Direct Action Against All Bloodsports

HOWL

Magazine of the
Hunt Saboteurs
Association
Winter 95/96
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ON, ON, ON ... INTO '96!

HOWL 60

Magazine of the Hunt Saboteurs Association
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Letters

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EDITORIAL

Welcome to HOWL 60, and we're already halfway through the 1995/6 season! This issue sees a change of Editor, but the format hasn't changed, basically because I saw no point in meddling for meddling's sake. Thanks must go to Liz for all her past efforts, and I'll try to maintain her success in the future.

This issue sees significant changes on both sides of the bloodsports issue - the BFSS now like to think that all anglers support hunting, and the League seems to have only just rid itself of someone who was starting down that path himself ... See the news pages for updates on both these issues and more.

However, whilst others bicker, we're still out there sabbing the bastards. Keep up the good work ... and get those bloody articles and photos rolling in!

Sab the arses off 'em - Dawn.

Pre-beating Tactics

Dear HOWL

I don't think that enough groups are pre-beating, especially in the foxhunting season (see Tactics book for full pre-meet tactics). All it means is getting out about an hour earlier on a Saturday morning. In theory, sabs would not be applicable under any CJA legislation since presumably the hunt would not be out yet. Thus, pre-beating must be a viable tactic in light of this. Knowledge of the area to be hunted is of course presumed.

Yours for Animal Liberation,
A 'sinister looking' Mid-Essex/Ex London sab.

***Cover story:** - Sabs take hounds for a run at the Crawley and Horsham - Nov '95*

***Thanks to :-** All those who sent stuff in for this issue, especially the feature writers - Max; Paul; Paul; Roe; Marc & Sid and Hugh.*
Thanks to Karen for putting me up/putting up with me; and cheers to Justin for being a keyboard wizard!
xxx

**** Star Letter ****

Dear Sir,

I have noticed in the Summer issue No. 58 of "The HOWL" a short piece asking for information about Freemasons. I would be very interested to know what the Hunt Saboteurs Association may have against Freemasonry.

Let me tell you straight out that Freemasonry has absolutely nothing at all to do with hunting or any form of blood sport. To advertise for information about Freemasons in connection with hunting therefore makes as much sense as advertising for information about people who practice any other spare-time activity (which is all that Freemasonry is) such as pottery classes, cycling or going to car boot sales.

If you want to know what Freemasonry is really about you are very welcome to write to me or visit Freemasons' Hall in London where we have a museum and an exhibition on the history of English Freemasonry.

Yours Sincerely
M.B.S. Higham
Commander, Royal Navy
Grand Secretary
United Grand Lodge of England
Freemasons' Hall
Great Queen Street
London WC25 5AZ

Ed's note - Just one little question - if there aren't any connections between Freemasonry and bloodsports how ever did you manage to get your hands on a copy of HOWL ...? Oh, and how do you account for the fact that the current Chairman of the Master of Foxhounds Association, Sir Michael Richardson (also Joint Master of the notorious Crawley and Horsham FoxHounds) is one of England's most senior and influential Freemasons? Interestingly, he is wining and dining



the Chief Constables of the Home Counties police forces at the moment! I wonder how we found that one out - research possibly?

Deer HOWL...

Dear HOWL

Re: territorial deer control - HOWL 59. As you are doubtless aware a deer can leap over 3 metres (10 feet). So nothing short of a huge fence will prevent deer from straying from their domain. However, I have seen human hair used to protect saplings from grazing deer,

The hair needs to be fresh and not particularly clean, as it is the smell which puts the deer off - so local hairdressers may not be particularly helpful! The hair should be put into an old pair of stockings and put at about chest height on trees, fence posts etc. on known deer paths.

Due to rainfall this doesn't last long though obviously this is dependent on rainfall, smell of hair etc.

A possible alternative is old dog bedding blankets which smell really bad when wet!

Good luck
Jake, Bath sabs.

Eds corner (as opposed to the posh editorial above) The editor reserves the right to edit both articles and letters in respect of length and content. If you feel your particular piece of prose cannot be edited, say so on it and include your phone number so we can discuss it!

All mistakes in this issue are doubtless due to my inexperience. This is my first issue - giz a chance!

Tactics

Dear HOWL

I read with great interest the letter from Martin (Cambs.) in HOWL 59 re: the sabbing technique of following the huntsman (read also huntswoman) into coverts/beet fields etc.

The general opinion appears to have been/still is that saboteurs should not follow the hounds and huntsman into the above places due to the risk of heading foxes back into the pack. While there is the risk of this occurring, I feel that it is worthwhile and an effective technique.

Let me explain - during cubhunting for example the hounds/new entry are basically carrying out this task for training purposes and to form that 'special bond' with the huntsperson - and to disperse foxes.

I have watched saboteurs calling hounds from all sides of coverts - foxes have been held up by riders/supporters and have been decimated whilst sabs have been doing their utmost to do this. Trying to hinder the 'bonding' process I certainly feel that walking behind the hound/huntsperson can and does save animals lives and can help destroy some of this bonding.

Probably my main reasons for utilising this technique are the observations and practical experience I have gained in going out with a number of packs over the years. The huntsperson absolutely hates it when sabs come near the hounds, 9 times out of 10 they will not stay in the covert/beet field and will make a hasty exit to protect the hounds from external influences.

Re: scaring foxes back into the pack - nobody knows where they will be in the coverts, most of it is down to guesswork. Hounds often stumble onto foxes by accident. This risk can be reduced if sabs are close behind using whips and voice calls. Sabs watching from a distance are ultimately less effective. Again, the close proximity of sabs will serve to annoy the huntsperson, and they are likely to move on.

This is a very effective tactic, obviously it can't be used if there are too many supporters/risk of incident etc, and with the CJA, but it should be considered.

Happy sabbing,
Don, Sheffield.

The views expressed in this magazine are not necessarily those of the editor or the HSA.
Nothing in the magazine should be taken as encouragement to commit illegal acts

Mind how you go!

Dear HOWL

I am fairly confident that hunting with hounds will be banned within the next few years. The McFall Bill has illustrated vividly that we are close. And oh, what a day that will be. True magic will have been done.

The hunt scum know that their time is running out. They are sinking and they know it Forget their bravado, their rallies, their stiff upper lips, because the truth is on the march... And herein lies the danger to all of us.

I believe that the hunt scum are in their death throes. Now that they are cornered, they are panicking. It all started years ago, and it gets steadily worse. All their efforts to stop us, either legal or illegal have failed and failed miserably.

Ask yourself a question: What would stop you sabbing?
I get a vibe from hunters now that is more sinister than I have ever experienced: real anger, real hatred. Those emotions have always been there - we've always been hated and ridiculed - but now its different, stronger, more focussed.

As sabs, we are a manifestation of a huntsperson's worst nightmare. We represent the silent majority and we are on the front line. As the nightmare becomes more and more real, so the scumbags' sense of panic increases. And now the CJA can be seen to have almost totally failed, I think the violence will get worse.

When hunting is banned the stakes will become even higher. These are stakes which they cannot afford to loose, but we will win..

So please, dear friends, be careful. Use your common sense and stay alert. In Dorset we have a saying - "Better a live chicken than a dead duck". There are real dangers in what we are doing. From the coast of Cornwall to the Scottish Highlands, from the misty lowlands to the sacred islands (apologies to Woody!), we are all in this together.

I am optimistic though that, we can take sabbing into another dimension. Hunting will be banned, nothing can stop us now...

Joe Hashman

Deadlines:

Group News:- 1st April
Letters/Articles/news etc: 11th March.
Letters should ideally be limited to c200-300 words, articles to one page in length (c1000) unless otherwise arranged with the Editor.
Please do not write directly on the back of any photos sent in!

Ahead of our time?

Dear Howl

All my good wishes for a season of success - it is only the activist who really has made the public aware of the cruelty of bloodsports - although I beg you to proceed 'softly' with angling for you are ahead of your time. Let's get foxhunting dealt with first.

You will be more than aware of the plans of the BFSS to get the anglers 'on their side'. Listening to Talk Radio UK I gathered that most of the anglers were not cruel - most of them caught nothing - it was just a way of relaxing and getting fresh air, and in competitions the fish are carefully handled and returned to the water.

It would be such a pity, a disaster in fact, to drive away these people (and their numbers are many), into the arms of the real enemy due to the fear that their sport is under threat.

I have waited many long years with the dream of bloodsports being ended - now with the possibility of a Labour Government we are almost there. So, please, let's get one thing at a time achieved.

Cruelty to fish could be arguable, but cannot compare with chasing a small animal with 40 hounds to a terrifying death. This is an imperfect world in which there will always be cruelty. Hunting seems to be in the make-up of some people, those who have protested over many years have made little headway...until now. We are almost there, so don't attack the anglers at this point - PLEASE!
A Sheppard.

In a League of his own...

James Barrington, Executive Director of the League Against Cruel Sports for the past 7 years, has "walked out" after a lengthy disagreement with the Executive Committee. The row began after Barrington sacked the Press Officer Kevin Saunders, the Promotions Officer Michelle Bryan, and later suspended Kevin Flack, Head of Membership Services. This internal strife was quickly followed by a furore over two articles in The Field, a pro-bloodsports magazine. The first article, published in the October edition, concentrated on the issue of shooting and JB seemed happy to completely reinvent years of League policy, with real gems such as "I think there's more justification for grouse shooting than there is for pheasant shooting", and "We're not opposed to the rough shooter or the guy just popping something off for the pot". Not content with dragging the League policy into disrepute, he then went on to the subject of sabs, stating "I don't really think that anyone should really oppose anything which is legal by means which, in effect, bring them into conflict with the law. And apart from that it's silly as well, people have got guns" (!).

In the November article, Barrington, described by Shooting Times as "the more moderate face of the League", approaches the issue of terrier work and its place in hunting. He states that should some aspects of the sport, namely terrier work, be abandoned then "the League would (be) less antagonistic towards hunting".

Both the sackings and suspension, combined with the Field articles, led to calls from both remaining Committee members (although not all) and LACS supporters for Barrington's resignation. Subsequent votes of "No Confidence" and EGM resolutions failed to shift him, but finally in mid-Dec. Barrington walked out after Executive Committee members decided to reinstate their colleagues. Barrington stated that he couldn't work with them, and is now rumoured to be taking legal advice on his "constructive dismissal". The LACS immediately issued a statement that "Barrington's departure will not result in any change in league policy or tactics. The LACS policy will remain the same as it has for our 71 years of existence. We will continue to press for legislation to outlaw all forms of hunting with dogs, to oppose the shooting of birds and animals for sport and to be neutral on the issue of angling...no-one is calling for any change."

What Barrington intends to do with his time in the future is uncertain, but his appearance at the Wheatland FH in Shropshire on Boxing day, (with subsequent cosy '"Jim and hounds" picture in Horse and Hound), and cordial invitation from the BFSS's Janet George that "if Mr Barrington has seen the light on the road to Damascus we would welcome him with open arms" leaves us seriously wondering..we await further developments with interest.

Movement in the Country

Mid-November saw the launch of the Countryside Movement, an organisation which ostensibly aims to actively promote and protect all aspects of British country life, and is headed by Sir (doff yer cap) David Steel, ex-Liberal Party leader. Despite being reviewed by several pro-bloodsports publications as a group which has the defence of hunting, shooting and fishing clearly on its agenda, to read the literature sent out to interested parties you wouldn't think so. The double sided A4 letter from Sir David himself neglects to mention the issue once, and the glossy leaflet supplied wraps the whole thing up in so much cotton wool that Joe Public would struggle to find out exactly what he's supporting.

Objective Four states that the Countryside Movement strives to:-

"foster understanding of all aspects of country life, and of the caring, knowledge and experience which country people apply to their work and recreation with animals and the natural world"

Too risky to say "defend bloodsports in all shapes and forms" I suppose!.

According to media reports, secret minutes show that a top priority is to fight back against the "growing influence" of animal welfare groups, and that it also aims to "tackle" land access groups such as the Ramblers Association! (Extremists every single one - OFF MY LAND!!! - Ed)

Howl suggests that if recent reports are to be believed - that Sir David, although a keen trout angler, is actually opposed to hunting - a new Executive Chairman may be required...er, Jim Barrington is at a loose end isn't he?

*Barrington*balls

"Some hunts will kill 80% underground. But if a fox is caught above ground and the hounds get it, it's fairly quick"

Guardian - 2/12/95. You'll be telling us it's a quick nip to the back of the neck soon Jim!

"Don't we all change our views on things? I think it is right to say that I have broadened my view"

Source as above. No shit,Sherlock!

"There maybe a disreputable underclass involved in hunting, and there are certainly arrogant people on both sides, but foxhunting has culture tradition and there are many pillars of Society involved in the sport"

Hunting Magazine - December issue. That one speaks for itself, I think.

*Janet George*balls

(because we all know she's got 'em)

"His (Barringtons) comments were very reasonable but the majority of the League's active members are extremists"

Daily Telegraph - 3/11/95. In which case they should join the HSA - it's probably cheaper!

"Trying to defend bloodsports is a bit like trying to defend Apartheid"

The Times' view of the Countryside Movement.

The great marriage of hunters, shooters and anglers (not)

At their national conference October (almost) saw the respective factions of the bloodsports fraternity come together as one united organisation. The three national governing bodies of the angling world, The Salmon and Trout Association, The National Federation of Anglers and The National Federation of Sea Anglers announced their intention to "support and work closely with" hunting and shooting organisations at their national conference. This move to support hunting was not solely limited to embracing the BFSS stance, but also involved support for the Countryside Movement (see page 4), and the Countryside Business Group, a new fundraising body which aims to raise a £5 million 'fighting fund' to defend the whole range of countrysports.

Despite the BFSS comment that " this agreement shows that angling's governing bodies recognise that if hunting is banned the pressure on angling will be far greater", it now seems that rank and file anglers do not view the situation in a similar light. The angling press have indicated that the view of NFA President Ken Ball that such a liaison would strengthen the anglers case is not a widely held one. After calls for his resignation and retraction of the original statement, Mr Ball stated that the three angling organisations "have not decided to support hunting and hare coursing" but that the BFSS needed the "resources of all concerned organisations to match the £20 million available to animal rights campaigns and extremist anti-angling groups".

This apparent rejection of a closer working relationship with the BFSS comes hot on the heels of the collapse of plans to merge the British Association of Shooting and Conservation last year. It seems as if the BFSS may have to rethink their logo, which currently reads ' In defence of all country sports'

Anglers' imports killing our Native Fish

Pisces (the anti-angling group) has launched a campaign to highlight the major threat to our native fish from anglers' imports. No longer satisfied with catching the fish swimming in our waterways, anglers are determined to have huge fish at any cost and are turning to foreign fish. This has led to a surge in fish imports from Europe and elsewhere.

Disease - The surge in fish imports for angling since the European trade barriers came down is associated with 1000's of fish deaths due to disease. The major threat, Spring Viremia of Carp (SVC), once rare in the UK, is now becoming common. Fish losses in infected waters range from 10-100% and there is no cure. Although legal fish imports do have to undergo health checks, they are inconclusive since SVC can take up to 4 weeks to become apparent The readiness of many fishery owners to put profits before the welfare of fish has meant that the number of illegal fish imports (with no health checks) has soared.

Exotic Species - Not only are resident species being imported, exotics such as catfish, sturgeon and blue carp are appearing in fisheries with increasing regularity. New species threaten the delicate balance in a fishery by outcompeting existing fish. Already a number of fish species are threatened with extinction in the UK, are others to join them so that anglers can have big fish to catch? Surely we have learned the folly of introducing new species and the environmental havoc that such irresponsible behaviour causes.

Suffering in transit - Fish suffer "horrendous atrocities" during their long periods in transit tanks, according to fish importer Dave Quelch (Angling Times 22/12/93). Many die through rough treatment or suffocation when temperatures rise. These are creatures which are very sensitive to stress, in addition to experiencing pain and fear, (a fact accepted by leading scientists and the RSPCA).

How to stop the imports - The only way to protect our fragile aquatic habitats from this major threat is to stop all fish imports for release in angling waters. Although barriers to trade are generally prohibited under EU law, Article 36 of the Treaty of Rome states that this '...shall not preclude prohibitions or restrictions on imports...on grounds of...the protection of health and life of humans, animals or plants' Imported fish are an accepted threat to the health and life of native fish. **Further info:** Pisces (address back page); protest letters to Douglas Hogg, MAFF, 3-8 Whitehall, London, SE1 1AA.

Sabs Attacked (allegedly)

West Wales sabs found themselves the recipients of unwanted attention at a meet of the Vale of Clettwr Foxhounds in November when both sabs and their vehicle were viciously attacked. Sabs were surrounded in the van, windows were smashed and the driver dragged out and then kicked and stamped on by supporters. One sab reported the incident, " The whole hunt and 20 or so supporters on foot surrounded the van. The supporters, who had obviously been drinking rocked the van to and fro and smashed the driver's window to open the door and dragged out the driver by his ankles...others forced open the rear doors, hauled us out, slamming the door on our arms and legs, and punched and kicked us". Sabs escaped serious injury, but had to wait in the area until 9 pm for the AA to arrive and tow the van away as its engine had ben tampered with in the fracas.

Latest reports are that three hunt supporters have been charged with Violent Disorder, Criminal Damage, Theft and Assault.

Sabs from both the North and South of Ireland were physically assaulted by members of the Oriel Hunt during a cubbing meet in late October. During the assault, car windows were broken, personal property stolen and communication equipment wrecked. The hunt also searched sab vehicles , stole film from cameras and tapes belonging to the sabs.

North Downs hunt sabs report an assault on their members by hunt heavies whilst sabbing in October. A local Doctor was injured when he was dragged through barbed wire and head butted by a regular Surrey Union supporter from Guildford. and a cameraman was threatened with death if he did not hand over film footage of the attack.

Surrey police are investigating the matter.



Corby Police fiddle while saboteur's property burns: hate campaign causes £5,000-£10,000 damage

A Kettering hunt saboteur was the victim of two serious arson attacks in October, the most serious incident in a long campaign against him. Clive Richardson, a prominent figure in the East Northants Against Bloodsports campaign, has long been the target of a hate campaign by hooligan elements connected to the Woodland Pytchley Foxhunt. However, the arson attacks represent a change from simple assaults and criminal damage, and an escalation to a terrifying new level as hunt thugs turn to terrorism. Previous attacks in the past two years have included:-

Dec 93 -Clive badly beaten up by Woodland Pytchley Foxhunt terrier man.

Nov 94 - a van parked outside Clive's home is tampered with. Brake lines and electrical wires are slashed.

Feb 95 - A gang of around 30 thugs in 10 vehicles at the Woodland Pytchley attempt to trap Clive and 3 others in a terrifying 20-minute chase across fields.

April 95 - Animal entrails dumped on Clive's doorstep and lawn, and smeared across the front of his house after he and colleagues photographed carcasses at the Woodland Pytchley kennels.

October 95 - a trailer outside Clive's home is set on fire, causing £100's of damage. The second attack involved an arson attack on Clive's car, which quickly took hold of the garage, destroying it and 2 valuable motorbikes inside. Initial reports estimate the damage at between £5,000-10,000. Fortunately, despite the thugs attempts to deny the emergency services access by blocking the road with a car, firefighters quickly succeeded in containing the fire,

The severity of the latest attack has left Clive, his wife and their 10 year old son wondering what lengths those concerned will go to in their on-going campaign.

In an era when the Police are quick to point the finger at "animal rights extremists", Corby police do not seem to have the same sense of urgency when it comes to attacks ***against*** *animal rights activists.*



Clive's car and garage after the most recent arson attack.

Death on the roads ...

Less than 6 weeks into the cubbing season and hunts up and down the country were displaying their steadfast control and respect for their hounds. Incidents involving hounds colliding with cars occurred at the New Forest, the Ashford valley and the Cheshire Foxhounds.

All incidents occurred through the inability of hunt staff to control their hounds near main roads, resulting in the death of a hound in Cheshire after it was struck by a car as hounds wandered across the A49 near Tarporley.

"Track Record," a new campaign by the LACS launched over the Xmas period, aims to highlight such incidents. The report states that more than 100 hounds have died in road and rail incidents during past seasons.

A new recruiting ground?

An incident during a cubbing meet of the New Forest Foxhounds has highlighted a possible new recruiting ground for sabs. Screams and shouts from a nearby scout hut managed to attract the attention of hounds and caused them to stray from the main pack. Captain Simon Clark, Joint Master of the hunt stated that "Two or three hounds heard a noise from a boy scouts camp and thought they were being called. We are proud of how well we control our foxhounds" I bet you are...dib dib!

Who's pulling the strings in Essex?

Fury as Essex stands alone in CJA cases

After 11 months of delay and behind the scenes wrangling, in which half the cases were dropped or thrown out, Chichester Magistrates delivered their final verdicts in mid-October on the last of 31 saboteurs arrested during an Essex Hunt meet on the 19th November 1994. Essex CPS secured only 10 convictions for Aggravated Trespass, a dismal record when set against 3 acquittals, 8 charges thrown out of court halfway through the trial,and a further 8 not even getting that far. Two men charged with offences under the Public Order Act had already appeared separately and been acquitted of violent offences. Many of the charges were dropped after police evidence was flatly contradicted by videos from the day and at one stage the magistrate was even giving serious consideration to reporting one officer for perjury!

However, despite the police and CPS having been shown up for wasting huge amounts of public money in bringing so many clearly unsustainable cases to court, some serious questions remain. One of the reasons for the lengthy delay in bringing the case to trial , other than the usual incompetence of the CPS, was because the prosecution was entirely unable to find a bench of magistrates who did not either hunt themselves or have hunting connections. Eventually, a stipendiary magistrate had to be brought in from London to hear the case. It is beyond belief that every magistrate in Essex is so closely bound to the hunt and has caused grave alarm as to the quality of justice that anti-hunt or animal rights activists can expect to receive in the county.

Essex Police and the CPS now stand isolated in the judicial system in their determination to enforce the iniquitous Criminal Justice Act, no matter what the cost to the public purse or to justice. Meanwhile, the ratepayers of Essex are still waiting for Essex police to justify the estimated £40,000 spent on that one day's hunt, and their victims are waiting for them to carry out an enquiry into the allegations of serious assaults by their officers, including one women who was beaten semi-conscious with a truncheon while she had her hands cuffed behind her back. Essex police have long since abandoned consensus policing in favour of a 'might is right' policy when dealing with any public order situation. Appeals and civil actions by the sabs involved are currently underway.

** * * Review * * * Review * * * Review * * **

How to defend yourself in court - Michael Randle

£4.99 from Civil Liberties Trust, 21 Tabard Street, london, SE1 4LA

Hunt saboteurs and the British legal system have never quite seen eye to eye over the idea of justice. This, then, is a long overdue guide to how we can put our view forward in the courts/ Lawyers can only argue bound by the assumption that the law is right. Defending ourselves allows us a chance to tell the courts we are right.

Michael Randle has a respect-worthy history of campaigning and of legal self-defence. He writes from a protestors stance, often referring to his anti-nuclear area of expertise. But the book remain relevant to all, and is bang up to date with the Criminal Justice Act. The information is accessible, well set out, and includes a glossary of the legal terms. Humour often takes away some of the dryness found with the legal explanations.

The court processes are broken down, so that chapter by chapter, advice is given on the pros and cons of defending yourself, what to expect in either the magistrates or crown court, and how to run your defence, He points you in the right direction with the bewildering task of how to research your case, strategy and tactics in the court room, and lays out some common defences, such as prevention of a greater crime, necessity, or even going for a 'perverse verdict', in that the jury decides that what you did was justifiable even though against the law.

However, this book is not a legal tome, nor is it meant to be. Lawyer's advice should always be taken, whether defending yourself or not. This book is a slim, preliminary guide that tells you what to expect if you're up in court, and how to go about defending yourself. It won't provide a defence for you As such it's ideal for anyone who is nervous about an impending court appearance, and will boost the confidence of anyone who ants to defy the CJA without ending up denying their actions, or saying that they did anything wrong.

The art of hunt sabotage arose because people refused to sit back and watch. From the same tradition there is much to be said for defending yourself in court, rather than simply passively accepting the legal system Self defence is very empowering and well worth considering. If you want to know more then Michael Randle's book is an ideal start, and you never know, it might save your clean record and your mone.y!

Review by Hugh.

Lifetime injunctions agreed

Further to the report in HOWL 59 that Grimsby HSA were being threatened with a lifetime injunction by the Earl of Yarborough (Brocklesby FH), the matter has been concluded by the sabs concerned signing the injunction. The ten sabs, unable to defend themselves after legal aid was refused, were left with little choice but to sign the declaration which effectively bars them from a sizable chunk of Lincolnshire.

The lifetime injunction replaces a court injunction made against the group after they were arrested in 1994 when it was alleged that the Earl's car had been attacked. This injunction expired in May 1995, and it was then that the Earl, who is said to represent ten landowners in Lincolnshire accounting for 1,000's of acres of land, applied for a lifetime injunction. The injunction states that the sabs are "forbidden from trespassing on the Plaintiff's land and in particular for the purpose of any anti-hunt activities and in particular from molesting, harassing, threatening, obstructing or disrupting the activities of the Brocklesby Hunt...".

Toby, one of the sabs concerned, commented that "We would be looking at £5,000 legal costs if we tried to fight it, whereas he (the Earl) is one of the richest people in the country. He's got the money to create his own laws".

Despite the Brocklesby Hunt effectively ridding itself of a persistent group of local sabs, sabs from around the country are still free to attend hunt meets and it is seriously doubtful that the Earl has seen the last of his unwelcome visitors.

BFSS Spokesman charged after attack on sab

(but charges later dropped - bah humbug!)

Alistair Jackson, Southeast press spokesman for the BFSS, was arrested and charged with using Threatening Behaviour following an October meet of the Cattistock Foxhunt after allegedly punching a sab to the ground. Jackson, a leading figure in the hunting world, is a former master of the Cattistock and is now one of the BFSS's leading PR reps. Witnesses to the incident say that Jackson was attempting to take photos of sabs when, increasingly frustrated by their unwillingness to pose for national records on them, he lashed out, knocking one sab to the ground.

The CPS later dropped the charge against Jackson prior to his first court appearance. Whilst the failure of the CPS to proceed against a member of the hunt community will not surprise sabs, they may take comfort in the fact that the whole episode is said to have "caused a lot of embarrassment to Alistair and his family". (This apparently did not satisfy the alleged 'animal rights activists' who decided to give Jackson an early morning 'wake-up' call by liberally scattering rook scarers about his village!)

Hunt supporter pleads guilty

Surrey Union hunt supporter Gary John Moore has pleaded guilty to charges of common assault and affray following an incident involving sabs last September. The incident occurred when both supporters and sabs ended up in the same pub. The court heard that as sabs left the pub, they were followed by Moore and friends and Moore then attacked one sab, laying into him with punches and kicks.

Sentencing him, Judge Michael Addison stated that "This was a disgraceful incident, involving an unprovoked attack. Furthermore you started it." Moore was fined £500. Another hunt supporter, Ian Ambrose of Oak Hill, Wood Street, was found 'not guilty' of an attack on another sab.

News in Brief

Three sabs charged with Aggravated Trespass after attending a meet of the Fernie Foxhounds were acquitted of the charges after appearing in court in January.

* * * * * * * * *

A leading supporter of the Surrey Union Fox Hunt, Noel Cahill, was arrested in November as riders gathered at the start of the hunt at Shackleford.

The activities of Mr Cahill have been of interest to Surrey police since a threatening letter, addressed to the Chairman of the HSA, was found during an Operation Bumblebee search at his home in Guildford.

The arrest comes two weeks after a hunt saboteur was hospitalised at the opening meet of the Surrey Union Hunt.

* * * * * * * * *

Nine hunt sabs from Portsmouth and Chichester are suing Sussex police for wrongful arrest, false imprisonment and assault.

The action arises from an incident in March 1995 at the Leconfield and Cowdray Hunt, when the sabs were stopped, arrested and later charged with Section 68 after driving along a track in their van.

Six months after the arrest, and a week before the trial was due to start all charges against the sabs were dropped.

Three sabs in the van used video cameras to record the circumstances of the arrest. Their video has been used as the basis for a film of the incident and it's implications. The ten minute film, called 'Operation Rook' is included in the latest Undercurrents video (available from Small World).

Digging the Dirt Research - Part 2 (Son of Research!)

In HOWL 59 I listed sources of information which could help sabs to find meets etc. Most of those sources can also be used to find out more general information about the hun or the hunters themselves. This article, however, is mainly about digging the dirt on hunts which can be used in the media battle which sab groups find themselves in with their local packs.

The Media War

As our poor, beleaguered Press Officer will tell you, hunt saboteurs often receive some heavy stick from the media, which hunt supporters love to use to their advantage. Strange really, when they're the ones tearing up land in search of something to kill. When talking to the media, local or national, it is invaluable to know some information about the hunt involved. Ideally all sab groups should have files on each one of their local packs and on some of the hunting personalities from their area. These files can be made up from information 'overheard' (although this should never be repeated to the media or public as fact without checking,or you could be facing a libel action.), cuttings from local and national press and from the hunting press itself. Hunt supporters,particularly in public, love to show us as the ignorant townies we, of course, are (?!!) and can be completely thrown when we show that we know a bloody sight more about them than they do about us.
For instance, if a sab from the West Suffolk area was taking part in a debate on local radio and was faced with the BFSS line that since sabs have been seen trespassing, then they are as much a criminal as a multiple rapist; then the sab could mention how the Thurlow and Puckeridge FH faced public outrage when they trespassed on private property in 1993 killing a fox in front of a children's playgroup. S/he could also mention that the HSA has files inches thick on hunt trespass including such gems as a hunt killing in someone's kitchen! (From personal experience this one goes down a treat- it shows the public that beneath the 'wonderful tradition' veneer is a bunch of blood-thirsty, arrogant murderers).
Similarly, if you have press cuttings reporting the fact that your local hunt secretary had been charged with drunk driving after the hunt ball, then use that information at every chance you get. When people such as Jim Barrington say that 'hunting folk' are law-abiding, this sort of information helps show the real story. (Be sensible though, don't quote something like that if you yourself have such a charge !)

Smashing the Public Face of Hunting

It's a good idea if groups can have some particularly tasty stories in the press about local packs and hunting in general, laminated or put in to plain glass frames, to display on stalls etc. This tends to give the story much more credence to Ms/Mr Public who tend to look at you with a sceptical eye if you relay the tale yourself. As well as stories of the hunt breaking the law/their own rules, also have stories and photos of any sab injuries from the hunt mounted in the same way. This should highlight perfectly what we are up against (don't overdo it).
Finally, any information linking hunting to illegal bloodsports, such as terriermen being convicted of badger digging, can be used at both local and national levels. Information such as this could easily form the basis for a national press story/campaign for the HSA, when to an untrained eye it's just another name in the 'In Court' column of your local paper.
This also shows how important it is that every sab knows **something** about the people involved in their local packs, if only just their names so that such links can be made.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Hunting magazines

The various hunting magazines are, in the main, deadly dull to anyone with a life, but they will help to keep you informed with what's going on in the hunting world (and also provide some hilarious stories about alleged sab activities! - Ed). To a varying extent all will carry hunting reports (see HOWL 59), as well as being useful for finding meets. They also sometimes give details and photos of staff and supporters which can be used to put names to faces. Although this information can be put to use in the field, it is also invaluable if someone is particularly nasty and needs to be kept a eye on.
Other little titbits to look out for are if the report mentions the hounds crossing busy roads and/or railways, or straying on to land that you know they should not be on.

Local Newspapers

These are the papers that will carry most stories about your local hunts. Along with coverage of events such as the Boxing Day meet, there will also be ripe titbits about hunt trespass and domestic animals being attacked by hounds. Collecting these will help you build up a dirt file which can be used in local/national campaigns . Campaigns, local or national, will always prompt letters to your local papers, and it is worth noting the names and addresses of any pro-bloodsporters that write in - you never know when or where they may turn up again.
If you want to see old issues of papers visit the newspaper office since back issues will be retained there. If the hunt has been in the news recently you should be able to obtain copies of any photos used, and also some which haven't been published (There will almost certainly be a charge for this.)
During the shooting season it is also worthwhile looking in the temporary jobs section for vacancies. for beaters- ring and you may end up with the time and place of a drive/shoot (or a job for that matter - Ed).
And of course, check the local court news column for people charged with illegal bloodsport offenses - . It is important that sabs send the relevant information to the H.S.A office, for the Fringe Bloodsports.

Baileys and Who's Who

Both these publications will give you names and addresses of hunt staff, and the interests of those in the upper masters and big landowners. It's worth looking through to see just where the loyalties of the magistrate at your next

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Keith Mann A Mann of our time...

Almost all animal rights people have heard of Keith Mann, an animal liberation 'activist' who received a 14 year prison sentence for his actions. But how many people know the story behind his jail sentence?

Keith is now almost 30, but back when he was a teenager he was shocked to discover the reality of animal abuse, and all the dark secrets of labs, factory farms and the mindless cruelty involved in hunting. He adopted the necessary improvements in diet and lifestyle, and set about doing his bit to stop it all. He had the obligatory pasting table and leaflets, and was soon a regular face amongst the campaigning groups around his local area. He first took 'direct action' when he rescued a neighbour's rabbit that was being mistreated, and gave it a new and better home. Those who have been sabbing for a few years will probably have met Keith, a North-West sab based in Manchester who was always willing to get into the field and do what was necessary to save lives - and who would usually provide some good entertainment in the sab van too! He was regularly out sabbing in the North-West, although the Holcombe Hunt, practically based on his doorstep, usually provided his favourite day out. Keith, together with other long-standing sabs in the group started the Holcombe Hunt Action Group with the aim of continually targetting this hunt in order to have a direct effect both on its effectiveness in the field, and it's level of support. Needless to say this continual attention meant that he soon became a thorn in the side of the hunt, but this only spurred Keith on and he never shied away from making his feelings known (see photo above). Sabs with a long standing membership of the HSA may also remember Keith's stint as Fringe Bloodsports officer, during which time he compiled a regular "On the Fringe" column for HOWL, and also set up a badger digging file which is still being maintained and used by sabs today.



Holcombe Hunt Boxing Day Meet - Keith makes his point for all to see

Keith's troubles really began in October 1991 when he was arrested in Kent with Viv Smith, and charged with attempted arson on vehicles at a battery farm. They were both subsequently remanded in prison, and a few months later Viv pleaded guilty and was given a six year sentence (of which she served a couple of years before doing a runner whilst on day release). Keith's sentence was delayed, however, until other legal matters had been dealt with, as in the meantime it had become apparent that Keith and many others all around the country had been the subject of some intense police operations.

During the course of 1991 there had been a widespread increase in the levels of animal liberation activity in the UK. There had been raids on labs and factory farms, there had been literally 1000's of butchers', Boots' and bookies' windows smashed and damaged, and dozens of incidents of arson attacks on vehicles. Animal liberation was happening and the animal abusers and police were not happy, with the bill for this economic sabotage running into millions of pounds.

After Viv and Keith had spent a few months in prison, Keith was charged in relation to other offenses. He was being set up as an 'ALF leader', and a 'ringleader' in regarding a court case in Manchester which involved another nine people, all charged with conspiracy to commit damage to the properties of various animal abusers. The specific charges and developments of this case are too complex to go into, but on top of these smaller conspiracy charges was an overall charge in which all ten people were accused of "furthering the aims and causes of the ALF" after a nine month conspiracy of criminal damage in the North-West of England. Keith was also charged with several other offences, the two most serious of which were that between 1988 and 1991 he incited others to i) commit arson and ii) cause criminal damage. The main basis of these two charges were that he had allegedly written/distributed inciting materials (included in the allegations was the "Into the '90s" booklet), and also that he had appeared as a balaclava wearing activist in a World in Action documentary on the ALF.

The Manchester case came out of an intense police operation which lasted over six months, involved over fifty detectives and twenty-four hour surveillance on one flat complete with phone taps and a bug in the property. The police were really concentrating on Keith though, and were particularly vindictive towards him, aided by a Crown Prosecutor who appeared to be rather obsessive about the case.

As the legal process ground relentlessly on, Keith had been in prison since October 1991, and it was now 1993. Along the way Keith had been acquitted of the Doddlestone incident, when the home of Alan Summersgill, Huntsman of the Cheshire Beagles had been attacked following the death of Mike Hill, killed after Summersgill had driven over him during a sab (classed as "accidental death" by the powers that be). In July 1992 Keith was also questioned by the police about several other incidents, namely raids at Nuneham Courtney cat breeders, Oxford University lab suppliers Park Farm, Royal London Hospital and the

Churchill Institute, together with an arson attack on a pig processing plant. Although he was never actually charged in relation to these incidents, the police attempted to threaten Keith with them in the hope that he would break down in some way.

During Keith's 20 months in custody, so far as an unconvicted prisoner, he was shifted from one prison to another and also around police stations all over the country. One of the longest periods of time spent in one place was HMP Walton, Liverpool - well known for its exceptionally bad conditions and staff. It was whilst in here that he was accused by prison officers of attempting to pass out documents to a visitor, and was subsequently arrested and taken to Stretford police station, Manchester. He was there questioned and then charged with writing inciting materials.

By now Keith was under extreme pressure - he'd spent a long time in appaling conditions as a remand prisoner facing many serious charges. After this last police interview he was placed in a police van and left unattended- the opportunity was too good to miss and Keith quickly scaled the fence and was free again. The police were absolutely gutted, and his friends were celebrating (albeit anxious for him too).

The Manchester conspiracy trial half collapsed without him, although several people went to prison in October 1993. Keith was still free, but in April 1994 came the terrible news that he had been re-arrested at Celia Hammond's animal sanctuary, together with Angie Hamp (another AR prisoner who was also on the run). Angie and Keith were remanded in custody, and Angie later received four years in relation to her charges. Keith was now charged with the further offence of possession of explosive substances, together with the absconding charge on top of his previous charges. Back in prison he was put in stripes for escaping, and classified as a category A prisoner, which meant in practical terms that further restrictions were placed on his already limited activities. The main restriction affected his visitors, who now had to put themselves forward for police vetting prior to being authorised to see him. From his recapture in April 1994 until his sentencing in December 1994 these restrictions remained in place.

As is often the case in legal proceedings, the defence and prosecution met up to discuss the case and ultimately an agreement was reached. This plea bargaining agreement meant that if a 'Guilty' plea was entered in respect of some charges then others could be forgotten. One aspect of this agreement was that the Manchester trial judge, Judge Alliot, would not sentence Keith, as it had been discovered that he was a sheep farmer, hunter and shooter! But Keith's hopes of a better deal were shattered when Judge Mitchell gave him a total of 14 years, describing him as a "determined and dangerous fanatic", and convicted him in relation to an attempted arson attack, criminal damage to meat lorries, possession of explosive substances under suspicious circumstances and three counts of incitement.

This was the longest prison sentence ever given to an animal liberation activist, and it outraged people both within the movement and outside. How could Keith possibly be put on the same level as multiple rapists, child abusers and armed raiders? As a result, an appeal against his sentence was launched, along with the Justice for Keith Mann Campaign which received much support. Articles in national papers, and an excellent programme on Channel 4



Keith with dead fox.

called 'War Cries: Angels of Mercy' which was based around Keith and Angie, helped publicise the case. Three demonstrations were held outside the High Courts, all attended by hundreds of people.

Almost another year in prison passed before Keith's appeal, at which his sentence was reduced to eleven years. This can only be seen as an improvement, but hardly a cause for celebration. The injustice is obvious. Considering all the energy, time and money spent in trying to set Keith up as an ALF leader, it seems strange that his only actual crime was £6,000 of damage to meat lorries. He has recently been reclassified as a Category B prisoner, which means slightly more relaxed conditions, but at the end of the day he still remains behind bars. Keith has remained strong and determined through all of this, and is training to keep fit. Our support for him must be continued, along with the many other animal rights prisoners. The fact is that his sentence has not deterred other people from doing what is necessary to stop animal abuse. In his own words "I've got no regrets, not for one minute. They've told me that I've had an effect by giving me fourteen years."

Let's do right by the animals, Keith and all the other prisoners, and keep up the pressure.



EXTREMIST

Adrian 'Sage' Thompson
Terrierman, Thug and Lost Boy



Our group first came across this nutter when we attended the successful series of mass hits against the then seriously violent Surrey Union FH in the mid-1980s. His similarity in age and appearance, (along with his brother), to a lot of sabs at the time meant that we unwittingly gave him a lift in our van near the hunt one day - we soon found out which side he was on when he started battering the sabs nearest to him as he neared the safety of his cronies in their terrier vans - a cue for all hell to break loose! His appearance and general demeanour can quite clearly be ascertained from the photo taken during the 1984/5 season.

During the 1986/7 season the Surrey Union fell apart at the seams after a series of pet/deer killing incidents and after the huntsman George Holder was dismissed, leading to the followers splitting into two camps. It has become clear from information passed on by 'friends' within the Southern hunts that Thompson was also asked to go, allegedly because of his love of violence and his propensity for getting other 'lads' in to do sabs over.

At the same time as all this was going on, sabs from Brighton and Horsham were sabbing the Crawley and Horsham FH almost every Saturday, with real effect. They suffered regular beatings, but would respond with determined sabbing and, generally, things didn't get too extreme. Noticeably, after Thompson's departure from the Surrey Union, he started turning up at the Crawley and Horsham. Coincidentally, (or maybe not), this was also the time when the local rugby club, Haywards Heath, made an appearance. Within two weeks over a dozen sabs visiting the hunt were hospitalised with head injuries and lacerations after vehicle windows were smashed. Also on the Boxing Day meet at The Carfax in Horsham, a member of the London Greenpeace group was paralysed after being struck by a fence post wielding supporter.



A national hit on the Crawley and Horsham during the following months saw the first use of the Sussex police helicopter and over 100 police officers on foot. The three hunts in Sussex that day all packed up with sabs still unavenged.

For the next few seasons the C & H were fortunate to be left alone, mainly due to the fact that their local sab groups were concentrating resources on the ever weakening Surrey Union (to whom the C & H were rumoured to have donated £20,000 to keep them afloat). When sabs attempted to sab the C & H, they were always met with physical violence - it was the boast of the hunt that they didn't need friendly police, they could 'deal' with sabs their own way.

In 1993, at the height of the deployment of stewards by hunts in the South, C & H supportersmade no pretence of using reasonable force to evict saboteurs. Their approach was simply to ambush sabs on an isolated farm track with a gang of thugs in balaclavas, armed with baseball bats and pick-axe handles. However, no injuries were sustained by sabs on this occasion as sabs outnumbered the bullies. The gang was led by Thompson, and unluckily for the hunt, pictures of the group

appeared on the front cover of the New Statesman magazine under the headline "Introducing Your New Community Policeman", accompanying an article on private security firms. Another photo, clearly shows the photogenic Mr Thompson, leaning on his axe handle with balaclava rolled up.

We were back at the C & H several times in the early 1990s, but in large enough numbers to deter any possible attacks. Then during cubbing in 1994 we decided to sab them before the CJA came into effect, knowing how pro-hunt the Sussex police are. We had a journalist and photographer from the NME, a freelance photographer and a Channel 4 film crew accompanying us - all due to the forthcoming Act. We had warned them that things could get a bit heavy, and we weren't proved wrong - within minutes of us arriving a fox crossed the ride. Sabs sprayed the line, and were rating the hounds when the attack started. Led by Thompson, followers and riders waded in. The female reporter was thrown over a hedge by Thompson, losing her glasses in the process. The freelance photographer was hit over the head with a crop, and the NME photographer was held down and punched in the face until he handed over his camera. Two sabs were hit over the head with staves and had to have their wounds stitched later in hospital. All this was shown on Channel 4 news, and later on the ITN 10 o' clock news - much to the embarrassment of the Crawley and Horsham mastership.

Recent events at the C & H have seen Thompson in full ambassadorial flow on behalf of the fox hunters he so loyally serves. He can be seen both behind the balaclava and with it rolled up - lying in wait amongst the horseboxes for sabs coming up the road. His usual company of several masked mates, compete with handy iron bars can also be seen close behind. The approaching huntsman, John Goode, and his joint masters show no fear of these "balaclava-clad hooligans" that are so often reported in the Sussex press. They obviously know where their loyalties lie.

At a time when the hunting fraternity are at pains to portray hunt saboteurs as the violent extremists hell-bent on trouble, it is more than a little surprising when we find that Adrian Thompson is employed as hunt terrierman by none other than Sir Michael Richardson MFH, Joint Master of the Crawley and Horsham FH and present chairman of the Master of Foxhounds Association. (Oh, and if you're reading this Commander Higham, he's also one of England's top Freemasons!).

Still, if the rumours are to be believed, it won't be long before Adrian and his cronies are seeking alternative employment. Something to do with being more trouble than they're worth apparently!

(Oh, and by the way Adrian, we would advise you to try jobhunting in another area, because you're just not up to it in the South East any more ...) [No thanks- rest of the country]



Our mate Adey, casually modelling the latest in hunt thug designer wear.



So why does 'hard man' (NOT!) Adrian feel the need to carry an iron bar? If you have any theories on his inadequacy problem, please write to the PO BOX.

PROFILE



Two countryside wardens from Stockport, Cheshire, have been jailed for eight months, after they indiscriminately poisoned fish with cyanide. **Tony Senior**, (46) of Weybourne Drive, Bredbury and **John Fitzpatrick**, (30) of Compstall Road, Marple bridge, both admitted conspiring to poisoning the rivers Alde and Elwyn in Wales. Defending barrister Mr John Philpotts said "These offences arose out of frustration at being able to see large and attractive fish and being unable to catch them." Both worked at Etherow Country Park in Stockport, where Senior was formerly chief warden. It later emerged that Senior had been buying cyanide since 1986.



Three pet lurcher dogs involved in savage attacks on cats and dogs were led astray by two rogue animals according to their owner. **Michael Murtagh**, (52) of Warrener Street, Sale, Cheshire has since given the terrier and lurcher greyhound back to their original owner, and taken out "extra precautions" with his remaining dogs. Murtagh admitted two offences of being the owner of dangerous dogs not under proper control. The court heard that an order had already been made following two incidents in 1984, when two cats were savagely killed in the Sale area. Murtagh was again cautioned in February 1995 when two other dogs were attacked by three greyhounds.
On March 31 1995 another dog was savagely attacked by four lurchers and a terrier on some fields- the dog had to jump into the River Mersey to escape and was lame for two weeks. Another dog was attacked on May 31 1995 by four lurchers and a terrier. Mr Michael Hamlin, defending, said Murtagh had taken "corrective action" by giving the two dogs he believed to be responsible back to the person he got them from.
Mr Hamlin added Murtagh had since got new muzzles and now exercised them on farms in Knutsford, Cheshire. (coursing maybe?) The magistrates made an order that the three dogs should be kept under proper control.



A pensioner killed his neighbour's pet cats in home made traps allegedly to save the fish in his garden pond- he claimed they were stealing the fish and had eaten five of his pet doves. **Doug Poyner** (67) of Knutsford, used wire snares and baited cages to lure the family pets. The animals would have died in agony as the wire bit into their flesh. One was even shot then left in the street to fake a road-kill death. Poyner was fined £500 with £258 costs.



Bernard Perry of Green Avenue, Little Hulton, Salford and **David Worrall** of Willdale Close, Clayton, Manchester have admitted interfering with a badger sett and causing unnecessary suffering to a dog. Leek magistrates heard that a Peak Park warden called police after seeing two men acting suspiciously around a badger sett in woods near Longnor, Staffordshire. One appeared to be digging in an entrance hole and the warden heard dogs barking. When they were confronted they said they had been given permission by a farmer to hunt foxes and rabbits. A dead fox and two terriers were found at the scene. One of the terriers had part of its ear missing and scratches to its face. A vet said this was caused by a fox. Mr Mark Davies defending said that his clients had caught and killed a fox before their dogs chased another into the badger sett. Where have I heard that story before! They were both sentenced to 100 hours community service and ordered to pay £260 costs. They were also banned from keeping a dog for 5 years.



Keith Blakeman (25) of Fryer Road, West Heath, Birmingham and **Mark Hadley** (32) of Kilnet Grove, Northfield, Birmingham have both been found guilty of attempting to take a badger, digging for a badger and interfering with a badger sett. The court were told how the two men were found by the police near a badger sett on a farm near Bromsgrove, Worcestershire on February 12 1995. Both men were sentenced to 50 hours community service and ordered to pay £750 costs by Redditch magistrates on December 8 1995.



Three North Tyneside men pleaded guilty to interfering with a badger sett when they appeared before South East Northumberland magistrates on November 16 1995. They are **Spencer William Burgo** (25) of 5 Trinity Buildings, North Shields, **Mark Templeton** (26) of Gordon Square, Whitley Bay and **Mark Graham** (23) of 11 St Lukes Road, North Shields. They were all given conditional discharges for 12 months and ordered to pay £110 each towards costs. They were caught on October 25 1994 at Low Angerton near Hartburn, Northumberland. Burgo (who's keen on hunting rabbits, foxes and now it seems badgers) told the magistrates they were looking for foxes and didn't know there was a sett in the area.



Three Englishmen were set free by a Dublin court on October 10 1995 after charges of cruelly treating and causing unnecessary suffering to three terriers were dismissed. They were arrested on October 9 1995 at Dublins North Wall docks following a tip-off. Judge Desmond Hogan ruled the charges against **Graham Evans** (44) of Higher Charge Villas, Todmorden, Lancashire, **Paul Cunningham** (34) of Hawthorne Road, Bacup, Lancashire and **David Atkinson** (38) of King Edwards Crescent, Oxford, Leeds, had been incorrectly brought, as they did not specify where the offence took place. "As far as I am concerned they could have taken place on the moon" the judge said. Three dogs with horrific injuries had to be put down "on humane grounds" one had its lower jaw torn and this had become infected; another was blind; while a number had pus coming from their mouths, as well as deep lacerations to their face. Four surviving dogs, which included a six week old pup, were moved to a secret location.



Two men caught blocking up a badger sett appeared before Seisdon magistrates on 24 October 1995. They said they were asked to do so by the landowner, who thought they were rabbit holes (they must have very big rabbits in the Midlands). **Gary Pearce** (21) and his father **Robert Pearce** (48) both of 5 Kipling Road, Lower Gornal. Dudley, West Midlands, pleaded guilty to interfering with a badger sett at Sedgeley after being caught there on June 4 1995. Robert Pearce also admitted possessing a shotgun for which he was fined £250. The landowner **Stephen Shakespeare** of Greenhill Farm, Lower Gornal, Dudley, West Midlands, who did not appear in court, pleaded guilty through his solicitor. All three were fined £750 each with court costs of £50.

The mighty, mighty Shires Week

A full week of sabbing in the Shires saw the cubbing season off to a fitting end...

MONDAY A great start to sabbing in the shires with 10 meets covered over 6 days, incorporating 4 different packs. The week started off with the not so mighty **Quorn**, where sabs spent a substantial amount of time playing "pass the hounds", as they repeatedly pulled hounds out of coverts.The new whip had a hard time in this game, as he sent the pack into a crop field, only to watch sabs bring them swiftly straight back out again!

TUESDAY Sabs split up into two groups so as to maximize their effectiveness, with one group attending the **Cottesmore**, and the other setting off for the **Atherstone**. The latter pack hadn't been sabbed for 2 years, so imagine their surprise when 17 sabs arrived at the 'prestigious meet' (an allotment in the middle of nowhere!). The huntsman was just moving off when sabs arrived, but we quickly caught up. Sabs spent the next hour pulling hounds out of coverts, until the huntsman adopted Quorn tactics and tried to draw a sweetcorn field. Sabs immediately pulled them out again, and the hunt spent the next hour trying to gather the scattered pack. Needless to say, a short time later the hunt decided the next best move was to simply pack up.

The **Quorn** decided to have an afternoon meet so sabs joined in the fun. A big thanks to the couple in a horse box at Loughborough for showing us the way- you know who you are.

Not a successful afternoon for the hunt as sabs continued to pull hounds out of coverts. A good tactic was adopted as the hunt spent an hour chasing one cub around the same covert. A couple of sabs jumped in front of the hounds and rated them back whilst sabs on the outside halloa'ed and blew to get the pack away from the cub, ensuring a hard time for the huntsman in his attempts at placing hounds back on the line. Sabs simply continued with the same tactics, until the cub decided not to play anymore and went to ground.





"Sabs? Us? No Officer, we're the National Association of Blackberry Pickers...honest!"

Sabs at the **Cottesmore** met up with the hunt in Stoke Dry wood where they stayed for some considerable time. The pack were working extremely well, which meant that sabs had to work twice as hard to try and get the hounds to respond to their calls.

After moving off from the covert at a good pace, sabs managed to stay with the hunt all morning. Although one kill was made, the fact that sabs managed to stay with the hunt definitely had an effect, as the huntsman didn't fancy his chances letting the hounds wander too much!

The day ended at 9.30 with hounds drawing a blank in a field of root crops, and sabs in the van having an amusing time being abused by the irate 'country gentleman' whose gateway they had the audacity to turn round in. Maybe he was annoyed that his view of the hunt was momentarily ruined!

All in all, though, a good day for sabs at this "extremely effective" hunt, with sabs also invited back by supporters for a day out on Thursday!

WEDNESDAY saw an early start as kennel watching for the **Belvoir** was the order of the day, with the hound van leading sabs to the meet. A bit of a non-event for the hunt, as they spent a lot of time at each covert without a kill and with sabs doing a good job of confusing hounds.

THURSDAY Sabs split again to do the **Atherstone** and **Cottesmore**. Following the invitation of supporters on Tuesday, four sabs went to the Cottesmore to watch their new joint huntsman Joss Hanbury having a go. The day started off well, with the meet at the Ram Jam Inn, just north of Stamford. Joss's jaw dropped, and a look of horror spread across his face as sabs asked if he had seen the other 4 sab vans... he didn't seem to see the funny side!

With two sabs in the van, and two in the field Joss set off for the nearest covert. However, it was never really clear if he actually started hunting at all, as the hounds never seemed to find their way into the wood. At the first sab horn call, the whole pack quickly deserted their new master. This set the tone for the rest of the morning, with the huntsman trying to blame his inefficiency on the fact that the wildlife in the area had already been shot. Nice try.

The high point of the day occurred when ex-huntsman Captain Fanshaw turned several shades of purple as a sab blatantly blew a horn in front of him. Unfortunately, the massive police presence- four - didn't fall for his attempt at convincing them that he owned the land. At one point the hounds managed to find a scent but lacking any encouragement soon lost it. At the end of the day sabs were left with the impression that the new huntsman was the best thing to happen to the Cottesmore for years- from the foxes point of view that is!

Sabs searching for the **Atherstone** managed to find them, which was quite a nice surprise as they didn't have any maps for the area. A bigger field than Tuesday, with some riders getting a bit arsey, but that didn' t stop sabs who again continued with the great tradition of pulling hounds out of the coverts.
Staffordshire police managed to put in an appearance, but said that sabs could do what they liked on the footpath, so sabs carried on the good work with a very responsive pack.
FRIDAY and off it was back to the **Quorn** again. After 5 minutes of being sabbed, the huntsman ran off with the pack, not only losing sabs but also his field and car support in the process!
SATURDAY Two packs were again targeted today, with the first group of sabs heading off to the **Belvoir**.
Melton police turned up here and began to warn sabs under Section 69 of the CJA, but sabs just kept moving, and again managed to pull hounds out of coverts with much success. Even with an abundance of cubs in the area the hunt still didn't have a good time. The pack at one point scattered off in all directions, and it managed to take a good hour before order was resumed.
The end of the day saw the fun start for real, with Melton police trying to report sabs for Section 69. Two sabs attempted to make a break for it but didn't bank on a track leading the cops straight to them! The sudden insistence on arrests at the end of the day indicated that sabs managed to seriously make their presence felt on the good people of the Belvoir?!
Just to drive another nail in the coffin of the not so mighty **Quorn**, a crack (although somewhat worse for wear) representative group of sabs turned up at their meet at Prestwold Hall, much to the delight of one of their new masters who informed us that they could get 2-300 police officers there if that was what we wanted!
The one police officer who duly turned up was well familiar with sabs, and said that there wasn't a problem with us being there. Sabs therefore proceeded to sab the arse off the hunt for the next two and a half hours, until the huntsman finally called it a day and boxed up at 10.30 am. A good day was had by all.
Altogether a very successful week. Cheers to the groups that came- Wolves, Cardiff, Bristol, the not so mighty Brixton, New Forest, Sheffield, Lancaster, Cumbria, Peterborough... and not forgetting the Nottingham group who entertained these scruffy, smelly, useless scumbags!



The spare time activities of some sabs became apparent during the week...but the Leicestershire cops soon had the suspect in custody.



Continued from page 9

Section 68/69 case lie - does s/he list shooting and fishing as hobbies?. The HSA office will have a copy or try your local library's reference section.

Libraries
Well worth a visit, whatever their size. Small libraries and ones that are local to a particular hunt may contain books specific to that hunt- check the local history/reference section. They often keep copies of the hunting mags. too. Larger libraries may have a copy of Baileys or Who's Who; if not they'll probably order it for you. Most libraries also keep old copies of local papers, whether the real thing or on microfiche. Recently, the bigger libraries in large towns and cities have installed CD Rom. This is basically a system which holds reference books on compact disc, for example. 'phone directories, Who's Who, business contacts, local press etc. Since they are very easy to use and cross reference they can provide lots of information on particular people ie their business interests or private habits (!) but you will be charged about 30p a sheet for any information you want printed out.

The H.S.A
If you are researching into other bloodsports, the office can also put you in touch with groups which could help you, as well as the H.S.A's own Fringe Bloodsports Officer. A Fringe database is being complied and updated all the time , as well as a general one which should mean we can give as much information as we have on a hunter, at the touch of a button (ain't technology grand !)
There are also back issues of Howl as well as most hunting magazines including Horse and Hound, plus juicy stories of particular hunts all waiting for sabs to use. If you are researching into an aspect of hunting rather than particular hunts, there are files containing information we have received on various topics (from hunt tax evasion to mink behaviour). All the files have been cross referenced with each other and should contain all we have on a subject. Please send us a copy of any research you've done on anything so that the files can be even more comprehensive.
Oh yes, you can also talk to the fabulous H.S.A Research Officer (me).

Finally...
The article in HOWL 59 and this one are not meant to be comprehensive - there are other more interesting and dangerous ways to find out information on hunts but I'm not going into them here. If anyone is interested in taking research that step further then contact the office for more information,advice and contact addresses. Needless to say this information is not going to be given to anyone 'phoning - so be prepared to be checked out yourself!



South

Due to the East Kent being a bit wary of the cold weather over the past few weeks, the local beagle packs have come under heavy attention from **Dover sabs**.
The recently revived Blean Beagles got the shock of their lives when Dover's jeep arrived! Within ten minutes a sab was frolicking in a cabbage field with the pack, to the merry sound of the gizmo - the huntsman having lost control of his charges three fields before! Seriously,, we were able to take the hounds out of an orchard at the height of the chase, allowing the two hares to escape, with horn sounds alone.
Our efforts resulted in the pack being put on leads, unprecedented in our experience, with no kills to the Blean and an early finish - a good day!
The next week saw the jeep outside the East Kent's kennels early, but with no signs of activity it headed north, once again in search of the Blean. With some stunning navigating we found them on the marsh near Wingham. The soggy ground meant some running, so we chased them for twenty minutes, right back to the hound van, where they promptly loaded up and headed for home.
Unfortunately, the next week brought us sharply back down to earth. **Ashford** sabs had had some bother with 2 arrests from a new 'sab hit squad' from Maidstone Police, whom we met the following week. Four full sets of romper suited bobbies, with new video cameras and Land rovers to play with. They tried to scare us away (literally) but being the bright lot we are, that just put our backs up. The phrase 'personality disorder' springs to mind when I recall one particular WPC. No 'hands on' sabbing was possible but experience led us to pre-spray some of the coverts drawn throughout the day.
We've learnt a bit about beagling- the hunters are fit, even if they don't look it and the hounds respond well to voice calls, the horn and the gizmo.
So far we have managed to stay one step ahead of the mobile Maidstone 'hit squad, pre-spraying, locking gates etc and not slope away with our heads hung low. They didn't like it when we wouldn't go home!

South West

With injunctions imposed on the **North Dorset** group by the Portman Hunt finally lifted after nearly two years, we've really let rip and saved dozens of foxes during October and November. There is still a problem with heavies at this hunt, but we are working hard to overcome this. On October 16 two sabs occupied a fox earth on Forestry Commission land near Wimborne and prevented a dig out. The terriermen tried to sit us out, but we had more patience and they went home by mid afternoon.
Two dig outs were stopped at the Portman on November 4, on the edge of Shaftesbury. After saving many foxes on top that day,a fox was marked to ground in a badger sett. Huntsman Hugo Busby announced his intention 'to have the fox out of there'. Sabs sat tight and police reinforcements were brought in. Sabs insisted that it was a badger sett and a police Wildlife Liason Officer was brought in to make a decision. After much hoo-ing and haa-ing, Sgt G I Lill announced to the huntsman that they could not dig the sett! Delighted, sabs left the scene. Within the next half hour, another fox was marked to ground in a legitimate earth. But after another lengthy occupation, the light faded and the hunt went home. Sabs in this hole could smell the terrified fox.



Brighton sabs have smashing day out on the C&H.

From the Guys Marsh meet on November 25, lots of foxes were afoot. Two foxes at Cherry Orchard were saved as sabs called the pack back and split them for a long time, constantly distracting hounds all day. The hunt managed their best run of the season (according to a car follower) late in the day as a fox took a line all over Lit Hill and then down into the marshes. Luckily, two sabs had taken up a key position and totally split the pack as they chased the fox along the stream. Hounds were then diverted away from the line. This took the Portman by surprise, as the sab van still appeared full of sabs on the road! Sadly, they chopped as they made their way home.
Other hunts sabbed include the New Forest Buckhounds; Cattistock FH; Mendip Farmers FH; Blackmore & Sparkford Vale FH; South Dorset FH; Purbeck & Bovington Beagles and The Park Beagles.
North Downs hunt sabs have mainly been out with the Surrey Union, but have also covered the Old Surrey & Burstow; Chiddingfold; Crawley & Horsham; Garth and S. Berks and Southdown & Eridge. Relations with Surrey Police continue to be reasonable with no use of the CJA to date. However, both the hunts and associated supporters seem to be trying to provoke trouble on regular occasions in order to pressurise the police into using the Act. Sabs are wise to this tactic though, and things remain calm enough for us to split our group in two in order to help other groups. (Anyone wondering why we have regular contact with Surrey police should contact us so we can explain the situation before slagging us off).
Brighton hunt sabs have been targetting their local hunt, the Southdown & Eridge through cubbing and now into the main season. Since this hunt do not advertise and are particularly sneaky (ie changing meet time regularly during cubbing, and taking hounds out hours before the meet), we've had 'fun' tracking them down. When we've found them there have been no kills. At the recent Chalington meet, sabs were with the hunt for the entire day and saved one fox, if not two, from the pack. By way of a thank you, one of our friendly red coats(allegedly) kicked a sab to the ground and proceeded to ride over her. Thankfully there was no permanent damage.
This season we have also sabbed other hunts when the Eridge have eluded us:- Crawley & Horsham (who threw a log through our windscreen - see photo); East Sussex & Romney Marsh for a cubbing meet; and the Chiddingfold; the Surrey Union's opening meet (followed by a trip to hospital to retrieve a sab attacked by Noel Cahill - see news pages); the Hampshire's opening meet, and later with **Southampton** sabs we had a good days police-free sabbing. Southampton sabs did a great job that day - nice one! (Shame about crashing their van the next day though!). We're looking forward to the rest of the season with the Southdown and Eridge, and making our presence well and truly felt. We think they're getting the message.
Finally, we'd like to welcome and thank 'D and E', 2 sabs that have recently joined us from other groups. We're grateful for the kick up the arse we've received from them!
Essex hunt sabs have had a busy and, in the main, successful end to the first half of the season; with sabs venturing into Crawley & Horsham country on two occasions, to help in the ongoing campaign to make the sabbing of this notoriously violet (this is how it was written- more purple prose from Essex sabs! Ed) pack, a less life threatening activity. On both occasions all sabs came back in one piece. Sabs also had some fun down in Kent, at a joint meet of the Wye College and Blean beagles on the Romney Marshes, before later calling in on Ashford Valley FH - arriving just in time to save a fox that emerged from a road side covert, which the hunt had been drawing for some time. Closer to home Essex sabs have been keeping the pressure on the Puckeridge FH, sabbing them on a regular basis, with very few kills reported whilst sabs have



Sussex police Formation Ramblers - C&H Nov '95

been about. Sabs suffered one arrest at the Little Hormead meet where Hertfordshire police were again attempting to enforce the CJA. However, although some elements within Herts police seem very keen to see the back of us, the majority of officers on hunt duty can't be bothered to chase sabs down footpaths, and on most occasions effective sabbing is still possible. Perhaps unhappy at the amount of attention they've been receiving from sabs this season, the Puckeridge FH were in a more aggressive mood at the Furneaux Pelham meet in early January, where there were several incidents - including an alleged assault on a female sab by joint-master and co-huntsman Chris Sporborg.

The Puckeridge have also been sabbed on several occasions, whilst hunting in their Essex country, where Essex police have actually allowed sabs onto footpaths, and not ben too bothered about the use of horns, sprays and gizmos.

The Essex & Suffolk FH are another pack increasingly aggrieved at the presence of sabs; the meet at Great Bricett ended with the hunt coming out with a pack of lies - claiming that sabs had put paste into horses' eyes! Meanwhile, their Boxing Day meet at Headleigh saw the less than agile huntsman David Trotman attempting to hunt on foot, with around 30 sabs in hot pursuit. In these conditions, hunting was impossible, and it came as no surprise when they returned to their kennels in less than half an hour. The rest of the Christmas and New Year hunting programme was wiped out by a mixture of fog, snow and heavy frosts- allowing sabs valuable drinking time.

The only real down side to the first half of the season has been the way in which our local nutters and the Essex Farmers & Union FH, along with the Essex FH, have remained almost completely sab free. Police in Mid Essex think they can make it a no-go zone- we've got news for them!

Having been an inactive group for a year **Norwich & Norfolk sabs** only had a bank account to show they existed until a few old members decided they'd had enough time off and it was back to business. Being only a very small group we decided that the several harrier packs around were a perfect target, and the North Norfolk Harriers (who hadn't seen sabs on a regular basis for years) soon found themselves the attention of twice weekly sabbing as from September! In November time we switched to the Dunston Harriers who are having a lot of problems - few supporters; huntsman going at the end of the season and with only 1 or 2 masters keeping it going. Small group sabbing certainly has its advantages - few sabs to spot in the fields, infrequent vehicle use as we follow on foot, 90% of the time means we can't easily be trailed, and as you see much more of the hunt you are able to sab more effectively. Another bonus is that the police never see you- if they ever turn up, in fact we've only seen them twice during 20+ sab days out, and even then they didn't do anything! The only violence we have experienced (if you can call it that), is a few failed attempts by riders trying to knock us over.

Some groups might think that sabbing hare hunts is an easy option (nothing is particularly 'easy' is it? - Ed) - too right! - why make life difficult for yourself? - little agro; no police; and we are able to go almost anywhere . even through the Masters' back gardens! Hare hunts will on average kill and chase more animals than a fox hunt, not that these are anymore less important. For example last season it was reported that the North Norfolk Harriers killed 100 hares and 15 foxes. Well, in the period September to November they managed only 13 hares and 0 foxes. North Norfolk Harriers stopped advertising and gave us the slip on 2 or 3 occasions so we swapped to the Dunston Harriers, We had heard from other sabs that this hunt were having problems and our constant pressure might help make things worse, We have also been supported by sabs from the Waverley area in Suffolk and have been on joint sabs like the Eastern Harriers joint meet with the Waverley Harriers.

Boxing Day saw us back with our old faves the North Norfolk. A grand total of 13 sabs turned up and had the hunt on the run all day. Despite snow blizzards, and freezing cold wet feet we saw them back to the meet, no kills under their belts and with little hassle from the hunt or the police. We don't think that this sort of thing will go unchallenged by some hunts, especially the Dunston Harriers who are getting a little bit more pissed off with us each time we go out.. so hurry up and roll on the end of the season!

Midlands

Our Season got off to an excellent start with Shire Week, (thanks to **Nottingham** sabs for their hospitality), there were many memorable moments and the rare (!) opportunity to sab an early morning cub hunt, followed by an early afternoon meet of the Quorn FH. Our local cubbing was also very successful with large numbers of sabs concentrating on the Albrighton FH from **Wolves**, **Birmingham**, **Stoke** and **Coventry** - in fact this year has seen our best start of the season for a couple of years. This pressure on the Albrighton was only relieved following the arrest of 8 Birmingham sabs at the South Shropshire FH leading to a W. Midlands regional hit being called the following week. This was successful with some good sabbing, a dig-out prevented and only 4 arrests (they couldn't catch anyone else!).

Following this we held a major local sab on the Albrighton when over 50 sabs from **Wolves**, **Stoke**, **Birmingham** and **Coventry** swamped the hunt, forcing them to pack up early. We then found two walk up shoots which were persuaded to pack up, and we finished the day by sabbing a fishing match at a site owned by the host of the hunt meet!

On November 1st sabs from **Wolves**, **Cardiff** and **Newport** attempted to sab the opening day of the Wyre Forest deer cull. Frustratingly, due to low numbers, we only managed to locate 2 of the stalkers - with more sabs we could have stopped the entire cull for the day - so next year please think about coming!

Towards the end of '95 we combined forces with sabs from **Lancaster** to take part in a big hit on a joint meet of the Vale of Clettwr FH and the North Ledbury near Lampeter, with sabs from **Bristol** and **Bath**, **Newport**, **Swansea**, **Cardiff** and **Aberystwyth** which was another success, only topped by the following weeks national hit on the Woodland Pytchley along with **Coventry** and **Stoke** sabs.

Then it was back to the Albrighton, where we had some excellent days despite one sab being arrested for allegedly headbutting a supporter (we are hopeful about this ludicrous arrest). The huntsman, whip and master are all showing signs of losing it and when we are present they try to avoid us to the detriment of their hunting, We also popped down to the Warwickshire FH with **Stoke**, **Wolves**, **Birmingham** and **Coventry** sabs for a day best forgotten... but we'll be back!

Boxing Day saw **Wolves** join up with Birmingham for a visit to the Albrighton - where our psychological grip over the hunt is still tightening - despite an impressive police presence including a riot van, 2 cop cars, a command vehicle, the 'under cover' Range Rover and the welcome return of the police scrambling bike!

All in all a good first half of the season, thanks to **Wolves**, **Birmingham**, **Coventry** and **Stoke sabs** and a special thanks to Wolves LACS monitors who helped us kennel watch most Saturdays and who

have been expelled from the LACS for 'too close association with sabs' - they aren't too worried and are now members of the HSA!

The season started for **Kettering sabs** in the middle of August, with early mornings spent surprising the Fitzwilliam Hunt - we disrupted three out of their first four weeks of cubbing, including their opening cubbing meet. It seemed from the start that out 'hosts' were pleased to entertain us, spending a happy half-hour in a variation of 'British Bulldog' as follows:-

1) All of our sabs run across a field, straight at all of their stewards.
2) Their stewards grab half of the sabs and drag them to the edge of the field before turning back to pursue the rest of the sabs.
3) The sabs 'disposed' of in Step 2 overtake the stewards and are again grabbed back to the edge of the field.
4) See Step 3.
5) Those sabs not mentioned in Step 2 continue to sab without hinderance.

Sabbing throughout the autumn continued with sabs from **Cambridge** and **Leicester**, during which time we sabbed the Grafton, Fernie, Woodland Pytchley, Bicester, Cambridge and Oakley hunts.

The first cubbing meet of the Grafton we attended proved very entertaining. It seemed that the new huntsman, an American, was happy for us to become hunt stewards for the day as, an hour after 'leaving' the meet, the hunt were back there to collect their hounds from the sabs. Most of the morning was then spent with the traditional roles reversed - we ran all over the fields blowing horns, being followed by the hounds and with the hunt in hot pursuit - needless to say we didn't catch any foxes. The hunt didn't pay us for exercising their hounds either, but then you can't have everything!

The opening meet of the Fernie hunt was sabbed, having done a cubbing meet of the Oakley in the morning. The Leicestershire countryside provided sabs and the hunt with plenty of opportunities to get a run on. The hunt were onto no less than 5 foxes during the course of the afternoon but, due to some excellent sabbing, caught none of them.

Following an impromptu barbecue of Clive's car on his driveway, (see page 6), a party was organised near Stoke Albany at a Woodland Pytchley meet. Over 120 sabs were present and the hunt were dumbstruck by their popularity and were rooted to the spot for 2 hours while police poured in to join the happy gathering. Stewards from 3 other hunts tried to join the party but they didn't have the invitations and were told by police to leave as their safety couldn't be guaranteed - a spookily accurate prediction as one of the stewards tripped and fell on the way back to his vehicle, hurting his head. Eventually they started hunting at 2pm and they rode for only 3 miles before packing, with Northants police treating us to a flying display in their helicopter as as special party treat.

The Oakley stewards evidently decided halfway through the season that we were dangerous sabs and had to be dealt with in force - they came out armed with a land rover full of stewards for each sab (OK there were only 3 sabs but it sounds impressive!).

We strongly expect to see Kettering and Corby police featuring high on the shortlist for the 1996 Booker Prize for Fiction. They will have 2 entries for the prize - firstly their own version of the CJA which bears no relation to the one enacted by Par;liament, and, secondly, their statements following an incident with the WP FH where 3 sabs standing on a road with empty sprays in their hands were arrested under Section 68 for spraying. As if this wasn't bad enough, the police round here have now realised that they can impose bail conditions. The three sabs arrested above have been told they are not to be present at a meet of the WP FH, but have not been provided with a meet card so they know where to avoid! Another sab, arrested by the Wellingborough police for spraying the trail of a rabbit in a field when the hunt were not within sight, has to sign on at a police station every Saturday morning and is forbidden to attend any hunt whatsoever.

Saturday 23rd December brought glad tidings of comfort and joy from the Oakley Hunt - a foxes head in a freezer bag was thrown at sabs in a lane. Somewhat to our surprise, police claim to be taking this seriously and CID are involved. We strongly anticipate no arrests shortly.

Boxing Day was a washout locally with the weather in our favour. The Whaddon Chase end of the Bicetser FH not only couldn't fit into Winslow Market Square due to it being full of antis, but when they did start hunting they immediately found that 2 groups of sabs split the hounds into 2 packs and ran in opposite directions with them. The hunt gave the day up as a bad job and went home at 1 o'clock - unheard of at the Whaddon Chase.

Wales

After a successful season with the minkhounds **West Wales and Swansea sabs** hoped that the foxhunting season would prove to be similar. However, after turning up at our local hunt to find them holding up a covert with shotguns held by terriermen and others, we soon realised what sort of season was in store. We have been working closely with other groups in Wales and so have been a stronger force on the hunts in the region. This has meant more 'away days' but has been more effective in the long run.

We managed to disrupt quite a few cub hunting meets of the Vale of Clettwr FH. The only early meet that we had was a 7am meet, after that it was an easier time for sabs to cope with - 9.30am. At the second cubbing meet we attended a hunt master allegedly rammed a sabs car. We had some more successful days, managing to pack the hunt up early at a later cubbing meet. The opening meet of the Vale of Clettwr went well at first with sabs calling hounds off two foxes, and sending them scattered into three packs for the rest of the day. Unfortunately, one of the diversions used was the hunt damaging the sab van and dragging sabs out of the window and back of the van.Having only 9 sabs out we were a bit outnumbered by over 100 hunt supporters and villagers. Things started to look extremely dire as the hunt tried to rock the van over a bank with sabs still inside but, surprisingly, some of the older hunt supporters stopped them. On the positive side we managed to get photos of those who took part and have passed these to police. The police have now charged three hunt supporters with violent disorder, assault, criminal damage and theft. Two of the people charged already have ABH convictions after they hit sabs a couple of years ago. So, if justice prevails they should be looking at some time in jail, but we shall see....(Don't hold your breath!)

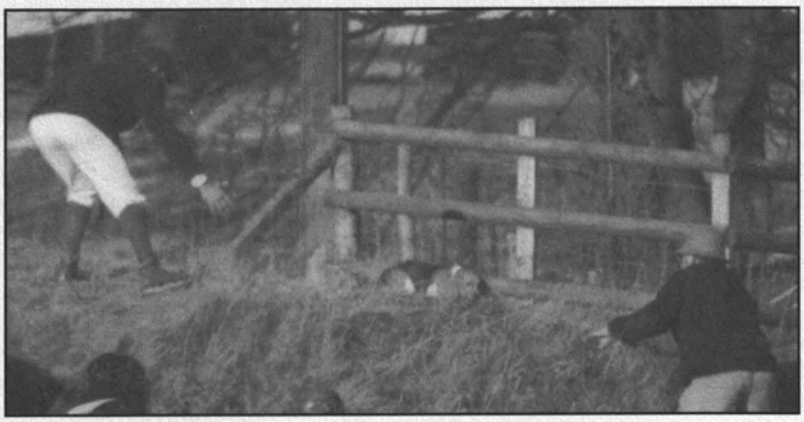
The Vale of Clettwr invited the North Ledbury to Wales on the 18th November, so we invited some people too and had a jolly good time. The hunt has assured the North Ledbury that they had little trouble with sabs in Wales...wrong! This meet has gone down in the history of Pontsian, with several of the visiting riders packing up crying. The hunt were out until late into the night rounding up their hounds even though they had a social function to go to. What a shame! Shows what type of hunt they are because even though there was about 50 sabs out, some of the hunt supporters tried to throw a concrete post through the windscreen of the **Bristol** van. While all this was going on the hunt managed to completely miss a fox which broke for freedom. Thanks to all who attended: **Cardiff**, **Swansea**, **Bristol**, **Bath**, **Wolves** and **Lancaster**, it was much appreciated. West Wales has never seen so many sabs before, and it gave the locals something to talk about for many months (possibly years)! (Obviously not much happens there.)

We have been up to Cardiff quite a bit and sabbed the Tredegar Farmers and Llangibby. Spent quite a few Saturdays out with the Banwen Miners FH with **Cardiff and Swansea**. The BM FH like to hunt hilly, open country and so we have spent quite a lot of time running up and down hills! We managed to stop the hunt digging out what appeared to be a badger sett. The Banwen seem quite surprised at the sudden attention they have been getting and were quite passive. They sat back and watched sabs take the pack from them

again and again. Unfortunately, like most hunts they took an opportunity of using a time when only a few sabs were out to allegedly slash all four tyres on our van. Big mistake on their part as the police have taken one tyre for forensics, and we'll still be back anyway!
So, halfway through the season and there have been no kills when we have been present at the hunts. The Vale of Clettwr have lost a lot of support and now face 2 of their terriermen in court in 1996 ('allegedly' for Mr Lloyds benefit!!). The Banwen are beginning to feel the pressure of consistent sabbing also. It's been a positive year in that all groups in the region are now working well together, and as a result we have been more effective than ever. Big thanks to 'the man' for all his efforts with the **Swansea** group - well done.
Yorks and Humberside, Hull and East Yorkshire sabs have had a very busy season so far. During cubbing they were out up to 4 times a week, usually 3 times with local hunt the Holderness FH. They had some great success with horn blowing, holloaing and rating hounds. Although the hunt have killed, which is inevitable in cubbing, damage limitation has been good and they have lost count of the number of foxes that have run to freedom. Also attended some cubbing meets of the Middleton FH with **York sabs**.
Into the main season and the presssure is maintained twice a week. Anti hunting farmers and landowners have been in the vicinity of virtually every meet. Pre-spraying coverts has proved very effective and many more artificial earths built by the hunt to encourage foxes have been located and documented. One hunt master has even admitted they have them everywhere and only kept them secret "so you buggers don't interfere with them"! Many more foxes have escaped from the hounds thanks to sabs and several dig-outs have been stopped.
Hull and East Yorks sabs media appearances have included 'File On Four' and the local BBC radio station, where the hunt got their share of the time to peddle their weak arguments about employment, townies, pest control, 'conservation' and tradition. The radio edited out sabs' mention of proof of the artificial earths and the fact that it has been officially, scientifically, ecologically and morally recognised that foxes do not need 'controlling' by hounds, snare or gas!
Yorks sabs again had quite a busy cubhunting.season. We went out over 25 times, as usual concentrating on the Middleton FH, York & Ainsty South FH and Holderness FH. We saw a great many foxes get away and only very few kills, predominantly in beet crop fields. There were some very close shaves - like at the Ainsty South where the fox crashed though a hedge next to us appearing between the hounds with the rest of the pack close by. Luckily, sabs managed to create such a diversion that even with supporters helping the hounds, the fox managed to get away. Lots of fine warm weather and bad scenting conditions certainly helped. Our local enemies, the Middleton FH, at one point completely changed their hunting week to avoid sabs - an illustration of how effective we have been when we have found them. We had no police or steward interference during cubbing, which was a bonus. When we got meets in advance we got there extra early to do some pre-spraying which seemed to be effective. During the main season this was more regular as we got more info in advance.
At the Middleton opening meet the coppers went overboard as usual, though there were no arrests or kills. The York & Ainsty South opening meet was not surprisingly early as the hunt seem too lazy for cubhunting. They start late and finish early. Perhaps that's why they are such a poor hunting pack and why they seem to hang around kale fields. Several times recently we have caught the huntsman pulling hounds back while the aged terrierman try to bolt foxes from hay bales or kale fields, or just out in the open - all to no avail.
It was good to find out that Longworth is no longer hunting the Ampleforth Beagles but probably bad news for the hares as his replacement is more effective. We hope that Longworth is still the laughing stock that he always has been, and wish him all the misery he deserves.
Before Christmas, **York sabs** had a few eventful days with the Ainsty South. Sabs worked beautifully to distract hounds, and twice saw the hunted fox get away in the opposite direction. We also picked up a hitchhiker for a while, a stray hound that was miles away from the pack and near a busy railway line, which we later handed back to supporters. At a later meet sabs stopped one dig-out but were pushed back and ridden at whilst terriermen bolted a fox from a kale field. Luckily, he went back to ground just into Middleton Hunt country and the hunt left it. Unsportsmen-like to dig a fox in another hunt country! Frustrated hunt staff who had not killed for some weeks kept hounds out well into darkness in the vain hope of catching something - but didn't.
The following Saturday sabs caught the hunt on video bolting a fox from hay bales right in front of the pack. Amazingly the fox got away after being closely chased by the whole pack and a runaway terrier. Each visit to the Ainsty reveals more about our effect on the hunt - the more successful we are, the more violent the hunt staff and supporters become. However, this is more then made up for by the number of foxes which we've seen get away.
Hard frost in our area meant a hunt-free Christmas and New Year. We are very optimistic about having an equally successful second-half of the season, capitalising on our confident and effective sabotage to date.

North-West

Once again another hunting season starts and like a bad smell that will not go away, the **North West Hunt Sabs (Manchester, Bolton, Liverpool and Stoke)** were out and about.
As November approached sabs attended a demo at the opening meet of the Cheshire Forest FH at Sandiway, which attracted wide spread coverage in the local press. It was noticed however, there was a lack of support for the hunt at one of their most prestigious meets.
The same week, sabs were also in action at the opening meet of the Holcombe Hunt, at Appley Bridge near Wigan. This was a good day for the sabs, as they managed to save a fox from being torn apart near the end of the day.
With the help of **Stoke sabs**, the Holcombe received yet another visit- this time at Waterside near Darwen, and yet again it was another blank day for the hunt.



A Forest & District Beagle makes like a blade of grass...obviously wants to follow NW sabs to the pub!

The following Saturday we travelled south with **Stoke** to attend a meet of the Woodland Pytchley FH. After two and a half hours of waiting around at the meet, they tried to hunt, but failed dismally. Next it was another visit to our local pack, the Holcombe Hunt- this time the meet was on a housing estate in Bolton, yes I did say a housing estate. The handful of sabs who attended had a very succesfull day, saving many hares. *continued page 22*

So what's happening in the HSA..... Well folks, since the last issue of HOWL, there's been a few changes to the committee. Clare and Sid have resigned - we'd all like to wish them luck with whatever they decide to take on next and also many thanks for all the hard work they've put in during their time on the committee. (Sid is actually continuing to act as **Contacts Officer** for the North.) Celia from the Midlands has taken over the **Fox Cubs/Animal Freedom** post and will be spreading the anti-bloodsports message to our young supporters.

Martin from the South has joined the committee as **International Liason Officer** - hopefully this will mean stronger communications with sabs abroad and more news on their activities in future editions of HOWL.

Another sad git with nothing better to do is Andy, a sab also from the South, who has joined the committee as the new **Salesgoods Officer**. So please address all your complaints to him from now on! Andy intends to completely re-vamp our merchandise this year, so start saving for your new sabbing gear now! We also have a new **Legal Officer** (Brendan) also from the South, who is busy collating all our arrests information. Please let him know via the PO Box if you have any relevant info.

You'll probably have read in the Editorial of this edition of HOWL that Liz has resigned, and we have a new **Editor**, a Northerner called Dawn who has courageously taken on the enormous task of producing HOWL. Thanks to Liz for all the effort she put into the last four issues.

So, at the moment we have eleven voting committee members:

Contacts Officer (South)
Fringe Bloodsports Research Officer
International Liason Officer
Press Officer
Research Officer
Sabbing Skills Days Officer
Salesgoods Officer
Shooting Officer
Tactics Officer
Treasurer and
Vice-Chairperson

plus six people working off committee:

Animal Freedom
Contacts Officer (North)
IT Officer
Legal Officer
Office person and
Specialist Research Officer

plus a further two independent people working on HOWL (Editor and typist).

These all add up to a fairly motley crew who continue to meet once every five weeks (well most of them anyway!) to sort out the latest problems and share ideas on sabbing. *If you need any help or info. from any of these people, a skills day in your area for example, then please ring the office and we'll put you in touch.* Alternatively, come to the EGM and meet them for yourself!

For those of you who don't know, all of the people mentioned above are active sabs and work for the HSA on an entirely voluntary basis. Please give them as much support as possible: send in any relevant info. you may have (including photos) for research, news or legal purposes; donate some money; or send off your subscription now if you're not already a member!

Lastly, on March 10th '96, the HSA is calling an **E.G.M.** The committee feel that it's time to make some changes to our constitution amongst other things, in order to push the HSA forward into 1996 and beyond. We have said that as long as there are bloodsports there'll be hunt saboteurs, and we fully intend to be around, alive and kicking as long as people are persecuting our wildlife. So, we've called an EGM at a time when as many sabs as possible should be able to attend. It will be held in London, as it is relatively easy to get to from all areas of the country.

Some important decisions have to be made on the day, and we can't make them without a large amount of members there to vote. We want as much input as possible from sabs all over the country - let's make the HSA into an even more formidable force in 1996.

Please make an effort to attend - get there and have your say. There'll be loads of time to discuss issues which you feel need to be discussed, there'll also be the first showing of our new tactics video, and who knows, you may win yourself a new hunting horn! See below for the EGM agenda.

Agenda

HSA EGM

Sunday 10th March
Conway Hall, London

(nearest tube: Holborn)

To start at 11:30 for 12 noon.
To finish at 5:30pm.

1. Vice-Chair's opening remarks.

2. Officers' reports. This is a chance to find out what each person working for the HSA has done since the AGM last year and also what they intend to do in the future. There will be opportunities to ask each officer questions (about the HSA please!).

3. Break (food should be available).

4, 5, 6. Proposal of resolutions 1, 2, and 3. (See next page)

7. Open discussion session on chosen topics. If you want something discussed, here's your chance. Topics put forward so far include: Injunctions and the HSA office.

8. Horn blowing competition! A chance to win a brand spanking new hunting horn. It could be you - the best horn blower of the year or the worst! Entries accepted on the day. If you feel you've got what it takes to judge the competition, please ring the office.

9. Launch of the HSA's first tactics video. A major landmark in the history of the HSA. It's official, we've finally dragged ourselves into the age of technology and produced an exciting (!) video. This will be the world premier showing of our masterpiece.

10. Free for all video session! Please feel free to bring your own videos to show everyone. Videos of people (hunt personnel particularly) in compromising positions (out in the field) most welcome and great sabbing adventures/victories as well. Can anyone top the video of the '94 AGM put together by Essex sabs??

11. Last but by no means least, the HSA has invited two 'guests' to the EGM: **Jim Barrington**, former LACS Executive Director and recent guest of the Wheatland Foxhounds and **Janet George**, BFSS Press Officer. Well known to Leicestershire sabs, Janet has often provided us with much amusement in the past. She is now however based at the BFSS head office in London. Perhaps there's something you'd like to discuss with either or both of these stars.

Also at the EGM, we will be giving away free stuff to sab groups due to the success of supplying groups with stuff at last years AGM. So, come along and get your share!

Also: There may well be a large sab organised for the previous Saturday (nothing to do with me, constable), and perhaps a party afterwards???! Ring the office for details.
See you there!

Karen, Current Vice -Chairperson.

Special Resolutions For Consideration At The Emergency General Meeting Of The Hunt Saboteurs Association Limited To Be Held On 10 March 1996.

1. That the articles of Association be amended as follows:
i). Article 13: delete the words "and to the auditors".
ii). Article 51: delete the words "and a report of the auditors"; delete the word "reports" and insert "report"; delete the last sentence from "The auditors report..." to "...of the Act".
iii). Article 52: Delete the whole sentence and insert the words "The Association shall comply with the requirements of the Act as regards the auditing of the accounts".
iv). Article 53: Delete the whole sentence and insert the words: "The Association shall comply with the requirements of the Act as regards the appointment and regulation of Auditors."
v). Article 57: Delete the article and insert "Subject to the Provisions of the Act but without prejudice to any indemnity to which a member of the Executive Committee may otherwise be entitled, every Member of the Executive Committee or other officer of the Association shall be indemnified out of the assest of the Association against any liability incurred by such Member or officer in defending any proceedings, whether criminal or civil, in which judgement is given in favour of such member or Officer if on which such member or officer is acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the Association.

Proposed: P Browne
Seconded: K Sherwood

Explanation: This removes all references to auditor from the articles and clarifies the fact that the association need only comply with the Companies Act with regard to the auditing of the accounts.

2. That the Articles of Association of the Association be amended as follows:
i). Article 5: Delete the word "which" after "which" and before "category" in the first sentence.
ii). Article 11: Delete the whole of Article 11(b) and the words "between 1 June and 30 september". The amended article 11a then becomes article 11.
iii). Article 51: delete the words "made up to a date not less than four months before such meeting".

Proposed: P Browne
Seconded: K Sherwood

Explanation: (i) corrects grammatical error; (ii) removes an unnecessary clause which seemed to be making all AGM business special (i.e. 75% majority required): (iii) allows an AGM to be held at any time throughout the year.

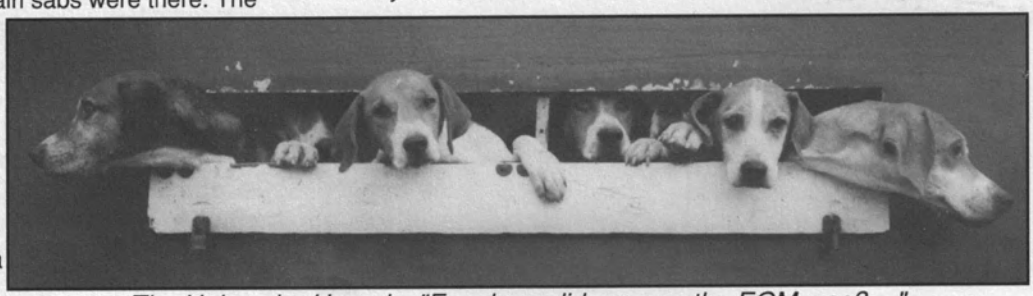
3. That the membership subscription rate for waged persons becomes £10 per year and that for un-waged persons becomes £7.

Proposed: K Sherwood
Seconded: P Gammon

Don't forget: Only HSA members can vote on the above resolutions. *So get your subscription in now if you're not already a member!*

Group News continued .....

At the start of December we received a tip-off that the elusive Royal Rock Beagles were to meet in Cheshire. This turned out to be correct, with what must have been the smallest field I have ever seen, four, sabs took control of the pack for most of the day making this another problem day for the new huntsman. At the start of January they again tried to attend this meet, and yet again sabs were there. The result was the same as when they had hunted there before, a blank day.
The festive season (bah humbug) period turned out to be a great time in the North West, with the Cheshire Forest, Cheshire Foxhounds and the Holcombe Hunt all cancelling the traditional Boxing Day meets due to bad weather. One of only a couple of hunts who were brave enough to venture out were the Forest and District Beagles who were spotted at a meet near Macclesfield, Cheshire. As soon as they left the meet, sabs followed them up onto the moors. After thirty minutes of trying to hunt, they decided to call it a day and go home. So with a blank afternoon to waste it was off to the pub with the **Stoke sabs** for a well-earned drink.
It was the same over the New Year period, with only the very brave (or should that be stupid) hunts attempting to go out to hunt. You might be forgiven for thinking it's all been very quiet in Cheshire this season, but you would be completely wrong. Even though sabs have not been there as often as past seasons, the hunts still managed to hit the headlines in one way or another. During a meet of the Cheshire Foxhounds at Willington Hall on November 2, the pack found the scent of a fox, luckily the fox managed to escape across a major road, but sadly this was not the case for one of their hounds. As cars swerved all over the main road trying to miss the chasing pack,a motorist was unable to act quickly enough and knocked down and killed one of their hounds (Penny).



The Holcombe Hounds: "Er, where did you say the EGM was?...."

Only a couple of weeks later the same hunt tried to hunt a local canal bank/towpath. causing damage to both areas, and as we all know under the British Waterways Board bylaw clause 31 'Horse riding, unless on a designated bridleway, is not permitted on the towpath and is an offence'. Stay tuned for an update.
At a Cheshire Forest meet, Drakelow Hall Farm Byley, on December 2, the hunt decided to do a bit of sabbing themselves by riding down a canal towpath, thus disrupting all the anglers who were there at the time. However, later worse was to follow later. Four riders were making their way back to the meet along the same towpath, when they plunged into the canal, after a few minutes the riders managed to get themselves out, they then found a grassy slope where their horses were helped out.
The Cheshire Forest were once again in trouble following an incident at their meet at Mouldsworth, December 23. Hounds yet agin strayed out of control onto a main road, causing drivers to swerve all over the dual carriageway. The BFSS hit back, saying hounds are trained to stop at the sound of the huntsman's horn,-they obviously have not read a copy of the LACS 'Track Record', which details the death of over 100 hounds on either roads or railway lines.
Cumbria sabs have been busy up in Lakeland. Sabs from **Workington, Carlisle, Lancaster and Preston** despite atrocious weather, managed to sab the Blencathra FH this season. Although heavy mist often made it impossible to see the hunt, sabs anticipated that the support knew they were there as they played

.....continued on page 24

Winners all the way, With the HSA!

1995 Annual Prize Draw

1st Prize - £500:	K McCormack Norwich
2nd Prize - £250	E Benjamin N. Devon
3rd Prize - £100	Barker E.Yorks

Runners up - £10 each: D Jackson, Cumbria; A Gregory, E Sussex; Littlewood; T Cullen; C Devoto, Sheffield; T Jettigan, Rugby; M Wilby, Essex; L Wiffen; Mr Grundy, Oldham; P Crofts, Warks.

Club Draw

September:
1st - J Deli-Tucker, Surrey
2nd - P Hutchinson, Derbyshire
3rd - H Mackie, Aberdeen

October:
1st - Mr & Mrs Mathews, Essex
2nd - D Grimbleby, Merseyside
3rd - A Theobald, Essex

November:
1st - T Nickerson, Norfolk
2nd - T & B Lithgow, Aberdeenshire
3rd - L Ackerley, Liverpool

December:

1st - F Devine, S Yorks
2nd - M Cowan, Notts
3rd - F Inkley, Surrey.

For details on how to join the HSA's Club Draw contact the office.

Remember ...
You've got to be in it to win it !!!

***Apologies** to all those who received renewal slips with their last HOWL, when they shouldn't have! We're really sorry - a few mistakes were made during packing.*
*All of you who sent us money to renew your membership when it wasn't quite due have had your current membership extended to cover it. **Sorry!***
(You just can't get the staff these days - Ed.)

Group Allocation of the Great Donation

Ardent readers of their Group Contacts Mailout should recall the September edition which featured the front page news that a major donation had been received, and that a sizeable chunk was to be allocated to groups. The group applications came flooding in and, due to the number of groups after the cash, it was decided that the original decision to split the money 50/50 between a new tactics book and groups should be scrapped in favour of getting the money straight out to the groups that were obviously so desperate for it.

Of an original donation of £4,600, £1,600 went to producing the last HOWL and the remaining £3,000 was therefore split as follows, with the groups who requested a specific figure below the basic split between agreed applications getting what they requested, and the rest getting an equal share of the remainder (if you see what I mean!).

Requested amounts:- *Chiltern (£30), Stoke (£100), Farnham (£100), Ayreshire (£100), Aldershot (£100), New Forest (£70).*

Equal Share of the Remainder (£131.58):- *Kent (Dover, Ashford & Maidstone), Halstead and District, Southampton, Wolves, Hull and East Yorks, Clydeside, South Dorset Anti Bloodsports, Mid Essex Wildlife Protection/Basildon Sabs, Norwich and Norfolk Anti Bloodsports, Cotswold, Edinburgh, Chichester, Nottingham, Liverpool, Bath, Pewsey Vale, East Northants, Portsmouth, and finally, Belfast Sabs.*

Taking the applications over all, there was basically an even split between vehicle repair and/or purchase, and equipment (maps/CBs/horns etc.) needs. If you're reading this thinking you've never even bloody heard of this mega giveaway, then you need to ensure that your group both receives **and** reads your Group Mailout. And as if this giveaway wasn't enough, the forthcoming EGM is likely to contain details of another great cash event! Who said the HSA did nothing for its members? Well, EAT YOUR WORDS!



Group News continued.....

hunting songs over the CB to them! The CB again proved to be a fabulous toy for the hunt support at a meet of the Melbreck FH when sabs from **Workington, Lancaster and Preston** began receiving death threats on it! The pack ran a fox to ground and sabs managed to get over and saw that a terrier had already been entered. Sabs positioned themselves so that if the fox did bolt they could at last try and whip the pack off. The huntsman then arrived and became very abusive and threatening. Another terrier was entered by terrierman John Jackson, who then reached in and pulled out the fox and threw it to the waiting hounds. Sabs believe that the fox was still alive as they could hear it scream as the pack broke it up. One sab was jostled, threatened, hit with sticks and actually pushed down the fell side after attempting to take photos of the kill. All sabs survived the day though, and have revisited both the Melbreck and the Blencathra again this season.

Thanks to all groups who sent stuff in - more photos please if you will!!! Apologies to any group whose report isn't here - I was promised help with this but it didn't materialise at the end of the day and stuff may have gone AWOL. It won't happen again!!! - Ed.

Vermin Patrol Appeal

We need more info. on people like those mentioned in the *Vermin Patrol* report (page 14). Please send any press cuttings (with the date of the newspaper on please) or anything at all that you think may be of use to the HSA PO BOX address. You may think a small snippet is trivial - but it means a lot to us!

EXTENSION fanzine

A Vegan Straightedge, Animal Benefit fanzine. Includes lots of thoughts on life etc, cool photos, poems, info, profiles and fresh interviews with Animal Activists, Earth Crisis vs 108, Shift and many more. Full size, and about 40 high quality, 100% filled pages. Profits to Vegan Resistance/Sweden. Price live is 20 sek or $3. Shirts & Vegan info is also avaliable. Prices ppd are:

Vegan Justice

Sweden: 30 sek
Scandinavia: $4
Europe: $4
World: $5

OUT BEFORE XXX-MAS -95

Avaliable from:
Gökropsv 6C, 906 51 Umeå, Sweden

Media Training Workshops

Media Training Workshops for campaigners are up and running. Small World offer several training sessions aimed at helping groups improve use of media resources. Camcorder training is included as well as sessions on developing media strategies, editing and talks and screening.
For more info. contact Zoe on 01865 712521 or write to: Small World, 46 Rymers Lane, Oxford OX4 3LB.

Sabbing Skills Days

The HSA committee currently includes an illustrious Skills Day Officer, who is primed and ready for doing his thing in your area! If you would like a visit - perhaps a sab and tactics session in your local area on a Saturday and a comprehensive skills day on the Sunday, then ring the office and we'll arrange a date.

SUPPORT ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS

Those imprisoned for 'Animal Rights offences' need your support. Show them you care by sending letters and messages of support - these are greatly appreciated by all prisoners.
Most prisons now allow stamped, self-addressed envelopes to be sent in with your letters and cards. Please enclose these if you write, so that prisoners don't waste their limited funds on postage.
Donations can be sent to the ALF Supporters Group who can provide financial help for these prisoners - cheques and POs made payable to **'ALF Supporters Group'** can be sent to: **ALF SG, BCM 1160, London WC1N 3XX.**

Melanie Arnold GJo940
HMP Pucklechurch
Bristol
BS17 3QJ

Gurjeet Aujia HV2047
HMP Leicester
118 Welford Road
Leicester
LE2 7AJ

Greg Avery HV3313
HMP Blakehurst
Redditch
Worcestershire

Dave Callender HV3314
HMP Blakehurst
Redditch
Worcestershire

Darren Cole XD2301
HMP Exeter
New North Road
Exeter
EX4 4EX

Michael Green
HMP Gloucester
Barrack Square
Gloucester
GL1 2JN

Angie Hemp TW1 678
HMP Newhall
Dial Wood
Flocton
WF4 4AX

Rod Coranado
No. 03895000
FC1, Box 23811
Tucson, AZ85706
USA

Neil Hansen EE3588
HMP The Mount
Molyneaux Avenue
Bovingdon
Herts
HP3 ONZ

Keith Mann EE3688
HMP Full Sutton
Nr Stamford Bridge
York
YO14 1PS

Dominic Peaty XD1642
HMP Exeter
New North Road
Exeter
EX4 4EX

Laura Nicol AH1512
HMP Low Newton
Brasside, Durham
DH1 5SD

Lise Olson B48426
PO Box 5001
KMSU
DwightIL 60420
USA

Geoff Shepherd MD1030
HMP Wandsworth
PO Box 757
23 Heathfield Road
London
SW18 3HS

Barbara Trenholme
RL1292
HMP Holloway
London
N7 0NU

Mike Roberts GE3743
HMP Lewes
1 Brighton Road
Lewes, BN7 1EQ

ASSUME THAT YOUR LETTER WILL BE READ - PLEASE BE CAREFUL WHAT YOU WRITE

HUNT SABOTEURS ASSOCIATION

Supporters Corner!

The HSA urgently needs your help to carry on its activities - encouraging and supporting hunt saboteurs out in the field. Please read the following and tick as many boxes as you can, then send it back to us along with any enclosures. Your support is greatly appreciated.

Thank you!

- ❒ I have information on my local hunt which I will send to you.
- ❒ I have information on my local hunt - please contact me about this.
- ❒ I enclose some newspaper cuttings which I have collected for HSA files. NB: please date each cutting.
- ❒ I would like to help my local sab group by fundraising. Please contact me about this.
- ❒ I would like to start / renew / increase (please delete as appropriate) my standing order payments to the HSA. Please send me the necessary form.
- ❒ I am interested in including the HSA in my will. Please send me information on how to go about this.
- ❒ I would like to renew my membership to the HSA.
- ❒ I would like to introduce a friend to the HSA. Please send me details.
- ❒ I may be able to help the HSA by donating maps / vehicle parts / cameras / radios / office equipment. Please contact me about this.
- ❒ I would like to make a donation to the HSA. Please find a cheque / postal order made payable to: HSA enclosed.
- ❒ I would like to help recruit more members to the HSA. Please send me some leaflets.

NAME ..... Tel No. Day:..... Eve:
.....

ADDRESS:
.....
.....Post Code .....



BORN TO BE FREE - *NOT HUNTED*



Noticeboard

Publications

TACTICS BOOKLET

The North-West HSA has published an updated version of the old booklet. New features include:

- Legal advice and a guide to suing the police
- How to make a whip and when and where to use it effectively

and many more interesting articles (foxhunting / cubbing, hare hunting, angling etc).

If you would like a copy, please send a cheque/postal order made payable to ***Manchester HSA*** for £3.50 to **North-West Hunt Sabs, P.O. Box 155, Manchester, M60 1FT**

The Vegan Society have published a new video entitled "Truth or Dairy", it provides an overview of the suffering inherent in the meat, dairy, egg and leather industries: the health risks of meat and dairy based diets: and the environmental implications of consuming animal products.
Another good reason to buy this video is that the HSA will receive £3 for every copy bought through this advert! Buy it for only £9.95 (P&P inc).
Make cheques/POs payable to the Vegan Society and send to: Dept HSA, The Vegan Society, Donald Watson House, 7 Battle Road,St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex. TN37 7AA.

Bath HSA have produced a benefit tape "Out Of The Bag" which comprises 90 minutes in the company of the likes of Blyth Power, Mad Halibut and Haywire (Weymouth sabs!). Only £2.50 from Bath HSA, PO BOX 426, Bath.

Liberator Magazine, covering the animal rights world from ALF actions to Arniland gossip is available by mail for the bargain price of £2 per copy (inc P&P). Cheques with payee line left blank should be sent to: PO BOX 80, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 4GH.

Groups

Bristol Animal Rights Network is a new local animal rights group which will be campaigning against all areas of animal abuse, including bloodsports, factory farming, the pet trade, live exports, vivisection etc. They hold fortnightly meetings in central Bristol and are organising regular actions and events. Contact BARN, PO BOX 53, Greenleaf Bookshop, 82 Colston Street, Bristol BS1 5BB. Phone: 0117 951 2942.

Events

The Animal Cruelty Investigation Group has a team running in the Flora London Marathon on Sunday 21st April 1996 to raise funds for camera equipment. Sponsorship forms are available from Mike Huskisson, ACIG, PO BOX 8, Halesworth, Suffolk IP19 OJL. Please help.

Brixton Sabs also have a fit young cockney sab running for them in the Flora marathon. For sponsorship forms please contact the HSA office. All money raised goes to Brixton HSA.

Addresses

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

Pisces (formerly CAA). Campaigns against all forms of angling. PO Box 90, Bristol BS99 1ND. Publishes *Pisces*, a newsletter about their work.

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

Animal Freedom (Youth Group) - 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 SAE to Oxford EF!, Box E, 111 Magdalen Road, Oxford OX4 1RQ

Arkangel Magazine Published four times a year, this provides a forum for debate and exchange of ideas about pro-animal action at all levels - £7.20 for a year's subscription. BCM 9240, London WC1N 3XX

Respect for Animals Campaigns against the fur trade. PO Box 500, Nottingham NG1 3AS

UK Animal Watch Infiltrates, investigates and exposes illegal bloodsports. PO Box 220, WR4 9UZ

Freedom Network Provides information and ideas on the CJA. Green Office, The Old Dolehouse, 372 Coldharbour Lane, Brixton SW9 8PT

Clothing

ETHICAL WARES, producers of quality vegan footwear will donate a percentage of their sales to the HSA if we are mentioned when ordering. For a catalogue, send an SAE to: Ethical Wares, 84 Clyde Way, Rise Park, Romford RM1 4UT

Peoples Campaign Against Live Exports are now selling the infamous 'Smashing Day Out At Shoreham; T-shirt. You can buy one for £6 (inc P&P) from PCALE Merchandise, 5 The Lindens, Canterbury Drive, Brighton BN2 3FZ. Cheques payable to PCALE.

Birmingham HSA still have a few T-shirts left featuring the infamous "Hunters, Shooters, Anglers, Wankers" slogan. Further details from: Birmingham HSA, PO BOX 85, Birmingham, B12 9RL.

In Memory...

In memory of John William Deli Tucker 1933 - 1995

'I shall pass through this world but once
Any good therefore that I can do
or any kindness that I can show
to any animal or human being let me do it now,
let me not defer or neglect it, for
I shall not pass this way again.'

Thank You...

Many thanks to all the people who donated money to the HSA over the Xmas period. All money is used to actively continue the fight against bloodsports.

Also, thank you to all our anonymous callers who regularly give us meets!