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

HSW

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# HUNTSMAN ON FIREARMS CHARGE

On Saturday October 26 1985, three vans and two cars full of sabs from all over the West Midlands met up just outside Wolverhampton for a retaliation hit on the Albrighton Hunt after several sabs were injured on a hit a couple of weeks earlier.

The aim of the day was to blockade the hunt's kennels at Whiston Cross, Shropshire, to delay the hounds leaving for as long as possible in an attempt to reduce the hunters time in the field and therefore the chance of them killing foxes.

On arrival at the kennels, the Coventry sab van was driven straight into the gateway of the kennels, blocking the access. The other vehicles pulled up nearby. Sabs checked out the kennels and found all the hounds were still there.

SHOTGUN

A burglar alarm was set off, possibly by one of the kennel maids, and within minutes, Nigel Cox, the Albrighton Huntsman, appeared on the scene. He went into an adjacent house and came out with a double-barrelled shot-gun which he used to threaten the sabs. One sab who tried to take his photograph moved out of the way just in time to avoid being hit on the head by the shotgun as he took a swing at her. Her camera was damaged in this incident.

Another sab was hit across the hands with the shotgun before Mr Cox, to the shock and disbelief of the sabs, discharged the gun into the front grille of the Coventry van making a hole approximately three inches in diameter in the grille and one and a half inches in diameter through the radiator. This rendered the van undriveable

At the time of the shooting there were at least four people in the van and four or five people within feet of where the blast hit. One sab felt some of the pellets as they ricocheted off the grille whilst the main body of the pellets made the hole. Mr Cox very quickly put the gun away after this shot.

POLICE ON THE SCENE

Whilst this incident was taking place, a neighbour, 60 to 70 yards from the kennels, brought out a pump action shotgun and discharged it into the air in an effort to further intimidate sabs.

The police were on the scene within minutes of the shooting and took various statements from the sabs. The hunt got under way at least an hour late with two vans and a car full of sabs in pursuit. The estimate for repairs to the van is £284.00.

In a preliminary court appearance, Nigel Cox pleaded not guilty to a number of firearms charges.

# CAR CHASE ENDS WITH A CHEQUE FROM THE MASTER

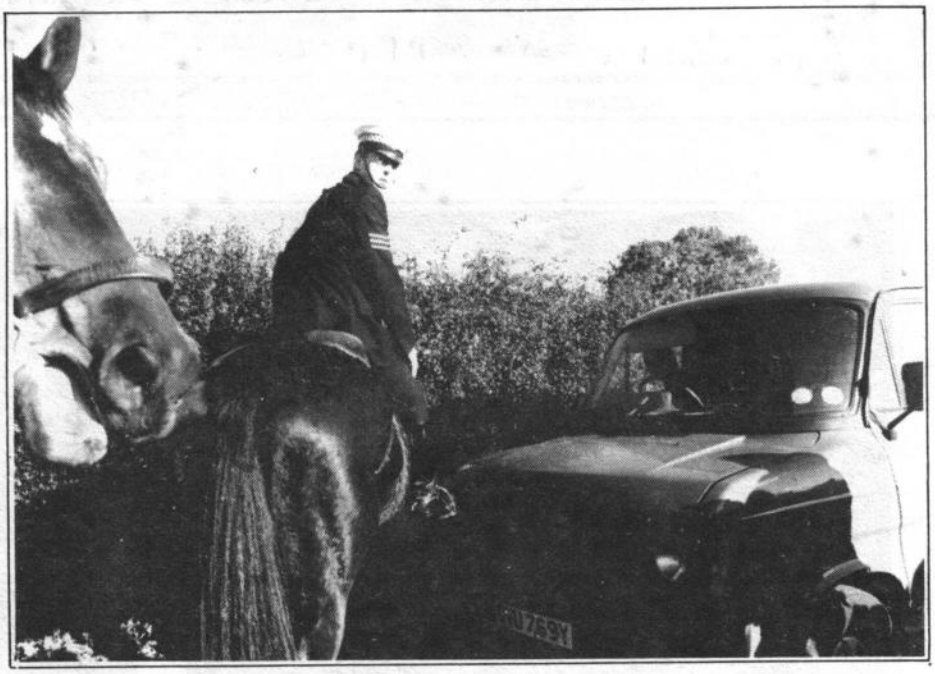
Glamorgan FH Master and Huntsman, Anthony Selwyn Martyn, was shamed by his own supporters on Boxing Day and willingly paid for the damage they caused to a van rented by the local HSA. Cardiff contact, Dave Weeks, was waiting in the van in a forest car park while sabs made contact with the hunt amongst the trees when two land-rovers and a transit van full of heavies blocked him in and tried to let down his tyres. Dave spun the wheels to prevent them doing so and was rewarded with a smack in the mouth for his trouble. They then broke off his wing mirror and set about the tyres with knives. It was when he felt the van being tipped up that Dave decided enough was enough and screeched out of the car park down a narrow road and came out onto a busy trunk road.

Incredibly, the thugs piled back into their vehicles and set off in hot pursuit. Since driving at top speeds is best avoided when your tyres are in shreds, Dave had to take drastic action after a couple of miles on an upwards incline. With the transit van right on his tail, he braked sharply, causing his pursuers to collide with his rear, spin off the road and plunge through a hedge. Since the occupants of the two landrovers looked especially displeased about this, and continued the chase, Dave began a 70mph dash to the nearest police station. Half a mile from his goal, the thugs figured out what was going on and headed back to the hunt.

An incredulous police sergeant would do no more than allow Dave to call the AA who came out and gave him a lift back to Cardiff where he collected his car and rejoined the hunt. In the meantime the sabs had been using whips to good effect and were in complete control of the pack.

PHONE CALL GETS RESULTS

That evening, SelwynMartyn was telephoned and the incident related to him with a demand that he take some action. The embarrassed Master, a JP, promised to try to find out who the culprits were and sent a cheque for £66.00 to cover the damage. If nothing else has been gained from this incident it at least illustrates that not all Huntsmen approve of violence to sabs and results can be obtained on occasions if we only make the effort.



*Mounted Police are nothing new. Here they block a Sab vehicle in on a public road. Holcombe Harriers, Lancashire.*

## MOUNTED POLICE UNIT FOR HAMPSHIRE

Hampshire's Chief Constable, John Duke, already notorious for his support of the New Forest FH and general harassment of sabs is organising an expensive mounted police unit to 'deal with' hunt saboteurs next season. The local Police Authority voted to approve the deployment of a special sixman cavalry squad when they met on January 21. They will be used to protect the interests of whichever Hampshire hunts receive the most frequent attention from sabs.

## CUP OF GOOD CHEER?

Here's a timely reminder of brewing companies with BFSS trade connections. Consume their products at your discretion.

Vaux Breweries
Samuel Smith Breweries
William Grant Scotch Whiskey
Wadworths Breweries (whose loud-mouthed owner, Major Bartholemew, is an exMaster of the Avon Vale FH and who generously gives the BFSS £3,000 a year.)
Guinness (Jonathon Guinness is a hare courser and his family has a long tradition of involvement with hunting. They also produce a match angling manual and several other volumes on bloodsports.
Other companies include Carnation Foods, Moss Bros. Ltd, and Radio Rentals. For a complete list of companies/shops in your area with BFSS trade membership, contact BFSS at 59 Kennington Road, London SE1 7PZ.

## SOS TO FIGHT POACHERS

Save our Stags, the direct action group which led the campaign against the Quantock Staghounds during the late 1970's is to reform to fight deer poaching.

Spokesperson, Ian Pedlar, believes that unless something is done soon to combat the increasing problem of deer poaching on the Quantock Hills, the red deer herd will be decimated. Poaching is big business in the West Country with carcasses fetching anything up to £200 a piece. It is believed that professional gangs equipped with refrigeration vans are responsible for the carnage which has already severely damaged the size of the herd.

With most Authorities doing nothing about the problem, and some actively playing it down, SOS sees its task firstly to generate public awareness and concern. They hope to monitor deer numbers and work towards setting up a night patrol system during the next twelve months.

Anyone wanting to help should contact SOS c/o Box 174, 37 Stokes Croft, Bristol.

## NEW FOREST PATROLS

HSA Members on the South Coast have begun regular deer patrols in an effort to deter poachers in the New Forest. Guidenotes for sabs interested in following their example are available from the Box No. above.

# THUGS ON THE LOOSE



*Surrey Union F.H. terrrier man and kennel servant Adrian Thompson launches a typically well reasoned argument on Sabs from North Downs group.*



*Northampton saboteur Gary Mallard after being clubbed with a riding crop by a member of the Cambridgeshire F.H. in October. The sabs had just called hounds from a covert when they were set upon by two riders. Gary suffered a small skull fracture but Police did nothing except confiscate the crop, and take a few statements.*

## TWO APPEALS FOR HELP

Southend HSA is appealing for financial help to offset expenses incurred by a court case in October when nine sabs were bound over for two years by Epping magistrates. Although the group raised £250 through a defence fund, total costs came to £450 for which they had to borrow the extra £200.

The case arose when Sgt. Derek Pollard of Ongar police, who is a keen shooter himself, turned up with a possee of PC's to safeguard the activities of the Essex FH last March. Advising his men that he wanted "this lot fucking nicked by the end of the day", he eventually picked up the sabs for spraying the side of the road with antimate.

Donations can be sent to Southend HSA c/o PO Box 19 London. SE22.

## DRIVERS WANTED

North London HSA have severe transport problems this year and would like anyone in the area who can drive and/or arrange vehicles to get in touch with them via PO Box. An excellent opportunity for Supporting Members to help a good active group to operate more regularly.

## STUDENT UNION SUCCESS

Keele University Students Union recently passed a motion condemning "hunting with dogs" by an overwhelming majority. This is noteworthy not just because it was proposed by a committee member of the Federation of Conservative Students (!), but because it effectively scuppers any hopes being nurtured by the Student Campaign for Country Sports to establish a branch at the university. All student Societies have to include within their constitution an acceptance of Union policy.

## WATCH OUT, WATCH OUT . . . .

Worcestershire hunt heavy, Chris Salisbury, of Broadheath, a man with previous convictions for stealing sab CB ariels, was seen lurking close to sab vehicles shortly before they were found vandalised during a hit on the Wyre Forest Beagles on Boxing Day. This resulted in dents and smashed lamps and a bill for £3400.

Mr Salisbury inspired the following comment from a local policeman, "I remember him; he's a bit thick..." and drives a nice blue Rover (reg KGH 671T).

## WAVE OF ARRESTS FAILS TO DETER SCOTTISH SABS

Eleven saboteurs were arrested by police for trying to prevent a dig-out during a hunt by the Fife FH on December 7.

A lone policeman arrived as the hunt's three terrier men tried hopelessly to get on with their 'work' whilst 15 sabs occupied three Earth openings. When his orders that the sabs leave were ignored, he called up two Sgts., three PC's and two Inspectors who threatened arrests for non-compliance The sabs sat tight and linked arms. Five policeman began pulling them out and hurling them bodily over a barbed wire fence. One was pushed onto it, causing the top wire to break.

After twenty minutes of mutual pushing and shoving, the terrier men got fed up and left so the sabs decided to obey the police order and do likewise. But the police chose the moment to make eleven arrests of sabs, all of whom were charged at Cupar with obstruction, not only of the police but of the loyal servants of the Fife FH, namely the terrier men' (!)

PHOTOGRAPHED

Each sab was photographed 'for court identification purposes' before being released. Although photographs had been taken by the sabs themselves during their brutal eviction by the police, the negs suffered a mysterious 'technical fault' at the processing lab which resulted in all the faces of policemen coming out blurred and unrecognisable.

Another eleven sabs, from Dundee, were arrested two weeks earlier on the same hunt for 'disrupting a lawful and organised event namely the Fife FH' (!)

And on December 14, at a meet of the L & R FH at Bowfield, police surpassed themselves by chasing 31 saboteurs out of a field and arresting them all when they climbed into a mini-bus.

Despite the 'cell fever' currently gripping Her Majesty's Constabulary in Scotland, HSA groups there continue to grow and are fighting these legal actions determinedly. Observers from the Scottish Council for Civil Liberties are now attending many hits and recording police Behaviour on video. Their presence has caused moderation in the police and alarm in the editorial columns of Horse & Hound.

## ANGLERS AND SHOOTER FALL OUT OVER DEAD SWAN

A swan that was shot through the head and neck and then hidden under a pile of grass cuttings and stuffed beneath a bush is now at the centre of a row between bloodsporters in Berkshire.

Since the bire, a protected species, was discovered by a member of the local Angling club on Boxing Day, the righteous indignation of fishermen at the death of an animal not on the legal slaughter list has known no bounds. They blame the local shooting syndicate with whom they have to share the killing rights to the Lynster Farm Estate at West Hyde, near Watford.

Paul Gregory, secretary of the syndicate, will have none of it of course, despite the fact that his members were blasting away on the Estate on Boxing Day. His explanation is that the bird (whose head was shot through with pellets) "could have been shot in Yorkshire and flown down and decided to land at Lynster Farm." (!)

Other protected species shot in Yorkshire but mysteriously coming to rest at Lynster Farm during the last few months include two grey-lag geese and a gull.

## HUNT HAVOC

The BICESTER AND WARDEN HILL FH joined the savaged pet brigade on December 12, rioting after a cat and accounting for it beside the canal at Cropredy bridge, Oxfordshire. Their old huntsman, Captain Ian Farquhar began his first season with the DUKE OF BEAUFORTS FH by trying to cut the numbers of his own pack. He tested the mettle of his hounds on the the A46 in October (one dead, three injured) and on a main railway line a few days later (one dead). With typically warped logic, he tried to blame the death on "a cunning fox which led them to their death."



*Captain Farquhar - cunning fox*

The GLAMORGAN FH ran straight across a main road during the morning rush-hour in October. All part of a morning's cub hunting for master and huntsman, Anthony Selwyn Martyn who had inadvisably swapped jobs with his whipper in for the day - a definite recipe for disaster. His hounds dodged the cars and then ripped up their cub on the grass verge to the horror of passing motorists. Selwyn Martyn later denied negligence, but took his hounds home early just the same.

The LINLITHGOW AND STIRLINGSHIRE FH lost a hound under the wheels of a car driven by one of their own supporters on Boxing Day. Another hapless hound was caught straggling by whipper in Robert Howarth, whipped soundly, yelled at and picked up off the ground by its ears before being shoved lovingly on its way.

30 hounds belonging to the WESTON & BANWELL HARRIERS raced across the M5 near Burnham on Sea in Somerset recently. One hound was killed and others narrowly escaped injury by leaping over a car's bonnet. Police are investigating, but as yet no prosecution has been brought. The hunt need not worry unduly, When the Beaufort rioted all over the M4 in 1972, they were fined the grand sum of £20.00

## VEHICLES DAMAGED

Eggesford FH supporters were out of luck in January. Returning to their vehicles after a meet, they found the whole lot vandalised. Police are baffled.

## NATURE LOVING FARMER POISONS WILD LIFE

A farmer claimed to be running a 'nature reserve' on part of his estate was fined £40.00 in January when he was caught putting poisoned bait down for foxes.

Although no foxes had been killed the poison claimed the lives of several rabbits, a hen and various wild birds. The farmer, Francis Beavis, told magistrates at Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire, that he was worried about foxes getting into his nature reserve and savaging his sheep. He further tried to convince the bench that he has lost 32 lambs to foxes last year alone.

He resorted to poison when he found that his neighbour, Christopher Sturdy, a rider with the Cotswold Vale Farmers FH, was actually encouraging foxes by building artificial earths, and 'refused to control them'. Another fine example of farming interests and foxhunting in perfect harmony!

## HIRE COMPANY NOT IMPRESSED

A woman believed to be one of the kennel staff at the Avon Vale FH got short shrift when she self importantly telephoned the manager of a van hire firm in Bath to complain about sabs. The woman, who refused to give her name, implied that the van would be smashed up and run off the road if it appeared with sabs in it again. The manager told her it was none of her business who he rented his vans to and hung up.

It was probably the same woman who shouted at villagers whose driveways had become clogged with hunt vehicles during the Avon Vale's opening meet. When it was suggested to them by a sab that they phone the hunt kennels to complain, she strode forward and yelled "and if you do, you'll get me on the other end and I'll give you a fucking earful sonny".
Another hunt in need of advice on dealing with the public!

# STRATEGY 5

**Aims and objectives have always provided a lively area for debate in the HSA. We all believe in the sabotage of hunting . . . but how much further do our ideas go? In December HSA committee met to discuss these issues under a working title of 'Strategy'. The articles that follow are based on discussions that arose during that meeting. We first examine the suposed need for a starategy of some sort, than take a look at the examples of 2 Action Groups and an opposing view - that of the small group. Lastly we hear from one sab who thinks that even small groups are unnecessarily large . . .**

## THE RSPCA FIRST FURS NOW FOX HUNTS

During 1985 the R.S.P.C.A. decided to launch its campaign against the Fur Trade, this surprised some people, while others saw it as an attempt to placate the more radical elements of the animal Rights Movement. On Boxing Day 1985 the R.S.P.C.A. launched another campaign, after many years of pussy footing around the subject the society decided to actively campaign for the abolition of all hunting with dogs. For many years it had (in policy decisions at least) been opposed to all hound "sports" except Fox-hunting, it now rejects all arguments about the fox needing to be controlled. While the R.S.P.C.A. should be congratulated for its decision to clearly state its opposition to hunting, activists should make themselves aware of the societies view of Direct Action, in press statements the society makes it plain that it regards anything other than political camp aigning detrimental to the fight to abolish bloodsports.

SHOOTING

On shooting an R.S.P.C.A. spokesman said "we are opposed to all shooting which is done purely for sport" but not, presumably, to the shooting of so called pests...



*Princess following RSPCA policy to the letter? Out with the Beaufort Hunt.*

## WICKHAM SEVEN

After a ten week trial, seven of the original 19 defendants were convicted of Conspiracy to Burgle Wickham Research Labs, Cottage Patch Kennels and the Animal Pathology and Toxicology Consultancy (APT). They were given sentences ranging from 6 months to three years.

Sally Miller 18 months, 9 suspended (prison no. D22865)
Sue Baker 9 months, 4 suspended (D22862)
are both inmates at HM Prison & HMYCC East Sutton Park, Sutton Valance, Maidstone Kent.
Mike Numn 3 years (J92297)
Gordon Bryant 21 months, 9 suspended (J92309)
John Quirke 18 months, 9 suspended (J92284)
are all held at HM Prison, Romsey Road, Winchester, Hants,

John Curtin and Kevin Williams have both now been released from prison, they received 9 months (3 suspended) and 6 months (3 suspended) respectively.

The following defendants were all found not guilty, Mike Huskisson, Tony Winter, Rob Lynch, Malcom Eames, Joy Thomas, Chris French, Gary Notley, John Hegley, Jill Johnson, Phillip Hotson, and Alan Davies.

Please do write to all of thoses who are still in prison, it means so much to receive letters and know that people are supporting you. Try to write letters as if you are a friend even if you don't know the people concerned, and remember that ALL letters are opened and read by the prison authorities.

For more information contact.
Wickham Defence Fund
PO Box 133
Enfield
Middlesex
EN3 6DF.

**The greatest success of the Holcombe Hunt Action Group must be forcing the Holcombe to abandon its meet at Ainsworth near Bolton. Thousands of leaflets were distributed to locals before the meet calling for a mass demonstration of public opposition, over 200 local people turned up - the hunt backed down and cancelled the meet. The following article outlines the philosophy of the group and explains the wide range of tactics used in the campaign against the Holcombe Hunt.**

To fully understand why the H.H.A.G was formed you must put all forms of hunt sabotage into perspective. WE believe there are three main stages of Direct Action against hunts.

INITIAL SABOTAGE

Initial sabotage of hunts concerns a couple of car loads of sabs, with little knowledge or under-standing of hunting or sabotage techniques turning up at the meet of any local hunt. Theim aim is to save a life on the day of the hunt by interfering with the hunt when necessary. When sabotage techniques have been mastered many groups refuse to progress to the next stafe of hunt sabo-tage. They hanker for "the good old days of sabbing" and channel all their energies into the immediate task of saving a life on the day of the hunt.

SWAMPING

The next stage of hunt sabotage is the swamp sab. Where with the first stage sabs only interfere with the hunt to save life, swamp sabbing aims to make it possible for the hunt to find any quarry in the first place. This kind of sab relies on a large number of people, and some degree of organisation. It is a conscious step up for all thinking sabs, not just to stop the hunt killing, but to stop it from hunting also.

The result of a successful sab is a hunt totally wiped out by a throng of sabs who cancel out all hope of hunting on that day.

STOPPING THE MEET

The third and final stage of hunt sabotage is to physically prevent the meet and the resulting hunt from taking place. Few groups have progressed to this stage of Direct Action against hunts, preferring to stick to what they have done for years. Stage three sabbing signals the end of any mounted pack (mounted packs are more vulnerable because they rely on on a large number of of subscriptions to pay for keeping not only the hounds but the horses as well). If the number of subscriptions drop significantly the hunt can find itself in severe financial trouble. Any hunt that operates near large urban or suburban areas is extremely vulnerable to this kind of attack. By mobilising local public opposition to the hunt, no go areas can be created for the hunt. Being constantly hit by saboteurs the hunt loses support from from the hunting fraternity. The result is that the hunt uses hunt heavies or the police as a private militia to scare off saboteurs. The hunt stops advertising, and closes ranks which makes it difficult for new supporters to join. In an effort to survive the hunt cuts itself off from its only means of support - the subscribers.

It's through working through these stages of hunt sabotage that the H.H.A.G. came to be formed.

THE SEASON SO FAR

We decided at the start of the season to to hit the Holcombe every Saturday with as many people as possible. Pre-meet leafleting was no longer possible as the hunt has stopped advertising A system of meet and road watching was set up. Sympathetic locals would keep an eye on meets in their area and telephone us if they spotted the hunt. It was also discovered that by watching a handful of road junctions regular supporters could be spotted and followed to the meet.

This season the Holcombe switched their opening meet from the traditional site of Smithills Hall to avoid the sabs. On average we take out about four vans, the field numbers only 30 this season but it is protected by six mounted policeman who in combination with Tactical Aid Units and patrol cars act as a private militia for the hunt

The hunt has reduced it's territory to 1/8 of its former size presumabley because the police cannot offer the same degree of protection outside the Preston/Chorley area. Whilst the police assault sabs, they avoid making arrests, this is attributable to the hunt who do not like any form of publicity. However, violence from hunt supporters and the police are both reported regularly in the local press, with whom we have good relations. After each meet we now leaflet the surrounding area to explain to the public what the H.H.A.G. is doing. For the Boxing day meet we leafleted 15,000 homes in the surrounding area during the days leading up to Christmas. We organised a kennel blockade on another day which prevented the hound van from leaving the kennels for over 3½ hours. We have also been keeping the pressure up on the hunt with mid-week sabbing. All these forms of action together with the threat of a campaign to get the N.W. Water Authority to ban hunting on 90 square miles of land in the Holcombe territory are having a devastating effect on the Holcombe Hunt

The campaign is a long term one, designed to combine both hunt sabotage and local public protest of what ever kind. While swamping can force hunts to abandon traditional meets, stop advertising and go semi-underground, only stage three involving mass public opposition to hunting can bring about the end for a hunt.

As the Holcombe are nearing their end they will make one last attempt to break us, and that is what we are preparing for, because they will undoubtedly fight for what we are trying to take from them.

The Holcombe Hunt Action Group can be contacted at:

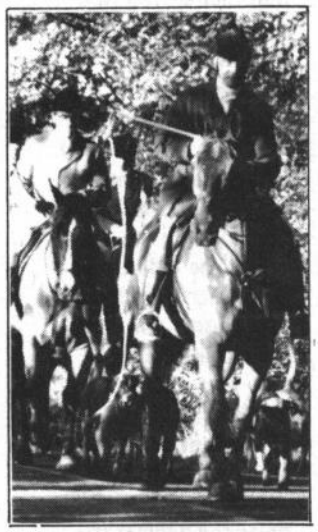
**H.H.A.G. c/o Raven**
**75 Piccadily,**
**Manchester M1 2BU**

## ALL DRESSED UP WITH NOWHERE TO GO?

Since 1963, HSA has come a long way in purely tactical and organisational terms. With some satisfaction we can say in 1986 that we have developed and researched some excellent means of foiling the bloodlust of a large number of field sports fanatics. But alongside this success I think we should accept a certain failure to notch up any tangible results beyond the saving of individual animal lives.

Many sabs may feel that we have no higher aims to aspire to; that we cannot realistically expect to wipe blood sports out as well. In my view this self-limiting dogma has brought about a kind of inertia in HSA that it must now try to overcome with more specific and objective campaigning.

What we are missing is a consensus of purpose. What we need is Strategy. Strategy involves an awareness not only of the immediate effects of an action, but of its long term effects as well. A strategic group will study the past record and habits of its local hunts and plan a campaign calculated to cause as much damage as possible. It may mean selecting certain areas of a hunt's country on which the ground is favourable to you and making firm plans to sab them whenever they venture onto it. This is best done at the start of a season with the aid of old



*No doubt about the aims and objectives of this bunch - but what about the HSA?*

meet cards or published fixture lists. Pursued successfully, this approach to sabbing will make your local packs reluctant to hunt parts of their country on which they expect you to have the upper hand. You may force them to abandon some meets altogether.

KNOWING THE COUNTRY

Planning of this kind can be undertaken just as easily by a small group relying upon pre-meet tactics as by a large Hunt Action Group. Sabs would have to know the country of course, and be able to find their way about in it both on foot and by road without having to rely upon ponderous and speculative map-work. They would know all the hunt's favourite coverts, something of the behaviour of their local foxes and the location of each set of earths.

Essential groundwork like this is easily undertaken by walking the country is the backbone of any serious attempt to wreck a hunt. The 'touring' group alone would have no use for it, but perhaps the only groups with a legitimate reason to be touring are those based in large cities miles from the nearest hunt.

One way of demonstrating the need for strategy is to look at what happens without it. A group who have never thought of themselves as tourists may find themselves picking a hunt to sab the night before the hit, perhaps for no better reason that it hasn't been sabbed before that season, or because everybody else is going there. The problem may then develop into what you might call the Weekly Random Joint Hit Scenario.

RANDOM JOINT HITS

Here a group links up regularly with maybe two or three other groups within a 20 to 30 mile radius and descends upon a hunt which none of them know particularly well and which they have no intention of visiting again in the near future. They sow complete havoc and then leave. They measure their success by the number of animasl saved on the day and the reaction of the hunt - going home early, running away; or perhaps the corpulent gout-ridden redcoats going purple with rage and whipping anything that moves. But the huntsman himself is not unduly worried because he presumes he has at least 50 more trouble-free outings to enjoy in the season, and the the mounted field (on whom he relies for his continued employment) are not unduly worried either for much the same reason. If he does get worried he may stop advertising for a bit. Many sabs see this as a small victory in itself, but unless they have some other means of learning hunt meets, it is hard to see why. Hunts do not rely upon adverts in the local paper to recruit new members. These come through the Pony Clubs and contact with the farming, land-owning community. Logistically we end up deploying the combined strengths of several groups on a hunt that rarely merits it, all drawn from a geographical area that is hunted by maybe eight different packs. Most bloodsporters could be forgiven for think thinking that we just like running in circles without even trying to get anywhere.

# THE ROLE OF HSA

I do not doubt for a moment that animals are saved by all HSA groups regardless of tactics or strategy. This article is about looking beyond that, at what groups might do to make life easier for themselves and perhaps shorten the days of hunting itself. I think most of us are here because because we have, for one reason or another, rejected the thankless task of lobbying MPs and waiting for a Labour government with the guts to carry out humanitarian policies. If we are not the LACS, then we owe it to ourselves to adopt a strategy for the defeat of bloodsports through direct action in the field.

Thus it is not just that local groups need to think more strategically about their own hunts, but the HSA as a national body must start to believe in its own strength and address itself to the question: If hunting is to be ended and the HSA is to be instrumental in its ending, then how is it to come about?

After 22 years we still don't have the answer. Some of us don't even recognise the question. But until we do, I think we can stop eulogising ourselves for being 'at the forefront of radical animal rights.'

STEVE POOLE

## AND THE OTHER END OF THE COUNTRY

In the Home Counties, the campaign begun by North Downs HSA and the South East Anti-Hunting Alliance against the Surrey Union FH has recently been re-organised under the the Surrey Hunt Action Group.

Following the example of the Holcombe group, SHAG began its campaign with a leaflet, local in content and aimed at crowds attending the hunt's Boxing Day meet at Guildford.

But the Surrey Union has been on the receiving end of a campaign for several seasons now. Concerted sabbing has left it with flagging support and falling revenue - a fact acknowledged glumly by the hunt themselves in an internal newsletter. 1984, it said had been a difficult year "for a number of reasons. The anti situation being just one." The problem of sabs "constantly has the attention of the the Masters".

Apart from repeated visits by North Downs HSA and USABS; SEAHA (which included all the Kent and Sussex groups) has launched two huge 'swamp' actions against the Surrey Union. These have completely wrecked the day's hunting and generated much publicity.

The pressure has paid off and the figures speak for themselves.

The Hunt Supporters Club, which boasted 326 members in 1983, now stands at 200 and their subs have had to be raised from £3.00 to £8.00 a year. Field followers have declined too - from 60-80 in 1984 to 20-40 today. Their subs have gone up from £215 to £250, but this has not stopped the hunt losing losing over £20,000 a year through lost riders

The effect upon the hunt's morale had been crippling too. Obsessed with spies and moles ("always remember there may be a mole amongst our followers", worries the newsletter), they have abandoned meet cards and arrange meets covertly through a bureaucratic system of 'area managers'. Many followers have been put off by the atmosphere of mutual suspicion that still exists in the supporters club and new members are no longer welcomed. They don't even trust the police to keep meets secret, perhaps because Surrey's Chief Constable, Brian Hayes has made few friends in the hunt with his view that hunt behaviour towards demonstrators "leaves much to be desired" (annual report 1985).

The sabs on the other hand have done their best to establish good relations with the police to the extent of of telling them in advance when they are going to be present. Until recently this seemed to be getting results. The hunt are frequently cautioned about their use of heavies and currently nine have been charged for assault, two for other offences.

This season the local force have reluctantly implimented a ban on horns and sprays and this has resulted in a number of sabs getting arrested for Breach of the Peace offences. This decision may well have originated with the Home Office of course.

The word is that the hunt's days are now numbered due to the financial pressure brought about by the saboteurs. But as if money problems weren't enough, constant sabbing has left a pack of hounds that rarely obey their huntsman, class rivalry between heavies and 'stock-broker' type supporters; and farmers who want to ban the hunt because of all the disruption they bring with them.

## SMALL GROUP SABBING

There are two duties fro the hunt saboteur today. Firstly to intervene and prevent bloodsportsmen from creating death and suffering, and secondly to campaign

## THE FUTURE

All forms of campaigning are valid from letters in the Mirror to sabotage itself, and we must accept the importance of all contributions instead of just sneering at some of them. The LACS do things which many of us cannot or will not do, but that does-not make their efforts worthless. We must not fight against ourselves.

## THE PRESENT

The two most popular ways of sabbing a hunt today are the 'swamp' method and the small group method. The question that divides the two is - do we stop one hunt with 100 sabs or 10 hunts with 10 sabs at each?

I see our first priority to be the prevention of killing. This we can can do. One sab should be able to do it, but ten sabs is a maximum. The art of sabotaging hunts is easy and does not mean being at the hunter's throats all day. Hunting, by nature, is only slightly balanced against the quarry, and for a skilled saboteur intervention can and should be kept to a bare minimum.



*It doesn't take an army to stop a pack of beagles. Sabs with the Eton College pack.*

If each hunt could be dealt with by a handful instead of an army, we already have have the numbers to prevent any hunt from killing.

## CONFRONTATION

Mass sabbing always seems to lead to confrontation and often because a few hunt yobbos pounce on straggling sabs and assault them. The police, feeling threatened by the sabs numbers, move in and arrest not the hunters, but the sabs..

But in smaller groups no-one gets left behind and it is possible to have some form of working relationship with the police. Because your intervention is minimal , tempers on both sides are not so easily frayed,

In the last four years, our small group has experienced only four arrests and only a minor amount of trouble from hunt yobs. In this time we have seen very few animals killed. Despite our size, hunts we sab regularly have all stopped advertising and are on the decline.

The argument that mass sabbing on one hunt, week in, week out, will lead to its destruction, has proved historically to be an illusion. If they did stop, their country would only end up being hunted by a new pack. Surely the experience of mink-hunting in the wake of otter hunting proves the case.

## CIRCLE OF DESTRUCTION

If we keep preventing hounds from killing, they will become less willing and able to take notice of the huntsman. Eventually, hunts will go to silly extremes to get their packs killing again. Their first move will be to stop advertising in order to avoid sabs. Less people will then be able to support them and cost will go up. Escalating subscriptions leading to more lost support complete the circle of destruction.

We know that such secretive packs are in decline because when our groups tracks them down, their reduced numbers are noticeable. For an outsider to get a beagle meet in our area is practically impossible. Most packs require a written reference from a regular follower.

## KEEPING THE GROUP TOGETHER

One of the HSA's biggest problems is its high turnover rate. I believe this is attriburable to swamp sabbing tactics. Many sabs spend most of the day sitting in the back of a van and only get to shout abuse or square up to hunters. Often this is because they are not sure what else to do.

But in a group of ten, each person is deeply involved in the process of saving lives. Their satisfaction and willingness to continue is therefore much higher. Several members of our group have been with us for four years or more.

Smaller groups can effectively deal with violent hunts too. They are more elusive for a start. In fact they may even avoid detection at all. In the case of especially violent hunt behaviour saboteurs should declare the hunt a no-go area and leave recriminations to the ALF. Equally, a peaceful hunt should be shown peaceful sabotage.

### SMALL GROUPS AND THE POLICE

Small groups do not attract such adverse policing either. Our group may travel in eight different counties, but still be recognised personally by the local police who know and respect us as a non-violent group. Our arrest record bears this out, especially since our methods constantly take us over private land on foot. We make no deals on tactics with the police, but do exactly as we wish.

When every hunt has its own group of saboteurs, then is the time to expand those groups and 'swamp the hunts'. We shall then then show hunters the same contempt they show to other forms of life.

AUBREY THOMAS

# SABBING ALONE - ONE SABS STORY

Sabotaging hunts alone alone is possible and usually successful if done well. It has its pros and cons as all NVDA does.

Personally, the most refreshing thing I find about sabbing alone is the lack of arguments. When a decision is to be made, it is done instantly.

It is important to know exactly what you are doing and why. This can only be learnt by sabbing in groups and gathering information from experienced sabs. However, once the basics are there, it is up to you to do it. It will no longer be necessary to rely on getting a group together and hiring an expensive van. You can pick your hunt and go it alone. In fact, if everyone in your group picked a different hunt, it would be possible to get out to many more hunts, especially if you have time to go sabbing during week days.

One the face of it, it seems pretty daft to attemp to sab a hunt alone with violence increasing. I can just say this; I've been mostly sabbing alone for nearly two years and in this situation it is only rarely that I encounter aggro. The Oxford area has its fair share of violent hunts - the Bicester and Warden Hill FH, Vale of Aylesbury FH, and Old Berkeley Beagles to name but three - and they normally just mock at me. Basically a lone sab is seen as something of a joke. If only they knew.....

(continued on page 15)

## WALES

VALE OF GLAMORGAN HSA started the season in fine form, causing the Monmouth Beagles Master, Anthony Womack, to abandon a meet near Chepstow almost before it had begun. When sabs called his hounds away, he had to leg it to retrieve them, and then went home. George Hyatt moved from the South Devon to hunt with the Curre FH this season. When the group visited him in September with sabs from Exeter and Gloucester, they seemed more in control of his pack than he was. Hyatt, as usual, lost his temper and kicked a woman in the face. He then retreated into a large forest and hid there until it was time to go home for tea. In the last few months, the group has been joined by CLWYD and BANGOR UNIVERSITY groups for a series of visits to previously unsabbed packs in mid Wales. These have included the Tanatside FH and the Glyn Celyn Beagles. BANGOR group made a heroic bid to follow the Eryri FH on a mountaineering trip around the lower slopes of Snowdon but had to concede defeat (and so failed to win the Duke of Edinburgh's Award). They joined a large 120 sab hit on the North Staffordshire FH and got enveloped in thick mist at a meet of the United FH at the end of November. Their superior hornblowing helped to persuade the hunt that it was not worth continuing and they packed up early with no kills.

## EAST

NORWICH HSA, like Bangor, now publish their own newsletter and have been out every Saturday against the Dunstan Harriers, West Norfolk FH, North Norfolk Harriers, Cambridgeshire FH, and the Waveney Harriers. The Dunstan have been chopping a rabbit in November. This pack possess their very own hunting vicar and any number of violent supporters. Continuous effective sabbing led to one sab needing hospital treatment after being trampled, and a hunting horn bent double. A regional hit featuring nearly 200 sabs against the opening meet of the Cambridgeshire was disappointing although a good kennel blockade delayed the start by 45 minutes. A better day was had against the Waveney Harriers with far fewer sabs. The huntsman with this pack is a real learner on the hunting horn. A new group is getting started in BURY ST EDMUNDS now with help from the Norwich group.



*Exeter Group encounter a spot of bother on the Cattistock. Sploj.*

## MIDLANDS

Many West Midlands groups began the season with several hits on the Albrighton FH's cubbing efforts. LEAMINGTON, WARWICK UNIVERSITY, COVENTRY and RUGBY groups have taken part in joint hits on local packs like the Croome and West Warwickshire FH, Warwickshire FH and the Atherstone FH. Although supporters of the Warwickshire have tried to turn the Coventry van over, the Croome have settled into a pattern of keeping on the run from sabs, not hunting, and calling for police. LEICESTER UNIVERSITY and LOUGHBOROUGH sabs have hit the Fernie FH, Westerby Bassets and Quorn FH. 200 people turned out on Boxing Day to demonstrate against the Quorn in Loughborough, causing a serious blow to the morale of a pack that traditionally likes to think it hunts by public consent. The Quorn also received a December visit from well over 100 sabs back into when they met at Wysell. 30 police came out from Nottingham and made physical assaults on the sabs, dragging members of BEDFORD group out of their van, throwing other sabs back into vans and nearly yanking the back doors off NORTHAMPTON HSA's van. The Northampton group have inaugurated a new college group this season and hope it will provide them with the numbers to spend the rest of the season on local packs. Until now they have been mostly travelling east to hit the Cambridgeshire FH but held a successful kennel blockade on the Pytchley FH with sabs from DUDLEY AR in November.

The Ledbury FH were interrupted several times during cubhunting by sabs from the WORCESTER group. Whipper in, Andrew Elliot helped a lot by obligingly turning his back on the hunt and chatting to sabs while a cub broke cover behind him. The group are concerned about the dwindling hare population in the region. On four outings with the Warwickshire Beagles, Wyre Forest Beagles, and Ross Harriers, a grand total of two hares put in an appearance. Hunt followers confirmed that they didn't expect to see very many and mercifully these two both escaped thanks to the sabs.

## SOUTH WEST

COTSWOLD HSA helped Worcester group with their cubbing sabs against the Ledbury, and have also assisted Cardiff, Bath, Bristol and Swindon groups with their local packs. On November 23 they hit 3 hunts in one day, premeeting the Cotswold FH, calling in on the Heythrop FH and finishing up on the Warwickshire Beagles. This pack went home early without a kill and police declared it an offence for anyone to be caught wearing a balaclava. No such laws against dog collars it seems, a fact

proved by the appearance of another hunting vicar out for a day's slaughter of all things bright and beautiful with the Worcestershire FH at Crowle. He galloped off smartish at first sight of a sab cameras, but other hunt riders offered cigarettes to sabs in a bid to give the entire group lung cancer, and had to concede that Cotswold HSA were "quite a decent lot really".
Flooded dykes and ditches in the Severn valley hampered a sab on the Cotswold Vale Farmers FH in December, but the group got their own back by demonstrating outside the hunt ball at Cheltenham.
BATH and BRISTOL groups have been out each Saturday and sometimes midweek as well, hitting a number of local packs. During cubhunting they gave Beaufort FH incoming huntsman, Captain Ian Farquhar a difficult time, wrecking his attempts to settle the pack with regular premeeting. The Wick and District Beagles were sent home early on their opening meet, and together with the Clifton Foot, have become very secretive about fixtures. The Shrivenham, RAC, and Marlborough College Beagle packs have all received attention, together with the Avon Vale FH. Good sabbing on the Avon Vale's opening meet produced the usual violence from the hunt with damage to the Bristol landrover and the SWINDON van having its windows smashed out with a lump concrete while people were still inside. Sabs were not deterred and have been back twice since then. On New Year's Day in pouring rain the Clifton Foot hid in a pub for 2 hours before venturing out to tell sabs they were going to "take the hounds for a walk" and if the sabs promised not to hassle them, they'd promise not to hunt.

EXETER and TOTNES groups have had their best season ever, getting out twice a week on average. The Portman, Cattistock, E Devon, Dart Vale and Haldon, S Devon and Eggesford FH have all been subjected to the group's use of the hunting whip, as have the Stoke Hill and Taw Vale Beagles. Many packs now run away as soon as they see sabs and don't bother trying to hunt properly. The group have exchanged their former pacifism for a firm resolve to stand their ground when assaulted and will now give as much as they take. In December, Cattistock joint master Alistair Jackson had a particularly unhappy afternoon being thwarted by these two groups and sabs from YEOVIL. Eventually he had a fox bolted in full view of sabs, but even then hounds were pulled up by hornblowing and whips. While hounds got bored and began making their own way back to the kennels ½ a mile away, the outraged hunt laid into the sabs in a most brutal fashion. Police intervened, arrested 3 sabs (naturally) and court cases are pending.

## SOUTH

NORTH DOWNS HSA successfully ended a duck shoot at Ashford in October by standing in front of the guns. The disorientated shooters called the police who were alarmed at the prospect of sabs getting shot at and ordered the cancellation of the shoot. One arrest for criminal damage was made after some nearby pheasant pens were found damaged and mysteriously bereft of pheasants. The group has also been active against the East Kent FH, the Old Surrey and Burstow FH, the Surrey and North Sussex Beagles and particularly the Surrey Union FH. In a SEAHA hit in December, the hunt fled from a swamping by 200 sabs abandoning the whole idea of hunting. Hastings HSA concentrated their efforts on the East Sussex and Romney Marsh FH throughout December and have found drastically falling support for the hunt. A dig out was prevented by 8 sabs occupying the earths. Terrier men appeared to have 'forgotten' their gun and when the huntsman sent them back to get it they returned to say they couldn't find the landrover! At Guestling on December 14, the same demented terrier men amused themselves by waving a shot fox in front of KENT sabs; and one of them sped up and down the lanes with a dead mink lashed to a radio ariel. As usual, the hunt finished early with no kills. Sabs have found the field this season less than half the size it was 2 years ago and suspect the hunt is on the verge of financial ruin.
New Kent group sabs have been training successfully at the expense of the Blean Beagles whose peeved huntsman, a lawyer, keeps insisting that spray, blown back at him on the breeze, constitutes an assualt. On Boxing Day, a good banner demo was held against the West Street FH followed by a sab.
Although one of the smallest groups around, Oxford sabs have been out continuously this season premeeting and sabbing the Bicester and Warden Hill FH, Garth and South Bucks FH, Vale of Aylesbury FH, Warwickshire FH, Old Berkely FH and Old Berkeley Beagles.
WEST LONDON GROUP were disappointed to find the Tandridge Mink Hounds had gone so far underground last summer that they stopped hunting altogether. The group are appealing to any mink hunts still with enough courage to leave the kennels to let them know this year so that old aquaintances can be renewed. This season the group has been out weekly, mostly against beagle packs and has travelled as far as Northampton, Yeovil and Canterbury since packs in their own area no longer have the nerve to advertise. They also caused the can cellation of 2 shoots. The first was stopped by the police in the same manner as the Ash ford duck shoot. The second was called off by the humiliated hunters themselves when their own beaters refused to remove the sabs.



*A dig out successfully prevented on the South & West Wilts F.H. Sploj*

## SCOTLAND

After a season training with CLYDE-SIDE and EDINBURGH groups, TAY-SIDE HSA have been out almost every Saturday against the Fife FH. The intense police harassment has not subdued the group, but rather polarised opinions in and around Dundee and strengthened the group's resolve to continue. Their actions have already generated more coverage in the Scotsman newspaper than anything in previous seasons. In Western Scotland, the Lanarkshire and Renfrewshire FH had to contend with 150 sabs from CLYDESIDE HSA, STRATHCLYDE HSA and EDINBURGH HSA for their opening meet and finished early, the pack hopelessly split. Sab activity has meant that the L&R have only been able to kill by digging out this season, and that only with the help of the police. EDINBURGH group's campaign against the Linlithgow and Stirlingshire FH has left it worse supported than ever before. Cubhunting was a complete nonevent for this pack because a hound virus kept them kennelbound until November 9th. When they did appear, they were so paranoid about losing untrained hounds to the sabs that they set off across the Pentland Hills at a brisk gallop leaving car followers, terrier men and sabs from Edinburgh and STIRLING alike in the lurch. No kills of course, but at least the field got a bit of a gallop! On their next outing, sabs kept with the hunt more successfully and reduced the hounds actual hunting time to under 40 minutes. With inclement weather preventing the L & S from even starting quite often, sabs from these two goups are giving the hunt no chance to kill on the remaining hunting days. A particularly successful sab was held on Boxing day. Scottish groups have now developed their own national co-ordination and are achieving a great escalation both in terms of direct action and off the field campaigning.

## NORTH

A member of HULL HSA was ridden down and knocked unconscious by a rider from the Holderness FH on December 7. She was returning to the van with other sabs along a public road when a group of hunters charged them. The hunt refused to help the sabs call an ambulance and merely jeered at them.

60 sabs from all over YORKSHIRE and LANCASHIRE



*Lt. Baston, Huntsman with the Shrivenham Beagles wishing he had never got out of bed.*

returned to the Holderness in January to find the hunt using rookies in a wood, presumably because their hounds are incapable of finding by themselves. Two foxes were saved despite the violent efforts of the hunt and the obstructive behaviour of the police who made 3 arrests for the usual ridiculous reasons. DONCASTER group were ambushed on the main road to Hemsworth by 5 carloads of hunt yobs in the employ of a Badsworth FH rider named Dobson (St Helen's Farm, Thurnscoe). Damage was done to the landrover, and the group have insisted that police at least log the incident so that a record will exist for reference should Dobson try anything again. The Badsworth have been a regular target of the SHEFFIELD group this season and they are making very few kills (not counting bagged foxes, of which there have been several).

HUDDERSFIELD HSA have main tained their reputation as a travelling group, taking in the York and Ainsty (North) FH, the Quorn, Bramham Moor FH, Bedale FH, High Peak Harriers, Holcombe Harriers, Wensleydale Harriers, Wensleydale Harriers, Rochwood Harriers, Claro Beagles and Catterick Beagles. The LEEDS group, who often accompany them, are now in the enviable position of being able to fill 3 or 4 vans each Saturday. These two groups joined sabs from all over the North East for a regional hit on the Zetland FH in December. Huntsman Martin Thornton sped his hounds on from covert to covert as if practicing for the point to point and left a few riders to hold up the sabs. One of them got more than he bargained for when a section of his expensive hunting jacket got mislaid after assaulting one sab too many. The hunt's evasion tactics, coupled with good hornblowing by the sabs, led to a day without a single fox. Sabs from CLEVELAND and SOUTH DURHAM tackle the 'royal' Zetland most Saturdays now and have achieved good results in the face of much over-zealous policing. The police, who sometimes outnumber the sabs, have come in for a lot of criticism in the local press for wasting public money. The hunt have made no kills all season while sabs have been present.

TYNESIDE HSA have devoted the season to a demolition job on their local pack, the Tynedale FH. Such has been their success with the hounds that Master and amateur Huntsman, Angus Mann, together with his whipper in are to be sacked for incompetence at the end of the season. Field followers numbers have halved during the last two years leaving the hunt unable to afford a full time huntsman. They've also abandoned using terrier men, either because they can't pay them or because they were always causing trouble with the sabs. Digging out is a thing of the past anyway. Next season there will be no fewer than 4 joint masters trying to sort out the mess. Unfortunately for the hunt the only people the hounds are likely to know and trust by then will be the sabs!

MANCHESTER and MERSEYSIDE sabs are never from their local pack, the Holcombe Harriers. The campaign being coordinated against that hunt by the Holcombe Hunt Action Group is being intensified all the time. It is sabbed every time it is foolish enough to leave the safety of the kennels and a possee of mounted police watch over its decline every week.

# SWAMPING

Recent years have seen a change in the way many sab groups operate. There has been a massive increase in the numbers of people wanting to go out and sabotage hunting, increasingly violent assaults on saboteurs and the secrecy of many hunts about their meets all result in saboteurs acting in larger numbers against a particular hunt.

The new HSA tactics booklet contains tactical advice for all types of sabbing. It is recommended that all saboteurs read a copy in order to gain excellent knowledge of hunting & sabbing built up over the last twenty years. Tactics that are particularly useful on large scale sabs include prebeating (see last HOWL for more info). The use of Hunting horns, whips, voice, scent dullers and false trails remain valuable.

The problems that occur on a large scale hits stem from a lack of pre-hunt planning and bad or non-ex existent organisation

Kennel Blockade

Many groups are taking hunts by surprise, perhaps two or three times a season on blocking in the hound van at the kennels. Some groups have even phoned the kennels at the beginning of the blockade thereby preventing the hunt from ringing for police or heavies for fifteen minutes until the call is automatically disconnected. This tactic was used by eighty members of the Holcombe Hunt Action Group, which prevented the hunt from starting for three and a half hours, until enough police had arrived to remove the blockade.

Citizens Band Radios

The use of C.B. radios makes organising a large number of sabs a lot easier. Each vehicle should have a C.B. fitted, and the sabs in the vehicle should if possible have a hand-held 40 channel C.B. (even a childs walkie-talkie had a good range when used in conjunction with a car C.B.)

Each C.B. operator should be given an information sheet before the hunt starts with a series of channel frequencies corresponding to a colour code;

For example Red channel - 27
Yellow channel - 23
Green channel - 38
Blue channel - 4

This code will enable sabs to change channel quickly if the frequency being used is being blocked or listened to by hunt supporters.

## Hand out sheets

Each group or vehicle should also be given a photocopy of the relevant O.S. map, complete with grid reference lines for quick and easy communication of the hunts location. Coverts should also be marked clearly on these maps. Also included on the sheet should be a central contact telephone number for sabs to ring if they get lost or arrested. A meeting place should be arranged away from the area of the hunt for groups to meet at the end of the day. Alternative hunts to hit in the area should be noted, if possible a Bealge pack which can easily be swamped with a large number of saboteurs.

If there are alot of new and inexperience sabs out for the first time, a Do's and Don'ts list should also be on the hand out sheet.

For example; Don'ts

1) If a hunted animal is running towards you DON'T make any noise, lie still until the animal has passed then spray it's line and stop the hounds.

2) DON'T get involved in arguments with hunt supporters or the police.

3) DON'T spray the hounds with antimate

4) DON'T do anything illegal.

Do's

1) Do follow the country code.
2) Do make a note of the registration numbers of vehicles belonging to hunt heavies.
3) Do listen to and take advice from saboteurs more experienced than your self.

If you follow the advice given above, large scale hits should be much simpler to organise and much more effective.

GRAHAM CLARKE

# USING THE HUNTING WHIP

In all houndsports where hunting is achieved by scent, two or three people only are doing the work. These are the huntsman and one or two whippers in who assist by turning hounds to the huntsman.

Good hunt sabotage depends upon interference with the huntsman's control of the pack; and at least taking control of the pack yourself.

For some years now, saboteurs have been successfully imitating the huntsman's voice and horn calls. So successfully indeed that some have started to feel the need for a whipper in of their own. And so the idea of using hunting whips has emerged.

Using a whip is very easy. Learning to crack one takes ten minutes and its all you need to do to stop a pack of hounds in their tracks.



*Swamping in action. The RAC beagles come to a complete halt surrounded by Sabs.*

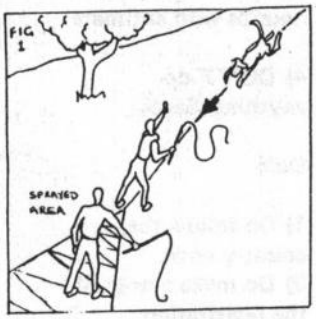
## SCENT KILLER

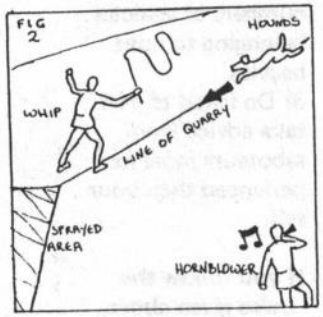
In essence, you use a whip where previously you would have used a scent killer such as anti-mate. That is, when the quarry has passed you or crossed a road and the pack are approaching. Our group now uses both, because while a whip will stop the pack, if the huntsman is close he will whip them in, take them past you, and turn them back onto the scent.

Hounds respond to the cracking of a whip and to a smaller extent to the sight of it. If you crack the whip loudly and visibly as they approach, the hounds will pull up. Don't wait until they are right on you because results are not always instant. You must use your voice in conjunction with the whip (exactly as a whipper in does) to rate the hounds. This is done by shouting 'hold up' or 'come behind' or 'come back' (pronounced bike) in a stern voice. Any of these calls should work if the voice is right, but listen to what your hunt's whipper-in shouts.

## POSITIONING

The positioning of the sab whippers in is very important. If there are two or three of you with whips, you should try to cover the maximum length of scent (just as with spraying) so that if the lead hounds are persistant enough to work past the first whip, they will meet another in 10 - 15 yards and then another. If you have only one whip and some scent killer, the whipper should go to meet the pack and the area behind the whipper be sprayed. If hounds persist, they will find no scent and think themselves in the wrong. (see fig 1.)




Having mastered using the whip to stop a pack, the next step is to use a horn and a whip in conjunction. there are two ways to do this effectively.

## USING THE HORN

Firstly, if your horn has called the hounds from a huntsman and you do not expect to be able to call any more, whips can be deployed between him and his hounds to prevent them returning.

Secondly, you can stop hounds as previously explained but then misdirect them by whipping them onto a horn blower or false holloa some distance away. This keeps the hounds moving and excited but sends them a long way from the line.

The difficult part is not the technique, but positioning yourself in the right place at the right time. This will come with experience and patience. If hounds do get past you, keep up with them and learn to recognise the right time to step in decisively to halt them.

## RESPONSIBILITY

Finally a word of caution. When you have hounds they are your responsibility and care must be taken with them. Try to keep the m away from the roads but if you have to stop them on a road, which is quite possible, 2 or 3 sabs should stop the traffic. Secondly, watch the huntsman. They don't seem to like us using whips against them and we all know what they use theirs for when they meet us! Use a whip correctly and you'll be devastating - have fun!
MICK

## WHIPS AND THE LAW

The main problem with using whips is that the police frequently view them as offensive weapons (only when they are in sab's hands of course) and thus they are frequently confiscated. They are not, however, offensive weapons if it is explained to the police that they are not for use against human beings or intended to touch hounds. they are simply a means of creating a noise and action which hounds have been taught is a signal that they must stop. Nevertheless, it is inevitable that whips will be lost, incurring some expense to the sabs.

## HOME MADE WHIPS

One sab group has been experimenting with home made whips and as a result of trial and error came up with a cheap, easily replaceable and effective home made whip. Its manufacture is described below.

## MATERIALS

A piece of dowling half an inch in idameter and about 2 feet long. 9 strands of ordinary cotton twine string), each 9 feet long.
1 bootlace of about 10 inches in length.

## METHOD

First drill a hole through the dowling about ¾" in from the end. Take three strands of string and tie them together at a point around 9

inches from one of their ends. Plait the strands tightly together. It is best to tie the free ends to a stick and hold it between your knees, then as the plaited length increases, the stick can be turned thus winding the plaited length around it so that you can keep a constant tension on the strings.

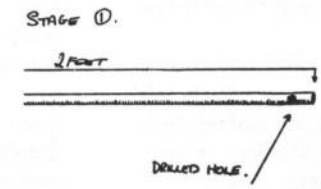
About 9 inches from the other end of the strings, tie off the plaiting neatly.

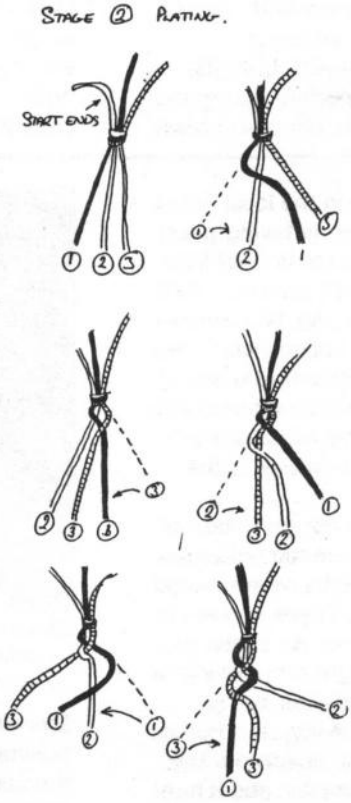
Repeat the above with the remaining 6 strands. You should now have 3 lengths of plaited twine. Tie each of these to your stick with the start ends and plait then together tightly. Tie off at the end.

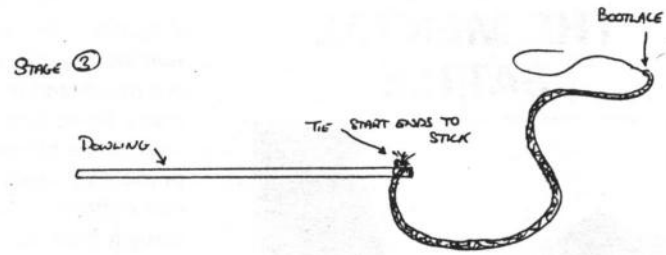
Remove the finished length from the stick and tie off the start ends ends. Feed some of of the start ends through the hole drilled in the dowling and tie the whole lot together securely. Finally, thread the bootlace, through the plaiting at the loose end of the whip and tie it firmly. The whip is ready for use.

## USING THE WHIP

Whips with a shorter lifespan can be made with just one strand of meduim-thick rope and a boot-lace, but they tend to fray quickly. To use the whip, practice out of the wind. Slowly bring the stick up from the ground level until the bootlace is off the ground. Flick the stick upwards and then flick downwards so that the end of the stick follows down the line of the ascending plaited string. Keep practicing and you will soon be able to make the whip crack under any situation.



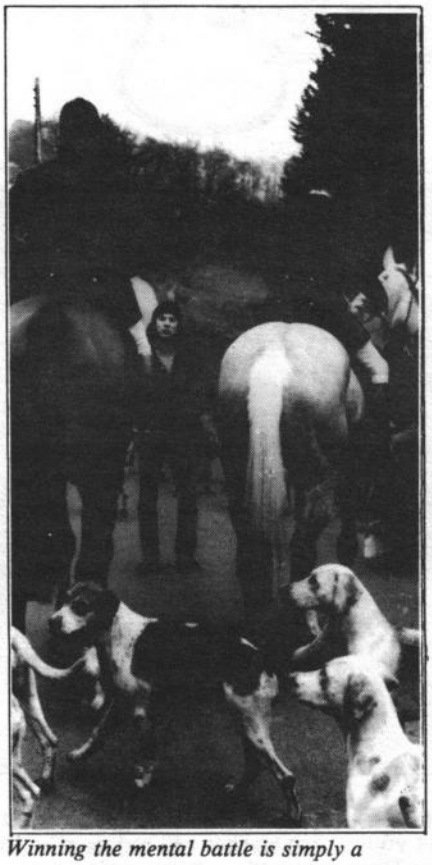



The last main advantage of singular sabbing' is that you can do your own thing. The more you go out alone, the better you become. Obvious but true. Gradually a pre–routine will evolve, and when you are able to apply a basic plan to each sab, it becomes easier.

When you are sabbing alone, it is vital to pre-meet. Because you are outnumbered hugely, this tactic will give you - and the quarry - a much needed head start. A good pre-meet makes the whole day much easier.

Because there is only one of you. it won't always be possible to be in the right place at the right time. But remember, you may be required to save a life at any time so don't feel that you have failed if a fox is put up from a wood that you had pre-meeted. There may still be a chance to 'do the business' Do you best. No-one can expect more. Animals will get killed, that is a fact, but it is possible to reduce this number by simple actions such as singular sabbing.
The old saying that there is safety in numbers is true, and if you have an accident, you are alone. However, sabs should be suitably equipped and appropriate clothes and materials will reduce the risk. I believe that sabs should be fit. Certainly if you are going to tackle a hunt alone it is advisable to do some light training at least. Legs get very tired, and an attack of cramp in a dark country lane, alone, is no joke!
So, a lone sab is less likely to incite violence. A lone sab is also less likely to get hassle from the law. A lone figure on a motorbike doesn't in my experience, get much attention. attention. The law is rarely present at week-day meets anyway.
If you are sabbing alone then remember that you have to buy equipment your-self. Citronella is not cheap, and rookies are about £18 a box. However, both are vital so be prepared to spend a bit.
Remember, it is important to do, your home work. Pre-meets are vital. Be fit and re prepared to get into risky situations. Know the area and stay with the hunt. Seconds count. Be polite to supporter and remain hidden in the field. Beware of the 3 o'clock fox. The hunt might find about this time. He's the product of of a good pre-meet. Lastly, don't forget to take a tyre-pump with you.
OXFORD JOE

## THE MENTAL BATTLE



*Winning the mental battle is simply a question of standing your ground . . .Sploj.*

Why don't the police or hunt heavies feel intimidated when they are greatly out numbered by hunt saboteurs? How many times have a couple of hunt supporters blocked the road for three or more vanloads of sabs? Why can just one policeman tell over 40 sabs to leave a field, and get away with it? The answer is simple they have confidence, more confidence than us. When we turn up at meets we should walk around amongst the supporters, and let them know we don't want to poison the hounds or hurt their children, instead of sitting in our vans just up the road.

When the hunt starts we must be firm and not allow ourselves to be blocked in or removed from land during dig outs. When blocked in lanes in your van don't just sit in the vans making idle threats to the car driver in front, get out and tell him to move, if he still won't then move him yourselves.

The same principle applies with the police, if you have just seen a fox break cover go and cover the line with sprays, no what matter the police say. When you return from the field, they'll probably be pretty angry with you but are unlikely to make an arrest.

The best way to deal with both the police and hunt supporters during the hunt is to ignore them, don't get drawn into arguments or start winding them up, equally don't bow down to them be firm and confident. Threats of arrest are rarely realised and when they are so groundless that sabs are released without charge.

When the police and heavies realise that we are determined to save the hunted animals life, they will also realise that paid heavies and arrests won't stop us. Hunt supporters in some areas now accept the presence of saboteurs because they realise if they use violence to stop us it will only backfire on themselves and their property.

I firmly believe that most sabs get attacked because they hide in vans and from the slightest sign of danger. When one hunt heavy chases off a vanload of sabs the word soon gets around. Violence then becomes the standard antisab tactic. New sabs are more likely to stay with a group if they appear to be a confident team rather than a confused illprepared mob. We need greater organisation and self confidence and must always stand our ground.

When the mental battles have been fought and won, the physical fights won't even start. Walk tall, we are in the right.

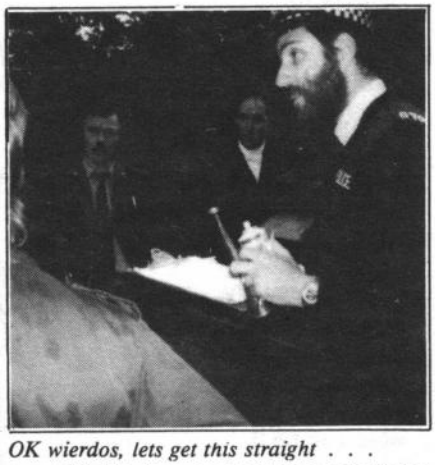
DUGGS.

## POLICE WATCH

Whilst not wishing to confirm Peter Claytons loony pronouncement in Horse & Hound that "their (antis) literature is full of alarm and despondency about the Public Order Bill," it would be worth our while taking its threatened consequences seriously. At this stage we need lose little sleep over the disorderly conduct clause under which maximum fines of £400 are proposed out for causing "harassment, alarm or distress." A good solicitor should be able to have most charges of this sort laughed out of court, where they have arisen out of pure sabbing tactics. Yet it is presumably the hope of Clayton and his cronies that the Police will turn to this as a replacement for the currently fashionable "Action likely to cause a breach of the peace". At the moment this offence usually results in a small fine or bindover, in the case of a succesful prosecution. So, it is a noteable step up.

Although a large number of arrests currently made for "Action likely" are technically wrongful, and so never find their way to court; groups suffer the inconvenience of losing activists for a few hours detention in the local Police Station whilst hunting is taking place. How much of a problem is this? Well, from October 1985 to January 1986 H.S.A.s press officer had 102 arrests reported to him for "Action likely". (No charges have yet evolved from any of these cases). The real figure is probably much higher than this, since many groups do not report arrests to the H.S.A.

Why do these cases not go to court? Often, because they are too ridiculous. In October 6 Bristol Sabs were arrested for prebeating, many hours before the hunt was due to arrive; an Exeter sab was detained overnight for refusing to have his photo taken after being arrested for horn blowing; and Police from Cannock, Staffs, arrested a sab. When he went to complain about hunt assaults. In Fife, Scotland 31 sabs were arrested at once for allegedly overloading a van. In another overloading case in Dorset, Police forced a sab vehicle to accompany them to Weighbridge & detained them for two hours before releasing them without charge. In Devon a Police dog was set onto Sabs peacefully occupying the entrance to a fox earth. The list is endless.



*OK wierdos, lets get this straight . . . you stick the horn up your nose, squirt the aerosol up the other end and sniff. Then what?*

Many forces now seem to make it their business to follow sabs all day, & threaten arrests for the slightest attempt to interfere with the hunt. They block public footpaths and roads, and detain drivers for pointless "road worthiness checks on hired vehicles.

The Police have even gone to the lengths of using helicopters fitted with video equipment to film Sabs in the field. Assaults by the Police on our sabs occur regularly as sabs at a meet of the Quorn in Nottingham found out in December.

# POLICE NEGLIGENCE REACHES NEW PEAK

Thugs hired by East Sussex FH huntsman, Trevor Adams, were able to assualt sabs for the third time in a month thanks to the inactivity of Sussex police.

After Tonbridge group were attacked with pick-axe handles on January 1, Hailsham police arranged to attend a subsequent meet with sabs so that the thugs could be identified. This was done by police from Rye on January 25 and several names and particulars taken. Sabs were told, however, that there was little the police could do and they should expect to get beaten up if they left the roads. The police then left.

Minutes later an attack occured in a forest ride on sabs from Hastings that caused two broken noses. Two days later, jarred into action only because HSA put Fleet Street journalists onto the story, a station sergeant at Rye said his men were 'looking for the occupants of a car' in connection with an ABH charge. This when they'd already taken the names and addresses of those responsible before the incident had even occured!

## EUROPEAN CONVENTION

Hunt sabotage is one ot the items on the agenda of a conference to be organised by the European Federation Against Hunting in Rome this summer.

It seems important that HSA members make some effort to attend if possible, since any discussion of direct action and hunting would have to use the HSA as its central point of reference. Unfortunately, registration for the 3 day event, to run from May 30 to June 2, is expensive. Further details can be had either from the EFAH at Via Giambattista Vico, 20, Rome; or direct from the HSA.

## Fox Cubs



**Fox Cubs is a branch of the Hunt Saboteurs Association for children aged 7 - 14 who would like to join but are too young to go out sabbing.**

**A new fact sheet has been produced which tells you of projects you could start, answers some of your questions and gives you puzzles to solve.**

**The fact sheet will be mailed to you 3 times a year. If you are interested or know someone who is then write to this address and tell us.**

**FOX CUBS,**
**P.O. BOX 19,**
**LONDON SE22 9LR.**

**Membership fee £2.00 per year.**

# MURMURS FROM COUNTY HALLS

Darlington Borough Council and Warwickshire County Council are among the latest additions to the long list of authorities to have banned hunting on council land. Cambridgeshire and Somerset may soon follow although Somerset are dithering a bit and making noises about attending a meet of the Quantock Staghounds.

Another council putting bloodsports on the agenda is Gloucestershire where a storm is already brewing over the anti-hunting sentiments of the Sherriff of Gloucester. Some annoyance was caused to the hunting lobby by his removing a portrait of the Duke of Beaufort from his office wall which he found distasteful. Now he is refusing to attend a plague unveiling ceremony for the dead Duke in the cathedral this April. This will embarrass the civic authorities who are expecting the Queen to do the honours.

The mayor of Guildford, Jack Patrick and a Labour man to boot, was unrepentent after hobnobbing with the Surrey Union FH in the Civic centre on Boxing Day. Last year, the Tory mayoress had a dead fox (road casualty) flung at her by outraged sabs when she hosted the hunt. Jack Patrick was protected by lines of police but he didn't escape without a good barracking. Cries of "Traitor!" must have l left a nasty taste in the bottom of his stirrup cup.

Another Labour Mayor, Bert Dodd, was principalled enouth to tell the Quorn where to get off on Boxing Day when he refused to host their Loughborough market place meet. This was interpreted by one of intellectual correspondent to the local paper as a "silly man-hating feminist campaign".

Make of it what you will.

# NEW DIRECT ACTION GROUP FORMED IN SOUTH

Anti-hunt activists of all persuasions in Hampshire and Dorset have formed the Southern Anti Bloodsports Society (SABS) in a bid to co-ordinate a more localised campaign in the area.

As well as sabbing, SABS will lobby politicians and local authorities to abolish all blood-sports and mobilise opposition to related issues like habitat destruction. Membership secretary , Mark Browne, commented "although SABS will be working closely with the HSA we also plan to approach all southern animal welfare/rights and environmental groups for support".

Central southern HSA members are invited to join SABS (Box SABS c/o 4 Onslow Road, Bevois Valley, Southampton). Membership is £3.00 per annum (£2.00 unwaged) and includes magazine and advice sheets.



**TACTICAL TIPS No. 1**

**Never underestimate opposition to hunting amongst the rural community . . . . . or "how to swamp a hunt with only one sab!"**

ADVERTISEMENT

ARE YOU BORED playing sick war games with your action man?

TIRED blowing up Jerries, Nips and Argies?

THEN YOU NEED.....

HUNTING MAN!!!

Features include:-



Empty space for batteries

Press black cranial tit and your 'super hunting man' will say:-

"Yoiks, Yoiks tally ho!"

"Get orf me land"

"That's not a footpath"

"Foxes kill elephants and rape old ladies!"

All this spoken in genuine Royal Family English!

Moving 'eagle eyes'

Scowling face

Big Bum (for staying firmly on horse)

ACT OUT YOUR SICK FANTASIES

Mutilate foxes! savage hares! be very nasty to mink! blast grouse! chase stags to the death and then cut the naughty bits of!

YOUR HUNTING MAN COMES FULLY EQUIPPED WITH ESSENTIAL ITEMS LIKE:-

Silly green or red coat, over-bred horse, whip (many possibilities here), barbour jacket, mini 'Shooting Times'/'Horse & Hind', silly ("let's look countryfied") hat, green wellies, range-rover (great for squashing hedgehogs), horse box to block country lanes.

Plus A FULL RANGE OF MUTILATED ANIMALS - INCLUDING.....

.....THE DOMESTIC PET! YES now you can say "it doesn't matter we'll buy a new one"

Guaranteed no morals or your money back.

# QUOTABLE QUOTES

*Of hunting:*
*"If the Royals don't stop soon, I'm going to get up a petition to shoot corgis. What would they think about that? They're animals too."*
**Brian Clough, Sunday Mirror 5/1/86**

*"Mr Charlton . . . Well, what can I say? I just wish every fox in the country could run as fast as he did when he left Newcastle."*
**Brian Clough, Sunday Mirror 5/1/86**

*"We suffer regularly form visits by Saboteurs. Not only do they attempt to disrupt the hunting during the day, but they also arrive an hour or so before the meet and walk the coverts which they anticipate our our huntsman will draw, blowing horns and spraying strong chemicals, ruining the chance of a good day's hunting."*
**E W Low, Surrey Union FH supporter, in Horse & Hound 10/1/86**

*Of sabs:*
*"They have a moral right to protest, but not a legal one."*
**Stephen Vincent, Chairman, Dunston Harriers. Eastern Evening News 26/10/85**

*Of sabs:*
*"They are paid by a group of Mohican skinheads from Newcastle"*
**Kathleen Westgarth, Joint Master, Zetland FH in local paper.**

*"Certainly, I can tell you that since I.ve been secretary no-one in the mounted field has offered any physical violence to anyone. What the foot followers do I don't know. I think its quite likely they might get cross with them. But people don.t like other people coming and larking about on their land. They are liable to get a ruddy great thick ear for it."*
**Jock Beesley, secretary, Bicester & Warden Hill FH, Osford Star 2/1/86**

*"The saboteurs were like 5000 pickets trying to stop miners form working."*
**Mark Carr, solicitor for Surrey Union H Hunt, 2/10/84**

**This HOWL produced by Alan Pease & Steve Poole with help from Janette. Copy date for Summer HOWL : May 1st.**
**All items for HOWL should be sent typed or very neatly hand-written, together with a photo/ cartoon or other illustration if possible.**
**Short news stories, letters and press cuttings are as welcome as feature length articles; but please try to keep your work to a maximum of 800 words.**
**The editors reserve the right to cut any article unless you state clearly that you don.t want it cut. Sometimes it is very difficult to fit all contributions in completely unedited.**

# BOOK REVIEW

The Animal Liberation Movement; its philosophy, its achievements and its future.
Peter Singer
Old Hammond Press (£1.10)

A really useful little pamphlet one of the founder figures of the movement. The work condenses Singer's philsophy as detailed in his book, 'Animal Liberation' in 1975. This is the kind of work that might convince doubters and waverers of the rightness of Animal Liberation. It takes little time to read and is all the more powerful for its sussinctness.

The book looks briefly at the history of the Animal Liberation movement then goes on to outline the case for animal equality. Killing is discussed, then the goals of the movement, and next a criticism of the use of animals for food. The movement today, and Singer's version of it in the future come next. Finally there are the expected lists of recommended books and contacts.

The American Hunting Myth

Ron Baker

Vantage Press (NY) S10.95

Half a million wild animals are killed in North America every day by the united efforts of hunters, state and federal wildlife managers and 'varmint' shooters. Countless others are wounded, crippled or poisoned. Baker successfully exposes the greed and and hypocrisy that lies behind the 'wildlife management' of the hunters and government wildlife officials.

He explains and analyses the methodology and politics of management, lays bare all the system flaws and proposes real alternatives. The scope is wide, including sections on 'Pseudotheical arguments' and Social Implications'. Anyone who sticks with the text this far will probably need little convincing of what are actually quite familiar arguments. The problem is the sheer bulk and complexity of what comes before.

Finally, Baker urges action against hunting and details ways in which the individual can campaign for a ban. Its a multi-purpose work that deserves to become a standard text. Scholarly research mixes with personal experience as Baker dedicates himself to the welfare of animals in a nation where hunting, fishing and trapping are widely seen to be a priviliged gift from God.

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Fans of Innes Hamilton, who wrote the Beagle Brigade, will be interested to hear that his new novel 'Bobbie' (a book destined to rank with Sewell's classic 'Black Beauty' .:. according to the blurb), is to be published in May. Its a romance set against the background of the animal rights movement in Britain and featuring all the subjects you'd expect it to cover including hunting and the HSA. It says here its a "shopping list for reform by reasoning citizens; not extremists". Hmm

HSA members wishing to secure a copy at a special 20% discount price of £7.80 + £1.10 postage & packing should make a cheque out to Brookside Press Ltd and send it to the Press at 26a, Shepherds Hill, London N6 5AH.



*"Beaufort" the fox cub provides indisputable proof that foxes are vicious killers.*

## LETTER

Dear HSA,
I've just been reading the letters page of the latest HOWL re the HRS and violence, all violence and that is one reason I am opposed to bloodsports. However, I do not feel that damage to inanimate objects is violence, but an important method of campaigning. I refuse to align myself with the causing of physical injury.

I have no respect for those people in the anti-bloodsports movement who feel that whipping redcoats, for example, is okay. They are as ignorant as the hunters - and yes, some of them are good sabs. But being a good sab doesn't mean being violent or having violent intentions. Indeed, one quality of a sab should be the ability to be non-violent in all situations.

I ask anyone reading this letter to examine for a moment why they are a sab. If you find that you're actually on ego trip (sorry but I think that lots of people are) then for fox sake sort yourself out. This cause is far too important for half hearted, ego tripping, selfish hypocrites to use it as a personal stage. Violence is never right.
Yours against violence and bloodsports,
Oxford Joe

## NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE HSA

The purpose of this regular column is to keep you up to-date with the work of the Committee.

Our Sales Goods department is now back on its feet again after all the problems that have have plagued it over the last few months. Apologies to all those who have had a long wait for goods orders; these are now all being despatched and future orders will be dealt with in 21 days from receipt of payment.

You will find a new sales goods order form included with this HOWL.

We have changed our bank from the National West-minister to the Co-op in recognition of many members feelings that the latter is a more ideologically acceptable establishment. At the same time we have made provision for membership payments to be paid through standing order. You can use the enclosed form to do this - in fact it would be a great help to us if you would. Standing Orders mean that your account is debited automatically each year until you instruct your bank otherwise - greatly re-ducing the administrative burden for HSA.

Some of you may feel that £5.00 a year is a lot of money to pay to be an HSA member. Unfortunately, the services we provide for the movement do not come free. Your money is being put into the bulk of buying essential equipment like Cotswold horns, the purchase of landrovers for group loan, the maintenance of a good contact liason system and the production of propaganda material like advertisements in the national press and leaflets which promote direct action as the best way to tackle bloodsports.

We have recently revised and redesigned the basic HSA membership leaflet for example in response to a number of complaints from members that the old one was scrappy, out of date and unprofessional. We also plan to put a number of specialist leaflets on our opposition to bloodsports not recognised by the LACS like shooting and angling. The angling leaflet is actually ready to go into production, but is being held up because we can't afford to have it printed at present.

This brings us back to money of course. Please make a big effort to sell as many of the enclosed tickets for the Summer Draw as you can. They They are vital source of funds for us. If we want an efficient HSA then someone's got to pay for it, and the draw is one way of making sure the general public are levied as well as the the activists!

Our Research Officer has compiled an excellent series of files on every hunt in the country and whilst it is our intention to make copies of all these available to active groups, again the cost has been prohibitive. Every effort is being made to overcome this difficulty, but if you feel you can help with the financing of this and other projects, please send us a donation!

We have also recently organised two national tactics confer-ences with workshops and seminars and a national discussion meeting for all Contacts. More will be laid on in the future and since they have proved extremely useful and the cost is borne by the HSA, we recommend all activists to make use of them.

The new tactics book is spiral bound and revised to incor-porate the sabotage of angling and shooting. The enormous cost of producing this vital resource has meant that we now now have to charge £1.00 per copy, but no activist should be without one.

This year's committee has also set up the HSA young persons group, Fox Cubs. Membership stands at around 300 already.

## HSA COMMITTEE ELECTIONS 1986/7

If you think you'd make a good job of helping to adminster HSA, why not join the HSA committee?

The '86/87 committee year begins in July following the election of officers. Those interested should:

1) Be paid up members of HSA of at least 1 yrs standing
2) Be proposed and seconded by currently paid up members of HSA
3) Supply a written CV of not more than 200 words to include the following - name, age, occupation, diet; why you want to do committee work; how you see the future for HSA.

4) Be prepared to spend an average of 1 hr a day on committee business and 1 day a month at committee meetings.

5) Recognise that the committee is where the administrative work of HSA is done; it is not a forum for irreconcilable arguments about tactics and policy etc. You will will not be taking a 'vanguard' role at the head of the activists, but rather an organ-isational role along side them and on their behalf.

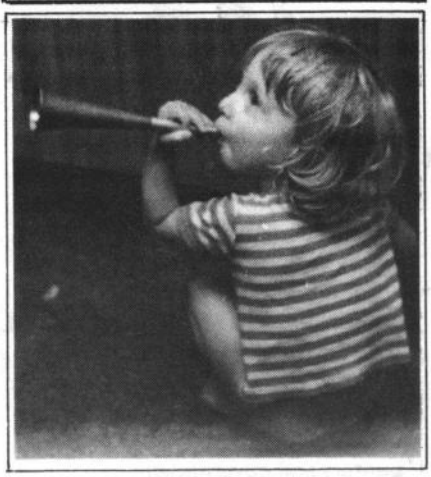
6) Send their CV to 'Committee elections', PO Box 19, London SE22 9LR to arrive not later than May 1st 1986.

Areas of responsibility include Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Research, legal, press and publicity, membership, sales goods, contacts liasion, HOWL, tactics and student liasion.

The CV's will be printed in the Summer HOWL. A Postal ballot of the membership will result in 12 persons being elected to form the new committee. The result will be announced at the AGM in Exeter on July 5th.

### BEQUESTS TO H.S.A.

**Are you considering leaving a legacy to the H.S.A. in our struggle against Bloodsports? We can assist you with legal wording. Please contact H.S.A. P.O. Box 19, London SE22 9LR**



*Thomas Poole-Kerr blows away.*