"Not to hurt our humble brethren is our first duty to them, but to stop there is not enough. We have a higher mission — to be of service to them whenever they require it."
— St Francis of Assisi

HSW

5p

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INSIDE JOB

"Let all the poisons that lurk in the mud hatch out"
– Claudius the God

Documents stolen from the BFSS in a raid on their London office in March '77, in which £6,000 worth of damage was done, were the subject of a recent court case involving League Against Cruel Sports committee member Dick Course.

These documents, used as evidence in the case, revealed quite a bit about how the BFSS operates:

1. They planted a spy, Marion Braham, in the LACS in the early 70s to do outside typing for the League. A copy of everything she typed found its way to the BFSS. This included letters to the League's solicitors about hunt trespass etc which would have benefitted any hunter fighting these cases had he or she seen them.

2. BBC Chief Ian Trethowan was (in 1975) 100% behind the bloodsporters according to Sir Richard Goodwin, then BFSS Secretary, who had just lunched with him. According to Goodwin, Trethowan could guarantee air time for pro-bloodsports personalities such as Enoch Powell (who later agreed to take part in such a programme). Trethowan's views were repeated in another letter from Marcus Kimball, Chairman of the BFSS, to Enoch Powell marked "Confidential" in which he asks Powell "if I may tell Ian Trethowan that you are prepared to help". A handwritten note across the top, dated two weeks later, says "Enoch has now agreed".

3. A plan to discredit Labour MP Bill Price, a well known hunt abolitionist and now a Minister in the Privy Council Office. Raymond Brooks-Ward, BBC commentator, Master of the Enfield Chace FH and chief PRO for the BFSS at the time was the instigator of this idea.

4. A plan to "get at" Margaret Thatcher through her sister Muriel Cullen. How they planned to do this remains a mystery but it's a fact that before this time Mrs Thatcher was anti-bloodsports to the point of voting for Hare Coursing Abolition Bills whereas since then she's been notably absent from the 'Ayes' lobby on similar votes, despite being in the House at the time.

5. A weakly disguised threat by 'Carcase' Kimball to give the Tory Whip the run-around if Maggie didn't stand by "the special relationship" between her party and the BFSS.

Some of the relevant letters appear here.

When questioned about these documents Kimball said he had "run riot" in 1975 because Mrs Thatcher had not supported the hunting lobby in previous Commons votes. "I was quite wrong to draw the conclusion I did, my God, I was wrong, never have I been more wrong. I have had the most robust support from Mrs Thatcher ever since I wrote that letter."

His comments not only reveal Kimball to be a pathetic little creep but, more seriously, seem to indicate that Margaret Thatcher *was* "got at" in some way by Kimball's dirty work boys!

Bill Price's comments on the affair are probably the most apt. He described the BFSS as "an extremely doubtful outfit. There's no limit to what they will do and no trick they are not prepared to pull inside or outside parliament".

"They are a vicious bunch. These letters illustrate only too well what those of us who have been trying to get legislation through are up against."

On 9th January 1979, after a three day trial, Dick Course was acquitted of the charge of "dishonestly receiving stolen documents, knowing or believing them to be stolen".

He had had the documents dumped on his doorstep one night in early '77 following a call from an anonymous girl advising him of the spy in the League's camp. He told the court that he had sought advice on what to do with the documents from his superior, the then League Chairman Raymond Rowley. Consequently he allegedly met Mr Rowley and they went through the documents together. Mr Rowley was said to have taken some and given Dick the rest to destroy, telling Dick he'd be consulting the League's lawyer about the rest.

Dick said that he didn't destroy his part as he felt that legal proceedings should have been instituted against the BFSS for conspiracy to pervert the course of justice (by having, in advance, copies of evidence of proposed LACS prosecutions against hunts, supplied by Marion Braham), in which case his part of the documents may have been relevant. He said that he felt that the LACS solicitor should see all the evidence before it was handed in to a police station as it would then have been given back to the BFSS and an injustice covered up.

A heated argument took place at the LACS Committee meeting of 5th April '77. At the time a power struggle appears to have been going on on the Committee with members being forced by Mr Rowley to side with him or against him. For some reason he apparently saw Dick as a threat to his continued existance as Chairman. The meeting was asked to expel Dick and although the League's solicitor was present throughout he apparently gave Dick no legal advice at all and the only advice he gave Mr Rowley was, reportedly, to "shut up – you'll incriminate yourself" whenever the documents were mentioned. The resolution seeking Dick's expulsion failed, but only just, because it failed to reach the required ¾ majority. Those voting for his expulsion were Raymond Rowley, Miss Kirkham, Lady Follett, Mrs Stott and Mr Robinson (all since ousted from the Committee) plus four current Committee members, namely John Alexander-Sinclair, Joan Chambers, Iain McPhaill and John Ashton-Sutcliffe. Those voting against the resolution were Gwen Barter, Doreen Parkes, Jan Rennison, Bob Smith and Jean Taylor.

Three weeks later Dick was raided by the police acting on a tip-off from the BFSS that "stolen documents" would be found at his place. It has since been revealed that Lady Follett had suggested to Mr Rowley that the BFSS should be told that Dick had these documents as this would strengthen Mr Rowley's hand at the forthcoming Committee elections. The current Director of the BFSS, Major General Brockbank, admitted in court that he had received an anonymous tip-off as to where the documents were – he naturally informed the police.

Three days after Dick's raid 5 HSA committee members were simultaneously raided by police looking for "stolen documents". They found nothing.

Fifteen days after Dick's raid Raymond Rowley was ousted as Chairman on a show of hands at the League's AGM.

British Field Sports Society
President: THE DUKE OF BEAUFORT, K.G. Deputy President: THE LORD MARGADALE Chairman: MARCUS KIMBALL, M.P.
Treasurer: SIR BERNARD WALEY-COHEN, BL Secretary: SIR RICHARD GOODWIN.
26 CAXTON STREET, LONDON, SW1H ORG Telephone: 01-222 5407

From Sir Richard Goodwin
REG/ARS 8th January 1975

I had hoped not to worry you again with a letter, but I have just had the most interesting lunch with Ian Trethowan (it was his turn to give me lunch!).

He is entirely and 100% on our side and greatly deplores the stupid announcements made by some BBC programme kings. For example I told him about a rather stupid broadcast on Boxing Day Meets made that morning. He took a note immediately and said he would deal with it.

However, the main object of this letter is to tell you that he thinks it important that we should get a well-known personality who would be willing to talk on the radio or even television to the general effect: "I do not care much about coursing (or foxhunting, etc) but I am dead against the interference with the freedom of the individual by the Government." He suggested such personalities as Enoch Powell, Robens, Richard Marsh and Gormley.

Ian said that if we could get anyone on this he would guarantee to get them on the air for us and possibly television. He said that this was the sort of personality who would sway people and I think he is right. He also said that it was desperately important to get the miners behind us in regard to coursing, as indeed Tom Reynolds has said on many occasions.

I am copying this to Raymond.

Marcus Kimball, Esq, MP
Great Easton Manor
Market Harborough
Leicestershire LE16 8TB

ODHAMS & GUNN LTD
25 DOVER STREET LONDON W1X 3RA TELEPHONE 01-499 9985

M. Kimball, Esq, MFH,
British Field Sports Society,
26 Caxton Street,
London SW1.

Dear Marcus

I enclose a set of cuttings which Mr William Price achieved.

I am sure you do not, and nor do we underrrate this man. He certainly does make the headlines.

If, at any time we can discredit him, I would be grateful for some information.

Yours sincerely,
Raymond Brooks-Ward

From Marcus Kimball, MP Wednesday 12th February, 1975

Dear Humphrey

I am reluctant to add to your problems at the moment but I am extremely uncertain about one aspect of Margaret as our leader. My personal view is very minor and I would never do anything to undermine the Conservative party.

I must consider the 1.6 million members and associates of the Field Sports Society. We have had for many years a "special relationship" with the Conservative party at constituency level, the House of Commons, and within your office. We had support from Ted and active encouragement in our tactical battles and help in a major way from Willie and you under Ted continued this support.

Before the 1970 election Margaret voted for the abolition of coursing and made it clear to me that she felt our vote on that night was an error. We appreciate that this was on the eve of a general election.

We now face a very different situation - country sports are to be legislated against one by one year after year.

I hope Margaret will allow our special relationship to continue and will agree to stand by any tactical successes we may achieve in either House.

An undertaking on those important matters would make it much easier for me to continue as always, to obey and receive your whip.

Yours ever Marcus.

To Humphrey Atkins, Tory Chief Whip

British Field Sports Society
26 CAXTON STREET, LONDON, SW1H ORG Telephone: 01-222 5407

REG/JSR
From Sir Richard Goodwin 28th February, 1975

You may remember suggesting to me last week that a good way of getting at Margaret Thatcher might be through her sister Mrs Cullen about whom some newspapers had written.

I thought the best way of doing this was probably through the Master of the local hunt and by chance I met Guy Aldous, master of the Essex and Suffolk at a Press Lunch in Ipswich last Friday. I showed him the Daily Telegraph cutting and asked him if he could "put the ferrets in". He has written me two postcards fully covered on both sides and I have reduced them to a rather long looking document photocopied from the post cards. I hope you can read it but it will explain what steps he has taken.

I have of course acknowledged and asked him to let me know what follow up there is from his contacts.

With best wishes.

The Lord Margadale, TD, JP
Fonthill House,
Tisbury,
Salisbury.



Dear Sir

I am returning to you this piece of paper *(HOWL poster)* which I found under the windscreen of my Range Rover last Saturday, it was parked in a Brighton car park. I suppose your vermin who placed it there realised I was a shooting man by the BFSS and WAGBI membership badges which I am proud to display, also by the gun and dog rack in the back.

As my posterior is now used to tissue paper of the Andrex type I have no use for your poster, so you can have it back to stick UP YOURS.

Wishing you no success at all in your project.

Yours

Mark Heach (?)

Hove, Sussex

(Editor: a reply was sent – a piece of Andrex stamped "Hounds Off Our Wildlife"!)

Dear Sir

As a farmer I am glad that you take a stand against hunting. Although the majority of farmers are against hunting because of the untold damage done to crops, as tenant farmers they dare not protest. In this area (Dorset) an increasing number of farmers are putting notices on their gates "No Hunting".

The statement that permission (for hunting) is always asked is a lie. The statement that the fox has a fifty-fifty chance is a lie. If it were true why does the hunt always carry a terrier to pull the fox from its sanctuary (I have seen it done)?

Even the country folk who have no interest in farming find their roads blocked whenever a meet occurs and if they have an appointment to keep they are delayed sometimes for half an hour.

If only the NFU would hold a referendum on the question of whether or not farmers welcome the hunt the truth would be revealed but I think there would be little chance of them doing this. In Dorset a few of the local NFU are members of the hunt.

Bless you

As a tenant farmer I must ask you not to reveal my name.

Dear Sirs

It's about time we buried the idea that Hunt Saboteurs are all "Lefties" motivated only by politics and class conflict. At least one member (me) is a card-carrying Conservative Party member who has never voted Labour in her life. Cruelty to animals is not confined to any one class, for every fox-hunter you have your working-class fisherman or hare courser who are just as unspeakable. There must be many more Conservatives in the HSA. Come on, own up and kill this class thing once and for all. Compassion is non-political.

Yours faithfully

Mrs G.Read

Teddington, Middlesex



The South London Group of the HSA prepare to meet this season's foxhounds armed with antimate, hunting horns and packets of Philosan.

BOXING DAY 1978

The BFSS's Fighting Fund's being used to good effect at last (ie frittered away). Thousands of leaflets were distributed by hunt minions at Boxing Day meets (and later printed in full in many pro-hunt newspapers) 'presumably' in an effort to attract the working and middle class masses to their ranks in their continuing battle against possible Labour Party legislation against hunting. We say 'presumably' cos they certainly skimped on the psychological wording of the heading – "A Message from the Master" no less!! Better try next year BFSS.

Meanwhile we had groups out all over the country against these silly people. Stories that have come in from all parts include banner demos at many hunts, an anti hunt slogan daubed on a house at the Suffolk Hunt's meet that "was cleaned off almost before it had ben daubed" (pro-hunt E.Anglian Daily Times), the scattering of the Brighton& Storrington Beagles all over the South Downs by local sabs so effectively that the hunters were still gathering them up when darkness fell, a woeful tale of miserably wet West Cornwall riders (pretty wet at the best of times), a sit-in by 3 sabs at a fox's earth whilst Taunton Vale terrier men were digging it out – despite threatening the sabs the terrier men eventually gave up and left the fox alone after some locals had had a go about their unsporting behaviour (the hunt master hadn't experienced anthing like it before in all of his 9 seasons by gad) – and 3 Tory MPs out riding with the West Norfolk FH. This latter may have been a result of the BFSS "Special Political Committee" (sounds scary doen't it?) urging all MFHs to invite their local MPs and their families out for fun and frolics over the Christmas holiday but was more likely due to the fact that one MP, Christopher Fowler (Tory, NW Norfolk), is President of the W.Norfolk FH.

Probably the nicest banner demo story was the E.Midlands HSA's one against the Quorn FH in Leicester which received national ITN news coverage much to the chagrin of Horse & Hound who complained bitterly that the 15,000 crowd, many of whom had "driven long distances to see the hunt" didn't get a look in from the TV cameras – with the exception that is, of the gawping idiots straining over the dozen antis' shoulders to get their mugs on the telly and inadvertently enhance the sabs' numbers. What all hunters fail to appreciate is that those large crowds don't drive long distances just to see the hunt. They're exactly the same sort who drive long distances to gape at train crashes or airplane disasters. If it's spectacular enough they'll be there and the fact that hunters count them as allies only further belies their self-proclaimed strength.

DIRTY TRICKS DEPARTMENT

It's a fact of life, the more you repeat a story, a name, a slogan, the more well-known it becomes and no matter how untrue it is sooner or later everyone will believe it.

Of course you've all heard the one about "Well the antis get paid £5 a day for going out"*. Now anyone with a modicum of sense knows that's financially impossible – in one foxhunt season the *minimum* that would have to be paid out in 'wages' would be over £10,000 which, since the HSA was formed, would add up to over £150,000! But believe it they do as inumerable letters and articles in the press will testify – unless of course it's one of those dirty tricks?

Everyone gets in on the act, however the more well-known the name the more likely the story will be believed. Take Jackie Charlton for instance, that doyen of "World of Sport", he recently let rip in Shooting Times, "I'll fight the antis tooth and nail. They are a group of people who are prepared to do stupid things to get their way, like *throwing pepper in foxhounds eyes...*". Now what experience has this man had of antis, has he seen this incident with his own eyes?

John (Fenman) Humphreys (BFSS PRO) tells of an incident where a cat was released "in front of hounds in the hope that they would kill it and create an 'incident' thereby". *He* calls it a "dirty trick" – we wonder whose? Is this how the killing of cats by hounds, in the future, is going to be written off – "the work of antis"?

The richer the mud the more it clings and the opposition are certainly "sods of the earth". You must have heard the one about "antis who *spray noxious chemicals* into hounds faces and *stick needles and bodkins* into horses" or the infamous "*marbles and nails* under horses hooves". Nothing is too marvellous, too far-fetched.

Back to Fenman, and he can't keep away from "that phrase*" – it's like "beanz meanz ....." – "If a man is paid *£5 a day* to make you lose your temper and you remain unruffled, you have won the day"! So now the lie goes a little further, we are no longer paid to save foxes we are paid to upset hunters (and presumably paid to get our noses broken too!). If we presume the writer to be intelligent we can only suppose that he believes the readership to be idiots.

Even good stories need those small finishing touches to add a little spice. From a BFSS rep, "The going rate for students engaged in this nonsense varies between £3 and £10 (over £20,00 per season now!) *plus lunch*" (lunch indeed), and "being paid varying sums of money, and also being *bussed about the countryside* (flying saboteurs?). Many people wonder where the money for such activities is raised" (from the Kremlin of course, silly Billy).

Naturally getting paid goes hand-in-hand with being a long-haired, Left-wing, student (although we're constantly being told there's a few of them on the other side). Editor of Shooting Times, "the organisers hire students by the day" or "Major David Williams-Wynn suggested that most field sports opponents were from the left-wing Socialist element". Even 'shadier' is the revelation that we are indoctrinating small persons with naughty thoughts about hunting, "Mrs Patricia Lincoln-Lewis (at a 'Field Sportsmen's Evening') added that the Marxist philosophy was to infiltrate the educational system and then watch the young people drop like ripe plums".

So that's how we do it folks – teach the young our nefarious trade and then later pay them to injure animals of the hunt!

Shooting Times always has an answer for everthing, so we'll let them sum up – from 'News and comment', "One is tempted almost to laugh at such outrageous statements but that ignorant people on the receiving end of such rubbish are likely to be extremely gullible is a sobering thought. The thoughts may not necessarily be the opinions of the publications involved but the fact that they were published, containing as they do brazen lies as bald truths, is barely tolerable."

Thought of any good "dirty tricks"lately?

QUOTABLE QUOTES

"It makes good ecological sense and is a good conservation measure to cull a semi-rare species." 5– Walter M Black (former Dumffriesshire Otterhunt whip)

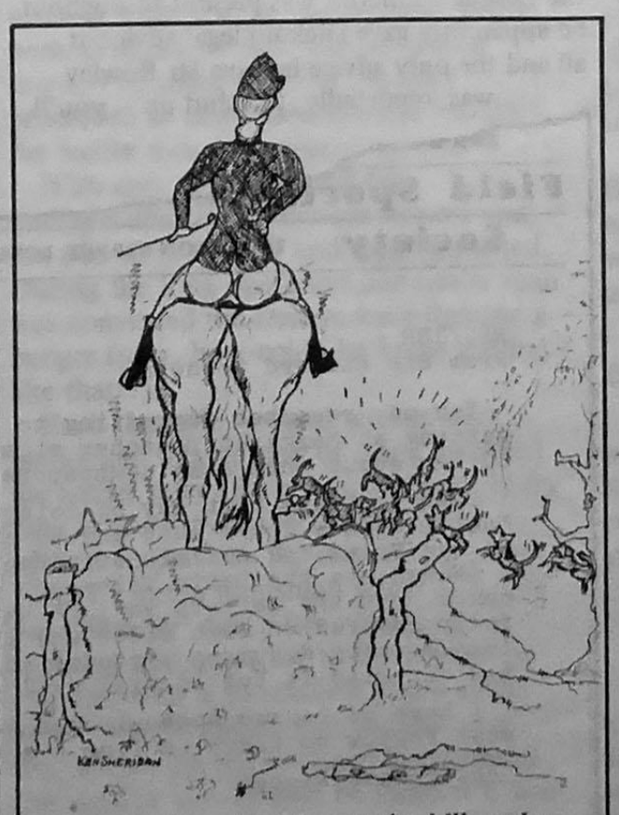
"(The British Field Sports Society) is a household name in Government, sporting and criminal circles...." – Robin Brockbank, Director, BFSS

"....'accounting for a fox', I always say that, never 'kill a fox', 'accounting' sounds better." – Archie Jones (kennel-huntsman, Eton College Beagles)

"The almighty gave man a hunting instinct and sufficient brain to outwit many of the creatures he hunts for food. The sublimation of the hunting instinct is to be seen at football matches; in street brawls and in railway trains. If the left-wing have their way they will craete a climate for more vandalism than mankind has ever known." – Arthur Oglesby, Shooting Times

"....it was about quarter past three in the afternoon and it was getting rather too late to draw. But the Master said to the huntsman that we might as well draw a covert on the way home. And there was a fox in there. Away hounds went and they accounted for the fox at 11 o'clock at night." – Archie Jones, Shooting Times – 3 weeks after the same magazine had ridiculed the Labour Party's charter 'Living Without Cruelty' for saying that foxes will be chased for "anything up to five hours"!

"Saw one or two bigger duck, but by then I was too cold to push off the safety catch and after 40 shots and 32 duck down I reckoned I had got enough and watched the tremendous pageantry of the flighting wildfowl" - Shooting Times



"Oh damn!...It's not the kill, only another blasted cat.

FOREIGN NEWS

In **British Columbia and California** scientists and farmers have learnt that the simple solution is often the best. When hunting, fences and poisoned traps failed to prevent coyotes from attacking sheep 'aversion therapy' was tried. Dead sheep were injected with a foul-tasting emetic and left as bait. The trick worked. The coyotes ate the carcases, were violently sick, and since then hardly any sheep have been attacked.

Not an ideal solution, but presumably better than being shot, trapped or hunted. No doubt our pink-coated felons would find some excuse for not trying it here on sheep which they claim they were protecting from foxes!

Not content with bullfighting, a group of English people in **Spain** are importing our dirty habits. A certain Major & Mrs Hall have drafted 15 hounds from the Cheshire, Catterick and Colne Valley FHs into Cadiz to start hunting foxes and hares. The creation, called the Guadiaro Hunt, will also hunt drags "if there is a shortage of quarry". They just can't leave it alone can they?

Joint masters and founders Major Peter and Mrs Karen Hall live at Apartado 16, Sotobrande, Cadiz, Spain.

FISHING LINES

Fishing is dangerous — and not only for the fish. An angler in Australia caught the fish of his dreams — a giant cod — and seconds later died from a heart attack as a result of the "excitement" and effort. Unfortunately the cod also died.

ANTI ANTICS

Sabs who thought they could have a well-deserved rest during the first summer of "otter protection' were in for a surprise. Otter hunts have continued their activities under the pretence of hunting coypu. In April the Eastern Counties Otterhounds set out at Hollesley supposedly to hunt coypu, but unfortunately they forgot to tell hounds that their quarry had transmogrified its taxon (for non-zoologists – changed its species!). Thirty sabs from London, the West and East Midlands successfully

When the cubbing season was underway sabs declared 'war' against this 'essential' pre-requisite for hunting proper. Both the Royal Artillery and the New Forest FHs had their cubbing activities declared a free-fire zone by anti-hunt militants. The hunts were so deterred by the 70-80 sabs that on each occasion the hunt had to pack up their Pavlovian pursuits hours early. The New Forest is known to have cancelled one of their early meets because of the presence of sabs outside the kennels.



A run-on at the Teesdale Country Sports Fair last year in which over 70 sabs took part!

hampered the ECOH in their peculiar pursuit. No kill of any taxon was recorded.

Further north the infamous Michael Farrow, a London business man who owns his own pack of otterhounds, was trying to find water in the non-protected eastern part of Scotland. But he was successfully harrassed by local otter protectors and had to seek refuge in a police station when they wouldn't leave him alone. Local Forestry Commission officials in Scotland have been given orders not to let otterhound packs onto their land.

Once again the hunting fraternity have had to resort to the Big Lie technique in a feeble attempt to excuse their pathetic pastime. In late March the Worcestershire hunt claimed in the local press that sabs had lured hounds onto a main railway – a lie later repeated by MFHA Chairman R. Wallace in a letter to the Telegraph. In fact it was the hunt as usual disregarding the welfare of their hounds and drawing woods far too close to the railway line which led to hounds running out of control 10 minutes before a train was due. The sabs were too busy putting escaping horses back into a field through a gate which the hunt had left open to have been in a position to draw hounds onto any danger. So, for their efforts the sabs suffered one bruised wrist, one damaged camera and vicious threats with baling hooks.

Obviously the hunt tribe are beginning to realise the effectiveness of HSA for moronic reprisals have been made. One hunt heavy vandalised a sabmobile by kicking dents in three of the doors. However, he found out that crime doesn't pay and was later fined £200. But in a savage, spiteful act two dead fox cubs were later tossed into the front garden of the sab concerned. One of the cubs had been brutally kicked to death (verified by a vet) and the other killed by the hunt.

The East Midlands Group has held two successful flag days in Derby raising about £600. However when they applied to do the same in Loughborough their request was turned down by the local council. Councillor Cyril Chapman (also the Mayor) said, "The word saboteur is an anathema to me". His attitude is hardly surprising as he is regular host to the Quorn FH on Boxing Day in the Market Place (with stirrup cup on the house). No doubt the hunt will have obtained permission to collect their 'cap'. (The refusal led to an interview on Radio Leicester.)

The Group did, however, obtain permission from Oadby & Wigston Borough Council but the descision was later recinded and referred to a full council meeting after certain council members objected with words such as "disruptive, lawless and brazen" in reference to sabs.

The Secretary to the Quorn, Charles Humphrey said he hoped the permit would be totally thrown out. He said the council's original decision to allow a street collection "invited lawless behaviour....and now they had taken steps towards re-establishing order".

Seems he should look to his own friends first before accusing others. The Meynall & South Staffs FH, whose country bounds that of the Quorn, "lawless behaviour" upset 4 local farmers. Six brood mares each with foals, 80 head of cattle, a flock of in-lamb ewes and other animals were disturbed and badly frightened when the hunt rode over their land without permission. Gates and hedges were also broken. The farmers have "taken steps towards re-establishing order" – they've banned the hunt!

A small demonstration protesting against Princess Anne's involvement in hunting, greeted her in Liverpool when she opened the central library's new extension.

Several HSA members have taken part in Radio and Television programmes. On Radio Forth an Edinburgh member held her own against a Master of Foxhounds. Manchester Group members collected 5000 signatures in 2 days for a petition against bloodsports which resulted in an interview on Radio Piccadilly. They also collected 700 for an anti-seal kill petition. Southampton HSA were represented on Southern TV's "Banana Programme" chaired by Bill Oddie, when John 'the mouth' McCririck, fanatical coursing correspondent and local BFSS rep, 'defended' bloodsports. Our rep was hardly able to get a word in edgewise while McCririck spouted on about fishing and the HSA. His remarks on HSA being a "criminal organisation" got a sharp retort from Bill Oddie who defended the right of protest.

Scenes of 4 years of protest at the Waterloo Cup were featured in a TV programme in the North-East when the anti MP for Nelson & Colne was interviewed about bloodsports.

Despite accusations in the press that sabs injure hounds it seems it's the hunters who aren't too concerned. Two beagles which collapsed as the Christ Church & Farley Hill Beagles were moving off from their opening meet had to be pointed out to the huntsman by sabs.

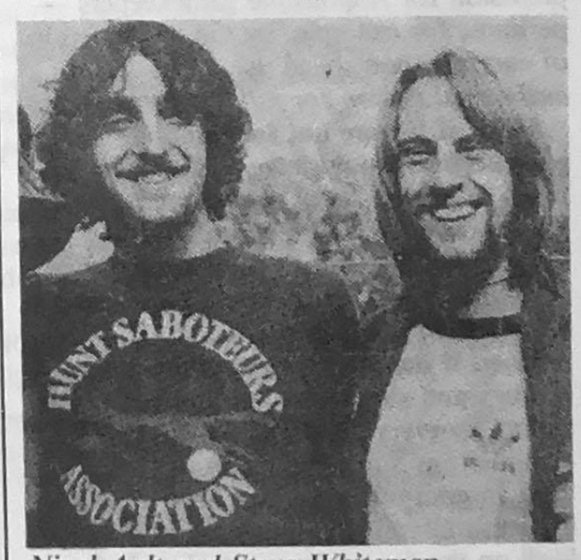
Further to our article about this hunt in the last issue of HOWL the court case against our members who were charged with 'action likely' has been heard. 21 out of the 22 charged were found guilty and bound over for trying to save life.

Our thanks go to Trev Williams of WAPS for organising stalls at the Festival of Mind & Body at Olympia where 130 new members were enroled on the stand and many hundreds took away membership forms; and at the NUS conference in Blackpool where 30 people joined and 10 colleges enquired about affiliation. At both exhibitions the HSA broke even (£1,200 being taken at Olympia and £140 at Blackpool). Trevor gave up his annual holiday to run these stalls and would like to extend, in return, his thanks to all who helped out.

Gravesham Animal Rights Group, a newly formed pressure group in Kent, organised a successful Animal Rights 'open day' at an alternative venue after being refused permission to hold the event at the council owned Woodville Halls. The Halls were booked in July but on the 14th October (only 2 weeks before the event) the council decided against it "after further investigations revealed that militant groups would be represented (ie HSA). We just didn't feel we could be sure we were going to have a harmless exhibition"!! The council refused to compensate the group for the money spent on advertising – could it be because the Halls are making "heavy financial losses, due to lack of support"!

The East Midlands Group displayed the handiwork of the Grove & Rufford rabble by parading the fox killed that Saturday morning through Newark Market Place. Naturally many people were upset and thought it "not nice", the sabs were eventually moved on by police under threat of 'action likely' because their actions were offensive!

Two members of the Group, Nigal Ault and Steve Whiteman, successfully walked the Pennine Way raising approx £550. The money was donated to the Orkney Seal Appeal



Nigal Ault and Steve Whiteman

GUINESS BOOK OF RECORDS?

On Saturday 9th December the Eton College Beagles unboxed and entered a field, when they were met by a posse of 35 sabs who immediately split the pack. The hunt turned round, boxed up and went home. The whole affair lasted less than 10 minutes!

VESTED INTERESTS

Little did the sabs involved in the last demo realise what ripples their actions were to set up.

One of the Eton Beagles' joint masters, 17 year old Timothy Vestey, whined to his dad over Christmas pud about the events of the 9th, mentioning the fact that Sussex University sabs had been present. Good old daddy, Edmund Vestey (46) joint master of the Puckeridge & Thurlow FH immediately hit upon a brilliant idea with which to blackmail the obnoxious University sab group into inactivity.

As Chairman of the Blue Star shipping line, who were sponsoring an Iranian post-grad marine engineering student at the time for £2,500 a year, Vestey wrote from his Saffron Walden, Essex home to inform the University that the grant would be withheld until he was "assured that your members are prepared to desist from this sort of behaviour".

True to type he obviously assumed that the University authorities would immediately kow-tow for the sake of the cash and clamp down on the sabs' legal and democratic right to free speech with its associated actions. The fact that the Iranian student, Mahshad Koohgoli, isn't a member of the sab group, wasn't out that day and didn't even know what the Eton Beagles were didn't mean a thing to Vestey.

However, unbeknown to Vestey, times have changed a little and the Great God Money no longer has the power it once had. Koohgoli's professor, Frederick Bayley, made it very clear in his reply that he couldn't "give any assurance that people who feel strongly on an issue will not assert their point of view . . .". He asked Vestey to reconsider but Vestey declined "because the HSA had expressed no regret for the disruption of the Eton Beagles' meet".

The League Against Cruel Sports then stepped into the story. On the 15th January the League's Executive voted by a substantial majority to meet Koohgoli's outstanding £5,000 grant themselves. But before the offer could be taken up, *another* bloodsportsman had already stepped in to pay the bill. This time it was Alec Reed (44) chief of the £5 million Reed Executive employment agency group and a member of the Warwickshire Hunt. Mr Reed, who lives near Eton at Englefield Green and has a 350 acre farm at Moreton-in-Marsh, Oxon, replaced the grant because of the "injustice" of Vestey's action. "Though I support field sports I do not support action like this. It reflects badly on hundreds of people who live in the country and support field sports and it reflects badly on businessmen".

WHALE NEWS

- A spectacular plot to blow up Soviet and Japanese whaling fleets off Chile was unfortunately "nipped" in the bud by FBI agents in Miami, after a tip-off. The 'grass', who claimed to be a former CIA agent, had been contacted by ex-navy diver James Rose to help him equip his sabotage mission. Rose had enough explosive "to blow up a skyscaper" and a yellow submarine. So far he has refused to say where the money for buying equipment came from or who paid the £25,000 bail after his arrest. He did say, however, "If the whaling fleet was disabled and no-one was hurt, it would be a chance to save thousands of whales. That would be a cause to believe in".

  If only!

The Ministry of Defence has ordered a ban on the use of sperm whale oil by the services, a move, they say which will be used to encourage the use of alternatives by industry. Meanwhile their concern for one creature is rather overshadowed by the fact that they are to breed their own monkeys for polio experiments at the infamous Porton Down.



Western Whale Action Group in action!

A paint-stripper attack on new Japanese cars on a vehicle transporter in Yeovil was claimed by a group called "Moby Dick". In a letter to the local press they stated, "This is happening as an economic protest to Japan who continue to kill whales in the face of world opinion". Damage to the cars is estimated at £2000.

Unfortunately Moby Dick rather 'messed on the doorstep' of another pro-whale group "Western Whale Action Group" whose base is in Yeovil! They recently held a Whale Rally and March in the town where there is a leather-processing factory. For further details on future events, info, etc contact Leigh & Jenny — Yeovil 23152, Susan — Langport 250317, Pete — Taunton 76141.

On December 4th 1,000 tons of sperm whale oil, the product of 300 whales was pumped ashore from a Danish ship, Tore Lupe, in the Clyde. The oil was bound for Highgate & Job, Liverpool for refining. Greenpeace (International) had protestors out in rubber dingies to harrass the ship but after an unfortunate accident with one of the craft they had to regain shore whereupon they were arrested under an 1886 by-law and kept in custody until the Tote Lupe had docked.

Talks are underway with the Transport & General Workers Union (TUGW), Glasgow branch, with a view to 'blacklisting' the trade — letters of support to TUGW should be sent to Mr Gilligan, Transport House, 24 Park Circus, Glasgow, Strathclyde.



A demonstration to protest against the 'Goriest Twelfth' was held outside the grouse receiving premises of the Savoy in London

ON A WILD GROUSE CHASE

On the 23rd September last year, approximately 80 sabs from all over the country converged on the desolate moors of Derbyshire. The reason? – to try and prevent the senseless slaughter of ladopus scoticus, the red grouse. This was the first time HSA had ever undertaken the sabotage of a grouse shoot.

After meeting at Edale car park at 8.30am the sabs set out to locate the first shoot. This proved to be harder than anticipated as the terrain was very rugged and strength sapping.

For three quarters of an hour they trudged laboriously through the dense heather until, finally, they made contact with the first shoot. To the complete and utter amazement of the beaters and shooters alike, the sabs began to walk down the valley in front of the guns singing "All Things Bright and Beautiful", thus driving any grouse away to safety. Within minutes dozens of antis had lined up in front of all the shooting butts, making it impossible for the so-called 'sportsmen' to carry on their 'legal pastime', for which they can pay anything up to £200 per day.

After about an hour of total frustration for the shooters, the police arrived on the scene, which was the sabs'cue to leave, which they did, beating all the remaining grouse away as they went, using football rattle, whistles, horns and just about anything that made a loud noise.

At this point the sabs split into two groups and hit another couple of shoots on the neighbouring moors. They met with greater hostility from the bloodsportsmen than encountered earlier in the day, one lunatic ignored the sabs presence completely and shot over their heads killing a grouse in the process.

However, this wasn't to happen again all day. The antis formed into a long line and as the beaters drove the grouse forward, so the sabs beat them back again.

One shooter, in his early twenties, attending his first ever grouse shoot, confessed to the sabs that he thought they'd done an excellent piece of work.

It wasn't long before the bloodsportsmen gave up the days proceedings as a bad job and decided to go home. Some of them shouting predictable abuse as they went, like "bloody townies", "go back to Russia" and "why don't you all get a job".

The day was a great victory for the birds and the HSA with scores of lives being saved.

It must be said, however, that this type of sabotage was a one-off for the HSA. It had been agreed at the 1978 AGM that we should try one such demo but future forays will have to have the backing of both membership and constitution.

MISTAKEN IDENTITY

The David Bailey of the hunting field, Jim Meads, was recently 'bowled over' as a "horse cantered by and lashed at him" as he trotted across the grassy sward doing his foot-followers bit. His flattening led to several stitches and a broken nose.

Ask yourself Jim, were you mistaken for an anti?!

DIRTY TRICKS SCRUBBED CLEAN

As the cutting from the Hemel Hempstead Evening Post-Echo (30.11.78) shows their little tricks don't always come off.

Tony Peterkin is a BFSS Hon.Local Secretary.

Hunt Saboteurs Association

ON February 1 last a letter from Mr Tony Peterkin headed "Violence and the anti-hunt people," was published in this newspaper. The letter claimed that since political extremists obtained an instrumental grip on the Hunt Saboteurs Association "their list of criminal activities is increasing at an alarming rate."

Whilst this newspaper published the letter in all good faith, both we and Mr Peterkin now accept that the Hunt Saboteurs Association is not in the grip of political extremists and does not engage in, nor does it encourage its members to engage in, criminal activities at any time. We and Mr Peterkin apologise to the Association for any misunderstanding that may have arisen from the publication of the letter.

THE VANDAL IN A RED COAT

One can only admire the courage of John Bryant who recently publicly critisised the Prince of Wales. Since making his statement Mr Bryant has been attacked from all quarters and determined efforts have been made to remove him from his job and from his elected position on the Council of the RSPCA.

What seems difficult to understand is why such hysteria has been generated over a simple condemnation of the actvities of the heir to the throne. It seems that although we serfs are now allowed to live and breathe almost alongside our 'betters' we are not supposed to say anything about their baser habits. Even though society may be becoming more civilised and caring it seems that our superiors wish to keep their middle-ages standards and morality.

Mind you can we expect anything else from man brought up in an atmosphere of cruelty and hypocrisy, whose father regularly spends a day or so killing a thousand birds even though he is a patron of the World Wildlife Fund.

INCITEMENT TO VIOLENCE

The British Field Sports Society and the hunting fraternity are upping the 'war' by spreading unfounded gossip and lies aimed at inciting violence towards saboteurs. A letter to the *Telegraph* in December from Ronnie Wallace, Chairman of the Master of Foxhounds Assoc. and Vice Chairman of the BFSS, accuses the antis of escalating incidents *against* hunt supporters. He goes on to say that "Hunting people are in the main peaceful, but if this aggravation continues some followers are bound to be provoked". Another correspondent in a Gloucester paper states, "I would remind all saboteurs to keep away from our local hunts or face the inevitable consequences".

Provoking violence?

How do you provoke an attack with iron bars or a broken-off car exhaust? Which is what happened on a recent meet of the East Sussex & Romney Marsh FH when 20 heavies emerged from a pub armed with such tools and chased sabs, beating one about the face. After the police had warned these men they again attacked sabs so that they had to take refuge in an old lady's cottage — the heavies beating on the door!

How do you provoke "peaceful" hunters into firing lead pellets from a catapult — an incident which took place at the Worcestershire FH. The same day the same hunt — one of our members was struck on the head with a crop suffering concussion that required hospital treatment. The huntsman, who struck the blow, said in an interview with the local paper, "These chaps are going to get somebody killed before long if they keep doing things like this"!

How do you provoke violence of the type witnessed on a meet of the Enfield Chase whern a sab was taken to hospital to receive four stitches in a head wound or a young girl was beaten about the breasts until she fainted? Or two weeks later at another meet of the same hunt when a car containing sabs was viciously attacked. The headlamps were kicked in, the body-work dented and side and rear windows smashed. (Luckily on this occasion a police car arrived and detained one of the "peaceful" hunt supporters involved, the other ran off but was later detained — both have been charged and are to appear in court.)

Or the incident at the Cheshire FH where one sab got struck across the back 10 times with a pole and another was struck in the face with the same implement.

These are a few of the acts of violence already perpetrated this season against members of the HSA. Acts that the BFSS and their adherents are determined it seems, by their utterances, to encourage. You cannot provoke "mainly peaceful people" to violence of this type — it's mob violence — born in the hunting field and condoned by hunt masters.

HYPOCRITIC OAPHS

Remember (how could you forget) all that slurry gushed out by those round-the-u-bend types in the hunting clique?

How they "condemn" the use of poison?

Yet from the WAGBI (Wildfowlers Assoc. of Gt Britain & Ireland) column, Shooting Times 19.8.78, "The Association (WAGBI) also wishes to make better provision for responsible gamekeepers — perhaps, for example, by the introduction of carefully controlled use of an *authorised poison for killing pests.*"

How, if it were not for hunting, gamekeepers would have to slaughter foxes to protect 'their' pheasants?

However, Douglas Leslie in Shooting Times 19.8.78 (again) states "....foxes in general in pheasant coverts are *far less to be feared than the domestic cat*".

How, if hunting were abolished, farmers and shooters would make the fox extinct by every legal method available!

Again, from Shooting Times Oct.19, "Mr.... goes on to say that the agricultural and shooting fraternity would look on the fox as vermin and with the use of the gun and the snare would soon make the fox a threatened species. *What nonsense!*" (Henry Grass in his "Keepers' World" article)

and **How "hunting is the most humane method....etc"?**

BRAES OF DERWENT BADGER CHARLIE

On November 11th four saboteurs witnessed a four and a half hour dig-out by terrier men of the Braes of Derwent FH.

Hounds having found their fox in a large wooded vale hunted it for some two miles before it went to ground in an extensive field drainage system.

First to arrive was the huntsman and hounds, followed by sabs and mounted followers. With hounds baying and the huntsman blowing long repeated notes on his horn the terrier men came to the scene. Having been informed of the situation two terriers were put to ground after the fox. With other entrances located in the centre of the field an attempt was made to bolt Charlie. After some time it became apparent that this fox would provide no more sport so the hunt proceeded to draw local coverts leaving the terrier men in charge.

With ears to the ground the underground battle between terriers and fox was soon located and digging started. During the long operation one terrier man was convinced the terriers were fighting a badger (now, how could he know a thing like that!?).

Each time the fox and terriers were pinpointed a large slab of stone hindered the terrier men killing their fox and by the time it was moved the fox had been pushed deeper into the elaborate system.

At 5.15pm a huntsman returned to the now 'floodlit' dig. After reviewing the situation and reporting to the Master he returned with a 38 revolver and a single bullet. The following instructions were also left — the terriers were to be found and the fox should only be killed if it was with the terriers when reached.

One hour fifteen minutes later with fog setting in the first terrier was pulled from the drain. Its fur was impregnated with blood and mud and its forehead had sustained a flesh wound. Minutes later the second terrier was pulled from the drain by its back legs. It had hold of the fox by the throat, in turn the fox, almost dead, had told of the terrier by the back of the neck. With a terrier man placing a boot on the fox's chest, the terrier, covered in blood, (on later examination it was found to have been bitten clean through its lower jaw and also have bleeding gums as well as various head wounds) was pulled from the fox. The fox was then placed on ground level, the dig having taken the terrier man four feet below ground, its head severly bitten and bloodstained was shot with the 38 revolver through the brain. Several terriers were then released to worry the carcase.

The dig which started at 2.05 finally finished with the death of the fox at 6.35pm. Four and a half hours later. One wonders where the 'sport' lies in this activity?

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

"It is hard to believe that the Government which issued the perfectly sensible and logical order to cull the grey seal population could be the same body which produced the 'Living Without Cruelty' document." — News and Comment, Shooting Times 19.10.78

"It is hard to believe that the Government which produced the perfectly sensible and logical document 'Living Without Cruelty' could be the same body which issued the order to decimate the grey seal population" — Hunt Saboteurs Assoc., 19.10.78



"Twenty pheasants, four hares, a brace of foxes and one long-haired git"

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