The Magazine of The Hunt Saboteurs Association Spring 2022 (Issue 128) £2 (free to members)

HOWL

Direct Action Against All Bloodsports www.huntsabs.org.uk

HUNTING RUNS INTO TROUBLE

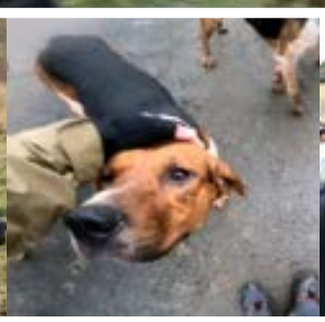
Sabbing Harrier Packs

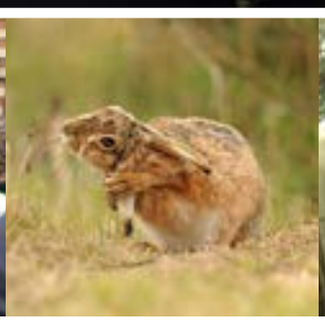
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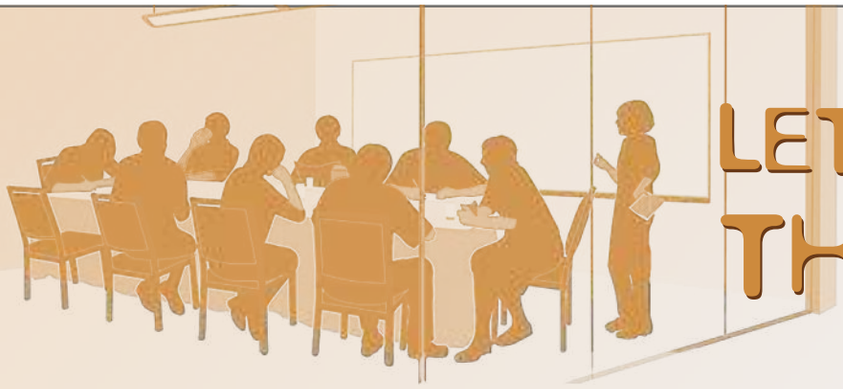
Get Involved

Sab History

Hare Wars



LETTER FROM THE CHAIR:

The year 2021 has been an outstanding one for the HSA and hunt saboteurs; despite the limitations of the Covid restrictions, the pressure we have kept on the hunting community has been immense: they have bounced from one sab-inspired disaster to another. I am sure we will look back on this year as the moment of critical mass: the tipping point when we finally saw the beginning of the end of hunting with hounds.

It all started at the end of 2020 when (after failing to get any national media with a backbone to release the now-famous leaked Hunting Office videos), the HSA took the decision to release the video ourselves. Following many attempts to take down our web site and Youtube videos, plus some half-hearted (and nonsensical) legal threats, the national media picked up the story. This, of course snowballed when (after the HSA sent copies of the video on DVD alongside supporting evidence to every police force in the UK), the Devon & Cornwall Police announced they were investigating the webinars. Fast forward to April 2021 when Mark Hankinson, MFHA director, was charged with "encouraging or assisting others to commit offences under the Hunting Act". He was found guilty at the subsequent trial, a result that sent shockwaves through the blood sports community, that has always seen itself as above the law. But the fallout did not end there: on the strength of these convictions many landowners (including the National Trust) had suspended trail hunting, awaiting the court result They have since, finally, banned it outright. There are a few still holding out, such as the M.O.D., but the overall impact has been enormous.



Of course, we did not sit back and say, 'Job done!' We assisted in getting over 100 hunt sabs onto multiple grouse shoots in the Yorkshire Dales on the prestigious opening day of the grouse shooting season, effectively shutting them down.

Then, in a highly secretive operation, we shut down the long-standing Northumberland Beagling Festival on its first day, when over 60 sabs found the illegal hare hunters in a remote northern location and stopped the festival before it had even started, ending what would have been a whole week of hare killing.

We must never forget that alongside all this, our 60+ affiliated hunt saboteur groups were sabbing each week: fox, hare and mink hunts, shoots and resisting the badger cull, saving lives each and every time. But our fantastic groups do much more than that. For example, Herts Hunt Sabs captured evidence of a member of the Cottesmore Hunt, primary school teacher Sarah Moulds, brutally punching her horse in the face causing her expulsion and sacking from her teaching job.

More recently we saw North London Hunt Sabs filming, by hidden camera, Paul O'Shea, terrier man for the East Essex Hunt, trapping and torturing a fox with a pitchfork, causing his arrest and charge for animal cruelty.

Hunt sabs are everywhere, and the hunters know that they need to be looking over their shoulders each time they think of hurting wildlife.

Finally, among all this work we managed to release our book SABOTAGE: The story of the Hunt Saboteurs Association, telling our story to date, and exclusively available from the HSA website at £25.00. We are quickly coming to the end of our first print run so buy now before we run out.

As we move into 2022, I can promise you one thing; the HSA and hunt saboteurs everywhere will be working to make this year an even worse one for hunters everywhere. With your vital support we can continue to do that.

www.huntsabs.org.uk
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Formed 59 years ago, the Hunt Saboteurs Association is dedicated to saving the lives of hunted animals through non-violent direct action. We hoped that the 2004 Hunting Act would put an end to hunting but realised within weeks that 'trail hunting' was simply a smokescreen designed to disguise illegal hunting.

The core work of the HSA is to encourage and support direct action against all bloodsports through our network of 60+ affiliated groups. The HSA also undertakes investigations and coordinates national operations against major hunting events.

The HSA Committee is made up of a maximum of 12 voting members who are supported by as many non-voting co-optees as deemed necessary. All committee members are volunteers – no one is paid for their work with the HSA.

As an HSA member your contribution is absolutely vital - thank you!

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Distribution	HSA
Big taverymuch to:	all HSA members and anyone who we've pilfered stuff off and forgotten to credit.

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Howl is printed on 100% recycled paper using vegetable inks.

EDITORIAL

Welcome to another edition of HOWL, the magazine of the country's leading anti-hunt organisation.

As usual, HOWL foregrounds the work of our ever-growing network of affiliated groups, whether its Norfolk/Suffolk who take on the harrier packs, Mendips who show inspirational courage every week, new groups like Wiltshire and North London or long-time sabs like Three Counties. We also have a feature on our successful disruption of the Northumberland Beagling Festival - a great example of what can be achieved when groups come together.

Of course, our success does not come cost-free. There has been an upsurge in violence out in the fields and - even more concerning - attacks on homes. This is the all-too-predictable response of desperate hunters who see their world collapsing around them.

I can't really improve on the summary from our Chair on the page opposite: since the last HOWL our opponents have simply lurched from one disaster to another…let's make sure 2022 is every bit as difficult!

Please help spread the word by passing this magazine to a friend when you've finished reading it.

Ed Howl





HOWL is your magazine and the mouthpiece of active hunt saboteurs everywhere.

Please ensure your voice is heard: send Group News, articles, photos and any other items of interest to howl@huntsabs.org.uk to arrive no later than 1st May 2022.

Please also get in touch if you have ideas for content but are not sure how to proceed. We can't promise to include everything but we'll have a look and, if it's bad enough, we'll publish it.

HARRYING THE HARRIER PACKS

Anyone who read their last article in HOWL 119 will know that Norfolk/ Suffolk sabs are the experts in sabbing harrier packs. In this article, the group update us on the situation in the heartland of this form of hare hunting.

The thing about harrier packs is that they hunt hares. Or foxes. Or hares AND foxes. There's no clear way of knowing a harrier hunt's intentions until you spend some time with them. Unless it's our stalwart nemesis the Waveney Harriers, who drafted in several foxhounds to run amongst the harriers a couple of seasons ago, clearly marking foxes as their quarry.



Saved from the Dunston Harriers.

Harrier packs differ from foxhound packs in small but significant ways. Harriers are much smaller creatures than foxhounds, but they're bred for speed. Hares are the country's fastest land mammal, and their only forms of defence are hiding and running. They also spend all their time above ground, usually in fields. A day sabbing a harrier pack therefore involves less time moving through woods and a lot of the time moving between fields, often at a fast pace.

The first time our group sabbed the North Norfolk Harriers – who then hadn't been sabbed in at least two decades – we witnessed just how fast a pure (hunting only hares, not foxes), unsabbed harrier pack could move. The pack would move through two or three fields in a minute while casting. And when in cry, they moved at a speed that made a line of whips in front of the pack almost impossible to set up.

Another key difference from a fox hunt is apparent here too. There can be many hares in a field, and the pack can pick up and follow the scent of any of them. One particularly memorable Dunston Harriers meet at South Green, near Hoxne in Suffolk, saw multiple fields with double-digit hares in each. That makes entering fields and coverts, or using gizmos, a riskier business. We don't, after all, want to put hares up in front of hounds, or pull hounds across a field when there may still be hares laying in 'forms' between us.

You're also less likely to see terriermen with harrier packs, although this will vary depending on the huntsman. Reuben Kensch, who hunted the Waveney Harriers for several season and is now with the Dart Vale, South Pool and Modbury Harriers, is a keen fox hunter and would bring at least one terrierman with him when possible. The Dunston Harriers, by contrast, haven't had a terrierman for several seasons, while the North Norfolk Harriers have never had a terrierman for as long as we've sabbed them. Those harrier packs whose primary quarry appears to be fox are most likely to have these goons with them, of course.



The bird of prey exemption is a flight of fancy.

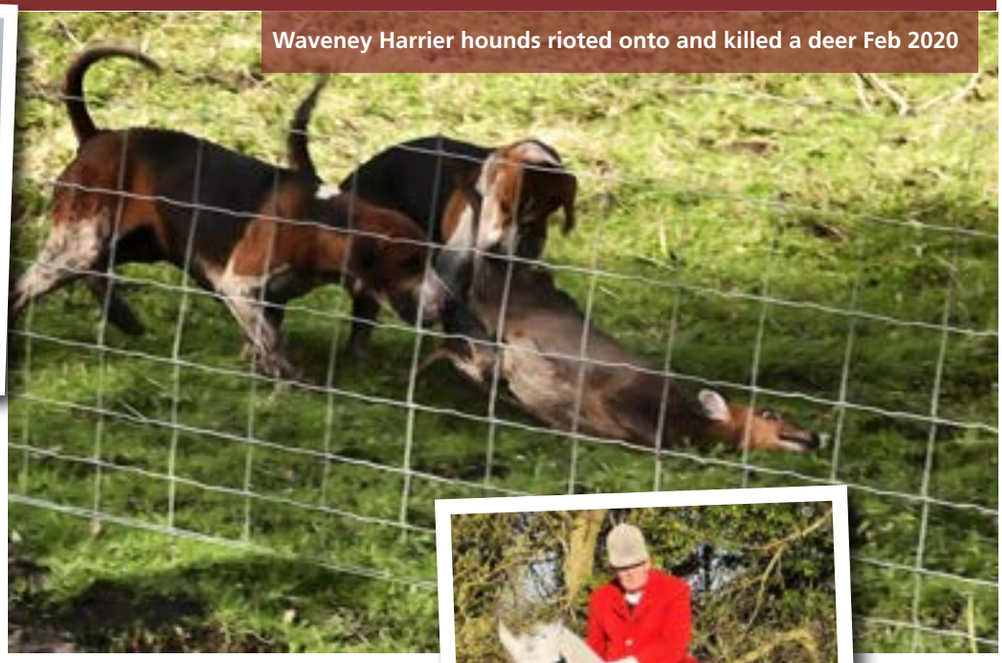


The white West Country Harrier hounds of the North Norfolk Harrier- swith former huntsman Simon Dunn

The country for harrier meets tend to be smaller than for foxhounds. But the



Guerrillas in the mist.

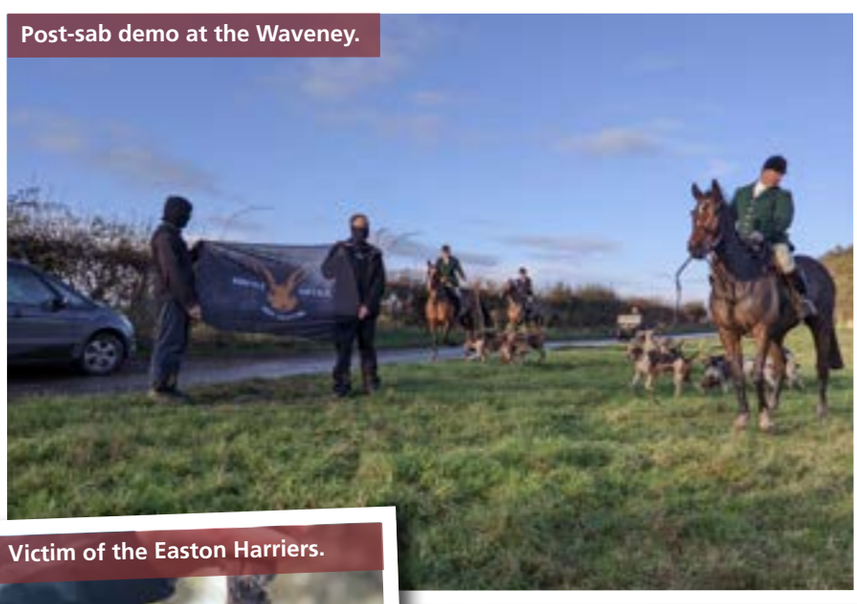


Waveney Harrier hounds rioted onto and killed a deer Feb 2020

hounds will be put through the area field by field at a fast pace. This means sabbing harriers is a chaotic affair, with cars playing a primary role in getting sabs from field to field. As a group we tend to run three or four standard cars in the field, each with foot teams of two or three sabs (where numbers allow!), that can be relayed in an attempt to keep up with the hounds. Drones are particularly useful, too, as most of the hound work takes place in open fields. However, 'text book' hound control, in which we set up a whip line with a horn blower/gizmo off to the side, seems like an impossible dream a lot of the time. Our efforts are focused on getting the hounds to lift their heads up for just a few seconds, which is usually enough time for the hare's speed to carry them to safety. Since our last article in HOWL, we've had our greatest success in seeing off the Easton Harriers. The hounds of this hunt were 'pure' harriers that both hunted and chopped hares in front of us on a near weekly basis. The turning point came in 2016 when our footage of master Lydia Freeman stuffing a dead, hunted hare up her jacket made the Mirror. The Easton Harriers never really recovered from that and, following our focused campaign on the hunt, it eventually disbanded in 2019.With what appears to be a handful of exceptions nationally, harrier packs are already small and continually dwindling affairs. This



Stand-off.



Post-sab demo at the Waveney.



Victim of the Easton Harriers.

makes them ideal targets for sustained saboteur pressure. Even so far as fox hunts can use lies such as 'pest control' to justify their bloodlust, hare hunts including harriers, beagles and bassets have basically no excuse beyond the thrill of hunting.

While recent estimates putting England's brown hare population at somewhere between 825,000 to 1.25 million belie the claim from some quarters that hares are near-endangered, the creatures pose basically no problem to landowners beyond minor crop damage. Hares also hold a particular place in our cultural heritage that makes the image of a hunted hare especially vile in the eyes of the public. Yet to date, the courts have convicted only three hare hunts – including only one harrier pack, the Ross Harriers.

As a result, putting harrier packs under duress may make them fold more easily than your average foxhound pack. And we hope that the next HOWL article we write will bring more good news on this front.

SACRIFICE

A Devon County sab reflects on the physical and emotional toll of life in the killing fields.



Sabs keep up

The victims of fox hunting are not all obvious at first sight. There are the victims who suffer more than others: the foxes and the hounds. And then there are the hidden victims: badgers, pet owners and landowners to name a few. Foxes and hounds have most at stake. They are the primary victims of this archaic barbarity - pawns in a rural Squid Game that inevitably ends in their death.

But what about saboteurs. Are we victims?

Victims of our own paradoxically selfish and selfless necessity to protect life and uphold a democratic law. Victims of discrimination by the police. Victims of judicial apathy and political blindness that have forced us out into the field to sacrifice our safety and expose cruelty, criminality, and corruption.



Devon County in action © Neil Aldridge/slygas.com

Of course, foxes are always the main topic of conversation, and so they should be. Their sacrifice was not their own, it was chosen for them. It was a path they did not wish to run, where all trails lead to their demise. The sacrifice of a sab, on the other hand, is something rarely spoken of. The difference is that we knowingly choose all that we give up, and we have to shrug it off with the mantra of "it's necessary".

I'm sure I'm not alone when it comes to pre-sab nerves. It is a normal response to the inevitable aggression that has become the norm. I think for me personally, what is the most disconcerting is that the level of violence is never known. You never know where, when or how the next confrontation will come. Or how it will end.

When I became a father, I said it was time for me to hang up my "sab shoes", but the weeks blurred into the next and here I am, 5 years later, still sabbing. I sit here now on the sofa quietly typing this into my phone, with my three young children snuggled into me while they watching Paw Patrol, and my wife at my side, reading. All of us peacefully unaware of what tomorrow will bring, but subconsciously anticipating.

A few years ago, on the eve of sabbing, the same scene played out, all of us ignorant of what tomorrow would bring. The next day, while walking along a public road, my colleagues and I suffered a brutal and unprovoked attack. We were outnumbered, surrounded and beaten



.... but it's also highly stressful.

Sabbing has its upsides...

to the ground. I suffered for months because of my injuries. Despite clear video footage of the incident, no one was charged. I was "asking for it". Our democracy has failed.

I can't help but feel selfish. Selfish because I can't promise my children I'll be okay, because I don't know what's around the corner, or through the next hedge. Of course, this is true of life, but sabbing carries an acute risk that, begrudgingly, we have to accept. If you are not a sab, you could be forgiven in thinking that this is an over-exaggeration of the risks. Unfortunately, this is the reality of the sacrifice in the day of the sab.

It's an unrelenting dilemma. Trying, in my case, to be the man I want to be and acting on my moral obligations, while being the father I need to be, all while juggling the risk of getting seriously hurt, or worse. But what else can I do? What does it say to my children if I walk away? Don't right wrongs? Stand idle while others stay blind? I'm at an impasse.

Ending foxhunting or saving a fox's life is not going to change the world. Of course, it changes theirs, but it doesn't change anyone else's. There are endless other injustices. This is my fight, and others have theirs. If we all take a stand, the world quickly becomes a better place. As a dad, I want nothing more than for my children to be happy and live in a world world that is compassionate and democratic. This is a far cry from the world we live in now, so full of hatred and deceit.

"Ultimately the conclusion I have come to is that we can all think of a good reason not to be out there. But I can think of twice as many more why we should be."

I'd like to share something that keeps me going in dark days.

A few years back I returned from a horrendous day sabbing. The hunt killed in front of us despite our best efforts. There and then I was done. Done with the anxiety, the fear, the sacrifice. But kicking off my shoes at the front door, I was greeted by my daughter. She threw her arms around me and hugged me, brimming with excitement, and asked "Are you okay Daddy? Did you save them all?" I sensitively explained that we weren't able to save them all today. With her arm around my hips, looking up at me with eyes full of pride, she said, "Thank you for trying Daddy, and don't worry, you'll save them next time". For a child who thankfully doesn't understand the corrupt complexity of this world yet, what she does understand is the necessity of trying to make this world a better place. Her gratitude for that overwhelms me. Her sacrifice is that she won't see her Daddy on Saturday. And she may not see him on Sunday. My sacrifices, and yours, are just as multifaceted.

What I would like you to take away from this is that not only is our wildlife counting on us, but a generation that looks to us with hopes of a more compassionate, civilized society. So on their behalf and mine, I want to say thank you to every sab for your tired legs and muddy boots, for every scent covered and hound rated, for every day that you didn't spend with your family. Thank you for sacrificing your time, your safety and your sanity to make the world a better place, one life at a time. It's working. Change is coming.



Fully equipped.

NORTHUMBERLAND BEAGLING FESTIVAL 2021

HOWL's Beagling Correspondent, Edward Ewartly-Shank reports from the scene.



By 9.00am we were seriously worried. Spotter cars had been out patrolling the eerily quiet A697 for over an hour, but there was nothing to report back to the sixty sabs discreetly tuacked away in a forestry car park.

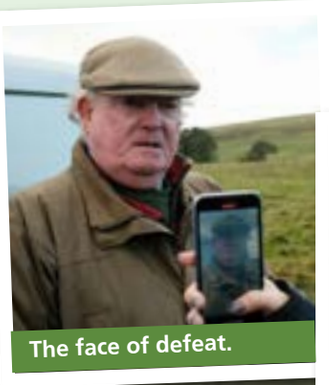
This was bad: an awful lot of sabs had gone to an awful lot of trouble to come and save hares at the Northumberland Beagling Festival. This event - the largest and oldest of the various hare hunting orgies - is hosted by the Newcastle & District Beagles every October. The pre-season invitation to hunt their vast, open country is highly prized by southern packs, who must contend with more built-up terrain…and more sabs. But with a morning and afternoon meet every day, we should have found them by now. Where the hell were they?

At last, the radio crackled into life. Several likely-looking cars were being followed and excitement mounted as they left the main road and headed inland towards the historic meet of Reaveley, scene of major confrontations in the past. However, the cars drove on passed the farm, turning in a mile further up the road, at Calder. With more and more cars gradually converging on this incredibly remote spot, it was clear they were meeting later than expected - but we had them!



Glum faces all round.

"Most simply froze in disbelief, sherry glasses and sausage rolls paused mid-way to their lips."



The face of defeat.



Reinforcements arrive.

Hare Force One keeps watch.

An impressive ten-vehicle sab convoy was immediately on the move. On arrival at Calder, the huge phalanx of sabs jogged down the track and swept into the field, to be met by about sixty stunned hare hunters. Most simply froze in disbelief, sherry glasses and sausage rolls paused mid-way to their lips. A few dashed for their cars, but any idea of hunting elsewhere was rendered hopeless as sabs quickly barred the access gate.

Once it was clear that no one was going anywhere, an uneasy standoff ensued, like a really awkward drinks party. One conspiratorial group of hunters were heard muttering about 'Plan B', while others engaged in the traditional *'hunting - right or wrong?'* debate with amused sabs. Over at the gate, geeky sabs enjoyed a game of I-Spy, putting names to faces from the Blean, Chilmark & Clifton Foot, Colne & Holme Valley, Leadon Vale Bassets, Newcastle & District, Park, Royal Agricultural College, and Stoke Hill & North Dartmoor Beagles. A beagling festival indeed.



The flag flies high.

Under the cold, gin-clear sky - perfect hunting conditions - there was time to drift into contemplation of the HSA's sustained campaign against this festival in the late 80s and early 90s. Sabs had faced down ex-military stewards, mass arrests and the revolving door of Hexham Magistrates Court before the festival finally succumbed in 1994. At some point it quietly re-emerged, but local HSA supporters noted that it was always held in the same week, with visitors staying in the same places. From such small acorns mighty oaks do grow.

These reveries were eventually interrupted by the arrival of two police officers. They did an excellent job of blocking the hunters' last possible escape route with their wagon and were immediately issued with a printed copy of the 16-page Hankinson 'smokescreen' judgment - then just a week old - for their information. Reinforcements later arrived, led by a Gold Commander and Northumbria Police's jovial hostage negotiator, who pronounced his day out in the country to be *"a lot better than doing Saturday night in the Bigg Market."*

The police could do little but be even-handed in their approach, with the Gold Commander shuttling between sab and hunt representatives in an effort to break the deadlock. Sabs, as we know, are reasonable people, so the bulk of the support were permitted to leave at 3.00pm on condition that the hound van remained till 4.30pm - too late to go hunting elsewhere.

As the sun began to set, NDB master Rupert Gibson - his face the same colour as his purple trousers - cut a lonely figure as the field emptied and he was left to contemplate the ruination of his festival. One-nil to the HSA.

The following morning sab pursuit teams were out bright and early, swarming all over Bellingham, Otterburn, and key road junctions. Armed with registration numbers from the day before, it was not difficult to identify the beaglers. The sensible ones stayed in bed, those that ventured out were chased all over the county. As the day wore on, many of them were seen leaving Northumberland, the icing on the cake being Severn Vale sabs clocking their local pack - the Chilmark & Clifton Foot - beginning the 300-mile journey south. Two-nil to the HSA.

Sabs approach the meet.



On Wednesday, yet more beaglers were seen fleeing the anti-flooded county. Sabs and local monitors kept up their patrols throughout the week, but there was little to do. It was increasingly clear that the festival had folded on day one: that's at least twelve-nil to the HSA!

Since the Hunting Act, the beaglers have gone completely underground and retreated to ever more isolated areas of the country. As they gathered in that remote Northumbrian field, they must have believed they'd be free to hunt terrified hares all week. Our operation against them is therefore a devastating psychological blow - and a reminder that they cannot escape the long arm of the Hunt Saboteurs Association.

What about next year?

The HSA is determined that this illegal hare hunting festival will never happen again. We already have eyes and ears on the ground in Northumberland and plenty of other plans in the pipeline. Together with the sab-induced demise of Alston Hare Week in 2014, our sabotage of the Northumberland Beagling Festival sends out a clear message to hare hunters everywhere: travelling to beagling festivals is just not worth the petrol money anymore.



Hunting today? That's a bit of a Stretch.



PLAIN SPEAKING:
WILTSHIRE HUNT SABS IN THEIR OWN WORDS

It is a bit hard to know where Wiltshire Hunt Sabs began in its current form, there are a few non-HSA monitor/sab groups around the county, but there hasn't really been a coordinated group presence based in Wiltshire for a few years. A few people here and there getting on hunters' nerves now doing the best they can, but we always thought as a county we should be doing much better than this, it's clear there was an appetite for an effective local sab group.


Hunt sab takes the pack.

It really was a case of a couple of us saying, "let us see what we can do here in Wiltshire". It helped that we were already sabbing with a great HSA group every week, so we would say the first thing for anyone who wants to start up a group the most important aspect is first to learn your trade and learn it well. Learning isn't going to be a quick process, and even now, every day is still a learning day. Don't be afraid to ask other sab groups for help. In our case, without the support of Bath Sabs, getting our growing group out every week would have been a challenge indeed.

Some of what we do off the field is making sure that people are aware of what we are seeing every week. We already had set up a social media presence on Facebook early on, but it really was just in name only and wasn't regularly updated. Building on this, we eventually ventured into the Twittersphere and Insta too and we are also now the proud owners of a Tik-Tok account! But it was definitely on Facebook where we built our audience, and that wider support is vital when it comes to fundraising for vehicles and equipment. Good quality social media content, and managing your social media is just something you have to get up to speed with. What you say on social media reflects your group, so it's quite important to get that right, and make sure you're up to date with HSA principles even before becoming an affiliated group.

We'd say it's important to have these basic things in place before thinking about HSA affiliation. The HSA committee will decide whether to accept your application to affiliate, and it's a lot easier if you have a good track record already. Stuff like bank accounts, merch, equipment, vehicles these are all things we needed to sort, but luckily with such a great and growing group with people with different skills and abilities, we have managed to get ourselves set up in time to affiliate before the 2021 season began.

For the first time in our current form this summer, we have been able to not only operate as an independent group but have developed the skills and knowledge

to organise joint endeavours with neighbouring groups. We have sabbed a Wiltshire hunt every single week since the cubbing season began in early autumn - sometimes more than once a week.

We have really been able to focus on sabbing on Salisbury Plain, this has been an aim of ours - why should we have our land used and abused by a handful of sickos after all? There are two beagle packs and two foxhound packs licenced on the Plain, and it's been on the Royal Artillery Hunt that we have had a real impact. We have had the support of neighbouring groups from Reading, Surrey, Bath and Bristol, and it's paid off - the huntsman often ends up gathering the scattered hounds wondering what on earth to do next. We have even witnessed them having to use a "smokescreen" too, though clearly for show because we know the Ministry of Defence is putting pressure on them. Also, our hard work in the fields backed up by our social media content meant we were in a position to organise a protest at Lacock for the Boxing Day meet of the Avon Vale Hunt, along with our comrades from Bath Hunt Sabs, and a local animal rights group. I mean THAT protest is pretty much widely documented. We had a great turnout to the protest, not least thanks to our efforts on and off the field and the great support we are getting from people. Suffice to say the Avon Vale truly disgraced themselves, and we are glad to have been a significant part of the effort to help them with that, simply by speaking out against their vicious pastime. Seeing so many people turn up is something that hasn't happened in Wiltshire for a very long time, and knowing we were a massive part of making that happen really spurs us on.



Avon Vile on the attack!

"Learning isn't going to be a quick process, and even now, every day is still a learning day. Don't be afraid to ask other sab groups for help."

Other stuff we have done is our first local vegan fair as an independent group, we also have got ourselves together with merchandise, designed our own logo, which we have had printed on some great sweatshirts and t-shirts - it is so good to have our own logo and merch, even stuff like establishing links with local printers! We have also just had a great New Year's Day draw with brilliant prizes to thank everyone who donated to our kitty over Christmas. All this supports us in the field of course.

It is an indescribable feeling to see all your hard work paying off every week in the field. Getting so many people joining us, supporting us and following us. There is such a fresh energy about our group, we are all so glad we are working together so well and frankly doing the job that needs doing - if we save a fox, hare, or even a deer from being hunted and killed by the hunt, then that's what it is all about isn't it?



Avon Vale hunt supporter.

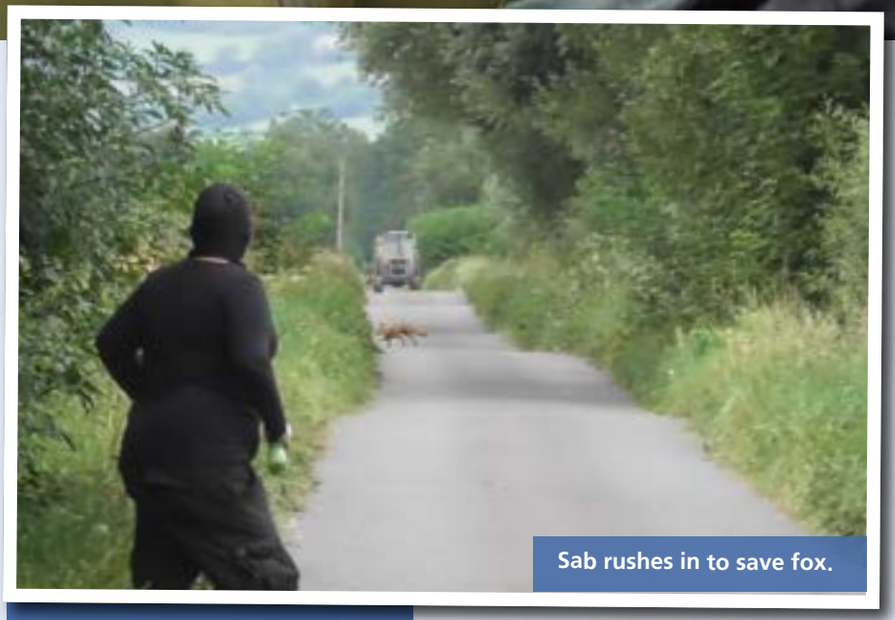


Bad news for Wiltshire hunts.

MENDIP FARMERS:
A RIGHT SET OF CHARMERS

Violence is something we have come to expect at the Mendip Farmers Hunt. This small, failing hunt and their repugnant followers are so desperate to illegally chase and kill foxes unhindered that they have repeatedly attacked and injured (at times seriously) our sabs in attempts to deter us and evade our cameras.

Although we are always aware of the risks in sabbing the MFH, the prolonged, vicious assault on Saturday 11th September 2021 was unlike anything we anticipated or experienced before. We had two foot sabs and two in the vehicle at their morning cubbing meet in Ston Easton. The two on foot had gone up a footpath when hounds went into full cry and streamed out of a maize field and into a farmyard. Realising the severity of the situation, the two in the vehicle leapt out and tried to stop the hounds, but they were encouraged by the nearby huntsman and ripped apart a fox in the farmyard in front of our two vehicle sabs.



Sab rushes in to save fox.



Gang violence at the MFH.

"It just proves that if you hurt one you hurt us all, and we always come back stronger."

The satisfaction on the huntsman's face from seeing the kill switched instantly when he spotted our sabs and their handheld and body-worn cameras. After shouting to call his thugs over, he smashed his horse into one sab, who, unbalanced was then shoved by a terrierman to the floor with such force she was knocked unconscious for two minutes. The pair were then subjected to a sustained attack by up to ten men. Hugely outnumbered, they were dragged around by their hair and hoods, kicked, shouted at to "get out" and "fuck off", then repeatedly knocked to the ground and bashed again and again whilst trying to leave. All cameras with the footage of the illegal hunt, fox kill and the following assault were stolen despite their heroic attempts to hold on and protect the precious footage.



No hunt is untouchable.

Punches rained down on the two foot sabs when they arrived on scene and tried to help the two already battered sabs. They too were overwhelmed and their cameras stolen.

The attack continued when the four opened the group vehicle and tried to get inside. The gang of hunt thugs forced their way through the doors and stole more equipment, including all the dash cams. They only stopped when all sabs were safely behind locked doors.

Police were called and their incompetence and indifference immediately became clear when they eventually arrived on scene. We don't usually expect much from Avon & Somerset Police, but given the brutality of the attack, clear evidence of injuries, value of the stolen items, and the fox kill, we hoped they would show a little more interest this time.

They were not at all proactive in investigating the crime scene but were more interested in "keeping the peace" between the two sides – despite us being completely passive having just been attacked by a large group of men. The only "search" they carried out was a cursory glance inside the doors of one hunt vehicle. Despite us naming and identifying the attackers when they arrived, the police did not talk to or search any of them.

The farmer and landowner (who was also witness to the whole spectacle) sent the police away and refused to allow them access to the farmyard for a considerable time, waiting so all evidence of the kill could be cleared away and stolen items removed. The huntsman disappeared down the lane to continue hunting completely unchallenged.



Injured in the line of duty.

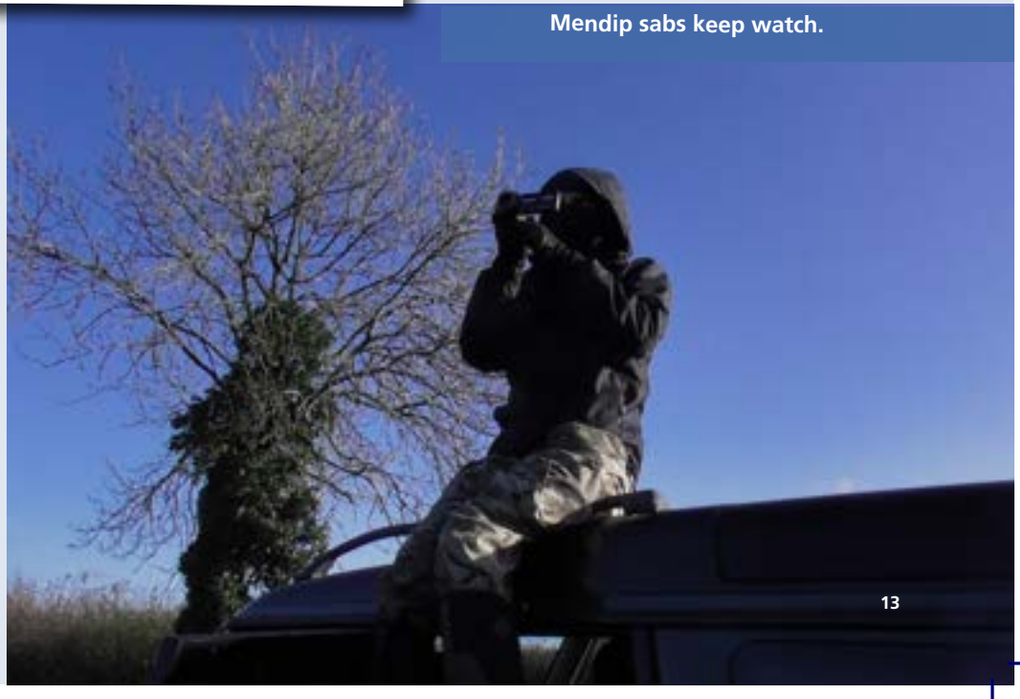
We were told that the incident was considered a robbery and therefore would be taken seriously, but this has not been our experience. It took repeated phone calls and filing a complaint for just two hunt staff to get interviewed – more than three months after the attack. Given the outrageously slow pace of investigation, we don't expect much more police action any time soon.

Our sabs are now being subjected to increasing incidents of intimidation and threatening behaviour from hunt associates. In one episode, two sabs were followed in their car at night by one of the attackers, who made repeated threats, ripped off the windscreen wiper and threw a large rock at the back of the car which was so heavy it remained in place after they drove away. Police were called again, but never appeared despite reassurances they were on their way.

Despite the horrific events of that day, the silver lining has been the incredible support from other sabs and the wider anti-hunt community. We were blown away by countless kind messages and the generosity of people who sent donations to replace our stolen equipment. Over forty sabs travelled to Somerset from as far as North London for a mass hit of the MFH the following Saturday in a touching show of solidarity. The hunt thugs still tried pushing their weight around, but sabs stood their ground and at least three foxes were seen to safety that day.

It just proves that if you hurt one you hurt us all, and we always come back stronger. We cannot rely on the police or authorities to protect wildlife, it is and always will be sabs in the field taking action who make a difference. We will never give in to the Mendip Farmers Hunt's bullying ways. Their violence does not deter us; so long as they continue hunting we will be out there in the field with them, cameras,horns, sprays and gizmos in hand, ready to defend the Somerset foxes.

Mendip sabs keep watch.



FOX HUNTS FINALLY OFF THE MALVERN HILLS?



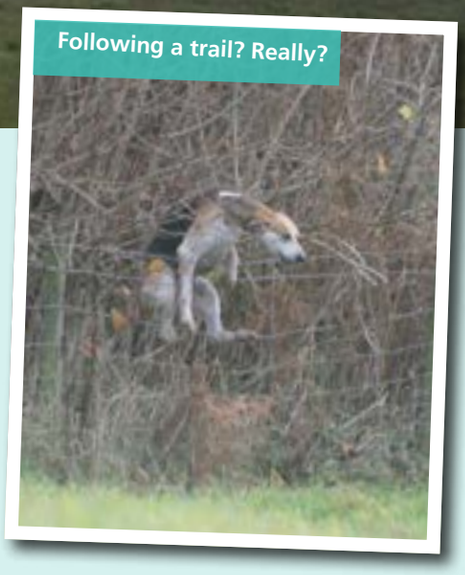
The recent 'Hankinson verdict' was a fantastic outcome, but also had the knock-on effect of encouraging organisations to suspend hunting licences on their land. What these organisations mostly have in common, however, is existing pressure on them to do so, from locals speaking out to full-on campaigns working to highlight hunt activities. The Malvern Hills Trust (MHT) are one example. Formerly the Malvern Hills Conservators, they are a registered charity managing 3,000 acres of common land in Malvern, Worcestershire. The Croome and West Warwickshire (CWWH) use some of the land for hound exercise in the late summer months, but it was the Ledbury Hunt which would frequent the area several times a season. Will, from *Fox Hunt off Malvern Hills*, explains how the campaign to stop fox hunts using the land began…

"When I first started sabbing in 2013 with Three Counties Hunt Sabs, I was amazed to find that the MHT had been allowing the Ledbury Hunt to use their land, presumably since their creation in 1884 and through the introduction of the Hunting Act 2004. I found the hunting shocking as it seemed in complete contradiction to the Trust's principles of wildlife and landscape conservation: 'We strive to manage this land for the benefit of wildlife, the commoners, the local community and the hundreds of thousands of people who visit the Hills each year'. I'd compare it, in my view, to a regional wildlife trust letting the hunt use their land – a very different situation from a woodland or heritage organisation doing so."

In August 2016 Three Counties Sabs contacted the MHT regarding the Ledbury Hunt's recent activities: terriermen (who were not permitted on the land) found at badger setts, horses ridden on paths with clear "No Horse Riding" signs, hounds running loose on historic monuments. We were brushed off…



MHC warden monitors the hunt.



Following a trail? Really?

"Early responses from the Trust regarding the hunt's activities on the land were dismissive, suggesting simply that we report any illegalities to the police - or questioning whether we as a group were allowed on the land without applying for an event licence ourselves. This was infuriating given how obvious and obnoxious the hunt's activities were, breaking multiple byelaws during every visit. As we were present regularly, we soon realised there were many unhappy locals & wildlife enthusiasts. This inspired me to start a campaign about the local issue, uploading photographs to a Facebook page specifically of hunting - and associated bad behaviour - on the common land and private land close around. This inspired a higher volume of people to take interest in the single issue and to contact the Trust about their concerns. I realised the power that good photographs held as suggestive evidence and raising public awareness with likes, comments and shares online."

"We looked into the MHT byelaws and tried to evidence when the hunt was breaching them (which was frequently as they were absolutely cocky) which helped our cause.

Examples of these include:

- ***hounds out of control or unaccompanied***
- ***hounds disrupting wildlife or grazing animals (both when under control and out of control)***
- ***foxes running from the hounds***
- ***quad bikes on the land***
- ***terriermen being present***
- ***the hunt using areas of hills and woodland they weren't allowed in***
- ***the hunt clearly not following trails***
- ***bad parking of vehicles and damage caused***
- ***hunt riders using footpaths and tracks off-limits to horses***

Three Counties Sabs were good at gathering and releasing evidence, but they also covered many hunts in a wide area… whereas my page was specific and local."



Warden about to ask some searching questions.

By May 2017 the MHT were writing to Fox Hunt off Malvern Hills, Three Counties Sabs, LACS, CWWH, the Ledbury Hunt and a bloodhound pack, with a proposed 'Hunting Statement and Trail-Hunting Policy'. We made various comments regarding the efficacy of proposals, which were taken on board, and the Ledbury Hunt were incredibly opinionated about the effect such a policy would have on them. Highlights included being adamant that they had not used quadbikes or terriermen in the previous season (the MHT responding that they had gathered contradicting evidence of this themselves), arguing that the only time byelaws would be breached was if hunt staff intentionally allowed hounds to hunt (imagine telling on yourselves like that!) and suggesting that it was not necessary for MHT wardens to monitor hunt meets…

The policy, in essence, outlined requiring prior permission to hold a meet, not loitering in coverts where wildlife could be disturbed and submitting a route of where a trail would be laid in advance – hardly unreasonable! The policy was authorised by the Trust in October 2017.

"After some pressure and raised awareness, the Trust sent out staff to monitor the hunt whenever they used the land, even when they turned up without prior warning, to the outrage of farmers, bird-watchers and dog-walkers. This may have been the beginning of the path towards suspending permissions as staff and management saw for themselves the lack of trail and evidence of actual fox hunting - amongst other issues. They also saw that we weren't crazy extremists causing chaos – and began to take us and our activities more seriously - becoming aware that hundreds of local people supported the cause. We don't know what was going on before this, total denial maybe? See nothing, hear nothing? How many foxes were disturbed or killed on that common land before any action began? I don't like to think.

The Trust temporarily suspended hunting after the MFHA webinar leak. With the result of the Hankinson trial and National Trust vote the MHT suspended all hunting permissions indefinitely, Trustees also raising concerns over byelaw and policy infringements over the last four years. I'm sure we would have got there eventually, but those events were great catalysts in bringing about this decision".



MEET YOUR COMMITTEE: WEB ADMIN OFFICER

At 59 the HSA is by far the world's oldest direct-action organisation. Other groups have come and gone or grown so bloated they have lost sight of their original aims. In contrast, the HSA has stayed to true to its cause of direct action against all bloodsports. In keeping with our grassroots ethos, the HSA is run by a 100% volunteer committee. In this series we meet some of those involved...



Hound gets a little TLC.



How did you get involved in sabbing and animal rights?

I became vegan over 8 years ago and at the same time became involved with different animal rights campaigns. I joined Sea Shepherd UK and was a volunteer for a couple of years, travelling to Taiji, Japan to document the dolphin drive hunts and to Scotland for the seal cull.

I was previously one of those people who thought that the Hunting Act had stopped a lot of fox hunts from illegally hunting (I wasn't even aware of hare hunts). I thought there were probably a few who ignored the law. I then realised that this was not the case, and nothing had changed since the Act was introduced. I knew of the Hunt Saboteurs Association and decided I wanted to become a hunt sab. I contacted my local group in the summer of 2015, and we chatted about what was involved. I met sabs during the badger cull that autumn and I saw my first hunt (a cubbing meet) while on holiday in Exmoor around the same time. I came home determined to do everything I could to stop this vile practice and started sabbing that October and have been active since then.

Do you remember your first sab? What happened?

My first sab was in Dorset at the Portman Hunt. I was nervous but the sabs I met that day were really friendly and put me at ease. It was an eventful first day, but I loved the feeling of camaraderie and the feeling I was doing something worthwhile, and I was hooked.

Why did you want to get involved in helping to run the HSA?

I was keen to join the HSA committee as a co-opted member because I wanted to feel that I was doing all I could do in the fight against hunting and against the persecution of wildlife. I learnt that the role of Web Admin was available, and I knew that my skills and experience would be a good fit. I joined in 2020 and, although I didn't know it then, it was the best time possible to become a part of the team with the Hunting Office leaked webinars about to break. Since then, there have been such pivotal moments in the fight against illegal hunting, it has been a privilege to play a small part in publicising them.

Tell us about the role of HSA Web Admin Officer.

In my role I'm responsible for publishing the HSA website content alongside the Web Officer. I also help to look after the health of the website and updating the online shop with new merchandise.

What's the best thing about the role?

My favourite part of the role is helping to get a story out there. The most challenging part is getting breaking news stories out as quickly as possible. We have a great web and social media team who work well together to make it happen!



Direct action wins.



Hounds not hunting.

sabgroupnews

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Find us on

In what has been possibly the best year in anti-hunting until 2022 Bath sabs have been having a great time.

We have relentlessly sabbed the Royal Artillery and Tedworth, and continued to campaign against the MoD allowing hunting. We've held training sessions, worked with our best mates in Wiltshire and Bristol groups, and generally been feeling the winning streak.

We also want to thank our fantastic supporters, who helped fund a brand-new drone! We look forward to using it to get even better at sabbing. With our brilliant social media gang we have reached more people than ever before, and we hope to continue to get new sabs from this. If you're in the area and fancy a chat, please get in touch. We love new people and always try to provide vegan cakes.



Bath sabs in action on the Plain.



Beeby takes a tumble!

Beds & Bucks Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

The first half of this season has been hectic! We did our best saving lives in the face of some very hostile policing by TVP during the badger cull while also undertaking some very successful cubbing operations against the Kimblewick and Fitzwilliam.

Since then, we've been concentrating our efforts in ending the Oakley who's new huntsman, Harry (Half-a-Pack) Beeby has exceeded all expectations in his level of incompetence. The hunt look totally broken and give up on hunting as soon as we arrive on the scene. Their numbers are generally down to single figures, but they continue to linger like a bad smell. We're not sure how long they can maintain this level of activity, but they must be losing money hand over fist. On the second weekend of the season, they didn't even go out!

We continue to work alongside Peterborough Hunt Sabs when necessary, at the Fitzwilliam and the Oakley although we suspect they like us just because our fab baker makes cakes for them too! Highlight of the year so far is seeing Beeby stack it and catching it on video.

Berkshire Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

The first half of the season we spent most weekends set surveying for the new Berkshire cull zone. After the cull ended our primary efforts have as usual been against the beagle packs and we have had good tip visits to a few packs, including the Wilts & Infantry Beagles and RAC Beagles.

As usual we often catch them on a hare as we arrive and despite making out they are following a trail, they never seem to know what it's made of – funny that. Neither are they willing to stick around to show us how that works and instead skulk off home.
Also, the occasional foray into fox hunt territory, alongside other sab groups, such as the Hampshire Hunt, the Kimblewick Hunt, and the Surrey Union Hunt and we also took a trip to the New Forest Beagles to make sure they didn't hunt on Forest land for their Boxing Day meet. With a couple of new sabs added to our team we are feeling positive about the rest of the season.



A howl of anger from the Wilts & Infantry Beagles.



Brighton at pre-sab demo.

Brighton Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

The hunts in our territory have been getting increasingly desperate in 2021. With the Crawley & Horsham and South Down & Eridge now sharing kennels, and now also sharing many meets, we're seeing more attempts to sugarcoat their murder.

This has included family-friendly "fun rides" but also has given us extra opportunities to sabotage their activities and show to the public the kind of cruelty they get up to. A kennel open day we disrupted with a noisy demo was particularly enjoyable. Members of the group joined hundreds of angry locals in the town of Lewes on Boxing Day to protest against the South Down & Eridge's annual shit show, amazing to see such support from the locals for our cause!

Not just focussing on fox hunting, we've continued a campaign against game shoots on the South Downs. We've faced a renewed concerted effort from the Sussex Filth to surveil and repress us with various arbitrary arrests but fortunately have been really lucky with support from locals. We're therefore going into 2022 with lots of new faces and enough money for some new kit to help keep the hunting bastards on their toes.

Calder Valley Hunt Sabs

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https://gogetfunding.com/new-vehicle-for-calder-valley-hunt-saboteurs/
Find us on


Calder Valley hit Northumberland Beagling Festival.

We've been busy stopping shoots, tackling wildlife persecution and sabbing hunts locally and further afield.
We had an eventful day where we started off kennel watching the Holcombe. Once confirming that they had not gone out, the police arrived accusing us of 'attempted burglary of a bird sanctuary'! Following time-wasting, arrest, and subsequent de-arrest, we were free to leave. Undeterred, with a tip-off of a shoot in our area, we headed on to tackle that.
We found them twice in the same day with sabs standing in front of guns on several occasions to stop their day of senseless killing. The local shoot is sick of the sight of us after we successfully stopped them on three separate days.
We've joined forces with our friends at Sheffield to sab the Grove & Rufford a few times and helped see foxes to safety. We have had another successful season of sabbing joining up with other groups and taking action independently.
We've achieved a lot and have gained local support - we are proud of what our new group has achieved! We have big plans for 2022 including getting a bigger vehicle.

Bristol Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

With the advent of the main hunting season upon us we've been busy behind the scenes organising and taking care of admin. Cubbing saw us out and about very early in the morning usually targeting the Avon Vale, Royal Artillery and Tedworth hunts. Recruiting has been especially busy, and what with all the negative press about hunting reaching far and wide, we've been filling up our vehicle with new members. Heading out on Wednesdays and Saturdays with a mix of old timers and keen new sabs, just in time for cubbing and the main 21/22 season.


Bristol sabs give it both barrels.

Recently weekends have been spent working alongside Reading, Wiltshire, Severn Vale and Bath sabs to keep up pressure on the RA, WI, RACB and Tedworth Hunts. It's a pleasure to work alongside other committed crews to keep chipping away at them, the police and the landowners, including the MOD.

Cirencester Illegal Hunt Watch

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Find us on


"Pssst…how does this smokescreen thing work again?"

CIHW have been busy as usual through the 9 th year of the Badger Cull. In the Supplementary zones, sadly badgers will continue to be shot until the end of January 2022. The scale of the cull is immense and far from over, with another 5years of culling scheduled and 140,000 more badgers estimated to be killed. Alongside the horrors of the cull, 'cubbing' started in September and now main season hunting is in full flow. Hunts have not had it all their own way we're glad to say and the Beaufort, VWH and Cotswold have all received visits from us. More exposés of crimes around hunts are being revealed as a result of brave sabs out in the field, HSA and other anti-hunt groups, too many to mention.
The horrors surrounding hunts was further revealed when H.I.T cameras caught Beaufort Hunt staff callously shooting poor hounds in the head at their Badminton kennels. Barbaric. We attended Cirencester Vegan Fair where it was great to meet some of our supporters. Thanks to sabs that have helped us in the field this year so far – Three Counties, Mendips, Bristol, South West and Scottish Border Sabs – no doubt we saved many foxes. Stay safe everyone!



Two for one: amalgamated Cumberland pack.

Cumbria Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

The start of the season looked really promising with less land for the Cumbrian packs to hunt after the Hankinson guilty verdict. Licences we're not granted for 'trail hunting' by Lake District National Park, United Utilities, Forestry Commission and National Trust. However, within the first week of the hunting season, we had caught the Melbreak on National Trust land, the Blencathra on NT land and the North Cumberland Foxhounds on LDNPA land, with reports from supporters and monitors of other Cumbrian hunts trespassing. This has been reported to the landowners but as yet, no appropriate action has been taken by them, just the standard email reply.

Keswick town centre has been a traditional Boxing Day meet for the Blencathra. After much campaigning, and town council meetings, the councillors voted to finally write to the hunt and ask them to stay away. This gained massive press coverage and was shared widely on social media. We weren't really shocked to see them ignore the wishes of the town and meet anyway. Like many hunts, they think they can do whatever they want.

2022 will hopefully be the year we finally see the end of hunting in Cumbria.

Devon County Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

We started the hunting season with determination to grow the group and sab several times a week. While continuing to hit the Eggesford on weekdays, we've so far also paid several visits to the Silverton, Spooners & West Dartmoor, and Torrington Farmers hunts, and we also took the Exe Valley Buckhounds by surprise at one of their meets. The buckhounds hunt roe deer and this particular pack hadn't been sabbed since the ban. They had no plausible smokescreen and instead took to riding around the lanes for a few hours before heading home empty-handed. We had many sabs out for Boxing Day and were able to hit three hunts simultaneously. Sadly, sabbing more often has also meant we've witnessed more than our usual share of kills, with several foxes killed at the Torrington Farmers' opening meet, several kills witnessed with the Eggesford, and many attempted dig-outs by the Eggesford and Spooners & West Dartmoor Hunts. The Eggesford recently dug-out and shot a fox in front of sabs but on another occasion, we rescued a fox who had been hunted to ground and were able to safely release them after a trip to the vet.



Fox hunter on the attack!

Derby Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

At start of the season early November, Derbyshire Constabulary Rural Crime Team held a meeting with representatives of 4 hunts and the Countryside Alliance at Matlock police station. No, we didn't get invite but we did publish the agenda on social media. Worryingly, "how can we work together" and "information sharing" was on the agenda.

The Meynell & South Staffordshire withdraw their application for a road closure for their meet on New Year's Day in Uttoxeter.

We have been keeping a keen eye on the Barlow. As well as sabbing the Wynnstay and the Flint and Denbigh Hunt we have managed to visit Shropshire a few times to sab the North Shropshire, as well as sabbing the occasional shoot.



Shooting in progress…but not for long.

East Herts Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

It's been a manic season with the badger cull, cub hunting and now fox hunting and we have months to go yet. We covered hundreds of miles in fuel and on foot in all weathers throughout Sep/Oct fighting the badger cull, which will have no impact on bTB in cattle. We found setts blocked and dug by local hunts and numerous illegal snares.



Puckeridge bastards make a kill.

The last few months we've turned our attention back to the Puckeridge Hunt who are still illegally hunting twice a week. With reports of hunted foxes, trespassing and causing chaos at a garden centre we know trail hunting is definitely a smokescreen with this lot. We've witnessed the usual 'riders on point' around woodlands, no sign of any 'real' trail being laid and 'marking to ground' (hounds indicate where the fox has gone and terrier men are then called in). We've saved numerous lives but recently they hunted a beautiful fox into a small strip of woodland they'd surrounded with riders and vehicles and sadly we were all just too late, but we have evidence and while they're illegally hunting our wildlife, we will continue to do whatever it takes to stop them.



Hounds love hunt sabs.

East Kent Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

EAST & WEST Kent sabs were out on some very early mornings, checking for the last cub hunting meets. We concentrated as always on the ASHFORD VALLEY TICKHAM, and the EAST KENT with WEST STREET fox killers, also joining up with other Southeast groups to visit other hunts, such as the EAST SUSSEX & ROMNEY MARSH. The AVT seem mostly to be doing "fun rides" at weekends, and the EKwWS usually revert to a bizarre pantomime of supposed "trail hunting" when we get the cameras out, but both hunts are still desperate to avoid us at all costs…rider/support numbers are also down again, and we think it's a case of not if a couple of more hunts amalgamate soon, but WHEN!
Often the hunts just pack up early and have more terrier scum out than riders-the EKwWS even hunt in tweed now, rather than the traditional red coats…something to hide chaps?!
The Beagle (hare) hunts are also very elusive, using even method they can block in our vehicles to give us the slip, but we never give up, and we are sure we will be seeing them again soon.

NEW GROUP! East Northants Hunt Sabs

http://www.paypal.me/ENABS

A new Northamptonshire group was formed this season. A mixture of new and experienced hunt saboteurs provides opportunities to share expert knowledge and develop skills.

Snowhere to hide for the Cottesmore Hunt.



Building up a new group takes time and effort. In addition to frontline sabbing, logos need to be designed and social media sites established. Support for a new group is essential, therefore promoting and communicating with followers is key.

Opposition to the badger cull, 8 years ago, brought new people into sab groups. Likewise, the spotlight on the plight of beagle puppies near Huntingdon, has had a similar effect, boosting our numbers for the fight against animal cruelty. People are enlightened and are inspired to take direct action to bring about the death of this sport.

This season has had its challenges, from dealing with adverse weather conditions to travelling distances to help bolster other groups. However it is also satisfying to be able to sab local hunts and to lend support to hunt monitors who face their own difficulties.

We aim to grow and develop our group in the coming months and our ambition is to go from strength to strength. Saving lives and exposing the cruelty to animals is our aim. We will continue the fight until this "tradition" is confined to history.

East Yorkshire Coast Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

It's Ralph's last year at the Middleton Hunt so we want to ensure he has a good sab send off, so our recent focus has been Middleton and Derwent.

We've investigated their local hotspots and found a few things of interest. Returning a few days after catching them in a small copse, they'd clearly tried to dig a fox out, dead chickens were found nearby. Just before Christmas a lone sab joined with locals to protect wildlife when Middleton appeared in their village. Their hired help(groom) aggressively threw abuse as they sprayed to cover the scent of a young fox. Another fox ran straight past the sab and her supporters, hounds on the scent in a frenzy second behind. Heart pounding, the sab put her arms wide across trying to hold the hounds back. One local's brave 10-year-old son was there filming and saving wildlife. Strange to think that in the other vehicle, was a lad about the same age, dressed in tweed and being taught the total opposite to him.
Locals all over are uniting and standing up against their local hunts and we feel hopeful as requests to join our group are on the up.

EYCHS saved this beautiful animal.



Edinburgh Hunt Sabs

https://www.paypal.com/paypalme/FifeHuntSabs

In Scotland this season is probably one of the most crucial seasons we've ever had with the Scottish Governments consultation into limiting the number of dogs used to flush wild animals which if it went through could end fox hunting as we know it in Scotland, so we had to up the game to try and show the public the true face of fox hunting!

We focused a lot of our time on the Lankarkshire & Renfrewshire FH as they had a new huntsman Conrad Jones who has the worst hound control we've ever seen and treatment of his animals is shocking, we sadly witnessed our first kill of the Season on the 13th of November where hounds were chasing a fox then a gunman shot it making the kill. Shortly after they proceed to throw it to the hounds to tear apart right in front of us. Sadly, this is legal but does show the hunts true colours and our only hope is that it had an impact on the consultation.

We have had a lot of success at hitting the L&R this season with many foxes seen to safety and dwindling rider numbers also means they're struggling financially they're feeling the pressure!

Painfully thin hound.

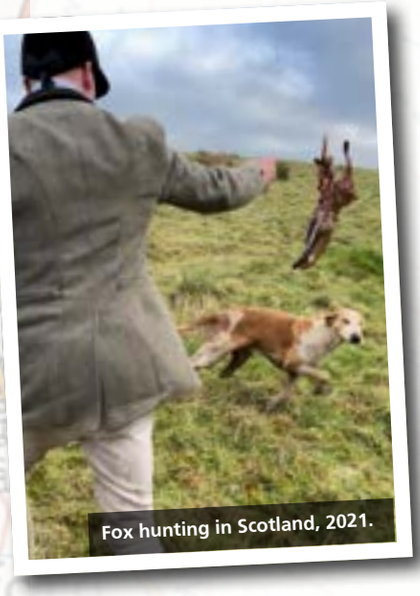


Glasgow Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

We were back in action in early September with our local hunt, the L&R FH. The hunt, with new huntsman Conrad Jones, strayed away from traditional cubbing this season, instead choosing to operate in small numbers, on foot with no riders.

As main season approached, we were with the L&R as much as possible, sabbing any attempt to kill foxes. In mid-November, sabs were a minute too late to save a fox which had been illegally hunted over open ground and then shot. This led to Conrad, foaming at the mouth, feeding the fox to the hounds in front of sabs. This perverted act backfired and was picked up by multiple national tabloids, followed by more press covering the neglect of hounds within the hunt. Terrible timing as there is a public consultation looming which could bring the end of hunting in Scotland.


Fox hunting in Scotland, 2021.

We have been relentless with the L&R, hitting mid-weeks and weekends, getting them in the papers four weeks in a row and most importantly, aiding multiple foxes to safety. We even made it down to the Northumberland Beagling Festival, standing alongside sabs from all over the country.

We are waiting for the outcome of the consultation, until then it's business as usual.

Hertfordshire Hunt Sabs

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https://ko-fi.com/hhsabs
Find us on


The now sacked pony puncher!

Another intensive badger cull campaign saw us confront several shooters, sending them packing. Some were more reluctant to leave than others, but we stood strong. Shots were fired in proximity even to the extent of hearing the guns crackle. We are continually learning lessons and purchasing better equipment to improve our effectiveness. We can't save them all, but we do what we can and are comforted that most of the setts we were protecting were still active.

Resumption of the fox hunting season has seen us continue our campaign against the Cottesmore along with our comrades Northhants hunt saboteurs. Obviously, the standout moment was the 'pony puncher' incident which quickly went viral around the world even making BBC breakfast news and had an interview piece featured on local ITV News. Probably more damaging to the Cottesmore has been the resulting increasingly frequent exposure in local press - they have been forced to abandon their hunt stewards after they were featured masked up threatening the sab who filmed the pony puncher footage.

Fallout for the Cottesmore has also included landowners refusing to host their meets limiting the country available to them. Huntsman Chris Edwards is leaving at the season end.

Herefordshire Hunt Sabs

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Find us on


Brave sab protects a fox that has gone to ground.

We started the season by hitting five cubbing meets (the Herefordshire Hunt, the Cotswold Vale Farmers Hunt and the Ludlow Hunt) followed by two opening meets (the Radnor & West Herefordshire Hunt and the Herefordshire Hunt).

We monitored two meets of the Ross Harriers (once overtly, once covertly), who are now hunting within the law, and claim to be transitioning to drag hunting.

During the main season we focused our attentions on the Herefordshire Hunt. With the amalgamation of the North Herefordshire and the North Ledbury, and the folding of the Clifton on Teme three hunt countries have now merged into one; six day's hunting per week across a large area, has been reduced to two.

We held a demo at the Clifton on Teme Hunt point to point and campaigned with Ledbury Anti Fox Hunt to get the Ledbury Hunt Boxing Day meet banned from Ledbury Town Centre. We haven't quite succeeded yet, so we organised a well-attended demo at the meet, and sabs then stayed with the hunt for the rest of the day.

To round off first half of the season, we paid a return visit to the Radnor on New Year's Day in Eardisland.

Jorvik Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

We have spent time in Derbyshire cull zone every week during the government intensive mass killing of protected badgers with DATC. Several badger sightings were highlights of our year though!

We have sabbed various foxhunts, but in particular:YAS/BBMH- they're being blatant about using trail layers, yet foxes are still being seen. Special thanks to Mark Hankinson and MFHA for clearly explaining the need for smokescreens!
Sinnington - We made an appearance at Sinnington with East Coast Sabs, they did not expect us and it was good to sab some of the hunts which regularly go untouched!

YAN/WOY - We teamed up with other sab groups to hit York & Ainsty North/West of Yore for their biggest days on the scum calendar – Boxing day and New Year's Day.

We've done fundraising at LUSH York and Wakefield Vegan Fayre, which were very successful. Lastly, we'd like to thank everyone for their support, it means the world to us, especially as a new group.

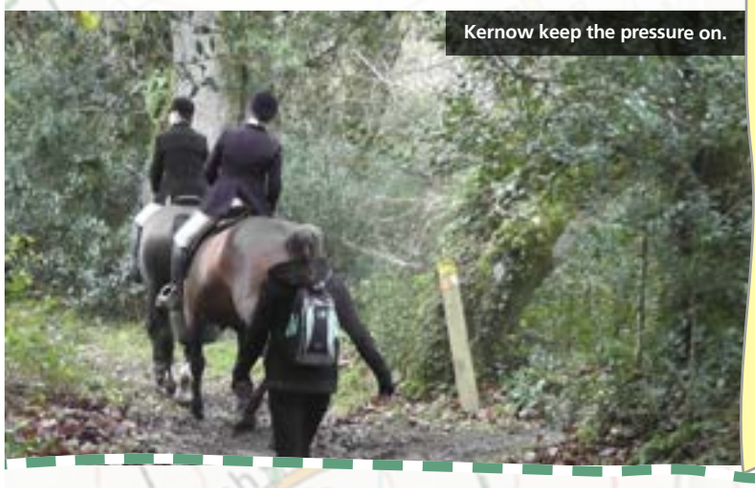

Jorvik sabs scan the horizon.

Kernow Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

Early September saw the main badger culls continue across two huge areas of Cornwall. To our relief we didn't get a new zone, we're hoping that farmers are finally seeing through the government lies and not wasting their money and time in this pointless exercise. It was a strange cull this year with activity seeming very sparse, something that we heard mirrored in other zones throughout the country. We don't know if Brexit or covid had any part to play, will be interesting to see the cull totals when they are published.

We had quite a few tip offs for cubbing meets and managed to get out on more than usual, and of course back out on main hunting season from early November, often twice a



Kernow keep the pressure on.



There's no escaping Lincs sabs.

Lincoln Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

This season has been a busy one, and not without it's dramatic moments.
We have paid several visits to the Belvoir and, not surprisingly, it would seem they have been less than happy to see us. On one occasion support smashed one of the windows of our vehicle and on another occasion their terrier man was particularly drunk and decided to take it upon himself to resort to violence, first attacking a female sab and then attempting to strangle another sab with their snood. Undeterred, we successfully sabbed the fuck out of their hunts, and on a few occasions were even rewarded by a sighting of our friends the Charlies as they raced to safety, exhausted but very much alive. The Blankney and Quorn have also been blessed with our presence this season and, once again, we sabbed the fuck out of them.

Along with all the fantastic groups featured on these beautiful pages, we send a clear message: as long as you're still hunting, we will still be sabbing. We are always on the lookout for new recruits, please reach out if you want to get involved.

Lancaster Hunt Sabs

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Find us on
This season we have been working closely with our colleagues from Cumbria sabs. We've sabbed the Blencathra FH, the newly amalgamated North Cumberland hunt, the Melbreak FH, and the Cumbria Beagles. Cumbria Police are currently investigating two cases that we have caught on camera.
Along with all other sab groups, we have been heartened by the guilty verdict of Mark Hankinson which has led to suspensions of hunt licences on public land and an overall ban on National Trust land. We are now pushing for the National Trust to act against trespassing hunts in the Lake District, and for the other landowners to permanently ban hunting.
Thank you to the members of the public and landowners who have approached us with support and information – we will also continue to advise, support and signpost everyone who asks us for help.



Fox flees from the Melbreak.

Liverpool Hunt Sabs

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Find us on



Worth fighting for.

The striped and furry residents of Cheshire have been our main focus as a group in recent months, with a supplementary badger cull license being issued for Cheshire East. Running from June 2021 until January 2022 this is much longer than the 6-8 week license, we've been accustomed to in the area since 2017. At first, we found this incredibly daunting, but amazingly we seem to have become nocturnal and have continued patrolling our setts every single night. We have no plans to stop anytime soon, so are confident we have protected these badgers as best as we possibly can.

Of course, this hasn't stopped us playing our part in fox hunt sabbing, albeit a slightly more limited presence, our sabs have teamed up with other groups against the likes of the slippery Wynnstay and the less slippery Cheshire FH.

We have also maintained our solidarity with the ongoing protest at Camp Beagle, travelling down to support those working to oppose the horrific cruelty taking place at Marshall Bio Resources breeding facility.

Happy New Year to all sabs and our supporters! We look ahead to 2022 with hope for a year of action and progress towards the liberation of all living things. Sab smart folks.

Manchester Hunt Sabs

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Donate: ko-fi.com/manchesterhuntsabs
Find us on


Manchester caught a late Dove Valley Minkhounds meet.

This season so far has been all about putting pressure on the Meynell & South Staffs Hunt, we have graced them with our presence on almost every hunting day so far. We have witnessed the abuse they put their hounds through and documented it for all to see. This even resulted in us forcing them to pack up after only three hours hunting when some of their hounds were seen limping and struggling to keep up with huntsman Robert Truscott.

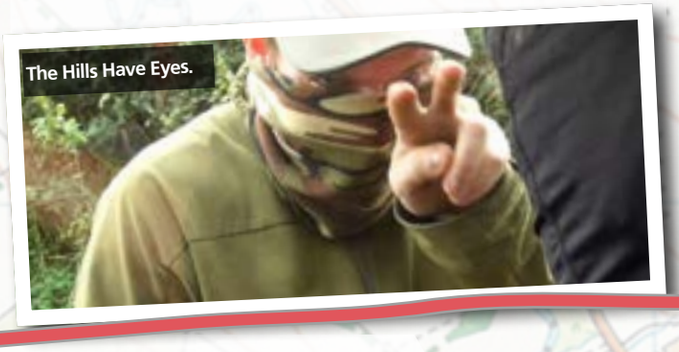
In addition to this we still managed to find time to be out in our cull zone all throughout September taking care of any traps and making sure the Badgers were safe. After our friend Mel from Northants Sabs was assaulted by the Cottesmore Hunt we made the journey down to sab them, the Belvoir, and the Quorn all in one day, making the trip very worthwhile.

Along with many other groups we also successfully shut down the Northumberland Beagling Festival which no doubt saved the lives of many hares. This was a big event and hunts from all over the country had travelled to take part, unfortunately for them the HSA has eyes and ears everywhere!

Mendip Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

It has been another eventful few months for our hardworking sabs, with the badger cull, cub hunting, and main hunting season keeping us busy in Somerset and beyond.
Our local scum the Mendip Farmers Hunt killed a fox and viscously attacked and robbed our sabs during one September cubbing meet. We have been subject to multiple other assaults from these thugs, yet despite all the hassle we have still successfully helped countless hunted foxes escape their hounds.
Another MFH goon was convicted of criminal damage after we successfully launched an appeal for information on his whereabouts. Thanks to those who helped track him down after he failed to show in court and disappeared to Scotland!
We have teamed up with other wonderful sab groups for successful hits as far as the Ledbury and South Dorset hunts. We have also shut down beagle packs and a local pheasant shoot.
Plenty of angry locals joined us at our Boxing Day protest against the Mendip Farmers Hunt on Priddy Green, with shouts and chants drowning out their sad speeches and dampening their day.


The Hills Have Eyes.


Check out Melbourne's amazing film.

Melbourne Hunt Sabs (Australia)

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Find us on

As Melbourne Hunt Saboteurs enters 2022, we are celebrating some small but significant victories.

We won a court battle, the scum placed on one of our sabs. The matter was thrown out of court, much to our delight. The injunction to stop us defeating them in the fields is no longer current. We are more than sure this won't be the last court battle, but with a precedent set. The hunt surely won't be so confident.

We released our newest animation by animation genius Ben Sinclair, to much fanfare here in Australia. We've worked alongside multiple different organisations to see wildlife to safety and embarrassingly escorting hunters out of the countryside.

2022 - we are well ready!

Norfolk & Suffolk Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

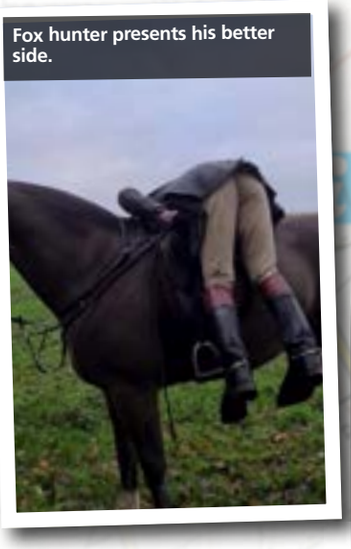
It's been an equal split between the Waveney Harriers, Dunston Harriers and West Norfolk Foxhounds for us this season although we have also squeezed in a couple of visits to the North Norfolk Harriers, one visit to the Suffolk Hunt and a trip to the Devon cull zone.
We are lucky not to usually be on the receiving end of too much hunt violence but this season our local hunters seem to have upped the ante. (Maybe we are getting a tad too close to exposing their various smokescreens.) Since the beginning of September, we have had a rear car window smashed, a wing mirror smashed, assault of our drone pilot and theft of a walky talky, as well as a maniac hedge trimmer driver driving dangerously at sabs and coating another sab vehicle in muck.
We also managed to ensure that the West Norfolk FH made the front page of our local paper. While out with the hunt Councillor Bill Borrett was filmed hitting his horse with the handle of his whip. The day after we published the video footage he resigned as a Director of the West Norfolk Foxhounds.
We are very grateful to the public who have continued to supply us with valuable information

When Hedge Trimmers Attack!



North Dorset Hunt Sabs

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Find us on


Fox hunter presents his better side.

North Dorset Hunt Saboteurs have recently started our 4th season as our own group. We are steadily growing our team, and this season alone we have sabbed all but one of Dorset's fox hunts, three shoots and a hare hunt. Due to our growth, we have been able to sink our teeth into a few more midweek meets, managing to be out nearly every day most weeks.

Boxing Day was a massive success for us. For the first time ever, a demo was held at the Blackmore & Sparkford Vale meet in Castle Cary. Relentless campaigning will be continued against the town council in order to apply pressure on them to ban the BSV from the town.

We would also like to remind everybody that we are currently recruiting, if you are in Dorset or South Somerset, please contact us and we will be more than happy to have you out with us.

We've encountered some violence, we've seen some devastating cases of animal cruelty and frankly unacceptable action by Dorset Police. We look forward for what 2022 has to bring for us, and we are proud to have you all behind us.

Northern Ireland Hunt Sabs

Find us on

This season started with the hope that there would be a ban to hunting here in NI. Although this fell just short, we are very confident that come next autumn finally Northern Ireland will have caught up with the rest of the U.K.

We have had a very successful first half to the season where on three occasions we actually had them packed up before they even started. A sign that years of sabbing them is wearing them down and we believe that sooner rather than later they will fold. The demise of North Down Hunt was clearly seen on their biggest day of season when on Boxing Day. There was a handful of riders and hunt support. We took great pleasure in knowing that our work had paid off. They didn't even take their hounds on Boxing Day and they covered little ground. Because they stayed in close proximity to the kennels we followed them the rest of the day in case the hounds were later introduced. Knowing that there were more Sabs than riders, they realised they hadn't got a chance of getting their usually jolly's. Their mood was very glum and their day out was a short one indeed.


NI sabs in position.

North London Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

NLHS are fighting on all fronts.

The first half of the season has seen us disrupt 8 different organised wildlife crime groups on 22 occasions in 9 counties and undertake several covert surveillance jobs one of which has left a terrierman from Essex facing a potential custodial sentence. The act of zoosadism he carried out on a captive fox was broadcast on ITV's News at Ten just before Christmas. Fox hunting's most PR sensitive time of the year. The hunt that the terrierman works for, the East Essex Hunt, was forced to cancel their Boxing Day and New Year's Day meets. A decision that will have cost this already struggling hunt a lot of much needed cash.

We have also been engaging Countryside Alliance Chief Executive, Tim Bonner's hunt, the Puckeridge, on a regular basis. On Boxing Day, we stopped them killing several foxes but they managed to kill at the end of the day. Our drone captured the footage, and we will be putting that footage to good use in the coming months.

We have been continuing to recruit and train new members and we regularly need two vehicles for a hit.


Keeping the pack in sight.

North Wales Hunt Sabs

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PayPal.me/NorthDorsetHuntSabs
Find us on

We were at the Flint & Denbigh hunt from their opening cubbing meet, attended every cubbing meet and continued that into the full season. We've been absolutely all over the F&D not allowing them to hunt foxes as they wish to do.


Sabs sprint after the Flint.

The hunt were blatantly attempting to hunt, but at every draw sabs were there resulting in the hunt calling the hounds out. It had been a few years since this hunt had been so relentlessly sabbed and the pressure was really showing. Then one fateful November day the hunt seemed to change tactics, and instead of calling hounds off once they realised they had been foiled, instead they just continued to hunt resulting in them killing a fox! The following meet they again attempted to kill a fox right in front of us. However, with the police now involved and appearing to be taking notice the F& D hunt finally broke, started keeping hounds under control, stopped holding up woodlands and even cancelled meets including the Boxing Day meet. The F&D ready do look ruined. As we type we have numerous ongoing police investigations into this hunt. With F & D hunts getting cancelled we were also able to hit the Wynnstay Hunt on occasions and also paid a visit to the Cheshire Forest Hunt on Boxing Day.



Sabs pull the Cottesmore pack out of covert.

Northants Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

Northants & our friends at Hertfordshire sabs began the fourth season of the Cottesmore campaign. The constant pressure from in season sabbing and protests at every out of season fundraiser are taking their toll. Our knowledge of this hunt and our unwavering commitment to keep the pressure on have seen tangible results.

The once vaunted Cottesmore 'stewards' are a shadow of their former selves and along with departing huntsman Chris Edwards give testament to the efforts and determination of sabs. Much publicity has been gained locally leading to an increase in those coming forward with information about the hunt's activities.
This hunt have lost valuable hunting ground, and this can only lead to more lives saved.

But even more importantly it is vindicating our efforts to ultimately shutting the Cottesmore down. We have recruited new members and the group is benefitting from the collective focus we have on the campaign. We have been able to sab other local hunts on days the Cottesmore have not shown. Successful hits have taken place on the Pytchley and Quorn hunts.

We remain focused on the Cottesmore until we win but we will never waste an opportunity to save wildlife wherever it needs us.

Nottingham Hunt Sabs

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https://ko-fi.com/nottshuntsabs
Find us on



Notts Hunt Sabs in action.

As September arrived we geared up for the badger cull. We had teams out day and night throughout the cull and despite some serious oppression from Leicestershire police acting as private security for the cullers we had a successful time.

As well as fighting the cull we also paid visits to the Belvoir, South Notts, Grove & Rufford, Cottesmore and Quorn during cubbing. One memorable day in late September saw us join a mass sab to pack up the violent Cottesmore before heading to the Belvoir and then an evening meet of the Quorn. Phew!

We had a fantastic busman's holiday with lots of other groups to shut down the Northumberland Beagling Festival. Such trips remind us what an awesome movement we're part of and our thanks to the HSA for making it happen.

Main season saw more of the same, focusing on the Belvoir with visits to the Quorn whenever they attempted to hunt a Saturday and also on several Mondays when they're bang at it with no pretence at legality. We also threw in a couple of trips to the Blankney and supported other groups at the Grove and Meynell.

Norwich Hunt Sabs

Norwichsabs@protonmail.com
Find us on



Ferocious support for Norwich Hunt Sabs.

Since the last issue, we have been busy hitting a range of hunts, from the harrier packs of Norfolk to the Stour Valley Beagles in Suffolk, to fox hunts in Essex and Hertfordshire. The North Norfolk Harriers continue to dwindle, and we are enjoying their demise. A previously large and mostly un-sabbed hunt, they now enjoy a handful of riders out each week and we lookg forward to their hunting the clean boot soon.

We've enjoyed working with Suffolk/Essex Hunt Sabs to hit another small and struggling bunch, the Stour Valley Beagles, who went from being sabbed twice in 10 years to 4 times in 2 months!

And finally, down in the home counties, we have sabbed the Puckeridge Foxhounds and a few of the large and violent Essex hunts. Particularly notable was the attempts of silly little boys from the Essex & Suffolk FH trying to scare us by kicking our vehicle and trying to steal our key. See you next time!

As always, we welcome new members, so please check us out on social media.

Peak District Hunt Sabs

Get involved/ tip offs: peakdistrictsabs@protonmail.com or 07707 34586
pdhs.bigcartel.com
Ko-fi.com/peakdistrictsabs
Find us on

It's been a crazy busy few months for Peaky sabs with things kicking off in September with 6 intense and sleep deprived weeks of the Derbyshire badger cull. Alongside this we somehow managed to fit in a bit of cubbing and some successful days of moorland trap "decommissioning". Since then we've been having a baptism of fire into our first proper season of fox hunting since we formed as a group, with sabs out almost every weekend. Most frequently we've been bothering the Grove & Rufford but also paid visits to the Meynell, Middleton, DNS Beagles, Stanton shoot and others. We've had toes run over, been pushed in ditches, had one sab wrongly arrested and endless amounts of verbal abuse. It's been a blast.

The group continues to grow and we're always welcoming newbies – get in touch if you want to join. A huge and ongoing thanks to Sheffield, Calder Valley, West Yorks, West Mids, Manchester, Staffordshire and Derby Sabs who have all shared skills, knowledge, wisdom, kit, maps, vehicles and sos rolls with us over the past few months.

As a new group our funds are tight and we're still without some essential bits of kit so thanks to everyone who has donated so far.



Shooters call the cops.



Beagling in 2021…just about clinging on!

Peterborough Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

To all our readers we say "Happy New Year", unless you are one of the CA stalkers that inevitably read this magazine, in which case we say "We hope 2022 is as bad as 2021 for you!"
Peterborough Hunt Sabs started the 2021 autumn season hitting the Fitzwilliam Hunt repeatedly, and unfortunately for those that like to see variety in hit reports, that's exactly what we continued to do for the rest of the year.
We've caught this pokey Peterborough-based hunt out on foot, stumbling through the fens, in the fog where they couldn't see where they were going (let alone us), at meets held at the homes of their hunt masters and even at meets on the edge of their country where they changed dates and met in the afternoon in a vain attempt to lose us.
The Fitz even engineered a poor attempt at stalking sabs by waiting outside one of our homes and trying to tail the sab wagon at 5am one day. Needless to say, they were as ineffective at that, as they are at pretending to hunt legally.
The year came to a close with the Fitzwilliam's supposedly hotly anticipated Boxing Day meet, sabbed by both hunt sabs and the awful weather. We couldn't have planned it better.

Severn Vale Hunt Sabs

PayPal.me/severnvalesabs
Find us on

We've been piling the pressure on Gloucestershire hare hunts so far this season.

We began in October with an early morning visit to stop the Severn Vale Beagles levereting. We soon followed this up with an away week, joining sabs from across the country to shut down the prestigious Northumberland Beagling Festival, stopping the host pack the Newcastle & District Beagles before they even got started.

We rounded off a busy start to the season by inviting ourselves to the opening meet of the Woolaston Bassets, sticking to them like glue and ensuring no wildlife was killed.

Since then, we've paid another 3 visits to the Severn Vale Beagles, notably turning up in the nick of time to stop them killing a hare on one occasion, got in a total of 4 visits to the Royal Agricultural College Beagles, and made quick work of the alleged 'top of the premiership' Dummer Beagles.



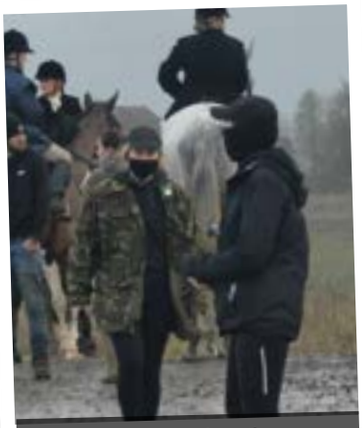
Gate-crashing the NBF

SVHS finished 2021 by sabbing the Boxing Day meets of the RAC Beagles and the clowns of the Wiltshire & Infantry Beagles on consecutive days.

Thanks to our supporters for the continued support and the groups we've worked with so far this season!

Reading Hunt Sabs

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Find us on



Reading Hunt Sabs in action.

It's been a busy season so far for Reading – since the start of cubbing season we've been concentrating our efforts on those hunts with licences to terrorise wildlife on the MOD owned Salisbury Plain, including the Tedworth Hunt and the Royal Artillery (RA) Hunt. Working with local monitors and Wiltshire, Bath, Bristol and Surrey Sabs, the RA Hunt especially have had a consistent sab presence for the start of the season.

It was over the festive period that the RA Hunt sadly killed twice. Christmas Eve, Huntsman Charles Carter was spotted off his horse attempting to disposed of the body of a young fox. The hunt quickly scarpered back to their meet and packed up when they realised monitors and Sabs were on to them. They then killed again 3 days later their Boxing Day meet, and sabs endured violence and assault from drunken support throughout the day. Safe to say they will not deter us and we'll be keeping the pressure on this season!
We'd like to thank all our supporters and those kind folks who have donated to our fuel costs, we appreciate it massively. And please keep those tipoffs coming through.

Sheffield Hunt Sabs

sheffieldhuntsaboteurs@riseup.net
Find us on

Back in September we sabotaged the 2nd year of the Derbyshire badger cull - whilst on patrol we had vehicles attacked on multiple occasions, windows smashed with weapons and violently rammed. It was great to work alongside the wonderful people from Derbyshire Against The Cull though.
Shortly afterwards we met up with sab comrades from all over the country to put a halt to the Northumberland Beagling Festival. The event the hare killers had been looking forward to all year was stopped before the end of the second day.
Our local pack the Barlow have hardly ventured out and we have heard rumours of unrest among them. We will be ready if or when they revert to type.
The Barlow's troubles have left us free to visit the Grove & Rufford hunt. Recently we were there to stop the hounds who were on the scent of two foxes. Now they have sacked their huntsman mid-season and brought in a new one who has no control.
We've been feeling a lot of love too after hosting a stall and benefit gig which was extremely well attended. When you see some of the worst examples of humanity it's good to see there are some brilliantly supportive people out there.

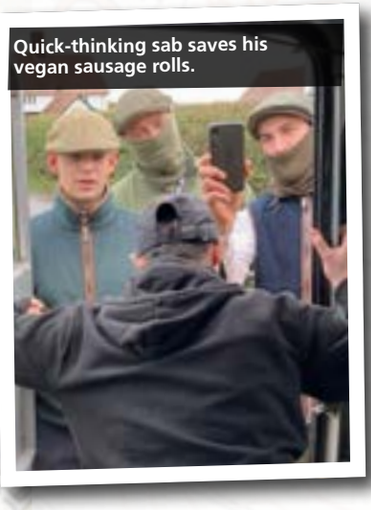


The struggle takes many forms.

South Cambs Hunt Sabs

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Find us on



Quick-thinking sab saves his vegan sausage rolls.

Having travelled around a fair bit over the past couple of seasons and sensing potential weaknesses and tenuous relationships to be exploited with the new huntsman Arun Squire, we have focused our attention predominantly on the Puckeridge hunt so far this season - to good effect.

On days where we have not had the benefit of tip-offs, we have made good use of kennel watching despite the hunt blocking us in and calling the police with accusations of harassment. In fact, this tactic has prevented the hounds even reaching the meet on a couple of occasions, with the disappointed field having to make do with a 'fun ride' instead - which is undoubtedly much more fun for us than them!

Some of December was slightly tricky due to a number of our team testing positive for COVID, but we have been getting out with neighbouring groups where possible and hope to be fully back out and at 'em ASAP.

We have some great new recruits join our team in the field this season - the more the merrier so please do get in touch if you are in our area. Wishing our lovely supporters a wonderful new year.

South Coast Hunt Sabs

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PayPal.me/SouthCoastHuntSabs

Find us on



Trail layer takes the piss.

We've been as busy as ever sabbing our local cub hunts and having sabs further afield in the cull zones. Some of our intrepid members joined other groups in shutting down the hare hunting festival in Northumberland.

We have a very committed group and we've tried to sab many weekday meets even when neither of our vehicles were in action. We're very thankful for all the lift shares and for the grant received by the HSA for our Landrover repairs. So far, we've had sabs assaulted by terriermen and ridden down by the hunt. We continue to receive the typical police bias that we've grown accustomed to, witnessed the mistreatment of horses by riders, and laughed at the sight of Mark Bycroft (ex-Burstow huntsman), in his new guise of trail layer. We attended the anti-hunt demo in Lewes and Refugee vigils in our hometown Hastings. Our recent fundraiser was a great success serving the local community with wholesome vegan food and tat. We've also been involved in wildlife rescues and organising work parties at our local Animal Sanctuary. We're determined to do what we can and to create a more positive world.
Come join us if you can. South Coast Hunt Sabs remain small but mighty.

South Wales Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

We started the autumn in deepest darkest badger cull land, where we saw not only the usual disregard for wildlife but also some horrendous treatment of farm animals. Farmers bleat on about how much they love their animals, but it doesn't take much time in the countryside to see through this lie.

Once the cull had finished, we had a trip up north with a mighty gang of sabs from other groups to ruin the Northumberland Beagling Festival. After a comprehensively sabotaged first day, it was tears before bedtime for the hunters and the festival was no more. Absolutely brilliant.

Since then, we have been sabbing our local hunts, mainly Clive Rees' Banwen Miners Hunt, who lurch from one mess to another. One particularly chaotic day, huntsman Graham Smith, stropped off, without the hounds, as soon as he realised we were there. The Carmarthenshire Hunt has also been on our radar, with huntsman Will Pinkney's hounds hanging off gates and last seen being kicked out of a wood by a furious landowner.

We ended the year with the joyful ruination of the Banwen Miners Boxing Day and New Year's Day meets, which saw local protesters and sabs join together to keep them from hunting. Cracking.



Hmm...this trail hunt looks legit.

Staffordshire Hunt Sabs

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Find us on Find us on

The final months of 2021 are almost a blur already, with so much going on after a slow season following the Covid lockdowns. We entered September with boots on the ground daily (and nightly) for a long and gruelling fight against the cull.
With expansions in our zones, we worked with independent local badger protectors and also got to know new pockets of scummery in our area. While we saw some horrible sights, we also took these opportunities to save more lives and stick a finger up at local shooters and hunters.

As with so many other groups, juggling time in the cull zone with ongoing cubbing meets was a strain and we were relieved to gain a little more free time as the local zones came to a close.

We have targeted the Meynell & South Staffordshire Hunt from cubbing onwards - whilst visiting other hunts and shoots when able to, together with friends at Manchester Sabs we have kept the Meynell constantly on the move and seeing the strain on their faces multiple times a week has kept us motivated for more as the season progresses.

Keep Britain tidy.



Suffolk and Essex Hunt Sabs

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Find us on Find us on

After celebrating the demise of the ECMH we turned our attention to their former kennelmates the Stour Valley Beagles. These secretive losers have rarely been sabbed in the last few years. We've been able to track them down and send them packing three times so far this season. The third time we caught them they were in the grounds of Cretingham Country Park; on seeing sabs they quickly put leads on



SES send the Stour Valley Beagles packing.

the coupled hounds, saying they were just out for a walk, straight back to the car park! We'll be keeping the pressure on the SVB until they fold too.
Thanks to HSA's financial assistance, we purchased a second vehicle. This is down to you, reading this, paying membership to the organisation, so thank you!
We've paid the Puckeridge a lot of attention this season, teaming up regularly with other groups. They sadly killed a fox on the Boxing Day Bank holiday. Sabs managed to retrieve the body and evidence has been submitted to the Police.
NYD was also not without incident. Essex and Suffolk's response to us effectively stopping them from killing, was to ram our vehicle with a quad and hit sabs over the head with whips. We won't let their bully tactics stop us from saving wildlife.

Surrey Hunt Sabs

https://linktr.ee/SurreyHuntSabs
Find us on

We sabbed the Surrey Union a lot catching them out trespassing on forestry land once, but most of the drama came on awaydays. At the Hampshire Hunt we used a gizmo to get the hounds of a fox and then decided they decided to try and ride people down before packing up early . At the Burstow we had another day of aggro with one rider making a general arse of himself. A trip to the Puckeridge proved to be a hard day protecting a fox that had taken refuge down a badger sett pulling the hounds out and listening to the pathetic huntsman laughably saying they had laid a trail down the hole!
A midweek at the Kimblewick saw us saving another fox and constantly outmanoeuvring them.



Sabs rescue an injured deer.

After we did two hunts in a day we found a deer stuck in a fence losing blood, so we cut it out and took to a nearby animal rescue where since it has made a full recovery.

The HSA gave us Ł5 k to enable us to buy another vehicle which we are very grateful for! We will end year fairly exhausted after 50 days out, and 2022 will be spent recruiting more people to help in our campaigns .



Hunt thugs get too close for comfort.

Three Counties Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

Hunting has been underway several days a week since late August with an increase in stalkers trying to obstruct us. From the North Cotswold killing a deer, to Ledbury huntsman, Mark, losing his pack for over half an hour, the Heythrop rampaging through a village to Cotswold Hunt-supporting landowners claiming badger setts were blocked due to the ongoing cull, it's been an eventful first half of the main season.

We've had a number of successes, large numbers of setts unblocked prior to meets, allowing foxes to take shelter, and many foxes helped to escape the hounds. Positive changes happened locally too: Malvern Hills Trust indefinitely suspended hunting permits & years of legwork, reporting thousands of wildlife crimes, finally paid off with wildlife officers given more resources to attend meets.

We still find blocked / dug-out setts but more landowners are getting on board, telling hunts to leave setts alone - last week we met a gamekeeper who prevented a hunt blocking a sett; when a fox took shelter later that day, they were told to leave him and not dig or try to flush him out. We look forward to a day when preventing wildlife crime is standard and not a cause for celebration.

West Midlands Hunt Sabs

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Find us on

We've had a busy first half of the season sabbing a total of seven different hunts over seven different counties. However, following on from the previous year when members of our group had their home attacked with petrol we have applied as much pressure to the Warwickshire Hunt as possible, attending most of their meets in main season and a good chunk of them during cub hunting. During that time, we have witnessed nonstop blatant hunting where fox after fox has had to be saved by our group. The Warwickshire Hunt continue to arrogantly assume they are untouchable. However, since the main hunting season started, we have got them in press every month and towards the end of the year there were articles featuring the Warwickshire Hunt four weeks in a row.



"Look at what you've done!"

Inevitably with a hunt so focused on killing as often as they can and a huntsman, Will Goffe who already has a previous Hunting Act conviction, it is inevitable that they will kill foxes. We have witnessed them killing three times so far, two foxes and a deer but many more will have been saved due to our presence.

West Sussex Hunt Sabs

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Gogetfunding.com/west-sussex-hunt-sabs

Find us on

The newly scaled-down version of the Crawley & Horsham Hunt, now only go out on a Saturday for a couple of hours to be photographed masquerading as a trail hunt. This has given us the opportunity to keep an eye, and help, with other hunts. We gave the Chiddingfold Lechonfield & Cowdray Hunt a shock when we broke cover to stop hounds chasing a fox, and we popped over to support the newly formed Wight Sabs, on the Isle of Wight. We have to say the Crawley & Horsham hunt are trying their best to clean up their reputation as one of the most violent and blood thirsty fox killing hunts. Their opening meet was quiet and over in just three hours, but we have known this hunt for too many years to fall for any of their bluff and subterfuge. It is questionable the Crawley & Horsham Hunt have employed Richard Gurney, Master of foxhounds and master of 'smokescreen' as their huntsman. Please get in contact if you would like to join us, we are always grateful for any donations and tip-offs of hunting and animal cruelty.



West Sussex sabs up with hunt.

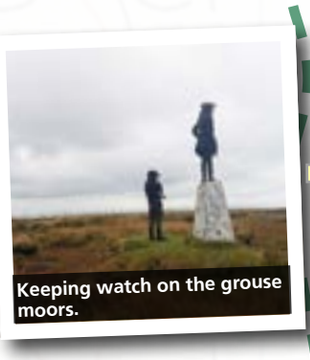
West Yorkshire Hunt Sabs

ko-fi.com/westyorkshirehuntsaboteurs

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Find us on



Keeping watch on the grouse moors.

We helped sab the badger cull with our pals down in Derbyshire, which took us through to cubbing season. Our main targets for cubbing 2021 were the York & Ainsty South/Badsworth & Bramham Moor and Meynell and South Staffordshire hunts. By coincidence, we also happened upon the Dove Valley MH whilst on our way back up north from the Meynell one sunny day in September. They weren't up for much of a chat.

Autumn 2021 sadly also saw us lose our beloved transit van, as we were told that she'd fail her next MOT and was only fit for scrap. The search for a group vehicle continues, but in the meantime WYHS have been out right across the country - we've made trips to Essex and Northumberland to bulk out other groups' numbers.

Into late autumn and winter, our sabs have also consistently disrupted a local shoot at Grimston Park, N.Yorkshire and helped Calder Valley Sabs on the grouse moors. We also collaborated with groups across the country to attend the Northumberland Beagling Festival and ensured that the hunters packed up before they even began looking for hares. Finally, we stumbled out on Boxing Day and New Year's Day to sabotage the freaky festive fun of hunts up and down the country.

Weymouth Animal Rights

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Find us on



The South Dorset pack isn't what it was.

Our campaign against the South Dorset Hunt has gone from strength to strength. We hit them hard throughout cubbing and continue to do so now it's full season. The hunt have lost a lot of land and we seem to be out in the same few areas week after week. After the Hankinson court case the terrier boys had clearly been told to behave themselves but after intense sabbing they have abandoned that and trying to stop us is now the priority as they are becoming increasingly violent. Sadly the hunt have killed on a couple of occasions despite our best efforts and are currently under several police investigations. Our economic sabotage has resulted in them cancelling a fun ride, losing two more point to point sponsors and having their Christmas auction cancelled worth thousands of pounds. There has been an increase in people wanting to join us which is always welcome and needed. We have also had the odd trip to support our comrades North Dorset and Mendip Hunt Sabs. We will continue to disrupt and weaken the South Dorset Hunt until they are nothing more than a bad memory.

NEW GROUP! Wight Hunt Sabs

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linktr.ee/TheWightHuntSabs

Find us on



Welcome to the Wight Hunt Sabs.

We formed TWHS with our focus on The Isle of Wight Foxhounds, sabbed the 2020 Boxing Day meet then went straight into lockdown. This gave us time to sort our FB page, bank account and merch store, we raised funds and had all our equipment ready for cubbing.

Then the games began, we followed the hound van, the police arrived and arrested us, hound van left, we were de-arrested. This culminated in three of us being held in custody for nine hours. After being interviewed we were released with no further action and our local force now has a new Hunt Liaison Officer.

Opening meet they departed waving and smiling at us, it was a different story by the end, having twice caught up to find them in the act of attempting to flush out wildlife or hold up a Copse, hunt master John Curtis was decidedly tetchy and called an end to proceedings.

They have since tried to show they are behaving; however we haven't seen much evidence of trails being laid and Boxing Day had its fun moments, with additional hunt support out it got a bit prickly. We take this as a compliment and look forward to keeping them on their toes for the rest of the season.

Wiltshire Hunt Sabs

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Find us on



Wilts hit the RAC.

It's been an interesting few months for the recently formed and affiliated Wiltshire Hunt Sabs. We have had a great deal of enthusiasm and been able to fill our Landy every week and working with comrades from surrounding counties.

We have concentrated our efforts keeping wildlife safe and exposing illegal hunting on Salisbury Plain. We have sabbed the Royal Artillery & Tedworth Hunts, and the Wiltshire and infantry beagles, all of whom are licenced by the MOD to hunt illegally there, and the Royal Agricultural College beagles (lot of "royalty" in ripping apart wildlife round here) received some overdue attention. To top it off we had a bit of a media frenzy when AVH supporters launched an unprovoked attack on us and other peaceful protesters in Lacock. To find one of the Police officers in attendance was one of their supporters was alarming if not a complete surprise. Biased? Absolutely.

We have developed our own, rather fetching merchandise for sale at our first vegan fair. We organised a New Years Day Draw for our supporters with some amazing prizes. So thanks for supporting us throughout, and helped us fund a new gearbox and a drone to make sure they never lose us!!



These hunt dogs are killed and later transported to a facility where they are used to make electricity and gas.

HUNT KENNELS:

A NEW FRONT IN THE FIGHT AGAINST BLOODSPORTS

Who would have thought that the bins at hunt kennels could play such an important part in the downfall of fox hunting?

Everyone who has seen the Ecotricity investigation will be horrified to learn that hounds culled in large numbers are being put into our electric supply. Not just that, but the widespread connection between livestock farmers and hunts has now become much clearer. For the first time, we can see a very strong connection between veganism and being against fox hunting. Bringing young calves to a hunt kennels to be shot in the head or to be dumped in their bins is what helps keep hunts afloat financially. If large numbers of people gave up consuming dairy and meat, the hunts vital income and access to land would simply dry up.

Many viewers will have been appalled at what is going on at hunt kennels: the lack of biosecurity, the unsurprisingly cruel practices to 'livestock', the way hounds are tossed into bins like pieces of rubbish. But we shouldn't, in our revulsion, turn away from what is going on; not so that we can 'bear witness' to the cruelty, but so that we can work out how to dismantle the various relationships at work at hunt kennels.

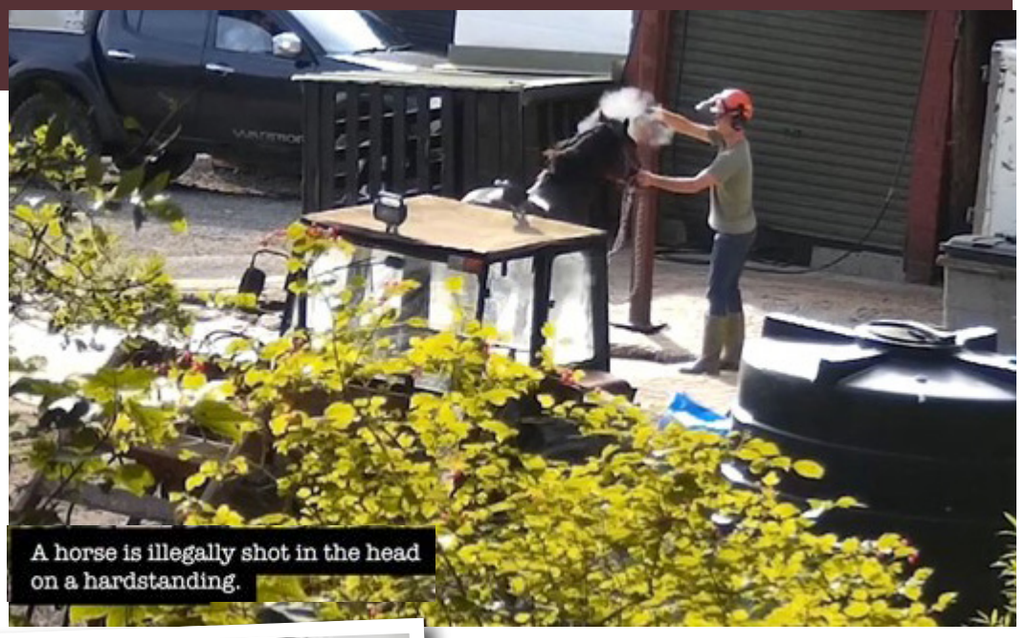
Farmers and horse owners either bring in or have picked up fallen or unwanted 'livestock', some of which are still alive and killed at the kennels. This service is usually far cheaper than the local knackerman, as people working at hunt kennels put in longer hours for lower pay - their love of hunting is literally undercutting the rest of the market. Those farmers will allow the hunt on their land in return for a cheaper service.

The hunt will feed an amount of the fallen stock to the hounds, the rest will go into bins. These bins - by law - must be always kept covered, something which the Ecotricity investigation revealed didn't happen at any of the five kennels they filmed at. Those bins or skips are then collected at regular intervals.

Something else the hunts should have been doing according to their own guidelines (Hunting Leaks published the Kennel Management notes for 2019, page 41) is that all carcasses that are 'Cat 1' must be dyed blue when they go into the bins. All meat that is fed to hounds - 'Cat 2' - must be dyed black before being fed to hounds. These dyes are very expensive, and hunts may well have to spend thousands of pounds a year on the dye and staining process if they follow the regulations.

It appears that the vast majority of hunts across the country are using one firm, which was previously known as John Pointons and Sons. They were bought out by Anglo Beef Processors in 2020 and were then renamed 'Advanced Proteins'.

Some interesting historical facts on the companies: Advanced Proteins has top tier management who are heavily involved in hunting. Both Martin Pointon and Johnathon Elliot were both masters of Mr. Elliot's harrier pack until it was disbanded. Anglo Beef Processors have a murky past as well, they were infamous a few years ago for being responsible for putting horse meat into burgers.



A horse is illegally shot in the head on a hardstanding.



In addition to dogs, foxes and badgers are also killed and used to make electricity and gas.

With the top team at the rendering plant being involved in hunting what are the chances that they will stop providing rendering services to hunts? Hard to tell, but the new owners at ABP may well not want any more scandals and it appears that Ecotricity haven't finished investigating hunt kennels just yet.

Anti-hunting activists have now been given a new weapon in the fight against fox hunting. With the Ecotricity investigation running in the background, local authorities may well not want to end up in news articles because they didn't enforce regulations that are in place to prevent zoonotic diseases. Indeed, the investigation shows that photographic evidence from hunt kennels of bin lids left open, skips uncovered or animals going into the bins without being sprayed blue is extremely damaging to hunts.

Since the Animal Welfare Act 2006 (AWA) every local authority should have an AWA inspector, who can walk into the premises of a dog breeding establishment to check conditions without a warrant if they believe any animals on the premises are suffering.

Along with that there are specific dog breeding regulations 2018 that AWA inspectors should be enforcing. Those regulations are worth reading.

In the world of animal rights, we often hear the phrase "the final nail in the coffin of…" well, the ongoing Ecotricity investigation may well destroy a number of hunts financially, but it is up to all of us to pick up the hammer and drive in the remaining nails.

The Hunting Act with all its vagueness is unlikely to be the legislation that finishes off hunting with hounds. Like Elliot Ness taking on Al Capone, we need to collectively think outside the box and smash hunts in areas where they least expect it and cannot get away from the regulations and legislation that they must abide by.



A quad bike is used to attempt to flatten a dead cow.

GETTING INVOLVED

A North London sab reflects on their first season in the killing fields









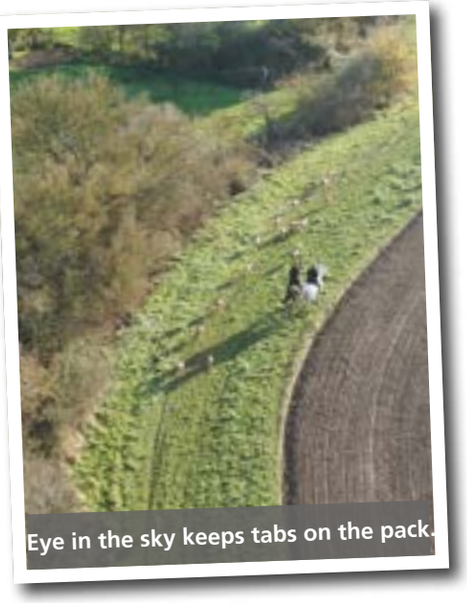


This has been my first season sabbing. I've been involved in a range of environmental causes for years, primarily with the marine conservation charity Sea Shepherd. When public events shrunk back thanks to Covid-19, so did opportunities to fundraise or take action with Sea Shepherd. I saw on social media that there was a new hunt-sab group near me, sent a message, and (after a friendly meeting and training day) got stuck in.

Hunt-sabbing is unlike any direct action I've taken before. We directly witness the results of our actions; from foxes safely escaping to the frustration of huntsmen after their day of countryside criminality is ruined. I want to take this opportunity to reflect on what it's like being a new sab. Much of what I've written below won't be news to experienced sabs, however I hope it's still at least somewhat interesting, and perhaps even motivation for those who aren't yet sabs but have been tempted to join their local group out in the fields.

There are a few things that stick out in my mind about the first few weeks of sabbing; above all else the early start with cubbing! Our group decided to hit cubbing with all we've got, making sure that the hunts knew this season wouldn't be a good one for them. As a new sab, it was a great introduction, with smaller rider numbers and generally more predictable hunt behaviour.

The first sabbing I took part in was disrupting the Inglorious 12th, a mission that involved a long round-trip to beautiful Yorkshire. A successful day: a frustrated wannabe-shooter complaining to the police "this lot has right taken the piss" still makes me smile. I was pleasantly surprised how much the locals were against the activities of the shooters. This is something I've seen repeated since, from walkers thanking us to drivers kindly pointing us in the right direction when hot on the chase. The morale boost that comes from a friendly passer-by offering words of encouragement can't be understated. Hunts claim to be beacons of countryside tradition and culture, yet the reality is entirely different.



Eye in the sky keeps tabs on the pack.

Unfortunately, hunts do still have pockets of genuine support. Novice sabs shouldn't forget this. However just like other bullies, huntsmen, their riders and



Keeping a close eye on the huntsman!



Hunt sabs saving lives.

supporters, are so often simply cowards. The bravado of a masked terrierman quickly dissipates when a team of determined sabs charge by, especially when the sabs are equipped with cameras and knowledge that both the law and common decency are on their side.

A while back our group had been ruining a hunt's day down in Oxfordshire. At the end of the day we were stopped by the police, due to the hunt having made nefarious false allegations. It was infuriating, my first instinct was to tell the police where to shove the allegations, but it was quickly clear we'd be arrested if we didn't play along. Interacting with the police is a controversial topic in activist circles, and hunt sabbing is no different. A while later I learned that off the back of our calmness that day, (and a few pushy emails and phone calls) the public order commanders of that police force had been sent off for training on the Hunting Act and its current situation - the decision to interact had paid off.

Our group has a consensus that it's better to have the police on our side than against us. I'm no supporter of the police by any means, and it's not the illegality but the abhorrent cruelty of the hunt that motivates me out into the field. Yet if we can use the law to our favour there's no harm in doing so.

I didn't realise before getting involved how much technology would be a vital asset. Our group purchased a drone for this season, having an eye-in-the-sky has been extremely useful, and amusingly demoralising for the hunts we target. Another bit of tech that deserves a mention is the amazing OS Maps app, which has enabled us to convey precise locations even when in entirely unfamiliar terrain. By using strategically placed covert cameras we've captured acts of shocking cruelty. Horrible footage but it helps keep public opinion against the hunts.

Yet all that tech would be near worthless without the teamwork that brings it all together. Before my first sab I went out on a training day, alongside a mix of new and experienced sabs. When I found myself out alongside them a couple of weeks later, the training we'd done together carried us to success. The hunt could see we were organised, the hunt could see we were supporting each other, and the hunt absolutely hated it. Skill-sharing within our group (and with other groups, especially on the tried-and-tested methods of whips and horns) has helped us all become better sabs and increased that vital spirit of camaraderie.

Hunts have never been in a more precarious position. Many are in a dire financial position, and the entire hunting 'fraternity' were left reeling from the Hankinson conviction. However, the fight is not yet won. Every weekend, not far from you, there will be hunts trying to kill wildlife. I'm glad to get the chance to help stop them. If you're reading this and thinking maybe it's about time to get involved, my simple advice is to do it without delay, you won't regret it for a moment.











Contact your local group to get involved

Being part of a sab group isn't just running around muddy fields, most groups require behind the scenes roles too such as fundraising, social media, merch design and cake baking. What could you offer your local group?

BACK IN THE DAY...
THE BATTLE OF STAGDEN CROSS

Ex-HSA Committee member Norma Dinnie-Weall looks back on probably the largest ever gathering of hunt saboteurs.

January 2022 was the 29th anniversary of what came to be known as "The Battle of Stagden Cross" – at least that's what the then Chair of the Essex FH, Paul Dixie liked to call it. For us sabs it marked the first in a long line of national hits on various hunts up and down the country in response to the use of "stewards".

We first experienced "stewards" at the Essex FH in October 1992. They became a regular feature of sabbing for us, along with a huge police presence, which often included the use of a police helicopter (until some bright spark must have finally realised the helicopter helped us locate where the hunt was at any given time). These stewards would turn up in varying numbers and were – at least in the beginning – organised by Nick Herbert, who later became a Tory MP, Minister of State for Police and Criminal Justice under David Cameron and in 2020 was given a peerage by Boris Johnson. (No further comment needed!)

Eventually, a bunch of regular and more local stewards were recruited and at the beginning were only used at Essex FH meets, but soon started turning up at others like the Essex Farmers & Union. Sabs were subjected to increasingly violent and





unreasonable physical assaults by this motley group of individuals. The response by Essex police was one of turning a blind eye – after all – they had attended a "training day" for stewards! At best, with so many cameras around, this continual harassment seemed like an attempt to provoke a reaction from sabs or distract them from disrupting the hunt. At worst it was likely to end up with sabs getting hurt and/or arrested.

Eventually, we felt enough was enough and we knew other groups were being plagued with similar problems. The police weren't interested in protecting us, only in arresting us. The situation was hostile and toxic. Finally, we put out a call to other sab groups to come and join us on a national hit of the Essex FH and on the morning of 23rd January 1993, we locals sat in our vans in the car park of Hylands House near Chelmsford – and waited. It was overwhelming to see so many of our comrades come to show us solidarity as vans, landies and cars turned into that car park. I remember feeling so emotional and proud that all these fantastic people were prepared to travel such a distance to join us. They literally came from as far afield as Cornwall and Liverpool! Eventually, there were about 250 of us and when this huge convoy of vehicles started moving across the country roads of Essex towards the hunt meet in North End – it felt amazing!

It must have come as a huge shock to both the police and the hunt when we started to turn up in such huge numbers. The hunt moved off south



across the fields with sabs in pursuit. Immediately there were altercations as sabs followed the hunt and stewards attempted to stop them. One female sab was attacked by a steward so used the garlic water she was carrying to spray him in the face in an effort to defend herself. He proceeded to milk the situation by falling to the ground, grabbing handfuls of grass to wipe his eyes with. He ended up being air-lifted to hospital. No prizes for guessing he was released later that day unscathed, but it gave the British Field Sports Society something to make a fuss about to the press.

Meanwhile, with so many sabs present, the hunt was forced into a farm at Stagden Cross, where they stood for a good couple of hours or more. Many of us collected by the entrance and unbeknown to us, the Met had been summoned.



During those two hours outside the farm at Stagden Cross, I don't remember any violence. Sabs amused themselves by light-heartedly taunting the police and I particularly recall the refrains of "Who ate all the pies" being sung to one particularly tall and stout officer that local sabs referred to as "the Honey Monster". Many of us simply sat down in the road and chatted to each other, thinking that eventually the hunt would be forced to pack up. However, once the Met arrived, all hell broke loose. They were determined to make us pay and during that time some of our vehicles had their windows smashed. Twenty-six arrests were made, many of which seemed completely random!

Once sabs were cleared from the entrance to the farm, the hunt attempted to continue, but there were sufficient sabs still in the area



able to carry on disrupting them. Within 15 minutes, they finally gave up, probably having achieved what they wanted - as in plenty of "bad press" for us. Let's face it, we were used to it! As usual, everyone arrested was later released on bail and if my memory serves me, the police only succeeded in getting a couple of minor convictions out of it, despite their best efforts.

"I remember feeling so emotional and proud that all these fantastic people were prepared to travel such a distance to join us"

I do believe Essex plod lived to rue the day they arrested so many people, who proceeded to make life as difficult as possible while they were being held at Chelmsford police station. It was a huge effort for very little "reward". One officer even whined to the press about having to provide 26 vegetarian meals. Honestly – you couldn't make it up!

Paul Dixie later claimed he used the incident at Stagden Cross to persuade Michael Howard to draft the "Aggravated Trespass" part of the Criminal Justice Act that became law in 1994. There's no way of knowing whether this is true or not, but he said it publicly.

In the years that followed, Essex police went on to be sued by sabs on numerous occasions for wrongful arrest and it cost them a lot of money!

Stagden Cross very much became the "blue-print" for similar national hits on other hunts who were keen to dish out violence. It's sad to think that sabs still have to run the gauntlet of these private armies. Modern technology has made some things easier, but the stewarding problem hasn't gone away.

Back then we believed an Act of parliament to end hunting with dogs would also end the need for hunt sabotage. Eighteen years on, I'm an OAP with a dodgy back and gammy knee and sadly it feels like nothing much has changed.



Interested in the inspirational history of the HSA? Get yourself a copy of our book Sabotage, available from the shop at huntsabs.org.uk

Orbituary



Mike…a sab to the end.

Michael Grail

South Wales Sabs

Mike was definitely one of a kind. You could, at first glance, have thought he was a tough punk, which he was, but he was also gentle, smart, fiercely compassionate and a brilliant and very, very funny story teller.

Mike's sense of direction was legendary. Regardless of how many hedges we had run through, quad bikes we had run away from, or even what the map said, he could always point accurately to our vehicle. Although his navigation instructions took a bit of getting used to – 'all the way round and straight on' (that would be 'right' then Mike?).

Mike was never without his Bergen, which contained everything you could ever need to survive an apocalypse, including a variety of tinned fruit. It was packed in such a unique fashion it defeated the police whenever they made the mistake of searching it. His supplies served him when escaping trouble - you definitely knew to abandon all hope of an early finish when Mike texted to say he'd 'gone to ground'.

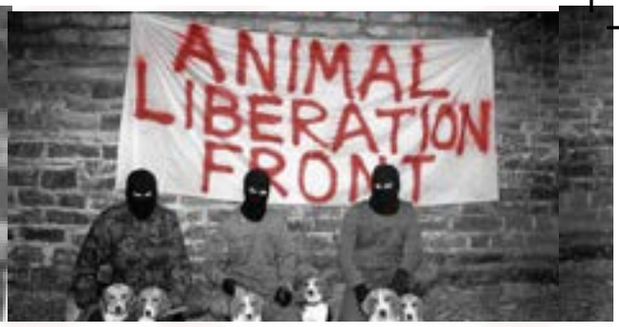
Mike was a valued member of South Wales sabs, determined to make it out even if it meant a late bus and camping out overnight for an early start, or a bike ride up a mountain to get home. After he became unwell, he still held stalls and collections, he even requested donations to the HSA at his funeral.

A sab till the end.
Here's to Mike.



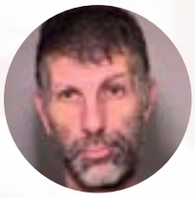
photo © www.staceywoolhousephotography.weebly.com

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 prisoners. Remember all correspondence is read by prison staff. Don't expect a reply as there is a limit to the number of letters each prisoner can write.

Joseph Dibee



Joseph Mahmoud Dibee was arrested in Cuba whilst boarding a plane towards Russia after being twelve years on the run. The FBI accuses him of multiple accounts of sabotage carried by the ALF and ELF during the 90s. One of the actions he is accused of is a horse meat packing plant that was burnt to ashes twenty-one years ago.

Joseph Dibee #812133
Multnomah County Jail
11540 NE Inverness Dr.
Portland, OR 97220
USA

Please do not discuss anything related to his case, to anything illegal or to any direct actions!

Release date: unknown

Marius Mason

Marius Jacob Mason (Marie Mason*) is a transgender anarchist and environmental / animal rights activist serving nearly twenty-two years in federal prison for acts of property damage carried out in defence of the planet.



*In July 2014, Marius announced that he would no longer be using the name Marie, and will be using male pronouns. Until his name is legally changed, mail sent to Marius in prison will need to be addressed to "Marie Mason."

Marie (Marius) Mason #04672-061
FCI Danbury
Route 37
Danbury, CT 06811 USA

Release date: January 10, 2027

Ladislav Kuc

Ladislav is an animal rights activist accused of illegal possession of arms, manufacturing explosives for a bombing in front of a McDonald's in December 2011, in which there were no injuries. He was arrested in January 2012. In the latest ruling in early 2018, his total sentence was extended to twelve years. All his mail is opened and read. So far, there are no letter restrictions listed.

Uutos, Gucmanova 19/670
Priecinoik 7
Leopoldov 92041
Slovakia



His expected release date is January 2024.

HUNT SABOTEURS ASSOCIATION SHOP

You've sabbed the hunt... now get the T-shirt!

The HSA has a fantastic range of clothing, accessories, flags, and other items. Designed, packed, and despatched by our fantastic 100% volunteer team, all profits go to the direct-action fight against all bloodsports.





www.huntsabs.org.uk

PLEASE JOIN THE HUNT SABOTEURS ASSOCIATION

Why should I join?

The HSA is the country's fastest-growing and most effective anti-hunt organisation. We are 100% volunteer-run so much more of your subscription goes directly to saving hunted animals.

What do I get?

You will receive HOWL magazine three times a year - it's packed with essential news and articles that you can't read anywhere else. You receive exclusive mail shots throughout the year, keeping you up-to-date with campaign news from the front line. You also get a new member's pack and have the right to attend our AGM.





Still need convincing?

Tim Bonner of the Countryside Alliance recently described hunt sabs as the "primary concern" for most hunts!

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*)

❒ £20 (1 year subscription) ❒ £200 life membership

❒ I enclose a donation of £..... to help fund the HSA's work

Name.....

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 -

USEFUL CONTACTS

Most of the groups below can also be found on Facebook and Twitter

Accidental Activist
www.morethanjustbadgers.net

Action Against Foxhunting www.actionagainstfoxhunting.org/

Animal Justice Project
www.animaljusticeproject.com

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

Animal Welfare Information Service
PO Box 8, Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 0JL www.acigawis.org.uk acig@btinternet.com (publishers of Outfoxed Take Two and Outfoxed Again)

The Campaign to Ban Trophy Hunting
www.facebook.com/bantrophyhuntingcampaign

Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade (CAFT) www.caft.org.uk

Cumbria Hunt Sabs blog
www.cumbrianhuntsabs.blogspot.com
Exploring the history of Cumbria Hunt Sabs (1987 -2015) written by those involved.

Fox Project
www.foxproject.org.uk

Free The MBR Beagles
free_the_mbr_beagles@riseup.net

Hare Preservation Trust
www.hare-preservation-trust.com

Hunt Investigation Team www.huntinvestigationteam.org

Hounds Off
www.houndsoff.org.uk

Moorland Monitors
www.facebook.com/MoorlandMonitors/

National Fox Welfare Society
www.nfws.org.uk

Stop Hunting on the Nation's Land
https://www.facebook.com/Stop-Hunting-on-the-Nations-Land-110530057004500/

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

Sea Shepherd
www.seashepherd.org.uk

SPEAK Campaigns
www.speakcampaigns.org

Stop the Cull
www.innocentbadger.com

Vegan Society
www.vegansociety.com

Veggies Animal Rights Calendar
www.veggies.org.uk/arc



CONTACTING THE HOWL TEAM?

To submit articles, photos, or anything else for publication, please contact the Editor on: howl@huntsabs.org.uk



Please note that the copy deadlines for Group News and all other HOWL content are 1st January, 1st May and 1st September every year.

To inform us of a change of address or anything else to do with your subscription, please contact the Membership Officer on: membership@huntsabs.org.uk

Please also contact the Membership Officer if you would like to receive future editions of HOWL as an interactive PDF flipbook. Receiving HOWL electronically reduces postage costs for the HSA, meaning even more of your subscription goes to supporting hunt sabs in the field.

RUN WITH THE FOX

HELP SAVE LIVES AFTER YOU'VE GONE





Making a will is the only way to ensure that your wishes are followed after you've gone. If you can, please consider leaving a legacy gift to the HSA after you have taken care of your loved ones.



With no paid staff, you can be sure that your gift to the HSA will be used where it is needed most - out in the killing fields.

The HSA strongly recommends that you use a solicitor when you make or update your will.

If you would also like to discuss leaving a gift or legacy to the HSA please contact our Treasurer on: accounts@huntsabs.org.uk

PACK YOUR BAGS!

HSA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2022

All members and active sabs are welcome

SATURDAY 2ND JULY FROM 12PM

JACKSONS LANE
269A ARCHWAY ROAD
LONDON
N6 5AA

Bar! Speakers! Vegan Victuals! Horn blowing! Whip cracking!



HUNT SABOTEURS ASSOCIATION

Including the annual HSA horn-blowing contest!
Winning sab gets a new horn for their group!



www.huntsabs.org.uk