Direct Action Against All Bloodsports

HOWL

Magazine of the
Hunt Saboteurs
Association
Spring 1994
No 54 £1



At the Hampshire Hunt, 6 November 1993: "It's the worst thing that's ever happened to me while sabbing," said the saboteur who is pictured above, cradling an injured fox.

"An elderly female hunt rider spotted the fox crouching in a hedge. It remained there, obviously terrified, with riders surrounding the area."

"The huntsman brought the pack onto it, and as it began to run away it was caught by about three hounds. A saboteur ran into the bloodbath and managed to grab the fox and hoist it onto his shoulder. The hounds were snapping at his feet."

"The huntsman and whipper-in had dismounted and were trying to get through to the fox. I scrambled in, but the hounds had torn the fox away from the sabs' arms, and two of them were biting it. As I tried to pull it away from their jaws, the whipper-in leant over me and beat the fox over the head with the bone handle of his whip. He kept striking it, but I couldn't stop him as I was trying to pull the fox away. I suppose he wanted to kill it, so he could pretend it had been a 'clean kill by a bite to the back of the neck'."

"I really couldn't believe what was happening. I have never seen such cruelty. I was screaming at the huntsman to let go. I was now trying to cradle the fox's head and the huntsman was trying to pull the fox from me with brute strength, as if it were already dead. But it wasn't dead – how could we let go?"

"Eventually one of the police hunt squad arrived. The huntsman relaxed his grip and I gathered the fox into my arms. It struggled and tried to bite my face, so I thought it would survive because it was fighting."

"Although we had been bitten by the hounds, we took the fox and ran across a field with it. We were jubilant because we thought we'd given the fox another chance. We got to a road, and phoned a mobile saboteur and asked to be picked up."

"I remember once, while we were in the car, we lifted up the jacket covering the fox to see if it was still breathing okay. These two golden eyes stared into our faces. He was beautiful. He was curled up on my friend's lap, nose to brush, staring up. His eyes made me think that he understood."

"We took the fox to a woman nearby who looks after wild animals, but she took one look at him and said she couldn't treat him. We quickly drove to the town centre and arranged to meet an off-duty vet."

"We took him into the vet's surgery and laid him on the table. His head and body were covered in puncture wounds from the hounds' teeth, and his lips were torn up. We all stood around that table as the vet gently lifted one of his back legs. Part of his intestine snaked out. His belly had been ripped open. The vet put him to sleep."

"I HAVE NEVER SEEN SUCH CRUELTY"

HOWL 54

Magazine of the Hunt Saboteurs Association
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EDITORIAL

Feedback is important to any magazine, so, as ever, we'd appreciate your comments and views on *Howl*, especially concerning the new items featured in this issue.

At the moment saboteurs are waiting to see how their actions are likely to be affected by the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act. An article by the HSA's Campaigns Officer, Paul Davis, about the new law is included in this edition.

This is the last issue of *Howl* that I will be editing. Thanks to everyone who has helped out over the past two years, and good luck to *Howl*'s new editor, Stuart.

Finally, questions have been raised recently regarding the authenticity of letters published in *Howl*. I'm not personally acquainted with Mssrs Claude or Quinn, 'FB', 'Alison', or any of this issue's letter-writers, but authors *can* use pen-names if they wish and all letters, whatever their sentiments, are accepted in good faith. Of course, views expressed must not be in breach the HSA's Constitution.

Please keep writing to *Howl* – letters, articles, news stories and photographs are always welcome. The deadline for *Howl 55* is 31 July 1994.

Gareth, editor

Cover Story

The stark truth about hunting is revealed by this picture of a fox attacked by the Hampshire Hunt's hounds and accompanying words from a hunt saboteur who tried to save his life. *This is foxhunting* – don't let them tell you any different.

The Hampshire Hunt are based at The Kennels, Ropley, Alresford, Hampshire. Their huntsman is *Bob Collins* and the telephone number at the kennels is (0962) 772306.

Thanks for the cash

Dear HSA,

We have sent the HSA a cheque for £200. This is the repayment of a loan you made to Bath sabs about three years ago.

We would like you to acknowledge in *Howl* that we have repaid it, in the hope that other groups who received loans might also feel able to pay back their money.

We wish you all the best and assure you of our support.

Barbara Dickinson
Treasurer, Bath Hunt Saboteurs

Letters

Saboteurs could organise new draghunts

Dear *Howl*,

I suspect that H Riley's letter in *Howl 53* – regarding his/her participation in foxhunting – will attract some adverse comment. While not agreeing with that particular solution to a desire to test horse and rider over country terrain, I do find it interesting that there was a wish by the writer and friends to go drag hunting.

Obviously the aim of the HSA is to stop hunting and I wouldn't want to suggest that the main thrust of the activities be changed in that respect, however, what I would like to examine is the image (if that's the right word) of us being seen in negative terms by the horse riding community.

My main sport is horse riding, and I see every week the insidious damage that hunting has on riders when more experienced people make comments like "that horse is a good hunter" or "you're almost good enough to go hunting". It's a sort of stage in a horse and rider's progress.

My suggestion is that we use this desire to progress – and have an exhilarating day – in a positive way. Instead of trying to stop people going out , why don't we, as an organisation, organise the drag hunts that would attract people like H Riley and friends away from the foxhunts.

There are several advantages to this:

- it would give us a very good PR image
- it would enable people who've been put off by the hunt violence to contribute again
- it might raise funds
- it's legal

Apart from the League Against Cruel Sports, we are the only national group who could undertake such a step. If drag hunting's too difficult to organise, perhaps there are other options, such as cross country.

Terry Quinn, Merseyside

Police are not impartial

Dear *Howl*,

I have just read the HSA leaflet, *Ban Hunting not Hunt Saboteurs*.

I did not join the hunt sabs so that leaflets could be printed telling the public what our personal politics are. I didn't expect to see "we" used in a HSA leaflet explaining to the public what the police should be doing.

It's been argued that *Howl* is no place for personal politics. Is it just hypocrisy or is it an attempt to further suck-up to the police that Paul Davis, the HSA's Campaigns Officer, has produced this dreadful leaflet stating his liberal politics, using our name without asking?

If the HSA (as an organisation that "cares about democracy and law and order") sees the current state of society and concludes that the police are "impartial", then it does not deserve to exist. After eight years sabbing, Paul Davis has persuaded me to call it a day.

F B, Oxfordshire

HSA AGM 1994

by Paul Gammon, HSA Chairperson

We are inviting HSA members who have been paid up for at least one year as at 31 March 1994 to submit brief CVs for the HSA Committee elections.

It is important that we have enough competition for the committee places to ensure an enthusiastic and committed group to direct the HSA in what looks like being a challenging year.

Due to so much taking place this year, and particluarly at the present time, the deadline for members to submit their CVs or resolutions to be debated at the AGM has been extended until 31 July – but please hurry!

All posts on the committee are voluntary and involve several hours' work per week, although these can normally be organised to suit the individual. Committee meetings are held roughly once a month, on a Sunday, and any reasonable out-of-pocket expenses will be met.

The AGM this year will be held on Sunday 25 September at Manchester Town Hall, where the election results will be announced and the raffle drawn. Please phone the office for more details.

In praise of draghunting: the cruelty-free alternative

Dear *Howl*,

After reading H Riley's confession in *Howl 53* (which I'm sure prompted a mixed reaction) I felt I had to write to offer some advice to H Riley and other riders.

Although I despise hunting I allowed myself to be persuaded into going hunting when I was in my early teens.

Basically I was told a load of crap about how the fox enjoyed the chase and received a quick death, as well as how good it was for your horse.

Anyway, I went along and was so sickened and disgusted by the truth that I didn't go again, and I would advise H Riley and others to do the same.

Instead of galloping aimlessly around the countryside looking for foxes to rip apart, ride out with friends instead.

Riders mustn't try to "block the killing from their minds", and they must come to realise that the arguments used in favour of hunting, (eg, that hunting helps the fox) are just excuses designed to pressurise young people into hunting. A lot of hunt riders enjoy the murder and the 'blooding', and they can't be trusted to tell the truth about their sick practices.

If people like H Riley follow their consciences and leave we'll be a step nearer the abolition of hunting. Draghunts could become common enough for riders to have an alternative to the killing that they hate.

Alison, Northumberland

Community policing

Dear *Howl*,

T Woodward says the statement "all coppers are bastards" is akin to a racist slogan *(see Howl 53, page 3)*.

Speaking both as a sab and a supporter of Anti Fascist Action, I have to disagree.

The vital point is that we can't *choose* the colour of our skin, or our gender, or our country of birth.

But we *can* choose whether to join the police force. And every day, police officers *choose* to enforce unfair and indefensible laws, fit people up, and generally push people around.

T Woodward admits that "some police are arrogant sods." Here in Hackney we know all about it – our local community, like others in city areas, has been systematically terrorised by the police for years now.

Some sabs would be well advised to leave their cosy suburbs and leafy college campuses now and again, and see how the police *really* behave towards ordinary communities.

It used to be the case that the HSA would explain to new sabs that when the police are being chatty with us, it's just to get information out of us for the files they keep on us. But now it seems that we're being asked by the HSA to co-operate with the police to defeat hunting!

Are we going soft or what?

Paul Godfrey, London

Dear Howl,

I am writing to agree with the HSA's letter which appeared recently in my local paper, the *Oldham Evening Chronicle*.

I myself have horses. I am also a vegan and a BHSAI Riding Instructor. My local 'hunt' is Saddleworth *Draghunt*. I have been out with them – there are no animals being killed and it is still great fun. Why can't all hunt supporters do this?

Dawn Fox, Oldham

Dear Howl,

I was most interested to read H Riley's letter *Confessions of a hunt rider: We hate killing foxes* in *Howl 53*. It confirms something that I have been suspecting, that if alternatives are available, many people will gladly seek out the kinder option.

Perhaps draghunts receive adequate local publicity, but I wonder if we can do more, as an organisation, to promote this cruelty-free alternative?

D Cripps,
London

Are they bastards?

Dear *Howl*,

I write concerning the cops, the scum, the filth – you've guessed it, the police force. Are they bastards, or not?

I don't know if *all* cops are bastards because there are too many of them, but I *have* seen people beaten unconscious by them outside a vivisection lab and a chicken factory, and a friend put out of action for a whole sabbing season after being ridden down by a mounted cop acting as an escort for a Sussex hunt.

I have been warned by an officer that if we (sabs) left the highway to go on to public footpaths we would be "filled in". It is etched into my memory.

Results for us sabs, after being ambushed by hunt followers: two broken noses, one cracked skull, broken ribs, serious back and leg injuries.

On the other hand, a cop *did* intercede on my behalf when one of his colleagues wanted to pull me by my legs out of the back of a police van.

Also, in *Howl 53* there was an article about naivety among animal protectionists.

The problem is that in the past, warnings about phone-tapping, interfering with mail, bugging of homes, etc, have usually been made by word of mouth or in low-circulation journals.

If you think a companion may be jeopardising their freedom, or that of anyone else, through indiscreet telephone chatterings or frivolous jottings, then try to speak to them about it.

C T
Sussex

HSA is being "hijacked"

Dear *Howl*,

I have been a Local Government employee for five years. During this time I have witnessed the continued hijacking of our union by vociferous left-wing minorities, whose only aim is to use the far-reaching publicity capabilities of the union for their own ends.

Month after month in Union Bulletins I read how "we" are now affiliated to groups such as Anti-Fascist Action, the ANC, the Anti-Racist Alliance, the National Abortion Campaign, etc.

What annoys me is that most people join the union to safeguard their rights as employees, not so they can be affiliated to left-wing pressure groups. If people want to join such organisations they can do so as individuals.

Sadly I see the HSA is now embarking on that same misguided journey, by allowing affiliation to Anti-Fascist Action. This was decided at the HSA's 1993 AGM.

Affiliation should never have been discussed; the problem which brought about this decision (ie, Margaret Flynn) should have been dealt with by expulsion, and the matter then dropped.

Remember that HSA stands for *Hunt Saboteurs Association*. As a group we should only be concerned with saving animals' lives, nothing else. I pay my subscription to help stop bloodsports.

Don't let left-wing ideologists sidetrack the organisation. If any of the HSA's funds start being donated to AFA, or if the HSA starts supporting other such groups, I shall be forced to withdraw my membership and financial support.

It's time to apply the blinkers and concentrate on fighting bloodsports. If other HSA members wish to support these other groups they can do so as individuals. Keep the HSA out of it.

Also, after reading *Howl 53* and seeing the photos of the so-called "hunt security" I wonder how anyone can claim that foxhunting is a class issue.

The terriermen in the photos are no more upper class than any of us; they are simply ordinary working class "hairy arses".

Unfortunately they have not been gifted with a sense of compassion as we have, and they indulge in such evil "sports" for kicks.

Neill Hughes, Clywd

Thanks

Special thanks to the following for all their help with this issue: Ben Ponton, Alec Smart, the CAA, CACS, ALF SG and ALF Press Office (news stories) and guest writers D Hegarty and T Daly (*Comment & Analysis* and *Group News*).



WRITE TO ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS

Those imprisoned for "Animal Rights offences" would appreciate letters and messages of support.

Most jails now allow stamped, self-addressed envelopes to be sent in with letters and cards. Please enclose these if you write, so that prisoners don't waste their limited funds on postage.

Remember that donations can be sent to the ALF Supporters Group who provide financial help for these prisoners – cheques and postal orders made payable to "ALF Supporters Group" can be sent to ALF SG, BCM 1160, London WC1N 3XX.

Please be careful with what you say – remember that mail sent to prisoners is likely to be opened and read before it reaches them.

Terry Helsby EF0761
HMP Risley
Warrington Road
Risley
Warrington WA3 6BP

Alison McKeon RE2370
HMP Askham Grange
Askham Richard
York
YO2 3PT

Keith Mann EE3588
HMP Strangeways
Southall Street
Manchester M60 9AH
(Sadly, Keith is now back inside after a 'vacation')

Annette Tibbles TT2215
HMP Holloway
Parkhurst Road
London N7 0NU

Vivien Smith TT2743
A4 Unit
HMP Holloway
Parkhurst Road
London N7 0NU

Max Watson BJ2477
HMP Haverigg
Haverigg Camp
Millom
Cumbria LA18 4NA

Going vegan: liberation begins with what you eat

Dear *Howl*,

One thing that continues to make me question the true extent of some hunt saboteurs' commitment to animal liberation is the issue of being vegan – or *not*, as is often the case.

Within the meat industry it is acknowledged that without revenue from the milk and leather industries the meat trade itself would be financially unviable. In other words, milk-drinking keeps the meat industry alive, and the animals dead.

Many of you milk-drinking, egg-munching veggies know full well the moral arguments for being vegan, and the suffering caused by not being so. What gives you the right to expect someone else to give up meat when you yourself, as a lacto-vegetarian, are also responsible for its existence?

The frustration all sabs feel when they are at a dig-out, outnumbered by heavies, lacking the numbers to do the job because some sabs have stayed in bed, etc, is the same as the frustration I and others feel about the million feeble excuses such as "I love my cheese"; "I'd die without my milk", etc.

There are no health reasons *not* to go vegan – I have a four year old child who has been vegan since birth, and I know of many others. There are people who ate meat for over 50 years and who became vegan with no harmful effects.

I could go on, but the point is that although you might be unable to take part in sabbing or direct action for whatever valid reason (fear of violence or arrest, work commitments, etc), you *can* go vegan – animal liberation starts within you and with what you eat.

If you can't even give up milk and eggs in the name of animal liberation then you can't expect anyone from outside the movement to change either.

There are always excuses and lies to justify cruelty – the hunt scum are full of them! But is closing your mind to certain aspects of animal abuse because it suits you the act of a true animal liberationist?

Mike, North Hertfordshire Sabs

Police side with sabs at the Brocklesby Foxhunt

Dear *Howl*,

Although I never read the offending article by ACAB (*Howl 50*), I certainly feel the need to emphasise our encounters with the police at the Brocklesby FH.

The first incident was when sabs were just in front of the hounds, which were in full cry.

As we proceeded down the road we were flagged down by a copper.

"It's over there," he whispered, and then got back into his car and drove off, leaving us to get on with our work. As a result the fox got away.

On another day officers made the following statements:

"I hate the bastards as much as you do."

"I don't care what you do today. You can do what the hell you like: spray, blow horns, trespass – why should the bastards get away with it?"

There were no kills on that day either.

So, ACAB and co: the police are *not* bastards. From our experience, they are far from it.

But I will admit that there is one copper from Immingham who won't leave us alone, purely because he is pro-hunt.

Paul
Grimsby HSA

▪ More saboteurs' views in *HSA Forum* on pages 8-10

Detrimental views?

Dear *Howl*,

In response to *Howl 53*'s letters: Mark Freeman says that debate should be encouraged, but not to the detriment of the HSA. What he *doesn't* tell us is who he has in mind to decide what is "detrimental". Who would decide what went in an "internal bulletin"?

As Mark is a Committee member then I guess I know who would be the censors. Perhaps the Committee have already discussed this – I think we should be told.

ACAB never suggested that all hunt supporters were members of the ruling class. What ACAB said was that a lot of them are. The ruling class isn't really that many people, and you only have to look at the average chinless wonder at a foxhunt to recognise those particular traits of inbreeding that are the signs of our aristocracy.

Robin Whitlock must not have understood ACAB's article if he can't see the class differences. Hunting foxes is *legal*; hunting badgers is *illegal*. Rich people enjoy riding around on horses hunting foxes; very few of them are keen to hang around with the average terrier crew. Anyone but the middle class would see the obvious connection here.

And why is it racist to say that "all coppers are bastards"? People have no choice as to their race, but they *do* have a choice about joining a police force which stitches people up and sees them rot in jail for things they haven't done, which smashes strikes and demonstrations with bullying strongarm tactics, which murders black deportees...

Would it be racist if I said that all nazis were bastards? Why suck up to the police? Wouldn't it be better to make a stand against them, and not be scared to point the finger at the bastards and tell them? Cheers ACAB – best thing I ever read in *Howl*.

R King, West Yorkshire

No contradiction at the Cattistock Hunt

by special correspondent Den Hegarty

Two artificial earths have been discovered by members of South Dorset Anti-Bloodsports on land owned by local hunt supporters.

The first is at Rodden Bushes, owned by E B Swaffield of Nethergate House, Portesham, and the second is located at Westcombe Coppice which is owned by former Cattistock Master Mr George H Pinney of Hooke House, Hooke, Beaminster.

Proof that the hunt make use of these earths comes from their own blood and jazz mags: an issue of *Countryweek Hunting* makes mention of the Westcombe site, and a Cattistock hunt report in *Horse & Hound* mentions that "a fox went away ... before coming back to Rodden Bushes" (17 December 1992).

Alastair Jackson of the BFSS claimed that the earths were constructed in the 1800s, long before the likes of Mike Huskisson started taking photos. According to local intelligence, the earths in question were built with well known 19th Century materials including breeze blocks, fertiliser bags, plastic drainpipes and galvanised metal lids.

Mr Jackson, who has never been called a bit of a wally *(and quite right, too — Ed)* said that there was no contradiction in encouraging foxes to breed on the one hand while claiming to control their numbers on the other.

Perhaps, when hunting is banned, Jackson will be found building walls and then knocking them down, or digging really big holes and then filling them all in again. Whatever activity he decides on, we can rest assured that it will pose no problem to Mr Jackson's logical, agile mind.

• The best letter we receive suggesting what Jackson can do with himself when hunting is banned will win a set of photos – which we received recently – of a former Cattistock Master's daughter in lewd and compromising positions. Send your ideas to "What Jackson can go and do with himself" at the *Howl* address.

The cops are everywhere!

Watch out for police spies sniffing about in your neck of the woods! Jo Harris sent us this candid photo of a suspicious but very friendly character who joined sabs at a recent hunt meet. The new recruit was later seen fraternising with the opposition.



★ *Euro*FILTH ★

It's not just helicopter pilots and tank commanders who suffer the discourtesy of "friendly fire". When French hunters aren't slaughtering anything that moves, their favourite quarry, apparently, is each other.

Each season sees hundreds of French shooters injured by their mates.

Examples of these dreadful, regrettable accidents include the Dordogne doctor who was one of a party of twenty sharp shooters who encircled a wild boar near Bergerac.

Although we can see the obvious dangers of armed men getting in a big circle and firing, we have little sympathy for the good doctor who, having drunk a few gallons of red wine, stumbled forward into the circle and was blasted by fifteen or more shotguns. Someone get a shovel and a bin bag, please.

Further south, near Toulouse, a brave deer-stalker came a cropper while engaged in Her Majesty's favourite bloodsport (sneaking up on a deer and blasting it with a high-powered rifle).

Triumphant, he was carrying his trophy over his shoulder and making his way back to his truck when his brother, seeing the deer making its way through the woods, took careful aim and shot the man through the face. Ouch!

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Spineless Eurocrat Jacques Delors broke through European red tape in record time recently, in order to appease supporters of the French equivalent of the BFSS, *Chasse Péche Nature Traditions*.

CPNT has a close relationship with Jean-Marie Le Pen's fascist *Front National*, and they support anti-immigration and anti-Maastricht policies as well as pro-bloodsports ones.

CPNT members have been campaigning for the reversal of the ban on the shooting of migrating birds returning to the UK. The carnage, which will include everything from blackbirds and thrushes to greenshanks and garganey, is to be carried out in mountain passes using repeater shotguns. Apart from the slaughter of hundreds of thousands of birds, the RSPB are concerned that many of the survivors will be blown fatally off course.

Delors is hoping to run for the French Presidency next year, so his motives are obvious. Less clear are the reasons why the UK's Environment Minister, John "Shitbag" Gummer, is "cautiously welcoming" the plan.

Concentrating – as Tories always do – on the economic issue, Gummer's Environment Department issued a statement acknowledging that "birds we are paying to protect here will be shot on their way over France".

While here in Britain nutcase BFSS supporters like Newberry-Street have placed bombs under their own cars, their better-organised French comrades have for many years been sending bombs and death threats to MEPs and conservationists.

Never ones to give in to terrorism from the Right, French Eurocrats are hoping that if the proposed bird massacre is allowed to proceed, Le Pen's share of the votes in June's Euro-elections will be reduced. The same thing is happening here in Britain, where Home Secretary Michael Howard is desperately hoping that his "outlawing of hunt sabotage" will get the bloodsports fanatics back into the voting booths this summer.

Elsewhere in Europe, a recent survey assessing the links between sales of pornography and incidents of sexual assault in fact replicated an earlier US study, and concluded there is actually only a statistical correlation between incidents of rape and sales of "country sports" magazines.

If these findings apply throughout the European Union, perhaps Howard will consider decriminalising serious sexual offences in his next push for bloodsports votes.

★ ***compiled by 'Henry V'*** ★

Animal Rights News

▪ Five animal rights campaigners were jailed in October 1993 following a lengthy and very expensive conspiracy trial in Manchester.

The charges related to alleged damage against a zoo and various butchers' shops.

Missing from the dock was co-defendant Keith Mann, who was able to "make himself absent" before the trial got under way. However, he was recently relocated and is now in prison in Manchester.

Terry Helsby was imprisoned for a total of three and half years, John Marnell and Max Watson received three years each, and Allison McKeon was given a two year sentence. In December 1993 the remaining defendant, a woman who had been sentenced to two years in prison, was released by the Court of Appeal.

The prisoners' lawyers are said to be shocked at the harsh sentencing, and further appeals may be in the pipeline.

One of the prisoners commented: "Our case was quite exceptional, so we had been dealt with particularly severely."

"The judge had to compensate for the millions of pounds spent on investigation and legal procedures."

▪ See the list of prisoners' addresses on page 4, or, better still, send a stamped, self-addressed envelope to the ALF Supporters Group at BCM 1160, London WC1N 3XX for up-to-date information.

The Group can also send you a booklet giving advice on how to support prisoners by writing/visiting, and an illustrated merchandise form is also available.

▪ *USA prisoners:* A judge presiding over the Washington Grand Jury recently imprisoned two animal rights protesters for refusing to testify.

Both *Deborah Stout* and *Kim Trimview* can be contacted at the following address, but please send letters of support, cards, etc, separately to each. Please write to them at:

Spokane County Jail
West 1100 Mallon
Spokane
WA99260
United States of America

▪ To allow US and other overseas Animal Rights prisoners to send replies, enclose post office *Aerogrammes* instead of SAEs.

BACK TO BASICS: HUNT VIOLENCE CONTINUES AS MP ACCUSES SABS

At a meeting in Didcot on 6 November 1993, Home Secretary Michael Howard spoke out against "violent" hunt saboteurs, whom he referred to as "thugs, wreckers and bullies."

On the same day, in separate incidents around the country, a number of saboteurs were violently assaulted by hunt supporters.

"THUGS..."

Three saboteurs were admitted to Lancaster Royal Infirmary following an attack by supporters of the notorious Vale of Lune Harriers. The sabs were treated for head injuries.

"WRECKERS..."

Four saboteurs were forced to jump for their lives as a tractor was driven straight at them by a hunt-supporting farmer at the Vale of Aylesbury foxhunt in Hertfordshire. Later, the same man rammed the saboteurs' vehicle with the tractor's fork attachment.

"...AND BULLIES"

At the Hampshire foxhunt, saboteurs were whipped by a hunt member as they rescued a fox from the hunt's hounds. Despite the attack, the sabs got the fox away alive, but it died later from its wounds.

And an Oxford sab escaped serious injury when he was struck on the head with a riding crop wielded by a rider from the Old Berkshire foxhunt.

DAYLIGHT RAID ON BFSS OFFICES

The British Field Sports Society's offices in London were the subject of a surprise raid by thirteen anti-bloodsports protesters on 22 November last year.

As John Roll-Pickering, BFSS Director of Recruitment, arrived at the HQ at 59 Kennington Road, SE1, the demonstrators barged past him and barricaded themselves into the first-floor suite of offices. Filing cabinets were emptied and the contents rearranged, while outside, reporters were kept entertained by another group of demonstrators, including one dressed as a fox.

Eventually the police arrived (the BFSS offices are situated, conveniently, next to a police station) and bashed their way into the room with a sledgehammer, damaging a photocopier and filing cabinets in the process.

According to the ALF Supporters Group newsletter, "two officers leapt into the room, knocking their third colleague over and causing him to cut the top off one of his fingers. The first one into the room maintained his balance – if not his dignity – and shouted 'Right, you're all going away for a long time for this.'"

All thirteen protesters were arrested and taken next door for processing. They spent the rest of the day in the cells, and were finally released on police bail as officers reconsidered the original reasons for arrest, 'suspicion of false imprisonment' (Mr Roll-Pickering apparently admitted that he hadn't been held against his will) and 'criminal damage' (the only damage was thought to have been caused by the police reducing the office door to sawdust as they broke in).

In January the demonstrators were charged under Section Five of the Public Order Act.

It remains to be seen what kind of justice will be meted out in this instance: recently, a Crown Court judge said of two officers from the Kennington Road station where the protesters were taken, "it is obvious the police have been lying." His comments came after a local woman won compensation over allegations of false imprisonment and malicious prosecution.

MORE CHAOS AS HOUNDS RUN WILD

A hunt's hounds ran wild through a Dorset village in February this year, frightening elderly residents and charging through a public cemetery.

67-year-old Kenneth Gardner was walking his dog in the cemetery at Portesham, near Abbotsbury, when 30 hounds from the Cattistock FH invaded the site and encircled him, before heading off along a main road into the centre of the village.

In the last twelve months there have been at least thirty similar incidents of "hounds running wild" in villages throughout Britain.

Mr Gardner told reporters: "I was just totally shocked. One minute I was walking my dog and the next I saw the hounds coming through the cemetery. It was very frightening."

"They just seemed to be out of control and I couldn't see any huntspeople," he added.

The owners of the village post office also witnessed the incident. They said that it was lucky none of the hounds had caused an accident along the road.

50-year-old Mrs Anne Martin said: "There were a number of dogs running up and down the road."

"This incident was very bad; the dogs should have been better controlled."

Another resident, who did not wish to be named, was also out walking when the unaccompanied hounds entered the village. He told the *Dorset Evening Echo*: "I was very frightened and I found it very distressing."

When asked to comment on the allegations, a spokesman for the Cattistock Hunt denied that the incident had happened at all.

And, as is usual in these cases, the police have declined to investigate the allegations.

HOUNDED OUT: HUNTSMAN DISMISSED FOR "ATTRACTING SABOTEURS"



Jeremy Whaley, high-profile huntsman with the Chiddingfold, Leconfield and Cowdray FH, has been sacked by the hunt's committee – for attracting too many saboteurs.

With Whaley rarely out of the papers in Sussex and his hunt often besieged by sabs, a bitter internal row ended with hunt members voting to dismiss the joint master in November last year.

The vote followed the tactical resignations of four joint Masters of the hunt, who were later re-instated when their "dissatisfactions" were noted by the Committee.

Whaley is expected to leave the hunt – and his home at the Petworth kennels – before the start of the 1994-95 season.

Several hunt members were in open disagreement with the decision to get rid of Whaley. Doreen Shaxson, a supporter of the hunt for 20 years, expressed sadness.

"Jeremy has worked hard for the hunt," she said. "I do not accept that he has attracted trouble to the hunt. Other hunts have their share of saboteurs."

A West Sussex sab said, "It's certainly very fitting that Whaley's career with the Chiddingfold hunt should end with him being stabbed in the back by his own colleagues."

The newly-homeless huntsman has often made the headlines. In what was described by saboteurs as a "cynical propaganda exercise", Whaley was once pictured in the local press tending rescued foxcubs and a fallow deer. Bizarrely, the animals were kept at the hunt's kennels, near the hounds.

Journalist Alec Smart commented: "a primary reason for his dismissal is his high profile in hunting and his frequent confrontations with 'antis'."

"This has attracted hunt saboteurs, badger protection groups and environmentalists from a wide area keen to disrupt his perceived arrogance."

Last year Whaley's hunt was linked to a tax-avoidance and public health risk scam exposed by the League Against Cruel Sports.

The LACS set up a front company to investigate hunts' illegal forms of income, and Whaley was allegedly tape-recorded negotiating the sale of skins from "fallen stock" animals to a fictitious firm of furriers. During the phone call he is said to have suggested that the hunt didn't want to "get caught out from a tax point of view".

It was estimated that the hunt may have been making up to £20,000 per year without declaring animal skins for tax. An Inland Revenue enquiry followed.

League supporters also took photographs inside the CLC hunt's gruesome "fleshroom", where animal corpses were piled up apparently without regard for hygienic storage and quarantining, and with no facilities for the detection of diseases such as BSE.

In August 1993 Whaley's Range Rover was badly damaged and 'repainted' with the message "HUNT SCUM". Repairs cost around £1300.

When questioned about the hunt's decision to get rid of him, Jeremy had few words for reporters.

"I am not bitter," he said. "What is done is done."

Rumour has it that Whaley will be moving north to the Berwick FH, but he declined to comment on his future.

▪ ***Photo by Alec Smart***

Anti-Angling News

▪ Litter problems caused by anglers has led to fishing being banned on a section of the River Hull at North Frodgingham, Humberside.

▪ In nearby Cleveland, animal rights campaigners are urging local councillors to introduce a total angling ban on several waterways where discarded fishing tackle and litter continue to destroy wildlife.

▪ Elsewhere in the North East, campaigners hope that a recent Department of the Environment ban on bait-digging at Budle Bay, Northumberland, will be extended to include the entire local coastline. The banning order, issued after pressure from English Nature, overturns an earlier High Court ruling and will help protect the many birds who depend for food on the lugworms otherwise used as bait by anglers.

Lugworms – and the wild birds which eat them – are the latest victims of over-fishing in the North Sea. Both sea anglers and commercial trawlers are being blamed for the "impending ecological disaster" which threatens to wipe out many of the sea's species of marine animals.

▪ Councillors in Cardiff are being asked to ban fishing on Roath Park Lake, where wild birds often become entangled in fishing line. If you live in the area and would like to help the campaign, contact FAUNA at PO Box 156, Cardiff CF5 5YD.

▪ The Campaign for the Abolition of Angling has a new address: CAA, PO Box 90, Bristol BS99 1ND, telephone (0272) 441175. Send a SAE for tactics info and news of forthcoming events.

HOLIDAY FIRM DROPS HUNT EXCURSIONS

Following some adverse publicity in *Howl 53*, holiday company Shearings Ltd have decided to stop including Boxing Day hunt meets in their Christmas brochures.

After receiving a number of complaints, the Wigan-based company bowed to customer pressure and promised that the hunt meets would not be promoted in the future. 1993's brochure featured trips to the Cambridgeshire FH and several other hunts.

The company's managing director said that his company was a caring one which did not "condone bloodsports".

HOUND KILLED IN QUARRY FALL



▪ This was the sickening scene at the North Cotswold FH last November when the huntsman sent his "favourite" hound over a cliff into a quarry.

The drop of over 100 feet killed the animal outright. Shocked sabs, who had only just arrived at the hunt, witnessed the fall.

Most of those out riding with the hunt were unaware of the incident, and carried on hunting without the huntsman.

COUNTRYWATCH: BROWNSHIRTS & BROWNTROUSERS

The brownshirts, we thought, were culled by Hitler's SS in one night in the 1930s. However, a new breed of "bend over and call Dave Sir" types have been spotted around hunts recently and we thought you might like to know that boss **David Dunn** drives a Maroon Ford Sierra F382 CWD and a blue Ford Sierra G597 YBH.

At the Old Surrey & Burstow FH Countrywatch stewards were being directed by brawny, curly-haired **Colin Jenner**, once accused of breaking a sab's kneecaps. His white Vauxhall Nova bears the registration number F563 NCD and a tricolour stripe.

The Budget van used by Countrywatch at the OS&B was booked by **John Napier** of Mansfield and delivered back to the hire company at Corby, Northamptonshire.

Mr Dunn himself is a peculiar character. Sabs have video footage of him threatening to break property and showing his natural wit – calling a South East sab "horseshit" (bet that hurt) and then becoming David Browntrousers (a la Purseglove at the Beagling Festival).

Howl is always interested in stewards' names, addresses and vehicle details (although we are not interested in where their kids go to school or which retirement homes elderly relatives reside in – please stop sending in this information) and we are delighted to offer a "passing-on of interesting information" service should anyone have genuine – and, of course, legal – reasons for requiring this type of data.

IS THERE ROOM FOR AN OPPOSING VIEW?

I recently resigned as editor of this magazine. I felt uneasy working with Committee members who refused to bar former Nazi activist Margaret Flynn from HSA membership; who constantly suggested I censor certain articles (in particular, *Forum* items by ACAB and others) and who were forging ever more links with politicians and police officers.

The final straw was the HSA's campaign against the new Criminal Justice Bill, as expressed both in the leaflet *Ban Hunting Not Hunt Saboteurs* and an article which was sent to senior police officers. Both were written by Paul Davis, HSA Campaigns Officer.

In a resignation letter I explained my reasons for quitting, which I restate here in brief.

In his police briefing, Paul said that at some hunts a "genuine working relationship" had developed between sabs and police. Police officers, he argued, were no longer being "confronted by a faceless mob who won't listen to reason". In the leaflet he said that "Michael Howard is proposing to strip the police of their *traditional impartiality*" (my emphasis). The leaflet also suggests that police officers are actually opposed to the new law, and adds "we believe that police officers should be allowed to do what they joined the force to do – catch criminals and try and make this country a better, safer place to live..."

I object to these kinds of uncritical statements about the police being made in our name. Such views do not reflect our experience of police attitudes and actions at hunts.

Yes, every so often, a copper *will* let us peacefully sab a hunt unhindered. However, hassle, intimidation, illegal arrests and fit-ups are what we have come to expect. As active sabs, we *know* how the police usually treat us.

As a *direct result* of police actions at hunts, many animals die. Sadly, this fact – that police interference on behalf of huntsmen leads to animals dying – still seems to elude some people. *This* is one good reason why the term 'cop bastards' is as valid as 'hunt scum'.

We owe it to ourselves to remember those sabs who have been the victims of police violence. In our campaigns, should we overlook the fact that many sabs have been convicted of serious offences because police officers have lied in court? Can we ignore the experience of those sabs who have been imprisoned for their 'crimes'?

I'm not even suggesting that we should go on

continued on page 10

News from Ireland: hunt sabotage comes to the Republic

Frustrated by the ineffectiveness of political lobbying, Irish anti-bloodsports campaigners have now taken up direct action.

"Relying on politicians to follow the wishes of the vast majority of their electorate has proved futile, as witnessed in last year's overwhelming defeat of the Bill to end coursing in Ireland," says the new Irish Hunt Saboteurs Group.

"We are tired of waiting for our politicians to see sense. We want wildlife protected *now*."

"The most effective way is through legally sabotaging hunts."

Already the group has organised public meetings and tactics talks, and are keen to hear from like-minded people from throughout the Republic.

For more information, phone the Alliance for Animal Rights on Dublin 6774059. (If phoning from the UK, use code 010-3531).

NEW LAW IS JUST ONE ASPECT OF A MORE GENERAL ATTACK

There has been an ongoing debate in *Howl* concerning the police, politics and sabbing, and there are obviously many differing points of view.

How is it then that the HSA pours our resources into a leaflet, *Ban Hunting not Hunt Saboteurs*, which not only puts out only one point of view but also gives an imagined collective view of politics, police and sabbing which is not shared by the membership?

If this isn't using group resources to make a personal political point then I don't know what is.

The leaflet talks of "vested interests in Westminster" and a "powerful lobby" within the Tory Party. Why not come straight out and say "the ruling class support foxhunting"?

This would be far more acceptable to the public than some wishy-washy nonsense about the police being apalled at being given the increased powers in public order matters which we all know they've wanted for years.

It is accepted at the highest levels in the police force – by the Association of Chief Police Officers, no less – that modern policing is, and will continue to be, directed more towards controlling public order situations than catching criminals.

If the HSA still believes in the "traditional impartiality" of the police then whoever wrote the leaflet – perhaps even the whole HSA Committee – can't have ever been sabbing.

What is more likely is that the leaflet was put together by a middle class twerp to appeal to middle class reactionaries and liberals.

It would have been better perhaps to have been honest: the ruling class want sabbing banned. The police are being given even more powers to curtail the rights of citizens to protest. Thus it is an attack on *everyone*, and we can't expect the public to get wound up over a bunch of students and drop-outs losing their chance for a bit of a lark in the countryside.

By pointing out that this is but *one aspect* of a more general attack on working class people for the benefit of the rich, we could have gained more support and maybe even won.

As for pandering to the middle class and asking them to fight our battle for us by signing a petition or writing to their MP, we might as well stick our heads up our own arses for the cause.

David Siswick
Workington
Cumbria

▪ All the items which appear in *HSA Forum* are written by individual HSA members and hunt saboteurs. As such, these articles express the opinions only of their authors, opinions which are not necessarily shared by *Howl*'s editors or the HSA Committee. *Views expressed on these pages do not reflect HSA policy.*



▪ Items for inclusion are always welcome – see page 2 for our address. Well-argued pieces that are short and to the point stand the best chance of publication, but all items may be edited for reasons of clarity or space.

"HOUND EXERCISE": RESPONSIBILITY LIES WITH THE HUNTSMAN, NOT SABOTEURS

I write in response to Mark Freeman's bizarre article on sabbing hound exercise (HSA Forum, *Howl 53*, page 7).

Firstly, I feel that it is wholly unimportant that foxhunters' vocabulary differs from the English language. The same applies to the differences between "puppy-walking" and "hound exercise".

We should *not* say that a fox or hare has been "accounted for" when it has in fact been ripped apart, and we should call a wood a wood – why call it a "covert" just because foxhunters do?

Likewise, I don't see why I should start wearing hunting clothes just because they do; it's not as if I want to *be* like them.

So, I feel that Mark's point about correct hunting terms was pedantic, and designed to impress rather than to educate.

I also feel that Mark's tactics advice is dubious, to say the least. He argues that there is a level of control that a foxhunter must have over his hounds, that it's important to the hunt that the hounds learn their Green Cross Code, and that this is the purpose of hound exercise.

Hound safety does not enter into the hunt's equation. Sure, it must be expensive on the insurance to keep losing them under cars or on railway lines, but it's not as if hounds are exercised on the M25 or during the rush hour.

Hound exercise is designed, like cubhunting, to create an effective killing machine, and we should try to stop it.

If we reduce a hunt to a disorganised shambles by ruining hound exercise, it is not our fault if the huntsman then takes out a pack he cannot control and they are all "accounted for" by a bus. Hounds are, ultimately, the huntsman's responsibility.

Since hunt saboteurs adopted the "hunting on" tactics they have been creaming on hunts. This involves the intentional destruction of the huntsman's rapport with his hounds, hunting hounds onto false scents, encouraging them to run away and generally confusing the whole procedure.

Mark is using an old BFSS argument that hunt saboteurs deliberately lure hounds onto roads to kill them, but nothing could be further from the truth. After all, if they didn't go hunting, then nothing would be killed, taking particular note of the life expectancy of a foxhound or a beagle. The logical conclusion of Mark's article would appear to be a return to simply stopping the pack and trying to hold onto them, an increasingly difficult task considering the escalating hunt violence and increased hassle from the police.

So, as well as reiterating BFSS lies based on their logic (their clothes, their vocabularies) Mark is suggesting a return to a *less devastating tactic*.

The more disorganised and rabble-like we make a pack of hounds, the more pleased we should be with ourselves. After all, if we dare cross the "Freeman line" and believe as Mark says that they *do* care that much for their hounds, then surely they would not go hunting.

Perhaps that isn't true, but we must never fall for the lie that any deaths at hunts – of anyone or anything – is any fault of ours. Charging over an increasingly developed countryside, over roads and railways, through gardens and livestock, is as reckless as hell and shows no regard for life of any kind.

Finally, it's worth remembering that while we must never adopt their thinking and reasoning, we are morons if we ever try to bestow our values and principles onto them.

"M"
Nottingham

IS FISHING STILL THE FORGOTTEN BLOODSPORT?

In response to the article *Time for Unity* (HSA Forum, *Howl 53*, page 8) it strikes me that the call for "constructive criticism" can be used in order to put down, or, worse, to dismiss, criticism that some people either disagree with or find offensive.

Inter-sab criticism is not akin to the criticisms of the police and the hunt scum.

The current dilemma, and an area of continuing argument, appears to be the subject of fishing.

I have sadly had personal experience of sabs' lack of interest in this all-too-easily-accepted bloodsport. Surely the whole premise of the HSA in 1994 is to combat more than just foxhunting.

In stark realistic terms the effort put into stopping hounds hunting fox, hare or mink is considerable when one considers the limited financial and person-power resources of most sab groups.

Fishing on the other hand (like shooting) is probably easier to wreck and is responsible for more animal deaths than foxhunting. I have difficulty remembering the last time when either of the two mounted packs in Cheshire killed more than three foxes on one day (thanks in no small part to North West sab groups), yet anglers will kill and maim considerably more "animals".

Admittedly, sabbing is about more than just how animals are killed; perhaps it shouldn't be. If, because of limited resources, we have to prioritise our campaigns, then shouldn't we go after those hunters who kill the most?

Could it be that like the foxhunters and their much-vaunted tradition, sabs have also become traditional in their campaigns?

In most cases I would argue that thirty anglers on a river bank have greater destructive capabilities than a foxhunt.

A call for unity should not be used to stifle debate. Unity is obviously the ideal, but at any cost?

A North West Anti

ROOM FOR AN OPPOSING VIEW?

continued from page 8

about how bad the cops are in our leaflets; but to suggest – as Paul does – that up until now the police have been 'impartial' is clearly nonsense.

Our many supporters don't need to be patronised or lied to. They're not idiots – they know that hunting is cruel, and they know that the police often break the rules, fit people up and generally push people around. As for ourselves, we urgently need to recognise the fact that the police have *always* worked *against* hunt saboteurs.

To the police, hunt saboteurs are just another "problem group" to be got rid of, and, whatever the law says, the tactics they use against us are the same ones they use against protesters, striking workers, deportees, travellers, and black and Irish suspects. The police are concerned not with "right and wrong" or "law and order", but with silencing opposition, upping arrest rates, getting convictions and being paid. We also know that they *love it* when they're given increased public order powers.

It is the police, not saboteurs, who have always been the "faceless mob who won't listen to reason". To suggest the opposite is, in my view, insulting.

(And where, exactly, was the police's "traditional impartiality" when Mike Hill and Tom Worby were murdered?)

It is dishonest to pretend that the police are "okay, really", and it is also, I feel, dangerously naive and counter-productive. Making compromises with the authorities only makes us weaker and less effective.

Instead of wasting HSA resources on "building bridges" with cops and MPs, the campaign against the Howard Bill should have been channelled towards mass direct action events (perhaps involving the other groups who will suffer under the new law), building on the support that most ordinary people already have for our aims and methods.

I concluded my resignation letter by saying that I considered the "law and order" rhetoric of the HSA leaflet (ie, "we believe the police should...") to be the language not of sabs but of right-wing reactionaries. Paul's response, in his officer's report, was unexpected:

Under the heading "Ed quits!" he wrote: "In a shock move, *Scum* editor Kelvin Gee announced he was resigning due to some tenuous excuse and decided to blame someone else for not doing his job properly."

"A spokesman stressed his decision was in no way connected to his recent acquisition of a sex life."

"Nick Herbert [*of the BFSS*] said: 'We shall all miss Kelvin tremendously. Now we will have to go back to writing our own propaganda again'."

I'm also referred to as "Gareth Spart" and I'm accused by others of having resigned because I'm "scared to sab".

The debate about the direction of the HSA's campaigns is an important one which concerns us all. It is unfortunate that it is being reduced to the level of rank-pulling and personal abuse. It also worries me that there is, apparently, no longer any room within the HSA for a variety of opinions on this and other matters.

Paul's remarks have convinced me that my decision to quit was the right one.

Gareth Gee

POST MORTEM: SOME REACTIONS TO THE NEW CRIMINAL JUSTICE ACT

1: Travelling at high speeds in a van, with a group of similarly-minded people, to confront some moral "bad" from the "higher ground" of righteousness requires motives not dissimilar to those required to join the police or fire brigade. They too are acting on moral codes and believe they're acting for "good" too.

2: This may help explain the actions of certain "influential" sabs' in appealing to the police and members of Parliament for help because of the Criminal Justice Bill.

One MP, after going out with a sab group recently, expressed his fears about the new Bill, saying that he was worried that it would push people into "guerrilla acts". He prefers legal protest now, rather than illegal conflict in the future which would be a further problem for him – perhaps one requiring extension of the prevention of Terrorism Act?

3: At a time when things look certain to change dramatically, many hunt sabs (in particular certain HSA Committee members) are turning to their middle class allies (police, politicians, press) out of desperation.

Collaboration with these groups – whom many of us regard as our enemies – is justified with the phrase "By Any Means Necessary", which historically has been used to justify the upping of the stakes and the use of illegal action, but which is now being used to excuse brown-nosing.

4: While the police continue to arrest sabs, as they've always done, news has leaked out that the HSA Campaigns Officer (a revealing rank) has written to senior officers arguing that the police and hunt sabs have a lot in common.

Despite the fact that the police have no legislative power and cannot alter the course of the Bill, letters are written to them on our behalf (as active sabs).

While the police no doubt have committees sitting now, deciding exactly how to deal with illegal hunt sabs, rural riots, exclusions, conspiracies to organise (as they did during the Miners' Strike) the HSA is ... asleep.

5: As the careerist Committee desperately try to hang on to their positions and sabs all over the country resign themselves to losing their identity because Saturday morning outings will be illegal, old Uncle ACAB watches on, knowing full well that what was said in *Howl 50* has been totally vindicated by events.

As the authorities tactically organise against us at a rapid pace, so many of us, sidelined into distractive conflicts with stewards, still can't see the woods for the trees.

The dominant class go hunting, hunt sabs threaten that, so they use their power and their police to eliminate the opposition, just as they always have.

ACAB

Conservationists or riverside vandals?

Anglers excuse their cruelty by claiming to be "green". The CAA says their claims are nonsense...

The most frequently-trotted-out justification for angling is that anglers play a vital role in conserving fish stocks and keeping rivers clean.

Apart from the obvious contradiction that litter and lost/discarded tackle kill and injure thousands of creatures every year, modern angling is becoming synonymous with the overstocking of fisheries, specialist breeding and the importing from abroad of huge fish.

In an editorial, *Anglers' Mail* recently asked: "Which carp syndicate released big catfish into its waters alongside a Thames tributary in defiance of the National Rivers Authority? Why is this kind of behaviour reputedly spreading like wildfire?"

The column went on: "I have received one anonymous letter alleging illegal acts by a fish supplier and there are constant mutterings from south of the M25 about huge cats (catfish) being imported and released into the wild."

Specialist anglers make up a large branch of the "sport". Their aim is to catch the largest fish of a certain species so they get their names into the record books and their photos in the angling press.

Increasingly, huge foreign fish are being imported from abroad to satisfy the specialists. Recently, for example, six five-foot long, 130 lb carp from China were flown to Britain. Only one survived unscathed. According to Dave Quelch, a fishery owner who has been involved in importing fish for thirty years, the transportation of fish over long distances involves "horrendous atrocities".

Such imports manage to meet existing legal requirements. However, with such a high demand for huge fish, cowboy operators will be encouraged to flout quarantine laws and put our native fish at risk.

For many years fish hatcheries have used special diets and conditions to grow big fish, but things are becoming more advanced. A fish farmer from Hampshire keeps his genetically-altered sterile fish in constant Summer temperatures, with an inch-long "hatpin" inserted between the cerebral lobes in their brains to allow their temperatures to be monitored by computer. Fish are identified with a bar code on their sides, and are kept in carbon-lined concrete ponds bathed in infra-red light.

Meanwhile, scientists are involved in research to genetically alter fish by lifting controls on growth hormones, thus delaying breeding seasons, allowing the fish to get fatter earlier.

Genetic manipulation of other species such as pigs and cows has resulted in painful side-effects, including rheumatism, and even less is known about the molecular make-up of fish.

Scientists, including Mick Crawley of Imperial College, have said that there is a serious risk that genetically-engineered fish might be more competitive than natural fish, upsetting the delicate balance between predator and prey populations.

Disregard for fish conservation is not uncommon. Pike anglers frequently move fish from one waterway to another to use as livebait (the movement of fish in this way is illegal without permission from the NRA, due to the risk of spreading disease).

But disease isn't the only risk: introducing a new species (some livebaits do escape) to an unenclosured fishery can be disastrous for the indigenous fish population.

Fishery owners often stock such high levels that undue stress is put on the fish through overcrowding. Of course, there is also the stress caused by repeated capture.

Unfortunately it is all too easy for more fish to be bought from a hatchery – as long as the paying anglers are kept happy. One owner, Billy Makin, proposes to stock barbel (a species adapted to fast river currents) in a stillwater lake, despite the fact that they will not breed. Hardly "conservation"! In reality, it is just another example of sentient creatures being seen only as a disposable commodity.

So, do anglers *really* respect and appreciate the aquatic habitat they use?

At present there are plans by Browning UK (tackle manufacturers) to build a covered, artificially-heated fishery on a 25-acre site near Peterborough. This is what anglers want, and this is how much they really care about the countryside. Next time you hear them boasting about their wonderful record of conservation, you'll know what to say!

■ ***This item first appeared in* Pisces, *newsletter of the CAA, January 1994.***
See page 20 for address.

THE HORROR OF GREYHOUND BLOODING

John Fitzgerald of the Irish Campaign for the Abolition of Cruel Sports appeals for your support to help end a sickening ritual

The "sport" of greyhound racing, which takes place in both Britain and Ireland, depends for it's existence on the illegal and horrific practice of blooding, which involves feeding live animals to the dogs.

Cats, hares, rabbits and birds are used in blooding sessions. In most cases, the victims are tossed to the dogs after first having their legs broken. Alternatively, they can be tied to wooden stakes for the greyhounds to savage them.

The BBC's *On the Line* programme recently exposed just how widespread this cruel and disgusting activity is in Ireland. The programme confirmed for the general public what animal welfare groups had known for years, ie, that blooding has become an integral part of the greyhound racing scene.

The British and Irish greyhound industries feed off each other. Greyhound racing is the second-biggest spectator sport in Britain, and over 90% of greyhounds racing on British tracks are imported from Ireland.

Ireland's industry is therefore of considerable importance to the business in Britain and is helping to perpetuate the practice in the UK. Conversely, the lucrative export market is important to the greyhound dealers here in Ireland and the demand for greyhounds in Britain contributes directly to the widespread use of blooding in Ireland.

Blooding is practiced in broad daylight, with dozens of trainers present on each occasion; the rewards being so obviously lucrative.

Eventually, greyhound racing itself will have to be banned, such is the level of cruelty involved. The US State of Maine has already abolished it.

In the meantime, we are appealing for co-operation from HSA supporters in combating this horrific abuse, which, though more widespread in Ireland, is common to both our countries.

Pressure needs to be put on the authorities of both countries to halt all imports of greyhounds from Ireland to the UK until the Irish Government greatly increases the penalties for those convicted of taking part in blooding, and the Irish police have stopped turning a blind eye to this shameful practice. (At present, a number of police officers – including senior members of the force – are involved in greyhound racing and coursing).

Polite letters making mention of the above points should be sent to the following address, and while these in themselves may not prompt an immediate ban on greyhound imports, such an approach on this issue is sure to receive considerable media attention in Ireland. Please write to:

The Home Secretary
The Home Office
Queen Anne's Gate
London SW1H 9AT

C.A.C.S.

CAMPAIGN FOR THE ABOLITION OF CRUEL SPORTS
Lower Coyne Street Callan County Kilkenny Ireland

See you in court!

Around 25 sabs are hoping to bring civil actions against Surrey Constabulary over allegations of wrongful arrest and false imprisonment.

Among them are 13 members of Brixton HSA, a group which has been repeatedly described as a "violent mob" by pro-hunting organisations.

The saboteurs were arrested in February 1993 by officers policing the Surrey Union foxhunt. The Brixton sabs allege that they were detained *before* the hunt had even started, their Land Rover being stopped as the sabs made their way to the hunt meet.

On the day in question, Farnham police had taken the bizarre step of declaring a two-mile "exclusion zone" around the hunt.

The sabs were taken to the police station at Farnham where they were held for ten hours before being charged with "violent disorder" and released on bail.

In July 1993 the charges were reduced, and in November the sabs learned that all the charges had been dropped.

HSA Press Officer Ben Ponton said: "The failure of Surrey Police to substantiate the serious charges they made against the saboteurs has vindicated the sabs' belief that they have been the subject of a campaign of lies and exaggeration waged by hunters and hunting publications."

The cost of policing the hunt for the day was estimated to be over £25,000.

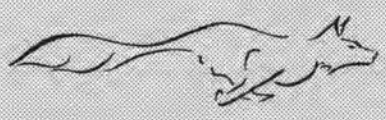
▪ After taking legal advice, several saboteurs from the East Midlands are pressing ahead with civil cases against Leicestershire, Lincolnshire and Nottinghamshire police forces over a number of arrests made since 1991.

The saboteurs intend to accuse officers of various offences and irregularities, including wrongful arrest, false imprisonment, assault and malicious prosecution.

▪ Some of Britain's top lawyers recently gave their support to the bans on hunting imposed by local authorities.

With some bans facing legal challenges from the BFSS, barristers and the LACS have provided all county councils with advice to make the bans currently in place legally watertight.

The assistance from QCs follows the revoking of a ban on hunting on land owned by Somerset County Council. Other authorities have suspended their bans until the matter is resolved.



THE AMERICAN EXPERIENCE: NEW LAWS TO OUTLAW HUNT SABOTAGE

In Montana, USA, a state law preventing the disruption of hunting was overturned last year after a district judge ruled that it infringed America's constitutionally-protected right of free speech.

The "hunter harassment" law, passed by Montana's legislature in 1987, came unstuck after it was used in 1990 to proceed against John Lilburn, an animal rights advocate who had helped sabotage a bison shoot near Yellowstone National Park by standing in front of a gun.

When the case finally came to trial last year the defence argued that the charge should be dismissed on the grounds that the law "impermissably infringes on the First Amendment under the US Constitution."

Judge Thomas Olsen agreed, saying that the law "prohibits communication with hunters which is intended to dissuade them from hunting, while allowing communication with hunters which encourages hunting."

The Fund for Animals, organisers of the protest, were delighted with the result. Their director in Washington DC said: "It's a victory not only for wildlife, but for First Amendment advocates in Montana."

Unfortunately, free speech or not, American wildlife will shortly lose what little saboteur protection it has when a new *national* law – with anti-saboteur provisions similar to those in the UK's new Criminal Justice Act – takes effect.

Although it is a general piece of legislation, the federal law is also expected to override local rulings and effectively outlaw hunt sabotage in all US states.

VERMIN PATROL *Scumbags in the dock*

▪ Two terriermen convicted of violent disorder and affray escaped custodial sentences. **Roger Wakefield** (41) of Mundon Road, Mundon, Essex, and **Bryn Chitterden** (27) of Priory Road, Bicknacre, Essex, were given Community Service orders. They were found guilty of attacking sabs at a 1992 meet of the Essex Farmers & Union FH.

▪ **Antony Barnes** was said to be "on the run" after being exposed on TV as a sick badger baiter.

Barnes, of 38 Woodlands Meadow, Chorley, Lancashire PR7 3QH, was seen on Channel Four's *The Killing Setts* programme helping **Tom Parr** of Port Laoise, Dublin to torture and injure a badger. "Barney", as he is known, can run, but he can't hide. If he isn't at home, we'd like to know where he's got to – if you can help, write to the HSA address.

▪ A slaughterman recruited as a hunt steward was bound over after being caught on film grabbing a television journalist by the hair.

Stephen Wilson (28) of East Street, Loftus, Cleveland, pleaded not guilty at Malton Magistrates Court to a charge of using threatening, abusive or insulting behaviour towards a Tyne Tees TV reporter.

The incident occurred at the Middleton Foxhunt at the end of the 1992/93 season.

▪ In December 1993 Puckeridge Huntsman **Oliver Harvey Hill** was convicted of blocking a sett while trespassing.

Hill, of the Kennels, Brent Pelham, Hertfordshire (Telephone 0279 777241), admitted the offence to police, and said he'd been acting on the instructions of Hunt Master **Captain C Barclay**. He was given a 2-year conditional discharge with £35 costs.

HUNT PAYS £800 OVER TRESPASS

Masters at a hunt in Devon recently made an out-of-court settlement after they were accused of trespassing on land from which they were originally banned over twenty years ago.

In 1971, the South Tetcott FH was ordered to keep away from Narracott Farm near Okehampton. Two years later they were again 'reminded' of the ban, but apparently took no notice: in 1978, under threat of court action, the hunt offered a cash settlement after hounds invaded the farm and caused distress to livestock.

A repeat invasion in 1989 forced the landowners, Mr & Mrs Canham, to seek legal advice.

At first, hunt staff offered Mr Canham just £24 along with an apology for the incursion which had disturbed a flock of sheep. The hunt also insisted that the farmer pay them a similar amount over what the hunt described as his 'threatening behaviour'.

Mr Canham strenuously denied the hunt's accusation, and, disgusted, he engaged LACS solicitors to take effective action against the hunt.

Just before the case was due to be heard at Exeter County Court, the hunt caved in and offered to settle the case. Mr Canham accepted, and the hunt paid him £874. Have they learned their lesson this time, or will the trespassing continue? Watch this space...

Howard the Duck

HSA Campaigns Officer Paul Davis examines the Criminal Justice and Public Order Bill

By now, most people will have heard about how the Criminal Justice and Public Order Bill, which is likely to become law in August, will ban hunt saboteurs and we're all going to jail for a very long time.

Except we won't – most of the Bill in practice is likely to be unworkable and unenforcable. Push down your hats and prepare for a dull and complex article as we take a look at what the bill is and how it will affect sabs...

▪ The law relating to sabs

The sections of the dealing with sabs are in Sections 52-53 (and, arguably, 54-55) of the bill; travellers, ravers and squatters are dealt with elsewhere in the bill and I don't propose to go into the issues concerning them here.

Roughly, Section 52 creates the new offence of "aggravated trespass", which is defined as doing anything on private land which is intended to obstruct/disrupt a lawful activity taking place, or about to take place, on that or adjoining land, or intimidating those participating in such activity (that's the simple explanation!).

Anyone who commits this offence is liable to arrest and on conviction can be fined up to £2500 and/or jailed for up to 3 months.

Section 53 gives the police wide-ranging powers to enforce this, including:

• if the senior officer present reasonably believes you're committing/about to commit/intend to commit the offence, he can ask you to leave the land in question. If you do not do so, or if you come back onto the land within 7 days, you can be arrested;

• if the senior officer believes that two or more people are trespassing with the common purpose of obstructing/disrupting/intimidating he can ask them to leave the land and if they don't or if they come back within 7 days he can arrest them.

Sections 54 and 55 are amendments to the 1986 Public Order Act powers on trespassory assemblies; it is unclear if they would be applicable to sabs but they seem more aimed at festivals and Stonehenge. We shall see.

▪ What does that mean in practice?

Erm, dunno, is the simple answer. The Bill is so badly drafted and the powers so widely defined that it's nigh impossible to tell exactly what will happen if/when it comes into force.

It's not just us that feel this – most police forces and lawyers don't seem to know what the Bill will be like in practice either. One reason for this is that any new legislation is to some extent defined by the courts' interpretation of it anyway. With a Bill as badly drafted as this one, there is a lot more scope for the courts to properly define what exactly the Bill means. Until the first round of convictions/appeals/acquittals go through the higher courts, we won't have a clear idea and much of the Bill will be left to the interpretation of the people using it: the police.

This is a fairly crucial point – certainly for sabbing next season – as it is very unlikely that any precedents will start to come down from the higher courts before late 1995 at the earliest, so for next season at least the police say what the law is. This means application of the Bill is likely to be highly variable across the country depending on different forces' interpretations of the Bill; how committed they are to implementing it anyway; how many resources they actually have available to do so (some forces have already hinted that they can't afford to nick sabs every week and think they've got better things to be doing anyway); and how far they're prepared to throw caution to the wind pending definitive interpretations of the law.

Under the most extreme reading of the law (ie, the BFSS/Home Office line) you can't even sab from a footpath, and even looking like a sab in the vicinity of a hunt would give rise to reasonable grounds for arrest.

There are some who feel that the police may have powers to effectively throw a cordon for some miles around a hunt and nick any likely-looking characters inside it. Such an extreme interpretation is highly unlikely to be upheld by the courts but that may not stop some forces trying this on anyway during their "free rein" next season.

At the other end of the scale, there is the view that the Bill actually restricts us very little, meaning only that serious disorder by trespassers on private land would give rise to an offence. The ultimate effect is likely to be somewhere in the middle, but this is largely irrelevant for the immediate future anyway.

In practice it will come down to what the police want to do, are able to do and think they can get away with. It's not going to be totally down to officers on the ground: the force policy will be set by operational/cost considerations, political considerations (pressure from hunts and Home Office and, if they're media-conscious, the local press), and in some cases a desire to keep their options open (a force that goes mob-handed to arrest every sab they can lay their hands on within a five-mile radius of a hunt is going to face a tidy bill for damages if the legal rulings on their powers go against them – most forces got their fingers burnt this way with the Public Order Act; some are more cautious now, others don't seem that bothered).

Basically, it's going to take a while before we really know where we stand. In the meantime, next season is not likely to be easy in many areas of the country but it's not nearly as bad as *Horse & Hound* and some of the pessimists on our side would have us believe. In the long run, sabbing will continue and the Bill is too shoddily put together to achieve all its aims. The future may not be certain but one thing is:

As long as there are bloodsports there will be hunt saboteurs.

The Howard Campaign: A Response

A personal view by Paul Davis on reactions to the HSA's campaign against the new law

You will doubtless already have heard (or read elsewhere in this *Howl*) that the HSA has been doing nothing about the Howard Bill other than crawling to the police and politicians and various other "class enemies". Well, not quite. Much of the seeming "furore" over this issue has actually been thework of about half a dozen people who care more about their personal political agenda than they do about sabbing or animals. To read some of the letters you would think that every sab was a seething class warrior who hates middle-class people and the police (now where have I heard that before?) In fact several of these letters are not even written by real people, much less by sabs. For example, FB (Forged Bullshit?) says he/she will give up sabbing after eight years just because of two sentences in a leaflet. Hardly likely I feel, even less so as I have been sabbing in the Oxfordshire area for 6 years now and I don't know anyone fitting that description. It is a shame that those who can't get any legitimate support resort to forgery to try and bolster their case, particularly as it gives an entirely false impression of what the HSA and hunt saboteurs are about. This is just one part of a dirty tricks campaign which has included hate mail, threats in the night and even throwing debris into a car I drove to a sab meeting, including a piece of wood with nails sticking out of it which landed next to where my dog was lying on the back seat - as I say, do these people care about politics or animals?

However, as the issue has been raised I have little choice but to reply. Personally I think the space in *Howl* would be far better devoted to talking about sabbing but then I'm just a middle-class liberal, so what the hell would I know?

The BFSS has already spent nigh on a million quid and pulled all the strings they've got to try and get this law in place. In comparison, we have a budget of roughly 27p and two shiny buttons. Much of the BFSS and Home Office's effort has been spent on trying to depict us as "thugs, wreckers and bullies" who don't care about animals but who are motivated solely by class hatred and the desire for a good ruck.

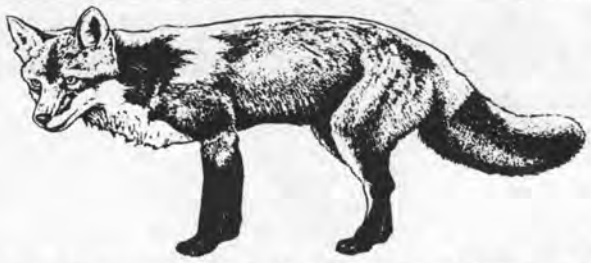
Our campaign has focused on persuading press, politicians and public that our concern for animals is genuine and that the only hooligans you'll find at a hunt are the ones in red coats who idle away those dull moments between ripping up animals by beating up anyone who doesn't agree with them.

The people who don't like the way the campaign has been run have objected to it, as far as I can tell, on the grounds that it has been "middle-class", "liberal" and "reactionary". I assume this means that we shouldn't have been fighting the campaign with MPs and the press as they are "establishment" figures. Well, that wouldn't necessarily have been our choice either but as we are fighting against a law being introduced in parliament, we really had little choice but to campaign at least partially on that ground. We did not choose the battleground - the BFSS and the Home Office did - but we cannot afford to ignore this fight. To have sat back and whinged that the rules were unfair would have been criminally irresponsible.

With a Government majority in the House of Commons, we were never going to defeat the Bill: what we hoped for and what we have to a large extent achieved is to shift the grounds of debate. At the start of the campaign it was accepted as fact by MPs from all sides that sabs are the hooligan extremists the BFSS make us out to be and this was largely reflected in the coverage the Bill received and hence the public perception of what the argument was about.

By the time of the Bill's third reading in parliament one MP had joined the HSA; another came out sabbing and then wrote about how good we are and how crap the bill is in his local paper; a strongly pro-

continued on page 18



Basic hunt sabotage: your questions answered

For the uninitiated, Cameron Evans explains the reasoning behind saboteurs' methods

• Q:Why do we use the horn and whip?
A:The horn and whip are used to imitate the huntsman and the whipper in.

There's no use in shouting abuse at hunt riders, because this doesn't bring the hounds away from the hunted animal, which is the basic aim of hunt sabotage.

In fact, silence is most important at all times so that you don't frighten the hunted animal back towards the hounds.

By using the same methods of controlling the hounds that the hunt use, we can pull the hounds out of a covert and away from their quarry.

The best way is to imitate the noises made by hunt staff when a fox breaks cover. One sab halloa-ing and another blowing rapid notes on the horn signals that the fox has come out and that the hounds must follow.

You can use a hunting whip (or a cheap home-made one – see tactics article in *Howl 50*, page 17) to keep the hounds under control.

Whips can also be used by sabs to stop hounds from going back to the huntsman. Sabs with whips simply form a line between the huntsman and the hounds.

• Q: Why are sabs told not to point at a fox or hare?
A: This is something which should be explained to all sabs before they first take part in sabotaging a hunt.

If you point at the hunted animal you may well alert one or more of the hunt staff or hunt supporters, who might otherwise not have seen it. This unwelcome attention will result in the hounds being brought onto the fox or hare.

Instead of pointing at a fox or making loud exclamations, simply tell your fellow sabs about the animal – *very quietly and without pointing* – and then take group action from there.

• Q: Why don't sabs use dog whistles?
A: This is quite simple. Hounds are not trained to respond to dog whistles, so using one you will not bring the pack over to you.

However, this tactic can sometimes have a distracting effect on hounds, which can be useful.

• Q: Are there any times when sabs should not try to call the hounds over to them?
A: Yes. Although each situation is different, you should never try to call hounds out onto a busy road.

If you call hounds onto a minor road, make sure that there are sabs there to stop the traffic so that hounds can be taken straight over the highway and into the fields.

When out hunting, hounds are always crossing roads without hunt staff being present, and many are killed each year in accidents. Remember that if hounds are under your direct control they are your responsibility.

• Q: If I go into a wood and distract the hounds will I also affect the fox?
A:Yes – and this can be a dangerous thing to do.

When you go into a wood or covert you are acting in the same way as the hounds and are covering an area that they might not have covered. You might distract the hounds, but there is also a chance that you will head a fox back towards the pack.

If it is a large covert, you might have to go in, but if you are in a large group then stick together so you are only covering a small area.

If you keep to pathways and clearings you will reduce the risk of coming into contact with the fox and reducing its chances of escape.

• Q: Why should only one person "holloa"?
A: The hounds will respond better to a single "holloa" than to a barrage of noise. You will never see a group of hunt staff or supporters shouting together, unless it is done to scare the fox into remaining in a wood – this is why sabs should try not to make too much noise.

It is also a good idea if someone blows rapid notes on a hunting horn – these are the calls the huntsman uses to get hounds out after a fox.

• Q: Is it best to unblock earths to allow the fox to escape down them?
A: There is no hard rule here. If the terriermen would find it hard to dig into the earth, then it would be safe to unblock it.

However, if they can dig into it then it might be an idea to leave it blocked, because otherwise the fox may go down it. This could result in a dig out, a confrontation, and a good chance that the fox will be killed.

If the fox is running there is usually a better chance for it to escape, especially if the hunt concerned is one which kills more below ground than above.

• Q: During "cubbing", why do groups of sabs spread around the covert in the same way as the hunters?
A: I don't know why this happens, but sabs who do this really should pay their subscription to the hunt, because by standing around the covert (especially at cubbing, although this also applies during the main hunting season) sabs are actually blocking any escape route the fox might have.

Instead, it is best if sabs stand a few hundred yards away and blow the horn, etc. If you need to stand next to the covert, then do so, but only let a *few* sabs get this close, so that an escaping fox can find an exit that isn't blocked by saboteurs.

• Q: When should sabs use sprays?
A: The best time to use sprays is when the hunted animal has diverted from its straight line. At that point, have a group of sabs in the area spraying all over the place, including where the animal has gone.

This has two effects: the scent of the animal is covered, and any hunt staff or supporters who see you spraying all over the place will have no idea as to where the animal has gone.

It isn't much use spraying where the hunted animal has simply run in a straight line, because the hounds will also tend to run in a straight line, through the sprayed area.

▪ *It must be stressed that the above tactics are based on one person's experience in the hunting field, and some of these methods – although tried and tested – may not always achieve success.*

▪ *If you have any questions concerning tactics, send them to the HSA office (address on page 2) and we'll do our best to respond.*

New tactics suggestions are also welcome!

"By using the same methods of controlling the hounds that the hunt use, we can pull the hounds out of a covert and away from their quarry"

Devon Week 1994

Sabs in action at South West hunts

Report compiled by Dan of Exeter Hunt Sabs



March 1994 saw a week of action against hunts in the South West area. Local groups in Exeter and Plymouth were joined by sabs from as far away as Yorkshire and the Midlands.

On the first day, Monday, sabs tackled the Eggesford Foxhounds. CBs were used for the first time – and to great effect, helping to ensure that the hunt made no kills.

On Tuesday morning sabs successfully tracked the South Tetcott FH on foot over Dartmoor's difficult terrain, despite being ridden at by angry hunt riders.

Later, the action moved to a nearby meet of the Holcombe Rogus Beagles, where a small group of sabs managed to get away, across a field, with the pack of hounds.

The huntsman soon lost interest in the proceedings, so sabs then turned their attentions onto the Taw Vale Beagles, who were also hunting nearby.

There, at the hunt's request, a gang of heavies moved in and began laying into sabs. Despite this intimidation, sabs got the better of the hunt and stopped them from killing. Unrelenting, the huntsman carried on trying to find a kill until nearly six o'clock.

Wednesday saw sabs at the Colyton-based Axe Vale FH. Having driven round for two hours, sabs found the hunt but only managed to stay with them for a short time.

Several sabs were subjected to hunt violence in what became a very disappointing and stressful day. However, once again, the hunt made no kills.

Another group of sabs, including some from Leeds and Plymouth, were meanwhile sabbing at a joint meet of four hunts on Dartmoor. With few roads in the area to assist sabs in moving around, sabs there also had only moderate success.

Thursday was a much more successful day, as sabs moved on to the Taunton Vale Foxhounds where they enjoyed the hospitality of Somerset Constabulary. A lot of driving around, keeping up with the fleeing huntsman, was the result of successful sabbing.

Local sabs described the day as "brilliant" – the Taunton Vale were not expecting any saboteur attention (having not been visited for a while) and the element of surprise worked in sabs' favour.

Sabs revisited the same area on the next day, to prevent the 'private' Roffe Silvester's Foxhounds from making any kills. Police, (including officers in boiler suits, body armour and riot gear) turned out in force. Sabs later accused officers of deliberately covering up the identifying numbers on their uniforms.

The police picked out a saboteur and arrested him; he was then taken to Taunton Police Station where he was held for 28 hours before being released without charge.

Despite the police overkill, sabs were able to totally split up the pack of hounds, causing chaos for the hunt and sending them home without having killed.

On Saturday, Devon sabs visited their local East Devon Foxhounds, where, once again, hunt heavies resorted to some extremely violent tactics, such as throwing punches, at random, at saboteurs. One sab was hit repeatedly in the face. But despite all this, the hunt still packed up early and made no kills.

At the same time, visiting sabs were also facing trouble in neighbouring Cornwall at a meet of the Four Burrows Foxhounds.

In a disturbing new version of "trial by ordeal", one female saboteur was allegedly handcuffed to a tree and surrounded by hunt supporters. Officers are said to have explained that if she wasn't guilty, she wouldn't come to any harm.

The incident was covered by the *Western Morning News* whose report instead concentrated on alleged injuries sustained by the huntsman – not surprisingly, this pro-hunt newspaper regularly advertises hunt meets.

Other events at the Four Burrows – which for legal reasons cannot be related in detail – resulted in one saboteur being taken from police custody to hospital with busted ribs and internal bleeding. Around twenty other sabs were also arrested.

Despite the week's violence and intimidation, there was some brilliant sabbing, and it is hoped that there will be another week of action.

Sabs Under Attack!

We need your support now more than ever before. The police are being given new powers to stop saboteurs from acting against hunting, and millions of pounds are being spent by our opposition on pro-bloodsports lobbying. We know we're always begging for money, but can you really afford *not* to help us – and the hunted animals – with a donation?

There are several ways you can help the HSA:

- **Get in touch with your local group (details from our office on 0602 590357) either to go sabbing yourself or to help in other ways, such as fund-raising**
- **If you are not already a member, please join the HSA using the form on the right – it only takes a few minutes to fill in and return to us.**
- **If you *are* a HSA member, please pass on the form to someone else who would like to join us.**
- **Support us by buying HSA t-shirts and other merchandise – phone the HSA office if you don't already have a merchandise form.**
- **Let them know what you think! Write to your local newspaper's letters page and your MP to let them know your views on the Government's changes to the law. Your MP's address is *House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA.***

HSA Membership / Donation Form

I would like to become an active / supporting* member of the Hunt Saboteurs Association *(*delete one)*

I enclose my membership subscription of: *(tick one)*

❑ £5 per year unwaged ❑ £8 per year waged ❑ £70 life membership

❑ I enclose a donation of £_____ to help fund the HSA's work

Name: *(Ms / Mrs / Miss / Mr)* _____

Address: _____

_____

_____ Postcode: _____

Telephone Number: _____

❑ I wish to pay by Visa / Delta / Mastercard / Access

Card number:

❑❑❑❑ ❑❑❑❑ ❑❑❑❑ ❑❑❑❑

Expiry Date: _____ Signature: _____

Cheques should be made payable to "HSA". Return to Hunt Saboteurs Association, PO Box 1, Carlton, Nottingham NG4 2JY. For a Standing Order membership form or more information phone (0602) 590357.

SABBING REPORTS FROM AROUND THE COUNTRY

Compiled by Tyne Daly from reports sent to *Howl* by local sab groups

• If your group or region isn't mentioned here, blame your HSA Group Contact for failing to send in hit reports, summaries, photos, newsletters, etc. Don't go unmentioned next time – write now!

South West

Weymouth sabs have been active against the South Dorset FH, Cattistock FH and Portman FH, where they have been joined by sabs from Bournemouth, New Forest and North Dorset.

North Dorset sabs were out at a total of 66 hunts between cubbing and New Year – a great achievement considering both the level of hunt violence and a number of anti-sab injunctions.

Before 1993 ended, the Beaufort, South & West Wiltshire, Seavington and Hampshire foxhunts were all sabbed, along with the Axe Vale Harriers and the Clinkard, South Somerset, Chilmark, New Forest and Pimpernel beagle packs.

17 meets of the New Forest Buckhounds were also sabbed.

The New Year saw even more hunt violence. **Paul Martin** (of Ytene MH fame) drives a yellow jeep (registration number D193 XMV). At the Cattistock FH meet at Buckland Ripers on 6 January, sabs arrived to see BFSS rep **Alistair Jackson** take his mobile phone from his car (a Subaru, K372 WWD). Later, the sabs were badly beaten by a gang of vicious thugs who also smashed CBs and video cameras. Undoubtedly, Mr Jackson returned home with a clear conscience.

At the South Dorset FH at Galston, sabs were treated to the company of handsome, athletic **David Dunn** of Countrywatch. After hunt bullies had thrown bricks at the sabs' vehicle they went on to attack an elderly local woman in her own garden. Allegedly, master of disguises David posed as a copper in order to "sort it all out". The host of the meet at Manor Farm drives a Land Rover (registration H665 MLJ) which, for some reason, was loaded with pitch forks and baseball bats.

Meanwhile, Southampton and New Forest sabs have been reaping the results of successful sabbing in the Forest – more hunt violence and despicable policing.

Last August at Lucy Hall, the Buckhounds rode over a young woman from the New Forest Animal Protection Group and her young child. Not satisfied with this, "Whiskers" rode into an old woman who was walking her dog.

In September 1993, 15 bullying, genitally-challenged hunt thugs attacked five saboteurs. Fortunately, the police witnessed the attack and were able to arrest a female sab who used reasonable force to prevent an unlawful arrest. Departing officers gave the other four sabs a sporting chance: either "stay on your own with the thugs and get your faces filled" or "go away". The police then left the scene *(no doubt to "catch some criminals" — Ed)*.

Thanks to "bloody marvellous" sabbing, it took a full eight meets of the Buck-hounds before they caught a buck, and even then it was only following violence and in-timidation that they were able to make their kill.

Perhaps the worst moment came on 1 November last year when supporters jumped on a young buck which sabs had helped out of a stream.

A woman sab reported to a policeman that she had been punched in the chest. The officer's reply was, "Well love, if you'd like to come into the bushes and take your clothes off I'll examine it for you." – *Howl* would be devastated if a decent, upstanding guardian of democracy like this ever lost his head in a riot.

Two weeks later, with sabs having been head-butted and punched, one NFFH rider fell off his horse having suffered a heart attack. While sabs did what they could and gave mouth-to-mouth, the hunt took the opportunity to lose their pursuers and left sabs to deal with the corpse. What are friends for, eh?

Generally, the Buckhounds' tactic is to "shoot on sight", leaving messy near-kills as supporters blast at deer before hounds have even found the line. On 28 January 1994, a deer was carted off to Denny lodge for the carve up, shot but still breathing...

Elsewhere, the New Forest Beagles were stuffed on 22 September 1993. While sabs took most of the pack to some nice woods for a picnic, the huntsman took his three remaining hounds through some electric fences into a pigpen. Nice hunting, that. The usual violence resulted, with a high-ranking supporter of the Pimpernel Beagles allegedly biting one sab and attacking others with a pickaxe handle.

New Forest sabs have also been to the Blackmore and Sparkford Vale FH, Portman FH and the Cattistock FH, where supporters had to slash tyres on the sabs' van to keep them away from a kill.

Despite a number of problems, Cotswold sabs have been very active against a number of hunts along with Bristol, Bath, Swindon and West Midlands sabs. Hunts visited include the Cotswold Vale, Avon Vale, North and South Hereford, Heythrop and Ledbury foxhunts, the Ross Harriers, and the Royal Agricultural College Beagles at Cirencester.

• When the South Dorset FH killed a fox on a blind bend at Poxwell on the A353, causing road chaos, it was recorded on video by hunt sabs and mentioned in the local media.

Joint Master Edward Knowles of the Kennels, Bere Regis, accused road users of being reckless for driving along the road towards the hounds, as the delay was "only for a few minutes".

After all, someone driving to work or returning home to their family shouldn't mind waiting around while a set of toffs get their rocks off killing foxes...

South East

Sabs in the South East have been out against the Essex packs, the Puckeridge, Enfield Chase, Old Surrey & Burstow and the Vale of Aylesbury.

Essex sabs have been joined by groups from Hitchin, Orpington, Goldsmiths, Colchester, Harlow, Halstead, Streatham, Guildford, Brighton, West London, Sudbury and, last but not least, those public school softies from Brixton.

At the Surrey Union on 13 November 1993 a combination of police blockades and blind eyes directed towards armed thugs in a brown van (registration number B874 PKV) allowed the hunt a dig-out.

South Eastern sabs are keen to point out that the only reason thugs come to the Surrey Union is that the police will let them do what they want – if it was a fair fight they'd get "well sorted". If a sab hits a thug the sab gets nicked. And if a thug hits a sab, well, er, the sab gets nicked.

Therefore, following a particularly nasty meet of the the Essex FH, sabs were amused to receive a phone call from the police who were concerned about "another Stagden Cross". If the police would just arrest the violent hunt stewards (whose antics, if copied by sabs, would result in jail sentences) then there wouldn't be a problem.

While the Essex FH met at Stagden Cross on 27 November, sabs went to the Essex Farmers & Union FH, where police turned out reinforcements and a helicopter – oddly, there were no stewards. One sab was arrested for the crime of "driving while wearing a balaclava".

Back at the Essex Hunt in February, a steward jumped on the front of a moving sab vehicle. Despite expecting a coroners' court whitewash and massive police protection, the driver decided not to run the bastard over, and for this was arrested under Section Four of the Public Order Act. That's justice!

• Please send in group news from your region for publication in *Howl 55.*

Photos are always needed, as are news stories and hit reports. Items for inclusion should arrive by 31 July 1994 if possible.





Above: Shall we dance? One sab is manhandled by Mr D Boulter of the South Dorset FH (left) and another is grabbed at the Puckeridge FH (right)





Left: A busy sab about to be taken roughly from behind at the Puckeridge hunt



Above: A grisly find – a fox killed by Humberside's Brocklesby Foxhounds, 7 January 1994

Bottom Left: The cruel end of another foxhunt – a hound from the Surrey Union FH bites the head of a dead fox, while the huntsman watches on, 20 November 1993

Midlands & East Anglia

Peterborough sabs had a very active season against the Fitzwilliam and Cambridgeshire hunts, being joined at the latter by Cambridge sabs and others. The Fitzwilliam stewards, extremely nasty at the start of the season, were being described as "relaxed yet moronic" by the New Year, having been unable to prevent sabs from devastating the pack with tapes of hounds in cry.

Bullies at the Cambridgeshire began the season by attacking sabs at the opening meet. Perverts groped a sab on 18 December (full names and addresses of the perpetrators for the next issue, please) and three days later they punched and kicked a small woman sab and loosened the wheelnuts on an unattended sab vehicle. A policeman who spotted this was shocked at the thought of the possible road traffic carnage which he averted.

On the same day the hunt found their first fox of the season, which was already dead and rotting in a ditch.

Stewards proved their worth when East Midlands sabs turned up and told them to go home. They did, returning two hours later to point out a sab to police. The sab was arrested on an assault charge. You useless jessies.

A February meet of the Cambridgeshire at Spaldwich saw a small group of sabs attacked. Supporters in a red Lada Riva (L443 MAV) were witnessed releasing a fox into a covert which hounds had just entered. Laughing supporters who know they can get away with murder (and are keen to joke about it) later told sabs, "so what if we bag foxes – you didn't get that on your fucking video, did you?"

Midlands sabs have also been active at usual favourites the South Notts, Quorn, Oakley, Cottesmore, and the Pytchley, where the Peterborough group rescued a kitten from the hounds. Yuppies from the Trinity Foot Beagles have also been chased back to their student winebars a couple of times.

The Cambridgeshire FH are said to be suffering for the killing last year of Tom Worby. Nearly every meet has been sabbed. Peterborough and Cambridge sabs thank all those who've helped with this ongoing campaign.

North West & North East

Cumbrian sabs started the season against the Cumberland FH, home of "balaclava-clad hammer-wielding hunt thugs," etc. On 15 December 1993, four sabs prevented a dig-out by calling hounds away and unsettling them. The huntsman moved on, leaving sabs with the terriermen who eventually recovered their dog.

Joining sabs from Penrith, Lancaster and Tyneside, the Newcastle & District Beagles (winners of last season's "hunt most deserving a kicking" award) were located at Twice Brewed.

Sabs were delighted to see the usually bright pink, chubby-cheeked Richard Brown up to his waist in freezing water. As the beagles packed up to allow Mr Brown to regain his dignity, sabs were surprised to see a fox break cover, chased by the biggest beagles they'd ever seen. It was, of course, the Haydon Foxhounds of Hexham, and sabs brought them to an early halt.

The Vale of Lune(atics) Harriers at Longlands on New Years' Day made good sport for Cumbrian sabs who were assisted by colleagues from Bolton, Wigan and Lancaster. There was no repeat of the Boxing Day episode in which sabs had been ridden down.

Cumbrian sabs returned to the North East to help tackle the Braes of Derwent FH, who have delighted local autograph-hunters by apparently entrusting Pee Wee Herman himself with the hunting horn. However, as usual, he had other perversities on his mind, and went home without a kill.

Scotland

Since the Linlithgow & Stirlingshire FH went under in 1991, Edinburgh Hunt Saboteurs have concentrated on the Duke of Buccleuch's FH. They have been out sabbing usually twice a week, often accompanied by the Borders sab group.

Two kills have been witnessed:

• November 1993 – a fox was caught by two stray hounds. Sabs took the animal to a vet, but it died on the way there.

• February 1994 – the second kill resulted in Joint Master **Mr T Adams** being charged with attacking an impartial observer who videoed both the kill and the assault.

The Procreator Fiscal decided that there wasn't enough evidence for a prosecution – after all, they've only got to ask our own English CPS if a video recording of hunt supporters attacking people is a crime that any reasonable person would convict on...

The answer? Nah, of course it's not. The public think foxhunters are bloody marvellous and would hate to see them prosecuted. It's good to see that, just like in England, the Scottish legal system can be relied upon to dispense justice even-handedly to rich and poor alike.

Also this season, Scottish Action Against Bloodsports have been very active, visiting – among others – the Berwickshire FH, Jed Forest FH, the Beagling Festival and various grouse shoots.

▪ According to Scottish sabs, police North of the Border have been passing on the names and addresses of saboteurs to hunt staff. One sab was surprised when she hunt supporters referred to her by her mother's name. A complaint was made, and, when asked to investigate themselves, the police officers *(don't knock 'em, they do a good job — Ed)* could find "no trace" of the leak and took matters no further.

▪ Clearly responding to our feature *Keep Up the Pressure* in *Howl 53 (I think not — Ed)* Edinburgh sabs have been getting their act together in style recently by producing new tactics and legal leaflets.

Clear, well-written and down-to-earth (that is, they suggest that hating upper class toffs is as good a reason to go sabbing as is hating cruelty) copies of the leaflets are available by sending a stamped SAE to Edinburgh Hunt Saboteurs, PO Box 002, Glenroathes, Fife KY61 2EB.



Above: the Duke of Buccleuch's FH at Midlem on 10 November 1993: "Edinburgh sabs take hounds down heel scent with the aid of the gizmo (tape of hounds in cry)." Photo: Edinburgh sabs

Wales

With several Welsh foxhunts now grudgingly accepting the presence of sabs, violence has receded a little and the Tivyside FH, Gogerddan/Llangeitho FH and Carmarthenshire FH have all been visited, though sabs have been concentrating on the Vale of Clettwr FH of Pencader, Dyfed.

The prosecution of Clettwr terriermen for dishing out broken noses has defused some violence there. **Emyr Davies** and **John Geraint Owen Thomas** were both charged with ABH offences.

Northern Ireland

Belfast sabs can claim increased membership and have been seeing successful action against hunting following a number of tactics talks.

Up to six cars and a minibus have been out to various hunts, including the Iveagh Harriers, East Down FH, East Antrim FH, the North Down Harriers, and the Killultagh, Old Rock & Chichester Harriers.

The Banbridge-based Iveagh Harriers have taken most of the stick, facing not only well-versed sabbing tactics but also well-organised anti-hunt farmers.

At a North Down Harriers meet in November, RUC officers decided that while garlic sprays now count as firearms, it is *not* an offence for a hunt supporter to drag a saboteur by the hair behind a Land Rover for half a mile.

In fact, say the police, it's the sab's own fault for having long hair...

The Howard Campaign

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government Tory front bench MP resigned his post over the issue; and even rabidly pro-hunt MPs had accepted that most of the violence at hunts comes from hunt supporters beating up innocent protesters.

Basically, we had achieved a complete turn-round in the way the issue was being perceived - the debate had shifted quite dramatically to expose the Bill's nakedly political motivation to smash saboteurs because we are anti-hunt, particularly when we exposed most of the BFSS' propaganda (on which the Bill was based) as lies and the Home Office refused to even contemplate applying aggravated trespass to hunts. Apart from the (important) shift in perception, if this Bill is ever to be abandoned, toned down or quietly dropped (as happened with the last Criminal Justice Bill in 1992), it will be decided in the corridors of power: by MPs, judges, civil servants and police forces who cannot afford the Bill (in every sense of the word). We might not like that, but that is how it works - it is important that we lay the ground now for challenges in the future, by undermining confidence in the Bill's ability to ever work and exposing that it is really about suppressing dissent, not about stopping violence. We might not like the way the fight's been played, but this is not one we can afford to ignore.

Much of the criticism has been directed at specific elements of the campaign, in particular the leaflet and a letter supposedly written to senior police officers. This was in fact an article used to accompany a press release saying that even the police thought the bill wouldn't work. This seems to me to be a valid campaign line and one which has been very successful. It does not mean that I, or the HSA, therefore feel that the police are our "allies" or that we are quite happy with the way they treat sabs - but is obviously a very powerful weapon against a "law and order" bill if it is even opposed by the "forces of law and order" and it would be ludicrous not to use that weapon.

To find an article in the *Sunday Telegraph* of all places headlined "Police fear hunt law will increase violence" was a substantial blow for the campaign to undermine the Bill's whole rationale.

Similarly, the leaflet was not saying that the police are the best thing since sliced bread, but making the point that even they don't want the Bill. As the leaflet was intended to persuade the public, not hunt sabs who I assume don't like the Bill anyway, it was deliberately written in populist language and set in terms that most people could agree with.

I am well aware that the police are usually far from impartial at hunts - having been nicked myself three times this season I would be a bit dense if I didn't - and I was not saying that they were, rather that any pretence at impartiality would now be gone. I still don't believe and never will that a leaflet is the right place for the HSA to start launching into anti-police/anti-system tirades. Our support comes from the fact that we are seen as saving animals, if we start lecturing people about class politics they will probably

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Book Review
Betrayal of Trust

Betrayal of Trust is one of the year's more controversial books. Its author is Vernon Coleman, who, as well as being editor of the *European Medical Journal*, is a doctor, journalist, animal rights campaigner, and fervent critic of the medical profession.

The book – one of a new series from the *EMJ* – presents a direct challenge to some of the most taken-for-granted ideas about medicine and health. Echoing the words of the equally-outspoken writer Ivan Illich (author of *Limits to Medicine*), Dr Coleman refers to "iatro-genesis" (doctor-induced illness) and argues that doctors often do more harm than good.

In fact, doctor-induced disease is now the most common cause of serious illness in the UK. One in six hospital patients, says Dr Coleman, are there because they have been made ill by doctors.

Dr Coleman writes not only with conviction but with a clear grasp of the subject – for many years he was a practising GP himself. His earlier book, *Why Animal Experiments Must Stop*, was a powerful attack on pro-vivisection arguments. Now he has related his arguments to a wider criticism of a medical profession which, he says, is causing very serious harm not only to animals but to humans as well.

Vernon Coleman is a highly credible writer who avoids resorting to emotive rhetoric in order to convince his audience. Instead, he supports his conclusions with solid facts.

"When individuals who support animal experimentation are given the facts, they cannot defend their position," he says. "Animal experiments are so unreliable that it is possible to prove anything by doing them – one just has to select the results carefully."

He adds: "Animal experimentation is done with a false mantle of science by men and women who claim to be educated and civilised. It is based on lies and ruthlessly used to make money. A side effect is that millions of patients are made ill."

"Those who perform and support animal experimentation have betrayed us all."

Dr Coleman suggests that if people are wary of the anti-vivisection argument it is because they have been "encouraged to believe that those who favour it are simply cranks."

"The image of the anti-vivisection movement has been deliberately clouded by lies, deceit and propaganda," he says.

This book will hopefully help to counteract the nonsense put out by drug companies and vivisectors. Its publishers say it "totally destroys the scientific argument in favour of animal experimentation."

***Betrayal of Trust* (ISBN 0 9521492 2 2) Published by EMJ, priced £15.95, and available from bookshops or post-free from EMJ Book Sales, 234 Summergangs Road, Hull, North Humberside HU8 8LL (all profits go to anti-vivisection campaigns). Review by Sarah Bailey.**

*Huntsman*Balls

"Hunting people tend to be church-goers on a higher level than ordinary folk. One has a religious experience in the field."

"People who oppose field sports have not actually read the Book of Genesis. This is the structure of the world."

Perhaps we mere mortals should heed the words of the Reverend Christopher Seal, a Northamptonshire rector and supporter of the Oakley Foot Beagles (top) and Canon Gerry Murphy, bloodsports fan and Chaplain of the Tower of London (above). Both quotes from the Sunday Express *magazine, January 1994.*

"They are just paid rent-a-mobs. At first we thought they were genuine animal lovers but now we know they get paid about £40 a day for disrupting things.

Most of them are on the dole or on student grants so that is a lot of money for them. It is all politically motivated with someone in the background paying them."

Mrs Dorothy Cook, Master of the Holderness Hunt in an interview with the East Yorkshire Journal, *January 1994.*

*Policeman*Balls

"Saboteurs regularly use violence and intimidation against people and animals as a means of pursuing their view of 'animal welfare'."

Chief Inspector Joan Williams of South Yorkshire Police in a letter to Police Review entitled 'Hunt saboteurs no better than hooligans.' So much for police impartiality – but there's more...

"I had a dream about all of us, about the section, going round in a car. We were in plain clothes and we were indiscriminately murdering everybody in the daytime that was causing the trouble in the night time. I've never enjoyed a dream so much in my life..."

"You have to make the first move, use your vehicles, drive the Land Rovers straight at the bastards. Then they scatter. You deal with the rest with your sticks. No problem. I don't give a fuck about the kids who got hurt."

Two police officers, each with over ten years' service, referring to their experiences during the Toxteth riots, in which a disabled man was knocked over and killed by a police Land Rover. These quotes (from Talking Blues*) don't refer to policing hunts, but they do refer to public order policing, and, as the police are being given greater powers in this area, they serve as a timely warning for hunt sabs...*

New: HSA campaign t-shirts

T-shirts bearing the message 'Don't turn your back on wildlife' are now available from HSA Salesgoods. The new white shirts feature a photo of a redcoat dragging a dead fox and the backprint 'Ban hunting not hunt saboteurs'.

These t-shirts come in sizes L or XL only, and cost £7.15 each, post-free. Buy one and support our campaign. To order, send your details and a cheque/PO (made payable to 'HSA') to the HSA address on page 2.

*Freeman*Balls

A thin frail old woman walks to the brown stained man in white,
Sharp edge steel rises and falls
Wrapped in sterile white, whisked away to be consumed
A spider crawls across the mortar
From where a blade of grass pokes
The single yellow unblinking eye, caught full in the face

▪*A 1985 effort by budding poet Mark Freeman, reprinted here as our one and only concession to the poetry freaks who constantly send their pitiful odes to* Howl. *This will* ***not*** *become a regular feature, so please don't send in any more poems, okay? – Ed.*

The Howard Campaign *continued from page 18*

not listen and if they do will conclude that the BFSS were right all along - that we don't care about animals, but we just hate the police and the rich and see hunting as a good excuse for a fight with both.

That is not what sabbing is about and it never will be, so why should I portray us in those terms? I don't accept that either the leaflet or any of the rest of the campaign has been "middle-class". It hasn't been written from an "informed working class perspective", true, but then we are an anti-hunt organization, not Class War.

I hope we do get support from the "middle-class twerps" and "reactionaries" and "liberals" that some people seem to despise so much - bear in mind that those three groups probably comprise the majority of the population and I don't see that we should be alienating anybody just to fall in with Gareth and his friends' party line.

It might be nice if the public at large did accept a radical political agenda, but they don't and I don't see it as my job (or the HSA's) to change their whole way of thinking before we even start convincing them about sabbing.

Personally, I have no time for politics or politicians (be they in parliament or in the HSA) - I am a hunt saboteur and will do whatever I can to see that as many people as possible save as many animals as possible. I think it's about time that some people stopped trying to use the HSA as a political platform and let the rest of us get on with saving animals.

Noticeboard

Appeals

Animal Sanctuaries Need Your Help

• An animal sanctuary run by volunteers is appealing for your support. The Ark Animal Rescue Centre looks after rabbits, foxes, horses, pigs, goats, geese and all sorts of other animals. Many are abandoned, injured, unwanted, neglected, or rescued from slaughter.

Any help towards food, care and vets bills would be appreciated – Cheques or postal orders, made payable to 'The Ark Animal Rescue', should be sent to PO Box 463, Beckenham, Kent BR3 2ZH.

• Resources at the Mid Wales Animal Sanctuary are "stretched to the limit" and any donations would be gratefully received. Cats and kittens there were last year joined by Bryn, an elderly stray foxhound, who, unfortunately, has fallen ill.

If you can help, please write to MWAS, "Rhydd-y-Wawr", Gwystre, Llandrindod Wells, Powys LD1 6RN.

Events

National March Against Bloodsports

A mass demonstration against hunting will take place in London on Saturday 6 August 1994. The march will be followed by exhibitions, stalls and a rally at Westminster Central Hall. More information: NAHP, PO Box 66, Broxbourne, Hertfordshire EN10 6LU.

Cheltenham Animal Rights will be running a coach from their area to this event – phone (0242) 226953 for details.

Shark Fishing Week

The Shark Protection League is organising a national week of action against shark fishing. It will take place in Looe, Cornwall, between 24 September and 30 September 1994.

This often-neglected bloodsport involves a great deal of cruelty: sharks are impaled on sharp poles and beaten to death with hammers and iron bars. For more info - including accommodation details send a SAE to The Shark Protection League, BM LAPL, London WC1N 3XX.

Great Animal Festival 2

The second annual Great Northern Animal Festival – an "all day" event – will take place at the Lounge Hall, Royal Baths, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, on 13 August 1994.

The event will be much larger than last year, and is an alternative to pro-cruelty agricultural shows. Animal Rights groups will provide stalls, exhibitions, promotions and speakers. Vegan food will be available all day.

Admission for the evening entertainment (including a band and late bar) will cost £3 (£2.50 in advance). Tickets and more information from GNAF, PO Box 8, Bedale, North Yorkshire DL8 2RY. Telephone (0677) 422974.

Clothing

Vegan Footwear

Vegan footwear company **Ethical Wares** has expanded its range of hiking boots (prices from £37.50), belts, t-shirts and badges. To obtain a brochure, send a SAE to Ethical Wares, 84 Clyde Way, Rise Park, Romford RM1 4UT.

Catering

VEGGIES

Catering Campaign (Nottingham)

180 Mansfield Road, Nottingham
NG1 3HW. Telephone (0602) 585666

Vegan Catering at Demos, Fairs and Meetings - why not yours?

Veggies Catering Campaign is a co-operative which was formed in 1984 to provide catering services using no animal products whatsoever, and to provide financial and other support to the animal rights movement.

Angel Catering

- Mobile Caterers -

A variety of fast vegetarian and vegan snacks and meals including hot potatoes and burgers. If you would like to see us at your event, however large or small, please ring Rosalind Harrison on (0703) 323306

Addresses

Along with the Hunt Saboteurs Association and your local sab group, these organisations will help you to take part in the fight against bloodsports and the campaign for Animal Rights. If writing, please send a stamped SAE.

• **Animal Liberation Front Supporters Group** BCM 1160, London WC1N 3XX. Publishes *ALF SG Newsletter*.

• **Campaign for the Abolition of Angling (CAA)** PO Box 90, Bristol BS99 1ND. Telephone (0272) 441175. Publishes *Pisces*, newsletter of the CAA.

• **League Against Cruel Sports** 83-87 Union Street, London SE1 1SG. Publishes *Wildlife Guardian*.

• **Fox Cubs** (The HSA's junior campaigning group) PO Box 370A, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 4YN. Send large SAE for 'bloodsports factsheets' for young people.

• **Earth First!** (Direct action in defence of the natural environment). To contact your local group, send a stamped SAE to Oxford EF, Box E, 111 Magdalen Road, Oxford OX4 1RQ.

• **Arkangel Magazine** (published four times a year, *Arkangel* provides a forum for debate and exchange of ideas about pro-animal actions at all levels – £7.20 for a year's subscription) BCM 9240, London WC1N 3XX.

• **Respect for Animals** (continues the campaign against the fur trade launched by now-defunct LYNX group) PO Box 500, Nottingham NG1 3AS. Phone (0602) 525440.

• **UK Animal Watch** (infiltrates and investigates badger baiting, dog-fighting and other illegal bloodsports, and exposes them in the national media) PO Box 220, WR4 9UZ.

Situations Wanted

Disillusioned ex-editor of animal rights magazine seeks voluntary post with a genuinely radical, uncompromising opposition group. Offers to HSA office please.

No more censorship! GG

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