HOWL

Hounds off our wildlife

No. 4 May 1975

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MAGAZINE OF THE HUNT SABOTEURS ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 19 TONBRIDGE KENT

Aims: To save the lives of hunted animals by legal, non-violent direct means and bring to the attention of People and Parliament the barbaric cruelties involved in the hunting of animals until such time as these practices are banned by law.

BAND OF MERCY MILITANTS JAILED

Two activists of the self-styled Band of Mercy animal liberation group have been sentenced to three years' jail for wrecking animal vivisection laboratories. The two, Ronnie Lee of Luton and Cliff Goodman of Northampton, pleaded guilty to fourteen different charges that included setting fire to vivisection laboratories under construction, damaging vehicles used to transport animals for experimentation and seal-hunters' boats on the Wash. In February, their accomplice in the burning of the seal boats, Robin Howard, was fined £500 with a twelve-month suspended sentence.

Cliff Goodman's solicitor, Mr Thomas Field-Fisher said, "Cliff Goodman is not a crank. He is basically an honest young man of integrity. There is a substantial body of opinion that takes the same view as he does."

judge ordered that the sentences were to run concurrently, not consecutively, so the longest each would have to serve would be three years. As Judge Mynett concluded sentencing the two and ordered that Ronnie and Cliff be "taken down" the gallery immediately exploded in an uproar of angry protests shouted at the bench. Extra police had to be called into the courtroom to clear the gallery.

Forty anti-vivisectionists later picketed outside the court building and held an impromptu demonstration march through the town, paying special attention en route to chain-store chemists like Boots, whose products are extensively tested on animals.

Ronnie Lee and Cliff Goodman are dedicated animal lovers, both belonging to numerous pro-animal organisations,



Ronnie Lee



Cliff Goodman



Robin Howard

A hushed court heard Oxford psychologist, Richard Ryder, tell of the five million experiments carried out on live animals every year. Animals are forced to smoke, have cosmetics injected into them, are given skin irritants and are force-fed; eighty-six per cent of the experiments being carried out without anaesthetics. There are six hundred experimental establishments in the country. One, the National Research Unit at Alconbury performs the LD50 test which results in half the victims dying within fourteen days. (LD = lethal dose).

Ronnie Lee, conducting his own defence, told the court, "My intentions were to prevent suffering. I did not do it out of hatred and I am not sorry for trying to save weak and helpless animals from death and torture. I have not come to beg for mercy for myself, I ask for justice for those animals, creatures who are so brutally treated by the human kind. There are some of us who will not stand by while defence-less creatures are cruelly exploited. Whether inside or outside prison, this struggle will go on". After this speech the entire public gallery burst into spontaneous applause.

Despite the obviously non-criminal motivation of the two, the judge, Kenneth Mynett, delivered separate sentences of between one and three years on all four-teen charges, which amounted to a grand total of twenty-eight years imprisonment. In a moment of 'compassion' however, the

including the HSA, Cliff is a vegetarian and Ronnie is a Vegan. However, when requests were made to the Oxford prison governor that Ronnie be excluded from having to wear woollen or leather garments the governor refused, claiming that he had "never heard of that religion". Fortunately the intervention of vegetarian MP Bill Price sorted out that particular problem, but not until after Ronnie had spent several days sitting naked in a freezing cell.

At the beginning of his sentence Ronnie also started a hunger strike and was subsequently moved to Winchester Prison, where there are better medical facilities. The hunger-strike was in protest at the government's continued use of animals in military experiments at Porton Down Defence Establishment in Wiltshire. At Porton Down it is known that highly-advanced tests are carried out with germ warfare. How many of these experiments involve animals is not known since the operation is extremely hush-hush. We do know for certain that the Ministry of Defence is using live pigs and sheep in gun-shot experiments. The animals are shot with various calibre weapons and then operated on to try out new forms of surgery. If the animal survives the operation it is destroyed anyway..

Ronnie's hunger-strike has also drawn more attention to the plight of the 48 beagles which are being forced to smoke up to 30 cigarettes a day at ICI's Alderley Edge laboratory in Cheshire. The experiments, costing £600,000 so far, are being carried out in conjunction with the Imperial Tobacco Company to assess the amount of damage that smoking causes to the lungs. The beagles are fitted with masks so that they have to continuously inhale smoke for months or even years before being killed and cut up for examination. At the 1975 shareholder's meeting at the Dorchester Hotel, several angry share-holders interrupted the ICI chairman, Sir Jack Callard, with suggestions that ICI should use human volunteers instead of innocent creatures. Sir Jack, who was frequently inaudible above the protests, replied that they could not use humans because it was against current regulations. Thanks to the protests of Ronnie Lee and thousands of outraged citizens up and down the country, the Home Secretary, Roy Jenkins, has now referred the case of the smoking beagles to his Animal Cruelty Committee for a ruling.

The ICI shareholders showed what could be done when it came to making a stink about their money being used to perpetrate hideous cruelty to animals. Porton Down, however, is not run by a Monopoly Capitalist company. There are no shareholders. There are no AGMs with the Ministry of Defence. But it is *our* taxes that are paying for the mutilation and murder of hundreds of innocent sheep and pigs in gunshot experiments. And who knows what other montrous cruelties are inflicted on animals in germ warfare experiments that we aren't supposed to know about. It is public money which finances this barbarism, so it is not only the public's right, but the public's *duty* to protest at its misuse. Let's make sure that Ronnie and Cliffs' struggle does *not* finish here. Here's what you can do:

- Write to your MP today to protest about government vivisection laboratories, not only at Porton Down, but at establishments throughout the country.
- Find out where vivisection takes place near you or where animals are bred for vivisection and mount a picket there.* Distribute leaflets to the public and write to the local papers.
- Promote the use of cosmetics that are not tested on or derived from animals (details from **Beauty Without Cruelty**).
- Stop the Smoking Beagle Tests! Boycott ICI goods and write to ICI to tell them you are not going to use their products any-more.
- Educate yourself and your friends about the horrors of vivisection by reading and telling people about Richard Ryder's new book (see Book Review).

An official list of British labs registered under the Cruelty to Animals Act 1876 can be obtained from the* **Home Office, Romney House, Marsham Street, London, SW1. *Tel: 01-799 3488. Price* **£2.50** *per copy. Cheques made payable to 'The Accounting Officer, Home Office'.*

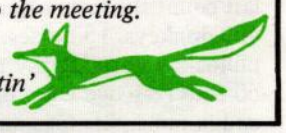
Hi there!

HOWL has notched up its first major success in the form of a letter received at HSA HQ a few weeks ago. The letter was from a US-based, but internationally established, animal welfare organisation of 150,000 members. The organisation was so impressed with the copies of HOWL that had come their way that they had written to us to ask what they could do to be of help. We have written back to make a few suggestions and we now hope to meet up with one of their directors, who will be in Europe during the early summer, to formally establish contact. Further developments will be fully reported at the AGM, and also of course, in HOWL.

So that's just one reason why all HSA members should make a very special effort to be at this year's get-together. You should find details enclosed with this edition. If not, write in at once to HQ. And just one more thing, if you haven't paid your 1975 sub yet, please do so now, otherwise you may not be able to get into the meeting.

See you there!

Good anti-huntin'



Badgers killed by hunt thugs

The police were called in to investigate the killing of four badgers near Selbourne, Hants last January. Jeremy Kelsey, a local nature lover called in the police when he came across a group of men digging at Noar Hill, just outside the village. Jeremy and his sister Cherry later also discovered the corpse of one of the badgers, which had been struck on the head with a heavy, sharp instrument and left in its sett to die. Coincidentally, the Hampshire Hunt was hunting the area that same day.

A few days later, Cherry and Jeremy decided to do some detective work them-selves and attended the next meet of the Hampshire Hunt at nearby Cheriton. Sure enough, the same group of men who had been digging in the wood were there and in the same vehicle they had used at Selbourne.

The Kelseys phoned the police at Alton to complain about the illegal killing of the badgers, but they appeared uninterested in enforcing the law of the land. So then Jeremy got in touch with the local paper the **Evening Echo** who began their own investigation. This apparently stimulated the local police into action, but not before the hunt had read all about the case in the paper and had got all their alibis prepared.

The 'reason' for fox hunts killing badgers is that the fox often takes shelter in badger setts. As one leading hunt servant in the area said "We don't like badgers, because if it wasn't for badgers our earth-stopping bills would be thousands of pounds less, but we don't want people to know that".



A living badger at Noar's Hill

The local people were so irate at this latest example of hunt vandalism that fox-hunts have now been banned from the village of Steep and plans are underway for a similar ban at Hawkley.

Even if the law were enforced, however, badgers would still be under attack thanks to a clause in the Badger Protection Act. The Act, which was sponsored in Parliament by Lord Arran, whose wife rides to hounds, allows for the killing of

(continued overleaf)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Like your correspondent, Emil Whittle, (HOWL No 3), I too have had the distressing experience of coming across a rabbit in the final ghastly stages of myxomatosis.

Can any reader suggest the quickest and least painful method of killing these pathetic victims of man's wanton selfishness and cruelty?

Yours sincerely,
S.D. Graham
241, Wilton Street, Glasgow G20 6DE

Dear Editor,

If your funds ever run to propaganda I should like to suggest, if I may, a poster, with the caption "Reynard the Womble", because you know, there is quite a serious feeling among some naturalists that he helps when he scavenges round dustbins and domesticates himself. Also, it has been said that he would rather feed this way and if he can find food thus, does not look at the hen-coops. That he tidies up just like a womble.

Miss D.M. Neville
Barmouth, Gwynedd

DONKEY SANCTUARY

An extremely worthwhile venture is the Lockwood Home of Rest for Old and Sick Donkeys. It is situated at Farm Cottage, Sandhills, Wormley, near Godalming, Surrey.

The farm provides a sanctuary for all kinds of animals, not just donkeys, which would otherwise be put down. At the last count the farm offered sanctuary to 400 donkeys, 15 horses, 9 sheep, 1 bullock, 4 goats, Porky the pig, 19 cats, 60 hens (rescued from batteries), 2 ducks and innumerable pigeons, The farm is well worth a visit, and is open until 4.30 each day. Bring wellington boots, though. Visitors will be astonished at the friendliness of all the creatures, (even the goats!) and their compatibility with one another. They are all extremely well looked after and are kept very clean and fit. When they die they are buried in a neat plot with their name on a little plaque.

The sanctuary costs more than £20,000 annually to operate and can only keep going through the generosity of visitors and supporters. Any readers who would like to help the sactuary are invited to adopt their own donkey by sending £1 each year towards its welfare. All such supporters receive a Certificate of Adoption with their donkey's name on it. The sanctuary is also grateful for trading stamps, donkey blankets and gifts to sell a at the summer stall.



QUAIL-FIGHTING IN YORKSHIRE

Quail-fighting is flourishing amongst the Pakistani community in Bradford, according to a **News of the World** investigation of March 30 1975. Two investigators were shown quails with sharpened beaks which are fed on brandy-soaked seed to make them more aggressive. At the centre of the bird-baiting industry is a 35-year-old Pakistani, Abdul Latif, who was one of several men fined two years ago for the same illegal activities

LEOPARDS IN DANGER

Despite the fact that Britain is one of 24 countries which signed an Endangered Animals Convention, 900 leopard skins were imported into this country in 1974: an increase of 136% over the previous year!

Another flouting of the agreement concerns the even more endangered tiger, snow leopard and clouded leopard. Although the Department of Trade and Industry has banned the importation of these skins they are still coming into the country already made up into coats. An Endangered Species Bill has now been drawn up by Friends of the Earth and will be presented in the Lords by Lord Wynn-Jones.

WAR ON ULSTER FOXES

The Westminster Department of Agriculture has announced an all-out genocide campaign against Northern Ireland's fox population. The scheme centres around a bounty payment which is made by the police for every fox tongue that is brought in. The Fox Destruction Scheme was started in 1960, but is to be stepped up under pressure from the influential Ulster Farmers Union. The increased bounty payments are £1 in Winter and 50p in Summer for dog foxes and double for vixens. Cubs fetch a paltry 25p for either sex. The authorities also appear to be continuing to turn a blind eye to the illegal use of gin-traps, which are still widely used in the Province.

BADGERS KILLED BY HUNT THUGS *(continued)*

badgers if they are suspected of carrying disease. At the present time, suspect badgers are caught in a snare, but under the government's euphemistically-named Wild Creatures and Wild Plants Protection Bill, badgers could be destroyed with cyanide gas. The bill, which is sponsored by Peter Hardy MP, on the one hand extends protection to the mouse-eared bat, the dormouse and the natterjeck toad, but on the other hand says that badgers should be gassed if TB is present in the local cattle herds. The gassing would be allowed only in certain parts of the mid-West, where the Ministry of Agriculture claims, badgers may spread TB to cattle through their droppings. Because both cattle and badgers are infected, the Ministry has assumed that it is the cattle which are infected by the badgers and not vice versa. On this rather dubious premise, badgers are to be destroyed by the most painful and inhumane means possible. Cyanide poisoning was not even allowed before the 1974 Badgers Act, which is an indication of its cruelty.

HUNT PREFERS REAL MEN TO DRAG

An unusual new hunt has started up in Berkshire. The Windsor Forest Bloodhounds do not hunt foxes; they do not follow a drag; they hunt real, live men. However, the hunt does not need to requisition their quarry from HMP Dartmoor, for all their humans are volunteers.

The volunteer has a head start of half an hour and leaves behind him a piece of rag which he has worn in his armpit for the previous 24 hours.

The quarry obligingly avoids such hazards to horse, human and hound as motorways, railway lines and residential areas, in favour of the more suitable woodlands. He also takes care to avoid the local farmer's recently ploughed fields, thereby maintaining good relations with the country-folk.

Since most of the humans cannot outwit the bloodhounds for more than half-an-hour, it is probably just as well that the hounds do not bite, only give one a good licking.

LATEST HUNT DESTRUCTION

OAKLEY CAT HUNT

In February, hounds of the Oakley hunt in Bedfordshire 'strayed' over land from which they had been barred, and killed a child's pet cat. The owner's wife, Mrs Phyllis Watson told of the hounds tearing the cat, Tiger, apart; "It was impossible to stop them. I told a huntsman what happened but he rode off and I heard laughter which made me furious." The hunt secretary, Mr David Barney, later apologised and offered to buy the family a new cat.

ENFIELD CHACE STRIKE AGAIN

Yet again the weekend squires of North London's Enfield Chace have provided a startling display of skill and huntsmanship. In January one of their hounds was killed after being hit by a car on the Great North Road (A1M) motorway in Hertfordshire. According to Raymond Brooks-Ward, the E.C.'s TV Commentating Jt. Master and PRO for the BFSS, "Four hounds slipped away from the pack after a deer."

MACABRE END TO STOWMARKET RIOT

Fences were broken down and gardens trampled by the Suffolk Hunt when they chased a fox into a residential part of Stowmarket in December. Angry residents shouted at the hunt to clear off and one brandished a pick axe. One resident, Mr Len Relf of Wayside Close, locked the fox in his garden shed to save it from the blood-thirsty huntspeople, who eventually galloped off down the street.Unfortunately, when he went back to give the fox some food scraps, he discovered that it had been quenching its fierce thirst from a tin of turpentine. The fox took convulsions and died in a few seconds. Later the hunt master was 'unavailable' for comment on this disgusting case of persecution.

BELSTONE FOX ABROAD IN BUCKS....

One horsey incident that TV commentator Dorian Williams will not be commenting on occured last November, when two hounds from Williams' Whaddon Chase Hunt were killed on the main Euston-Birmingham line near Bletchley. The fox they were chasing at the time got away. The huntspeople afterwards attempted to cover up the incident by clandestinely removing the remains of the two hounds. A British Rail spokesman later expressed amazement at members of the public venturing on to this very busy 100mph line of track, but it is not known if any legal action is to be taken against the Hunt.

....RE-APPEARS IN NOTTS

Straight from the horses mouth, the Shooting Times no less, we find that the South Notts Hunt are another band of expert huntsmen who appear to be auditioning for the sequel to 'The Belstone Fox'. "After a check, they ran hard into Cotham Thorns (a train miraculously went through the pack without touching a hound) and on harder still."

HUNT COUGHS UP

Comedian Jimmy Edwards' Old Surrey & Burstow Hunt were not feeling so light-hearted when they were threatened with legal action after invading two gardens at Oxted last Autumn. They were, however, considerably lighter in pocket, since they were obliged to fork out £100 in an out-of-court compensation agreement.

FACT 1

Between a half and three-quarters of all deer culled by game-keepers have already been previously wounded by shotgun pellets. The injuries are the handywork of vandals, freelance shotgun fetishists and poachers.

FACT 2

Although Bewick's Swan is totally protected throughout Europe, X-ray examination of those caught at Slimbridge shows that 31 are carrying shot in some part of their bodies.

BOOK REVIEW

Victims of Science
by Richard Ryder
published by Davis-Poynter **£3.75**

Richard Ryder, a senior clinical psychologist at a major hospital in Oxford, member of the RSPCA Council and an activist on behalf of otters and hares, has well and truly demolished the pro-vivisection argument in this extremely well documented book.

He produces figures that show, in Britain, there were roughly half a million experiments on animals in 1930 which increased to vast proportions in 1970 when 5½ million were performed, of which 4¾ million were without anaesthetic. Although there is a Home Office inspectorate there are only 14 inspectors, each of whom is expected to deal with approximately 400,000 experiments each year and the restrictions supposedly enforced by the Cruelty to Animals Act 1876 simply do not protect the animals involved from unnecessary and painful experiences.

What about advances in medical knowledge? Richard points out that because of the difference between species the greater part of animal experimentation is useless for human purposes. For example, no drug was more extensively tested on animals than thalidomide but produced no deformation in *their* offspring; whereas , *after* the successful treatment of humans, insulin was tested on animals producing abnormalities.

He goes on to tell us that more than two-thirds of licensed experiments are not for medical purposes. They are tests for the safety of cosmetics, packaging materials, food colorants and household commodities (such as washing-up liquids and detergents) most of which are force-fed to animals or injected into their eyes.

Many of the experiments are described in detail and they make disturbing reading but it is our duty to face up to such facts and do something about them. This is a book that should be read by every thinking person. It is up to ordinary folk to make governemnts and big businesses see that most of what they do in 'the name of humanity' is just not on and Richard Ryder's book certainly goes a long way in exposing this heinous trade in suffering.

Perhaps the best recommendation comes indirectly from Southern Television, who originally intended to produce a feature based on the book. However, the film was mysteriously dropped "so as not to offend the advertisers".

Useful addresses:
British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection, 47 Whitehall, London, SW1

Beauty Without Cruelty, 49 Upper Montague Street, London , W1.

GUNSLINGERS SHOOT-OUT WITH HUNT

The Yorkshire Moors took on the appearance of the Wild West last December when shooters and fox-hunters rowed over who was there first. The fracas began when the Derwent Hunt galloped into the beauty spot known as Basin Howe, hot on the scent of two foxes. That was the place where Sheffield dentist Donald Hinchcliffe who pays £105 a year for shooting 'rights' was shooting with a party of friends.

The hunt promptly told the common-as-muck shooters to clear off. But the gun-slingers were in no mood to be bullied and fired several volleys of shots 'near' the hounds. They then went off and found a young hunt 'lady' letting down their car tyres and strewing their belongings in the mud. The police were later investigating the incidents.

ESSEX UNION ADOPTS GENETIC ENGINEERING

In a letter to a complainant, whose property the hunt had entered, the secretary of the Essex Union admitted that the hunt has a policy of culling those hounds which hunt by sight instead of scent.

Coursers coursed

The 1975 Waterloo Cup – the hare coursing fraternity's number one event, of the year – was this time well and truly routed by the intrepid Liverpool branch of the Hunt Saboteurs Association. For almost an hour, a helicopter carrying four members circled over the meeting near Formby, thereby frightening away any hares that might have ventured onto the field.



Originally the HSA's backroom boffins had planned to shower the meeting with anti-coursing leaflets, land and invade the course with a commando squad. But this part of the exercise had to be shelved when the helicopter owners objected. Even so, the operation was a marvellous strategic and propaganda success for the HSA millitants.

Meanwhile, at ground level, a fifth column of activists entered the course on a reconnaisance mission. The following is their report.

". . . we could hear the chopper in the distance at 10.20 hours. He came in right down the line of beaters and confusion reigned for a minute or so. He then circled for about 35 minutes concentrating over the beaters. After he'd been overhead for twenty minutes they hadn't run a course and a lot of hares had been scattered. At this point somebody shouted, "Get that f. . . . . * helicopter out of here". They then ran a course but the hare escaped. They didn't run another course while he was overhead and twice had five hares on the course. Three times they had five hares in the funnel but each time they scattered when the chopper came over. The chopper landed at a nearby airfield and the commando squad, consisting of A. . . . . ,B. . . . . , C. . . . . , and D. . . . . ** returned to the course by field transport to join a banner demo".

The demonstrators were immediately threatened and intimidated by the coursing Irregulars, but these threats proved to be empty, particularly since the television cameras were in attendance. There were no further kills at least up until the time the demonstrators left at 13.00 hours.

Meanwhile in the Capital, London Hunt Saboteurs planned a decoy sit-in at the new premises of the National Coursing Club, to coincide with the Liverpool vanguard incursion. Unfortunately, the Blood-Sports intelligence network (alias the *Daily Express*) was more highly developed than was anticipated, and the sortie had to be called off. Instead, the insurgents switched to Contingency Plan A and sat-in at the British Field Sports Society for the afternoon. The landlords of the BFSS office building, who operate downstairs from the Society were overheard to be highly annoyed at yet another commotion. They are now considering terminating the BFSS lease, since they have rather lowered the tone of the St. James's office block, what with 'students' and policemen running up and down the stairs all the time.

The entire operation was a resounding success, but it now leaves a very severe hole in the HSA bank account. The helicopter cost nearly £100 to hire and the activists involved were substantially out of pocket on the day. If you can help us with this activity, then we will be well prepared and able to organise similar stunts in the future.

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***Editor's deletion for security reasons*

DIRECT ACTION BY FARMER JAMES

The Quorn Hunt were well and truly stopped in their tracks when they came face to face with an angry farmer waving a 12-bore shotgun at them, last December.

Farmer Alfred James and his wife firmly told the hunt they were not welcome on his land at Belton, Leicestershire, after they had damaged fences and gates on a previous sortie. Mr James's flock of 100 ewes were soon to give birth, and the plucky farmer did not want them upset by yapping dogs and ignorant hunts-people.

"Alf was determined to use the shotgun if he had to," said Mrs James. "I have tried the gentle approach with the hunt and made polite requests but they just seem to laugh at us".

FOX THROWN TO PACK

At a recent meet of the Bisley and Sandhurst Hunt, just to the West of Aldershot, Hants the Hunt's 'pilot' went to earth in an old badger sett. The terrier men quickly set to work, excavating the site until they reached the terrified vixen. One terrier man grabbed it by the scruff of the neck and hoisted it into the air. He then roughly groped the fox's belly and announced, "She's no good – she's barren!". (If she had been carrying or weaning young, he no doubt intended to rear them for future sport.) He then tossed the writhing fox into the slavering pack of hounds, who tore her to pieces in a vicious tug of war.

Due to an increasing lack of 'country' the hunt was disbanded in April this year.

TOP DOGS IN COURSING ROW

Always ready to add a new novelty or 'kink' to their sadistic pastime, hare-coursers have now turned to using expensive Salukis and Borzois to hunt Essex hares. Although the Arabian dogs are not nearly as fast as greyhounds, they still managed to kill three hares, one in a farmyard right in front of a mother and her children. Mr Owen Davies of Little Baddow, a spokesman for the Saluki Club said "This particular incident was just terribly unfortunate. Personally, though, I wouldn't think it would harm any children who might have seen the incident".

BRIEF GLOSSARY OF HUNT TERMINOLOGY

Master

Can be male or female. Often carries 'double-barrelled' name eg Plunkington-Smythe (nee Smith). Male variety frequently uses army rank as title – Captain, Colonel etc even though civilian. Gregarious, requiring adulation from those lower in pecking order. Has pechant for peculiar dress and singular inability to find useful outlet for wealth and virility.

Huntsman

Lacky-skilled horseman and dog handler. Aggressive, especially when mounted and armed with offensive weapon ie dog-whip. All appear to originate from Butlin's Holiday Camp (Red-coat Division).

Sportsman

Vandal in fancy dress on horseback.

Terrier Man

Pachydermus serf. Strong-arm type used by his masters to dig out tired cornered foxes with the aid of wire-haired terriers.

Whipper-in

Another escapee from Butlin's. Servile to huntsman. Attempts to keep bunch of hungry dogs in order, usually quite successful due to wielding large whip which he uses indiscriminately on dogs or 'antis'.

The Pack

Bunch of unlicensed dogs.

Gone to ground/Marked to ground

Cornered because of exhaustion.

Accounted for

Killed.

Animal lover

Person who chases wild animals to exhaustion in ritual fashion before killing (often calls himself a conservationist).

Hosts

Sycophantic social climbers usually, but frequently pub landlords with more mercenary outlook.

Conservationist

Killer of otters, deer, badgers, hares, foxes and other forms of wildlife on the spurious premise that the strongest and best of the species will survive.

DOWN ON TESCO FARM

Whilst waiting to be prosecuted at Uxbridge Court for naming one of his vegetarian dishes "ProtoVeg Goulash", Peter Roberts of Compassion in World Farming strolled into the nearby Tesco Supermarket. He noted a placard beside the racks of battery eggs, which claimed they were *Natural Farm* Eggs, supplemented by a picture of Ye Olde English Farme and a genuine Country Yokel to boot. Roberts decided to complain to the Consumer Protection Authority who referred the matter to both the British Eggs Authority and the Ministry of Agriculture. The Authority sent an inspector along to the store but by this time the placard had mysteriously disappeared. The Eggs inspectors said that even if the placard was still there, there was nothing wrong with describing a battery hen factory as a farm. They would not be drawn on the subject of batteries being 'natural' or otherwise,

Peter Roberts did however have the case against him dismissed on a technicality.



The squad of London HSA Commandos is wished good luck for the blitzkrieg attack on Bloodsports' nerve-centres in the capital. Campaign Strategist, Warrington Ffrench-Llettah, (in bowler) shakes hands with platoon commandant, J. Peasmold Gruntfuttock.

GEMS OF GENIUS

Our periodic look at some excerpts from the hunting press, selected by our Science Correspondent, Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Knott End, Professor Everard Keith l'Estrange.

"We never found the real culprit who left the gate open, so the entire hunt was punished by sending them home. Of course it must have been one of the rag, tag and bobtail mob that every hunt seems to get nowadays".
– *Sir Watkin Williams-Wynn,* Daily Express

"The great majority of the undesirables who strive to disrupt hunting have not the remotest interest in the well-being of the quarry, for all they really want to do is to protest against those who have made something of their lives".
– *Douglas Leslie,* Shooting Times.

HUNT SABOTEURS INC.

Thanks chiefly to HOWL (we like blowing our own trumpet) the Hunt Saboteurs Association now has members in such far-flung places as Australia, Canada, India, Brazil and Kenya.

CIRCUSES SHORT-CIRCUITED

Circuses have been banned from council property in both Exeter and in Bexley in South-East London. This follows the example set by Torquay, Brighton and Hastings, which banned performing wild animals some time ago.

NEW ANIMAL SHIPMENT LAWS

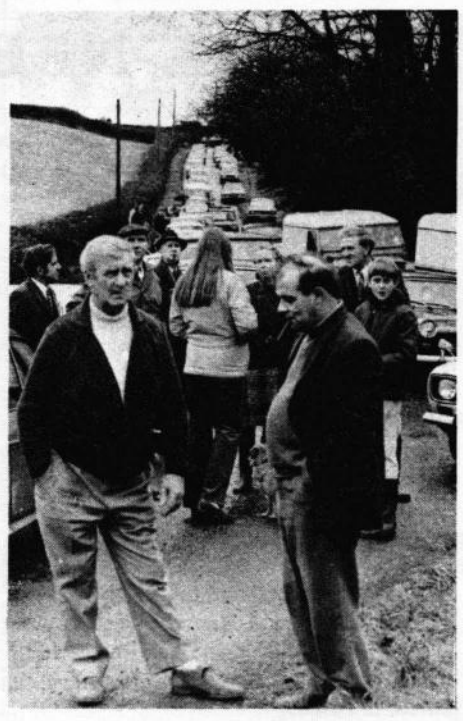
IATA, the International Air Transport Association has introduced new laws to protect live animals shipped by air. All carriers will have to obtain a certificate to show that their facilities for animals are up to standard.

HUNTSMAN IN BULLION RIDDLE

The joint master of the exclusive Belvoir Hunt was served with a French summons after landing at Dinard from Castle Donnington in a light plane with a suitcase full of 88 lbs of gold coins.

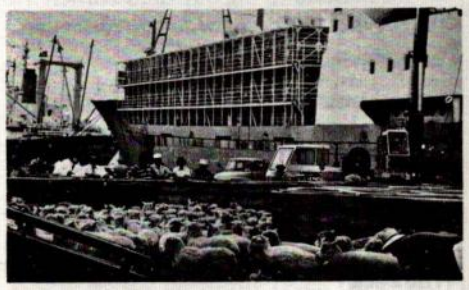
COUNTRY LIFE

One aspect of rural life that will confound even the experienced naturalist is the seasonal death-ritual of *Boorimus Suburbanus,* or Hunt-Follower. Unlike their more diminutive cousin, the lemming, the hunt-follower does not join in a frenziedly mad rush across the countryside to its own death, but perhaps more peculiar still it charges across the country en masse to witness the death and tearing to pieces of a harmless, beautiful creature only one-fiftieth his own size. This weird and macabre ritual undoubtedly does untold damage to the environment in terms of pollution, disruption and destruction. The hunt-follower's peculiar habit of 'enjoying the countryside' whilst polluting it with car exhaust fumes is a paradox which perhaps does not occur to its enfeebled mind. For the sad truth is that year after year of the ritual has debilitated *Boorimus* so much that he is now vitually devoid of any feeling, sensitivity or compassion whatsoever.



LIVE EXPORTS RESUMED

Britain has lifted its ban on the export of live animals for slaughter. Exports recommenced immediately to EEC countries, whilst exports to non-EEC countries would be subject to licence. Unlike the period before the 1973 ban there are NO restrictions whatsoever on how animals are transported. Previously, animals could not be driven more than 100km from their point of disembarkation. Now the only 'restrictions' on exports are riddled with loop-holes. Although animals cannot be trans-shipped to a third EEC country, they CAN be shipped on to non-EEC countries like Egypt or Spain. And although the government made much of the EEC directive which lays down rules for humane slaughter, Eire, Italy and Holland have still not signed it. Those that have, are not affected until July and even then there is serious doubt that such a law will be obeyed. France, which is supposed to already have humane slaughtering laws, has a continuous record of cruelty in her abattoirs.



The government tried to excuse its pro-export stance because, it claimed, Britain's abattoirs cannot cope with the increased intake caused by spiralling feed prices. To prevent exports, the Minister alleged, would be to cause mass starvation amongst Britain's cattle and sheep population. Unfortunately for the government, this just isn't true. Out of 347 abattoirs surveyed by the RSPCA, 279 were working at normal capacity and could easily speed up. To encourage beef farmers to cut their losses by mass slaughtering will inevitably mean that beef prices for the consumer will take off again at the end of the year to reach astronomical levels during 1976. It also means that Continental abattoirs are enjoying a boom in employment and revenue at the expense of their British counterparts. And of course it also means a miserable and cruel journey for the animals, often to an inhumane death dealt from a mallet, hammer or knife. The obvious answer to the current problem is not to encourage farmers to cut their losses, but to subsidise their feedstuff prices and also encourage them to become much more self-sufficient.Thanks to factory farming, the days are gone when potato peelings could be thrown to the pigs or when the chickens automatically fertilised the vegetable patch.

For more information contact: **Compassion in World Farming, Copse House, Greatham, Liss, Hants.**

FOXES NOT A PEST

A survey conducted by National Opinion Polls has shown that 70% of British farmers do not consider foxes to be a pest. 64% said that they had suffered no losses from foxes in 1974.

AROUND THE WORLD

AUSTRALIAN ROUNDUP

The New South Wales RSPCA has successfully prosecuted more than a dozen local greyhound trainers for using live bait such as possums, rabbits and roosters.

The Federal government has opened the way for massive slaughter of the kangaroo population by lifting the ban on exports of kangaroo products.

Tighter controls mean that Australian foxes are safe from the scourge of rabies, currently sweeping Europe. Although the fox is officially classed as vermin, fox-hunting is illegal.

In the last fifteen years, Western Australian farmers have destroyed 285,000 emus and received a handy government bounty of 40 cents a beak.

New South Wales Premier, Tom Lewis, has got his statistics a little haywire in claiming that the kangaroo population is trebling each year. Even if all the kangaroos were female, it would still take at least two years to treble, since the average reproduction rate is only 1.00 to 1.40 young per female per year.

US ROUNDUP

A new book on the destruction of wild-life, **Man Kind?**, by Cleveland Amory has been such a success that several bookshops displaying the book have had their windows blasted with rifle and shotgun fire.

A Dallas based private investigator working for the Fund for Animals has had his office burgled, his home ransacked and his car shot up. He has been investigating the incidence of dog-fighting in Texas, which he told a US Representatives sub-committee is patronised by local polititians, a judge and a district attorney.

Fur and hunting interests have set up their own propaganda outfit, the Fur Conservation Institute, The Institute teed-off by awarding its own awards in appreciation for outstanding service to sportsmen. Its silver trap award went to Dan Armbuster, Chief of Ohio's Division of Wildlife! Dan, apparently, is a real sport.

The Department of Commerce has banned the import of 70,000 baby seal skins from South Africa, pointing out that their killing was inhumane.

The wolf is now protected by the Endangered Species Act. The grizzly bear may soon also be added to the list.

CANADIAN ROUNDUP

The Stop Ahab Committee are ready to sail at the end of April to disrupt the Japanese whale hunting operations.

The NorthWest Territories still pay a $40 bounty on wolves. New Brunswick pays a bounty on the now rare grey seal.

It has been revealed that six grizzly bears were shot in Yoho National Park in 1968 as a 'management measure'. This may exceed the Park's grizzly reproduction rate.

An investigation is under way to determine whether conservation officials have been involved in the illegal hunting of polar bear, musk ox and caribou in the North West.

William Hiccup

Latest Royal escapades

ROYAL PARADOX

Holland & Holland of Bruton Street, Mayfair, sell more guns to 'top people' than anyone else. Their premises are littered with ivory tusks, antlers and pictures of dead (and often extinct) animals. They also sport a giant panda collecting box for the World Wildlife Fund, whose President is Prince Philip. Perhaps that isn't as paradoxical as it seems, for the Duke is one of H & H's more prestigious customers.

HOLY SHRINE — OR CHAMBER OF HORRORS?

Not to be outdone by her gun-slinging family, HRH the Queen showed her true colours when she paid a visit to the British Field Sports Society's Exhibition Caravan at last summer's Game Fair at Stratfield Saye.

PEONS PAY FEALTY

Bowing, scraping and special treatment were much in evidence at Inverness in January when Mr & Mrs Mark Phillips, arrived by air for a short hunting holiday in the area. Although the plane was a normal scheduled flight it just happened to be piloted by the British Airways flight manager. Mr Phillips was allowed to carry on board his sporting gun complete with monogrammed case, a privilege not usually extended to scheduled flight passengers.

CHARLES JOINS ANNE FOXHUNTING

Thick fog provided the ideal cover for Prince Charles' and Princess Anne's clandestine hunting activities this Spring. It was the first time that the Royal duo had hunted together, for although Anne is a regular hunter by now, this was only her brother's second foray. His first was a week previously with the Beaufort. This time thirty-five hand-picked members of the Cottesmore Hunt were the hosts, under the leadership of wealthy sugar magnate, Sir Henry Tate. However, the Prince was to be disappointed with the day's sport, for the Cottesmore hardly caught sight of a fox the whole day. Perhaps this had something to do with the fact that Charles was hunting in a tatty old tweed jacket, hardly the correct apparel in which to 'account for' even the humblest fox.

NEW POST FOR ANNE

Princess Anne has accepted the Presidency of the Royal Foxhound Society, whose show is to be held at Peterborough in July.

BIRD MASSACRE AT ROYAL REVELS

More than 12,000 pheasants have been shot at Sandringham this season by parties including Prince Philip. This is the highest total since 1961-62. The biggest shoot was in January when 100 guns at the twenty-thousand acre estate shot 1,325 pheasants in one day.

BUY HOWL IN BULK

Why not buy HOWL in bulk, either to resell, or to give away to friends or door to door? Large orders attract a good discount. Please specify whether you would like this issue (No 4) or No. 3, which we still have in stock. Rates are as follows:

10 copies	.50	plus 20p postage
25 copies	£1.00	plus 30p postage
50 copies	£1.50	plus 40p postage
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The same postage rates apply to overseas orders, which we especially welcome.

BOOKS FROM HSA

We still have in stock a few dozen copies of **The Otter's Tale** by *Gavin Maxwell,* which is the children's edition of **Ring of Bright Water**. Although usually priced at 25p, this well illustrated book is available from us at only 10p plus 10p postage.

OUTLETS WANTED !

Next time you visit your local health-food shop or vegetarian restaurant, why not show the manager a copy of HOWL and ask if they would be willing to stock it on a sale-or-return basis. We can offer generous discounts on all bulk orders.

US ARMY KILLS ½M BIRDS

More than 500,000 birds have been slaughtered by the American army at Campbell, Kentucky in the government's campaign to destroy about 12m blackbirds, grackels, starlings and cowbirds in Kentucky and Tennessee.

The birds were sprayed with a detergent, to remove the natural oil from their feathers and then with thousands of gallons of water, which caused them to freeze to death during the cold night.

The bird population has multiplied over the past few years and the authorities feared that the birds presented a hazard to agriculture and hygiene.

Apparently spraying hundreds of acres of woods with chemical detergents does not present a hazard to agriculture and hygiene.

GALAPAGOS TORTOISES SAVED

Ten of the eleven species of Galapagos giant tortoise should now be safe for posterity, according to a report from the Charles Darwin Research Station on the islands. The Darwin Station, financed by the World Wildlife Fund, has now raised 470 young tortoises from eggs and has begun to return them to the wild when big enough to be safe from predation by rats and pigs introduced by man.

TEN PER CENT OF AMERICANS HUNT

The US Department of the Interior has announced that 23 million hunting licenses were sold in 1973. More than 10% of the American people regularly hunt.

WE NEED HELP!

We need all the active members we can get; but if for some reason you cannot come out on strikes due to health or work commitments, there is another way you can join in the active fight against blood sports.
You can help us through a donation, no matter how small. You can be guaranteed that every penny will go towards our active campaign, since we have no office or staff to cost us overheads.
Please send whatever you can spare, filling in the attached slip if you wish.

TO: HUNT SABOTEURS ASSOCIATION
P O Box 19
Tonbridge Kent

I enclose my donation of £_____/I enclose my membership fee £_____
(50p min.)

NAME_____

ADDRESS_____

_____

A NOTE ON FOX POPULATIONS

by our statistical correspondent

If one accepts that the winter breeding population of foxes is 200,000 and that half are female, (sex ratios of foetuses in Ireland were found to be exactly 50:50 male to female) and assuming that 20% of females are barren, (Lloyd found that 22.8% of females in Wales were barren and 18.6% in Kent) then it follows that 80,000 females breed.

Taking litter sizes as an average of four (most studies show it slightly higher) then just after the cubs are born there is a total fox population of 520,000. ie 320,000 cubs plus 200,000 adults.

To enable the population to return to a winter breeding figure of 200,000, 320,000 foxes must die.

Hunting which accounts for say 20,000 adults during the season proper and 10,000 cubs from September to November, is obviously insignificant in terms of 'control' as somehow a further 290,000 foxes have to disappear anyway, before the next breeding season.

Therefore, hunting accounts for less than 10% of the annual fox mortality.

Some think the fox population is much higher than 200,000 and if this is so, then hunting is an even less significant factor. For example, if the fox population is 500,000 and half are female, of which 20% are barren, then 200,000 females produce 800,000 cubs. This would give a total post-natal population of 1,300,000 foxes of which 800,000 have to die in order to reduce the breeding population to 500,000 at the next breeding season.
Therefore if the population (winter) was 500,000 then hunting would only account for 4% of all fox deaths per annum!

Note: The hunting fraternity would deny this figure when claiming 'control' but may accept it when disclaiming the causing of suffering.

Designed and Published by Hunt Saboteurs Association