Direct Action Against All Bloodsports

Autumn 2000

HOWL 72

The Magazine of The Hunt Saboteurs Association

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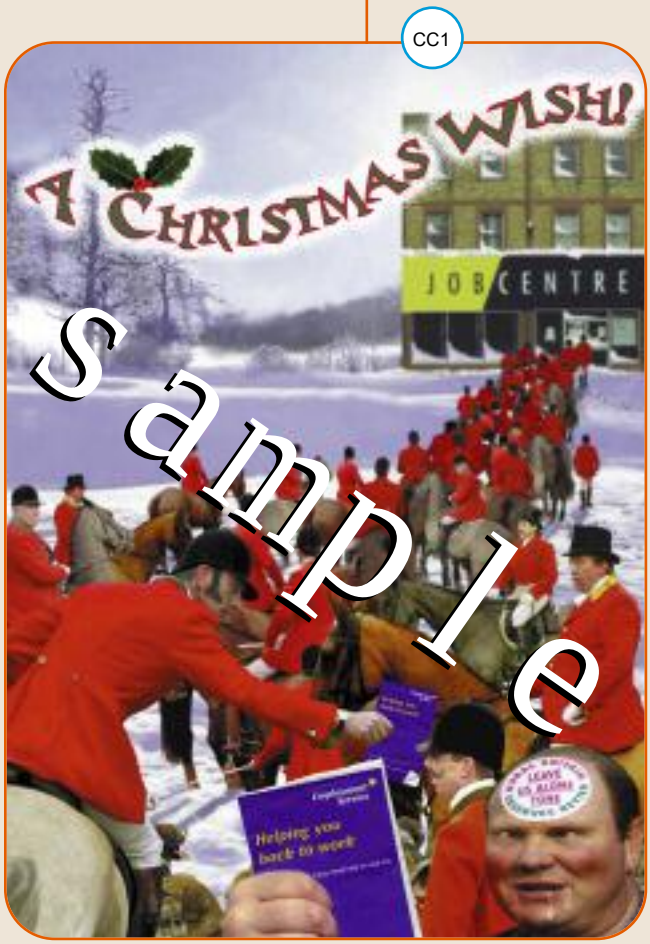
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HOWL 72

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The Hunt Saboteurs Association has been in existence for over 30 years, and is dedicated to saving the lives of hunted animals directly. Hunt saboteurs use non-violent direct action to effectively prevent the horrific deaths of thousands of hunted animals every year.
The H.S.A. committee is made up of 12 voting members with the addition of other non-voting posts. All committee members are active hunt saboteurs and all posts are voluntary. **No-one at the H.S.A is paid**. - we believe that all money raised by membership and donations should go towards the running of the organisation and directly helping saboteurs in the field.

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The views expressed in *Howl* do not necessarily reflect those of the editor or the Hunt Saboteurs Association committee.
Nothing printed should be construed as HSA policy unless so stated.
Nothing in *Howl* should be taken as encouragement to commit illegal acts.

EDITORIAL

First and foremost the biggest apology in the world, ever, to Leeds sabs and anyone else who's sent group news or stuff to the HSA office only to see it not in Howl (again). There are some really strange shenanigans occurring with certain postal addresses meaning huge sacks of mail keep disappearing. Please please please keep sending stuff in - hopefully (as of mid October) all HSA mail is only going to 'safe' addresses.

Unless you've been 'tenting it' in the Outer Hebrides (and not looked at the front cover of this mag) you'll all know about the horrific injuries sustained by Steve; a Croydon sab run over whilst sabbing the Old Surrey Burstow and West Kent FH. Thankfully Steve has pulled through and is now recovering at home. (See page for 10 for further details)

As I'm only filling in for this issue, I'd like to pass my sincere best wishes to the poor, foolhardy individual(s) who has the dreamy accolade of being the new Howl editor - Sucker!!!

Hunting with hounds banned soon? Don't believe the hype.
You know the score: Get out in 'em fields an' go to work!

Dirk Diggler (for one issue only)

ANIMAL ABUSERS TO GET SPECIAL TREATMENT

Protesting outside the homes of animal abusers and distributing their personal details are soon to be illegal! (hmm, sounds like one for the European courts?!) The new laws are part of a clampdown on so called 'animal rights extremists.' I wouldn't assume for a moment that any readers of 'Howl' fall into this category but you may be interested nonetheless.

The new laws will protect research laboratory staff, hunt scum and a host of other animal abusing filth. Additionally, police and magistrates are being told to use current legislation to take tougher action against such protesters.

A Home Office report claims there were 1,200 animal rights 'attacks' in 1999, causing an estimated £3 million of damage with the added bonus of creating stress and anxiety for the people targeted. The powers that be have decided against extending the definition of terrorism to bring animal rights activists under the *Prevention of Terrorism Act*. (Don't hold your breath) Instead the *Malicious Communications Act 1988* may be used against activists who pester the staff of companies involved in animal abuse.

The legislation is specifically laid out to prevent animal abusers being targeted at home because of the job they do. Incredibly, reports are suggesting that the new laws would not affect the right to lawful demonstrations in other circumstances. For example, the recent paedophile protests in Portsmouth would not be outlawed by any new legislation.!!!

The Home Office is also pressurising Police forces to make better use of antisocial behaviour orders against known activists, including charges under the harassment laws. (What are these clowns on?)



NEWS IN BRIEF

Fishermen and Angling organisations are appealing to Kate Hoey, (the Sports Minister) for police protection for match fishing competitions after sabotage by anti-angling activists. The Angling Trades Association is rightly concerned about the additional 'problems' fishing may face if a ban on hunting is achieved.
Fishing groups are also apparently launching a pro-fishing pack for schools in an attempt to counter anti-fishing literature currently circulated. Kids everywhere will no doubt be taking up the 'rod 'n' line' in favour of playstations, football, computers & pokemon. Ummh, unlikely.
The Times, 24.7.2000

A so-called 'expert' from the British Association for Shooting & Conservation did his cause no favours when he shot a police officer in the leg during a gun safety display. BASC clown Tony Bone shot Supt. Chris Burgess in front of spectators at the Royal Norfolk show whilst attempting to demonstrate the right and wrong way to shoot a gun.
Supt. Burgess referred to his wounding as "an unfortunate accident" Whoever said there was no such thing as bad publicity!
Eastern Daily Press, 30.6.2000

Rodents everywhere recently celebrated the 'tragic' death of Steven Doyle, 15, of Dunbar, East Lothian. His rat hunt ended abruptly when his step-brother shot him. They were both hunting rats in woods near the family's home on the 400-acre Brunt estate. He died 10 days after being shot by Steven Wight.
A.R.P.L. Newsletter 30.8.2000

Parts of the River Forth have suffered severe drought leading to a ban on salmon and trout fishing. Epitomising these sad, anoraks, a reporter stated that "*salmon and sea trout are being trapped in pools of water when the tide goes out, leaving them easy prey to anglers*".
BBC, 2.8.2000

The eldest son of Bryan Ferry (of 'Roxy Music' fame) has left school before his A-levels to train as a kennelman with the *Middleton FH* in Birdsall, North Yorkshire. Otis Ferry, 17, decided against sitting his exams at Marlborough College. Mr. Ferry senior (who does not hunt) must be well chuffed that his exuberant life of pop-stardom has inspired Otis to pursue a career of carving up rotting carcasses in a dingy shed.
Everywhere, 3.8.2000

A gamekeeper on the Wilton estate near Salisbury, Wiltshire, has topped himself with a shotgun. He died from wounds to his head and has hopefully started a trend among the remaining staff employed on the 1,400 acre estate; the seat of Lord Pembroke.
Press Association, 8 August 2000

COPS TRY TO INCITE MUTINY AGAINST SEA SHEPHERD

Three crewmembers of the Ocean Warrior, the Sea Shepherd International vessel stationed in the Faroe Islands to protect pilot whales from mass slaughter by Faroese fishermen, have been arrested. Three indictments and a fine of 50,000 DKr (US$8000) have been levied against the ship by the authorities.
Sea Shepherd Development Director Frank Trinkle and Dutch comics Hans Teeuwen and Theo Maassen were arrested shortly after 11p.m. GMT by Faroese police when they stepped off an inflatable life raft at the dock in Torshavn, the Faroese capital. Captain Watson has been served with indictments for entering Faroese waters illegally, for not leaving when instructed after he was first refused entry, and for not leaving after all crew were served with formal refusal of entry.

Ocean Warrior Captain Paul Watson, president of Sea Shepherd said "*We went exactly where instructed when ordered by Faroese Customs, and we have our Customs clearance in hand. Legal harassment from authorities is nothing new for us. The Faroese always become unhappy when attention is brought to the fact that they persist in the slaughter of a sentient species that should have stopped more than a hundred years ago. That's what we're here for.*"
Sea Shepherd has lodged an official complaint with the British government against the Faroese police for having instructed the crew of the Ocean Warrior to "*forcefully convince the captain to leave, or purposely prevent him from re-entering Faroese waters.*" An attempt to incite a mutiny on a British registered vessel in undisputed international waters is a grave offence under maritime law.

The Faroese drive hunt or "grind" involves driving pilot whales and dolphins into shallow bays and slaughtering them with gaffes and long knives. Sea Shepherd's "Operation GrindStop" has organized a boycott of Faroes seafood by European food chains. Four of the largest; Aldi's, Edeka, Tenglemann, and Rewe have agreed not to renew their Faroese purchase contracts until the Faroes end the grind hunts. The Faroe Islands have the highest standard of living and largest commercial fishing fleet per capita in Europe. The whale hunt is continued in the name of tradition rather than from a subsistence need.



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ANOTHER MINKHUNT BITES THE DUST

According to pro-hunt magazine 'Hounds' (Summer 2000 issue) the Mid Cheshire Minkhounds have disbanded. The hunt was formed in 1995 by Terry Hall a well known follower of the Cheshire Foxhounds and was registered with The Masters of Mink Hounds in 1996. They had their first official meet on the River Gowy at Beeston. We can only speculate as to why they disbanded after only five years. Speculating personally, I imagine they suffered:

i) Financially: because (like most mink hunts) their support probably consisted of three dribbling old codgers whose gout is now so bad they can no longer make it out of their urine soaked beds.

ii) Territory: no one wanted them on their water which was mink-free anyway.

POSH BOYS SCHOOL IN BEAGLE CRUELTY CLAIM

An RSPCA inspector and a local vet found 17 beagles and two terriers locked in their kennels at Eton college near Windsor, after a concerned member of the public had contacted the RSPCA to report that the beagles had been barking all night.The school's hunting beagles were found to have been locked in kennels (which the RSPCA described as 'dirty') for nearly 24 hours.

At yet another, slap-on-the-wrist-dodgy-handshake "internal inquiry", the Association of Masters of Harriers and Beagles questioned a history teacher, Andrew Robinson who is also the master of the college hunt, and Peter Hunkin, the kennelman.
"*The inquiry was intended to establish the facts and to see whether any rules of the sport had been broken*", a spokesman for the masters' association commented.

No doubt you'll all be shocked to find that no rules were broken, with the hunt probably already referring to it as an unfortunate, never to be repeated, 100% isolated incident.

MASTER LEAVES HUNT AFTER ALLEGED £6000 THEFT

...AND IS REPLACED BY A TRUE 'PARAGON OF VIRTUE'



A master of the Chiddingfold, Leconfield & Cowdray Foxhunt has reportedly been sacked for the alleged theft of £6000 of hunt money. Paul Collins will apparently be replaced by none other than Jonathan Broise. Broise rode with the notoriously violent *Crawley & Horsham F.H*. where he hob-nobbed with the likes of Adrian Thompson (see below and practically every back issue of 'Howl') before moving to Chiddingfold territory. As the appointment of master suggests a position of respect, readers may be surprised to find that Mr. Broise has been in trouble with the law, on numerous occasions, for violent offences."Broisy" endeared himself (and hunting generally) to several million channel 4 news viewers in the 90's by approaching the camera, red faced and aggressive, muttering "You want a war?, we'll give you a war!" (Can you spot him left?)
Since his move to The Chiddingfold F.H. he's put in consistent hard work to attain this newly bestowed position. Already up on 2 counts of Common Assault on anti hunt protesters, who knows, a custodial might not be out of the question. Watch this space.....but don't hold yer breath.

'THOMPSON': HUNT WHIPPER-IN ON GBH CHARGE

Ex-terrier man and whipper-in of the *Crawley & Horsham F.H.*; Adrian Thompson, has been charged with GBH following a violent incident where an anti-hunt protester suffered a shattered cheekbone. The incident happened at a protest outside a hunt masters house and appeared to be sparked after a direct hit by a stray egg. Further details are withheld from print to prevent Thompson, (currently whip with the Albrighton F.H.) from whining about victimisation at his forthcoming trial. Watch this space.....but don't hold yer breath.

A MESSAGE TO THE SOUTH AND WEST WILTS F.H.

Keep out of my Kat Shelter.

On the morning of 19 September, they were cub hunting. I had been warned they would be in this area. The Hunt Master knows there is a Kat Shelter here. It has been here for 20 years. We heard the hounds coming from some distance. They chased a fox through my garden and went through my cat pens three times. The Hunt did not attempt to call them off.

To make matters worse he was standing in front of the sign that tells people it is a cat shelter. He went off up the road attempting to gather the hounds. One hound followed me and flung the gate open behind me and went through the cat pens again, no fox in sight.

Such disregard for other people's rights and property does nothing to hither their cause.
This is the third time I have written to you. I have lived here 43 years and things have not improved.
My boundary is the stream, we are nothing to do with the farm on the other side.

Miss White, The Kat Shelter, Mere.
Extract from the Western Gazette Sept 2000

NEWS IN BRIEF

The fishing industry is pressurising the Scottish Executive to increase the culling of seals due to the growing percentage of Britains seal population in Scotland. Angling 'experts' are demanding the seal population be investigated because of the animal's effects on fish stocks. Thankfully the Scottish Executive is wary of upsetting the public who generally deplore seeing beautiful native wildlife being clubbed or shot to death just to help line the pockets of a few cretinous old tossers. Animal rights groups continue to harang the British Government over the lifted Shetland seal culling ban from 1998. It is currently legal to shoot seals at any time outside the animal's breeding and pupping season from June to August.
BBC 9.8.2000

Has anyone noticed the remarkable similarity between Sting, the rock star who has campaigned fearlessly against global warming, deforestation and the exploitation of animals by humans; and Sting, the rock star, who can now be seen on the television endorsing the Jaguar S-type, which does 15 miles to the gallon, and is finished in teak and finest leather.
Private Eye 30.6.2000

A Liverpool wildlife photographer has been conditionally discharged and ordered to pay £350 for hoarding stuffed wild birds and rare eggs. Liverpool magistrates heard Dennis Green, 57, of West Derby, attempted to pre-date conservation laws by writing dates on the egg shells. He was caught by using felt-tipped pens which were invented after conservation laws were introduced.
Teletext 30.6.2000

Disgruntled Norfolk villagers protesting about smells from a Bernard Matthews turkey farm have hijacked the firm's name to set up a web site to air their complaints. Bernard-Matthews.com was launched last week by the British Action Group Against Turkey Smells (Bagats), a group of residents who live near the farm in Briston, near Holt, who claim that odours from the poultry factory make their lives a misery. Trevor Holmes who set up the web site, said: "*The smell is like rancid milk. On a hot day the stench is truly awful.*" The web site has already received vast support from people across Norfolk, though one person wrote: "*If you live in the country you should accept country smells.*"
Telegraph 23.7.2000

Paul Westwood (43) managing director of Oxfordshire-based Household Pest Services, was found dead at the wheel of a company van in a lay-by. He was killed by cymag, a cyanide gas used to kill rabbits, which was found leaking from the back of the van.
Paul T. 15.8.2000

NEWS IN BRIEF

Michael Fosters anti-hunting bill has split the owl loving community down the middle! The Labour member for Worcester has been forced to stand down as patron for his local barn owl society after complaints from its members. His views on hunting had apparently angered some farmers on whom the society relied for help.. "*It is with much regret that we ask you to stand down*" said the president Valerie Briggs, in a letter to Mr. Foster. He reluctantly agreed but not before accusing the farmers of "*pettiness and spite.*"!
The Times 27.7.2000

The Government is planning to have 81 sites spanning over 300,000 hectares listed as areas of European importance. New codes for sites of special scientific interest (SSSI) are also on the agenda including updating management and conservation techniques.
The sites include the North Yorks moors, Ashdown Forest in Sussex, Dawlish Warren in Devon, the Overstrand Cliffs in Norfolk, Beast Cliff in Robin Hood's Bay, Whitby, the Humber and Severn estuaries, the bogs of the Manchester Mosses near Warrington and Wigan, Wimbledon Common and Richmond Park in south-west London, Butser Hill in Hampshire, the Exmoor and Quantock oak woods on the Devon/Somerset border and the cliffs running from Hastings to Pett beach in East Sussex. A number of these sites are on hunted land.
Guardian 25.8.2000

The owner of a circus which drew criticism from Derby North MP Bob Laxton when it brought a dancing bear to the city is facing a charge of assault. Jeffrey Mackie (45), director of Circus King, has appeared before Leeds Magistrates Court on charges of common assault, criminal damage and affray. The ringmaster, of Honington, near Grantham, Lincolnshire, is alleged to have assaulted an RSPCA inspector who visited the circus in Otley, West Yorkshire, and to have damaged cars belonging to protesters. The circus staged a week-long run in June in Spondon.
This is Derbyshire 1.8.00

In America the grey wolf is to be downgraded from "endangered" to "threatened". In 1973 there were only 400 wolves across the deep-south of America: This number has now risen to over 3000. For the first time since 1973 the grey wolf can now be shot legally. Before this change in category, red-neck farmers had simply 'shot, shovelled & shut up' Conservationists believe the downgrading is premature and may seriously damage the wolfs chances of revival.
A.R.P.L. Newsletter 30.8.2000

A new whale and dolphin 'ambulance' fitted with specialist equipment has been set up in Inverness, Scotland. It is expected to help rescue workers save the lives of hundreds of stranded creatures, returning them safely to the sea.
Daily Record 11.7.2000

FISHERMEN BANNED FROM HISTORIC LOCATION

A wildlife trust is to ban fishermen from the historically cherished river Itchen, north of Winchester. Apparently George Edward Mackenzie Skues, a respected (!) writer on trout fishing abused fish here from 1883 to 1938 as well as a new style of angling being invented on this river. (Er, that wouldn't be the one where you sit like a chimp for hours on end twiddling your thumbs on the river-bank desperately trying to kill time before you return home to a nagging wife and a house full of screaming brats.)

Members of the Abbott's Barton fishing club in Winchester have been instructed by Hampshire Wildlife Trust that they must stop fishing on the river. The trust which owns the land, had leased the fishing rights for the past 18 years, but now objects to the way the fishermen had mis-managed the fishery, which had included responsibility for trimming the vegetation on the riverbanks and re-stocking the river with trout. (Those good old 'guardians of the land' come up trumps again)
Hampshire Wildlife Trust says it wants the river to revert to its natural state, with public access to the currently private area. The fisherman claim they are doing no harm to the wildlife (er, the fish might have something to say about that) and that they are improving the river by their management and argue rationally that the fishery is a monument to Skues and as such would be best kept as their exclusive, badly maintained property. (It's good to see the unbelievable arrogance of the bloodsports enthusiast is not exclusive to the foxhunter!)

CATTISTOCK F.H. FILMED AT BADGER SETT

IFAW activists Peter White and Kevin Hill recently filmed Cattistock Foxhounds digging at the mouth of a badger sett for several minutes before a member of hunt staff dragged them away.
The incident captured on tape at Wraxall, near Dorchester shows hounds trying to reach a fox which had gone to ground in the sett.

The pair are suggesting Charlotte Townshend, Joint Master of the Cattistock F.H. (and owner of the Ilchester Estates, thought to be worth £60 million.) should either resign or give up her involvement with the Dorset Wildlife Trust.

Joint master of the hunt, Tessa Jackson, commented: "*The sett in question is not active and these accusations are completely unfounded. There are very strict rules about badger setts and if we didn't comply with them we would face huge fines.*"

Mr White of IFAW argues: "*We believe this sett was active. We want Charlotte Townshend to step down from either the Dorset Wildlife Trust or the Cattistock Hunt. We feel it is impossible for her to be a part of both organisations. What if the sett in question had been one maintained by the trust?*"

Joint master of the hunt, Tessa Jackson replied: "*These are totally mischievous and unfounded accusations. There is no reason whatsoever to bring Mrs Townshend into this - she was not present.*"

Presumably also "*not present*" was Tessa Jackson's husband, Alastair Jackson, who would have conveniently not witnessed the badger sett being interfered with. Jackson: Director of the Master of Foxhounds Association would of course be setting a very bad example, had he been involved in the incident.

Penny Syddall, spokesman for the Dorset Wildlife Trust said: "*We're not an animal rights organisation but we are unequivocal in upholding the law when it comes to the protection of badger setts.*"

Below: The Cattistock F.H. on a tarmac road which is not active. No way. and I wasn't there. O.K.



SCOTTISH SABS MAY LOSE RIGHT TO 'LIE-INS'

It's true; our comrades north of the border may still have their request for Saturday mornings in bed denied. The rural affairs committee will probably suggest that the Protection of Wild Mammals Bill (Scotland) is withdrawn because it is too wide ranging. Lord Watson, the Bills instigator, has already had to table several 'watering down' amendments and the committee will argue that debating the Bill in its original form, when alterations will be made by Lord Watson later, is a waste of parliament's time. The Bill is likely to be delayed at least three years if this is the case. It would have to start from scratch, and travel through Parliament all over again.

In a U-turn that Tony Blair would die for, the Scottish Executive declared they "*...neither support nor oppose the Bill and have no plans to ban hunting with dogs.*" A little naughty when you consider that banning hunting with dogs was a Labour party pledge and Donald Dewar, (first minister) promised the bill a smooth passage. (Deja Vu anyone?)

A decision to have the Bill withdrawn would ultimately be made by MSPs on the advice of the committee report. Fingers crossed that the MSPs pay it as little attention as English MP's did the Burns inquiry!

MORE BLOOD JUNKIES SHOW THEIR TRUE COLOURS

"*A volley of firecrackers sailed towards riot police sealing off the site. A metal barrier followed. Several hundred hurled themselves into the first row of police officers sheltering behind shields and fingering riot control guns loaded with rubber bullets.*"
(The Times: 23rd August 2000)

Another 'reclaim the streets' perhaps or J18? Whatever the occasion you'd think the Countryside Alliance would be the first to condemn a violent mob of mindless hooligans on the rampage?

Unless of course they happen to be hunters.

Violence flared when hunters from the Ardeche region attempted to disrupt the start of the Green Party Congress in deepest french bumpkinsville, Larnas. Unlike their cowardly British counterparts the french blood junkies appear to have little qualms about getting stuck in when confronted by the law. (Obviously some work in the nipple-bearing department required!) A Government Bill, passed in July, shortened the hunting season by about a month and infuriated the blood-crazed bumpkins, so the arrival of Dominique Voynet, the Green Party leader and Environment Minister set them off a treat. They claim since coming to office all she has achieved is the implementation of European Union directives to protect wildlife. (Nice one Ms. V.!)

Jean-Pierre Fouquet, a Green Party militant commented on the 250+ armed officers surrounding the congress "*These huntsmen are violent and vindictive and that is why we need protection*."

Meanwhile back in good old Blighty, A September C.A. press release flirts tentatively with the idea of civil disobedience by lending its support to the 'aims' (incoming!) of rural protest groups. The next paragraph then suggests that such behaviour would not be suitable on our upstanding shores and may lose the support of the public. (Er, what support's that then? Me and Mr. Mori Poll were under the impression that the vast majority of the public think you suck arse.) However, I do reckon the British public would pay good money to watch bumpkins using militant direct action, and riot police using 'reasonable force' to quell the sweaty, beef-engorged mob. Bring it On!

ACTIVISTS MEDIA TOOLKIT

According to 'Undercurrents' a new 32pp booklet is the essential resource for all those involved in campaigning and activism. Covering everything from writing press releases and being interviewed to selling pictures and video to the mainstream and starting up your own local newsletter, combined with a totally up to date database with direct phone and fax numbers for over 300 national and regional media (print, tv and radio) and listings for trade press, magazines and alternative media.
The database also comes on disk, ready to import into your fax software for sending press releases Available now for 2.50 inc p&p (chq's payable to Oxyacetylene) Info@toolkits.org.uk.

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NEWS IN BRIEF.

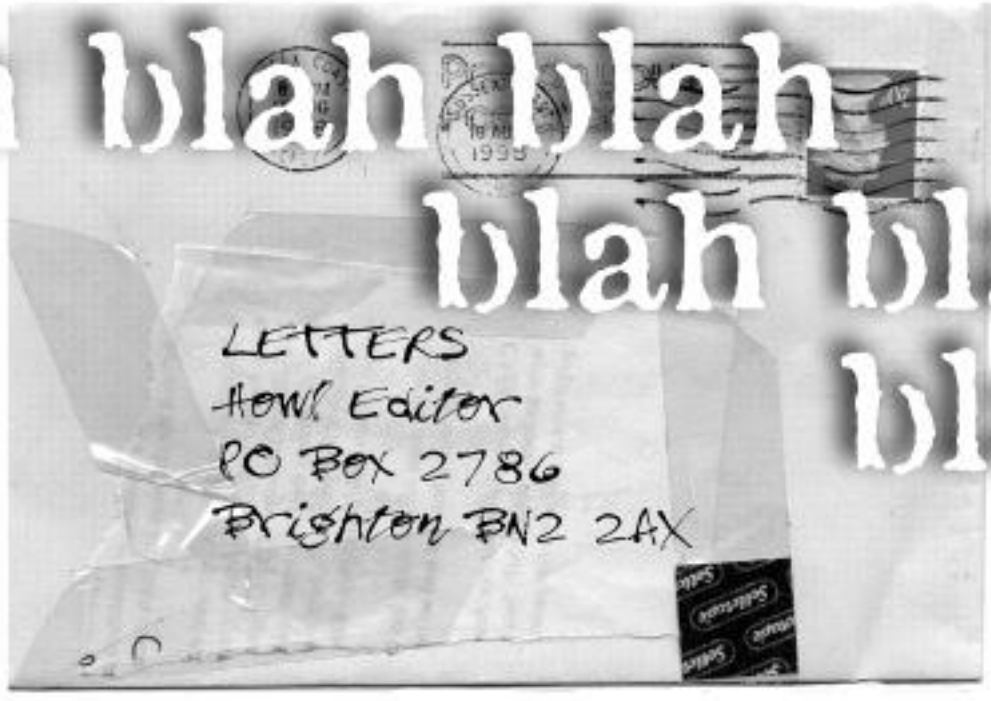
A 79-year-old Greek hunter who was famous for imitating wolf cries to lure other wolves for hunting has been killed by hunters who mistook him for the real thing! 3 hunters had set out allowing 'wolf-crier' Nicholas Kavalakis to go on ahead. Unaware that he was hiding in the bushes to make his calls, the three men mistook him for the real thing and began blasting into the undergrowth killing him. As a bonus the three hunters have been jailed awaiting charges of negligence leading to manslaughter and of illegal hunting.
Telegraph 12/8/00

Pig-ugly bloater and TV chef, Clarissa Dickison Wright outraged holocaust survivors recently by comparing anti-hunt activists to Hitler. The 'Two fat ladies' eye-sore made her choice remarks at an Edinburgh pro-hunt rally. A spokesman for the Board of Deputies of British Jews commented "*The anti-fox hunting campaign and Nazism can in no way be equated to each other*"
In another great advert for the Countryside Alliance campaign of 'tolerance and under-standing' portly Dickson Wright ranted "*There are far more morally reprehensible things going on in gay nightclubs, but no one tries to ban those.*" (Rumours of a double act with ex-B.F.S.S. legend Janet George are as yet, unfounded.)
The Daily Record 10.7.2000

According to the Forestry Commission, in the New Forest last year 77 foxes were killed. Of these 24 were female, 34 were male and 19 were cubs. All were shot by keepers.
(The New Forest Hounds killed 12) ?!
Forestry Commission 24.8.2000

Unless someone is pulling my plonker, it appears the League Against blah blah are now employing a group of consultants. The company 'DeHavilland Global Knowledge' contacted an active sab requesting "*any information regarding the activity of the major foxhunts, when and where they will take place and any organised protests. If you have such information, could you please send it to us either by fax (020 7517 2233) or by e-mail. I'm sure anything you can offer us will be* ***useful****.*"
How's that then? Unless of course your definition of 'useful' means 'can be typed into our extensive database resulting in a self-satisfied smugness and my continued employment'
So it seems the generously-waged L.A.C.S 'armchair-activists' are now throwing their money away on blue chip consultants to pester us unpaid sabs to do their jobs for them. Cheeky w**nkers! They'd probably have a fit if they knew the undesirables their consultants were contacting; mind you sabs are always handy when you want something,..... but extremist loonies to be avoided the rest of the time.
sabs@tinyworld.co.uk 23.8.2000

blah blah blah blah blah blah blah



Howl 73
Letters

Come on folks!,
get those pens out
get scribblin'.

To guarantee your rant's considered for the next 'Howl', get it to the address on the right

or e-mail direct:
howl.editor@virgin.net

FARMERS ABOVE THE LAW

Dear Howl

The recent failure of Tony Blair's government to do anything about the fuel blockade shows that there is one law for some people in this country and another for everyone else.

I have lost count of the times when police have forced sabs to move their vehicles because they were causing an "obstruction" on the highway. Farmers blocking the motorway in the last couple of days by doing 30mph in the outside lane in a f***ing tractor (paid for by subsidies no doubt) are NOT causing an obstruction. Neither are they causing any breach of the peace by making huge amounts of traffic crawl along behind them.

Call me sad but next time the police stop me about anything I will tell them to f**k off, I'm a farmer - safe in the knowledge that nothing is going to happen to me. Anyone got a spare flat cap?

Eric
Middlesex



NO PLATFORM FOR FASCISTS

Our best mate Paul Harris from the BNP has been writing to us again! Obviously a bit slow on the uptake this bloke! Once again, *'Howl'* will not be used as a platform for fascists to spout off in. But we will bring you some edited "lowlights" of his crappy letter!

Apparently, we are "*full of your own self-importance to imagine that a BNP Government would want to shoot you*". Sorry, my mistake! Obviously you would find a much more cost efficient way of removing your enemies! Make no mistake, we are your enemies. Nothing makes me laugh more than the sight of fascists with their heads split open!...except dead fascists, of course!!
The BNP are not anti-hunt because it is a populist cause but because they see it as "*cowardly bullying*"! That would be "cowardly bullying" like targeting minority groups, or people seeking asylum in a "safe" country after fleeing persecution at home; I could continue.

The last sentence is reproduced in full as I need a bit of assistance to understand exactly what this idiot is blathering on about!
" *It would appear that you have more in common with the hunting fraternity than you may realise; same urine different bottle*".
What the hell is that supposed to mean ?! I don't think we'll be seeing the name Paul Harris appearing in the Oxford Dictionary of Quotations, do you?
"Same urine, different bottle"- if I ever meet you Harris, I'll make you drink that urine before hitting you over the head with the bottle!!

SOUND FARMER SHOCK!!

Sir,

My wife and I have been involved in arable farming for over 20 years .We recently moved to the South West of England to farm a small, cereal-based freeholding. I am hoping your organisation may be able to give me some much needed advice regarding possible trespass by the local fox-hunt pack.

The previous owner of the farm let the hunt over his land to reach privately owned woodlands. (which I am not even sure the hunt have permission to be on) My concern is that I really do not want them on my property but I know the local community may ostracise me, and the hunt may simply ignore my request or worse still become violent towards myself and my family. I have heard of instances similar to this and do not want to be put in this situation.
I have written to some other organisations but have not received any replies, so any help would be greatly appreciated.

Name and address supplied

You may be surprised at the amount of countryfolk who share your views. People who torture and kill animals for fun are by their very nature bullies and many rural families suffer in silence rather than face the very real threat of hunt intimidation. I would highly recommend you contact the Countryside protection group who specialise in exactly the sort of advice and help you require.

Countryside Protection Group
Oakleigh House,
Oakleigh Court,
Newbury,
Gillingham,
Dorset, SP8 4HZ
Tel. 07780 861371
Email: info@huntingmustgo.com
Website: http://www.huntingmustgo.com/



BLOOD ON THEIR HANDS

Dear Howl

The purpose of this letter is to name and shame two so-called AR people and to draw attention to their pathetic antics - the people in question have attacked 'The Retreat Animal Rescue' run by the one and only Billy, near Swanley, Kent - one of the best places of safety for over 400 animals in this country.

During the week of 22-27 July 2000, Rae Newlands and Peter Frost, are alleged to have spread vicious rumours about the upkeep and care of the animals after an uninvited visit at 'The Retreat'. What justification or grounds have they got for this when thousands of pounds are spent on vet's bills, specialist foods and animal housing, etc every month? Billy dedicates his life to the animals, in fact they often eat better than he does and you can see how content they all are there.

An unbelievable chain of events followed, culminating in the tragic death of 'Tilly' (A 6 year old horse who was just starting to live a happy life after being rescued from neglect.) Threats and attempts were made to 'liberate' animals from 'The Retreat' - leading to Billy and a volunteer allegedly being run down by Rae (who was consequently arrested) A few nights later, after malicious phone calls, mail and a crowbar through the letterbox, cowardly scum cut fences and opened a main gate allowing horses, ponies, a cow and lamb to escape, some onto a busy country lane.

'Tilly' was injured in a hit and run on that lane in the early hours of the 27/7/00 - she suffered a fractured leg and lay in the road for up to 2 hours. The vets warned distraught Billy of a guarded outcome, but agreed to try and pin the leg - a difficult and risky procedure. Sadly 'Tilly' died under anaesthetic at 5.30pm on 28/7/00

Due to these events Billy had to temporarily give up part-time work, losing money which could have gone straight back to the animals. The people who have caused this dispicable trauma to Billy, his partner and his animals - have also been boasting about cutting the fences. These people are evil traitors who, in 'Tilly's' memory, should be ousted from the AR movement and never be forgiven for their crime.

George
London

"Single Issue Pressure Groups must not dictate Labour Party Policy."

Quote from the Leave Country Sports Alone website.
Er,... isn't LCSA a single issue pressure group trying to dictate Labour policy over hunting?.....d'oh!

"Dear Sir/Madam

West Company. Ltd. is a tour operaor registered in Republic of Georgia, that has been successfully operating since 1993. We offer wide range of tours including duck hunting and fishing tours on Paliastomi Lake near The Black Sea.

Typical hunting day is divided into two parts: 1) from 8-9am to 11-12 am and from 4pm to 7pm. In the morning professional hunters will take guests to lake with boats. Usually during the first hour guests shoot from a boat, then hunting continues on a little lake "islands" and surrounding forests.
I hope that we will get in reliable and pleasant partnership.
If you are interested in our proposal we shall send you a detailed information.
Thank you in advance

Sincerely

Chola Japaridze
Manager of In-coming Tourism Department

P.S. If you have any farther questions, please, do not hesitate to contact us".

From an email sent to Nottingham sabs (nhsa@envirolink.org)
I have a farther question: Why are you muppets inviting hunt saboteurs to join your days hunting. A *"reliable and pleasant partnership"* ??..... is there a crack epidemic in the republic of Georgia does anyone know?
If you can be arsed:
West Company Ltd
43, Chavchavadze ave.
TEL.(995 32) 25 38 37
Tbilisi, 380062, Georgia
FAX..(995 32) 25 25 94
www.georgia.net.ge/westcompany

"And what has been the government's response to the protests? Today the Home Secretary has announced he is setting up a 'task force' to examine the crisis - but is the purpose of this to look into the grievances that prompted it? No, it is to find ways in which similar direct action could be prevented or stifled in future."

Richard Burge, Chief Executive of C.A. commenting on the recent fuel protests and complaining about direct action being stifled! **You crazy old radical Burgey!, - so it really was you climbing the gates of Downing Street on the Anti criminal justice Bill march, frantically waving your 'kill the bill' placard,... oh no, sorry that was someone else.**

"**We farm in Cheshire and can confirm that some anti-hunt supporters are fakes. A yellow minibus from Liverpool University full of anti's, who paid £25 a day plus packed lunch, came to disrupt the Cheshire Forest Hunt plus the shoot off our land**."

From Readers letters, 'Farmers Weekly' 1st Sept 2000
Liverpool Sabs say this is totally incorrect of course,.... their van is red not yellow!

Q - What would be your first act as a world leader?
A - I'd lock up all hunt saboteurs because they are destructive.
They are campaigning about something of which they know nothing.

Quote from Anne Robinson in an interview from Radio Times.
Well Anne, you snooty ginge, how sad that you decide to target sabs instead of world famine/war/disease.....and, on the subject of locking people up; why not add your name to the list of vermin already vowing to go to jail for hunting (www.countrymansweekly.co.uk),....strangely I don't recall seeing you name there.

JUSTICE
for Steve(Croydon sabs)

**"It was nothing to do with us.
We were two and a half miles away when it happened„" "
(Surrey Mirror, 07.09.00)**

This was all a hunt staff member was quoted as saying about the fact that a hunt saboteur, Steve (Croydon sabs), was hit and run over by an alleged hunt supporter whilst attending a meet of the Old Surrey, Burstow and West Kent Foxhounds on the morning of September 1st. Steve's injuries were so serious that he had to be airlifted to hospital, with the paramedic staff and police in attendance expressing serious concern over his condition. He was admitted to hospital with a totally crushedpelvis, broken ribs and internal bleeding. Since then he has undergone two operations, one to fit a metal plate into his pelvis, and the other to remove two foot of bowel due to complications. He spent weeks in Intensive Care and has only recently recovered sufficiently to return home, where he is making slow but steady progress.

The facts behind the incident have been somewhat ignored by the national media. Hopefully you have the sense to look past the spin (and blatant lies) to be found within the media circus. However, even we were outraged and sickened by their total failure to report the near-fatal attack on Steve, but then were seemingly fanatical about putting an alleged attack on the kennels of the same hunt on the front page. Another quote for you

"*The Countryside Alliance is appaled by this incident. There is no excuse for this type of violent activity*,"

That comes from an official spokesperson for the CA, Wendy Peckham (source as above). The obscene thing to note here is that she is not talking about the attack on Steve by a hunt supporter at a meet of the hunt, but instead of alleged broken windows at the hunt kennels.

Justice for Steve is what we aim for. Although we must wait for legal proceedings to run their course, (the police have arrested the alleged driver of the vehicle and bailed him without charge!), it is up to us to keep the pressure on. You can help in many ways, and a major one is by simply becoming an active saboteur. One of the best things that anyone could do for Steve is to get out in the fields, sabotaging the hunts using non-violent direct action to save animals, lives.

On a more practical note, whilst Steve embarks upon along and painful recovery he still has bills to pay and close relatives to support. It is not known when/if he will be able to return to work.

As such a support fund has been set up and all donations will be passed on to those closest to him. Please give generously or help in any other way you can; after all, Steve was simply trying to save lives when he almost lost his own.

(cheques to Croydon H.S.A.
or Steve Christmas)
Croydon H.S.A.
PO Box 1072
Coulsdon
Surrey CR52ZT

For an updated daily report
of Steve's progress
see the excellent
'Justice for Steve' website at
WWW.JFSC.ATFREEWEB.COM



THANK YOU MR BURNS.



HSA Research Officer Nathan argues that the Burns Inquiry was a golden opportunity

It might seem strange for anybody on the Committee to have anything but contempt for the Burns Inquiry. Right from the start we knew something was amiss when the HSA was missed off the invites list - it seemed they didn't want Cinders to go to the ball! It proved our cynical viewpoint that the Inquiry was a time wasting exercise so that New Labour could fudge about the whole issue for a little longer, despite the overwhelming mandate given to their election pledge to ban hunting. The background to the panel make-up was covered pretty well in 'Hunting Inquiry is Poo!' (HOWL 70).

As HOWL readers will no doubt know, the HSA was joined in its boycott of the Inquiry by several anti-hunting groups when the panels bloodsports links were revealed. I still stand by that decision. I also support the sab groups such as WSWPG who decided to submit evidence and did a good job of it. At the time, I predicted that whatever evidence was submitted, the outcome would recommend an 'independent' supervisory body for hunting. And what do you know? The Mastersí Associations and the Countryside Alliance created one just before the Inquiry was launched. And, lo and behold, on August 7, the 'Middle Way' group announced that they thought there should be, wait for it....an independent supervisory body for hunting! The Middle Way group promotes an image that it is not a pro-hunt lobby group, yet is fronted by LibDem MP Lembit Opik, who also happens to sit on the Countryside Alliance Parliamentary Committee. Hmmmm.....See 'The Rules are: There are no Rules' in Howl 71 for information on how the Countryside Alliance and MFHA are not fit to regulate themselves.

There were no surprises when the outcome of the inquiry was, well, um, er, a meaningless muddle.

So, why am I trying to tell everyone that the Burns Inquiry has been an asset for the HSA?

Firstly, the Countryside Alliance managed to get a bill for £750,000 (yes that is 3/4 million £!). That's how much City law firm Allen & Overy charged for preparing the Alliance's submission to the Inquiry. Our nemesis is getting its boundless wealth gobbled up! Maybe Prince Charles will have to hold another fundraiser, or they'll have to advertise for gun-runners or others with a disposable income to make donations in the Telegraph. When Richard Burge got the bill he must have heard the 'million' word and thought he was on Chris Tarrant's game show, because he decided to 'phone a friend' to help pay the bill! Yes, that's right. The good news is going to be spread across every hunt in the country. Hunts are being asked to donate 20% of their reserves to double their 'cap' for the season. For those who don't know, the cap is an amount a supporter pays to ride with a mounted pack (or run/walk with beagles/minkhounds). This means it will directly hit every hunt supporter in the pocket! Somebody wanting to ride with the Woodland Pytchley on a Saturday will now have to pay £130 instead of £65, for the chance to spot that elusive silver fox. The money will also be used to establish the £6 Million that the Alliance reckons it needs to beat a parliamentary bill.

Secondly, from the nerdy Research point of view, the inquiry handed us more information than we'd get from 100 copies of Horse and Hound. 90% of submissions were posted onto the website, which has since been put onto CD-Rom, which makes it easy to find a particular piece of information. The hunting fraternity are just so proud of their sick pastimes that they couldn't help but boast of their great days hunting from such and such a place. Meets of mink hounds were revealed. Hunt supporting vets (200 of em) stuck their hands up in the air and said 'Me! me! me!'(See 'vet your vet' page 16). Packs previously just rumoured to exist such as the Meon Valley Rat Hounds confirmed their existence. If your local pack made a submission it is likely that there is at least one piece of information that you didn't previously know about. And as for Huntsman's Balls, it's just packed with them!

So, in summation, the Alliance paid a million quid to hand us over a load of information. They put in time and money and saved us lots of time and money!! Please, Mr Burns, lets have another Inquiry and finish off the Alliance for good!

The HSA has a copy of the CD-Rom so if anybody would like to know if their local pack made a submission or what was in it please get in touch via the office.



LOCATION! LOCATION! LOCATION!

No, We're not moving into the property business but instead talking about knowing where the hell you are, or at least where you should be.

And so we delve into the ancient art of map reading!

Ask any sab group what the hardest thing about sabbing is in practical terms and you're highly likely to get the response keeping the van on road. Vehicles are costly but essential beasts, and indeed many sabs will have spent most of the summer fundraising to make sure that the van is ready and insured for the new season. But what good is a roadworthy vehicle unless you know in which direction to point it?! And no matter how good your driver is at doing 3 point turns at the end of a dead-end lane, just one unnecessary manoeuvre like that could delay sabs to the aid of a hunted animal by precious seconds. And that's why map reading is so damn important.

Be honest!

I tend to drive our van whenever I'm out and I'd have to stress that a serious basic is honesty. If you can't map read then don't pretend you can, as you'll often do more harm than good! If you're not sure then find out - get yourself a map and try and follow where you are throughout the day. That way you'll build up you own confidence without risking the hunted animal, your fellow sabs and your vehicle (dead end roads can play havoc with your health, and windscreens often don't survive them!). If you can map read but seem to have gone astray then say so at the earliest opportunity - it's easier to pull up and sort it out straight away than go on in the wrong direction for 10 miles.



Map reading:
So easy my dog can bloody do it!

What type of map?

Group preferences may differ, but our group uses the Ordnance Survey pink Landranger, series of maps with a scale of 1:50,000 (2cm to 1km 1 π inches to a mile). These cost around £5 and can easily be found in good bookshops. Check with your group to make sure you all buy the same, otherwise when it comes to trying to match up grid reference and the like you'll quickly come unstuck.

Once you,ve got your map you'll find it immensely helpful to highlight the known meets for the hunt concerned. This will help you locate meets on the map much faster, and if you have to scout for the hunt rather than having a meet already lined up, it helps break down the area into obvious circuits.

What am I looking at?

A good map provides a wealth of info, but when looked at with your sab head on can also often tell you where the hunt will go, or at least should not go. Motorways, busy A roads, railways - all these things can easily hem a hunt in, and it will often give you a boundary as to where they will hunt up to but not cross (not always true, so have your camera ready when they do decide to send hounds across a busy road or onto a railway line). Other useful things marked are phones for when you get lost or have to phone an incident through to the HSA Press Officer (0961 113084 - write the number on your map and stick it into your mobile!), and rights of way such as footpaths and bridle ways.

If you know where the meet is, you should be able to see quite easily the surrounding coverts that they are likely to visit. If you are already privy to this information in advance you should really consider pre-beating to get the fox out of the wood before the hunt gets there. And don,t forget to unblock those holes!

How do I read my map?

A map can tell you lots of things but if you want to use it properly you'll need to use it to tell other people things, such as the driver of the van where you are so that s/he can come and rescue you from those nasty men with big sticks! A map works by using a series of numbers to pin point a precise location. The key thing is to take the reading in to correct order. A map is read by the horizontal axis first (the 'eastings'), followed by the reading from the vertical axis (the 'northings'). People remember this in different ways, for example, in the house and up the stairs or learn to walk before you climb, but as long as you remember it correctly it doesn't really matter how you do it! If all else fails you will often find that the map in your hand will often have a little guide on it to remind you. When giving grid references it also helps if you give the name of the place e.g. Yew Tree Farm, or give any obvious landmarks such as a church.

Does everyone need a map?

Strictly speaking not everyone does need a map, but I find that the more people who have one the better. Too many sabs go sabbing and fail to carry anything of use with them - no horn, spray, whip or map. A good sab should make themselves as useful as possible. Someone else might be map reading in the van but what happens once you're out in the field? And I mean a really big field where all you can see is more fields. Oh and a telegraph pole. Well that telegraph pole could help you work out where you are and where you need to be - but only if you have a map! With experience it's possible to work out your location from almost anywhere. Maps are covered with information just waiting to help you find your bearings; from an obvious church or Pub to the maze of contour lines showing you the height of the land.



So map reading is the new rock n' roll? Eh? You've lost me there (a ha ha - a little map reading joke). Seriously, map reading is a key skill that too many sabs are lacking. It's an easy skill to acquire and if this article hasn't helped then just ask your fellow sabs next time you're in the van. They're sure to point you in the right direction a ha ha ha!

Giving a grid reference

When giving a grid reference to a square, the reference is always to the south-west (or bottom lefthand corner!) of the square. For example, the pub (PH) (which even the worst sabbing navigators have an uncanny ability to find instantly) can be found in the square 7632. (see fig. 1)

Square 7632 is only a 4 figure grid reference. To give the pub a precise location the use of 2 further number are required. Although not shown on maps, each square can be broken down into a further 10 parts, (see fig.2) to give a six figure grid reference - it's easier than it sounds!
So the precise location of the pub using a six figure grid reference is 765327.
The precise location of 'Cale' Train Station using a six figure grid reference is 760323.

You'll soon get used to putting the 'imaginary' lines in to give you the third digit for each axis, and before you know it you'll be an expert - honest!
Next Issue: It's time to learn how to use a compass - taking grid bearings and how to 'march' on them.

Fig.1

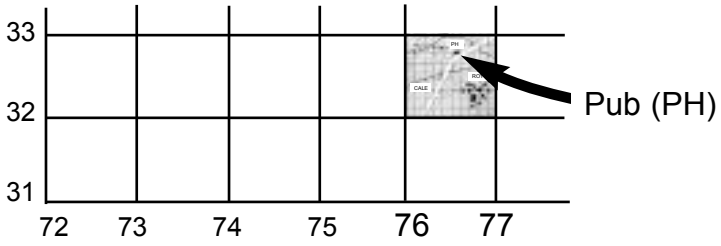
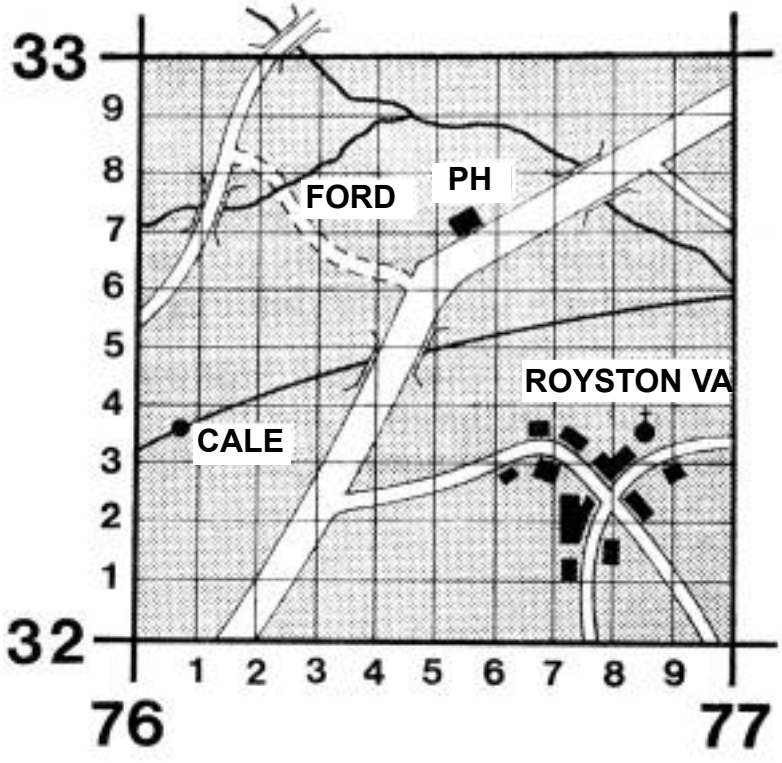


Fig.2



ARE YOU TELEPATHIC OR PSYCHIC?

Can you see into the future or predict events before they happen? If you can - nice one!

Sadly, the HSA has 'piss-poor' psychic skills, so when you move please let us know.

This way we can make sure **you** get *Howl*, instead of the unfortunate soul who's moved in (and still can't get your mouldy houmous off the fridge.)

IF YOU CHANGE ADDRESS PLEASE LET US KNOW!

The sound of silence



Many people seem to think that our sabotage activities are confined to the protection of the fox but this has never been, and never will be, the case. The HSA has been in existence for almost 40 years and our memorandum of association clearly states that we exist to

"sabotage, where practicable, the pursuit, harassment or killing of any sentient creature for sport, pleasure or population control..... ...until such practices cease to exist'. '

Grouse shooting clearly falls easily within our remit.

Despite media reports that yet again guns on the shooting estates in Scotland and the north of England were likely to be silent due to diseased birds we took no notice and ventured out to see for ourselves the state of play. Saboteurs from Manchester, Liverpool, Bolton, Preston and Lancaster spread themselves strategically around the north west ready for spotter cars reporting back from pre-determined sites. The good ole, Duke of Westminster it seems is riddled with disease, or at least his grouse are, as for the second year running all was quiet at his estate in Lancashire, as where the surrounding moors. Despite this the Duke, rumoured to be the richest man in Britain, still had the protection of a sizeable chunk of the Lancashire Constabulary swarming around the place just in case.

All in all it's now four years since the Duke managed to get a shooting party onto the moors on the traditional first day of the Grouse shooting season.

Three years ago hunt sabs managed to prevent both shooters and beaters from leaving the estate simply by turning up and staring at them! A not-very-interesting-at-all 4 hour stand-off at the estate ensued that year, and one of the main things that got us through was thinking of how much money the Duke must have lost on that day alone, not to mention the damage to the reputation of his estate.

Back to this year and about 10am a call came through that movement had been sighted on a moor just north of Bolton in Lancashire. Sure enough on our arrival we noticed the tell-tale flags stuck in the ground ready for the beaters to pick up and start the beat line from. Although the moor was-n't,t exactly teaming with birds we thought a spot of pre-beating was in order, and as such duly formed a beat line away from the butts to get the birds shifted in the right direction. Whistles, horns and shouts were employed to good effect as we walked forward in a strict line, and low-and-behold those birds did shift thanks to a bit of text-book sabotage! Much easier than presenting yourself in front of a loaded gun, and it not only seemed to scare away the birds but also the shooters themselves as a quad bike was seen approaching to have a good look at us and then it scurried off back to the shooting lodge; from where the shooters themselves never even bothered to set foot!

All that was left for us to do was to make ourselves comfortable amongst the heather and lie back in the sun for a few hours just to make sure those pesky shooters didn't change their minds. So there you have it, grouse shoot sabbing can be as easy as that! And if you need any reminding as to the tactics involved you can find these on our website at **www.huntsabs.org.uk**, or you can get your hands on a hard copy by sending a cheque/PO for £3.50 to **North West hunt sabs**, **PO Box 155**, **Manchester**, **M60 1FT.**

The grouse shooting season runs from the 12th August until the 10th December - so get to it people.



© WSWPG

GROUP NEWS

SCOTLAND

During the summer **Clydeside** sabs have been mostly listening to 'Quo' and fund-raising to keep their new van on the road. One Clydeside sab who made it to the HSA AGM witnessed an amusing drunken accident on the tube, involving an ex-'*Howl*' editor. After many hours drinking this individual failed to produce a valid ticket for the duration of her journey, and in her haste to outpace underground staff fell 'arse over tit' down an escalator. An ambulance carted her off to hospital with a broken arm and a fantastic 'Tom & Jerry' lump on the head. With no minkhunts coming north of the boarder and the no definite shoots it was a quiet summer all in all. Clydeside sabs would like to wish Steve Christmas a full and speedy recovery.

NORTH WEST

Sabs from **Bolton**, **Lancaster, Preston** and **Manchester** have been busy since the start of September upsetting the cubbing activities of the *Cheshire Forest F.H.*. Once these have packed up for the day we've headed up north into Lancashire to do the *Holcombe Harriers*. This 'double whammy' has been a regular feature of our first couple of months of each season for a few years now, and we pride ourselves in spreading our resources so widely and effectively. The most notable meet so far was the opening meet of the *Holcombe Harriers* at Lydiate, a village which lies on the Lancashire/Merseyside border. On one side we had a couple of fluffy(ish) Lancashire cops in their short-sleeved shirts, and on the other we had a riot van and cop car containing Merseyside cops with bullet proof vests on! The scouse cops seemed quite keen on arresting a couple of the sabs so it was a case of jumping the border and making a run for it to ensure that they weren't unduly detained. Sadly, although this hunt aren't known for their hunting skill, they did manage to kill a hare despite the best efforts of a sab who managed to pluck it from the jaws of hounds.



Unfortunately it was already too late as the hare, despite being in one piece and alive, had sustained severe internal injuries which, combined with shock, meant it didn't stand much of a chance. Which just goes to show that even a relatively crap hunt can still wreck havoc on our wildlife, and that's why we'll contin ue to do all we can to prevent them in their killing mission.

NORTH EAST

The second half of the season saw **Sheffield** sabs concentrating mainly on their local hunts, the *Badsworth FH* and the *Branham Moor FH*, where a combination of good sabbing and the incompetence of the hunt meant that there were no kills whilst we were out. The *Badsworth FH* who stopped advertising their meets after being regularly sabbed last season, didn't seem too impressed that we were still finding them, and on one occasion resorted to getting a local gamekeeper with the help of his two Rotweillers to stop us from getting anywhere near the hunt on foot. The police didn't seem to think there was anything wrong with the gamekeeper setting his dogs on sabs while we were walking on public footpaths, they were only interested in trying to get all our names and addresses. Impartial policing yet again!!
Sheffield sabs have also paid visits to the *Grove & Rufford FH, Holderness FH, Derwent FH,* the hits on the *Albrighton FH* and *Quorn FH*, not to mention single handedly sabbing the arsess off the *Pennine*!!!

SOUTH EAST

West Kent sabs spent the summer as usual raising money ready for the coming season and fixing up the landy. We started cubbing on the 2nd of September after being given the *Ashford Valley FH's* first meet (cheers Tezza) at their joint masters house. Pre-spraying proved very effective leaving the sabs with little that needed doing during the meet. Sabs have also been attending the demo's against those dirty bastards on the *Old Surrey, Burstow*.....

Hastings sabs had a quiet summer as far as sabbing goes, We were involved in a couple of succesful mink sabs on the *Wealdon MH* and a hilarious day of angling sabbing when we teamed up with our old muckers from **Brighton** to commit some astounding acts of piracy ! The sight of two rowing boats filled with sabs chasing the last remaining angler round a lake is something I shall never forget!!! (Especially as the old duffer easily outpaced the pursuing buccaneers!)
Apart from the usual fund-raising crap, the only other "event" was the accidental sabbing of anglers at our local reservoir when three "hardmen" took offence to our dogs disturbing their fish and tried to kick off, by squaring up to a woman with a broken arm after deciding that fighting the two men present would have been a bit too dicey ! Luckily our handy beagle cross was there to sort things out !
Cubbing has been going well, concentrating on the *South Downs* with away trips to the *Ashford Valley* and an afternoon meet of the *Burstow* who sensibly packed up as soon as sabs arrived.



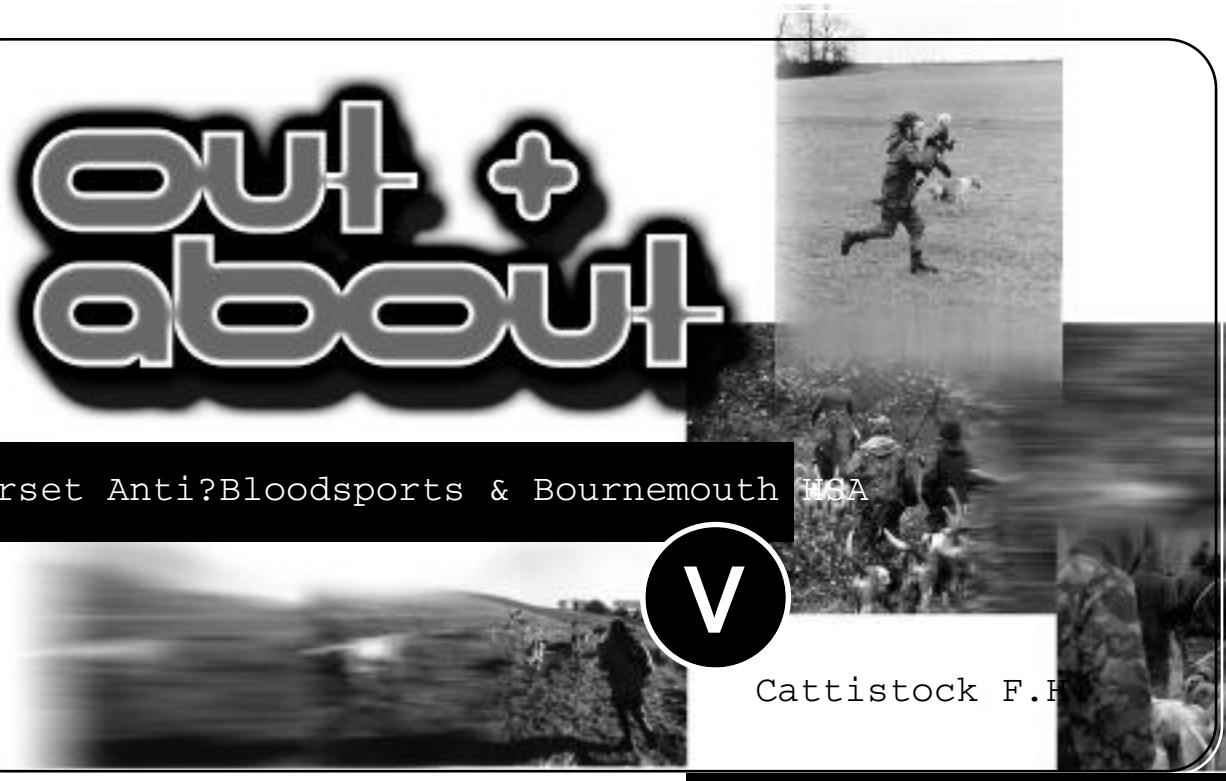
As animal loving folk the chances are some of you may share your lives with a nonhuman companion (or pet if you re languishing in the pnon dark ages) Should your non?human companion become ill it is likely you may seek the advice of a vetinary surgeon. Oddly, not all vets are interested in animal welfare; Some are even under the impression that torturing and killing animals for fun is necessary. Below is a list of vets who support hunting so strongly that they submitted their details to the recent Burns Inquiry, in a bid to keep hunting with dogs as an acceptable practice.

Check the list below:
You may discover your local vet is not quite the animal lover you had them down as.

Name	Area of Practice	Name	Area of Practice
Adams, Mr W	Shrewsbury	Carrington, Mr A	Chippenham
Ahern, Miss B	Malmesbury	Chandler, Mr N	Hexham
Allen, Dr W M	Aldworth	Cherry, Mr S	Beverley
Allen, Prof WR	Newmarket	Cheslin, Mr M	Woodmancote
Bainbridge, Mr R	Wellingborough	Church, Miss K	Aldreth
Baird, Mrs D	Ipswich	Clements, Mr A	Farnham
Bardell, Mr D	Malpas	Codner, Mr J C	Cheltenham
Barrelet, Mr F	Newmarket	Collins, Mr M	York
Barker, Mr G L	Sherborne	Collins, Mr E	York
Barwise-Munro, Mr C	Alnwick	Coope, Mr J	Sileby
Barwise-Munro, Mrs L	Alnwick	Craven, Mr J	Cossington
Baskerville, Mr R	Kingston Mount	Crooks, Mr A	Rotherham
Bathe, Mr A	Cambridge	Crooks, Mr J	Beverley
Bell, Mr A S W	Leamington Spa	Cross, Mrs A S	Wymondham
Bevin, Mr W	Oakham	Crossley, Mr J	Penrith
Bevins, Mrs G A	Chippenham	Crouch, Mr J	Leigh
Blackburn, Mr PW	York	Crowhurst, Mr J C	Newmarket
Bleser, Mr B de	Compton	Cundall, Mr C	Scarborough
Bond, Mr C	Horsham	Curnow, Mr E	Kings Lynn
Boyle, Mr M	Chippenham	Cuthbertson, Mr J L H	Wetherby
Boundy, Mr T	Montgomery	Dalton-Morgan, Mr G	Horfield
Brereton, Mr R	Tenbury WellsLeigh	Davies, Mr E	Llandinam
Brook, Mr J	Bishops Itchington	Davies, Mr H E	Lichfield
Browne, Mr P	Minehead	Dobson, Mr K B	Beverley
Brown, Mr A	Cardiff	Denny, Mr D J B	Worcester
Brydon, Mr D	Scarborough	Dugdale, Mr D	Newmarket
Burgess, Mr J	Northwich	Easby, Mr S	Stamford Bridge
Byrne, Mr J	Corsham	Ellis, Mr D	Liskeard
Calver, Mr P	Ripon	Ellis, Mr D R	Newmarket
Camm, Mr I	Berkeley	England, Mr S	Barnard Castle
Cannon, Mr S	Chipping Norton	Eustace, Mr R	Chippenham
Carding, Lt Col N	Barsby	Fagan, Mr S	Market Drayton

Name	Area of Practice
Fisher, Mr R	Abergavenney
Foster, Mr PD	Northampton
Foster, Mrs B	Northampton
Fox, Mr G W	Doncaster
Fox, R	Mkt Harborough
Ferguson, Mr KRC	Sherborne
Franklin, Mr D	Wolverhamtpon
The George Vet Group	Malmesbury
Gibson, Mr M	Oakham
Gibson, Mr I	Galashiels
Gill, Mr A	Stow-on-the-Wold
Gillespie, Mr I	Galashiels
Ginnett, Mr C	Horsted Keynes
Gorse, Mrs E	Warrington
Gradwell, Mr K	Thornbury
Gregory, Miss L	Alnwick
Green, Miss C	Lambourn
Godsall, Mr S	Coventry
Green, Mr M	Keighley
Greenwood, Mr R E S	Newmarket
Grinnall, Mr R	Arundel
Hairsine, Mrs J	Filey
Hall, Miss J	Hungerford
Hall, Dr G A	Newbury
Hall, Mr E	Yate
Hamilton, Mr J	Stanton-in-the-Peak
Harris, Mr C	Hertford
Hastie, Mr S	Maids Moreton
Hatherell, Mr P	Melksham
Heath, Mr A	Royston
Hemson, Ms K	Monmouth
Henney, Ms J	Chippenham
Herinckx, Mr B	Newmarket
Higgins, Mr A	Banbury
Hill, Mr A	Okehampton
Holmes, Mr J	Northampton
Horlock, Mr J	Leominster
Houghton, Mr P	Oakham
Jackson, Mr N	York
Jagger, Mr D	Shrewsbury
Janaway, Mr P	Badminton
Johanson, Mr C	Tewkesbury
Jones, Mr I	Newtown
Jones, Mr R	Maidstone
Jones, Mr J H	Chippenham
Jordan, Mr T	Calne
Jorgensen, Mr A	Worcester
Kearns, Mr L	Tewkesbury
Keighley, Mr S	Northallerton
Kernohan, Mr R	Sileby
Killingbeck, Mr J	Tetbury
Kold, Dr S E	Willesley
Leaman, Mr T	Sileby
Ledez, Mr B	Chippenham
Lentelink, Mr P	Glasgow
Lester, Mr W A	Cirencester
Lewis, Mr C	Audlem
Lewis-Jones, Mrs CA	Honiton
Lloyd, Mr R	Knaresborough
Lloyd, Mr S	Chippenham
Lucey, Mr M	Cheltenham
Lucking, Miss A	Bures
Maggs, Ms S	Calne
Main, Mr J	Donnington
Marr, Miss J	Scarborough
Martin, Mr A	Malton
Mason, Mr J A	Woodhouse
McDiarmid, Dr A	Compton
McCartan, Mr C	Cheltenham
McFadyen, Mr B	Chippenham
McGladdery, Mr A	Newmarket
McKenna, Mr J	Cheltenham
McMahon, Mr P J	Billingshurst
Mitchell, Mr A N	Market Weighton
Medd, Mr R	Sandy
Moore, Mr K	Salisbury
Mould, Ms R	Alnwick
Murphy, Mr P	Yate
Naish, Mr N	Leyburn
Nixon, Miss J	Maids Moreton
O'Brien, Dr J K	Yelverton
Ogilvie, Mr T W B	Otley
Ordidge, Mr R	Malton
Owen, Mr J	Badminton
Owen, Mr R	St Asaph
Palliser, Ms J	Chippenham
Parry-Smith, Mr P	Newcastle, Staffs
Peat, Mr D	Barnard Castle
Phillips, Mr T J	Liphook
Pickles, Mr A	Penrith
Poore, Ms D	Chippenham
Potter, Mr R A	Cholsey
Potter, Ms S	Chippenham
Potts, Mr G N	Tewkesbury
Pycock, Dr J	Malton
Richards, Mr S	Banbury
Rishworth, Mr J	Upper Poppleton
Renney, Mr D J	Naunton
Rowe, Mrs H	Wotton under Edge
Russ, Mr G	Yarm
Salmon, Mr H	Exeter
Schneiders, Mr D	Ilminster
Scott, Mr D	Aldreth
Scott, Mrs C	Aldreth
Sheldon, Mr O	Matlock
Shirley-Bevan, Miss E M	Naunton
Sim, Mr W	York
Sommerville, Mr J	Boroughbridge
Shaw, Mr N	Broad Windsor
Stirk, Mr A	Laverton
Stirk, Mr S	Ripon
Stuart, Mr A C	Pontefract
Sutherland, Mr C	Kelso
Shepherd, Mr C	Willesley
Swan, Mrs J	Eyemouth
Tebbut, Mr N F	Huntingdon
Thomas, Dr L H	Chieveley
Thomason, Mr P	Nantwich
Thompson, Mr C	Nantwich
Thorne, Mr J P	Banbury
Thursby Pelham, Mr C	Dursley
Thursby Pelham, Mr R	Banbury
Topp, Mr A	Nantwich
Waddilove, Mr J	Bury St Edmunds
Walker, Mr D	Itchington
Walker, Mr A	Woodmancote
Walters, Mr W	Chippenham
Watson, Mr RT	Oakham
Way, E D B	Lincoln
Webbon, Dr P	Ross-on-Wye
Webster, Mr J M	Stowmarket
Wells, Dr P W	Towcester
Welsh, Mr J A	Northallerton
Western, Mr T	Swindon
White, Mrs A	Warwick
Whitehead, Mr M	York
Wicks, Mr B	Chippenham
Williams, Ms T	Calne
Wilson, Mr B	Nantwich
Williams, Mr J B	Banbury
Wise, Dr D R	Cambridge
Yeaman, Mr J	Grantham
Young, Mr G	Stocksfield

out + about



Dorset Anti?Bloodsports & Bournemouth HSA

V

Cattistock F.H

Words & Pictures by Jo

A lot of people have speculated recently that Howl should conta
back?to?basics sabbing. So, In a new, regular feature we get al
the help of intrepid, roving reporter, Joe Hashman.





Sabs from Dorset Anti-Bloodsports and Bournemouth HSA enjoyed a kill free morning with the Cattistock FH in August. Eight sabs, equipped with hunting horns, sprays, and gizmo, continually called hounds away from the huntsman during the 3 1/2 hour hunt.

The day began at 5.30 a.m. with a kennel stake out that led to the meet at Urless Farm, Corscombe, near Yeovil. Woodland coverts and kale were held up but to no avail. Hounds got the scent of fox a few times, but





over an over again sabs enticed them away from their quarry with a thrilling combination of gizmo and horn, played and blown one after the other.

Over half an hours hunting time was lost when sabs took hounds on a hike out of the valley bottom to Corscombe church. Here hounds were split hither and thither. The local vicar joined sabs at this stage for tea and samosas to discuss the pro's and con's of killing foxes for fun.

A kill-free morning was confirmed by clean hounds and grim faced red coats. Sabs included a grandmother in her prime, second seasoners, and veterans of ten seasons or more. All unanimously agreed, it had been a brilliant morning.

South Dorset Anti Bloodsports
PO Box 1119, Dorchester DT1 1ED.

Bournemouth HSA (C/O **HSA)**
PO Box 2786, Brighton BN2 2AX





Legal News

FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES

"This time next year, you lot will all be in prison."
Meon Valley Beagles Supporter (1994)

For those of you who wouldn't know a bind over from a bail condition here is an article spelling out the most famous piece of anti-sab legislation in history. Apologies to those old hands who can chant the important bits in their sleep, this article is aimed at those who may be less familiar with the details.

The Criminal Justice & Public Order Act 1994

The Aggravated Trespass legislation is contained within Sections 68 and 69 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 (C.J.A.). This was introduced by the then Home Secretary, Michael Howard, and was greeted with much enthusiasm by the hunting fraternity as it was widely believed at the time to spell the end for hunt sabotage. Most hunt saboteurs who were active at that time will be familiar, to some degree, with S. 68 and 69 as it was in all our interests to be clued up to deal with the inevitable flood of arrests and test cases that followed. As time has passed, the C.J.A. has proved to be a lot less successful in curbing the activities of hunt saboteurs than the bumpkins, cops and the government had hoped. Most police forces attempted to enforce the C.J.A. initially. However, despite a large number of arrests in the first couple of seasons, the ratio of convictions to arrests was pitifully small. As a result, many police forces now use the provisions of the C.J.A. rarely, some never. In those areas where sabs do get arrested for aggravated trespass, we are still winning the majority of cases that do make it as far as a Magistrates Court!

Ahhh... The Good Old Days

Prior to the C.J.A., trespass was a civil offence and, in the eyes of the law, was merely a dispute between the trespasser and the land owner. Technically the police had no jurisdiction to intervene, although they frequently did. Civil trespass was not (and still is not) an arrestable offence. Landowners (or their agents) were permitted to direct trespassers to leave and, if they refused, to use 'reasonable force' to eject them. This provision for the use of reasonable force was often used as an excuse by law abiding country folk to thump hunt saboteurs. The police did, of course, have the power to act to prevent a Breach of the Peace which, more often than not, involved nicking the hunt saboteur who had just been thumped.

Agents of the Landowner and Private Security

Some hunts liaised with landowners to appoint stewards to act as agents of the landowner. What this meant, in practice, was that the largest, ugliest and most severely mentally challenged supporters would be issued with armbands which, according to the hunts, gave them the authority to escort trespassers from private land using 'reasonable force'. (See Surrey Union F.H. stewards from 93/94 season pictured right)

Other hunts went further and employed private security firms to act as stewards. Some of these firms were more respectable than others with rumours abounding that some hunts were using night-club bouncers and moonlighting squadies to provide security.

This practice is a lot less common than it was. Most hunts (and police forces) quickly reached the conclusion that stewards and private security invariably caused them more problems than they solved. However, some high profile hunts - notably the Quorn - have tried the tactic recently (see Howl No.70).

Sections 68 & 69

The C.J.A. contains sections to deal with all sorts of undesirable dropouts and soap dodging parasites as well as hunt saboteurs. Target groups include new age travellers, road protesters, ravers and football fans. Sections 68 & 69 were designed specifically to deal with hunt saboteurs and defined the law of aggravated trespass. It is worth familiarising yourself with the wording of the legislation. Extracts can be found on the H.S.A. website or you could even buy your own copy!

Section 68

68.(1) A person commits the offence of aggravated trespass if he trespasses on land in the open air and, in relation to any lawful activity which persons are engaging in or are about to engage in on that or adjoining land in the open air, does there anything which is intended by him to have the effect

(a) **of intimidating those persons or any of them so as to deter them or any of them from engaging in that activity,**

(b) **of obstructing that activity, or**

(c) **of disrupting that activity.**

Section 68, therefore, essentially outlines the offence of aggravated trespass. The intention was to make trespass a criminal offence when combined with other behaviour which may be 'intimidating' a person engaged in a lawful activity or 'obstructing' or 'disrupting' that activity. This section also goes on to set out the circumstances under which a police officer can make an arrest.

Section 69

This section of the act is quite distinct from Section 68, although many sabs seem unsure of the nature of that distinction. Section 69 gives the police the powers to remove persons participating in aggravated trespass. It, in essence, gives the police the authority to act in a similar capacity to the agent of the landowner outlined earlier. However, it is important to be aware that the police powers under


© Andrew Testa



Section 69 only apply when the conditions outlined apply and the police still have no powers to intervene in civil trespass disputes.

69.(1) If the senior police officer present at the scene reasonably believes-

(a) t**hat a person is committing, has committed or intends to commit the offence of aggravated trespass on land in the open air; or**

(b) **that two or more persons are trespassing on land in the open air and are present there with the common purpose of intimidating persons so as to deter them from engaging in a lawful activity or of obstructing or disrupting a lawful activity, he may direct that person or (as the case may be) those persons (or any of them) to leave the land.**

Section 69 also contains a provision for the senior officer to delegate to junior officers the responsibility for conveying the order to leave to trespassers. A person commits an offence under Section 69 if he or she fails to leave 'the land' as soon as practicable or, having left, enters again as a trespasser within three months.

It was felt necessary to include a definition of a 'lawful activity' within the act. Section 68 (2) defines a lawful activity as being one that can be engaged in without committing an offence. A definition of 'land' is given in Section 61 (9) [b], which does not include roads but does include footpaths, bridleways and byways.

What is not defined is the area that 'the land' covers. Do the police have the authority to direct you to leave the field you are in, all the land owned by a particular land owner or to exclude you from any area the hunt may be in on a particular day?

It would appear that this has been left deliberately vague to allow the police to use their power as they see fit. There is also no definition of the conditions which would lead to the police believing that somebody was intending to commit aggravated trespass. As Section 69 allows the police to make arrests when no offence has been committed this would appear to be an important point.

Confusion often arises around whether, or not, the police are obliged to give a warning before making an arrest for aggravated trespass. Under Section 68 no warning is required if a police officer believes an offence is being committed. Under Section 69 the senior police officer at the scene must reasonably believe that a person is committing, has committed or intends to commit an offence under Section 68 before the power to direct trespassers to leave may be used. If these conditions are satisfied and the trespasser refuses to leave when directed by a police officer (or returns within three months) only then is an offence under Section 69 committed. Simple really, innit.....

Many aggravated trespass prosecutions have failed simply due to over enthusiasm on the part of the plod. Some police forces are more guilty of this than others. Particularly when the C.J.A. was still a novelty, although it still goes on today, the police would arrest hunt saboteurs on sight under the mis-apprehension that sabotaging a hunt was a criminal offence per se. Many other cases have failed because it has become apparent after the arrests have been made that the hunt had no business being where they were in the first place and were trespassing themselves.

The Criminal Justice and Public Order Act does contain other sections which are very relevant to hunt saboteurs but it was felt that Sections 68 and 69 should be dealt with in isolation as they embody the legal framework of aggravated trespass. The subject is one that is often misunderstood, not least by the hunts and police. It can only be in our best interests to be familiar with this piece of legislation. Sabs who have been around for a while may become blasÈ about the subject and newer recruits who have no experience of sabbing prior to the aggravated trespass laws may be reluctant to demonstrate their inexperience by asking questions. Hopefully this article will have made things a little clearer.

It is well worth spending some time familiarising yourself with the legislation. Extracts of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act (1994) can be found on the H.S.A. website www.huntsabs.org.uk

A full copy of the act can be obtained from:

Her Majesty's Stationery Office
Publications Centre
P.O. Box 276
London
SW8 5DT
Tel: 0207 873 9090
www.parliament.the-stationery-office.co.uk

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 most 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 A.L.F. Supporters Group , who can provide financial help for these prisoners.

Make cheques/P.O's payable to 'A.L.F. Supporters Group'.
Send to A.L.F S.G., BCM 1160, London, WC1N 3XX.

BARRY HORNE
VC2141
HMP Belmarsh
Western Way
Thamesmead
London SE28 0EB
Sentenced to a total of 18 years for arson at several premises on the Isle of Wight and attempted arson in Bristol.

MEL BROUGHTON
DY8216
HMP The Mount
Molyneaux Ave
Bovingdon
Hemel Hempstead
Herts HP3 0NZl
Sentenced to 4 years for possession of explosives Co-defendant of Tony Humpries

THINK HOWL'S CRAP?

Howl is **your** magazine

Make sure it reflects your views by contributing to it.

Letters, articles, etc and Group News are always needed.

We're also desperate for photos/video grabs

All contributions to the office marked 'Howl'

or e-mail direct to

howl.editor@virgin.net

LEGAL STORIES PLEASE!

If you've been in court recently
&
would like to share some good (or bad) news
with the rest of us
then drop us a line at the usual address.

The Legal pages are here to report
what's happening to **you** so don't hold back!

Can anyone confirm rumours of a recent payout by a huntsman (possibly down South) to a woman (not a sab) he attacked after she left her vehicle and asked him how long the hunt would be blocking the road for?

Any information to the Office please

VERMIN PATROL

CRUELTY CASES IN THE COURTS

badger
VERMIN

On the 19/9/00 at Southend magistrates **Brian Anthony Holder** was found guilty of interfering with a badger sett in his garden, in Hockley, Essex, by obstructing sett entrances. In sentencing Holder to a £500 fine plus £250 costs. The Magistrates also expressed their disapproval of the defendant's lack of cooperation with the police - he refused to allow the police to examine the sett and refused to be interviewed by the police.

bloodsport
VERMIN

Two Herefordshire men were jailed on 23/3/00 for poaching offences. **Glen William Johnson** of 40 Winslow Road, Bromyard, Hereford and **Peter John Littlewood** of 10 Coronation Avenue, Bromyard, Hereford were sent to prison for nine and three months respectively by Worcester Crown Court. In addition to the custodial sentences Littlewood's Bedford van was forfeited, together with a quantity of nets, sacks and other items seized. The court was told that they were both seen in possession of what was believed to be salmon poaching equipment.

On 25/5/00 a quail-fighting organiser was successfully prosecuted by the RSPCA after unwittingly showing undercover newspaper reporters how he prepared birds to fight. Bradford magistrates court heard how **Mohammad Tajh Khan** (44) of Archibald Street, Bradford would sharpen the birds' beaks with a razor and pluck their feathers. Khan pleaded guilty to two charges of causing unnecessary suffering and one charge under the Cockfighting Act 1952. He was banned for life from having custody of birds, ordered to undertake 200 hours community service and pay £500 court costs.

On 2/8/00 three men who poached salmon and sea trout were each ordered to complete 240 hours community service and pay £250 fines by Penrith magistrates. **Kenneth Atherton** of Ullswater Road, Maryport, **James Cullen** of Kirkby Street, Maryport, and **David Jackson** of Kennedy Road, Workington all pleaded guilty to two charges relating to the use of an illegal hook and taking of fish. Each man was also ordered to pay £250 towards costs.

On 3/8/00 three men were charged by police investigating an illegal dog fighting ring in Notts. **Ryan Nuttall** (29) of Garden Terrace, Newstead Village, is accused of providing a venue. He has also been charged with causing dogs to fight and causing unnecessary suffering to pit bull terriers. **Andrew Taylor** (29) of Carnarvon Grove, Sutton-in-Ashfield, and **Nigel Greensmith** (32) of The Quadrangle, Newstead Village, are both charged with attending a dog fight. All the men are alleged to have attended a dog fight in Newstead. They are expected to appear before Mansfield magistrates at a date to be set. Three other men, **Ken Langan** from Brighton, **Tony Mullen** of Birmingham, and **Jeremy Brown** of Chesterfield, face similar charges. RSPCA officers seized 12 dogs, believed to be pit bulls.

RIO RANCHO, N.M. USA 19/9/00. Two men are facing animal cruelty charges for allegedly dragging a pet rabbit to its death behind a vehicle. **Greg Dickerson** (29) and **Johnny Garcia** (21) were arrested after witnesses called the police to report an animal was being dragged behind a vehicle in the parking lot in an Albuquerque suburb. When police arrived Dickerson and Garcia allegedly drove off and tried to hide in nearby hills. However, a police helicopter was called in to help find the suspects. Dickerson and Garcia are both charged with cruelty to animals, resisting and evading a police officer, and drug possession. They face up to 18 months in jail for each crime. Dickerson is free on $12,600 bond and Garcia is free on $11,000 bond. Both are awaiting arraignments.

bird/egg
VERMIN

Gamekeeper **Charles Arnold** of Shipton Bellinger, Hampshire was fined £500 with £40 costs after pleading guilty to setting four pole-traps on the fence posts of a pheasant release pen near Snoddington Farm, Cholderton.

On 19/1/98 **Bernard Fredrick Lyle** was fined £1,500 for unlawful possession of three goshawks. Genetic fingerprinting showed that the birds were not siblings and thus disproved Lyle's claims of breeding the birds in captivity from subsequently-stolen parents. He was also fined £400 and £250 costs for four gin-traps set round his aviaries and possession of a rifle.

In January 1998 **Robert Griffiths** of Bronllwyn Road, Gelli, Rhondda was fined £3,200 plus £300 costs for non-registration of peregrines, the possession of three red kites, two merlins, a peregrine and a sparrowhawk, and another non-registration offence.

Malcolm Burgwin of Pantry Green, Worsborough Dale, Barnsley, South Yorkshire was fined £500 each for the possession of two wild goshawks, £500 for equipment capable of being used for illegal possession, £250 for making false declarations and £50 costs. DNA evidence determined that the birds were taken from the wild.

Shaun Mills of Friar Close, Stannington, Sheffield was fined £700 plus £300 costs for the possession of 233 eggs including those of avocet, goshawk, kingfisher, little ringed plover and peregrine and related equipment.

Raymond Holden a keeper at Hi-Fly Game Hatchery in Pilling, was fined £2,000 for using a live mallard as a decoy in a fox trap and fined £2,000. He was also fined £500 plus £500 costs, for maiming a jackdaw, which he used as a decoy in a cage trap (he actually maimed 10 jackdaws, one for each of 10 traps, but he was only summonsed once). Holden was found not guilty of killing a moorhen, keeping a mallard in a cage in which it could not stretch its wings and using a funnel trap to catch wild birds.

Maurice Holiday of Boyntons, Nettlesworth, County Durham was fined £550 and £100 costs for four offences relating to the destruction of a songbird's nest and four chicks. During a domestic dispute Holiday had gone into the garden and used lighter fuel to torch a bird's nest containing four chicks.

Edwin Betts of Elwick Road, Hartlepool was found guilty of three charges relating to the possession of wild birds' eggs. He was fined £100 for possession of nine osprey eggs and received a two year conditional discharge for possession of 317 other eggs and for possession of items capable of being used to commit an offence. He was also ordered to pay £200 costs.

A raid on **Keith Hartburn**'s home in Clifton Avenue, Hartlepool, and two other addresses found more than 500 eggs of varying species. Hartburn, who admitted five charges of stealing four golden eagle eggs from the Outer Hebrides, was given a three-year conditional discharge at Hartlepool Magistrates on 20/6/00.

RSPCA officers found a buzzard and a little owl at the home of **Peter Capeness** (37) in Latham Street, Bulwell. Books about taxidermy were also found at Capeness's home but he was not registered with the Guild of Taxidermists. A vet found that the buzzard had been shot but the cause of death of the little owl could not be determined. Capeness was fined £40 after he admitted two charges of possessing a dead wild bird. He was also ordered to pay the RSPCA's costs of £367.54, which included a vet's bill of £117.54. A further charge of possessing part of a badger was withdrawn when Capeness appeared at Nottingham magistrates on 6/6/00. Capeness admitted the offences.

An obsessive collector who photographed himself next to a golden eagle's nest in the Western Isles where he had stolen four eggs provided police with evidence of his crime, Hartlepool magistrates was told. **Keith Hartburn** (48) from Hartlepool, admitted to two charges of taking eggs, contrary to the Wildlife and Countryside Act. At a previous hearing Hartburn admitted possession of 558 eggs, which were found at his home. On 20/6/00 Hartburn escaped with a conditional discharge after telling the court that he was bankrupt.

equine
VERMIN

A chain around the neck of a tethered horse had cut so deeply into the animal that flesh had begun to grow round it Derwentside magistrates heard on 15/9/00. **Thomas Mallows** (58) of South View, Craghead, Stanley pleaded guilty to a charge of causing unnecessary suffering to a horse and was banned from keeping livestock for 10 years. He was fined £100 with £200 court costs, but was allowed to keep his pet dog, pigeons and chickens. Two other horses he kept are to be transferred to new owners.

farm

VERMIN

A couple who left sheep carcasses for up to two months on their land have been banned from keeping livestock for six months and ordered to sell their animals. Newcastle magistrates heard on 8/5/00 how **Charles and Greta Critchlow** of Moss Carr Farm, Hollinsclough, near Leek let one sheep become so heavily infested with maggots that it had to be put down. Both pleaded guilty to four offences under the Animal Health Act 1981 of failing to dispose of dead sheep and allowing other sheep access to the carcasses. The court ordered them to sell all their sheep and cattle. The couple were ordered to pay £700 each and ordered to do 60 hours community service. Charles Critchlow was asked to pay an extra £681.93 costs.

A farmer could face prosecution after allegedly dumping 2,000 tonnes of dead animal carcasses on his land. **Denley Allen** of Bardon Farm, Smalley is alleged to have dumped the material - waste from a maggot farm - on his land near Langley Mill. Officials fear the material of rotting pig, calf, fish and turkey body parts could represent a risk to public health. Legally. Local people complained to the council after animal body parts were found on a footpath cutting through the land. Allen allegedly used a machine to spread the parts across 15 acres of his land. Allen could face a fine of up to £5,000 if he is prosecuted for ignoring the enforcement notices and dumping the waste.

Farmers who fed dead pigs to their livestock were fined £90,000 by magistrates. **ME Cotton and Son**, based at Anson's Farm, Swinderby, gave their pigs dead animals and meat products, causing a "serious risk to the food chain", Lincoln magistrates heard. Andrew Cotton (40) appeared on behalf of his family, pleading guilty to five of the 10 charges against each of the four individuals. Cotton, mother Hilary father David and brother Ian all faced charges which concerned the illegal methods they used to prepare pig swill. Each member of the family was ordered to pay £22,500 and legal costs within the next 28 days.

A farmer has been fined nearly £4,000 for not keeping accurate records about his animals. **Michael Smith** of Hill Head Farm, Shilbottle, Northumberland, was also prosecuted for failing to correctly dispose of two dead sheep. On 14/8/00 Alnwick magistrates fined him £3,000 for failing to record the movements of three animals, £500 for failing to record the death of an animal and £400 for not disposing of two sheep carcasses without undue delay. He was ordered to pay £1,200 costs. One offence of failing to record the birth of an animal and one offence of failing to tag an animal were dismissed.

A calf born to a BSE-infected heifer ended up in the human food chain after being illegally sold by the farmer Gloucester magistrates were told on 1/9/00. The court heard that **Richard Hewlett** is a third generation farmer with 800 acres trading under the name **R & J Hewlett Ltd**, at Rodley Court, Westbury-on-Severn. Magistrates fined R & J Hewlett Ltd £500 and ordered them to pay £250 costs.

On 19/9/00 a farmer was fined £1,500 for neglecting his cattle, believed that his cows were poisoned because he was in favour of a prison development Mid-Staffordshire magistrates heard. **John Cawser** (48) of Corsham Place, Forestside, Marchington suspected that someone from the area with a grievance against him was responsible for the death of his cows. However, he admitted three charges of failing to dispose of the carcasses of his cattle. Cawser also admitted three further charges of causing unnecessary suffering to animals, and one of allowing cattle access to animal carcasses. He was also ordered to pay costs of £1,896.

domestic

VERMIN

A woman who starved a dog almost to death has been jailed. **Judith Hall** (35) of Wingfield Road, east Hull let her dogs condition deteriorate so badly it later had to be put down Hull magistrates heard on 4/5/00. Hall was jailed for two months after admitted causing unnecessary suffering by failing to provide a proper nourishing diet. She was banned for life from holding or keeping animals.

In Okeechobee, Fla, U.S.A. a woman pleaded no contest to animal cruelty for her part in "crush" videos, which show women crushing small animals to death with their feet. **Stephanie Loudermilk** (29) was sentenced to two years of probation, 300 hours of community service and psychiatric counselling. The videos were made by Loudermilk's husband Bryan who died in June after being crushed under the rear wheel of his own truck (poetic justice!!!). She turned the videotapes over to a detective investigating his death. The tapes are sold to people who get sexual pleasure from watching the sight of a woman crushing rats, mice and other small animals. In the tapes she handed over Loudermilk was seen stepping on rabbits and mice until they were dead.

A woman claiming to be a friend of the late TV vet James Herriott was yesterday banned from keeping animals for 10 years. **Glynis Richardson** (54) from Scarborough, North Yorkshire was also sentenced to 150 hours' community service for causing unnecessary suffering. RSPCA officers found 129 animals crammed in a garden shed in Woodingdean, East Essex. Richardson, who denied cruelty, told Brighton magistrates on 22/5/00 that Herriott, taught her how to care for animals when she lived in Yorkshire.

Three dogs were left caged in cars for eight hours on a scorching hot day while their owners enjoyed a day out at an adventure park magistrates were told on 12/5/00. The owners, **Brenda Humphreys** (45) of Forty Avenue, Teignmouth, and her daughter **Anne Marie** (26) of Kings Way Teignmouth, and **Sarah Mansfield** (25) from Drake Road, Newton Abbot, pleaded guilty to a charge of abandoning a dog in a vehicle. All three were given a 12-month conditional discharge and ordered to pay £200 costs.

A couple have been banned from keeping animals for two years, after being found guilty of cruelty to a kitten. **Sean Thompson** (27) and his girlfriend **Rachel Varnam** (20) both of Neston Road, on the Saffron Lane estate appeared before Leicester magistrates on 25/5/00. They were charged with failing to provide necessary care and attention to one of their pet cats after the animal was found to have an untreated broken leg. Magistrates also ordered Thompson and Varnam to complete 45 hours' community service, and each must pay £100 costs. Both cats have been re-homed and are now fit again.

OCALA, Florida, U.S. In June 2000 a man accused of fatally beating a dog because he thought it was gay was convicted of animal cruelty. **George Stephens Finley** (58) could get up to a year in jail. Witnesses testified that Finley was upset that his wife's neutered male terrier repeatedly tried to engage in sexual activity with another family dog, a male Jack Russell terrier. "*He felt that the dog was a queer-type dog and it made him angry*". Prosecutors said Finley hit the dog in the head with a plastic vacuum cleaner and hurled it against a tree. The dog lapsed into a coma and had to be put dawn. Finley maintained he struck the dog accidentally. A jury found him guilty.

A dog starved to death after being left with no food for several weeks Teeside magistrates heard on 2/6/00. The collie had eaten strips of wood in a bid to survive. **Karl Wright** (21) of Barholme Close, Middlesbrough pleaded guilty to animal cruelty by deserting the dog. Wright left the dog with his girlfriend in Stockdale Avenue, Redcar, when they split up and never went back to look after the dog. The animal was denied any food over a long period and was found dead in a locked-up yard with no shelter. Wright was fined £150 and banned from keeping a dog for five years. His former girlfriend, **Deborah Campbell** (21) was given probation and a five-year ban at an earlier hearing.

A man has been fined for putting fox snares behind his house which strangled a neighbour's pet cat. **Christopher Deekoff** (47) of Lane End Cottages, Kirby-le-Soken, was found guilty of criminal damage and causing unnecessary suffering to an animal when he appeared at Witham magistrates on 4/7/00. The owner of the cat told the court how a neighbour had come to his house saying she had found his missing cat hanging by his neck from a snare attached to an iron stake. Deekoff said he had been setting snares for 16 years to capture foxes trying to steal the chickens he kept in his back yard. Deekoff was fined £200 for causing an animal unnecessary suffering and ordered to pay £500 costs.

A man who starved a dog until it was so weak that it could no longer stand up has been fined £200 and ordered to carry out 80 hours' community service. **Martin Clayton** (34) of Grange Street, Normanton, pleaded guilty at Bold Lane magistrates on 6/6/00 to causing unnecessary suffering to a dog by not providing proper and necessary care and attention. Clayton was banned from having any animal in his care for three years. He was also ordered to pay £200 costs. The dog has since been rehoused and is in good health.

On 8/6/00 two North-East sisters convicted of animal cruelty charges earlier this year were suspended by the Kennel Club for 10 years. This effectively ends the dog-keeping careers of **Mary** (63) **and Caroline Gatheral** (65) of Sockburn Hall, Neasham, County Durham. In March former Crufts judges Mary and Caroline were convicted at Bishop Auckland magistrates and banned from keeping animals for two years. They were convicted after subjecting 83 dogs to a catalogue of neglect at their mansion. The following penalties were imposed - to censure them, to suspend them from exhibiting at, taking part in, attending and/or having any connection with any event licensed by the club. The suspensions and disqualifications are to be for a period of 10 years. The sisters are also disqualified from being or becoming a member of any canine club or society registered with or affiliated to the Kennel Club, or taking part in the official duties and management of any club. All dogs, and their offspring, owned by the Gatherals are disqualified from Kennel Club registration and competition. Finally, they are disqualified from judging at any event licensed by the club.

A woman has been banned from keeping a dog for ten years after her starving collie was rescued. **Amanda Murray** (40) of Granville Road, Grangetown, near Middlesbrough, was fined £250 and ordered to pay a further £250 in costs by Teesside magistrates on 19/6/00 after pleading guilty to causing unnecessary suffering to a dog.

A mistreated dog was half the weight it should have been and suffered permanent skin problems from untreated mange, Bristol magistrates heard on 19/6/00. The lurchers owner, **Jason Excell** (26) and partner, **Tracey Pocock** (21) from Carisbrooke Road, Knowle West, were banned from keeping an animal for three years and ordered to pay costs of £100. Excell was also fined £100. The couple both admitted causing unnecessary suffering and failing to provide the dog with necessary care and attention.

Dead and starving pets were found inside a heroin addict's flat, a court heard on 4/7/00. In a string of gruesome discoveries, police found: A dog dead on a bed having eaten its own leather-studded collar, the bodies of two infested and malnourished kittens in a shoe-box and a starving cat, which had to be put down. At Aberdeen sheriff court **Douglas Morrison** (28) was put on probation for one year and ordered to do 100 hours' unpaid community work. He had previously admitted causing three cats and two dogs unnecessary suffering by failing to provide them with adequate care and nourishment.

A sadistic teenager who twice hurled a helpless puppy from a 60ft-high railway bridge was jailed for six months on 7/7/00. J**ohn Durrant** (18) of Broomlee, Ashington, threw the terrified pup from a bridge in Northumberland on to mudbanks below, causing it horrific injuries. It was rescued by a group of playing youngsters, who carried it back up to Durrant, not realising what he had done. He then dangled the squealing puppy over the bridge by its lead and dropped it for a second time, despite attempts by his horrified friend Andrew Tweddle to save the animal. The puppy suffered appalling injuries, including a traumatic brain injury, a broken jaw and partial paralysis but miraculously survived after intensive veterinary treatment. It is now thriving with new owners. Bedlington magistrates banned Durrant from keeping any animals for 25 years after being found guilty of cruelty to the puppy. He had denied the charge. Durrant has been hounded out of his home after word of the incident got round. "*He was abused and spat on in the street (Good) and had to move back in with his parents."*

VERMIN continued

A 14-month-old Lakeland terriers ribs and pelvic bones were clearly visible, its stomach sunken and its rear leg so badly hurt Sunderland magistrates heard on 17/7/00. They were also told that older wounds around its nose and under its chin could have resulted from it coming into contact with foxes. Both **Brendan Taggert** (29) of Grindon Lane and his girlfriend **Dawn Ferguson** (31) of Hadleigh Road, both Sunderland, denied allegations of causing unnecessary suffering to the dog by failing to provide reasonable care and attention.

A couple found guilty of causing unnecessary suffering to two dogs have been allowed by a court to continue keeping animals. **Kevin Davies** (22) and **Sally Lewis** (23) of Lincoln Way, Midway, Derbyshire were ordered to pay fines and costs totalling £750 after being convicted of causing two English bull terriers to suffer. Both dogs weighed about half their correct weight and had mange when the RSPCA stepped in to take over their care, Derby magistrates were told on 17/7/00. Davies and Lewis had denied causing unnecessary suffering to their dogs. Both dogs have now regained their normal weight and have been placed in a new home. The pair were each fined £225 and between them ordered to pay £300 of the RSPCA's £3,170 prosecution costs.

A puppy suffered "considerable pain" when its owner tried to sever its tail Torbay magistrates were told on 18/7/00. The operation, using a tight elastic band to cut the blood supply, was illegal because it had not been carried out by a vet. And the pup's owner **Mark Sallis** (30) compounded the offence by not getting the resultant swelling treated urgently. Sallis who is on remand in Bedford prison, admitted causing unnecessary suffering to the puppy and carrying out surgery while not a registered vet. He was disqualified from keeping dogs for eight years, fined £100 and ordered to pay £542 costs. A warrant was issued for the arrest of **Lisa Sallis** (22) who is charged with the same offences, after she failed to attend court.

The owner of a dog which was emaciated and suffering from arthritis has been banned for life from keeping animals. **Elizabeth Towers** (51) of Aberdyberthi Street, Hafod, Swansea admitted causing unnecessary suffering to her dog and was fined £300 and ordered to pay costs of £150 by Swansea magistrates. The dog was in such a poor state, sadly it had to be put down.

A Hampshire pet owner whose cat became ill after being fed a diet of Coco Pops and curries has been banned from having custody of all animals for ten years. His bones were visible and his fur matted, greasy and falling out in handfuls. He was covered in fleas and found to have sight problems. The court heard how the RSPCA found the kitchen of **Charles Mitchell**'s (43) flat in Orchard Lane littered with takeaway containers. There was a bowl of Coco Pops or similar cereal on the floor next to another dish containing stale chips. Mitchell was found guilty in his absence of causing unnecessary suffering. Southampton magistrates banned him from having custody of any animal for ten years, ordered him to pay £1,000 in fines and costs, and handed the cat over to the RSPCA.

Two German shepherd dogs were half their normal weight and in "very poor'' condition when taken into RSPCA care, Hull magistrates heard on 10/8/00. Both were severely malnourished and infested with worms. **Arthur Heath** (52) of Barnetby Road, Hessle, who trades as Arthur's Removal Service, was banned from keeping dogs for two years and both animals were removed from him after he pleaded guilty to causing them unnecessary suffering and he was ordered him to pay £500 to the RSPCA.

71

update

VERMIN

Margaret Jones (52) of South Avenue, Chellaston, Derbyshire who was fined £7,700 after being found guilty of causing unnecessary suffering to an animal started an appeal at Derby Crown Court on 10/7/00.



A man who is believed to have poisoned 70 cats in the village where he lived was NOT sent to jail on 9/6/00 by Hinkley magistrates after they were told at an earlier hearing that a hatred of cats led **Nigel Hibbs** (above) (42) of Melton Road, Leicester, to place cyanide-laced sardines and kippers in his garden. Police found enough poison under his bed to kill 1,500 cats. Hibbs was sentenced to 150 hours community service after admitting possessing cyanide with intent to endanger property and two charges of intending to injure a cat. He denied being a serial cat killer. But villagers remain convinced that he was responsible for many more pets dying in Newbold Verdon, Leicestershire, before he was forced to move.

A security guard who killed a cat handed over by an animal welfare group by banging its head on the floor escaped a ban on keeping pets through a legal technicality on 16/8/00. **John Taylor** (27) was charged with criminal damage after the cat died almost instantly before he flattened and buried its body. He was charged with criminal damage rather than being taken to court under the Protection of Animals Act which allows courts to impose bans. Taylor, whose actions were described as "horrific", was given a 160-hour community service order by Barnsley magistrates after admitting the offence.

A couple who neglected a dog which was starved to skin and bone have been banned for life from owning an animal. **Gary Wilmshurt** (28) and girlfriend **Lynn Willis** (34) both of in Greenham Close, Middlesbrough left the dog locked up when they went to stay with relatives, Teesside magistrates were told on 17/8/00. They were convicted of causing unnecessary suffering to the dog, which was also infested with fleas. As well as the life ban, Wilmshurst and Willis were each fined £300 and both were ordered to pay £150 costs. Another life ban and the same financial penalties were imposed on Judith Bradwell (27) of Rothbury Avenue, Stockton, after she too was convicted of animal cruelty. Teesside magistrates heard that her dog had a severe skin disease and had been neglected for a long time.

A man who kicked his dog in a drunken rage has been told he will never get her back and has been banned from keeping any dog for a year. Southend magistrates were told on 18/8/00 that the Jack Russell terrier had been kicked in the eye. They also heard the terrier was in so much pain she could not open her mouth. **Ian Sturton** (36) of Nelson Road, Leigh, Essex admitted causing unnecessary suffering to the dog by beating. Magistrates ordered the dog to be put into RSPCA care, banned Sturton for keeping a dog for a year, fined him £150 and ordered him to pay £55 costs and £129 compensation towards vet bills.

A man who claimed to be an animal lover has been banned for life from keeping animals. **Philip Denby Williams** (59) of Gors Avenue, Townhill, Swansea forced his emaciated old English sheepdog to walk two miles to a pub straight after a leg fracture operation. Swansea magistrates also heard how Williams left his two-and-a-half foot long North American king snake in a salad box in his kitchen, after being jailed for a month in October 1999 for non-payment of fines. Sadly the snake later died. Magistrates fined him £500 with £200 costs. They also ordered him to pay a further £20 after being found guilty of two counts of failing to surrender to bail. Williams became abusive in court after the verdict.

A Skewen woman has been banned from looking after animals for life after being found guilty of causing unnecessary suffering to a dog. **Kerris Oddle Pugh** (33) of Ffordd y Mynych failed to appear before Neath magistrates on 23/8/00 but was found guilty in her absence. Also charged with causing unnecessary suffering to the same animal was **Melvyn Andrews** (23) also of Ffordd y Mynych. Pugh was found guilty of causing unnecessary suffering to a black and white male terrier-type cross-breed dog by failing to give it proper care and attention. As well as a 24-month conditional discharge and was ordered to pay £250 in costs. The court also barred her from caring for animals again. Andrews also failed to appear and in his absence was disqualified from having the custody of any animal until further notice. Magistrates have placed him on conditional bail for pre-sentence reports to be carried out. The RSPCA said that Pugh had been disqualified on a previous occasion from having pets.

Colin Waters (26) of no fixed address admitted killing a dog by hanging it from a tree in a south Essex wood was sentenced to five months in prison, with half the period suspended. Waters was appearing for sentence on 11/9/00 after earlier pleading guilty to a charge of hanging the dog and causing unnecessary suffering to an animal.

A dog owner who starved his pet has been banned from keeping animals for three years. **Robert Smith** (40) of Elford Rise, Sneinton, Nottinghamshire caused unnecessary suffering to his German Shepherd dog. He admitted a charge of cruelty to an animal. On 15/9/00 magistrates decided to give Smith a second chance, sentencing him to a year's probation. Smith was also ordered to pay £200 towards the prosecution costs of £500.

A pet owner who failed to get his puppy treatment after the animal broke a leg in two places was sentenced to 100 hours of community service. **Desmond Bent** (21) of Neston Road, Saffron Lane estate, Leicestershire was also banned from keeping a dog for five years and ordered to pay £370 costs after he admitted causing unnecessary suffering to an animal. Leicester magistrates heard on 19/9/00 how that when an RSPCA inspector rescued the grey-hound-cross from Bent's home it was found to have a grossly deformed front left leg.

This is my last Vermin Patrol and I would like to thank everybody who helped me over the past five years by sending in press clippings. Please keep it up by sending them in to the **HSA P.O. Box 2786, Brighton BN2 2AX.**

THANK YOU PAUL T!

Everyone at the HSA (and anyone whose worked on Howl in the last 5 years!) would like to say a huge thank you to Paul T for his consistently excellent role as HSA Fringe Bloodsports Officer. His on-going compiling of scumbags for 'Vermin Patrol' has always been meticulous and thorough. Top Man! Anyone interested in filling this currently vacant HSA role should contact the office at the usual address.

I'm just doing my job...



A special 'Channel Media report exposes Police targetting hunt sabs



Claims of impartiality over the policing of fox hunts have been thrown into doubt after it emerged that officers in the past actively targeted known hunt saboteurs, collaborated with hunt officials and liaised with 'Special Branch' to boost a lack of intelligence on the saboteur network.

An internal Sussex Police 'Hunt Review', obtained by Channel Media, states that as a result of poor pre-hunt intelligence, '*Special Branch should be commissioned to compile an up to the minute, photo based, dossier of hunt saboteurs and other main activists*'. Under the heading 'hunt liaison', it suggested that weekly meetings should take place between [police] commanders and hunt masters, to assist in 'command and control, deployment and tactics.' It continues, 'Receptive to alternate solutions to side-step saboteur activity, the hunt tried numerous tactics', including the 'use of stewards' (paid security). The use of security firms to keep protesters off private land was later outlawed, somewhat ironically, by the police themselves following a series of violent confrontations between the two sides.

The review recommends that in order to enhance deployment, '*the active targeting of local organizers of saboteurs, on the morning of Saturday hunts, is necessary.*' It suggests the '*proactive targeting of X [a leading saboteur organiser] to obtain an early and credible threat assessment and develop our intelligence on the saboteur network*'.
In reality, the policy resulted in what civil liberty groups describe as 'harassment', with police waiting outside saboteurs' houses, intercepting communications and following them to hunt meets. Such tactics, although suspected, have never been confirmed until now, and provide saboteurs with a disturbing insight into what 'impartial' peace keeping can amount to in practice.

Ever a thorn in the establishment's side, hunt saboteurs have frequently been on the receiving end of draconian government legislation, police brutality and hunt lobby 'smear' campaigns. With heightened speculation that the coming fox hunting season may be the last, they say they're bracing themselves for a lively showdown, both out in the field and in the media. Countryside Alliance sources are promising what they call 'a bitter campaign of resistance' against government plans to outlaw their pas-time and state their stance on saboteurs will remain in keeping with such fighting talk.

The official Home Office policy for policing hunts is one of 'impartial intervention to maintain the peace', with officers 'maintaining a high profile presence to guarantee the safety of all present'. Translated into practice, such policy has frequently resulted in regionally diverse, uncoordinated police operations, without obvious national pattern. Some forces attempt to prosecute dozens of saboteurs each season whilst others have yet to make an arrest. They deny they are primarily present to apprehend and secure prosecution of saboteurs: "We're simply caught in the middle, quite often with both



sides accusing us of bias," one senior officer recently stated.

A Home Office memo, widely leaked prior to the introduction of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act (CJA) in 1994, illustrated what the Conservative administration thought of saboteurs:

'*These individuals, many of them known to [police], represent the biggest single public order problem facing rural police forces across the country.*'

Primarily designed to outlaw saboteur activity, the CJA wasinitially welcomed by police, but following a string of unsuccessful prosecutions, condemned as badly drafted and unworkable.

Frustrated, more covert tactics may have been employed. In 1997, after a violent clash in Hampshire between saboteurs and hunt supporters, it emerged that officers may have allowed trouble to unfold in order to discredit



saboteurs in the media and secure prosecutions. During the subsequent court case, (in which all defendants were cleared) police admitted they'd received prior intelligence indicating trouble, but failed to explain why, in light of such information, they'd chosen not to provide a visible presence.

Neither could they explain why they'd applied for a gagging order to prevent the defendants exploring whether the event had been rigged in conjunction with the Countryside Alliance, the organisation eager to gain the upper hand in the growing media battle to win hearts and minds.



USEFUL ADDRESSES

A.L.F. Press Office
BM 4400, London, WC1N 3XX

A.L.F. Supporters Group
publishes ALFSG Newsletter
BM116O, London, WC1N 3XX

Animal Rights Coalition
publishes ARC News
PO Box 339, Wolverhampton, WV1O 7BZ

Arkangel magazine
BM 9240, London, WC1N 3XX

Campaign for the Abolition of Angling
publishes Pisces
BM Fish, London, WC1N 3XX

Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade,
publishes Anti-Fur News
PO Box 38, Manchester ,M60 1NX

Countryside Protection Group
Oakliegh House, Oakleigh Court, Newbury, Gillingham, Dorset, SP8 4HZ

Earth First!
publishes EF! Action Update
Dept 29, 1 Newton St, Picadilly, Manchester, M1 1 HW
also *Do Or Die, c/o PO Box 2971, Brighton, BN2 2TT*

The Fox Project
The Old Chapel, Bradford St, Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1XY

Green Anarchist magazine
BM 1715, London, WC1N 3XX

Genetic Engineering Network
publishes Genetix Update
PO Box 9656, London N4 4JY

Justice for Steve Christmas
get well cards,messages of support & donations to:
Steve Christmas c/o Croydon H.S.A., PO Box 1072, Coulsdon, Surrey CR5 2ZT
www.jfsc.atfreeweb.com/

London Animal Action
publishes London Animal Rights News
BM 2248, London WC1N 3XX. 0171-278 3068.

National Anti Hunt Campaign
PO Box 66, Stevenage, Herts, SG1 2TR

National Fox Welfare Society
publishes Vulpine Observer
c/o 32 Bradfield Close, Rushden, Northants, NN10 0EP

Save the Newchurch Guinea Pigs
PO Box 74, Evesham, Worcs, WR11 5WF
01902 564732

SchNEWS
PO Box 2600, Brighton BN2 2DX
01273 685913 Email: schnews@brighton.co.uk Web: http://www.schnews.org.uk/

Sea Shepherd
UK (mail only - not an office):
35 Vicarage Grove, London SE5 7LY
USA (International Headquarters):
PO Box 628, Venice, California 90294, USA

Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty
Publishes Regular Newsletter Update
PO Box 381, Chetenham, Glos GL50 1YN. 0121 632 6460
e-mail:info@shac.u-net.com www.welcome.to/shac

HOW YOU CAN HELP END BLOODSPORTS

The Hunt Saboteurs Association needs your help in defeating bloodsports.

Organisations such as the Countryside Alliance are backed by some of the richest people in Britain, and can spend millions on advertising and paid campaigners. Their wealth and power gives them a stranglehold over most of the media and some of the most influential people ingovernment.

The Hunt Saboteurs Association, in comparison, runs solely on funds from you, the public, who keep the organisation afloat with donations and membership. It depends on the small band of volunteers who give over their spare time to keep the HSA running smoothly, who produce leaflets and adverts and salesgoods, who staff stalls, who give advice to other sabs and deal with the press. And most importantly of all it depends on the dedication of the men and women who, week in, week out, defy the hunts on their own turf, and in the face of increasing violence and police powers, *still* manage to save the lives of thousands of hunted animals every year.

There are several ways you can help the HSA.

- Get in touch with your local sab group (details from the office on 01273 622 827) and either go sabbing yourself or help in other ways such as fundraising or mechanics.
- If you are not already a member of the HSA, please join now by using the form below - it only takes a few minutes to fill in and return to us.
- If you are already a HSA member then please photocopy the form and pass it on to someone else you think may like to join us.
- Ask the office for back copies of HOWL to leave in places where they can be read by members of the public (ie. doctors waiting rooms). If you are still at school or college why not leave a copy in the library reference section?
- Support us by buying HSA T-shirts and other merchandise. Phone the office if you don't already have a salesgoods order form.
- Let the hunters know what you think! Write to your local newspaper's letters page and write to your MP to let them know your views on Government plans either regarding hunting or hunt saboteurs. Your MP's address will be House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

HSA MEMBERSHIP / DONATION FORM

PHOTOCOPIES WELCOME

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

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

r £7.50 unwaged r £10 waged r £100 life membership

r I enclose a donation of £..... to help fund the H.S.A.'s work

Name (Ms / Mrs / Miss / Mr) .....

Address .....,.....

.....

..... Postcode .....

Telephone Number.....

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

Card Number _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _

Expiry date ...../..... Signature .....

Cheques / PO's should be made payable to "HSA".

Please return to HSA, PO Box 2786, Brighton BN2 2AX

For a standing order form or more information phone 01273 622 827

National Coursing Club Fixtures 2000-2001

NOVEMBER

2 Coquetdale & Border
3 Coquetdale & Border (p)
7 Cotswold, Huntingdon
8 North Herts
9 Yeovil & Sherborne
10/11 Old Yorkshire
11 Isle of Ely, Sportsmans
13/14 Swaffham
17/18 East of England
18 Colchester, Ryedale West of England
22/23 Altcar
25 Isle of Ely, Sportsmans
27 Kimberley & Wymondham
27/28 North Lincs
29/30 Scottish National

DECEMBER

2 Ryedale, Sportsmans
4 Alresford
4/5 Swaffham
5 Cotswold
6 North Herts
9 Colchester, Isle of Ely (p)
11/12/13/14 Millennium Cup
14 Yeovil & Sherborne
15 Millennium Cup (p)
16 East of England, Sportsmans West of England
18 North Lincs
18/19 Kimberley & Wymondham
21 Coquetdale & Border
23 Isle of Ely
27 North Herts (p)
27/28 Swaffham
28/29 Old Yorkshire

JANUARY 2001

2 Cotswold
3 Bryn y Pys
6 Colchester, Ryedale, Sportsmans
8 Kimberley & Wymondham
8/9 North Lincs
9 Huntingdon
10/11 South of England
11 Coquetdale & Border
13 West of England, Yeovil & Sherborne
15 Alresford
16 Alresford (p), Swaffham
17 North Herts
19/20 East of England
20 Isle of Ely, Sportsmans
23/24 South of England (p)
26/27 Old Yorkshire
27 Colchester
29 Kimberley & Wymondham

FEBRUARY

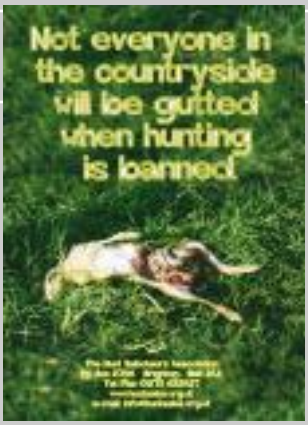
2/3 East of England
3 Isle of Ely (p), Sherburn Farmers, Sportsmans
5/6/7 Swaffham
8 Swaffham (p), Coquetdale & Border
9 Coquetdale & Border (p), North Herts
10 Colchester, Ryedale, West of England
12 Cotswold
12/13 Kimberley & Wymondham
13 North Lincs
14 Bryn y Pys
16/17 East of England
17 Isle of Ely, Sportsmans, Yeovil & Sherborne
19/20 Alresford
20 Huntingdon
21/22 Old Yorkshire
27/28/1 Waterloo Cup

MARCH

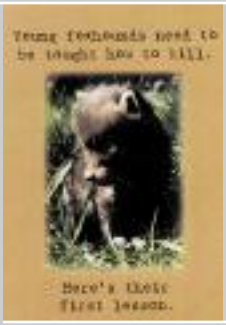
1 Waterloo Cup
2 Waterloo Cup (p)
3 Colchester, Swaffham
5 Cotswold, Kimberley & Wymondham
7 North Herts
8/9 Enville
10 Isle of Ely, Sportsmans, Yeovil & Sherborne (p)

HSA PROMOTIONALS





NEW Full colour, glossy A2 posters. Ideal for stalls, displays, and any empty wallspace!
.....**FREE (+p&p +DONATION)**



NEW Full colour, glossy, A5 leaflet explaining cubhunting; the side of foxhunting the hunters want to keep quiet. Help spread the word and expose this barbaric practice by distributing as many of these leaflets as you can.

'Cubhunting' leaflet .....**FREE! (+p&p +DONATION)**



Copper the fox is still going strong and so is our leaflet! The famous fox has been immortalised in a superb HSA full colour A5 leaflet which describes his rescue, treatment and the vet's findings. And has lovely piccies of him too!
Please help us to publicise Copper's story as the hunting debate heats up again, by ordering and giving out as many of these FREE leaflets as you possibly can. ***More than 130,000 already gone out!***

'Copper' leaflet .....**FREE! (+p&p +DONATION)**

The HSA also has a range of 'How to...' A5 leaflets
Each A5 leaflet, gives a brief outline of how a hunt operates, how it is sabbed and well-researched arguments against that form of hunting.
Types of hunting included are: Foxhunting, Hare hunting, Hare Coursing, Game Shooting, and Mink Hunting.

These leaflets are available as a 'mixed bag' (ie. equal numbers of each leaflet making up your order) or you can order each type of leaflet separately. (It is strongly advised to have some of all the leaflets on a stall - game shooting is as cruel as fox-hunting!) Unfortunately, as the range of these leaflets is so large we can only have each leaflet printed in relatively small numbers which keeps the cost of them high - that's why it is necessary for us to charge a nominal amount for them.

Price per 1000 'And How to Stop It' leaflets ..... **£10 plus p+p** **NOW HALF PRICE!**











BACK ISSUES OF HOWL

There are still some back issues of Howl 68, 69, 70 & 71 available.

Single back issues 50p each

Bulk orders:
10 + issues **FREE!** (+p&p)

ORDERING MORE COPIES OF THE LATEST HOWL.

You can also order more copies of this Howl to give to friends etc for the price of £1.50 per copy (+p&p).

You can also affiliate to the HSA for £30 for 4 issues of Howl. Affiliated groups will receive 10 copies of each Howl in the course of their subscription. (The cost of affiliation includes postage)

NB: **All <u>sab groups</u> also receive a discount of 20% when ordering (cost price)**
Please quote the name of your group contact when making your order.









POSTAGE AND PACKING

To keep most of the leaflets etc. free we would ask you to make a donation to at least cover postage.
To give you some idea of the size of donations needed, 1 Howl costs 40p to send as do 5 posters.
250 leaflets cost approx. £3.50, 500 leaflets £4.00 and 1000 leaflets £6.00.

Life saving action.



A sab spots a hare break out of the under-growth pursued by hounds....

....he waits until the hare has passed before stepping onto the road..





...where a clap of the hands & a voice call stops hounds in their tracks.

Photos © Animal Cruelty Investigation Group