Direct Action Against All Bloodsports

HOWL

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Magazine of the Hunt Saboteurs Association



"Oi, are you pick-axing on me?"
The surprisingly peaceful 12th...

HOWL 62

Magazine of the Hunt Sabotuers Association
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Please note - our address has changed!!!

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Editorial

Well, here we are again at the start of another season. By now your days of lounging about in bed of a Saturday morning should be behind you as the cold and dark mornings of the cubbing season take their toll. For those out and about, make sure you read, understand and make full us of the 'super sab' tactics advice in this issue. Aim to be 100% effective and you won't be so shattered at the end of a day of running across freshly ploughed fields for 6 hours. This advice, combined with the (at last!) reappearance of the merchandise catalogue, should mean that you are completely set up for the most succesfull season ever. And if you're not, get in touch with our Sab Skills Officer immediately and get your arse in gear!

This issue sees the continuation of our 'International Sabotage' series, with a reports from Germany following last issues American account. Full details of a fabulous campaign being run in Northern Ireland to abolish the carted staghunting can also be found in this issue, including how you can help to 'Save our Stags'.

Also included, are reports on the Glorious 12th and a day out with the Ytene.

As ever, this magazine is only as good as you make it so get your thoughts on paper and get 'em to me!

Have a good one - Dawn - Howl Ed

P.S This issue is completely without a picture of a smashed sab van windscreen - can't you tell it's been a quite summer!

Cover Story:-
NW sab confronted by a non too pleased to see us gamekeeper!
Stanhope Common, Co Durham 12/8/96.

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.

'No comment!'

Dear Howl,

I have been forced to put pen to paper following the recent Sabbing Skills Day in Birmingham (cheers to all concerned). It seems that despite telling some people over and over again, they just can't resist a little ego-trip called 'talking to the police'

When will people get it into their heads that the best tried and tested response to questioning when arrested is '**No comment**'. That way you can't implicate anyone else, you place the burden of the investigation where it should be - on the police, and you can then remember exactly what you said to the law. If at a later date you want to make a statement you can, but with the benefit of deliberation and legal advice.

As regards cautions, well NEVER ACCEPT THEM! If the Police have no evidence against you, then they will go for a caution and time and time again people accept them. Accepting a caution is accepting a guilty verdict without having had the trial.

Get this straight - the police are not on our side and they are not impartial. So don't cut your own throat by talking to them and accepting cautions. Stick it out, you're group will stand by you while you're in custody.

Hope that's clear!

Graham, Stoke sabs.

Barrington's baby....

Jim Barrington, former Executive Director of the League Against Cruel Sports, has finally unveiled his new career as an intermediary between the hunting and shooting fraternity and 'wildlife organisations'. The aim of the Wildlife Network, Barringtons new group, is to allegedly 'facilitate a meaningful dialogue with pro-hunting bodies in order to ensure that the best solution is reached for all concerned'. The bumpf goes on to say that 'all decent people condemn badger baiting, cock fighting and dog fighting, which are gratuitously cruel as well as being illegal'. It might be an idea for good old JB to point this out to his hunting comrades, as in this issue alone 'Vermin Patrol' reports on the appearance in court of Christopher Rooke, amateur terrierman with the York & Ainsty South FH; Edwin Dickinson, terrierman for the Cumberland Farmers FH together with Peter McColgan the amateur Huntsman, and finally Richard Lovett, terrierman for the Vale of White Horse FH, - all appearing for offences relating to the interference of bagder setts! (For further details see pages 19-21).

Barringtons real underlying concern for the welfare of Britains wildlife was again highlighted when he visited grouse moors in North Yorkshire in early August, just prior to the start of the Grouse shooting season. In a clear statement of support for the shooting fraternity, JB said that 'There is no doubt that grouse shooting provides most of the investment in preserving a habitat which benefits many species'. There is apparently no truth in the rumour that he was there to select his shooting butt for the big day - it seems he was there only to kiss butt and keep talking out of his own (Sorry, couldn't resist that one, - Ed).

Why not contact the Wildlife Network and get the full run down on their approach to securing the welfare of our wildlife? Write to Wildlife Netwirk, PO Box 11061, London, E17 5TZ or e-mail wildnet@mail-host.net.

Own goal for Jack Charlton...

Jack Charlton, one of Englands 1966 World Cup squad members, was fined £30 after pleading guilty to fishing without a licence, and was also ordered to pay £45 prosecution costs. Charlton was one of 30 anglers who were caught without the relevant licence following a crackdown on 'licence dodgers' by inspectors from the Environment Agency on Easter Monday this year.

The former manager of the Republic of Ireland team said 'It was an oversight on my part and will not happen again'. Fans of his football career said he was likely to be as 'sick as a parrot'.

Stop Press! Forget the research- Hunts to advertise!!!!!!!

'Hounds' magazine has hinted that sabs need to do little more than nip into WHSmiths to check the whereabouts of a local hunt over the new season. The Association of Masters of Harriers and Beagles are said to have published an initiative to promote hare hunting to a wider audience, and have been encouraged to publish both opening and Boxing Day meets in the 'sporting' press!

The need for spending hours pouring over past hunt meet cards, or checking through hit reports may soon be a thing of the past, and will obviously free more time to spend with the hunt!

The HSA fully supports this initiative, and will of course, try to attend as many of the advertised meets which the fools, whoops, nice hunting people choose to advertise. And why should the hunters complain, if all they are trying to do is to widen the participation in the 'sport'? Will the MFHA be next? - Watch this space!

Beagles stolen from hunt kennels

The Trinity Foot Beagles Hunt has reported the theft of five eleven month old puppies from its kennels near Cambridge. The obviously bright Huntsman, Paul Smith, commented that 'I could tell immediately something was amiss, when I drove into the yard the pen was open and all the pups gone'.

The BFSS were quick to blame so called 'animal rights extremists', but so far no group has claimed reponsibility for the action. David Bredin, the BFSS spokesman for East Anglia stated that 'This is a very cruel act and one that could endanger the good welfare of the pups'. *Howl* suspects that the pups are more likley to live long and healthy lives, free from the taught horrors of harehunting.

Payroll change for sabs (allegedly)

Anglers Mail has reported that Pisces, the national anti-angling organsiation, is paying hard-up students to sab fishing matches. In the bloodsports world of chinese whispers, this rumour now replaces the belief that Linda McCartney has been paying sabs between £30-£40 a day to sab fox hunts for several years!!! Keith Barker, the political co-ordinator for the National Association of Specialist Anglers, stated in *Anglers Mail* that 'I'm surprised if Pisces can afford to pay people but you never know. They are emotionally unbalanced people looking for a cause' (!!!)

And the reason behind this need to believe that we get paid for getting off our arses to prevent the killing? - It's probably very hard for people without morals to accept that many people do have them, and that they don't need a monetrary incentive to fight for what they believe is right.!



Over 250 supporters of the 'Dave Callender Justice Campaign' turned up at the Royal Courts of Justice on Wednesday 31st July to show their disgust at the 10 year sentence Dave received for conspiracy to commit arson.

The day passed off peacefully and without incident despite the presence of around 200 police officers, complete with 20+ riot vans, with many lurking down side streets conducting indiscriminate searches of protesters.

For further information on the campaign contact:- DCJC, PO Box 38, Manchester, M60 1NX. Letters of support to Dave should be sent to Dave Callender, HV3314, HMP Birmingham, Winson Green, Birmingham, B18 4AS.



BFSS attempts takeover of 'extremist' RSPCA

The British Field Sports Society has attempted to deny allegations that it is trying to infiltrate the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, despite the fact that the BFSS's two deputy chairmen Lord Mancroft and Bill Andrewes are actively encouraging their members to join the RSPCA. Over a three month period, covering April, May and June this year, over 3,000 supporters of the BFSS have joined the RSPCA in a move that is designed to counter what the bloodsports enthusiasts see as an increasingly influence of 'extremists' in the welfare organisation. This move comes close on the heels of the RSPCAs' link-up with the League Against Cruel Sports and the International Fund for Animal Welfare to create a new anti-hunt campaign, under the title 'Campaign for the Protection of the Hunted Animal'. The aim of this campaign is to enhance the protection of wild animals from cruelty, by campaigning for legislation to abolish cruel sports in which dogs are used to hunt or kill wild animals.

This issue of BFSS membership of the RSPCA was the key item on the agenda of the RSPCA's AGM , held in London on the 22nd June. What follows is one sabs report on the meeting.

The move by the BFSS to urge its members to join the RSPCA has raised serious concerns, as the RSPCA's membership is only approximately one third of that of the BFSS. Furthermore, on average the AGM of the RSPCA usually sees a turnout of a few hundred people, and as such the presence of 3,000 bloodsports fanatics could have posed a huge problem for the future of the welfare organisation. However, as the RSPCA requires a minimum membership period of 3 months prior to being eligible to vote, many of the BFSS new members did not qualify to vote at this AGM, and therefore didn't bother to attend.

Around 500 people attended the AGM, and the atmosphere clearly dictated that all these people were genuinely concerned about animals. Two proposals were put forward to the AGM regarding hunting. The first was to affirm the RSPCA's position against hunting. This was unanimously voted on (that is 500 to nil - although Peter Voute, Executive Director of the BFSS was present as the only bloodsports fanatic, he didn't dare raise his hand either for the vote against or for the abstentions!). The next proposal sought to enable the RSPCA to refuse membership to people, or to expel members, who are involved in an activity that the RSPCA considers cruel (i.e. hunting). Yet again there was a unanimous vote in favour.

The atmosphere was so strongly anti-hunting that every time a speaker gave a statement against bloodsports the whole hall started a round of applause lasting minutes, and it was noted that Peter Voute beat a hasty retreat after the second proposal had been voted on! He later commented that 'the behaviour of the Society's membership made me wonder if I had wandered into a hunt saboteurs meeting by mistake'!!

The move by the RSPCA to prevent certain people from joining its membership has brought it into conflict with the Charity Commission, which sees this step as a sign that the Society is becoming political, something it is not allowed to do should it wish to retain its charity status. The request for the rule change to allow the prevention of membership applications from those involved in animal cruelty is currently with the Charity Commission for consideration, and it is not known when an answer can be given on the matter. What is sure though, is that the BFSS will continue to urge its members to join the RSPCA, and that at the time of the next AGM more bloodsports supporters will be eligable to vote.

Eds note - Although the RSPCA has come under some criticism for its policies in the past from animal rights circles, this action by the BFSS could pose a serious threat to the survival of the organisation. The RSPCA, together with the League, played a major part in ensuring the success of the Wild Mammals Act, which represents the first British legislation to protect all wild mammals from some acts of cruelty, and it has now also teamed up with LACS and IFAW to campaign collectively to outlaw hunting with hounds. Why not support this campaign, and help counterbalance the influx of BFSS members by joining the RSPCA? Membership is £15 single/£20 joint per year. Contact RSPCA, Causeway, Horsham, W. Sussex, RH12 1ZA.

Sussex police pay out ...again (revisited!)

A West Sussex sab has received his fifth out of court settlement from Sussex police following his threat to to bring a case of wrongful arrest after being held for abusive behaviour to a police officer at a meet of the Chiddingfold, Leconfield and Cowdray hunt.

Simon Wild was awarded £500 by the police, and has already received £1,800 for previous settlements for cases relating to wrongful arrest and one of illegal search, and £75 from Hampshire police after successfully fighting a case of excessive force during an arrest.

Simon, who still currently has two other cases outstanding against Sussex Police stated "I have cost the police nearly £5,000 plus their own costs in the last 6 years. The money means I can afford to keep going to demos and hunts and I have bought a video camera to record the police so that we have hard evidence against them...The police cannot arrest you without good reason. When I try to put them right, they just arrest me because they think I am a cocky bastard. It is quite amusing really, but not for the taxpayer who is having to pay for all this"

Legal Incident forms... as in I hope you've got yours ready for the new season, and are ready to get them filled in as soon as it happens so that the HSA can keep up to date with these things!

First custodial sentence handed out for Aggravated Trespass

On 20/3/96 Eastingwold Magistrates handed out the first custodial sentence for Section 68 of the Criminal Justice Act. A live export protester received a 28 day prison sentence for an action at Albert Hall Farm, North Yorkshire after she drove her car into the farm drive, D-locked her neck to the steering wheel and attached herself to another person by a section of drainpipe.

The activists pleaded guilty to the charge of Aggravated Trespass partly because they could see no legal defence, but also to avoid bail conditions banning them from the farm. Although a custodial sentence was the outcome, it is important that other activists put this into context. The protester had been arrested, charged and convicted a number of times at the Farm, and has other numerous convictions, including Aggravated Trespass. The Magistrates were aware that she does no pay fines on principle, would not serve a community service order, and has been to prison in the past for animal rights activities. In addition the Magistrates were exceptionally agitated that she had retrieved her car and disposed of it when they were wanting to confiscate it because it had apparently been used to commit a 'serious crime'!

It could be that now one court has taken the lead others may be more willing to start taking a custodial option for those charged with Aggravated Trespass. Whatever happens, keep the HSA informed, and if you haven't got a good solicitor, contact the HSA for details of a good one in your area.

Sab van driver found guilty of 'aiding and abetting' aggravated trespass'

A north-west hunt sab has been found guilty of 'aiding and abetting' other sabs in the 'crime' of aggravated trespass for his part in simply driving the vehicle in which sabs were present. The charge related to an incident in October 1995 when sabs from around the north-west came across a small party of anglers and decided to disembark from the van and sab them to prevent further fishing that day. The van driver was traced as one of the anglers took note of the vans registration, and reported the incident to the police.

The sab driver pleaded guilty to the 'aiding and abetting' charge in order to avoid the greater charge threatened by the police of criminal damage, and also refused to name the occupants of the van despite 'requests' from the police. He was ordered to do 120 hours community service, pay £75 court costs and also had to forfeit the £50 surety relating to a previous bind over to keep the peace, which he had broken through this alleged incident. Any drivers who face similar charges this season are requested to keep in contact with the HSA in respect of any incidents.



Police sitting on the fence - the only example of neutral policing you'll see all year!

3 hunt supporters bound over following attack on sabs

Three supporters of the Vale of Clettwr FH have been bound over to keep the peace for 12 months following an incident were sabs were surrounded in their van and the driver dragged out and held upside down during a meet in November last year. (See Howl 60) Terrierman Emyr Davies together with two other supporters, John Glanmore Jones and John Geraint Owens denied a charge of violent disorder, and also pleaded not guilty to stealing two hunting horns, two whips, a walking stick, and a gizmo belonging to the hunt sabs.

Thanks to feature writers - Martin, Paul T, Paul G, Steve, Seth, Dawn (me!), Isabela, Dave. Nobody else bothered to help me in any way shape or form... not that I'm bitter or anything...

Deadlines:

Group News - 30th November

Letters/Articles/news etc - 16th November

Letters should ideally be limited to c200-300 words; articles to one page in length (c1000 words) unless otherwise arranged by the Editor. Please DO NOT write directly on the back of any photos sent in!

The Editor reserves the right to edit both articles and letters in respect of length and content.

Hunt Sabbing in Germany

Isabela Schultz of Animal Peace gives a history of sabbing in Germany. Animal Peace, a large animal rights organization with over 25,000 supporters has local groups all over Germany who indulge in hunt sabbing whenever they can.

Hunting is regarded as a strong tradition in Germany, and being a hunter here means adopting a certain lifestyle. This includes strange rituals, green clothes and cars, hunting literature, organizations, many magazines, drinking (especially 'Jagermeister') and a hunting language with euphemising words such as 'sweat' for blood and 'piece' for a dead animal (sounds familiar - Ed). Unfortunately, hunt sabbing on the other hand does not have such a long tradition here, but the idea is spreading slowly but surely. There has always been a small opposition to hunting, with literature, protests and demonstrations. About four and a half years ago, as far as I know the first hunt sabs were organized by the animal rights group 'VOR' (Vegan Offensive Ruhr-area). The reactions on the hunters side were quick and angry, and the hunting magazines expressed their irritation in long articles (mainly saying 'who the heck are these people?!"). The number of hunt sabs has increased, and so has the repression. Many German politicians are actively or passively involved in hunting, and so we weren't surprised when laws were passed last year in two states defining hunt sabbing as an official offence with fines up to 10,000 DM (c£4,000). There have been quite a few sentences for Breach of the Peace, but only a few trials which were mostly combined with charges of injury and duress.



German sabotage in action - 80 such look-outs were felled in the Frankfurt area. (Film received anonymously by Animal Peace)

The different means of protest against bloodsports include regular demonstrations, fake blood etc at the annual hunting fairs and a nice pastime called 'Hochsitzsagen'. All over Germany hunters kill from wooden look-out posts, and animal rights activists saw them down. No records have been kept as to how many posts have been felled, but the photo shown was taken on a tour of Frankfurt where 80 posts were destroyed (the film was received anonymously).

Germans need a licence to hunt. Then, if they have enough money, they lease a piece of land they can kill on. This makes sabbing difficult, as the hunting is on private property. Otherwise hunting groups meet in a forest area, either in small groups or a bateau, mostly on demand from the forest rangers of the district. It is unfortunately not very easy to find out where and when the hunts are taking place. Information is sometimes received from residents who are told about an upcoming hunt, or relatives of hunters, or the hunt is announced in the local newspapers but as hunters are being more cautious these days this happens less and less. Sabs then drive to the hunt and try to find the hunters via scouts and following the shooting. When the hunters are in sight, it depends on their hunting methods as to what tactic are used. If they are hunting in small groups some sabs will post themselves in front of the hunters, with large sheets or just their bodies to prevent the shooting and others will go on to find more groups. If it is a bateau, some sabs may post themselves



in front of the hunters with the guns, and others make noise and chase the animals in the other, safer direction. Hunters are advised to set their guns on safety when non-hunters are in the area, but we have experienced bullets ringing around our heads many times. If it is a larger group hunting, they may draw back and drive to other hunting grounds. The sabs try to follow by car, and to continue disrupting the bloodsports. the non-violent sabs are often confronted with verbal and physical violence, which is encouraged by the drinks that the hunters usually can be found consuming. Sabs have often been clubbed, usually with rifles or with animal corpses(!).

There has also been much media coverage on hunt sabbing, which was almost always positive or at least neutral. Hunting and hunt sabbing had a peak of public interest in the winter of 1994/95, with many critical documentaries on hunting itself and hunt sabs, hunting was the subject of talk shows, in magazines and newspaper articles. Hunting was just regarded as a sport up until a few years ago, but I believe that many people are starting to have a critical opinion now. Hunters have tried to save their image by going on and on about the ecological necessity of hunting, and have even campaigned with large advertisements. The hunting magazines were full of long articles complaining about the 'wrong' image of them conveyed by the media and that the 'fanatical animal lovers' receive too much attention.

In the tabloid 'Express' there was quite an amusing article following a hunt sab. It stated 'Poor hunters! There you go meeting at 1 o'clock in the afternoon (when other people are having fun at work) to indulge in your sensitive task, final environmental protection - and then something happens like yesterday in Meerbusch: Suddenly, people armed with whistles appear in the hunting grounds and run through the fields chasing those little environmental sinners out that you, courageous as usual (only armed with a rifle) want to take to the other world. Only those who have ever encountered a Meerbusch-killer-rabbit eye to eye could appreciate your devoted work!'

In January 1995, the largest hunt to take place since World War II was announced in the hunting magazines, with 290 participants were expected. Of course, we thought that this should also be the largest hunt sab ever, and started alerting activists. Unfortunately the hunters were cautious and were careful in publicizing the date for this hunt. We had some information pointing to a certain weekend, and about 150 sabs met in the early morning to find this hunt in Linz, near Frankfurt. There were many hunters (about 100) active in the area this day and the sab turned out to be very effective - but it was not the hunt that we were supposed to be at. A TV team had gone along with Animal peace to film the sab. The report received much public response, and was repeated later in May in a larger report on more Animal Peace activities. After this was shown, the organization received around 1,000 calls from viewers interested in learning more about Animal Peace. And we found out that we had even more success from the previous sab - the large hunt had been called off, as the organizers feared a hunt sab!

Although the German hunt sab movement is still in its beginnings, the number of active hunt sabs has grown steadily and there is now a concerted effort to create a hunt-sabbing-network. You have to keep in mind though that the whole animal rights movement is rather new in Germany and there are not as many people as actively involved in it as in England. But the awareness for animal rights has increased enormously, and hunting is being questioned by the public. The hunters are realizing there is an opposition, and are very, very irritated about sabbing. As the sabbing movement grows and many more animal's live can be saved.



Animal Peace take their message direct to the public outside a major game fair.

For further information on Animal Peace contact:
Animal Peace e.V., Prachter Str. 1, 57589 Pracht.

Sabbing to the max....

So, here we are again at the start of another season and you're all ready for those early morning starts in cubbing, and those long days of sabbing to come during the main season. But how ready are you, and just how much more effective could you be?

This will be my fifth full season out sabbing, and in that time I like to think that I've come along way. I started off, as most people do, being the unlucky one who got to sit next to the back doors of the van, inhaling diesel fumes as we made our way to the meet. I never knew where I was going of course, because I was new and new sabs usually get to find out where they're going when they get there. When I got there I used to follow everyone else around, and basically did what they did until the end of the day when we all go back into the van and I went home, usually not really knowing where I'd been to or to what hunt.
As I said, that was five years ago, and I've progressed since then. These days I know where we're going, I've go the relevant map in my pocket, whip in my other pocket, my 10p for the 'phone when I get lost and I've got my thinking head on so that I'm not being a lemming and following everyone else around. What strikes me though, is the amount of sabs who have got a couple of seasons under their belts and are still breathing fumes at the back of the van, and who still like to follow others round when out sabbing instead of making their own decisions.
To my mind if you care enough to be out there sabbing, then you should care enough to make sure that you do you're very best to save the life of the hunted animal. What follows is a list of what I believe makes a 'Supersab' - something I admit that I have not yet achieved, but which I strive for not so that I'm 'big' within the sab world, but because I want to know when I'm downing my post-sab pint in the pub that I did my very best for the fox/hare/grouse etc in question. So, here's how you can become more effective and maximise you sabbing potential...

Carry a whip - A whip is one of the cheapest to obtain and easiest to learn pieces of sabbing equipment. It can be amazingly effective in stopping hounds on a line and holding them back as and when required. Hounds will usually respond well to the sound of a whip cracked in front of them as they have been trained to be scared of it. All you need is a good piece of climbing rope, a piece of dowelling, a shoe lace, some tape and about 10 minutes to get the hang of it. It's that easy and it can be unbelievably effective - so why aren't you carrying one?

Carry a map - And so to the 'I'd be lost without my maps' section. A map can be a matter of life and death for the hunted animal. Why? Because if you have a map with known areas that the hunt will go, and if this map also shows known earths/setts/etc then you can see where you really need to be if the hunt start to head in that direction. It can also point you in the right direction for a shortcut, or stop you heading down a dead end lane with a pick-up full of terrier men behind you.
Recommended maps are the 'Landranger' pink Ordanance Survey maps, available from good bookshops, YHA shops and WHSmith to name but a few places. Priced around £4.75 each, you don't need to buy all the maps in your area but even just the usual two or three that your group uses would be advisable.

Carry a spray - A spray is intended to cover the line of a fox or hare, and thus foil the scent so that the hounds lose the line and cannot continue the hunt. A variety of scent dullers can be used, with the most common being Citronella oil (citrus - available at your local chemist, just ask), garlic (chop up cloves and stick them in a container of water to ferment for a while) or, the most expensive and decidedly environmentally unfriendly option is 'Anti-mate'. This is an aerosol spray which is designed to mask the scent of a bitch in heat, and as it has to be bought rather than home made, is a costly means of covering a scent.

Carry a horn (if you can blow one!!) - Too few people have horns and too few people know how to blow them. I speak from experince, I 've had one for about two years and I'm so crap it's unbelievable. But saying that it's probably because I'm too chicken to really take the time out to learn. A horn can be enormously successful in controlling hounds if the horn blower knows his/her notes and when to use them. The HSA sells cheap horns and tapes which guide you through the horn-blowing process, although if you

are thinking of buying one it's probably best to have a go with someone elses first. As the HSA recently gave a horn out to all sab groups (don't blame me if you didn't claim yours), then your group should have one for you to practice with.

Take a camera - 'A picture can speak a thousand words' somebody, somewhere once said, and it's bloody true. You'll see things whilst out sabbing that would get 99.9% of Joe Public against hunting, not to mention the things you'll see and need to take pictures of to prove to the police that it was that nice man that smashed your windscreen. (And what's a bit of gelatine between friends, eh?)

Know about hunting - Knowing the basic tactics of a fox/hare/mink hunt etc means that you know what the hunt will probably attempt to do in certain situtations and this means that you can act accordingly. For example, during a hare hunt it is generally expected that the hunted hare will run in ever decreasing circles and thus there is no point running two miles in one direction in the hope of getting in front of the hunt. The basic tactics of the different hunts can be picked up with experience, or a much quicker means is to get your hands on a copy of the North West Tactics booklet (see back page).

Know about your hunt - I don't mean rush to your local library and stick your head in the latest 'Baileys Hunting Directory', but I do mean try to be able to distinguish the hunt staff of your local hunt and know who does what. This helps when you're trying to work out their tactics by seeing who is doing what and where. It can also be important if an incident occurs and you need to be able to point people out, or if an incident occurs and you need to know who not to get on the wrong side of!

Know when to listen and ask - If you get into a situation were you're not sure what to do, then don't be afraid to follow others who are more experienced or to ask questions.

Take a nice sensible coat with lots of pockets - that one speaks for itself I think.

So there you go, wasn't that too painful was it? The above list is designed to highlight **why** these things are important, and is not an attempt to explain **how** or **when** they should be put into pratice. For further information either ask your fellow sabs for advice, buy yourself a tactics booklet (plug, plug) or arrange a Sabbing Skills Day for your area and our very own SSD Officer will remove the synthetic wool from your eyes and all will become clear.
Because, at the end of the day, if that fox didn't get away, could you have done more? And that thought can really spoil your pint. **Get sabbing to the max.**

Handling Wild Animals
Following on from last issue's article on first aid for animals, we offer a short quide to handling animals.

Emergency Checklist
Be calm, efficient, firm but gentle. Keep all your movements smooth and sure. Keep your eyes averted - a direct gaze is threatening. Keep other people well away unless their help is essential. Protect yourself - wear gloves; beware of hooves, teeth and claws, and keep your face out of reach. If you do not feel confident in handling a situation get help from someone who can cope.

Handling Foxes
A fox can be grasped by the scruff of the neck once its attention has been diverted, i.e. use a scarf or jumper. In one hand use these items as bait - once the fox snaps use your other hand to quickly and firmly grasp the scuff of the extended neck. A fox will invariably become passive and allow itself to be carried a short distance or lifted into a container, the main weight of the body being supported by a hand or arm beneath the rump. If the muzzle is taped a fox can be carried relatively safely.

Handling Rabiits or Hares
An injured rabbit or hare, especially after having been chased by a pack of beagles, will be very scared and in shock and so extra caution must be taken as these animals do give a nasty bite. The long ears of both types are a perfectly appropriate handle, but must never be employed to lift the animal unless its weight is taken by a hand placed beneath the rump, in such a way that the forearm cannot be scrathed. These animals have strong claws on their powerful hind legs and will kick convulsively in an effort to escape.

SAVE OUR STAGS!

Following public outrage over the recent incident where a stag was hunted onto mud flats and held at bay by hounds in the freezing water for two hours, Belfast HSA up date us on the success of the new campaign to ban staghunting in Northern Ireland.



The County Down Staghounds, based at Hillsborough in Northern Ireland, is one of only two carted stag hunts left in the world - the other being in the Republic of Ireland. Both these hunts breed stags for the sole purpose of hunting them, thus blasting out of the water the bloodsports fraternity's age old defence that hunting is for pest control purposes.

On the day of the hunt one of the stags, which are kept in a field next to the kennels, is captured and put in to a small crate (hence 'carted' staghunt) on the back of a landrover. It is then transported for up to half an hour or more to the place where it will be released and hunted. The stag is let out of the crate in an area which is not in its native habitat and chased until it is too exhausted or injured to run any further. It is then recaptured and placed back in the crate and returned to the field to await another days 'sport' at some later meet.

The season starts the last week in October and continues until mid-April with the hunt going out twice weekly, (Tuesdays and Saturdays), so within this period the hunt has in the region of 40 meets. As the hunt has around 20 deer in the enclosure, with only a proportion of these being stags, this means that each stag will be hunted at least twice a season.

Although the hounds do not directly kill the stag, a number have been killed in recent years. One stag drowned in Strangford Lough, and another was killed by a farmer who was trying to prevent the hunt invading his land. As the land on which the hunt takes place is far removed from the animals natural habitat of moor and woodland it is at a severe disadvantage from the very start. As the stag tires it often injures itself as it ploughs through hedges and fences - it has no chance of escape and as it has nowhere to run to as there is no natural habitat near by.

Recently this hunt was captured on camera by a local environmental reporter who just happened to be in the right place at the right time. His film footage showed a stag being chased into a nature reserve and then being hounded onto the mud banks around a local lough were it became stuck and was hauled out only after two hours, with the hunt supporters putting a rope around the animals neck and pulling it ashore. This footage was shown on prime time local news bulletins which resulted in their switchboards becoming jammed with angry viewers. This prompted the TV company to hold a 'phone poll the following evening on the subject of staghunting. The result was that in the space of just twenty minutes over four and a half thousand callers had rung in. The final result was that 86% of those calling supported a ban on staghunting, while only 14% agreed with the hunts side of events.

Following the success of the 'phone poll some local sabs in Belfast decided to hold a public meeting the next week which was hoped to mark the launch of a new campaign against this hunt. The result was beyond anything the group could of dreamed of ! Over 70 people attended the meeting which, considering the size of Northern Ireland, is quite a large turnout for a meeting of this nature. Discussions on the issues involved took place, and a new campaigning group was set up under the name Save our Stags (SOS).

A large demo was planned for the following Saturday to take place at the staghunts kennels. Over 60 people turned up, which led to the fantastic sight of a convoy of one minibus and eleven cars heading for the kennels. On arrival we were greeted by only one police car which didn't seem to object to us continuing up the driveway to the huntsman's house to display our banners in all their glory. The huntsman and his wife duly came out and whilst engaged in conversation some civic minded individual decide to exercise the hounds and took the pack into a nearby field. Once there sabs formed a line to

keep the hounds under control. One hound had a particularly nasty cut to its left paw with one toe missing. It was decided that the hound was in need of veterinary attention and the USPCA was called to inspect it. On their arrival the hound was passed into their care and taken to a nearby shelter. By this time several hunt supporters had turned up, and also some police reinforcements and as the hunt were quite pissed off about the hound being brought to the attention of the USPCA they tried to start several fights but the day passed without serious incident.

A stand-off situation ensued for about an hour with the hunt unable to get down the lane due to the presence of sabs and our vehicles. Eventually we agreed with the police to move to the end of the lane and onto the public road. The hunt saw this as an opportunity to escape and loaded the stag into the crate and boxed the hounds. With a police escort they proceeded towards the road in convoy but as they approached sabs staged a sit down, blocking their only exit. The police quickly formed a line in front of us and started taking photographs of those blocking the road. The local Inspector then warned us all that we were obstructing the police and that he intended to prosecute. The police proceeded to take protesters details (you have to give them in Northern Ireland when asked!!), and then read out our rights.

Amazingly no-one was arrested at the scene and we managed to stay seated for over an hour. By this stage it was 2.00 p.m. and the hunt was already two hours late for the meet. Eventually the Master came to an agreement with the police that they would return the stag to its pen if protesters allowed the hound trailer through so that hounds could be exercised. Once protesters saw the hound trailer unhitched those with doubts about the truthfulness of the deal decided to give the hunt the benefit of the doubt and agreed to the deal.

After the hounds had left protesters stood their ground for another hour just to be certain that the hunt didn't try to slip the stag out. However at 3.30 p.m. it was decided to call it a day as all were satisfied that the days planned hunting had been definitely been cancelled.

Since this demonstration the campaign has gone from strength to strength. The Save our Stags petition has already amassed over 20,000 signatures, and regular meetings and demos continue to bring new support for the fight to abolish this abhorent 'sport'. It is rumoured that the Department of the Environment is currently looking into getting a court injunction to prevent the staghunt from trespassing on their land which, if successful, will open the floodgates to farmers and landowners alike to bring the case against the hunt before the courts. Pressure is also being levied on the Department of Agriculture to withdraw the 'deer farming' licence which is issued to the hunt - without this they can no longer rear the animals to hunt. All supporters of the campaign are asked to write to the DoA in support of this option (address below).

Finally, the proof (if we really needed it!) that the campaign has shaken the hunting fraternity comes in the fact that 'Irish Hunting, Shooting & Fishing', a bloodsports magazine available throughout the whole of the island of Ireland, devoted two and a half pages to the matter. By providing a long-winded and inconsistent monologue on the case the author, Albert J Titterington, highlighted again how it is impossible to justify the existance of a staghunt which breeds and maintains its own animals to hunt (see Titter-ye-Not on page 15 for examples of this mans IQ).

As the hunt is currently out of season until the last week in October all resources are being poured into the campaign, and your support would be very much appreciated.

For further details on the campaign please contact **Save our Stags, 3-5 Donegall Lane, Belfast, Northern Ireland, BT1 2LZ. Tel 01232 314076.**

Letters about the withdrawl of the deer farming licence should be addressed to 'Mr John Murray, Department of Agriculture, Stormont House, Upper Newtownards Road, Belfast 6.



The Belfast Pied Piper works his magic on the Co. Down staghounds pack! (Photo:Belfast sabs)

Sabs hit Ytene - no sabs hit!



During mid-May around 80 sabs converged on Chippenham railway station in preparation for a sab on the Ytene Minkhounds. Obviously thinking that this looked like fun, around 80 police officers also decided to join us but it seemed that they couldn't wait for the sabbing to start, and instead decided to busy themselves by searching each and every sab. This 'operational decision' was mainly due to a rush of testosterone suffered by the overzealous Inspector, who believed there to be a likelihood of trouble that day. The Welsh contingent clearly demonstrated their solidarity with the main group as they walked across the footbridge towards the meet, saw everyone getting searched, giggled a bit and then turned back across the bridge!

Once the Inspector finally realised, after at least 45 minutes, that there was sod all that he could legally hold us, for we were all allowed to go. Despite our initial disappointment at the arrival of the police so early in the day, little did they realise how much a police escort was to benefit us, and little did we realise quite how much!!

The Chippenham locals had probably never seen anything like the ensuing procession, except for on 'The Bill', because whilst we were being detained more and more cop cars and loaded riot vans teared up to the station with sirens blaring and inhabitants huffing and puffing until all told there must have been a task force of 150-ish coppers including cars, vans, helicopters et al.

By the time this charade had finished the hunt must have been tipped off as to our intentions and had made a sharp exit from their original meet, leaving no trace of their presence at all - paranoia, me thinks? Thankfully, due to the existence of a well researched database on the hunts previous movements in the area, they were rapidly found and sabs quickly disembarked from the vans and got to work.

Our rapid(ish) departure seemed to catch the police unawares and sabs had managed to get quite a way ahead before they had even decided which poor sods were to be given the task of following us on foot. The police finally started to give chase a short while later as sabs neared the hunt. Everyone was now running towards the hunt - a most worrying sight for them I'm sure, as 80-odd hairy loonies charging towards you to relieve you of your pack could only serve to seriously ruin your day! The sabbing had now started in earnest, and although the Ytene hounds are not noted for being a particularly well trained pack or very responsive to horn calls, the racket of sabs horn and voice calls meant that they were too over-awed to listen to anything that the huntsman was trying to say to them, and attempts at hunting were unsuccesful.



Cops chasing sabs chasing the hunt...

It was around this point that the police helicopter returned, and hovered c50 ft above us to direct the officers on the ground in their attempts to try to sweep us away from the hunt. The cops thought that they had the situation under control at one stage when they had 'rounded up' sabs and had also blocked a bridge to prevent us crossing to the other side to meet up with the hunt. The smug looks on their faces were soon removed when the realization came that they'd neglected to block another bridge some 50 yards further up the river. In no time at all

sabs had crossed the bridge and rejoined the hunt!

This to-ing and fro-ing continued for a while until the police finally thought they had vexed us by blocking us in with lines of police who threatened arrest, in an area of the river without bridges. Sabs refused to be detered by this first display of intelligent policing, and merely sauntered down the river bank before wading waist deep across the river to the other, police-less, side. The dismayed look on the cop's faces at this point seemed to indicate that they had just realized that we weren't simply bored students looking for an easy day out - now we meant business!

A rethink of police tactics then seemed to show some sympathy with our cause, because the ensuing course of action taken by the police proved to be one of the best means of pre-beating a river bank that sabs could ever hope for. The police helicopter simply began hovering really close above sabs, causing a deafening racket which had the added benefit of completey drowned out the trepass warning they were trying to broadcast by loudhailer. This, combined with the churning of the water caused by the draught from the helicopters blades, made sure that all wildlife in the area probably thought that the end of the world was nigh and had buggered off to sunnier climes. Needless to say that when the hunt drew the riverbank a short while later nothing was to be found.

Hunt tempers must have been fraying by this time as the only arrests of the day took place at this point. One sab had his legs kicked from under him as he ran towards the road ***away*** from the hunt and in a display of typical over-reaction, cops responded by sending several officers with batons drawn chasing after the sab and even decided that it should take 4 officers to restrain him, together with a hefty blow to the chest in order to conduct the arrest. two other sabs were also arrested at this point.

Other sabs saw this arrest as a possible indication of things to come and a large number of them decided to cross the river to avoid the police. Dismayed that they couldn't follow and harass sabs on foot as no other bridges could be seen up ahead, the police Inspector ordered that the helicopter should land, pick up three officers, and then fly over the river and deposit them on the other side. As a helicopter costs something in the region of £2,000 per hour to run, it's doubtfull whether the taxpayers of Wiltshire would have looked favourably on this little brain wave by the boys (and girls) in blue. This operation was repeated time and time again until there remained only a small number of cops on the other bank. It was heart warming sight to see the eager volunteers lining up almost as if it was a special treat to have a ride in the helicopter!



Wiltshire cops await their turn with the big chopper

Sabs yet again won the day as the hunt later packed up without any kills. Despite three arrests all charges laid have since been dropped, and the tally of 3 arrests verses 150 cops does seem to indicate a tad of over-policing don't ya think?!

Just to look at the day in a monetary light (i.e waste of):-
150 coppers @ £7 per hour x 6 hours = **£6,300**
1 police helicopter @ £2,000 per hour x 6 hours =**£12,000**
150 packed piggy lunches @ c£2.50 = **£375.00**
Shit loads (yes, that is a technical term - Ed) of petrol & diesel = **£more**

Grand Total **£18,000.00 +**

All this to protect a rag bag bunch of filthy blood junkies. If it weren't for the fact that so many of their daughters are vegan (well, that's what they told us anyway), I'd say that Wiltshire cops have been left with egg on their faces.
Still, I'm gonna keep on dreaming about the day that the HSA has got £18,000 to spend on a days sabbing, 'cos there's no doubt that's what the Wiltshire coppers did!.

All video stills courtesy of Bristol sabs.

The Glorious 12th that the CJA forgot...

(But the Gamekeeper with the pickaxe handle didn't!)

Despite Shooting Times' prediction that sabs were viewing the 12th as 'low key', a party of shooters on Stanhope Common, Co Durham quickly discovered this to be untrue when over 50 sabs descended upon them on the Monday morning. Also in attendance were the notorious 'Countrywatch UK', a militant security firm with a close attachment to brown shirts who have actually been banned from policing hunts in Surrey due to the presence of questionable implements in their vehicles. Obviously the shooting party in question didn't hold much faith in the assurances of their own magazine and its so called 'inside information'.



Stand-off on Stanhope Common, or. alternatively, shooter thinking 'Well, Countrywatch Security are doing a good job so far, NOT!' (Photo - NW sabs)



Gamekeeper threatening sab with pickaxe handle (Photo: Basingstoke sabs)

The shooting party was delayed slightly on their way to the grouse moor as sab vans inadvertently blocked the way, due to some interesting attempts by drivers to park the vans (you just can't get the drivers these days, you know). The intelligence of both Countrywatch UK (CW UK) and the shooters was clearly displayed for all to see as they took their time in realizing that the fact that they were sat in 4 wheel drive vehicles meant they could simply drive onto the moor and avoid the congestion on the road (the phrase 'more money than sense' springs to mind here!). One shooter obviously had a problem coping with this slight delay as a sudden attack of 'road rage' sent him leaping out of his vehicle with a pick axe handle (as you do). Civic minded sabs decided that he presented a danger both to himself and to others around him, and after a short game of 'tug-of-handle' quickly relieved him of this dangerous item.

All parties present eventually reached the moor and as sabs began walking onto it the brave CW UK sprung into action and tried to prevent a number of straggling sabs from continuing further. They soon decided to release those detained after the main group of sabs began walking back down the track to question them about what they thought they were doing. Once on the moor little needed to be done in the way of counter beating as the arrival of Durham police's helicopter meant that all grouse in the surrounding area were quickly dispersed, and once the shooters soon realized that sabs were quite happy to trek across the moor if required, they packed up for an early lunch.



'GIZIT!!!!' (Photo:Basingstoke sabs)

Some guns must have either forgot their butties or grown bored very quickly of their comrades company as they ventured down to the bottom of the track were the sab vans had been joined by four riot vans and six other police vehicles. The police seemed quite happy to chat to both CW UK and the guns during this stand-off, but proved very unhelpful when approached by a sab who wanted to



'Impartial policing at its best...shooters, security and cops in conference - no sabs allowed!! (Photo NW sabs)

know why the cops were blocking sabs in. This fine piece of impartial policing was further illustrated by the officers failure to even identify the senior officer at the scene, by merely stating 'Not me love, ask him' when asked who was in charge.

This stalemate situation continued until about 3 pm, with sabs happily sunning themselves whilst CW UK stood about getting paid for doing bugger all, and the shooters just hung about looking stupid in their britches. Despite conducting regular circuits of the area throughout the afternoon no further shoots were located and sabs decided to call it a day at 6 pm.

A good, if relatively quite, day was had by all sabs in attendance with no shooting achieved by the party sabbed, and no other shoots found to be active in the area. Newspaper reports the next day stated that many shoots had decided against going out on the 12th for fear of attracting sabs, and this loss of such a traditional date in the shooting calendar for many shooters can only be viewed as a victory for all concerned. The complete absence of any arrests or even police interference, (apart from the sad attempt at a blockade when no-one wanted to go anywhere anyway), left sabs to get on with what they set out to do. Funny that, and I thought that a new fangled piece of legislation had been brought in to stop this very type of thing...must have been mistaken.

Thanks to all groups who attended - **London, Bristol, Basingstoke, Cardiff, Wolves, Bolton, Manchester, Cumbria, Hull and anyone else who I may have omitted! See you next year!!**

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Titter-ye-Not!!!

Albert J Titterington's pathetic attempt to diffuse the County Down Staghunt controversay.
(Quotes taken from 'Irish Hunting, Shooting & Fishing', edition unknown)

'Firstly I am an active country sports participant. As a trained biologist I can justify all country sports from the point of view to maintaining a species balance in the countryside - either by cropping a surplus or controlling a pest.'
Er, Albert, as the hunt actually breeds the stags to hunt and doesn't actually kill them this isn't relevant is it?

'Secondly, from an environmental point of view I can demonstrate that country sports make a net contribution to the whole environment and to the diversity of fauna and flora in our countryside.'
Well good for you - but in the two and a half pages that followed you failed to do that didn't you, Alby dear!

'Thirdly, from a moral point of view I can justify killing animals for control or food - this is a God given right'
.. but this hunt isn't supposed to kill anything! Someone get this man a doctor!

'...(as the) hounds are trained not to attack the stag and as the stag is aware of this it is unlikely to be terrified.'
No comment required for that piece of astounding logic me thinks.

'One could say that (the stags) lead an idyllic life in a rather beauiful deer park with excellent food and private medical care thrown in ...before being released once per season to be hunted...in this case the worst that can befall them is that they are caught to be chased again the following year'
And for free BUPA membership I bet the deer are queueing up to be picked each week. If only the stags in Devon and Somerset could book a two-week vacation at this holiday camp, eh?

Vermin Patrol

An update from Howl 61, **Darren Swanson** (25), **David Swanson** (28) both of Pine Road, East Howle, Ferryhill, Tyne and Wear and **Graham Howard** (25) of Coniston Road, Ferryhill, Tyne and Wear. They all pleaded guilty to digging for a badger and two charges of causing unnecessary suffering to dogs.
On 26/4/96 Durham Magistrates heard who the three were spotted by a motorist at a wood on the outskirts of Durham in May 1995, who then tipped off the police. The police then watched as the three dug up a sett with a pick and shovel. Their three dogs, Sam, Tina and Meg (what, not one called Brock? - that makes a change) were later examined by the RSPCA and a vet, and were found to have suffered injuries. Part of the bottom lip of one of them had been torn away.
After all the evidence was read out Stipendiary Magistrate Ian Gillespie said "Civilised society will not countenance such violent behavior which you would no doubt regard as sport". Mr Gillespie then sentenced all three to 5 months in jail, banned them from keeping dogs for ten years, and ordered the forfeiture of all their equipment.

On 3/7/96 **Mark Graham Pavit** (23) of 20 Ashley Road, Droylsden, Manchester, **Nicky Dixon** (22) of 75 Edward Street, Audenshaw, Manchester and **Andrew Conboy** (27) of 14 Sherwood Avenue, Droylsden, Manchester appeared before Macclesfield Magistrates. They all pleaded guilty to interfering with a badger sett on 18/12/95 near Wilmslow, Cheshire. A charge of cruelty to a dog was dropped previously by the prosecution. They were caught by the police who saw them standing by a known badger sett with a terrier down the hole, they later told the police they were after foxes (there goes that old story again). On 9/8/96 Macclesfield Magistrates sentenced them to 150 hours community service and were ordered to pay costs of £100 each. They were also banned from keeping dogs for three years and the court ordered the confiscation of their equipment.

Three men from the Midlands were convicted by Oswestry Magistrates on 10/7/96 for interfering with a badger sett after being caught in August 1995 at Maesbrook, near Oswestry. **Stuart Anthony Fellows** (28) of Pond Lane, Parkfields, Wolverhampton, **William John Richards** (46) of Harrold Road, Rowley Regis, West Midlands and **Stephen James Rogers** (33) of Lane Avenue, Walsall, West Midlands had claimed in court they were digging for foxes when Mr Bone (a local resident) heard dogs barking and went to investigate. On arrival, Mr Bone was told that it was a rabbit warren and they were digging for foxes, now where have I heard that before!. Mr Bone then began to take pictures of the men digging, Fellows then proceeded to chase Mr Bone across the field and at one point hit him across the back with a spade. Fellows was also admitted stealing a camera and assaulting Mr Bone. During a search of Fellows house in October 1995 by the RSPCA they found three wildlife traps and a stuffed badger on top of the TV.
On 13/8/96 Oswestry Magistrates sentenced Fellows to 4 months for assaulting Mr Bone, 1 month for stealing the camera and 2 months for interfering with a badger sett, all to run concurrently. Richards and Rogers were sentenced to 150 hours community service each and ordered to pay £150 costs each for interfering with a badger sett, they were all banned from keeping dogs for 10 years.

Christopher Rooke (37) of Newton-on-Ouse, North Yorkshire who is an amateur terrierman with the York and Ainsty South Fox Hounds was fined £750 with £60 costs by Easingwold Magistrates after admitting interfering with a badger sett. The incident happened during a meet of the York and Ainsty South earlier this year. A local landowner who had fenced off an area of his land which contained a badger sett, felt the fewer people who knew about the it the better. However, later that day the landowner noticed the fence had been broken down and somebody was digging up the sett. Rooke who has 20 years experience an amateur terrierman did not believe it was a sett, he thought it was a rabbit warren, and was told there was a fox down it and it was his job to get the fox out. Mr Darwin, mitigating said: "It wasn't his intention to harm the badger or the sett and he has expressed his remorse" (Yeah we believe that).

Kevin Gustard (24) of Victoria Terrace, Murton, County Durham admitted three offenses of digging a badger sett on Croxdale estate on 10/9/95. On 6/7/96 Durham Magistrates heard that Gustard was spotted by a local gamekeeper who then phoned for the police, the gamekeeper then made three return trips to the sett after Gustard had disappeared, a puppy could be still heard yapping from inside the sett. The following day Gustard returned with the puppy's mother, who had been fitted with a tracking device was put into the sett to find it. The police then swooped after being tipped off, Gustard told them he knew it was a badger sett but was trying to retrieve his puppy.

On 9/8/96 Penrith Magistrates found **Edwin Russell Dickinson** (38) of Town Head Road, Cotehill, Carlisle, who is the terrierman for the Cumberland Farmers F.H. guilty of interfering with a badger sett by causing a dog to enter it, and **Peter James McColgan** (30) of The Kennels, Welton, Dalston, who is the amateur huntsman for the Cumberland Farmers F.H. guilty of aiding and abetting Dickinson in interfering with a badger sett by causing a dog to enter the sett. The magistrates heard that on 6/12/95 the Cumberland Farmers were out hunting near Penrith when McColgan found that a fox had gone down a hole, he then called over Dickinson. The holes were then blocked and some nets were put over other entrances, a terrier was then entered the holes. Both men admitted in interviews that they had put a terrier down but said the contentious issue was whether they were signs of the sett being an active one. After a trial lasting nearly three days the magistrates found the pair guilty and they were fined £150 each with £250 costs.

charged with interfering with a badger sett at Little Common which is on the Surrey Estate. Defended by Michael Goodridge, Tuckwell pleaded not guilty to the charge, he said he suffered a lot of problems with rabbits on the estate and thought the sett was inhabited by rabbits. He denied he intended to gas the sett.



Snared badger found dead near Chichester, W Sussex
(Photo: W. Sussex Badger Protection Group)

Cockfighting reared its ugly head again, but this time in the North East, **William Ross** (49) a butcher of Sharon Avenue, Kelloe, Durham City, admitted causing cocks to fight in a wooden hut he owned on allotments at Kelloe on 19/3/95; using the premises for cockfighting and possessing spurs and other equipment for cockfighting, was sentenced to 4 months. **Joseph Kelbie** (34) formally of Cottingly Springs, Leeds, now of Turney Lane, Newark, Nottinghamshire who was accompanied by an eight year old boy to the fight was sentenced to 10 weeks and **John Hawthorn** (42) of Calvert Terrace, Murton, County Durham was sentenced to 8 weeks they both admitted assisting at a cockfight. The magistrate also made an order banning Ross, Kelbie and Hawthorn from owning live cockerels for the rest of their lives. **Thomas Waugh** (32) of Harlaw Gardens, Catchgate, Annfield Plain was fined £200 with £150 costs: **John Bell** (27) of Dilks Street, Bishop Auckland was fined £800 with £750 costs and **David Littley** (34) of Litchfield Road, West Cornforth, County Durham was fined £200 with £150 costs they all admitted being present at a cockfight. Two cocks fitted with spurs were attacking each other in a ring - the 19th bout of 24 listed on a notice calling the event 'The Durham Derby' - when the raid took place on an allotment shed in Kelloe near Durham City. Police also recovered the carcasses of 14 dead birds from earlier fights. they also found 34 live birds, of which nine were injured. Also found in the shed was equipment ranging from spurs to spur sharpeners and plasters used to fit spurs to the legs of the birds and scales for weighing them. Paul Williams defending claimed all six men had gathered for an auction but this developed into a cockfighting session.

In early May Wooton Bassett (Wiltshire) Magistrates heard how **Richard Lovett** (41) of Meysey Hampton, Cirencester, Gloucestershire blocked up a sett on 6/12/95 in readiness for hunting the following day. Mr Lovett is the terrierman for the Vale of White Horse Foxhounds, based at Meysey Hampton.
Lovett (who is also a former gamekeeper and Gloucestershire Area Representative for the Fell and Moorland Working Terrier Club) gave evidence for five hours, during which he totally denied having done anything wrong and said he had followed the Masters of Foxhounds Association rules diligently. Many witnesses were called in an attempt to persuade the court that blocking up the sett entrances with lumps of wet, heavy clay did not conflict with the Protection of Badgers Act, which dictates that if earth is used it must consist of 'loose soil'.
The trial lasted for 6 days after which the Chairman of the Bench, Mr Desmond Briggs found Lovett guilty and fined him £100. Lawyers immediately announced they would be lodging an appeal.

On 31/5/96 **Alan Burr** (18) of Tamworth Road, Fenham, Newcastle admitted burglary and destroying property, and was sent to a young offenders institution for 3 years after what can only be described as a sadistic act of cruelty to a families pet cat. It was revealed in court that Burr had waged a hate campaign against a 17 year old girl from the Byker area of Newcastle. Burr, who had only been out of prison for 17 days (after serving 5 months for another offence), broke into the girls flat last December. He daubed the walls with obscene graffiti then placed the pet cat, Coco, into the oven. When the girl returned to her flat she found the cat had been roasted alive. The RSPCA said they were sickened by the attack. Inspector Ian Smith said "The animal would have gone through excruciating pain before dying. It was burned alive".
The family have now fled the area and are living in Cumbria and Yorkshire, had to receive counseling to help them cope with the trauma.

Stephen Adams (24) of Westgate Avenue, Blackley, Manchester was banned from keeping animals for 20 years and ordered to do 140 hours community service for causing unnecessary suffering to a Staffordshire bull terrier. He was also ordered to pay costs of £160. During the case in April 1996 the court heard how Adams walked into a pub in Collyhurst, Manchester with the bull terrier, blood was oozing from a wound on the dogs neck and it had difficulty in breathing. The landlord of the pub was so shocked by what he saw he rang the RSPCA. Adams claimed he had just bought the dog and had not noticed the fresh wounds.

Two men **Leslie Tomlinson** (54) of Union Street, Tonge Moor, Bolton and his nephew **Mark Tomlinson** (20) of Pimlott Road, Hall i' th' Wood, Bolton were banned from keeping animals for life and ordered to pay costs of £250 following their appearance at Bolton Magistrates court on 22/5/96 on charges of cruelty to three dogs. Inspector Sarah Hill found the three lurcher type dogs being kept in a seven foot by six foot "shed like construction" at a house in Colmore Street, Hall i' th' Wood, Bolton. There was also a strong smell from the shed and the animals were suffering from hair loss and skin complaints. Since the trial one of the dogs has been found a new home and the other two are still waiting in kennels.

A taxidermist who encouraged people to kill some of the world's rarest creatures was jailed for 2 years after pleading guilty to six charges of illegal trafficking in wildlife that were protected under the CITES convention on endangered species, he also had to pay costs of £8,500. **Nicolaas Peters** (41) of Wood View, Aberhafesp, near Newtown, mid-Wales. Peters who is Dutch was found to have freezers, an attic and two barns stuffed with more than 500 animals from all over the world when his house was raided. During the trial at Chester Crown Court which end on 9/5/96 the court heard among the specimens in his possession were a Siberian tiger, a ring-tailed lemur and a Philippine eagle, which is one of the most endangered species in the world with only 50 pairs surviving. Some of the specimens were pickled and some frozen ready for preparation for sale to the black market. Peters already has convictions in France and Germany, he was defended by David Whittaker who said after the trial " His business will suffer irreparable damage after today's outcome." **(Comment - well that's tough shit, what about the animals who lost their lives!)**

An egg collector was fined £750 after police found hundreds of eggs from rare and endangered birds in his home. Police noticed that **Robert Vose** (52) of Sunderland, was looking very nervous as the police searched his garage. After a closer look it was found to have a false ceiling and an oven and cooker had false bottoms. 1,275 eggs were found. Vose had eggs belonging to species such as the Ruff, Peregrine Falcon, the Avocet and the Red-backed Shrike. The court was told there were only 10 pairs of breeding Ruffs left in the country.

Three men from West Cumbria have been fined after admitting taking rabbits from the Lowther estate. On 25/5/96 Penrith Magistrates were told that **Steven Richardson** (37) and **Mark Newell** (25) both of Needham Drive, Workington and **Neil Metherell** (38) of Pica Cottages, Distington all took rabbits at night from land at Thrimby Hall farm near Little Strickland. The three were kept under observation by police and a gamekeeper on 25/3/96. They had in their possession lamps and batteries. They were all fined £60 plus costs of £40 and the court ordered the seizure of their equipment.

Welshpool Magistrates heard how **Stuart Ferguson** (20) of Foden, near Welshpool, Mid Wales used a badly injured wood pigeon as a decoy to trap birds of prey. He denies five charges relating to the illegal use of a trap for ensnaring birds of prey on 25/8/95 on the Leighton Estate, near Welshpool. The estate is used for rearing pheasants for shooting. He admits setting the trap, but claimed this was only to catch crows or magpies. The case continues.

Gamekeeper **Antonio Cussato** (35) of Herbert Avenue, Ellesmere Port, Cheshire was found guilty on 19/6/96 by Wrexham Magistrates of four charges of setting traps and two charges of possessing them and was fined £400 and £100 costs. The traps were found by RSPB investigators on the Bryn-y-Pys estate at Overton where Cussato worked. During a search of 13 pheasant pens on the estate evidence was found of illegal pole-traps in all but two, and in four of the pens the steel spring traps were set. On a search of Cussato's house five identical traps were found and restraining wires hanging from a hook. Cussato claimed a trespasser with a grievance had placed them there while he was on holiday. (pull the other one!)

Steven Blackwell (22) of Briery Close, Windermere, **Michael Hodgeson** (27) of Little Langdale, Ambleside, **Mark Parker** (26) of Chapel Stile, Langdale and **Kevin Wradhall** (26) of Loughrigg, Ambleside were caught poaching fish at Raise Beck, near Grasmere they were confronted by Environment Agency bailiffs on 9/10/95. Windermere Magistrates heard how two of the men were armed with rifles, often used by poachers to shoot fish, and they were also shining bright lamps into the river. When the men were challenged by the bailiffs they said they were after rabbits and foxes, one of the men, Blackwell tried to run away but slipped and fell OOPS! All four were fined £60 for possessing a light intending to use it to take or kill fish, they were also ordered to pay £250 costs between them to the Environment Agency.

A soccer fan who kicked a puppy to death while he watched Euro 96 on TV was jailed for 28 days for cruelty to an animal by Oldham Magistrates on 13/8/96. The court was told how **Scott Batey** (28) of Longfellow Crescent, Sholver, Oldham, near Manchester (a manager of an exhaust centre) had lost his temper when the six-week-old puppy wouldn't stop crying. The dog was then kicked several times and it was left with a broken jaw, four smashed ribs, bruised lungs and a torn liver. The magistrates ordered that Batey should be banned for life from owning any animal.

On 13/8/96 Salisbury Magistrates heard how three men were arrested during 'Operation Avocet', aimed at collectors and traders in eggs, protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Before the court were **Anthony Parkes** (48) of High Grove, Sunbury Hill, Torquay, Devon: **Michael Sloane** (36) of County Durham and **Geoffrey Peirson** (48) of Buckinghamshire.
Parkes admitted possessing 52 eggs, which included the eggs of the Golden Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Marsh Harrier and Kittiwake. During a raid on Parkes's house last September the RSPB found more than 10,000 eggs. Parkes, who works for a meat company, (bad man) was fined £1,600, and ordered to pay the fine at a rate of £20 a week (how much!). Sloane admitted possessing 1,144 eggs and was fined £1,000. Peirson, who admitted seven offenses was fined £5,000 and ordered to pay £80 costs. Cases against three other collectors were adjourned after they pleaded not guilty.

This issue of Howl sees a large amount of space dedicated to Vermin Patrol. This highlights not only how prevalent these atrocious acts are, but also how sabs are becoming increasingly aware of them. Keep the info coming in, and don't let the scum get away with it!

Midlands

Sabs from **Stoke** have been busy fundraising, and can now proudly boast actually having our own van. Our local minkhunt, the Dove Valley, has also been sabbed occassionally. So far when we've turned up they haven't gone out- a good result in itself. The local law seem very laid back, letting us blockade their kennels with impunity. **Stoke** have also been in attendance at the Newcastle carnival, where we shared a stall with the local Liberty group. We handed out hundreds of leaflets, and hopefully got a few new members.

Stoke were also at the recent training day in Birmingham, and it was a very good day, especially beneficial for new sabs. Thanks to all concerned.

We will be up and at 'em next season, with our legal advice team in tow (if in doubt - SUE!).

Leicester sabs attended a meet of the Woodland Pytchley FH as part of a regional hit in mid-March. The hunt started at Burdyke, Weekly and moved onto Boughton House Estate. Hunt then went into the quarries at Crawford St Andrew and some locals in their houses wished us luck. At one covert, the sabs went in and so did police - with batons drawn. Hunt packed in early at 2.45pm, so sabs went on to the Fitzwilliam FH at Stamford, but the hunt must have advance warning that they were coming and they to packed up early. No kills.

The following week sabs were in attendance at the last meet of the New Forest Foxhounds, at Fritham. One hunt supporter tried to start a fight with sabs but was actually told to 'clam down' by other hunt scum! Several sabs were ridden at by riders riding at high speed on sloping gravel tracks, which are also dangerous to the horses themselves. Hounds responded well to the horn and gizmo. Two plain clothes cops, given away by their combed partings and regulation black moustaches, tried to arrest sabs. After sabs called over the whole pack, a rider came charging in with his whip cracking trying to whip sabs, but luckily he missed. Hunt terriermen were waiting for sabs at the top of a hill in two Landrovers. One guy got out with his axe and started waving it about and a freelance photographer got a photo of him, much to the terriermans annoyance! He was very pissed off and shouted to 'get the gun' to his mates. Police arrived to invesigate the smashing of the terriermans rear window, and one WPC arrested one sab simply on the say-so of the scum, despite the obvious lack of evidence. Hunt then ended at Frithan, and all five sabs arrested were later released without charge.

Meanwhile there had been a small riot elsewhere when a young hunt supporter had started attacking sabs in front of the police (who did nothing to stop him - we have video evidence of this). This is ironic as the BFSS had originally come out to film sabs allegedly fighting, and in the end we had more evidence of hunt scum causing fights! Anyway, no kills again.

Now down to Leicester's new van. We raised £400 at stalls in Leicester and £259 at one sab benefit gig at a local pub. We would particularly like to thank the sabs from ENABS for all their help with the van, and Peterborough HSA for their more than generous financial donation. Next season will prove that this was money well worth donating - THANKS!

(Ed's note - thanks to Leicester sabs for the Group news, but it had to be seriously edited as it went all the way back to January! Please send it in more often!)

Northern Ireland

Belfast sabs have had a fairly low key summer due to the fact that no mink hunt pack exists in Northern Ireland. Instead we have been continuing our campaign against the County Down Staghounds together with a recently formed group which goes under the banner 'Save Our Stags' or 'SOS' (see page 10 for further details). Local sabs have helped raise funds for leaflets and have joined other animal rights campaigners in protests at the hunt kennels which stopped the hunt from leaving also a very high level meeting by the BFSS which was attended by their Chief Executive Robin Hanbury-Tenison (who apparently got a bit sticky after coming into contact with some flying eggs!). Sabs blew horns and whistles throughout the three hour meeting, much to the annoyance of the hunt members gethered inside.

Belfast sabs are now planning for the season ahead and have now gained several new members with transport.

North East

Hull and East Yorkshire sabs report an extremely busy and succesful last season! Sabs have been in attendance at nearly every meet of local Foxhunt the Holderness FH since the beginning of cubbing. Numerous foxes have run free, dig outs have been stopped, artificial earths located and the hunt have played havoc

on main roads and their trespasses have been documented and filmed countless times. Badgers setts have been monitored for hunt blockages (the incidence of which has decreased - perhaps they're getting the message), and pre-spraying and beating has proved particularly effective as hounds seem to like follwoing the heel line for some reason!

No real bother from hunt or police, and we've also come across more anti-hunt farmers and landowners, one even blocked the terrier van with his tractor once! Also sabbed the Middleton Foxhounds and took in a few shoots during the season.

North-West

Since the end of the season the North West Sabs have been very busy fund raising for the forth coming season, however, we still found time to be a pain to some of our localish hunts. On May 11 the Border Counties Mink Hounds made their annual trip into Cheshire, where they were to be greeted by our smiling faces (not a pretty sight). As the hunt set off from the Swettenham Arms, sabs were waiting down the river for them to arrive, on seeing us they made a hasty retreat back to the pub. After an hours wait the supporters started to drift off, could they be going to another meet we thought?, no, they were just heading off home.

During the month of June we decided to pay a visit to the Dove Valley Mink Hounds, and along with other groups from **Stoke, Bolton, Sheffield, Northampton, Nottingham, Wolverhampton and Leeds** a kennel block was planned. This worked very well with the hunt not going out all day, a big thank you to the police for all their help on the day. (It's only the bad apple in the barrel that spoils it for the rest!)

At the end of June we paid a visit to the Holcombe Hunt puppy show which was great fun, until the prick with the pointy stick turned up! Also it's with a sad farewell (if you believe that you will believe anything) we say good-bye to the Holcombe's ex master Trevor Raymond Longster (blondie to his mates),and we would like to say a BIG hello to Arnold, yes we really do mean it, hope to see you all soon.

In August there have been many badger digging cases in the North West, see Vermin Patrol, and we have been holding demonstrations outside the courts every time these people have been appearing. A massive thanks to everyone who turned up.

On 26 August sabs attended a cubbing meet of the South Shropshire Hunt at Stiperstones, just south of Shrewsbury. Try as hard as he could the huntsman could not lose us even though he headed up some of the biggest hills in Shropshire and after a couple of feeble attempts to hunt, they all packed up and went home with no kills.



Whose the prick with the pointy stick? Visitor to Holcombe Hound puppy show - do you know this man?
(Photo: NW Sabs)

Group News Deadline

30th November, and yes, I do mean this bloody year. Plus photos, right?! - Ed.

So, whose on the bloody committee these days, then....

The HSA should be run by an elected executive committee of twelve voting members and as many associated officers as are deemed needed. However, in recent years we have had trouble filling all the posts at the start of the year and this year was no exception. To stand for committee, you should have been an HSA member for at least one year, and be prepared to attend monthly meetings held on Sundays around the country. After the last committee meeting held in Bristol in July, all the vacant committee posts were filled. The full committee now stands as follows:

Claire G	Chairperson	Claire C	Treasurer
Roe	Research	Norma	Group Liaison (SE)
Sadie	Membership	Steve	Tactics
Seth	Group Mailout & Liaison (SW)	Martin	International
Paul T	Fringe	Phil	Salesgoods
Paul G	Press	Simon	Sabbing Skills

All the above people have voting rights in accordance with the Articles of Association, and are standing for re-election at the September AGM. Several hard working sabs are prepared to give up their time to help the HSA without having a vote (even if just to avoid having to attend every committee meeting!) and they are:

Paul D	IT (hard computer type stuff)	Dawn	HOWL Editor	Brendan	Legal

If not enough members stand for the committee, everyone gets elected automatically. Very democratic I'm sure, but if you can't be bothered to join the association, then you don't get the right to vote.

COMMITTEE NEWS

STOP PRESS - AGM SUNDAY 29TH SEPTEMBER
CONWAY HALL, LONDON (Nearest tube:Holborn)
To start at 11.30 for 12 noon. To finish at 5.30 pm.

If you or your group feel they would like to raise a specific point or topic at the AGM, please let Claire G know via the office and she will do what she can to make sure it is brought up at the meeting. The day is made all the better if as many sabs as possible are able to attend - there may be old friends to see, hatchets to bury or even people to shag, but you won't know unless you are there.

Just a quick explanation about this year's EGM - it wasn't an Emergency General Meeting but in fact an Extraordinary GM which seemed to get some people interested (notably Janet George), and was purely needed to alter the period of the year when we could correctly hold our AGM (we thought after the foxhunting season had just finished was the best time), and also to put the membership fees up to cover the costs of administering them and printing HOWL four times a year.

Pleas from the HSA committee

Group liaison is probably the HSA's most important role, and if done properly is far too much work for one person - that's why there has been a fair degree of regionalisation in the last year and hopefully an increase in communication as a result. However, these things don't happen on their own, and it makes Norma and Seth's jobs much easier if contacts can ring them with information and gossip from around the country, and not wait to be called.

The Press Officer has been hard to reach for the last month or so, due to outside work pressures taking their toll, however he can now be reached on the new press number: **0976 418053** This number can be given out to interested journalists, and other sympathetic organisations to promote the HSA. There is an answerphone facility for when he's not available, and if the sad hunt supporting geeks who used to keep ringing him try it on this number, they will have the honour of appearing on the next HSA benefit tape!

On a more serious note, we are up against a well funded (if thankfully inept) battery of press officers from the BFSS, BASC, police force etc, and the HSA needs to be kept up to date with all the latest news from sabs - who's been nicked, in court, aquitted, injured etc on the day or soon after, so that we can get our version of events in before the other side lies to the media. An example of this not working is that I know at least 60% of sabs who even get to court get aquitted - however, because no sods bother to ring either the Press Officer or the HSA office, we hardly ever get the news when we need it - and consequently, the media and public at large believe the CJA and the police have finished us off. If only we had the information at our fingertips, we could make the law look so ridiculous, whereas the current situation shows us to be wanting. Also, if sabs are taking video of their local hunt, and something unusual happens, or even if you just manage to get some good quality footage (and not the blurred grass field accompanied by heavy breathing we usually see!) please let the HSA have a copy - we can copy it quickly and return the cassette so you don't even end up out of pocket. This is vital as the other side are trying to set situations up continually to get video of sabs acting controversially. Please take this on board as "they" are going for this big time.

On a final note, there are strong rumours that the hunting bodies feel they can finish the HSA and active sabs off this year with the millions of ££££s they can throw at this effort, and we are aware that the brownshirts of Country Watch UK are to be used to create the confrontation the BFSS need to smear us. Run by New Zealander David Dunn, these thugs are the same group that were forced to stop stewarding hunts in the SE of England after their presence raised the confrontation at hunts to such a level that the police couldn't cope. On one hunt in Surrey, 200 sabs stood up to 100 stewards who were told to leave by the police after finding an arsenal of weapons including snooker cues, baseball bats, lead piping, knives and catapults in stewards vehicles, and only sprays, horns and whips in the sab vans. Since Country Watch UK left Surrey there have been hardly any incidents of violence, but they have recently re-appeared on the grouse moors of the North East (see page 14) and so their return to the bloodsports arena should be carefully monitored. So be warned - if you have a bunch of brown shirted thugs turn up on your local hunt - let the HSA and all your local contacts know, and we can hopefully turn the situation to our advantage for once.

Paul G - Press Officer.



Country Watch UK's main man - David Dunn, seen here on the grouse moors on the Glorious 12th.

Review - Undercurrents 5

Blimey! Undercurrents 5 already? You'd think that some serious stuff was going on that perhaps those at the Beeb and that 'independant' channel didn't want you to know about wouldn't you? Well, there is, and that's exactly why Undercurrents exists, and why we're up to number 5 already!

Undercurrents 5 includes the usual fabulous mix of items which empower, make you laugh and make you think. My favorite for this issue was 'Bugger Off' (and not because the main gezzer had a wonderful HSA sweatshirt on - get yours now, only £15.95 + p&p) in which a concerned individual made attempts to see his files at MI5. One million files are held on people who MI5 considers to be 'subversive' or a threat to national security, with another 2,000 by the Special Branch concerning environmental activists. Whilst standing outside MI5s HQ in London our intrepid reporter asks a 'passerby' where the main entrance is. 'It doesn't exist, and I'd put that (camcorder) away otherwise you'll get nicked' he is told. Reporters reply, 'I'm here for an interview', passerby 'Oh sorry, (pointing), that's the main entrance there'!!. After getting nowhere fast with MI5, GCHQ is contacted and asked if they're bugging the phone in question. The reporter is told that GCHQ does not have a remit to monitor calls (since when did that stop them?), and that contacting BT would be the best bet. So, straight to BT HQ, requesting a word with the 'Tinkerbell Squad' who are allegedly responsible for tapping 'phones. Response from the nice lady on reception? 'Go to your local BT shop and they will be able to tell you if you're 'phone is being bugged' Yeah? 'Definately'. At this point I didn't get any further as I had to rush to town with my 'phone as it's been making strange clicking noises recently, but, as you can see on the right, this video is jam packed - GET IT!

£34.99 for 4 issues, or £10.49 for one issue waged, £7.49 unwaged.
Undercurrents, Box 5, 16b Cherwell Street, Oxford, OX4 1BG.



SUPPORT ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS

Those imprisoned for 'Animal Rights offences' need your support. Show them you care by sending letters of support - these are greatly appreciated by all prisoners.

Most prisons now allow stamped, 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 PO's, made payable to **'ALF Supporters Group'**, can be sent to: **ALF SG, BCM 1160, London, WC1N 3XX.**

Melanie Arnold GJ0940
HMP Eastwood PArk
Falfield
Wotton under Edge
Gloucester GL12 8DB

Gurjeet Aujla HV2047
HMPBirmingham
Winson Green
Birmingham B18 4AS

Dave Callender HV3314
HMP Birmingham
Winson Green
Birmingham B18 4AS

Rod Coronado #03895000
FC1, PO Box 23811
Tuscon, AZ 85706
USA

Michael Green VA2923
HMP Bristol
Cambridge Road
Hurfield, Bristol, BS7 8PS

Angie Hamp TW1687
HMP Ashkam Grange
Askham Richard
York YO2 3PT

Keith Mann EE3588
HMP Full Sutton
Nr Stamford Bridge
York YO4 1PS

Gillian Peachy RL3415
HMP Holloway
Parkhurst Road
London N7 0NU

Michael Roberts GE3743
HMP Lewes
Brighton Road
Lewes
E Sussex BN7 1EA

Geoff Sheppard MD1030
HMP Parkhurst
Newport
Isle of Wight, PO30 5NX

Charles Skinner No 24250
HMP La Moye
St Beades
Jersey
Channel Islands

Barry Horne VC2141
HMP Bristol
Cambridge Road
Horfield
Bristol, BS7 8PS

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

Karen Hannigan
HMP Holloway
Parkhurst Road
London, N7 0NU

Dave Palmer
HMP Canterbury
Kent, CT1 1PJ

Assume that your letter will be read - please be careful what you write

The Return of ..... Salesgoods!!!!!



Salesgood are alive and well and now living in Essex. After many weeks of collating and sifting though moutains of scraps of paper (I sound like the old bill) I have managed to get the job into some form of logical order. Orders have been placed with many new suppliers to get all items back into stock asap.

Many of the orders that have been outstanding for too long have now been completed. Those of you that have not had your goods yet will now get then very soon.

The HSA has decided to hold all prices that were applicable last year over for the whole of 1996 (you lucky people!). We have kept all items from last year and deleted virtually nothing. Your Howl should contain a catalogue (if not thay are available from the office), and I know that you are all gagging to rush me an order for loads of things.

Next year we will be adding some new items to our already impressive range of clothing. If you have any suggestions as to new possible lines or suppliers, please get them to me PDQ!

Get your orders in now ready for the new season

Phil - Salesgoods Officer

(Eds note - no apologies for the blatant animal exploitation photo- the dog ate a hole in the t-shirt, so the dog got to wear it. Just look at those ears - blimey!)

HSA Membership/Donation Form

I would like to become an active/supporting member of the Hunt Saboteurs Association
I enclose my membership subscription of :

☐ *£10 per year waged*

☐ *£7.50 per year unwaged*

☐ *£100 Life membership*

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

Name: (Ms/Mr/Mrs) _____
Address _____
_____
_____
Postcode: _____

I wish to pay by Visa/Mastercard
Card Number ____ ____ ____ ____ *Expiry date* __/__
Signature _____
Return to HSA, PO Box 2786, Brighton, BN2 2AX. Cheques payable to HSA.

hsa club draw winners

April:
1st - Fenn
2nd - Pound (donated to HSA_)
3rd - Wiles

May:
1st - Mullen
2nd - Andrews
3rd - Webber

June:
1st - Sutcliffe, Suffolk
2nd - Wiles, Hull
3rd - Rist, Hants

July:
1st: - Pound (donated to HSA)
2nd - Meares, Kent
3rd - Hutchinson, Derbyshire

Noticeboard

Publications

Gizmo's!

Cigarette packet size + amplifier, with megaphone and tape recording of hounds and horn blowing. The amplifier is incased in a strong black box - which makes the ultimate claim of being sab-proof!.
Price? - £30 or £33 with a tape recorder + £2.50 p&p. It is expensive, but it has a guarantee!
If interested contact Steve on 0585 14085.

Tactics Booklet - The North-West HSA has published an updated version of the old booklet. New features include legal advice, a guide to suing the police, how to make a whip and how to use it effectively - plus many more informative articles. Cheques/postal orders made payable to North-West Hunt Sabs, PO Box 155, Manchester, M60 1FT.

'Do or Die' - the nearly brand spanking new 'Do or Die #5 - Voices form Earth First' is out now at a bargain price of £1.70 a copy (£1.20 plus 50p postage - that's a penny a page!). Cheques or postal orders should be made payable to Earth First, and sent to South Downs Earth First!, c/o Unemployed Centre, 6 Tilbury Place, Brighton, East Sussex, BN2 2GY.

Help!

The HSA is trying to get 'Howl' out via new outlets. Do you know of a radical bookshop or similar outlet that may be interested in taking a few Howls to sell? If so, please either send the address details to the HSA office, or write in for further details of the deal on offer (sale or return).
Cheers - Dawn, Howl Ed.

I'm urgently trying to trace Steven'Stephen Gray'Gray. If anyone knows Steve please ask him to contact me via the HSA asap. It's about a court case and it's important! Thanks - Sandra Busell.

Events

Justice for Keith Mann - Demo at London Weekend Television Friday 6th September. Many of you will have seen the disgraceful programme about Keith as part of the drama/documentary series 'Expert Witness'. Keith was portrayed as a mindless, violent thug, terrorising a little girl etc. Show your disgust by turning up to the mass demo at LWT, Upper Ground, London SE1. Meet 12 noon Waterloo Station (Eurotunnel Terminus) or 12.30 at LWT.

Addresses

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

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

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

Fox Cubs - HSA's junior campaigning group. PO Box 127, Kidderminster, Worcs, DY10 3UZ. 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 A forum for debate and exchange of ideas about pro-animal action at all levels - £8.00 for 4 issues. 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 a sae to: Ethical Wares, 84 Clyde Way, Rise Park, Romford RM1 4UT.

Birmingham HSA - 'Hunters, Shooters, Anglers, Wankers' T-Shirts , with back-print 'Bollocks to Bloodsports' still available. Black with white print. All proceeds to Birmingham HSA, cheques payable to BABS & send to Aardvark Centre, 115 Alcester Road, Moseley, Birmingham, B13 8DD.

Ethical Investors Group - can provide in dependant advice on a whole range of personal financial matters, including ethical investments, pensions, life assurance and saving..and they understand were you mad vegans are coming from! For an info pack contact E.I.G at Milestone, Greet road, Cheltenham, GL54 5B. Tel 01242 604550. Tell them were you saw this ad!!!!