real surprise to see him sniffing around for votes from disaffected Tory turncoats, racist hunters and supporters - outside of a KKK rally, hunt meets are one of the few places where you are pretty much guaranteed to see no ethnic diversity.

Many sabs have faced racist, sexist and homophobic abuse over the years, but reporting it (without video evidence) to an institutionally racist police force is sadly futile. I can recall seeing hunt supporters brazenly walking around in BNP clobber, safe in the knowledge that they are among like-minded friends.

- In 2013, David Lee Peters, huntsman of the ross on wye harriers was found guilty of racially aggravated harassment and fined £700.

- In 2012 a prominent supporter of the South Pembrokeshire Hunt. Steven Barrett, was sentenced to three and a half years in prison after a hunt monitor was shot in the head near Yerbeston, south Pembrokeshire. Before the shooting Barrett had shouted a torrent of offensive and apparently racist abuse.

- In 2011, Alan Morgan, huntsman of the Cotswold Vale Farmers foxhunt, was investigated by police after being caught on film making racist remarks to a sab.

These days sabs are the compassionate antidote to the hunts fascist ideals believing animal and human liberation are inseparable, but occasionally over the years we have had to deal with the peculiar anomalie of a sab who holds fascist beliefs or supports those who do. It's 2014, and unlike the bloodsports fraternity we don't welcome racists, fascists or fascist sympathisers within our ranks. They have always been (and will always be) confronted and removed.

In the 1970's it transpired that HSA committee member Dave McCalden was heavily involved in the National Front, and subsequent splinter group The National Party. McCalden even appeared in a party political broadcast for the National Front on television. He was responsible for producing the first ever *Howl*, which received letters complaining of anti-semitism and *The Guardian* newspaper wasted no time in linking the HSA to the National Front. Heated debates over McCaldens inclusion raged for several years until the 1978 HSA AGM, where a motion to kick out McCalden was tabled and members voted in favour.

"It's 2014, and unlike the bloodsports fraternity we don't welcome racists, fascists or fascist sympathisers within our ranks. They have always been (and will always be) confronted and removed."

In 1993 after the tragic death of Tom Worby it emerged that Margaret Flynn of the Milton Keynes sab group was a Nazi sympathiser whose husband was involved in the fascist November 9th Society.



Then and Now

Countless sabs were involved in AFA (Anti Fascist Action) mobilisations in the 1980's and 1990's - including the Battle of Waterloo in London where a minority of AFA confronted fascists arriving for a blood and honour gig.

In 1993 our group sabbed an early morning cubbing meet in Surrey and then thrashed our poor old van back to London determined to join AFA and others in opposing the BNP bookshop in Welling.

Fast forward to 2009 and only the names have changed: Early morning 'autumn' hunting sabbed and then straight back to the city centre to oppose the EDL alongside various opposition groups including antifa.

Flynn was ejected from the HSA but unfortunately the damage was done and the national tabloid press had a field day linking sabs to nazis causing immeasurable damage to the HSA's reputation.

Fascists rearing their ugly heads in the wider animal liberation movement is nothing new either: In the early 1990's Arkangel magazine had an 'open-door' policy and printed articles by fascists, notably Patrick Harrington. Harrington set up the moderate looking 'Third Way' party after his involvement with the National Front waned - specifically, some believe to gain a foothold in the environmental and animal liberation movements. After the outraged readership made it clear they opposed fascist views the 'open door' policy was closed but unfortunately, as with Margaret Flynn the mud had stuck and some radical bookshops refused to stock Arkangel for years.

While the problem of fascists in the UK AR movement is currently manageable, elsewhere in Europe the problem is endemic: France, Holland and Italy are all struggling with the destructive and divisive effect fascism is having on their movement. Last year, at the International animal Rights gathering in Belgium, the host of the event was found to be a fascist sympathiser. He ordered his antifa accusers to leave, which they did, followed by a large group of activists who set up their own anti-fascist 'gathering' in solidarity. This is no time for complacency in the UK!

Some people have naively argued that 'if we let meat-eaters come out sabbing we should let fascists too'. Sadly eating animal products is still the norm in society, but racism isn't, so it isn't justifiable to say that because non-vegans are allowed to join groups, so should fascists .

People, of course, do have the potential to change, Margaret Flynn for instance (remarried, now Margaret Burke) has renounced her fascist past claiming 'I was a brainwashed idiot'. Burke now works as a labour councillor, and is completely open about her past. Conversely, individuals who have the inconsistencies of their racist views spelt out to them yet continue to stand by or even deny them will never be tolerated out sabbing or be considered part of the animal liberation movement by the vast majority of activists.

AR organisations and sab groups should be uniting people, not dividing them, and fascists always seek to divide people on the basis of colour, ethnicity, sexuality, etc. How will we be taken seriously when we say we're against oppression if we welcome those who oppress others? We cannot work with fascists without legitimizing their existence, increasing their power and ruining our reputation.

The HSA identifies with the aims and objectives of antifa.

Visit antifa.org.uk for more information.



WANTED:

HARD WORKING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The HSA is a fully democratic organisation and each year we hold elections to fill our committee. This year is no different and we are looking for 12 hardworking people to run the HSA.

If you feel you would like to be one of those 12 people you will need to be a member of one year's standing and have two Members, one being a Proposed and one a Seconder. These members cannot be standing for election themselves. Please write to the normal address with a signed letter of interest, also signed by your two supporters, or email a scanned copy to us at info@huntsabs.org.uk.

All nominations need to be received by the 31 March 2014. Any applications not received by then will be invalid. If more than 12 people stand for election a postal vote will be held before the AGM.

Please be aware that the vast majority of the work of the HSA is done by the committee members. Although there is no requirement to do work beyond your committee role, if you do, it reduces the burden on other committee members.

If you have any questions regarding standing for committee please contact us.

HUNT SABOTEURS GLOBAL NETWORK



Luxembourg wouldn't be everyone's first choice of a holiday location, but I happened to go there in the spring of 2012. Luxembourg boasts one all vegan restaurant, so trying it out was a must. The owner was very friendly and asked us if we were coming back for the International Animal Rights Conference (IARC) later in the year. Truth be told, we hadn't heard of this event, and we gratefully took a flier. We had previously represented the H.S.A. at the Paris Vegan Day in 2011, so after a bit of research we booked a merchandise stall at the Conference.

As its name suggests, the IARC draws activists from around the world. There are four days of presentations, merch stalls, live bands and vegan food, and a certain amount of partying!

Among the many people we met were two American sabs. It turned out that they were planning to visit England after Luxembourg, so we invited them to sab with us.

It was cubbing season during their visit and they went out on a mid-week sab with the Guildford group on the Surrey Union. They were shocked when one of the hunt followers drove their 4X4 at the sabs late in the day.

They then stayed at my house and joined us on a Saturday cubbing meet of the Old Surrey, Burstow and West Kent foxhounds. It was a long day, starting with pre-beating and spraying at 4am and lots of hard running through the day but our American guests did well to keep us with us. They loved their time here and we stayed in regular contact when they returned to the USA.

In April 2013, I was lucky enough to be invited over to the States for a five day visit. In case you are wondering, the H.S.A. has not paid for this or any other trip as I believe that every penny should go directly to saving the lives of hunted animals.

Whilst in the US I did presentations on hunt sabotage in Portland and Seattle which were very well received and I twice visited the site of the Sea Lion cull at the Bonneville dam on the Columbia River to take photographs and advise the local activists. The whole area is a military base and entry to the site is through an army checkpoint, so it's quite a difficult one to sab.

The Sea Lions are estimated to eat about 3% of the salmon in the river, and for this they are being ruthlessly persecuted. They are trapped and branded at Astoria, where the Columbia flows into the Pacific.

The day before I arrived, local activists photographed two Sea Lions catching fire because the brands were too hot. Those that survive the branding follow the salmon run upstream to the breeding grounds.



At the Bonneville dam, which is estimated to kill about 40% of the migrating salmon, US Army corps of Engineers personnel watch the Sea Lions from the dam. Sea Lions need to spend a considerable amount of time out of the water, but every time the Sea Lions try to get on the bank the spotters direct a small, fast boat to 'haze' them. This consists of firing explosive charges at them to force them back into the water.



"Any Sea Lion that has been identified as having eaten salmon is then transferred to a 'killing barge' and shot."



Sadly, the only dry landing ground available to them is the floating traps. These are thought to be closed by remote control after the area has been closed to the public each evening. Any Sea Lion that has been identified as having eaten salmon is then transferred to a 'killing barge' and shot, although how the spotters can see the brands whilst the Sea Lions are in the water remains a mystery.

Sea Shepherd have some observers at the Bonneville dam, so we went to chat to them. It quickly became apparent that the hazers were very camera shy and were avoiding the shore near the Sea Shepherd activists. This was clearly not lost on the Sea Lions, and we were treated to really close up encounters with many of these beautiful animals.

I was able to advise the Americans on tactics that have been effective against culling here and I am certain that the opposition to next year's cull will be far greater and that more Sea Lions will be saved.

During the summer we did a stall at the International Animal Rights Gathering in Belgium and then we returned to Luxembourg in September for IARC. I did a joint presentation with one of the American sabs in which we told of our experiences sabbing in each other's countries. The lecture room was packed to capacity and the talk went down really well.

Throughout the rest of the conference I was approached by activists who want to set up sab groups in their own countries. I have stayed in contact with them by email and, after much discussion, we have now set up the Hunt Saboteurs Global Network with a view to encouraging co-operation between existing sab groups around the world and establishing sab groups in countries where they do not currently exist. More interest was generated at the Paris Vegan Day in October, and we had a very constructive meeting with the French sabs.

A web site is currently under construction for the Hunt Saboteurs Global Network and we have plans in place for how we will promote this organisation world-wide.

Sadly, there is a great deal to do. As well as the badger cull in England there is a seal cull going on in Scotland, the illegal slaughter of songbirds in Southern Europe, a wolf cull in the United States that our American friends have been sabbing and a coyote shooting competition in Oregon that they are currently working on, the insane slaughter of one fifth of the moose population in Northern Sweden and countless others.

For all that, activists from around the world are inspired by what the H.S.A. has been doing so well for the last 50 years and more and more of them want to follow our lead. Our combination of direct action and campaigning has and will continue to bring results at home, and I am sure I will soon be reporting on similar successes elsewhere.

BATTERED...BUT TH

Regular readers of Howl might remember an article a few issues back called 'On the Receiving End', one sab's tale of hunt violence and how to cope afterwards. Hunt violence is, fortunately, a rare occurrence, when you consider how many sabs are in the field each week and how few get injured.

Sadly for me, between writing the 'On the Receiving End' article and its publication, I had taken yet another pasting at the hands of the hunt. I couldn't add it in to that article as the police investigation was still ongoing at the time. There's more about the police later, as the real focus of this article is not the description of the events (which is intended to set the scene), but the appeal for information which follows.

Firle is the traditional opening meet of the Southdown and Eridge Foxhounds, and has always been a tricky one to sab. The steep scarp face of the Downs, limited road access and numerous deep wooded valleys make for a difficult day. The hunt set off from Firle village and usually head east before climbing to the higher ground.

In November 2012 I was in a small group of sabs who got in a good position just east of the meet. The hunt duly passed our way and we set off in pursuit. As they reached the first covert the hounds went into cry and the sabs split into two groups to keep both sides of the covert under observation. The group of three sabs I was in soon found the huntsman gathering hounds on the far side and, after some hard running, we followed him and three other riders into a second covert. He was blatantly hunting, even putting the hounds through a pheasant pen and encouraging them on with voice calls. We were, of course, filming all this.

As we emerged from the covert we found ourselves in a field with all the riders and a large number of 'boys' and supporters. At this point all hell broke loose as a fox suddenly broke and ran into the covert with the hounds in full cry close behind. The huntsman was clearly encouraging them on, but was unable to follow due to a barbed wire fence.

Without any hesitation the three of us dived over the fence and began to call the hounds back. Within moments their heads were coming up and we were soon overtaking stationary hounds, so we were certain that the fox had got away. Unfortunately there was little time to celebrate the fact that we had just saved a fox's life. I heard a yell from behind and I turned just in time to see the sab who had the camera, surrounded by boys, being felled by a punch. I had no time to get to back to him before a florid faced hunt supporter punched me in the eye. Another hunt thug ran up and kicked me in the ribs then repeatedly in the head and face as I tried to get up.

It may sound strange, but you know when you are being kicked with steel toe cap boots, they actually feel different to other footwear. As he kicked and kicked me I was strangely calm. I knew he wasn't going to stop and when it all went dark I actually thought I was dead. In fact, the third member of our trio of sabs had thrown herself over me to give me some protection. The cowardly thug kicked her several times in the back and head then ran off.

We picked ourselves up and went to look for the sab with the camera, but we couldn't find him. We had radioed



our plight to the sab van and had been given a pick up point, but as we tried to make our way to it more hunt stewards tried to block our way. We eventually managed to cross the field only to then get a radio call that the other sab was still in the covert we had just left! Our return journey across the field was even more difficult, with several attempts being made by a man, who claimed to be the landowner, to drive his Range Rover into us.

We eventually made our way through the covert to the road where we linked up with the van and the other injured sab. Infuriatingly, the camera with all the evidence of illegal hunting had been stolen in the attack. Police arrived and took statements, but then left WITHOUT MAKING ANY ATTEMPTS TO IDENTIFY OUR ASSAILANTS. Two of us were taken to hospital, but the rest of the sabs, in an act of incredible bravery after what had happened, continued to sab the hunt for the rest of the day. Later in the afternoon they were attacked by the same group and another sab was injured. This time the police arrived and made one arrest.

This description of the day's events will, of course, sound extreme to most readers, although some of the sabs reading this may have had similar experiences. All I can say is that we were doing what sabs do, and that is saving hunted animals. I can't speak for the others, but I have seen several 'kills' at close quarters and I would personally take that kicking a hundred times over if I knew every time that the wild animal had been saved. My injuries that day were such that the H.S.A. decided not to publish the photo as it was considered too graphic, but just to put things in perspective, I drove to Holland the following day to lay a wreath on the grave of one of my dad's comrades who was killed in the fighting at Arnhem in 1944.

The lack of willingness on the part of the police to investigate these savage assaults was quite staggering, even though we could clearly identify our assailants.

Two were eventually arrested and charged, but one of the cases was dropped for no good reason by the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) and in the other the scum was acquitted after the police and CPS fluffed the evidence in court.

Anyone who has been around sabbing for any length of time will, sadly, not be surprised by the actions of the police and CPS in this case. I am trying to compile a dossier of inexplicable decisions by the police and the CPS in cases involving sabs in the hope that we can then get an MP to raise the issue with them. I would love to find out if it is bias, policy or incompetence on their part that leads to so many cases against violent huntspeople and their supporters failing to result in successful prosecutions.

If you have any documented cases of the police or CPS failing miserably in their duties, could you please e mail the details to info@huntsabs.org.uk

HE FOX GOT AWAY!



sabgroupnews



Kernow Hunt Saboteurs
www.facebook.com/KernowHuntSabs

Kernow Hunt Saboteurs formed in October 2013 after a few like-minded people met in a field in Somerset. We were there to sab the badger cull, and when we realised that Cornwall hasn't had a sab group for a few years, we decided to step up and fill that gap. Most (but not all) of us are new to sabbing fox-hunts, but no less keen for our lack of experience. We started sabbing as a group immediately and currently have 11 hits under our belts. Prime targets so far this season have been the Four Burrow, Tetcott and the Western, however by the end of the season we intend to have visited all eight Cornish hunts.

Our first hit was the Four Burrow hunt where we experienced a smashed wing mirror and some minor aggro and blocking in of our vehicles. Undaunted we stayed with them and there were no confirmed kills. We are still desperate for a group vehicle because of repeated damage to our private ones. It was quite a rough start for some of the newbies, but the majority have returned weekly to show the hunts that we will not be intimidated and they can no longer have things all their own way.

The Tetcott were observed hunting foxes by members of the public so we decided to pay them a visit in early December. They weren't too pleased to see us outside their kennels one morning and resorted to serious intimidation of the two female sabs who were alone at the time. The police were informed immediately and so far have treated us fairly, with the sabs offered an official apology, and the case will be going to mediation shortly because we believe that discussion may benefit both sides.

Western are based near Penzance and hunt on the beautiful Land's End peninsula. Two visits to their patch have resulted in no kills and great training days for some of the newer sabs. Our first visit was particularly enjoyable, since by the time we found the hunt early in the day the pack had already split and the hunt literally stood still for 90 minutes as the huntsman blew and blew for the hounds. We stood nearby and watched, bemused, entertained and giggling quietly. When they finally moved on they rode straight back to the kennels where they swapped horses for four by fours and shot off to go and find the lost hounds. We can only hope the hounds weren't punished for running off.

One of our most uplifting days was a visit to protect a wildlife haven from the local hunt. The couple who own and run the beautiful smallholding have suffered terrible intimidation on a yearly basis as the hunt have ridden roughshod over their land and killed their wildlife literally right under their noses. They have witnessed foxes torn to pieces, their livestock has been frightened off onto busy nearby roads and their animals have miscarried due to the stress. They contacted us and we were able to send a group to spend the day with them and ensure the hunt did not come through their land despite a fence cut and opened wide to allow hounds illegal access. We were aided by the terrible weather which sent several hunts home early that day.

We would like to thank everyone who has donated towards our vehicle fund and our ongoing fuel costs. Sabs are back in Cornwall, and we're here to stay.

Devon Hunt Sabs
devonhuntsabs@riseup.net

There's been a shake-up in the Devon sabbing world in recent months and things are going from strength to strength. We have a new vehicle, and have paid visits to hunts untroubled by sabs for years. The badger cull saw us working with both new and experienced sabs from near and far, and come the hunting season we built on these friendships with a series of 'joint meets', culminating in the highlight of the season – the HSA 50th anniversary sab (see elsewhere in this issue of Howl).

Boxing Day saw us in the spectacular scenery of the South Devon Hunt's traditional meet at Haytor Rocks. Years ago, this event would draw over a hundred riders, but is now a shadow of its former self. Some of our closest colleagues this season have been the new groups formed in Somerset and Dorset, and they were on hand to help a fox escape as it broke right in front of the pack near the unfortunately named Hound Tor.

The new vehicle got its first outing on New Year's Day as we swapped the moor for the heath (and the rain) with a visit to the East Devon Hunt on Woodbury Common. To our knowledge, the Easts have not been afflicted by the dreaded antis for twelve years or more, and their pathetic turnout of riders and car followers took some time to work out what was going on. Our next target was the Lamerton Hunt, also unsabbed on their own turf for a long time. Foot teams were with them right from the off, and at one point a fuming redcoat dismounted to chase after sabs, only to require a humiliating lift on the back of his terrierman's quad. Perhaps a few too many mince pies over Christmas! We learned later that during a quiet spell in the woods the huntsman had thrown a tantrum, telling his field he could not possibly continue under such hostile conditions. Evidently persuaded to get back in the saddle, a sense of regret may have overtaken him later in the day when the gizmo came out and his hounds left the scent they were following to spread themselves all along a valley.

Sabbing is known to be highly contagious, and the Lamertons brought us with them to their joint meet with the Mid Devons a week later. The Mids love to gallop off into the sunset across Dartmoor, and that must be contagious too, as we ended up following the two hunts a long way south deep into Spooner's country. A chance encounter with a pheasant shoot saw one of our sabs pushed to the ground by an angry man with a gun, to the clear consternation of his companions who began berating their guest in front of us for spoiling their day of fun and frolics with his unfortunate temper problem.

We are immensely grateful to our donors and benefactors this season. Some extraordinary acts of generosity, plus support from the HSA, have enabled us to be kitted out with a vehicle and a set of radios. To the hunts of Devon, watch out, we're about. Who knows when we'll be visiting you!

Bristol Hunt Sabs
www.network23.org/bristolhuntsabs
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Following an attack on sabs in the cull zone by the Ledbury huntsman and cronies we decided to pay them a visit. We turned up with Southampton, Swindon, Bath and Three Counties sabs and despite a gruelling day filled with intimidation from the usual idiots we were able to pull hounds away from a fox and watched it get away as its scent was covered with citronella. The hunt tried their best to lose us but to no avail and packed up with sour faces. They tried telling us they'd had 'a great day' — of course!

A trip to the Tedworth Hunt was in order next as a small group of sabs had been out with them a few weeks before and faced a lot of intimidation from riders. They weren't so cocky when 25 of us turned up! We even had the huntsman come over to us and explain that as long as we didn't call his hounds near any roads he had no problems with us being there. Clearly nervous, the hunt set off for the day with all of us in tow. Every single time they attempted to hunt, we stepped in and spoilt their fun. They did their best to lose us but only managed to sneak away for 25 minutes over the whole day. We walked them back to box up safe in the knowledge that they'd had a shit day.

We paid the Tedworth another visit with Southampton, Bath and Swindon (who else?!). We stepped in at every opportunity and a few hours into the day a small group of sabs spotted a fox bolting from a wood with hounds in cry. Sabs stepped up, rated the hounds and put down spray which meant the hounds didn't pick up on the fox and it got away to safety. The hunt waded in and started being pushy at this point. Unknown to them, just minutes away a larger group of sabs got the hounds off another fox.

The hunt decided to try and get away and when we caught up with them they launched an attack on the foot sabs in the field. Every rider got involved handing out punches and using their horses as weapons to separate our group. We got out with some sabs battered and bruised and straight into action again and stopping the hounds in pursuit of yet another fox. We then got an apology off the huntsman on behalf of his riders as they took off again. What bollocks he was talking as sabs were ridden at for the remainder of the day but we stood our ground until the scum packed up.



A return to the Cotswold Vale Farmers Hunt had been on the cards for a while – we've had so much shit from this bunch of numbskulls over the years. Huntsman Jason Mahon did his usual shit job of controlling his hounds, who were scattered far and wide whilst he did his old trick of hiding from us. The hunt had very little support out which isn't surprising considering what a fall from grace the CVFH have taken.

Our last sab before Xmas was with the Cattistock hunt who weren't best pleased to have us for company. Supporters broke a wing mirror off one of our vehicles, lads tried getting into our Landies and one sab had urine thrown over him. We pushed on and called the hounds straight out of a covert the hunt were drawing. We made a decision to leave and went looking for the South Dorset hunt who packed up as we arrived. We'll be paying both hunts more attention in the future.

All of Bristol Hunt Sabs would like to dedicate our actions to our close friend and sab Jo who sadly passed away a few months ago. We'll never forget how great she was out in the field, always high in spirits and determined in her goals. Rest in peace.

Dorset Hunt Sabs
www.facebook.com/DorsetHuntSabs
dorsethuntsabs@riseup.net

Our group was re-established in December 2013 after a few years' absence, and we're now made up of experienced sabs plus new ones with experience of the badger cull in Somerset. In just a month we've sabbed local hunts the Cattistock and South Dorset, and joined up with Devon and Somerset sabs for the South Devon and also the Lamerton Hunt in Devon.

On 28th December we had a very successful day at the Cattistock Hunt with just three of us out. Knowing the area well, we positioned ourselves a kilometre to the south on a prominent hill on the edge of a covert at The Knoll. Sure enough, right on cue, the quad with the pretend trail came by, and then eventually the field, numbering over 60 with a few kids some as young as 5 or 6. After hours of following the hunt we decided to drive back and go to the first point we started at on The Knoll, which gave us a good view looking down at Swyre. We heard hounds in full cry and then saw a fox race across the field in our direction. We moved position slightly, and then saw two more foxes running in the same direction. The huntsman, worried that we were in the area, pulled the hounds off! We waited until the hunt had packed up, and seeing the terrier men's quad trailered and darkness setting in we left with the satisfaction of a job well done on a hunt known for its violence!

The following week at the Cattistock again, we were joined by Southampton sabs. The hunt clearly wasn't pleased with our presence and kept us on the run. Our vehicles were followed and blocked in by Land Rovers and 4x4 vehicles. Whilst Devon's Land Rover was blocked in it was repeatedly rammed by a quad bike, and we had no choice but to phone the police. We managed to break free from the gridlock (unfortunately during this time hounds were in cry in the adjacent field) and whilst on the main road managed to flag down a community police vehicle. This police car stopped and then called in warranted police who took statements and exchanged email addresses so they could receive video footage of the ramming incident.

Southampton sabs
www.facebook.com/southampton.sabs



Our first outing was to the opening meet of the Tedworth, where we introduced ourselves to the new huntsman in a joint venture between ourselves, Pewsey Vale and two from Devon. One sab was arrested for pretty much nothing, but this and the field's attempts to ride sabs down didn't deter us, and we kept on them until they called it a day.

The following week we hooked up with Croydon, South Coast, and Brighton to pay a visit to the South Downs and Eridge. Apart from bad weather and high winds a good day was had by our rather large mob and they were barely out of sight throughout the day. Back to the Tedworth two weeks later with the usual suspects on Salisbury Plain, this time with a much smaller and less hostile field. We again chased them all over the Plain and they packed up early after failing to lose us.

Towards the end of November we decided to pay a visit to the rarely looked at Wilton FH. We kennel-watched with Bristol sabs covering the other exit, and after much fun and games and an empty hound wagon we found a confused hunt trying their best to run away. A few supporters tried to intimidate us a couple of times but they were politely put in their place. They then seemed to have packed-up, and the police told us as much, but after a quick look round we found a huntsman, whip and pack of hounds hiding on the edge of a wood looking a bit upset. Soon their truck turned up and took them away at 2.30pm. Result!

Next up was the long drive up to the Cotswold Vale. The once nasty and well-attended hunt is now a shadow of its former self, with a pathetic excuse for a huntsman. They ran away and hid in a large wood for most of the day and then packed up, while locals and neighbours all gathered to tell us how much they hate the hunt and that they're not welcome.

We had a trip to the Cattistock, with Bristol, Pewsey, Somerset, and Dorset. They weren't best pleased to see us and we were greeted with a hostile reception and some very big lads who rammed our Landy, and smashed some lights and a mirror. When we went back to our old pals the Tedworth with the usual mob, we kept on them all day, taking them off at least two foxes and pinching their hounds on a few occasions. Cheers to everyone we've sabbed with so far this season and cheers to Devon sabs for all their hard work in making the 50th hit happen.

South Wales Hunt Sabs
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As the badger cull in Somerset came to an end, South Wales sabs ventured up to Gloucestershire to help fight Paterson's horrific scheme. Having honed our skills down South, we felt better prepared for life in the Gloucestershire zone, although there were new challenges, such as police hiding in bushes near setts for 48 hours straight. Despite all the difficulties, we, along with many other sab groups and ordinary folk from across the country, proved to be very effective as the cull was called off early due to DEFRA missing even their revised lower target of badgers to kill. At this point a huge thank-you must be said to everyone who supported us financially through the cull and also to Stop The Cull for such an amazing campaign so far.

But with the end of this year's culling we've once again had the chance to piss off bloodsports enthusiasts all across South Wales and beyond. One such lucky bunch was the Banwen Miners. Amid the stunning scenery of the Gower they made no pretence of trail-hunting as they flushed a fox from the undergrowth, but aided by our intervention he managed to escape the pack. Later on a member of the field came off her horse and apparently broke her leg. The incident provided a much needed breather and some amusement as a drunken redcoat desperately jumped up and down, shouting in vain to the air ambulance overhead.

Another Saturday took us to a joint meet between the Vale of Glamorgan and the Llangeinor. With a small but tidy crew of just four sabs in the field things were a little tense at first but gradually settled down. Whilst hunting through the first covert of the day the hounds rioted on some deer, with some of the foot support (rather oddly) at the edge of the wood trying to push the deer back in towards the hounds. With the pack split, the huntsman made his way down onto the dunes by the beach and, despite being a in nature reserve, continued to hunt on regardless. Towards the end of the day the hounds went back into cry in a covert, only this time under our gaze (and more importantly our cameras), so the huntsman called them off. The chatter of the field and support was also quite enlightening that day – seems as though the two hunts aren't the best of chums after all!

The following week saw us join up with old pals from Bristol and the newly-formed Somerset group to pay a visit to the Curre and Llangibby. They've not had a sight of black or camo for a few years so we were a little unsure what to expect, but as a handful of us headed down to the meet to suss out if they'd left, we were immediately greeted by the terrier boys who seemed rather less than pleased to see us. Anyway, we stayed with the hunt almost all day despite tricky terrain and a bit of argy-bargy from the support. With the hunt working the same covert for most of the day, we managed to call the hounds out into a nearby field. Clearly angered by the fact that the hounds preferred our company to that of the huntsman, two of the riders rode down a sab in the field. On the plus side, hunt violence is often a good indication that we are being effective in sabotaging their cruel 'sport'.

With lots of new folk wanting to join us the future for hunted wildlife seems a little brighter. If you're thinking about coming out don't hesitate to get in touch.

South London Wildlife Group
(including Croydon, Brixton and Kingston sabs)
Facebook: South London Wildlife Group
Text 07900603742



The main season started with an eventful outing to the Surrey Union -- our Landy was involved in a collision with a car overtaking on a blind bend, and immobilised for the rest of the day. Undaunted, the foot sabs stayed on the hunt all day.
The following week saw an amazing return to the Southdown at Firle, scene of a savage assault on sabs last year. This time the day belonged to us as SLWG teamed up with several other groups to great effect. Pre-beating and spraying ruined the start of the hunt's day and then some outstanding horn and voice calls coupled with gizmo use saw most of the pack under our control for the rest of the morning. By the time the huntsman regained control the weather had deteriorated and the afternoon's hunting was sabbed by the hail!

December saw a flurry of activity against the Old Surrey, Burstow and West Kent FH, in the company of South Downs and South Coast sabs. Huntsman Mark Bycroft is usually a past master at evading sabs, but he's getting careless in his old age. His frustration at being sabbed three weeks in a row caused his temper to blow, and he was caught on camera assaulting a sab.

Our fourth consecutive visit to the OSBWK FH was marked by the absence of Mr B, who we gather was in police custody at the time! Should also note that our drone has been causing consternation in the hunting community!

West Sussex Hunt Sabs
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We've concentrated on the hunts closest to home, visiting the Crawley & Horsham as often as possible but also crossing the Solent to keep tabs on the Isle of Wight fox hunt and Beagles. Following most other hunts, the Chidingfold hunt has now stopped publishing their meets. In fact some of the hunts we visit are going to great lengths to try and avoid being seen so they may hunt unhindered.

Other groups have all come to support us at various times through the season and we intend to start travelling further to help other groups with their local hunts, and also to visit some of the hunts that get visited less often. We can do this now that we have use of more vehicles – thanks to some generous donations from supporters and a grant from the HSA we have a "new" group vehicle, but we still need to add people to our group. You do NOT have to be super fit to be out with us as we need drivers, navigators and monitors. Our presence most definitely saves lives, and sabs and monitors are the only people getting the hunts prosecuted.

The "big" days such as the opening meet, Boxing Day and New Year's Day, saw us at the Crawley & Horsham hunt. The opening meet at Knepp Castle saw a noticeable lack of support compared to past years when even driving up the road became impossible as the area would be gridlocked. There was a very poor effort at trail-laying, with the scent being dragged up a public footpath; the hounds were five minutes behind yet failed to pick up the scent, and instead they ran either side of the footpath through fields. Hunt monitors were accused of 'interfering with the scent by walking on the footpath'.

Although the constant rain has made a few hunts cancel on occasion, it hasn't dampened the hunts' bloodlust. Please contact us if you want to come out or get involved.

Brighton sabs
Facebook: Brighton Hunt Saboteurs
Blog: southdownhuntsabs.wordpress.com
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For the opening meet the lucky hunt was our friends at the South Down and Erridge at Firle, East Sussex. Following bloody attacks on saboteurs by supporters last season we were well prepared and begun the day with a good old pre-beat of the woodlands we knew they'd draw first. We then took position on the Downs with a clear sight of the hunt below and filmed as they drew blank on the pre-beaten coverts. As the wind and rain battered the saboteurs we used horns and gizmos to call the hounds away from the huntsman who was attempting to draw a crop covert over a mile away. The hounds were happy to join us on the hill and we all went for a quick jog as hunt staff attempted to collect them in 4x4s. We stuck with the hunt for the rest of the day until they retreated from the cold and wet back to the meet.

Towards the end of November six vehicles of saboteurs visited the Crawley and Horsham Hunt who were having a joint meet with the Surrey Union. Saboteurs intervened several times through the day, spraying scent lines and calling hounds off foxes. With no kills the hunt became frustrated, with a supporter slashing the valve of one of the saboteurs' vehicles.

At the start of December we visited the Old Surrey and Burstow who were meeting on the Kent/Surrey border. Despite Surrey Police deploying a specialist anti-sab foot team, a large number of vehicles and even a helicopter, we kept with the hunt all day. Yet it seems despite all these cameras (including the one from the sky) they refused to film the hunt, even as the hounds streamed past in full cry.

East Kent Hunt Sabs
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eastkenthuntsabs@hotmail.co.uk
07521 907941

For the start of the main season we went to the East Kent with West Street. A tiny bunch of riders and a huntsman moving so fast it was hard for the hounds to get a scent (or for us to keep up!), but with kills unlikely it was a good day. The next Saturday started with an early watch at the Wye Beagles kennels, which left the hunt seemingly confused as to what to do. They told us they "weren't going out" and locked up the gates. We stayed anyway. The next week, we arrived at the Wye Beagles meet at Bodsham. After a load of abuse from the support at the pub, they set off on the several mile 'Walk of Shame', i.e. no hunting, just a long walk around the roads to and from the meet. Then put the beagles back in the van.

The next week, we discovered that the East Kent's huntsman had resigned! So, in his place on the Saturday was Alfie (who is actually the whipper-in). His style of hunting is to completely lose the hounds from the start, then spend the rest of the day blowing raspberries trying to get them back. The following week we found the Wye beagles near Brookland on the Romney Marsh in sideways driving rain. A hare tore past the van as we arrived, but on seeing us, the beaglers (wet, feeling sorry for themselves and with only an hour's hunting under their belts), went home. The next week the East Kent Foxhounds were near Etchinghill. We had to set straight off across the downs in the direction of the hounds who were already in cry. We followed with our cameras and they packed up at 3pm, no kills, fewer than ten riders in total. The next week was the same, except they had NO riders, just two staff and hounds.

So aside from occasional grief from thugs, and some momentously bad weather to contend with, it's been a good season so far. Two hunts are now seemingly on their last legs, and no kills that we were aware of. The recent amalgamation of the East Kent and West Street hunts has led to fewer riders and the huntsman resigning.

Pewsey Vale Hunt Sabs
pewseyvalehuntsabs@hotmail.co.uk

As with many groups, the start of Pewsey Vale's sabbing didn't begin until the main hunting season as we were otherwise engaged during the summer and autumn. This is the first time in over 20 years that our local hunts were not sabbed during cubbing. To address the balance we've already visited the Tedworth Foxhounds (our beloved local) four times, starting with their opening meet. One sab was arrested (wrongfully) on a public road for 'failure to leave the land' (Agg. Tres., Sec. 69). Wiltshire police need time to get to grips with these new-fangled laws which have only been in place 20 years .

The Tedworth has a new huntsman this season, who seems to be making full use of the police. Even when sabs are sat in vehicles near the kennels, threats of arrest for Agg. Tres., Section 68, are used. Wiltshire Constabulary and the law just don't go together – has capital punishment been abolished yet? The "new" Tedworth are getting very feisty: sabs have been ridden down and threatened but there have been no kills due to persistent good tactics by sabs.

A trip to the Ledbury had huntsman and hounds running all day from sabs with very little hunting achieved. The Wilton Foxhounds spent nearly two hours trying to give sabs who were following the hound van the slip, only to pack up early after the huntsman tried to hide on foot with his pack. Good old Wiltshire police turned out in force with a dog unit plus armed officers just in case (shouldn't joke about capital punishment).

Visits to the Cattistock in Dorset and the Curre in Wales saw very heavy-handed tactics by hunt thugs with one sab being singled out and ridden down by two riders from the Curre. Despite threats sabs stood their ground and managed to sab in dangerous conditions, splitting the pack twice.

Boxing Day was like Christmas for us as the Vine & Craven Foxhounds did actually trail hunt and we just followed them all day. They thanked us (yes, really) for not interfering – when will they learn? A big thankyou to our friends and fellow sabs from Bath, Southampton, Bristol, Somerset (and South Wales for the Curre) who joined up with us for the above sabbing.

Berkshire Hunt Sabs
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07766312862

Since cubbing this year Berkshire Sabs have largely carried on with our hare hunting campaign – conversations overheard within some of these beagle packs suggest they've had worst couple of seasons in years. We've also visited some fox hunts including the Hampshire, Kimblewick, Royal Artillery and Surrey Union, joining up with other groups such as North Downs and NELS.

One significant event this year was a member of the Eton College Beagles being taken to court for assault. Amanda Benson, mother of Alex Benson, one of the masters last season, harassed sabs all day and admitted deliberately putting her children in front of sabs and their cameras whilst saying the age-old line encouraged by the Countryside Alliance: "you don't have permission to film the children". She called sabs paedophiles and 'Jimmy Saville', and then attacked one of the sabs. The judge found Amanda not guilty and said he believed her tale of self-defence, a rather surprising verdict given that two sets of video evidence had been supplied to the judge which displayed not only the assault from two different angles, but also Amanda's appalling behaviour from the start and clearly showed sabs doing nothing wrong. The judge also acknowledged all the prosecution witnesses told the truth. None of Benson's witnesses even turned up!

Other than this incident we've encountered very little trouble this season so far. At the Royal Artillery a few scummy terrier boys attacked a lone sab and tried to break into his car, and a few riders at the Surrey Union decided to ride down and kick a sab, resulting in a back injury for which they're still out of action. There've been a few other minor incidents of pushing and shoving and threats from terrier boys but no major injuries thankfully.

But in better news, following the badger cull we've had lots of new sabs join our group doubling it in size! However until there's no more hunting we'll always need more sabs, so if you're considering joining drop us an email or message us on Facebook or Twitter. We'll be having regular training days and monthly socials to which all are welcome, so we hope to hear from you soon!

South Coast Hunt Sabs
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Twitter: @SCoastHuntSabs
07707895695



The start of the season saw us at the Southdown and Eridge at Firle, a hunt with a small field of around 50. As a sign of solidarity Southampton popped over to help (nothing to do with the rock cakes they expect whenever we see them). During the morning the hunt put up a fox, sabs jumped into action and with some good horn work took half the pack from the huntsman up onto the downs, while the huntsman dithered around in the woods trying to find his hounds. Eventually some bumpkins turned up and put the hounds in the back of their vehicle and took them back to the huntsman -- in itself an admission of defeat. Our vehicles were then approached by the cops as they'd been told that we had hounds in our vehicles -- clearly a lie or else the hunt didn't recognise their own people (they do all look alike), but the cops were happy of our innocence. Most of the field went home, the skies opened, and the hunt finished looking very despondent. A good start to the season proper.

Our hunts have been hit by kennel cough and wet weather, but we spent a few weeks on the Old Surrey and Burstow. Their huntsman, Mark Bycroft, lived up to his violent reputation by punching a sab full in the face, which was luckily caught by our Land Rover camera. This was followed by a day when he missed hunting as he was 'helping police with their enquiries' and a swift conviction for assault, and then much publicity after he was filmed shaking the hands of Nigel Farage of UKIP infamy.

One day our Land Rover was surrounded by three Kent Constabulary squad cars who seemed disappointed when the driver freely admitted to being a hunt saboteur and that the vehicle was fully legal. When asked why the fuss, we were told that two Land Rovers had been reported as acting suspiciously (driving around the countryside?) and that this was an area where the houses were very expensive and 'people' (read 'poor people') come down from London to rob them. We can only assume they have the same response to reports of burglary on people with low value or rented houses?

A joint meet of the Crawley & Horsham and the Surrey Union was a good day out as these hunts have recently decided NOT to amalgamate - because of us. So after morning drinkies (theirs not ours) they were off, with four Land Rovers full of sabs eager to help our wildlife. It was not so much a case of keeping track of the hunt as keeping track of all the sabs...A wet and windy Boxing Day saw us visit the Crawley & Horsham, possibly the most convicted hunt in the country. A couple of journalists tagged along and it'll be interesting to see what they make of our jolly pranks. The meet was at the prestigious Countryman's pub, yes really! This pub they meet at three or four times a year so not surprisingly no photos went on the Daily Mail website. There were no more riders than usual, just around 30, but lots of pissed-up bumpkins in wellies and two cop Land Rovers.

They'd been spotted laying a drag before the meet at Knepp Castle, so true to form they went in completely the opposite direction and after some road work we located them and put sabs on them and kept them there all day. The wet ground defeated them until late in the day while wandering down a country lane when they suddenly went into cry. Although clearly not on a trail the huntsman encouraged them on and sabs had to intervene to prevent them continuing. And so it went until after 4pm when they packed up in the dark.

One day the only hunt out was the Surrey Union so a day trip was in order with sabs from all over in three Landies, much to the hunt's disgust. The land was mostly Forestry commission and very wet and muddy following recent rain but sabs were unperturbed and followed on foot keeping the hunt on the run. A byway bisected the area (legal dirt track which can be used by any vehicles but mostly 4x4s) so with some undisguised glee our Landy drivers took to sabbing from their vehicles from deep in the woods. Due to this we kept on the hunt all day and kept them away from a number of foxes they put up, on one occasion calling hounds off a scent when the hunt was nowhere in sight as they'd lost all control. A few of their 'boys' took to trying to follow and obstruct with their vehicles but thanks to some nifty driving they gave up and they clearly couldn't take the conditions as our experienced drivers could. A few threats were in order as usual and one bumpkin pranged his vehicle while trying to drive and take photos but the day went off without incident or lives lost. More sabs are always welcome, so please get in touch.

North Downs Hunt sabs
www.facebook.com/northdowns.huntsabs
northdownshuntsaboteurs@gmail.com
donate to account number 65545775 sort code 08-92-99

Since the last HOWL we've been out a further 18 times bringing us to a respectable running total of 46. We've spent half the time at old favourites the Surrey Union who've been suffering with kennel cough and have had to cancel several meets, losing revenue (ha). A number of times they hunted with the Crawley and Horsham and their hounds, and we've been successful sabbing them..

We've carried on helping Berkshire sabs in their campaign against hare hunts; on one excellent day 5 sabs stopped 30 plus hunters from the Four Shire Bassets within five minutes of turning up with cameras. We also called the police and six cars turned up to hear the hunt's pathetic claims that they were after rabbits and only chased a hare by accident. We also did some proper sabbing at the Trinity Foot Beagles, calling the beagles off just yards from a hare! We also joined Berkshire for the Boxing Day meet of the Kimblewick and the Royal Artillery, who attacked sabs and tried to steal car keys after we got them off a fox and packed them up early. Anybody wanting to join us please e-mail.

North-East London Hunt Sabs (NELS)

The start of the full season saw NELS struggling to find the hunts we wanted to, but we still teamed up with our SES colleagues and sabbed elusive beagle packs and also the Puckeridge in Hertfordshire, and two Suffolk hunts.

A lowlight has been the level of violence and intimidation used to try to stop us filming and saving lives, such as that at a meet at Wix, Essex. The Essex and Suffolk hunt meets there are starting to fit a pattern of kills and attacks on sabs. The scum attacked us early on after a kill which we worked so hard to prevent, and they got the body away. After a fox was saved, an SES sab was outnumbered and beaten by a hunt member, a terrierwoman and a load of supporters; they needed stitches to facial injuries. The other sabs in the field had to fight off further assaults, our video camera was smashed and other equipment was stolen. Beaten and injured, the silver lining is that we managed to save two out of three foxes.

One of the highlights was a Puckeridge meet in November when NELS were joined by Hertfordshire and Essex and Suffolk. Nearing the last couple of hours, two sabs returning stray hounds near Albury Hall found themselves ahead of the hunt as the dogs were in full cry and in pursuit of a fox that ran straight past the sabs and the hunt's terrier man. One of the NELS sabs sprayed, successfully masking the scent and allowing the fox to escape. After that debacle they packed up nearly an hour early.

On 30th November, NELS joined SES to sab the Essex and Suffolk, a meet which turned out to be joint with the Waveny Harriers. Pressure has been on the police to do something about hunt violence, and this brought them out in numbers but the sab jury is still out on whether they have come to prevent our work or police the hunt. Sabs kept up with the hunt after they left the meet and went between the A120 the river and Mistley Heath. After they were thwarted killing and sabs were in their stride taking control of every situation, the hunt's frustration resulted in a sab being knocked over and then trodden on by huntsman Olly's horse as she tried to get out the way. Police were about three minutes behind and must have heard all the shouting but were nowhere to be seen. They killed later in the day, with the police again minutes behind and then letting terrierman Cundy take the body away. They may have killed again but foxes and a domestic cat were definitely saved by sabs.

On Boxing Day 2013, eight NELS joined nine SES colleagues at the Essex Foxhounds meet near Matching Green. Large numbers of support, including masked up 'boys' in pick-ups and quads, made it difficult to get close. When we found them and moved closer we were attacked on a bridleway and public road with rocks and catapults. Luckily no one was seriously injured but a side window in the NES vehicle was smashed. This was around 1pm. Further threats and peltings by the same group in two pick-up vehicles and the hunt terrier men on quad bikes continued intermittently until police arrived around 3pm and went to interview the alleged assailants at the pub in Matching Green.

Norfolk & Suffolk Hunt Sabs

ns.sabs@yahoo.co.uk

Norfolk & Suffolk Sabs usually sab the Waveney Harriers Hunt but we're beginning to think they should rename themselves the Waveney Foxhounds. With the exception of one week (when there were no woods at all to foxhunt in) the Waveneys have been foxhunting every week this season. It's been a steep learning curve for us all and we would like to say a "big thanks" to the Essex sabs for a couple of very handy pointers.

The Saturday before Christmas we had a particularly successful day's sabbing. There'd been horrendous flooding and most people would have said that the hunt wouldn't be out, but the Waveneys are just too desperate. We managed to stop a dig-out taking place despite the floods not allowing us to get as close as we'd have liked. Just after Christmas we had a day of very bad visibility, with another 2_ hours spent in the woods but when the hunt broke for cover, we were there waiting and twice managed to stop the hounds when they were in very hot pursuit of deer.

This season, for the first time, we also have a quad biker to contend with, who seems to think he can do what he likes to intimidate us. Recently, whilst following the hound van, the hunt tried to get the Police to pull us over for following (which didn't work) and then the 4x4 with the quad bike trailer conveniently broke down on the road in front of us. We still found the hunt though – who needs to follow the hound van when you can follow a Police vehicle to the meet! You should have seen the hunt secretary's face.

Three Counties Hunt Sabs

threecountiessabs@live.co.uk
3countieshuntsaboteurs.wordpress.com



Three Counties sabs started the season heavily involved in the Gloucestershire badger cull. With it taking place smack bang in the middle of where we usually sab, we took on the role of coordinating a large part of the zone. This meant taking phone-calls at all hours of the day and night, and covering around 100 setts to try to protect badgers from shooters.

Some new favourites for us this season are the Croome and West Warwickshire Hunt and the North Cotswold Hunt, with our old chums at the Cotswold Vale and the Ledbury still getting to see us regularly. Another group has also been covering the VWH foxhunt under the banner of Three Counties. This is what we would love to see more of and, with the cull increasing awareness of and interest in hunt sabotage, we think more groups will be set up in the future. To start the ball rolling, we held a "Sab Skills Day" at the beginning of the year which 44 people attended (most of whom were from within the Three Counties "catchment area").

So, a positive start to 2014 for 3C. With some of our footage now in the hands of authorities and legal advice being sought with regards to several incidents, we hope this positivity will continue through the remainder of the season.

Sheffield & Doncaster
www.sheffieldsaboteurs.wordpress.com/

Sheffield & Doncaster sabs had a busy time helping to finish off the badger cull, being in the zone for most of the Gloucestershire extension. We had three wrongful arrests in Gloucestershire that were all dropped and for which we're now suing the police. With Nottingham sabs we also managed to squeeze in a sab of a pigeon shoot and the Cotswold Vale Farmers fox hunt while we were in the area.

Back home we've visited the Quorn Foxhounds, High Peak Harriers, Colne Valley Beagles and York & Ainsty South Foxhounds. We've had a lot of success with the Y&AS, but December 28th was a day to remember – we intervened three times to save foxes from being killed in Escrick Park, and ended the day finding and stopping a dig-out (full story: www.sheffieldsaboteurs.wordpress.com /news/fox-saved/). If North Yorkshire Police do their job for once, we should have the terrierman in court for the offences he committed, and we've launched a Facebook campaign (Boycott Escrick Park) to get the hunt booted out of the park which they use as a private playground.





Sabbing the CVB and HPH has been a refreshing break from fox hunts; on the two occasions we visited the CVB they've stopped and gone home, one of those days being Boxing Day. On our first visit to the High Peak, we were spotted near their kennels so they followed a trail at first, followed by them packing up as soon as they saw us in the fields. When we parked outside their kennels the second time they abandoned hunting altogether and went for a ride without the hounds! Please get in touch via website above to get involved.

Liverpool Hunt Sabs
www.facebook.com/
liverpool.huntsabs

Liverpool Hunt Saboteurs have been getting out and about again this season after a late start due to the badger cull. We've been enjoying teaming up with our friends from Manchester, Sheffield, West Yorkshire and Nottingham to help sab a number of hunts up North including the York and Ainsty and Colne Valley Beagles. We're looking forward to getting our van back on the road very soon so we can do even more! :-)

Nottingham Hunt Saboteurs
Facebook: Nottingham Hunt Saboteurs
www.nottinghamhuntsabs.weebly.com/
huntsabs@hotmail.com

After focusing on the badger cull right to the end Nottingham sabs weren't able to give our local hunts the attention they crave until early December. And where did we go first, but our old friends the Quorn. They seemed less than pleased to see us and had clearly brought in some hired thugs to give sabs a hard time.

Over Christmas we turned our attention to the elusive Per Ardua Beagles, on one occasion finding them hidden deep in the Nottinghamshire countryside blatantly hunting. The intervention of sabs quickly made them head back to the meet for a lovely picnic on a muddy lane. The following week they didn't venture out but we'd received information about where the Blankney would be meeting so popped over to pay them a visit. The hunt immediately ran and hid in a large military range near their meet and did very little for the rest of the day.

The New Year saw us return to the Quorn with some friends. The hunt were not nearly as brave with more sabs in attendance and packed up by 1pm after hunting for less than 2 hours. Leicestershire police took exception to our presence and arrived to give us a hard time. Plain clothes cops wearing no identification assaulted and harassed sabs and tried to slow us down but despite this we were able to stay with the hunt in the brief time they were out.

The following week we headed north to give our brave Yorkshire comrades a hand against the under-siege York and Ainsty South hunt and had a really good day. Then finally at the end of January it was time for a belated first trip of the season to the Meynell and South Staffs. Early allegations of assault by some lying hunt support ensured a heavy police presence but they were uninterested in the hunt's lies. The Meynell did their usual trick of using violent threats from the terrier boys to try to slow us down and give the huntsman time to run and hide but tenacious sabs stuck with them and ensured a kill-free day.

If anyone wishes to get involved please get in touch. We'll be out every week for the remainder of the hunting season then turning our attention back to the badger cull.

Manchester Hunt Sabs
www.facebook.com/ManchesterHuntSabs
nwhuntsabs@hotmail.co.uk
www.nwhsa.org.uk



Manchester Sabs have been keeping it real over the Xmas period and into the New Year. What should have been a routine visit to the Holcombe Harriers in December to check on one of the country's most incompetent hunts saw them kill a hare to our surprise with the poor animal torn between two hounds. The hunt packed up and fled immediately while we headed down to the local Police Station. We don't hold out much hope of any sort of prosecution but logging it seemed the least we could do. We returned to the same hunt the following weekend and saw them pack up after 2 hours of following a trail – but not before the huntsman had lost control of the pack as they rioted on something. They are in many ways the hunt that sab themselves and we have largely ignored them....that's going to change though.

Joining with other groups we have managed to squeeze in a few midweeks including a pre-Xmas visit to the York and Ainsty South; a Colne Valley Beagles Boxing Day meet; and the same hunt again in first week of January. At the two latter meets, they wouldn't go out with sabs present; the second time sabs easily outnumbered support and they didn't even unbox. Not bad for a Thursday.

A trip down to the Quorn to join our midlands colleagues was pleasingly all done by 2pm despite some ridiculous policing by plain clothes cops and unmarked cars. A return to the YAS near Selby saw the opposite with hands-off policing and one vehicle insisting they were there to follow the hunt not us (hint – you need to be within at least a mile of them to catch them out); then our first trip to the Meynell this season with Nottingham sabs proved a long and at times trying day, in the end successful despite immediate but ultimately ineffective physical intimidation by hunt support.

North Tyne Hunt Saboteurs Group News

At the opening meet of the Braes of Derwent in November, the hounds were in cry but were called off with voice and horn calls, and they eventually packed up. At the end of November, we followed the South Durham Hunt to Whin House Fox Covert where we discovered the hounds in the undergrowth looking for a scent. The hunt gathered with the hounds for 20 minutes while they called in hired hunt thugs to get rid of us. This is the first time this hunt has done this, but after our lucky escape we found the hunt again on Hurworth Road near Black Wood where three of the hunt supporter's cars (two of them driven by the thugs) tried to block us in and run us off the road in front of the hunt. The hunt packed up early after the incident, apparently without a kill.

On Boxing Day three of us paid a visit to our local Tynedale Hunt, at Corbridge. The hounds came into cry at a covert near the kennels, and our calling them off with voice calls made the hunt very paranoid and volatile. We managed get out intact despite threats of violence, attempted theft of cameras and maps, and this had the effect of making the hunt pack up before 2pm.

But while the hunt was packing up we spotted them gathering in a corner of a field and went to investigate but this is when the two terrier men/gamekeepers who "escorted" us off the land earlier decided to try and punch the driver's window on the sab car. This resulted in our being chased for over two miles by quad bikes onto the A68, which wrecked the car we were in. In pursuit they again tried to punch the window out of desperation to seize any footage of them – what were they hiding? Later, while on the A69 waiting for a pick up, the drunken kennel huntsman asked us if we'd seen any of the hounds near the motorway because the pack had split up and they'd lost them. What kind of a trail is that? The Tynedale has a very dark and violent past with sabs and monitors, and still lives up to its reputation.

Cumbria
Cumbriansab@yahoo.co.uk

Cumbria sabs have been very active, with the group getting out two or sometimes three times a week against the Fell Packs. Concentrating our efforts mainly on the Blencathra and Melbreak, we've also paid occasional visits to the Cumberland Farmers and the Ullswater to good effect.

We've had the Blencathra under the cosh since early October when, joined by Lancaster sabs, we stopped them killing at their Coledale Inn meet. The whole incident was caught on video prompting an investigation by police during the course of which Barry was pulled in and interviewed. Although the footage was ultimately deemed inconclusive it's had a large impact on Barry who now just runs when sabs arrive at meets out of fear of being caught on camera.

Other memorable outings for the group, again working with Lancaster sabs, include the Blencathra's prestigious New Year's Day and Westhead Farm meets where we've totally humiliated Barry in front of massed support. With some good results also in the bag against the Melbreak, 2013-2014 is lining up to be a very good season for us.

Hunt Prosecutions



During a meet of the **Old Surrey Burstow & West Kent FH** at Fordcombe, Kent on the 14th December, huntsman Mark Bycroft (above) launched an unprovoked assault on a hunt saboteur. Despite calling 999 Kent police failed to take any action on the day. Fortunately the entire incident was captured on the sabs 'landy-cam' and following complaints the police reviewed the video evidence. Although he has a previous conviction for assault on a hunt saboteur, Kent police decided that a warning would suffice as Bycroft freely admitted the assault. The video, which clearly shows Bycroft looking around to see if he is observed, and then viciously punching the sab in the face with no provocation, can be seen here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=9DyqzIaBjZY

Dicky Tonks, (pictured right) terrierman for the **York and Ainsty South FH** received a £90 fine for sec.5 offences after he was caught on a sabs 'van-cam' threatening the driver and repeatedly 'offering him out'. North Yorkshire Police had little option but to press ahead with the charges as Tonks kindly introduced himself at the start of the footage which can be seen here: http://youtu.be/55tJpOHo_4Q

The 'van-cam' that took the footage of Tonks was £30 from a well known auction site - so a great investment for any sab group. Let's face it - neither of these offences would have been investigated without the video evidence.

William Staines, terrierman for the **Ashford Valley FH** was found not guilty of interfering with a badger sett at the end of his trial in December. The evidence from the League investigators (that Staines was present and digging) was accepted and the trial hinged on whether the sett was active. The defence expert contradicted the opinion of the prosecution expert and the district judge found that if the experts couldn't agree then how could anyone else – an odd decision given that the final decision is the judge's. Sadly if Staines had been charged under the Hunting Act as well he would surely have been found guilty given that it was accepted that he used a dog below ground and that the incident occurred on council land where he had no permission.

George Milton, huntsman and joint master of the **Weston and Banwell Harriers** is to face trial again. Alongside him will be amateur whipper-in Toby Lee. Both are charged under the Hunting Act. They will face trial at the end of March at Taunton Deane Magistrates Court, with the trial listed for four days.

The case arises from evidence gathered by League investigators in October 2012. Milton was recently found to have no case to answer in another Hunting Act court case when despite clear evidence of illegal hunting he could not be shown to be involved.

Finally two terriermen from a south east foxhunt are due to stand trial for an offence under the Protection of Badgers Act.



SUPPORT ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS



Please write cards or letters to the following prisoners. Even if you just send a card with a brief message, receiving a message of support from the outside world can make a huge difference to the prisoner. Remember all correspondence is read by prison staff. Also don't expect a reply as there is a limit to the number of letters each prisoner can write.



Walter Edmund Bond, 37096-013
USP Marion CMU, PO Box 1000, Marion IL 62959, USA
Walter Bond, 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, Walter 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 Walter a total of 12 years for his actions as the ALF Lone Wolf. 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.
According to the BOP inmate locator, Marie Mason is at the Federal Medical Center in Fort Worth. Although rumors continue to swirl, there is no confirmation at this time as to where Marie will end up. Marie is vegan. Please drop Marie a line. If you are writing a longer letter, we recommend you photocopy it, in case she is moved again by the time it arrives. This way you can resend it again later. Marie was sentenced on 5th February 2009 to an outrageous 21 years and 10 months imprisonment for ELF/ALF actions. www.freemarie.org/ and www.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 imprisonement for conspiring to think about actions! (Part of an FBI sting operation) www.supporteric.org Birthday:7th October



Steve Murphy, 39013-177 - New Address - 20-12-12
McMullen B, FCI Three Rivers, Federal Correctional Institution, P.O. Box 4200, Three Rivers, TX 78071, USA
Steve Murphy was 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. www.supportsteve.org Birthday:3rd September



Justin Solondz, 98291-011 - Moved - 10-09-12
FCI Loretto, Post Office Box 1000, Loretto, Pennsylvania 15940, 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. www.supportjustin.org Birthday:3rd October



Kevn Johnson #4565
Woodford County Jail, 111 E Court St.,Eureka, IL 61530, USA
Kevin is one of two Los Angeles animal rights activists who were arrested in rural Illinois for "possession of burglary tools." After a traffic stop police allege they found bolt cutters, wire cutters, muriatic acid, ski masks, and cammo clothing intended to be used for felony charges which carry up to 3 years in prison. Kevin has been in jail since their arrest on August 14th, his co-accused has been released on bail.

save us some dosh if you're moving!

If you move house please tell us. The HSA has a disproportionate number of returned envelopes due to unknown addresses, this inevitably means wasted funds.

Please make sure we have your current address!





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 strives to function on 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.
- 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 / 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 (1 year subscription) ❒ £150 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.....

Email:.....

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 please email us - info@huntsabs.org.uk or visit www.huntsabs.org.uk

USEFUL ADDRESSES

Animal Liberation Front Supporters Group (ALF SG)
PO Box 1107, Northampton, NN7 9BT
info@alfsg.org.uk www.alfsg.org.uk

ARPS (Animal Rights Prisoner Support)
PO Box 2174, LEIGH-ON-SEA, SS9 0AZ
www.arprisoners.org
info@arprisoners.org

The Black Fish
www.theblackfish.org info@theblackfish.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-12 noon
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
01483524250 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 07580455223

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)
enquiries@powa.org.uk www.powa.org.uk

SchNEWS
SchNEWS, c/o Community Base, 113 Queens Rd, Brighton, BN1 3XG, England
01273 685913 schnews@brighton.co.uk www.schnews.org.uk

Sea Shepherd
Sea Shepherd UK, Argyle House, 1 Dee Road, Richmond-Upon-Thames, Surrey, TW9 2JN
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 the Cull
www.badger-killers.co.uk

Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC)
BM SHAC, London, WC1N 3XX
info@shac.net www.shac.net

Vegan Prisoner Support Group (VPSG)
BM 2107, London, WC1N 3XX 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/arc

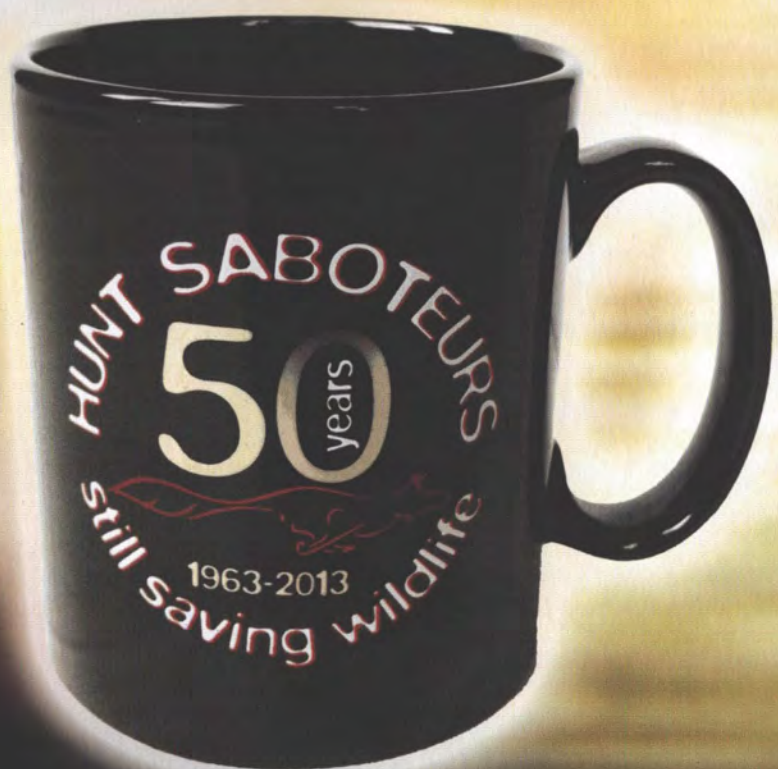
New 50th Anniversary merchandise!

HUNT SABOTEURS 50 years
1963-2013
Still saving wildlife

To celebrate 50 years of direct action against bloodsport we've released a new range of merchandise featuring mugs, t-shirts and cloth badges!

Available now at www.huntsabs.org or see enclosed merchandise flyer.





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

Order, join, renew or make a donation online, visit www.huntsabs.org

How can I help?

This flow-chart is shamelessly lifted from Bite Back! zine by Sheffield sabs. Thank you kindly!

HUNT SABOTEURS 50 years 1963-2013 Still saving wildlife

Do you have Saturdays or mid-week days free?

Yes

Do you want to take direct action against bloodsports
(Can you drive or naviagate if unable to run?)

Yes

Visit www.huntsabs.org.uk to find your local sab group

Could you work bar shifts at northern summer festivals to raise sab funds?

Yes

Please contact Sheffield sabs: sheffieldsaboteurs@live.co.uk

No

No

Can you raise money by doing a stall, organising a gig, sponsored walk, selling cakes at a bake sale?

Yes

Please join/donate at www.huntsabs.org.uk or send cheques to: 'HSA', BM HSA, London WC1 3XX

No

Do you have other skills?

* Vehicle Mechanics
* Dog sitting
* Legal support
* Self defence tuition

Yes

Please contact the HSA - see inside this magazine for details

No

No

Can you support the HSA financially? Why not join as a 'supporting' member? (see page 26)

Yes

No

* Please LIKE us on facebook, follow us on twitter
* Write to local newspapers voicing your opposition to hunting.
* Give the HSA any information you have about where hunts or shoots are taking place

www.huntsabs.org.uk