Direct Action Against All Bloodsports

Winter
2003

HOWL 79

The Magazine of The Hunt Saboteurs Association

FISH FEEL PAIN: SABBING TACTICS | 40 YEARS OLD: THE HSA HISTORY | DEFRA BADGER KILLING UPDATE | SECTION 60 LEGAL ADVICE | GROUP NEWS ROUND UP | VERMIN PATROL CRUELTY CASES



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HUNT SABOTEURS ASSOCIATION

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NEW! TOP! MERCHANDISE!

We've just reintroduced and updated a whole load of lovely, lovely merchandise for the new season.

New T-shirts! - We have a whole new design with ANTI in bold type on the front, HSA Logo in the middle of the back. these are £10 each and come in grey and in sizes S, M, L & XL and tight fit. They're proving really popular on stalls we have been running this summer already so get yours ordered soooooon.

New Bits and Bobs!! - We've new designs for Pens, Keyrings, mugs and stickers. The stickers are ideal for files or sticking on computers etc and come in at £1 each. The pens are blue ink with the web address on and the key rings are two colour with logo. The mugs have HSA logo and the web address on.

New Sizes!!! - Responding to demand we have also increased the size availability on some clothes with our Zipper hooded tops now available in S, M, L & XL.

We have also introduced an experimental range of kids t-shirts available for 7-8 and 9-11 year olds with three hand drawn colour designs - hare, fox and badger.

We have also reverted to the old 'classic' logo on out standard 'Words Mean Nothing' Black t-shirts which now come in S, M, L, XL and tight fit. All these can be ordered form the order form.

Code	Description	Size (delete one)	Price (£)	Qty	Total
ANT	**NEW!** 'Anti' on front, HSA Logo on back, on grey T-shirt	S/M/L/XL tight fit	10.00		
WMN	**NEW!** Big red/white Logo on Black + striking backprint!	M/L/XL tight fit	10.00		
BLU	Small white logo on Navy shirt + 'wot we do'! backprint	M/L/XL	10.00		
ZIP 1	Zipped Hooded Top	S/M/L/XL	22.50		
NCS	Navy 'Classic' Sweatshirt	M/L/XL/XXL	15.00		
JUS	Grey 'Justice for Steve' T-shirt	XL	5.00		
T1	Black HSA T-shirt	L/XL/tight fit	8.00		
SAB 1	'Sabotage' Long sleeved T	L/XL	10.00		
SW2	Black HSA Hooded top	XXL only	15.00		
SKI	HSA Ski hat	one size	7.50		
M1	HSA Mug		5.00		
ST	**NEW!** HSA Sticker		1.00		
W1	HSA Wallet		1.50		
K	HSA Keyring		1.00		
B1	HSA Badge		0.35		
PEN	HSA Pens (3 for £1.00)		1.00		
CC1	HSA Xmas Cards (10+ envelopes)		3.50		

< £50 = £2.95
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Rest of the World = Contact the Office

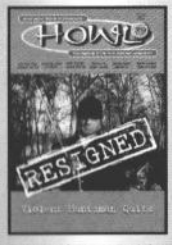
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Cover photo: Deidre

HOWL 79

Magazine of the Hunt Saboteurs Association
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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.

Editor	Bad Penny
Contributors	Nath, Dan, Rob, Taff, SprayMaster General, Simon Wild, Steve Poole.
Photos	Deidre, PG, Plymouth HSA, Derby HSA, Reading HSA, Simon Wild, APEX, Coalition of Badger Groups
Special Thanks	To Dave Wetton for his ongoing help on the 40th anniversary stuff. Dave, you're a star, and to Andy Watt for use of his illustrations.
Vermin Patrol big taverymuch to	Paul T. The office crew, & anyone who we've pilfered stuff off and forgotten to credit.

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

EDITORIAL

Blimey, a new season and it's all happening already. Top news obviously is the demise of Jonathan Broise, (ex) Huntsman of the Chid. Luckily he timed his departure just in time to grab our front page, so at least he'll have that to cheer him up after he gets back from the job centre... Major respect goes out to the West Sussex Wildlife Protection Group, who have sabbed this hunt for years, and have continued to do so despite all that they've faced. See the article on the most recent (!) court case involving BBB (Bad Boy Broisey) later in the mag.

This edition of *Howl* also brings our core message of being against ALL bloodsports home, as we have articles on angling, the badger cull and also the recent hedgehog cull way up north. The HSA has always been about more than just saving foxes, and continues to be so to this day. And as ever in these exciting times, we have an update on the parliamentary movement of the Hunting Bill. Respect is due to some key figures within the Palace of Westminster, and as such this issue of *Howl* is dedicated to all the damn hard work and unbending resilience that certain MP's have put into the fight for a total ban on hunting over the years. As part of the debate on the Bill in June this year Gerald Kaufman MP stated 'I came into this House just over 33 years ago. One of the first things that I did was to work with [Kevin McNamara MP] to get a ban on hare coursing. It has taken 33 years to get to that point. I am not going to give up the opportunity of doing what I have tried to do in the House of Commons for a third of a century through being talked out of it by amendments that do not deliver what we are asking for.' So thank you Gerald, and your mate Tony Banks, and the other key movers who have done their bit over the years to get us to where we are now. Together we can keep the process moving, as the end goal is in sight. Have a damn fine season.

Bad Penny

STORMIN' NORMA - OUR THANKS!

The HSA Committee would like to acknowledge and thank Norma Dinnie-Weall, our outgoing treasurer for her time and effort over the last 10 years as she leaves to give more time to her family and work. Many of us first met Norma after those big hits in Essex at the time of much hunt violence and hiring of security guards around the end of 1990. Essex proved to be quite a defining area with regard to policing policy and hunt tactics, and it was largely due to Norma and the rest of her group at the time that the bias and thuggery was confronted, exposed and in the main, defeated.

Her passion and contribution to sabbing nationally and in Essex should not be forgotten - as one retiring Chief Constable of Essex had to admit to Norma after he had spent years and millions of pounds trying to help the hunt and stop the sabs in Essex - "You were right all along Norma"!

Norma has been on the HSA committee for over a decade and is stepping down this year after providing the safest treasurer's hands we have had for many years. Unequalled in her ability to chat for several hours non-stop on the phone (and now, the internet), for 'blowing her top' and scaring everyone during fraught committee meetings, or for keeping a (necessarily) tight reign on the HSA's purse strings, Stormin' Norma is a character who will be sorely missed by all the committee.

Norma, we salute you!



On, on, on!

The Hunting Bill saga continues....

Further to our report in *Howl 78*, our intrepid Research Officer has once more donned his geek hat, and here he and brings us the latest happening from the Palace of Westminster....

After all the to-ing and fro-ing, six months of consultation hearings, dodgy-option Bills put to Parliament, process, committees, and then more process, the House of Commons was finally given its chance to do the right thing on the 30th June of 2003.

In the morning Alun Michael (Rural Affairs minister) had been warning MPs calling for a complete ban that if they "wrecked" his licensing Hunting Bill by voting for an all-out ban amendment at its second reading, the Bill could suffer and could potentially be lost through lack of time. By the afternoon, the mood of Parliament had been gauged, the Minister changed his mind and the amendment was put before the House. MPs voted to ban fox-hunting 362 to 154 - a massive majority of 208. 341 also voted in favour of a ban on mink hunting. The Hunting Bill was now actually a proper ban on hunting!

Whilst this was of course very good news, what really stuck in the throat is that if the government had not pandered to the hunting fraternity in the first place, they could have taken the vote they took on 30 June almost two years ago – that's 2 seasons less hunting. 2 years may not be much in the life of Parliament, but is certainly a lot to cubs being hunted or dug out.

Police reaction

The rural spokesperson for the Association of Chief Police Officers, Alastair McWhirter, wrote a letter to the Times dismissing the law as unworkable. He made wild claims about not having the resources to use a helicopter to pursue hunters across private land – although many forces will currently bring out the force 'copter to pursue sabs at the drop of a hat (or is it the shake of a mason's apron?).
He also asked how policemen would be able to take control of the hounds when they arrest illegal hunters. Our suggestion would be to ask the local Hunt Saboteurs Association – after all the HSA has been taking control of packs of hounds from huntsmen for 40 years!

Most laughably, Surrey's Chief Constable O'Connor claimed that their resources would be "devoured" by policing a hunt ban. Last season, Surrey Constabulary regularly mobilised such excessive numbers of police to stop saboteurs saving lives that they often outnumbered the hunt members present – see last *Howl* ("Operation Brown nose") for more detail on Surrey cops....
But since when did the police decide which laws they did and didn't want to enforce? (other then when they make them up on the spot to try and intimidate sabs, that is). Stop whinging and get your cells ready for the local MFH!

'Real CA' reaction

The 'Real Countryside Alliance' (Real CA) got in there straight away with their threats to sabotage reservoirs, telecommunications and transport. The Observer carried a report on 6 July quoting Edward Duke (ex Countryside Alliance Chief Exec) as saying that the Real CA would target backbench MPs and senior figures from the National Trust and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for a campaign of intimidation. That sounds just a little bit like conspiratorial threats and incitement to me, but then maybe Alastair McWhirter and his pals have decided that this is another area of law they don't like enforcing.

Third reading

A committee then looked at the Bill again (quickly because it was a lot simpler!) and it returned on 9 July to the Commons for its third reading, when it received another large majority of 317 to 145.

James Gray, leader of the hunting lobby in the Committee stages of the original licensing Bill, tried to argue for compensation for those who will lose their livelihood as a result of the ban. Alun Michael dismissed the idea as impractical and 'unworkable'. Besides which, if they carry on hunting as they have pledged to, they will lose their jobs anyway because they will be in jail!

What happens next?

It's off to the House of Lords. The Bill goes to the Lords for them to debate and make amendments. It is difficult to say what amendments the openly pro-hunt majority of Lords will opt for. They may go back to the original licensing for fox and mink hunts with a complete ban on hare hunting, coursing, and stag hunting. This could prove embarrassing for the Countryside Alliance's President Baroness Mallalieu and Deputy President Lord Kimball – given the CA's stance on no type of hunting being "picked off".
Whatever happens, the Bill will almost certainly come back from the Lords as something other than an all-out ban. It is expected that the Commons will reject this amended Bill and send it back as it was. The Lords will then reject it again. This political game will result in the Bill failing at the end of the current session in November.

If the Bill does not complete passage during this session, the Parliament Act can be used to reintroduce the Hunting Bill. This can only happen 12 months after the Bill had its second reading – meaning that some time after February 2004 the government can present the Bill for it to become law at the end of that session. This puts us at November 2004, with Royal Assent likely the following month. With an expected three month lead into a ban, if all goes to plan, a ban on hunting could be in place and effective in February 2005. The Bill does not however cover terrierwork, or ratting and rabbiting activities. Hunters will of course flout the law and we may have to rethink our tactics – but we won't know until it happens, so watch this space over the next couple of years!

Possible timescale:

30 June 2003	*Vote to ban all hunting*
9 July 2003	*Bill approved by Commons, passes to Lords*
November 2003	*No compromise between Lords and Commons – Bill fails*
Feb – Nov 2004	*Bill reintroduced*
November 2004	*Bill gets Royal Assent*
February 2005	*Fox, hare, mink and stag hunting banned, hare coursing banned.*

Keep moving the goalposts

Whilst thinking about this process and all the whinging that the hunting fraternity have come up with I remembered that hunting people complained about us sabbing, and said that it should be a matter for the local Council to decide. When a number of local Councils decided to ban hunting, they changed their minds. "It should be a matter for Parliament" they said "because we live in a democracy". And now that the democratically elected House of Commons has voted against them? "It's not up to Parliament to interfere in our lives" (But fine for it to interfere with sabs' rights to protest, eh?).
Let's face it, these people have no respect for life, livelihood or liberty. They just want to be able to carry out cruelty unabated. We will not let that happen.

It's a prickly job, but someone's gotta do it...

...WE CARE A LOT!

(apologies to Faith No More)

In the summer of 2002 Scottish Natural Heritage announced plans to cull 5,000 hedgehogs on the tiny Scottish isle of Uist. Undeterred by the distance to travel or the fact that the HSA's tactics booklet doesn't (yet?!) include a chapter on hedgehog-hunting sabotage, a concerted action to rescue the hedgehogs has been taking place. Here, the Spraymaster General, now turned rescuer of hedgehogs, tells his story...

As the propeller-driven plane began its descent into Benbecula I peered through the window. Islets dotted in the deep blue sea appeared as if they were floating in an equally blue sky. As the island's coast came into view I watched the sparsely placed crofts pass by and thought about the hedgehogs down there that I had come to rescue.

My first destination was the St Tiggywinkle's holding centre – a mobile home full of hedgehog pens perched next to a loch. Adjacent to that was the headquarters of Uist Hedgehog Rescue (UHR). This was an old caravan, now home to a veterinary nurse. It was here that myself and a dozen other newcomers were to be briefed on the rescue mission. We were then taken into the holding centre and shown how to unroll a hog and how to determine its sex. This was crucial because only the males were to be taken after the 15th of May. This would thereby ensure that breeding females were not jeopardised.

Later I made my way to the volunteers' accommodation: a Scottish bunkhouse full of Mancunian and Liverpudlian hunt sabs. Fortunately we were all vegan, which made for some excellent communal meals. This was where we were to grab seven nights of much needed sleep after our dusk searches for the elusive Outer Hebridean hedgehog, a shy, nocturnal creature allegedly introduced from the mainland in by a gardener in 1974. However, tales also abound of farmers inadvertently importing hibernating hedgehogs to the Island in bales of hay.

According to Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) these alien beasts [*hedgehogs, not farmers I think – Ed*] were responsible for the decline in ground-nesting birds on the islands and they had decided that a cull of the hogs was the only 'humane' solution. UHR had a better plan: catch them and release them on the mainland.

At 10.30 that night we drove in convoy to South Uist, where the highest density of hedgehogs was known to exist.



Dressed in waterproofs and armed with torches we swept southward from Aisgernis and across the dunes. We persevered against the driving rain and high winds for three hours before returning to our vehicles tired and wet. Between the ten of us we had found just one hedgehog, but it was one less for the cullers to find. The animal was placed in a crate and given cat-food.

Back at the bunkhouse for hot tea and toast we discovered that another group had also picked up a hedgehog. In total we had found two, one week later we increased this to twenty. I was to find two of those in one night, which was unbelievably rewarding. After crawling out of bed late in the mornings the unenviable task of mucking out the hedgehog pens awaited me. Strangely, most of the Mancunians stayed in bed or took breakfast while a few of us carried out this more delicate side of the operation. Those hogs wasted no time in converting a sachet of cat-food into something far more repulsive. The Manchester sabs are to be excused – they had a high hedgehog catch rate!

At the end of my stay in those beautiful and wild islands UHR's total had risen to 135, whereas the cullers had only managed to find 47 – still 47 needless deaths. As far as publicity was concerned we had won. Even the critics of our exercise were realising that UHR had the taken the best approach to the situation.

In late May 49 more hedgehogs were ferried to the mainland for release. They were electronically tagged and are to be monitored by Professor Stephen Harris in an operation that shall prove to SNH and the rest of the world that relocation is kinder than extermination.

Contacts and Info sources:

Uist Hedgehog Rescue
Tel: *07713 403099*
www.thehedgehog.co.uk/campaign.htm

Scottish Natural Heritage can be contacted via their website *www.snh.org.uk* or you can contact their spokesman on the cull directly by e-mailing *george.anderson@snh.gov.uk*

KARMA POLICE

Wasp stings kill man on moor shoot
An estate manager died after being stung by wasps while he was out grouse shooting. Guy Canby, 54, the agent of the 2,000-acre Fitzwilliam Estate at Wentworth, South Yorkshire, died after being stung several times on the knee on the Strines Moor at Bradfield, near Sheffield. He is believed to have stood on a wasps' nest and suffered an allergic reaction. His wife, Diana, was among the shooting party who took Mr Canby to a nearby pub, where two doctors who were drinking there tried to revive him with heart massage and mouth-to-mouth resuscitation. He was taken to hospital but died on the way.
www.bbc.co.uk 26/08/03

Huntsman in cliffs riddle
Police are probing the death of former Countryside Alliance chairman Richard Ovenstone, whose body was discovered at the foot of a seaside cliff. The 48-year-old pro-hunting campaigner from Harvington, near Kidderminster, had been missing for two days when his body was discovered by lifeguards. He was found close to the Cornish resort of Padstow and last night mystery still surrounded his death. A post mortem examination concluded that Mr Ovenstone died from head and body injuries consistent with a fall.
East Cornwall coroner's officer David Lethbridge said: "To all intents and purposes he hasn't left any note. We have to establish whether it's an accident or whether he jumped.
"We just don't know at this stage."
Sunday Mercury, 24/08/03

'Elk, I've gone and shot myself!'
An Ohio hunter who was found dead accidentally pierced the major artery in his right leg with an arrow and bled to death while in pursuit of an elk. James Bender, 36, of Union Town, Ohio, US was found dead by the K-9 Search and Rescue team of Dolores. San Juan County sheriff's Deputy John Jacobs, who investigated, said Bender appeared to have been walking with a notched arrow in his compound bow, ready to fire, when he tripped or slipped and pierced his leg. Rescue Team Leader Chuck Melvin commented 'When we're looking for bowhunters who've been gone for a long time, we usually suspect injury from the hunter's own arrow'.
Ohio Herald, US.

PUBLIC BITCH FIGHT IN HUNTING'S RANKS

Back in *Howl 74*, we reported how the Countryside Alliance had written to its members in April 2001 asking for an extra £25 each to help cover the cost of getting a solicitors firm to put together their bungling showcase of evidence for the Burns Inquiry. It appears that the cost of the 'summer of discontent' has had an equally damaging effect on their bank balance. This time round, though, they have asked for £20 from each member. At the time of the first 'whip round' we suggested it could cause a split in the hunting fraternities ranks. This time round the infighting and bickering has gone public. Countryman's Weekly columnist 'Nimrod' had an article printed on 7 March 2002 titled 'We can' all afford membership fees' berating the Alliance's well heeled executive and backers for squeezing the membership again. 3 weeks later, a detailed response was printed from David Lowes, Deputy Chief Executive of the Countryside Alliance. He admitted that they were 'rattling the begging bowl' but justified it by revealing that 'major donors' (think people with large estates, large ears and a horsey partner) had contributed £1.2m in 2002 - up on £300,000 the previous year.

The timing couldn't be better really after Janet George and her pals at Countryside Action Network slagged off the Alliance throughout the consultation phases and Committee phases of the Hunting Bill for lack of action. Then there has been the debacle of Richard Burge and John Jackson both resigning their posts in the middle of the 'Battle for Hunting'. Strangely, this comes at the same time as the Alliance announces that it will set up a Rural Regeneration Unit to focus on issues affecting rural communities such as post office closures, poverty and all those non-hunting issues that the Alliance have always claimed made them more than the pro-hunt lobby hijacking rural concerns. Rumour has it that yer average blood junkies is crying out for 'a hunting man' to lead the Alliance. Oh dear, their cover as the 'voice of rural concerns' may soon be blown. Anyway, enough about the Alliance... Would now be the right time to ask all of you to chuck £20 in the HSA's hat to stop hunting? :-)

HUNTING FRATERNITY CAUGHT OUT BY OWN LIES!

A hunt saboteur wrongly accused of aggressive and abusive behaviour towards three children and the theft of their ferrets has received substantial damages and had his legal costs paid by a hunting magazine. The magazine concerned, 'Hounds' also printed a substantial apology in its April/May 2003 edition. The apology also made it clear that, having received information from Northamptonshire police, the allegations of abuse and aggression were wholly inaccurate. So, it looks like an attempt to discredit hunt saboteurs has worked to their credit! Whilst some ferrets had been taken by another protestor, it was because he was concerned for their welfare. The ferrets, you will be glad to hear, are being looked after by someone else and were not returned. Strangely, someone claiming to be the mother of the ferrets' owner phoned the HSA Press Office to ask for them back! The protestor concerned in the incident received a police caution.

AND THE 'LOUT OF THE YEAR' AWARD GOES TO...



Some readers may remember back in *Howl 71*, Vini Faal, 'unofficial' Countryside Alliance spokesman and key figure in the North West bloodsports scene, being arrested after a female sab was punched in the face at a hare coursing protest. It seems that at last he has gained recognition. Earlier this year, at an Alliance regional gathering in Chester, Faal was awarded the 'Presidents Award' by Richard Burge, which is apparently quite prestigious.

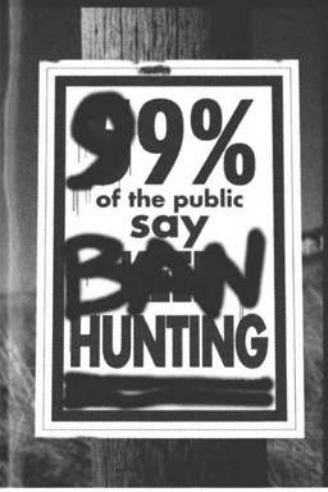


That the Alliance is dishing out awards to people who get arrested and charged with Public Order Offences is hardly surprising, given that the Alliance President, Baroness Anne Mallalieu QC, is a frequent follower of the Bicester with Whaddon Chase hunt, whose 'stewards' are known to travel to hunts and attack sabs...

CA VOWS 'WAR OF ATTRITION'

AGAINST NASTY POSTER STEALERS

The Countryside Alliance has vowed a 'war of attrition' on saboteurs who are believed to be damaging pro-hunt billboards and posters. Northern CA spokesman James Bates said 'The sabotage of these posters shows the level of debate by the anti-brigade. It will not stop our campaign as we can keep churning out posters and we have a vast range of supporters who will keep putting them up.' The green and red posters, which have been appearing across the UK and are often paid for out of the pockets of lowly hunt supporters (up to £70 a pop, no kidding!), are part of a national campaign in the run-up to the second reading of the Hunting Bill in the House of Lords. One poster features a man called Bob, a 38-year-old plumber, with the word 'Toff?' above his picture. Another shows a woman called Pat, a 50-year-old nurse, with the word 'Barbaric?' above her photograph. Mr Bates said 'There is seething anger in the countryside and more and more people are talking about civil disobedience. Although we are not calling for this we will support them because we think the proposed ban is morally bankrupt.' (Ed – to summarise, it's not ok for 'saboteurs' to remove posters as that lowers the level of the debate, but civil disobedience is ok if you're hunt scum. Glad we got that sorted James!).



NEW TRAFALGAR SQUARE CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

A campaign has been launched against Van Vynck Avian Solutions – the company currently employed to use hawks to terrify and kill pigeons on Trafalgar Square. Details of the company appear below and we'd call on everyone to contact them - by phone, email or fax - telling them they are not welcome on Trafalgar Square. You can always tell them face to face - the hawkmen are always on the Square from 11.00am until 3.00pm, seven days a week. One visitor to Trafalger Square reported ' A while back I attended the Square to watch the hawk handler, Dave Bishop. Within 15 minutes, he threw his hawk and a solitary pigeon, sitting near Nelson's column. The bird got away, probably injured and certainly minus many of its back feathers. Minutes later, the handler threw is bird into the middle of a large flock of birds. This time one of them was not so lucky and was torn to pieces, much to the amusement of Bishop, who stuffed the body into his bag, for later 'incineration' he told me.'

For anyone who can't discuss the matter with the handler on a personal basis, the company can be contacted with your polite letters of complaint at:



VAN VYNCK AVIAN SOLUTIONS
The Tack Room, Lorkins Farm, Conways Road, ORSETT RM16 3EL
Tel: *01375 893143* Fax: *01375 893841*
Email: *info@vanvynckpestcontrol.co.uk*

MAGISTRATE THREATENS TO BREAK HUNT BAN LAW

A magistrate and huntsman has said he would consider breaking the law to carry on with his hobby if fox-hunting was banned by the Government. Chris Jackson, a farmer from Abbots Bromley, near Lichfield, Staffs, made the shock announcement as the Hunting Bill was given its second reading in the House of Lords. The 56-year-old, who has been a magistrate on the East Midlands bench for 18 years, stated he would be 'seriously compromised' if the pastime was made illegal. His comments came as three huge pro-hunting posters were ripped down in Staffordshire.

Mr Jackson said he would not give up his beloved 30-year-old hobby if the Government outlawed fox-hunting. 'If hunting was made illegal I would have a very big decision on my hands to make. If this Government insists on banning hunting I could give up hunting or give up being a magistrate. I could not do both, and I certainly wouldn't want to give up my hobby,' he said.

HUNTSMANS BALLS



'If this sounds like the bad old days of the 'stop and search' or 'sus' laws which indirectly brought rioting to our streets 20 years ago that's because it is.'
Janet Menzies *in her article for Horse & Hound about potential police powers to stop, search and arrest people suspected of hunting offences if the Hunting Bill is made law. One of the key arguments against the 1994 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act was that it would effectively bring back the 'sus' laws. Of course the hunting fraternity didn't oppose it then because other clauses of the Act intended to outlaw hunt sabotage. Sabs are frequently subjected to stops and searches, but hunt supporters never raise objections to that.... double standards?*

'We are the laughing stock of the world'
A moment of clarity from the ***Duke of Devonshire****, who has pledged to allow illegal hunting on his estate should a ban come in? Perhaps, but doubtful*
Times, 01/08/03

'There's well over 1,000 dogs of all shapes and sizes here,' **Nicky Driver** *of the* **Countryside Alliance***, talking about the demo outside Parliament on 9 July. It's quite possible she misheard the question and thought they were referring to the "Women's vigil".*

'Inbreeding hasn't worked for me this year, but as this will help to fix a type or strain, I must continue to inbreed'
Andrew Brewer *writing in* **CountryMans Weekly** *07/03/03. Proves what we always suspected about ferretters.*

'We'll restructure it to make policing unworkable [in the event of a hunt ban]' says **Janet George**. 'Hunts will become co-operatives so that there are no leaders to prosecute. Everyone will carry a horn. Ownership of kennels will be put in offshore trusts. Each hound will be made a child's pet. Farmers will sign declarations that only drag hunting is allowed on their land. Riders will switch hunts all the time. If the police come, everyone will hand over all their horses and hounds. We'll make it so they can't cope'. *Oh Janet, when will you ever learn? Hounds for one can't be domesticated, they are dangerous pack animals! And as for the rest of your fantasy, we'll be seeing dread-headed co-operative (non) redcoats next! Wake up and smell the coffee, petal!*
Independent 05/09/03

'The choice of name may have been tasteless, but it was bloody effective'
Edward Duke, *supposed 'leader' of the* **'Real CA'**, *finally realising how offensive the reference to the 'Real IRA' may be to the people of Ireland? I doubt it.*
Independent 05/09/03.

'THERE ARE LIES, THERE ARE DAMN LIES

AND THEN THERE ARE STATISTICS...'

A poll being widely publicised by the pro-hunt Countryside Alliance during its recent 'weekend of action has been heavily criticised by independent marketing experts. They have condemned it for having 'flawed logic, ambiguity and potentially biased wording' and recommend that its results should be 'discounted as measures of public opinion.'

The Countryside Alliance claims that the results of its poll prove that '59 per cent want to keep hunting.' However the question used to arrive at this figure was ambiguous:

Q "Looking at the hunting debate over recent years do you believe that...

1. Hunting should be allowed to continue because it is essentially a matter of civil liberties.

2. Hunting should not be allowed to continue at all as cruelty is more important to me than liberty.

3. Allowing hunting to continue under regulation would strike a balance between civil liberties and animal welfare.

The experts said that, in option 3, the term 'under regulation' which was selected by 41 per cent of those interviewed: 'could be interpreted by some as a near complete ban (maybe most fox hunting, maybe all deer and hare coursing) - or, on the other hand, as no ban at all. Given this potential confusion, responses to this question should neither be counted as supporting hunting nor being against it. The Countryside Alliance however seems to count the 41% in this ambitious category as supporting hunting and adds it to the 18% who certainly do (explaining the Countryside Alliance's total of 59%.) Added to this ambiguity are a number of potential biases in wording which seem further to invalidate the question.'

Three references to civil liberty in the same question were also criticised. The experts concluded that the wording of the three options is odd, saying 'Cruelty is more important to me than liberty' almost suggests a liking for cruelty.

Douglas Batchelor, Chief Executive for the League Against Cruel Sports and spokesman for Campaigning to Protect Hunted Animals (CPHA) said "A poll conducted by MORI at the same time as the Countryside Alliance poll showed that 80 per cent of the British public think that all forms of hunting with dogs is cruel. It comes as no surprise that the hunters' polling doesn't stand up to scrutiny. They have lost the intellectual and moral arguments, now in desperation they are cooking their polling results.There can be only one end to the debate on this barbaric practice, and that is an outright ban on all forms of hunting with dogs, and that is the outcome that we expect the government's Hunting Bill to deliver.'



Not-a-news-flash!

Hunts

Two leading anti-hunt campaigners who required hospital treatment after a vicious and sustained assault by the huntsman of the Chiddingfold, Leconfield and Cowdray (CLC) Fox Hounds saw him walk free from court in July. Jaine and Simon Wild, of the West Sussex Wildlife Protection group, were attending an early morning cub hunt near Petworth, West Sussex, when they were set upon by the huntsman of the CLC FH, Jonathan Broise. Jaine Wild was head-butted, kicked to the ground and repeatedly punched in the face by the huntsman, when husband Simon tried to intervene, he too was set upon. Ambulances and police units were called. Speaking from the scene by mobile telephone, Simon Wild stated "Jaine's face looks like something you 'd expect to see after being in the boxing ring with Mike Tyson." He said that his wife had been "beaten to a pulp" by Mr Broise and that at one stage she was "barely conscious". Jaine needed six stitches in her face and treatment for a displaced septum, and Simon was left with facial bruising.



Jonathan Broise, who has been with the CLC FH for several years, has a well-documented history of violence against both anti-hunt campaigners and others. The huntsman is currently appealing against a conviction for head-butting a disabled magistrate during a fracas at a point to point meeting in Sussex and has an official police caution after admitting assaulting a hunt saboteur during a previous cub hunt.



In 1994, he was caught on camera by a Channel 4 News crew fighting with hunt saboteurs and subsequently threatening the camera operator with 'war'. Earlier in the season Broise featured in The Independent newspaper and on BBC South Today after being filmed by anti hunt campaigners deliberately riding into Simon Wild before dragging him along by a radio strap and dropping him into the path of a second hunt rider..

There were cries of "this is not justice" in Chichester Crown Court from a group of anti-hunt campaigners as Broise was cleared unanimously of causing actual bodily harm to Jaine Wild, and a similar charge against Simon Wild. During the eight-day trial video footage taken by Simon was shown of Broise, of London Road, Petworth, West Sussex, allegedly punching Mrs Wild in the face on October 9 last year during a hunt meeting in Petworth Park. But Broise claimed he was acting in self defence after, he said, Jaine had sprayed him the face with perfume, used to distract fox hounds, and hit him with a whip. This was allegation was categorically denied by Jaine Wild. He also claimed self defence in relation to Simon Wild, despite being filmed fighting with him on another video camera during the incident.

man walks free

from court after hunt saboteurs attacked

Simon told the Court how he was filming the hunt on a camcorder when Broise rode towards his wife on a grey horse and dismounted. 'All of a sudden Jaine comes flying out from the right hand side of the horse. Broise was immediately behind, punching her full in the face.' When Richard Cherrill, prosecuting, asked how he reacted, he replied 'I held the camera and filmed longer than I needed to. I dropped the camera and raced to Broise and grabbed hold of him. I could have dropped the camera after the first punch but this was not the first time these things have happened.' Describing the alleged assault on himself, Simon said 'He punched me once in the face with medium force. I tried to get him in a head-lock but he punched me with enormous force many times in the stomach. I got up and saw Jaine laying near me. She was covered in blood, she looked pale and stunned. As soon as I got up, I went behind some shrubbery. I did not go to my wife. I took the tape out of the camera and buried it in an inside pocket." On the video footage he was heard to say of his wife: 'She has a split eye and her nose is bleeding, so that's broken. She's been seriously beaten up by a madman.'

How come these buggers get away with it?!

Those involved in the court case have suggested several reasons for the collapse of what they had hoped would be one of the few cases were justice for sabs would prevail:

Regina –v- Jonathan Broise

The case fell down in several ways:

Judge Anthony Thorpe gave the most partisan slant to his summing up and directions. The jury never got a direction on a majority verdict even when the jury returned the following day, having been out for two hours on the previous day.

The video was shown on low quality VHS while the original resolved 400 lines, the VHS was probably half that. The judge got angry with the jury for wanting to see the video again while they were deliberating. 'Last time,' he said, and ' it can only be shown in open court'. The important section was the punches going in, and this lasts a very few seconds. Consequently, when they asked to see it once more, they decided on slow motion, and never could see it 'one more time' in natural speed.

The prosecution witnesses included two hunt employees.
The prosecution summoned them because there were inconsistencies with Broise's statement. However, they added in their evidence that Jaine sprayed Broise and that Simon had threatened Broise the week before. The judge said that it was up to the 'prosecution to prove their case and not for the defence to prove innocence', and the allegations by the hunt prosecution witnesses is part of the 'Crown's case'. Effectively implying that they might want to accept their evidence.

Further efforts were made to portray our side as intimidating. One sab who is only 16 did a bit of filming of Broise in front of the court. This was raised, and the Jury was then asked to leave by a back door for the rest of the trial in case they were filming and 'intimidated'. There was not the slightest intimidation on any side, despite both sides mixing in the front of the court for over one week.



However, near the last day, the judge said in front of the jury 'I want the defendant to stay with council at all times during the lunch break. The last thing this defendant wants is trouble.' Implying to the jury that we might cause trouble with Broise, and having sent them out the back, they would be unaware that everything had been trouble free.

Broise admitted he had said just before attacking Jaine 'What are doing now, you fucking stupid cow?' However, in covering this in summing up, the judge simply said,'Well there was bad language on both sides.' However, the only bad language claimed to have occurred from our side was an allegation that we have, on previous occasions called the whipper-in a 'wanker'. This was by a huntsman who was called for the prosecution

Photos were shown of two horses where it was claimed we had sprayed the horses on a previous occasion. These photos were alleging we inflict injury on horses. The judge said 'Mr Wild said the hunt do not care for their animals and even kill horses at the kennels, but you can see its been done by spraying' during summing up.
The photos used were undated, and there was never any complaint to the Police or RSPCA. The inference was that we spray with noxious substances, and thus this strongly backed up the defence case that Broise was acting defensively when Jaine sprayed him.

What now?

Even when faced with such vicious attacks and the failure of the legal system to deliver any sort of justice, hunt saboteurs continue to sabotage the Chiddingfold, Leconfield and Cowdray Fox Hunt and continue to save the lives of the defenceless animals. The group concerned, the West Sussex Wildlife Protection Group, are out yet again against the same hunt this season, as they have been for many seasons previously. You can show your support for the group by sending donations, made payable to the WSWP, c/o the usual HSA address, and these will be passed on.

STOP PRESS: Huntsman Jonathan Broise has RESIGNED after being arrested (again!) on 27th September when a 60 year old woman was taken to hospital with a broken arm after allegedly being ridden over and another protestor lost a tooth. See next issue for the full story.





DEFRA: Badger Killers

In 1973, an outbreak of bovine tuberculosis (bTB) on a cattle farm in Gloucestershire occurred. On this very same farm, a dead badger was found and tested by workers at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF – now known as the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs, DEFRA). Upon post mortem examination the badger revealed a large number of lesions throughout its body, which tested positive for bTB (Bovine Tuberculosis). Ever since this day, on the very basis of this so called 'evidence', thousands of badgers throughout many parts of the country have been killed.

The decision was taken by MAFF to kill badgers in their setts in areas around infected bTB farms using cyanide gas. In 1982, this method changed and badgers were then caught in traps and left until operatives arrive to shoot them. Within the last 28 years over 40,000 badgers have been killed in a failed attempt to reduce bTB. Since 1986 however, bTB has been increasing, including in areas where badgers have been eliminated or where they have been shown to be free of the disease.

The killing areas are divided mainly amongst the West Country, and the trapping areas (each area is referred to as a 'triplet') are as follows:

	Trapping area or 'Triplet'
A:	Gloucestershire/Herefordshire Borders Triplet
B:	North Devon/North Cornwall Borders Triplet
C:	East Cornwall Triplet
D:	East Herefordshire Triplet
E:	North Wiltshire Triplet
F:	West Cornwall Triplet
G:	Staffordshire/Derbyshire (South Peaks) Triplet
H:	North Devon/North Somerset (Exmoor) Triplet
I:	South Gloucestershire Triplet
J:	Mid Devon Triplet

Participation in the killing trial by landowners and occupiers is voluntary. It is being conducted in 30 broadly circular areas (each of over 100 km) where the incidence of TB in cattle is high. The trapping areas are grouped into 3 areas and each area within a tapping area is allocated, at 'random', one of three following status's:

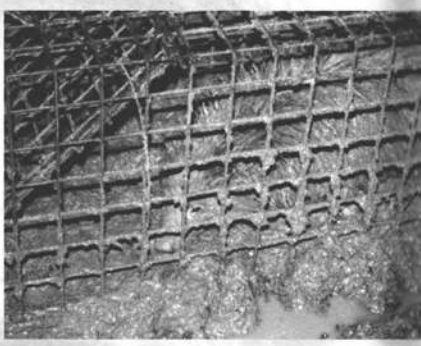
'Proactive' culling - where as many badgers as possible are removed (about 80%) in an initial cull and the area is kept as clear as possible for the remainder of the trial.

'Reactive' culling - where badgers are only removed from social groups associated with farms where TB in cattle is confirmed.

'Survey only' - where no badgers are trapped or killed but the land is surveyed to record badger activity. (Although there is evidence of illegal killing in these 'Survey only' areas by farmers, etc).

This new 'research' is once more aimed at getting evidence to frame the badger. In ten 'proactive' areas, DEFRA will attempt to kill every badger - probably 80% of the population unless there is disruption from activists. In ten other 'reactive' areas badgers will be killed if they have access to TB infected cattle farms. In ten 'control' areas, all badgers will be spared so that the effect of, 'doing nothing' can be monitored. The badger victims will be trapped in cages (where they will often try to escape for hours), before being shot and bagged. Later they will be dissected, tested for TB and then incinerated.

The 'Wildlife Unit' are a section of DEFRA whose operatives carry out the field work aspects of the trial. Badgers are killed by the operatives who have received training on the use of firearms just for the purpose of killing trapped badgers. DEFRA will carry out a number of operations before trapping badgers. Firstly, if they want to kill the named badgers in that sett, they need to know if a badger sett is active, They use a number of ways in order to do this. Commonly, they will place sticks over sett entrances. This will enable them to decide whether the sett is active, as the sticks will be knocked down if the sett is in active use.



Also, very small coloured pellets are mixed in with peanuts and food (sometimes corn has been used) if two setts are close by. Badgers defend a territory surrounding their setts that is marked with regularly placed latrines or dung-pits at intervals around the boundaries. This is to help map the territorial boundaries between setts. The pellets pass through the badger's digestive system and are deposited in the dung-pits.

When DEFRA operatives begin to put out traps, the traps are laid out near known active badger setts and runs within the named killing area. The traps are made from square weld mesh and are painted black, dark green or grey (the older traps are unpainted and rusty). The traps are normally dug into the ground, with mud and very often a large stone in the bottom. The trap door is tied open with twine. Most traps are normally 'camouflaged' (but may not be, depending on how lazy the operatives are) with foliage or under bushes, shrubs etc. After a few days, once the badgers get used to the traps, runs and traps are baited with peanuts (again, sometimes corn has known



Photo: © Apex

to have been used) and are left for a few days, occasionally up to ten days.

Once traps have been laid out and pre-baited, DEFRA operatives untie the trap doors and set the traps in order for badgers to be trapped during the night. By law, badgers can then be left inside traps for up to 24 hours - sometimes in wet, cold and windy weathers - until the operatives return to shoot the badger.

The killing trial includes a 'closed season' of only three months - February, March and April - where badgers are not trapped and killed. However, this is wholly inadequate, as many cubs are below ground in January before the killing stops and will also still be dependent on their mothers after the killing has resumed in May. Thousands of dependent badger cubs are expected to die in the seven-year trial when their lactating mothers are killed by DEFRA. In some areas DEFRA purposely leave it late into June/July before killing, so they can kill many of the immature cubs.



Recent News on killing areas for 2003-2004 season:

September 2003
Proactive area of South Gloucestershire (Wetmoor)
- **Help Needed now - trapping and killing**
Proactive area of Exmoor (Tarr Steps) - Ended
Reactive area of West Cornwall (Stithians) - Ended
Reactive area of South Gloucestershire (Winchcombe) Ended

August 2003
Proactive area of Exmoor (Tarr Steps) - Ended
Reactive area of West Cornwall (Stithians) - Ended

July 2003
Proactive area of Mid Devon (Luffincott) - Ended
Proactive area of Staffs/Derbs borders (Lady Edge) - Ended

June 2003
Reactive area of West Cornwall (Stithians) - Ended
Proactive area of North Devon (Holsworthy) - Ended
Proactive area of North Wiltshire (Devizes) - Ended

May 2003
Reactive area of North Devon (Hartland) - Ended
Reactive area of East Cornwall (Otterham) - Ended
Reactive area of South Gloucestershire (Alderton) - Ended
Proactive area of East Herefordshire (Bosbury) - Ended

So far in to the 2003-2004 season, well over 3000 traps have been reported 'damaged' or 'trashed' by those opposed to the cull and its false science. That number is set to continue as long as DEFRA carry on killing badgers at a huge expense to the taxpayer. It is estimated traps are worth at least £50-£100.

Over the years of course, tens of thousands of traps have been put out of working order by activists. Due to the constant 'disruption' to the cull, it costs an average of £35,000+ to kill each badger... over £7 million a year. That sum is on an upward rise.

STOP THE KILLINGS
END THE BADGER CULL

How you can help...

There are a number of ways you can help save the badgers. Help is always needed in the active killing areas to help save badgers' lives. For more details on how you can help the campaign against the badger cull e-mail *stop_DEFRA@badger-killers.co.uk*, see the website at *www.badger-killers.co.uk* or call *07817 858166*.

Alternatively you can write to:
Coalition of Badger Action Groups
PO Box 129, Plymouth, Devon, PL1 1RY

Donations are particularly welcome. Please send them to the address above.

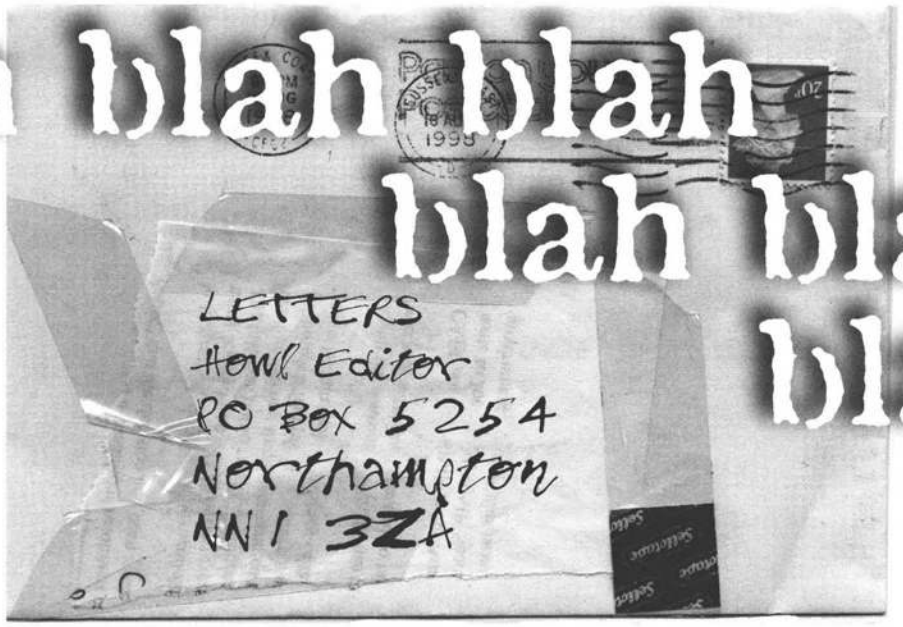
For the areas of Cornwall / Devon / Somerset, please call *07773572970* to get involved.

For the areas of Wiltshire / Gloucestershire / Herefordshire please call *07811629846* to get involved.

DEFRA may be in your area. Keep an eye out for long wheel based, dark green landrovers. They normally have one back window which is blacked out with a spare wheel on the back door. Take a note of the number plate.
A list of DEFRA vehicle number plates (this list does not list every landrover belonging to DEFRA) are also available on the above website. Other vehicles are sometimes rarely used, consult the website for more details (*www.badger-killers.co.uk*).

If you have any information please call the badger hotline immediately on:
07817 858166

blah blah blah blah blah blah blah



Howl 80
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

HOWL: IT'S A BLOODY (GOOD) JOKE

Dear HSA

I'm just writing you a quick(ish) note to you for 2 reasons.

Firstly, I'd like to commend you on such an excellent magazine. Although being anti-hunt and performing 'hunt monitoring' duties I never realised such a magazine existed, that is until someone shoved one under my nose at a SHAC march. Often Animal Rights magazines can be depressive and grey. However Howl is not only informative, colourful, compelling and graphic, but it's also 'bloody' hilarious! Good job, keep up the excellent work.

Secondly, I have a small video production company based in London, and if ever the HSA need any kind of video/dvd/3d work done, I would be honoured to provide these services (free of course).

Once again, keep up the excellent work, thank you for being there, god bless you all, expect my membership next month (skint this one!)

S. Peters, Essex.

Ed – Many thanks to S. Peters for the offer of services – a big crawly 'I love you' always helps ensure that the plug for work gets in too. If anyone would like the contact details for this fantastic offer please e-mail me at howl.editor@virgin.net And S Peters, we love you too!

I ♥ D.B.

Dear HSA

I was very impressed with your spot-on timing of articles in the last Howl! Very sensible to cover the story on how long time, dedicated sab Dave Blenkinsop ended up with such a harsh sentence and also to include an article on how we can all do our bit by supporting prisoners.

I started off my sabbing 'career' by serving an apprenticeship with Merseyside sabs, and the dedication of all those I sabbed with at the time (Dave being one of them) is one of the main reasons why I'm still sabbing now.

I look forward to seeing Dave again when he's on the right side of the prison wall, not least because he'll owe me a pint or two by then! Until such time let's keep supporting those that the system keeps from us.

Cheers

A. Fan, London

Ed – Couldn't have said it better myself!

THAT'S JUST PEACHY

Dear HSA

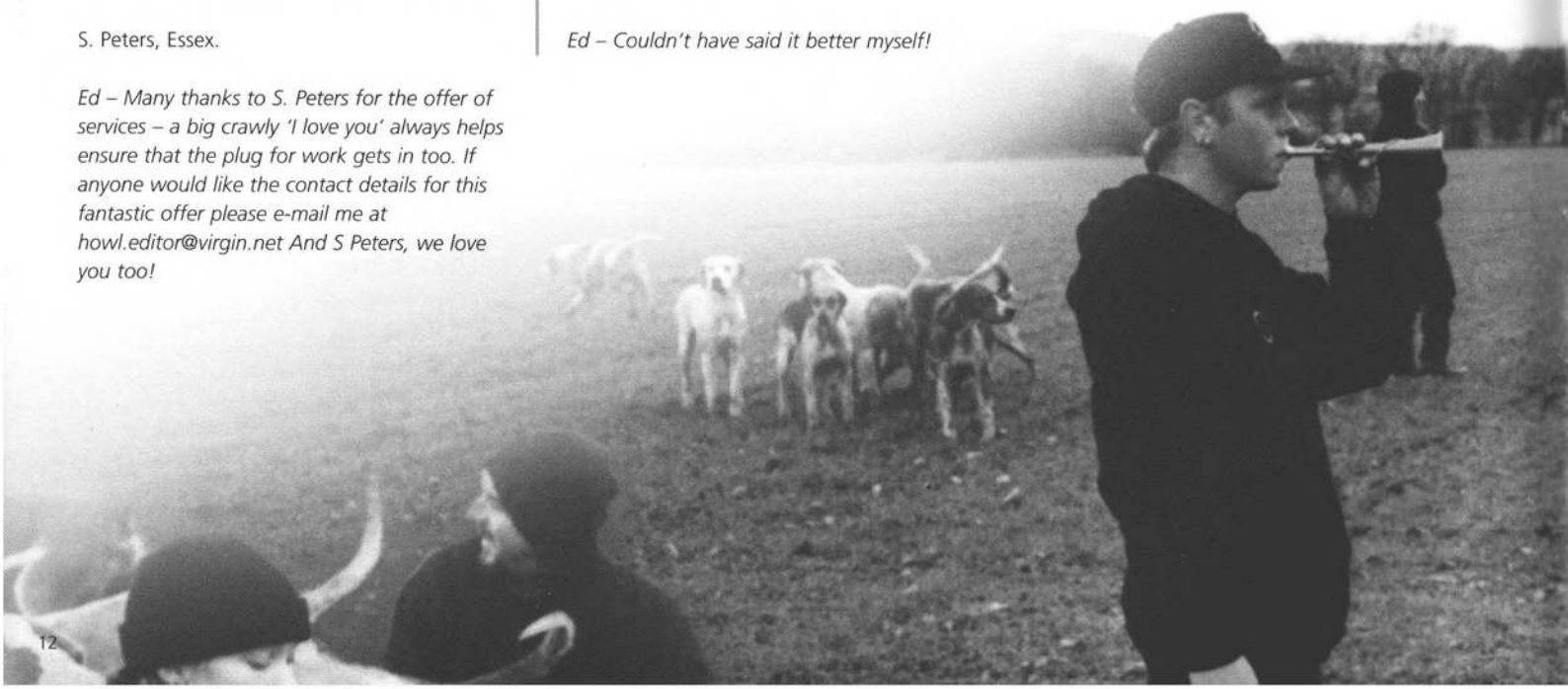
I read your article about Barry Peachy (*Howl 77*), and decided maybe a few more people should be aware of this scum. So I sent a letter to the Metropolitan Catholic Cathedral, enclosing a copy of the article, and asking if they had heard of him as I thought the Catholic Church had suffered enough adverse publicity lately without the likes of Peachy adding to it.

I did receive a reply, and thought you may be interested in this as the Cathedral Dean seems to have taken note! He replied:-
'Thank you for your letter and the caution. I have not heard of this impostor, but will warn our authorities, lest he attempt to implicate the Church in his machinations'.

I also wrote to two newspapers, but haven't heard from them yet.

Keep up the good work.

H. Cushion, Widnes.



Fish Feel Pain! (Part 289,552.)



At the beginning of May, a report released by the prestigious Roslin Institute in Edinburgh revealed something that we have known for quite some time - Fish Feel Pain! Gadzooks, you mean they aren't mechanical? They are sentient beings like you and I? How preposterous! Next you'll be saying that it's cruel to put them through pain! Seriously though, this is something that has been known since the Medway report was published back in the mists of time by the RSPCA.

Animal Aid were quick to contact the regional papers to highlight the cruelty involved not just in angling but in fish farming - and fair play to them. That is what campaigning organisations are set up to do. The Countryside Alliance got superhero "Fishman" (think scaley underpants worn outside his trousers in a Marvel comic style) Charles Jardine out who also wrote letters to the regional press. He claimed that he believed '...it is good science, even though I disagree with the findings'. Hang on a minute! Surely the whole point of 'good science' is that it is reliable, in which case what is there to disagree with in the findings? Then he stated that 'Other research suggests fish do not have the brain to understand pain', but neglected to mention which research. Is that research carried out by asking a group of 100 anglers what they thought? Were the people involved in the anonymous research scientists? Was it just opinion? We just don't know. He went on: 'I believe a Royal Commission into animal welfare, to set out what is acceptable treatment of animals and what is not, is the next logical step'. Hmmm....a Royal Commission, eh? And if it just so happens that the members of that Commission are anglers or CA sympathisers, well that's no bad thing, eh Charlie?

Bob Clark from the National Federation of Anglers also got his pen out, and quoted one Professor Rose at the University of Wyoming, who backs up Jardine's claim that fish can not understand pain. My entry into this debate is that I don't believe Professor Rose can understand fish, so how can they communicate to him whether or not they are in pain? They can't. His brand of science is that which centres on only one method working for any particular purpose, which is surely in itself unscientific. It may be that fish brains receive pain in a different way to mammal brains.

However, behind closed doors anglers know they are cruel. According to "Nimrod" in *the Countryman's Weekly* (January 17, 2003) 'Coarse anglers are already feeling very uneasy. They are well aware that their sport has absolutely no utility and is arguably cruel'. So, it serves no purpose and is cruel. Hunt saboteurs around the country feel free to lean back and say 'told you so'. It's just not news to people at the direct action end of the issues. What makes me uneasy about the whole debate is the fact that in order to prove a point, Roslin Institute were experimenting on fish!

The Hunt Saboteurs Association, as an organisation that is against all forms of bloodsports, does sabotage fishing. However, for the real expert advice on the subject we turned to the Campaign for the Abolition of Angling, and they gave us the top tips found below. Find out more about the CAA at *www.anti-angling.com*, or write to

CAA
BM Fish
London
WC1N 3XX.
Call *0870 458 4176*
or e-mail *caa@pisces.demon.co.uk*.



HOW TO SAB ANGLERS

There are two methods that have been shown to be effective when it comes to taking direct action against fish torture:

1) Alerting the fish's warning system so they will not take the bait

2) Explaining to the angler, the error of their ways.

Fish react to deep sounding noises and to shadows. It makes them think of predators and thus they are less likely to risk feeding off of dubious bits of bait hanging in the water. No fish taking a bite and there are no catches. There are a number of ways to achieve this:

a) Bang dustbin lids in the water (upstream from the angler)
b) Jump up & down on the waterside
c) Play some loud drum & bass on the car stereo; even banging the door shut can work
d) Get a disposable alarm radio, airtight bags, stone & string. Put the stone & radio in the bag, suck out the air, and suspend it in the water out of sight. Time the alarm to come on for when the anglers arrive, thus alerting the fish to their presence. Done right you can reclaim the equipment for another day.
As well as ruining the angler's nice & peaceful day out, the fish are alerted there is a threat about.

Dissuading the angler is easy as they are a static target. There is nothing wrong with simply going up behind them and discussing the many issues as to why they are another set of animal abusers. It puts them off their concentration, disrupts their pleasure and means they have problems casting their line. And while you are at it, release any fish they have kept in harmful keepnets which are detrimental to fish welfare and are only there so they can show off to their equally sad friends. Plus they receive an education to boot - though most anglers soon pack up and go home rather than be told the truth.

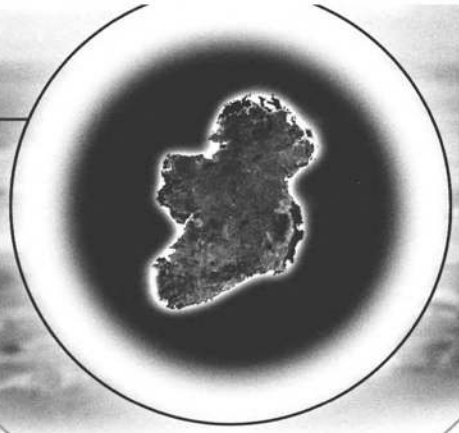
Other ways to have fun with anglers (!) are:

1) If there is a match near you, move around the pegs. Also, why not book a place - often matches get cancelled as not enough people turn up on the day, disrupting their reputation and the various leagues they have.

2) Use bamboo sticks or similar to lift their lines carefully out of the water

3) Got a boat? - then why not go for little cruise up and down the river, canal or lake. Make yourself even more effective by bringing a stereo with the speakers facing the bottom of the boat. Failing that, go for a nice cooling swim, being careful of those hooks flying about.

Events on the Emerald Isle



Although we could fill the news pages with stories and updates from our own fair Isle, it's good to remind ourselves of how the campaign against bloodsports in Ireland is progressing. So for your entertainment and delight read on for some choice happenings...
....you go guys!

■ Tourism website drops fox-hunting references

The Golreland.com website, which is operated by Gulliver, the national tourism information and reservation system, has removed references to foxhunting as part of its 'Things to Do and See' in Ireland section following an appeal from a leading anti-bloodsports organisation. Golreland.com, which describes itself as Ireland's leading tourism website, is operated by Gulliver and is jointly owned by Bord Failte, the Northern Ireland Tourist Board and the financial services company, FEXCO.

The Irish Council Against Bloodsports (ICABS) appealed to Gulliver to remove contact details for four foxhunts, The East Galway Hunt, the Co.Clare Hunt, the Galway Blazers and the North Galway Hunt, from the Equestrian Sports pages of the Golreland.com website. ICABS spokesperson, Philip Kiernan said, 'Foxhunting is a cruel and barbaric bloodsports which the majority of Irish people wish to see being made illegal. It is certainly not an activity which should be included in any promotion of Ireland – indeed many potential visitors to Ireland would regard this animal abuse as a blemish on our international image.'
Responding to the ICABS appeal, Patrick Kelly, content manager with Gulliver Ireland, said, ' We are pleased to inform you that we have carried out an exhaustive trawl of the category 'Equestrian Sports' on Golreland.com and have removed all reference to bloodsports in Ireland to the best of our ability.' Mr. Kelly continued, 'We have decided that in future, we will adopt a policy not to list any content which makes references or promotes bloods sports.'

The removal of Irish foxhunting information from the Golreland.com website follows on from a recent decision by Bord Failte to remove all references to the sport from its equestrian holidays website as a result of pressure from the Irish animal rights movement. ICABS has welcomed the decision by Gulliver to remove foxhunting references from its Golreland.com website. It renewed its call for a ban on all forms of bloodsports and called for the adoption of draghunting as the humane alternative to live animal hunting.

■ 'Drag Not Stag' protest

The Association of Hunt Saboteurs (AOHS) launched its call for ban on Stag Hunting at a "Drag Not Stag" protest in September. At the protest the AOHS renewed its call for a ban on stag hunting and for the adoption of humane draghunting. At part of the protest the group unveiled its 'Drag & Stag Queens' - brave male volunteers who will promoted a theme of 'Drag not Stag' as they paraded in all their 'feminine' finery.

The AOHS press release stated that the Ward Union Staghunt based in Co.Meath is the only stag hunting with hounds pack operating in the Republic of Ireland. Stag hunting is a cruel and unnecessary activity. A live stag is released before the hounds and is chased across the countryside for miles for mounted and foot hunt followers before it is recaptured. This is done purely for entertainment. Stag hunting is not natural and it designed to cause drawn out animal distress and abuse.

Bernie Wright, Press Officer for the AOHS stated ' Live stag hunting is an obscene primeval activity that is a disgrace to Ireland. It should be outlawed immediately. Our view is that draghunting is the humane alternative to live hunting. It is animal and human friendly. The fact that stag hunting has been recently banned in Northern Ireland shows how out of step the Republic of Ireland is when it comes to the humane treatment of wild animals. Our message is clear – Save our Stags and ban this cruelty.'

■ New 'Farmers Against Foxhunting' group

July saw the launch of 'Farmers Against Foxhunting' (FAF), a Kilkenny led group of landowners who began a national campaign to have the sport banned. The campaign began with a meeting of farmers from across the country in Kearney's Castle Hotel Cahir, and the meeting led to the foundation of the group which will lobby TD's and Senators in local constituencies.

Anti-hunting campaigner Mr.Philip Lynch of Mallardstown, Callan was installed as the new chairman of the organisation. He called for legislation to outlaw the sports completely, and claimed support from farmers in counties stretching as far as Wexford, Waterford, Cork, Laois and Offaly. Mr.Lynch was reported to 'fear an influx of English and Scottish hunters, following British Prime Minister Tony Blair's decision to ban the sport in Britain'. The former chairman of the Irish Farmer's Association (IFA) in Kilkenny stressed that he had nothing against the horse industry but said the time had come to stop riders entering land without permission. He was also seeking the backing of the IFA, the Irish Creamery Milk Suppliers Association, Marca na Feirme and other farm bodies.

'Some of these people who ride roughshod over the land are nothing more than vandals, breaking down fences and worrying livestock. We have gone from the day when the fox decides where those horsemen and their dogs are going to strike and on whose land they are going to trespass'. He added 'A total ban on fox-hunting is the only way to deal with the problem. It is cruelty to farmers as well as cruelty to animals, to let this continue. We don't want to have to worry that a field of barley will be destroyed or that ewes in lamb will be worried by the hunt, he said. The Country Code of Conduct, drawn up in conjunction with the hunt has been broken by the hunts many times' he insisted. 'The situation will worsen as hunters from the UK cross the water. The countryside would be inundated with British members of the hunting brigade, renting out horses at a cost of £800 a day, destroying the countryside.'

■ Excellent! – Bloodsport fraternity in-fighting in Ireland too!

The Countryside Ireland's own website was quick to report a bit of a fall out between themselves and the Countryside Alliance after the bolshy CA began bragging about expanding into Ireland (well, you would wouldn't you, if you were gonna get effectively shut down in your own country!). Chairman David Wilkinson was said to have 'reacted strongly' to the moves by The Countryside Alliance in extending it's UK operation to the Republic of Ireland.

Responding 'angrily' to a press statement that The Countryside Alliance had released in Dublin, Mr Wilkinson warned that The Alliance's intention to campaign on rural issues in this country could seriously back fire on them. He said that for a UK organisation to compete with the present structure of farm and rural development representation in Ireland could undermine the excellent relationships between Irish field sport groups and the farm organisations.

Mr Wilkinson said he was doubtful that The Countryside Alliance would succeed in their attempts to expand their operation into Ireland because their credibility as a protector of fieldsports had been badly damaged by their apparent failure to provide that protection in the UK, and the considerable problems they are experiencing in dealing with the UK Hunting Bill. (Ed's note – *just read that last paragraph again, go on... Beautiful, just beautiful*).

■ AOHS Campaigns Director jailed after anti-hunt demo

The AOHS expressed it's utter outrage earlier this year as John Tierney, it's Campaigns Director, was sentenced to two months in prison after using an air horn at a St Stephens Day anti-hunt protest. Speaking after the sentencing, the Judge stated that if Mr Tierney appealed the sentence he hoped it would be increased to three months instead of the two imposed .

The judge, Mr William Harnett is well known for his pro hunt comments, and this was clearly highlighted in court when he commented at the comparison of the air horn to the hunting horn that ' it was not like the slow sweet sound of the hunting horn.' Another choice comment from the Judge was that it if 'someone near Mr Tierney at the protest had assaulted him he (the person assaulting him) would not have been charged'

The charged related to an incident at a St Stephens Day protest in Waterford, which appeared on RTE news along with the Association of Hunt Saboteurs other protest in Kells the same day .

The offence was supposedly a 'public order offence ' which, as the AOHS commented, was a 'ludicrous and a blatant discriminatory charge against all anti hunting activists.'

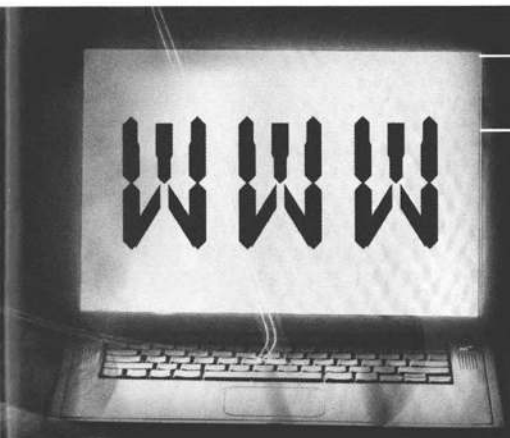
■ Vermin Patrol goes global!

The regular 'Vermin Patrol' feature of *Howl* now has it's own counterpart in Ireland after the Association of Hunt Saboteurs (AOHS) 'named and shamed' convicted animal abusers on their website. The website profiles 18 people guilty of a horrifying variety of criminal acts against animals. The list is the first of its kind be to be compiled in Ireland and is only in the early stages. Most of the names on the AOHS's current list are of farmers convicted for abusing their animals - but they plan to include badger baiters next.

The Irish Farmers Association slammed the list as mere 'propaganda'. A spokesman said 'To present a profile such as this as evidence of widespread cruelty to animals in the farming community is false and completely misleading. There is no mystery around these people, which is proved by the fact that the details are taken from newspapers. It's just a publicity stunt.' In response AOHS spokeswoman Bernie Wright said 'We are not trying to cause a sensation and we are certainly not a lynch-mob. We just want to alert people to animal cruelty.'

The Association of Hunt Saboteurs (Ireland) can be contacted at:
PO Box 4734 Dublin 1 Ireland
Website ***www.huntsabsireland.org***
Tel. **00 353 87 9413190**

Donations can be made directly through their bank account: –
TSB, Account No 78119832
Sort Code 99-06-09.



LOCAL GROUPS ONLINE

Online?

Check out the sites below for details of how local groups are winning the battle against their local blood-junkies.

If your sab group website isn't mentioned here then contact the office and let us know.

Chiltern Hunt Saboteurs
www.chilternhuntsabs.org.uk

Clydeside hunt sabs
www.clydesidehuntsabs.co.uk

Cornwall Hunt Sabs
www.cornwallhuntsabs.freeservers.com

Derby Animal Rights & Sabs
www.derbyar.org.uk

East Devon Sabs
www.devoneast.freeserve.co.uk

East Kent Hunt Saboteurs
kenthuntsabs.users.btopenworld.com

Hunt Saboteurs Ireland
www.huntsabsireland.org

North West Hunt Saboteurs Association
www.nwhsa.org.uk

Northants Hunt Saboteurs Association
www.northantshsa.org.uk

Nottingham Hunt Saboteurs Association
www.nhsa.enviroweb.org

Plymouth Hunt Sabs
www.plymouth-hunt-sabs.org.uk

Reading Hunt Saboteurs
www.readinghuntsabs.org.uk

Southern Anti-Bloodsports Society
www.sabs.org.uk

Suffolk & Essex Sabs
www.se-sabs.org.uk

Worcester & Birmingham Hunt Sabs
www.worcesterandbirminghamhuntsabs.8m.net

VERMIN PATROL

BLOODSPORTS SPECIAL

A father and son were charged with assaulting two police officers outside Nantwich Civic Hall in January 2003. **Tony Kirkham** (58) and his son **Timothy** (20) both of Ridley Farm, Tarporley, both are keen supporters of the *Cheshire Foxhounds* and ***Cheshire Forest Hunt*** were arrested outside the civic hall, which was staging The Cheshire Foxhounds Farmers Hunt Ball. Both men were charged with actual bodily harm, resisting or obstructing a constable in the execution of duty, with Tony Kirkham also charged with threatening behaviour and his son with obstructing a person assisting a constable in the execution of duty. They both appeared at Crewe magistrates in August 2003 and both were found guilty of resisting a police officer and sentenced to 200 hours community service. They were both also found guilty of assault and sentenced to 200 hours community service to run consecutively. They were ordered to pay £300 costs and £50 compensation.

On 29/4/03 **Trevor Adams** (44) from Eildon, near Melrose who is the *Master of the Buccleuch Hunt* and **Rory Innes** (26) the *Master of the Jedforest Hunt*, were both accused of deliberately hunting a fox with dogs. Also two men aged 19 were charged in the Borders in February for chasing foxes and badgers with their dogs.

At Bishop Auckland magistrates on 13/5/03 the court was told how **David Dixon** (50) of Keepers Cottage, Stanhope - *head gamekeeper on the 7,000-acre Croglin Estate grouse moor* - and underkeeper **Ian Smith** (39) of Hope Level Cottages, Stanhope used a 4ft-high moss-covered pole trap, which was banned 99 years ago, to the trap to try and catch hen harriers. Dixon and Smith admitted setting the trap and possessing a short-eared owl, they said they had been trying to catch crows. Dixon was fined £100 for each offence, and Smith £50.Both were ordered to pay £210 costs.

On 12/12/02 *gamekeeper* **Philip Holland** of West Street, Crewe was convicted of causing unnecessary suffering to a dog and the use of non-approved pesticides. The case follows an incident when a golden retriever strayed onto land used by a shooting syndicate in Hanklow, Nantwich. The dog ate part of a dead rabbit and sadly died within minutes. The owner discovered a Fenn trap baited with a rabbit carcass and reported it to the police. The dog and rabbit were sent for tests and they confirmed the dog had died from ingestion of mevinphos, an insecticide that had been banned for 10 years. The rabbit also contained traces of the insecticide. At Vale Royal magistrates he was fined £200 for causing unnecessary suffering and £200 for the use of non-approved pesticides.

A *head gamekeeper* laced dead pheasants with illegal poisons to kill predators that attacked the birds he bred for shooting parties, Exeter magistrates were told on 16/6/03. **Alan Hetherington** (32) of Rackenford, Devon, was responsible for looking after the 20,000 pheasants bred annually at Meadowview and Higher Barns, near Oakford, Devon. The court heard how he had poisoned the dead pheasants because he knew badgers, foxes and birds of prey, particularly buzzards, would eat them. On 15/7/03 Hetherington was ordered to carry out 240 hours of community service and pay £250 costs when he appeared before Exeter magistrates. At the earlier hearing he pleaded guilty to six offences related to storing or using pesticides - some restricted or illegal - under the Food and Environment Protection Act 1985. He asked for one further offence to be taken into consideration. Hetherington also admitted two offences under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, one under the Protection of Animals Act 1911, and asked for one offence to taken into consideration. One offence involved having two syringes containing carbofuran, bromadiolone and warfarin, and three containers of pesticide, two with carbofuran and one with bromadiolone. Another related to poisonous matter placed at a pheasant release pen at Chample's Farm, Oakford. A further charge said Hetherington used a dead pheasant poult laced with pesticides containing carbofuran and bromadiolone to kill or take a wild bird. One police officer who took part in the raid spoke of "the awful smell of death and decay" given off by the bodies of dead badgers and foxes littered in woodland at the pheasant shoot.

Four joint hunt masters and two workers were suspended in June following allegations that a vixen and two cubs were moved from an earth in breach of hunting rules. An investigation was launched into allegations of misconduct at the *Cottesmore Hunt* after pictures were taken by The International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW). They said its investigators filmed a member of the hunt placing two cubs in an artificial earth in Leicestershire. The artificial earth to which they had been moved was in a field of sheep and lambs and on a path used by hunts. They also said that by moving the foxes, staff were demonstrating that far from trying to keep numbers down, they were trying to encourage foxes to breed in order to have sufficient numbers to hunt. The Master of Fox Hounds Association (MFHA) disciplinary committee launched an inquiry and suspended four masters of the Cottesmore Hunt, a huntsman and their terrierman Jones. Jones, who admitted the offence, told the disciplinary committee that it was done in a 'moment of compassion'. Neil Coleman, the huntsman, admitted Jones had told him of the matter later but he did not disclose this information to his employers. The MFHA committee found the Joint Masters not guilty of misconduct under Rule 49, not guilty of any other rules and lifted their suspension. They withdrew the terrier man's licence with the recommendation he should not be granted another licence for three years. Alastair Jackson, director of MFHA said: "The committee was impressed with the Cottesmore Masters' methods, execution of staff training, records and protocol and was wholly satisfied at no time had the masters acted negligently or deliberately against MFHA rules." The Masters of Cottesmore Hunt have started their own disciplinary proceedings against Mr Jones and Mr Coleman. The Hunt later announced Neil Coleman, the huntsman, had been reinstated. Discussions were being held about the future of Jones, who was still employed by the hunt staff, but because of the ban could no longer be employed by them as a terrier man.

Animal welfare campaigners blasted the investigation into the Cottesmore Hunt claiming it was a farce. Phyllis Campbell-Rae, UK director of the International Fund for Animal Welfare, called Jones's explanation "inadequate". She said: "He claims to have acted out of compassion, but he moved them to an area that would be frequented by the hunt in only a few months' time. "Genuine compassion would be to stop hunting foxes altogether and allow vixens to rear their cubs without disturbance, as nature intended." Cottesmore spokesman Michael Clayton says the vixen was unearthed after hounds ran her to ground during a hunt. But mammal expert Professor Stephen Harris, of Bristol University, has dismissed the claim. He examined IFAW camera footage which shows Mr Jones putting the cubs in an artificial earth. "The cubs appear to be around two weeks old. At this age, if the vixen leaves them for too long, they die of hypothermia," he said. "The vixen does not leave them at all for the first two to three weeks of life. Throughout this period she is supplied with food by the dog fox. "So there is no way a vixen with cubs of this age was above ground during the day, and so no way she could have been hunted with hounds." Mr Clayton says Mr Harris' statement is "rubbish". He added: "A vixen doesn't stay underground all the time. She was out – probably getting food – and then went to the earth where her cubs were."

Moving foxes, while not against the law, is forbidden by the Council of Hunting Associations. All four hunt masters, including Scalford businessman David Manning, were exonerated, along with huntsman Neil Coleman. Mr Jones has had his MFHA licence removed for three years. IFAW investigator Lis Key said: "No public statement has been made as to why the masters and huntsman – who are ultimately responsible for the behaviour of their staff – should have been allowed to walk away from the hearing scot-free. Had it not been for IFAW's investigation, the incident would never have come to light."



**'There have been many incidents. Too many to name here.
But some day, when we have won, someone will write a book telling of all that has happened'
Ian Pedlar, 1965.**

The 2003/4 season sees the 40th anniversary of the Hunt Saboteurs Association – 40 years of hunt sabs saving lives in the killing fields. It gives me great pleasure to introduce in this issue a special dedicated section cataloguing the HSA's history, from 1963 to date, and this will appear in *Howl* throughout the new season. In this issue you'll also find a potted history of the HSA's formation and rapid expansion, and also recollections and thoughts from those that were involved from an early stage. We've delved into the HSA's photo archive and will present some of the best pictures with the aim of reconfirming why we do what we do, what we face when we do it, and how damn successful we can be. Some photos are also there simply to raise a smile.

And no apologies for the fact that this celebration of 40 years of the HSA does not dwell on the gory underlying basics – that we face death and destruction wreaked by the hunters on a daily basis. We don't need to be reminded of the truth behind hunting – after all we come face to face with it all too frequently. Let's instead take time to see what we have achieved, take stock of where we are, and push on to the logical conclusion. To all hunt saboteurs, past, present and future – the victory is ours for the taking.

Dawn – 40th Anniversary Ed

The HSA in context...

'Although it was to take another 9 years for the first *HOWL* to appear, another 10 years to see the first hare coursing demos, the first liberation of laboratory beagles and the first jailing of liberationists, another 11 years to witness the formation of the Animal Liberation Front and another 12 years for the first major campaigns against [the] sealing and whaling industries, the seeds of the revolution had been sown. The HSA was to become one of the major arms in the radicalisation of some of the more staid animal societies, notably the RSPCA – from being a totally reactionary organisation which utterly condoned hunting and other abuses the RSPCA was to eventually utterly condemn all bloodsports – the welcome mutation would certainly have taken a lot longer without the HSA's help.

The term 'Animal Rights' had yet to be coined but, with its direct action philosophy, the HSA was to become the precursor of the whole UK animal rights movement as we now know it.' Dave Wetton, a key figure in the early years of the HSA and a stalwart from then on, from his personal recollection of the HSA's first year.

99 years old and still a hunt saboteur at heart...

'I want to wish you every success and good fortune in your so righteous endeavours. While it seems that compassion and all good standards are going out of the window, thank God that we can still look to the Hunt Saboteurs for a lead.

All the best

Yours ever

Gwen Barter (August 2003)
(See '*From Protest to Resistance*' article for mention of Gwen's involvement from the early days of the HSA)

For Mike and Tom

This celebration of the Hunt Saboteurs Association 40th season is dedicated to Mike Hill and Tom Worby, two hunt sabs who went out to simply save the lives of hunted animals and who never came back. For those that continue the fight, you will never be forgotten.

The History

of the Hunt Saboteurs Association (Part 1)

1963: From Protest to Resistance

So, we're 40 years on - but how did it all begin? As a means of retracing our history *Howl* will be reprinting two previous articles which concerned themselves with the history of the HSA, and also bringing everything up to date in a final new piece. In this first article, Steve Poole (a former *HOWL* editor) delves into the archives to investigate the formation of the Hunt Saboteurs Association (HSA) in the winter of 1963. The early HSA, he claims, was a child of its time; and however unlikely it may sound now, it was a time when even the League Against Cruel Sports was endorsing direct action. To set the scene, he looks first at changing League policy in the late 1950s.

In August 1958, the Devon and Somerset Staghounds became the butt of a high-profile attempt by the League to lay false scents with a 'secret chemical'. The Daily Telegraph reported incredulously that "opponents of staghunting who have so far failed to stop the sport, are resorting to sabotage".[1] Tactically naive it may have been; but it brought LACS some very welcome publicity, and the campaign was kept going intermittently for at least the next two seasons.



March 1962: Gwen Barter, seen here obstructing the Norwich Staghunt's deer cart, was one of a growing number of League militants who pioneered direct action and paved the way for the HSA

This pioneering approach was carried forward by the League's new chairman, Raymond Rowley, in the early 60s. As the focus of League actions shifted to the south-east and midlands, membership increased dramatically and Rowley's dream of a 'revitalised' LACS began to look possible. In the midlands for instance, LACS gained 400 new members during November 1962 after false trails were laid against the North Warwickshire FH and the Albrighton Woodland.[2] "Anything the League does will have a sting to it", Rowley told the press, announcing that he was about to launch 'new' harassing tactics.[3]

League militants like Gwen Barter had been grabbing headlines during 1962 with actions of their own. In March, Gwen brought the Norwich Staghounds to a halt by climbing onto the front of the deer-cart; and in February she prevented the East Kent FH from digging out when she sat in a foxhole. "There was nothing we could do", confessed the huntsman, "we just stopped digging out the fox and went away".[4]

Vision

Since its foundation in 1927, the League had arguably been anything but dynamic. It had achieved no legislative success in over 30 years, and had only recently hit upon the idea of creating sanctuaries in the South West. The membership was largely inactive and elderly and media attention was want before Rowley took over. As a pressure group, LACS was a dismal reflection of the public activism of CND offshoots like the Committee of 100. Not only did the Committee win massive publicity for CND, but it appealed strongly to a more youthful audience.

Former Tory MP, Howard Johnson, voiced the hopes of many when he told the League's 1963 AGM: "I have a vision in the coming stag and foxhunting season of whole numbers of you sitting in the roadway at meets of the hunt doing exactly what the anti nuclear demonstrators do".[5] That month, Spies For Peace broke with the Committee of 100, published the influential 'Beyond Counting Arses' and launched a more militant campaign of anti-war plan sabotage.

It has been suggested that HSA was the inevitable result of the League's progress along these lines being held back by its more traditionalist members.[6] It is tempting to suppose that Rowley hoped to appease both camps by assisting in the setting up of a direct action unit to run separately but in tandem with LACS. He now denies this. He certainly did not attempt to withdraw League support for sabotage until well after the HSA had decided upon an independent existence. He engaged a solicitor and helped actively with HSA's first major court case following the Culmstock incident in 1964, and as late as 1966 he was expressing his 'regret' at the HSA's 'independent' development from the League.[7] Following the peace movement's example, he took 100 activists on a 'dawn attack' with 'secret chemicals' against the Old Berkeley's Boxing Day meet at Amersham in 1963.

The first chairman of HSA, and its founder, was John Prestige, a 21 year old freelance journalist from Brixham in Devon. According to The Guardian, he "picked the first of his supporters" on December 15th, 1963. "He is the founder of the Hunt Saboteurs Association", declared the paper, "which has the support of the LACS, whose chairman,



John Prestige (right) with Leo Lewis outside court after being bound over, September 1964

Raymond Rowley, says the League is willing to make available all the latest know-how on how to sabotage a hunt".[8] Prestige, it was announced, was to travel to London "for instructions... that trained action groups could be set up all over the country". According to both Rowley and Prestige however, no formal meeting between the League and the HSA ever took place. Prestige adheres to the traditional view that HSA came about because "the League didn't seem to be doing anything".

He told the Daily Herald of his intentions: "We aim to make it impossible for people to hunt by confusing the hounds. The movement is being financed by a small legacy of mine and the 2/6d membership fee".[9] There were also two early donations of £500 each. 100 members were enrolled in the first week and Prestige received 1000 letters in the first ten days he remembers. An office was set up at Fore St, Brixham and staffed by the HSA's first secretary, an ex-Palladium dancer called Joyce Greenaway.

Action

Prestige led his small group into action for the first time on Boxing Day, 1963, as the South Devon FH met at Torquay. "We did so well that day that they cancelled the hunt", Prestige told me. "The local butcher gave us 50 pounds of meat and we fed it to the hounds. We used hunting horns. Nothing like that had ever really happened before and it caused absolute chaos! We did a lot of research on horn-blowing and did the job very, very well. The police were completely bemused". During the following weeks, considerable effort was put, into developing new chemical formulas for confusing hounds. "The main trouble", commented one early member, "is finding something effective against them, but at the same time harmless".[10] It was not until April 1964 that 'Chemical X', the HSA's first scent-dulling compound, was used (against the Culmstock).



'Class of '64: The Street group pose for the press during the Culmstock court case. Left to right: Anna Smith, Terry Fricher, Joyce Cebo (leader), Sandra Munday, Carol Holden'

On January 10th 1964, the second HSA strike was carried out against the South Devon FH. Tactics at this time were described by a reporter after a strike against the Dart Vale and Holden Harriers: horns were blown, roads blockaded, aniseed sprayed and 'highly flavoured meat' was tipped in front of the hounds from the back of a landrover. The hunt killed twice. Within a month, the movement suffered a set back when Norman Redman, leader of the Littlehampton group, became the HSA's first casualty to arbitrary policing. Arrested for feeding the Chiddingfold's hounds on February 15th, Redman was fined £15 for 'insulting behaviour' and bound over for two years.

Although saboteurs now regard such treatment as an occupational hazard, the fledgling movement took the judgement very seriously and Prestige was moved to write to Redman in May, forbidding him to break the terms of his sentence. "We CANNOT allow you to take any active part in sabotage", he stressed, a letter which caused Redman some annoyance and contributed to his later alienation from the movement.[11]

Within the first four months, HSA groups had sprung up at Portsmouth, Street (Somerset), Weybridge, and Littlehampton. The Street group, run by Joyce Cebo, boasted forty members by December 1964 and was harassing the Mendip Farmers and the Sparkford Vale on a regular basis. A group at Bournemouth was being formed, another in London, and Derek Lawrence was trying to turn Midlands LACS over to the HSA. Ian Pedler joined the moribund Bristol branch of LACS, revitalised it and then set up an HSA group from its ashes. Prestige felt able to claim, perhaps fancifully, that Boxing Day '64 would see 700 saboteurs in action from Sussex to Nottinghamshire.[12]
There were certainly large joint strikes on the Whaddon Chase and the Surrey Union where smoke bombs and rookies were added to the usual armoury for dramatic affect. A capable self-publicist with good media contacts, Prestige began spreading rumours around Fleet Street that HSA would raid an unspecified fox farm early in 1965 and that a helicopter would shortly be brought into action against various foxhunts. Twelve months after founding HSA, he estimated there had been 120 strikes altogether, mostly in the West Country.[13]

Violence

The first serious instances of anti-saboteur violence occurred during 1965. In February, three members of the Bournemouth group were attacked with an axe and a starting handle by thugs from the Sparkford Vale. Although a hunt supporter was fined £15 for breaking a saboteur's guitar with the axe (!); eight sabs were fined £10 each for 'threatening behaviour' (throwing flour bombs).[14] Worse was to come.



Bristol group, January 1966. Ian Pedler (left) with fellow sabs Phil Pearce and Ray Trout

On May 2nd, the Street and Brixham groups (nine sabs) visited the Culmstock Otterhunt at Colyford. Their vehicles were surrounded, windows smashed and the occupants assaulted with otter poles and whips.
Leo Lewis, the driver, was pulled from his car and beaten by four men who broke his jaw. Although seventy saboteurs turned out against the same hunt a week later and sent them home in disarray, the damage inflicted by the subsequent court hearing was far reaching. Leo's attackers were successfully convicted but seven saboteurs were bound over for a year after giving evidence. It was not the last time the courts would use this tactic and it took the aggrieved seven (who included Lewis and Prestige) so much by surprise that none of them took any further part in hunt sabotage. Prestige had in any case become disillusioned by the politicisation of HSA as a result of 'left wingers' joining the movement.

The legal offensive against the Brixham group threw the national organisation into a state of chaos. Communication between groups in an age where telephones and cars were not necessarily available, had never been that easy, but now complaints that HQ were not replying to letters became common. Pedler, Cebo and Dave Wetton wrote regularly to one another - Have we got any money?... Is Prestige still chairman?.... If not, who is?.. and so on. Eventually the job went to Pedler.

Then in April 1965 came the Norman Redman fiasco. Redman was irritated by the HSA's insistence that he should take no part in any sabotage until the terms of his binding over were met. Feeling 'disowned' by the movement, and in Jean Pyke's view, "keen to get back at his old friends", Redman suddenly accepted an invitation to ride with the Crawley and Horsham FH.

The national press, for whom the HSA was still good copy, rushed to the meet with pens and cameras poised to hear Redman hold forth about "infantile" hunt saboteurs. The London and Littlehampton groups quickly organised a strike against the hunt and had the satisfaction of seeing Redman fall headlong from his horse into a thorn bush. It was an episode the HSA could well have done without. Eager to capitalise on this rare example of beneficial publicity, the British Field Sports Society (BFSS) tried for a short while to use Redman as pro-hunting speaker in debates but he soon lost interest and quietly faded from the picture.



Dave Wetton looking singularly unimpressed during the Anti Redman demo

End of The Honeymoon

By the end of 1965, the HSA's honeymoon period was definitely over. Some groups were buckling under the continuous assaults of courts and heavies. "I seem to have done nothing recently but get kicked and knocked about", considered Joyce Cebo feelingly, "I think it is best to do things undercover now '.[16] The Street group switched to sabotage by stealth before the meet rather than confrontation with smoke bombs during it. But the group did not survive beyond the summer of 1966.



December 1965: A London group's smoke bomb interrupts the Cowdray's Iping meet

The burden of organisation began to fall more and more upon Wetton's London group. They were certainly the most active by 1967 although fresh groups with new energy were developing steadily. New centres in Warwickshire and Hampshire were set up in 1965, and in the following year, Cambridge, Northampton, Brighton, Hertfordshire, Yeovil, and Essex University all went active. October 1966 saw the first strike notched up in the North when David Hansen and Stuart Sutcliffe took a group from Keighley out against the Airedale Beagles at Silsden. A publicity conscious pop singer called Lady Lee announced she was forming an 'army' of saboteurs (including Billy Fury, Wayne Fontana and Peter Noone from Herman's Hermits!) but, perhaps fortunately, the venture came to nothing.[17]

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Dave Wetton (left) blows hounds out of covert, April 1965

In the 1964/5 season, Wetton's group dealt with 20 Foxhunts, 4 cubhunts, 2 hare hunts and 7 otterhunts during the summer of 1964. This total, impressive for a time when transport was even more of a problem for groups than it is now, involved the London sabs with 17 different packs across the south eastern region. In January 1966 this group became the first to experiment with high frequency sound as a sabotage method.[18]

The HSA had come a long way since 1963 When Ian Pedler drafted an HSA 'Manifesto' in 1965, he made a prediction that has still to be fulfilled: "There have been many incidents" it runs, "Too many to name here. But some day, when we have won, someone will write a book telling of all that has happened".

I'd like to thank everyone who has helped me with material for this article, especially Gwen Barter, Joyce Cebo, Ian Pedler, John Prestige, and Dave & Cee Wetton. - Steve Poole.

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Early days



The previous 'From Protest to Resistance' article should have set the scene with a good historical overview of how the HSA evolved in the early years, but nothing beats first hand accounts from the early hunt sabs. Read on and wait for the shiver up the spine when you realise that things haven't changed that much at all - the heart of the HSA still beats for exactly the same reason as when it sprang to life in 1963...

"Some of us thought we'd have a bit of a go. It generated a lot of publicity, and tremendous hostility from society in general. They thought we were some kind of communist group out to overthrow the aristocracy.
There were about a dozen of us originally, but it grew rapidly, in a manner of weeks."
(John Prestige, one of the founders of the HSA, speaking to 'Best of the Beast' magazine in the early 1980's about the first instance of hunt sabotage some twenty years earlier.)

'Before I joined the HSA in 1964 the only organised activity against hunts of which Im aware was the annual half hour League Against Cruel Sports demos at Boxing Day meets outside London or Birmingham. There were banner demos only – definitely no sabbing – and they left you with a distinct feeling of 'there should be more than this' on the coach trip back to town. Our enthusiasm and latent energy demanded it. The birth of the HSA in late 1963 answered our needs. It gave us the necessary sense of unity and direction and took the war right into the enemy's very heartland, which is what we wanted.

Apart from the odd free-range chicken or circus demo there was no real animal rights activity going on at the time – the term hadn't even been coined and the ideology behind the philosophy hadn't been set down in any books of which I was aware. We were definitely animal rightists though. Abolition of animal abuse was our goal. We stood the best chance by concentrating on hunting, which was so flamboyantly cruel to animals that it must surely only be a few more years before an enlightened Parliament finally abolished it.'
(Dave Wetton, March 1986).



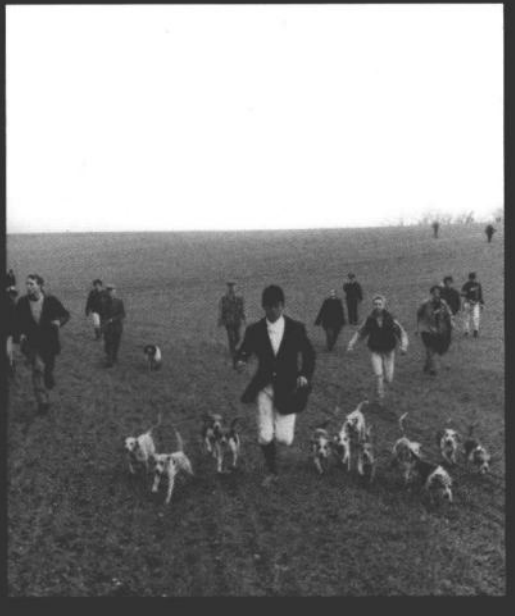
'[One sab] was a born innovator, he dreamt up numerous gadgets for spraying, a system of dripping pipes under the car and a hot water bottle full of 'special' [Ed's note – referring to a concoction for covering scent lines, not the 1980/90's sab version of 'Special', which came in a golden 440ml can!] strapped under his jacket. With pipes running down his leg and out of his wellington soles he would walk amongst the pack at the meet. I've never see such incontinence!'
(Jeff Scott, July, 1987)



'My first organised 'sab' was against the Mendip Farmers foxhunt at Clapton, near Midsomer Norton on December 9th, 1972. I was told to rendezvous with a van load of fellow sabs at Ealing Broadway underground station at 5am. Ealing at that time in the morning is singularly inaccessible from Camden Town when you lack transport and are broke. The only way was to set out at 2am and walk. I viewed it as some kind of initiation test. I remember little of that first day other than at one point having to cross a flooded track. We ended up wading up to our knees and enduring soaking jeans for the rest of the day. Sabbing was clearly no fun.'
(Mike Huskisson, 'Outfoxed' 1983)

"When I joined the HSA, in 1972, I was impressed by their reputation (an article in the Guardian by Polly Toynbee), their beliefs and their dedication. It was a time when the active members of the HSA were few, and scattered. They were backed up occasionally by visits from other HSA groups, but by and large members were expected to hit hunts themselves, with little help from others."

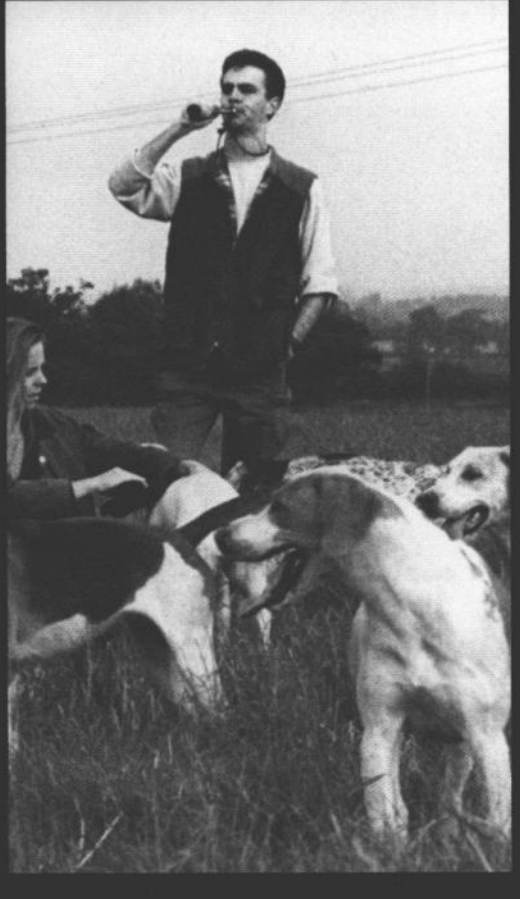
"As a result the tactics were subterfuge, rather than storm-sweeping, covert rather than overt. A good sabotage was one where the hunt did not know they had been hit; all they knew was that they had had a poor days 'sport' – lost foxes, inability to track the scent, and so on."
(Robin Howard, 1988)





"Once a fox dashed past us and we had no time to spray, the pack and the huntsman were in hot pursuit. On seeing us [the huntsman] blew the pack up and with ranting whipper-in they charged off in the opposite direction. Later we were confronted by the huntsman Tom 'Piss' Potts, who with a face the same colour as his coat screamed 'This is the truest running pack in the Midlands, but when you show up they're all over the f**king place!"
(Jeff Scott, July 1987)

'Perhaps an important part of any chronicle of HSA history is to show that much of the now firmly established direct campaigning for animals rights (sic) grew out of the HSA'.
(Cliff Goodman, February 1984)



Some never

'I got involved with the HSA in the mid- 1960's as a school kid – probably about thirteen or fourteen – after seeing an ad in Private Eye. Everything about the HSA seemed attractive: it gave you the chance to put your personal philosophy into practice, and damn the consequences. The problems were legion, though: I had to skip Saturday morning school, I didn't know one end of a horn from the other, I had no transport, and I was the sole sab in my part of the country. My first year was pretty ineffective – the local hunt actually sent me a Christmas card, which I took as an insult. It was in a wood just outside North Walsham where I had my best experience - The fox dashed out of the undergrowth onto the path where I was standing. We were both equally surprised. She looked at me, and I looked at her. We were just a few feet from each other, and for a moment, time stood still. Her fur was an indescribable, flaming colour of ruddy orange. Then she ran off, and I sprayed a line of Antimate. When the hounds arrived, they ran into a brick wall of confused scents – one moment they had her, the next, nothing. I was unreasonably happy for days afterwards.'
Peter Cox, August 2003



"The funniest episode was when half a dozen of us stood on a footpath beside some lovely river in the Midlands armed with placards that carried slogans such as 'Do unto otters' and 'Only rotters hunt otters'. Half a mile away we could see the blue and pink uniforms of the otter hunters approaching. Suddenly, the local police swung into action and a moustachioed police sergeant placed his hand upon my shoulder, saying – 'I am arresting you under the Justices of the Peace Act 1373'. 'Hang on' I said, 'that's a bit old fashioned isn't it? I haven't done anything yet except walk down a public footpath!'. 'The offence is that you are acting in a manner that is likely to provoke a breach of the peace in others' said the sergeant. A small argument ensued. Then, one of my academic friends, noted for his pedantry, stepped forward and said very solemnly to the sergeant 'Do you see those people approaching along the river bank, Officer?'. 'I do' replied the sergeant cautiously. 'Well, they are acting in a manner that is likely to provoke a breach of the peace in me and I am, therefore, appealing to you to assist me in making a citizen's arrest of them under the Justices of the Peace Act 1373'. Whether or not this was really the legal minefield that my friend made it sound, his remarks had the desire effect. The sergeant looked increasingly perplexed as others in my group made similar requests of him. After a brief consultation, the sergeant and his two constables hurriedly retreated to their car and drove off, leaving us to confront old Sanders of the River [the Hunt Master] on our own."
(Richard Ryder, August 2003)

"The police were not always impartial and fair."
(Jeff Scott, July, 1987)





things change





'The Hunt Saboteurs have been sabbing weekly now for over 40 years and there is barely a hunt in Great Britain that has not at some stage been hit. The HSA is still a voluntary organisation, and still depends greatly on the commitment and motivation of the individual - [However] there is still nothing romantic about wading though knee-deep mud on a frosty winter morning - particularly when the fear and tension is tying your stomach in knots with each step'. (Robin Howard, 1988).

"For the benefit of the media it became common HSA policy to demonstrate peacefully at the hunt meets with banners and placards. Bearing slogans like 'Watch out, sadist about' or 'Warning, Pink Pervert at large', these protests were usually effective in encouraging local people to give voice to their long, but silent disapproval of the hunt. This did not please the hunt and our peaceful protests would often end with banners torn down and the bearers being hit.

Incapable of offering any coherent arguments, the hunting set would typically resort to violence and intimidation.
By calling the sabs, unwashed Kremlin financed students aiming to disrupt the British way of life, they were able to recruit burly henchmen from the local pubs.

I sampled this kind of opposition on 13th January 1973 when I met up with other sabs for a meet of the Whaddon Chase Foxhunt at Sheley Brook End. A tank-like, bullet headed country 'gentleman' informed us that if we attempted to disrupt his hunt our cars would be tipped in ditches and we would be put' six feet under'.

Against such threats we had no choice but to carry on, although that day was distinctly 'hairy'. At one point, the fox crossed the road right in front of our car. We stopped, jumped out and sprayed the whole area to mask his scent. Then we heard the rumbling storm of approaching hunt followers. We sped off laughing, the hounds stopped baffled, and we gave two fingered gestures of non-respect to the thugs, which we immediately regretted when a horse-box came round the corner ahead of us almost blocking the road.

The pursuing supporters, in their flat caps and wellingtons, had been labouring to catch us, now seeing their chance they shouted to the driver of the horse-box to swing across and block our escape. Revving our engine to drown their instructions, we bumped up onto the grass verge and managed to squeeze past, but it was close."
(Mike Huskisson, 'Outfoxed', 1983).

'The hunters used to claim that we were paid by the Kremlin, £1 a day plus all your sandwiches. Then the Berlin Wall came down and it was supposed to be Linda McCartney who bought the sandwiches! They definitely couldn't believe that anybody would go sabbing for free'. (Dave Wetton, as quoted in 'Animal Century' by Mark Gold, 1998)




AND THEN YOU GET THE CALL.
•THE SHOCKING TRUTH ABOUT CUB HUNTING•
BEER TENT
HELLO
SABS
SO IF YOU'RE NOT DRUNK WHY ARE YOU TALKING REALLY LOUDLY AND REPEATING YOURSELF
YEAH AND USING A SHOE TO PHONE PEOPLE?
FREE DAVE BLENKIN
OBVIOUSLY SABS SPEND THE SUMMER MONTHS LOOKING FOR MINKHUNTS AND DISCUSSING TACTICS
BOLLOCKS
ANTI
WHAT'S THAT?..... THE HAMPSHIRE HAVE STARTED CUBBING.... ...TOMMORROW... ...WHAT TIME?... ...5.30.. YEP O.K WE'LL BE THERE
BUT THEN THE LEAVES START TO FALL, AND THE NIGHTS DRAW IN. AND THEN YOU GET THE CALL.....
AND WHEN YOU ARE STOOD OUTSIDE SOME KENNELS IN THE ARSE END OF THE COUNTRYSIDE YOU START TO ASK QUESTIONS —
-WHAT ON EARTH AM I DOING?
IT'S 6 IN THE MORNING
-WILL NATH EVER SHUT UP?
DID YOU KNOW THAT THE HUNTSMAN FROM THE TYNEDALE USED A WOODEN HORN WITH A REED THAT WAS DURING THE '81 / 82 SEASON BLAH BLAH
ISN'T IT MARVELLOUS!
HURSLEY AND BEAUFORT JOINT MEET NEXT WEEK I CANNOT WAIT
-WHY ARE TAFF AND JOE SO AMAZINGLY CHEERY?
CHRIST, I DON'T KNOW WHAT IS WORSE, THE PRICK WITH THE HOUNDS OR THAT LANKY BLOKES ARSE
GASP!
-WHY COULDN'T i GO BEFORE I LEFT?
WHEN YOU SEE THE SCUM ITS LIKE A BAD DREAM.
HA HA!
UG!
DO PEOPLE LIKE THIS REALLY EXIST?
THE HUNT SABOTEURS ASSOCIATION 40 YEARS ON WE'RE STILL GOING STRONG
©Positiverob 2003
OH MY GOD WE'RE DOING IT
.AND THEN YOU SAB 'EM TO BITS AND RUN OFF WITH THE WHOLE PACK AND THEN YOU REMEMBER WHAT ITS ALL ABOUT.

GROUSE SHOOTS 24



A lot can happen in a day.

The Grouse shooting season began on August 12th and, as always, hunt saboteurs were active in all the usual areas to ensure that those pesky shooters didn't bag a good days sport. Here a sab with a group active in the Peak District runs us through the 24-hour period concerned. (And no, Keifer Sutherland wasn't involved....)

05.30 Alarm goes off.

07.33 Sab van departs.

08.26 Arrive in designated area and start looking for obvious signs of shoot, such as 4 x 4 vehicles parked up on moor, signs by road advising footpaths closed etc.

08.44 Sab vehicles are spread all over the area looking for the lesser spotted fat-lazy-hates-walking animal, yes I mean the grouse shooters! It isn't long before a shoot is located on Strines Moor, just east of Ladybower Reservoir.

10.31 Sabs make their way to the moor and set off across it towards the shooting butts.

11.03 All shooting has stopped as sabs are between the beaters and the shooters. Next starts the long, slow walk as sabs escort the shooting party off the moor.

12.38 An opportunity for both sabs and shooters to have lunch!

14.02 Things get going again as its discovered that the shooting party is trying to start shooting out of sight of the sabs.

14.24 Sabs once again manage to stop the shoot despite threats of violence from the local inbred beaters.

15.16 The shooting party decides to call it a day – could this be due to the police helicopter that has just arrived? Not.

15.47 Shoot packs up for the day, and sabs head out of the area after a very successful action. No arrests, so everyone can head to the pub to wind down...

16.49 Sat in the sun in a beer garden of a local watering hole.

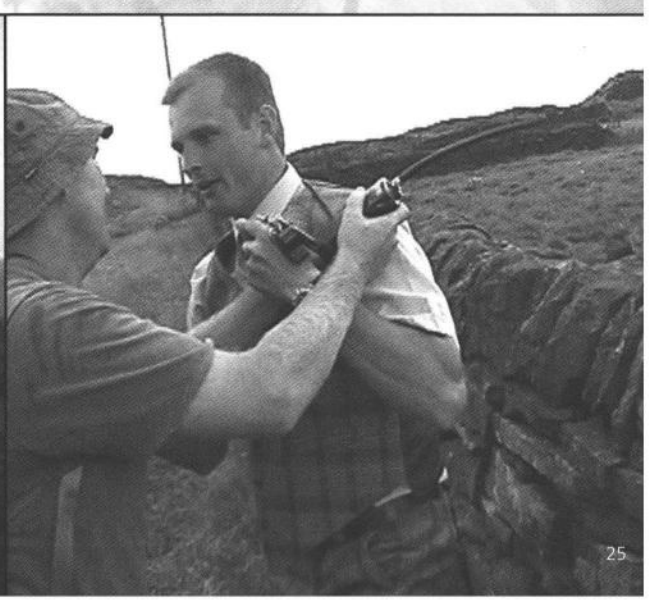
18.42 Back home.

21.03 Fast asleep on the sofa with my dog (ah bless).

Outcome? – 73 pissed off shooters and beaters and, sadly, two grouse shot.

A big thanks from the North West Hunt sabs to all the groups who were active during the first week of the grouse shooting season, namely Manchester, Derby, Sheffield, North Yorkshire, Birmingham, South Wales, Reading and Pewsey Vale sabs.





GROUP NEWS

South West

Since the New Year the **Plymouth** group along with **Torquay** sabs have mainly concentrated on sabbing two local packs, the *Spooners and West Dartmoor* FH, and old favourites the *South Devon* FH. In February film crews from both local our TV stations accompanied sabs on hits against these two hunts resulting in some positive primetime coverage.

In March **Plymouth** along with sabs from **Torquay**, **Dorset**, **Southampton** and **Bournemouth** turned up at a *South Devon* meet on Dartmoor. It soon became apparent much to our glee that a French hunt (the *Rallye Amour* from Brittany) was also present as guests of the *South Devon*. The French (below) were soon in no doubt that we meant business as sabs set about disrupting the hunt. This continued throughout the day until the huntsman finally decided that he'd had enough and packed up early. The neighbouring *Mid Devon* FH also got some attention after being 'accidentally' sabbed by the visiting groups.



At the end of March **Plymouth** travelled to Cornwall to join **Bath**, **East Devon** and **Cornish** sabs for a visit to the *Cury* FH at their closing meet. A hot day resulted in poor scenting conditions and sabs kept the hunt moving in circles across the same ground all day. When all other hunts had finished for the season **Plymouth** turned up at the last few meets held by the *Mid Devon* FH. Despite difficult terrain (right) sabs disrupted both meets much to the annoyance of support including third-rate TV 'celeb' Noel Edmunds (below). Overall Plymouth had a successful season particularly with the *South Devon* whose huntsman got more and more exasperated at the constant attendance of sabs. The number of riders attending South Devon



meets has now declined considerably compared to previous years.

South

North and **East London** sabs last season concentrated on fundraising and coping with the numerous transport problems that had befallen us so far. We have been able to successfully sab the *Puckeridge* and *Thurlow* fox hunts. Also whilst some members of the group have been fundraising, others have tagged along with **Reading**, **West London** and **Southampton** groups and sabbed the *Garth/Vale of Aylesbury*, *Hampshire* and the *Surrey Union*. For the second half of the season we linked up with **Essex** groups and concentrate on Essex hunts not presently being sabbed. For the coming season we intend to invest the results of our fundraising efforts in a new vehicle.



The second half of the 2002/03 season saw no let up in the action for **Croydon** sabs. The bulk of it being squarely aimed at the *Old Surrey, Burstow & West Kent* FH *(OSB)*. This was clearly beginning to show as at their meet in Ash, Kent good ole Bycroft went into meltdown when sabs refused his game of "name the breed of cow". More seriously, later that day he tried riding two sabs down in a large covert. Which kind of set the tone for the rest of the day, quick work by sabs at one point ensured it remained a no kills day though out. Early Feb saw snow for us making following a doddle, the West Peckham meet saw some serious off-roading for the sab landy, though not a fox all day. A couple of trips at this point were made over to the *Ashford Valley FH* along with **West Kent** sabs where hounds responded very well to the gizmo, and the support did not! This did not stop us though despite a sab rolling over a bonnet to avoid bring run down.

By mid Feb Sussex police decided to copy their mates over in Surrey, with five sabs being arrested for S.68 at the Fletching meet of the *OSB*. Needless to say all five had their charges dropped (yes dropped Graeme) within a few weeks. At the end of the month the *OSB* began their northerly meets and the one at Heaverham was memorable for being hot, foxless, well sabbed and steeped in Bycroft hysteria, including rants at his own terrierman for "not letting it go in the right place"!!

Towards the end of the season we saw another visit to the *Ashford Valley* FH and then a couple of hot days being spent over at the *Chiddingfold, Leconfield and Cowdray* FH. All the while no kills despite foxes being seen by sabs. The end of the season meet of the *OSB* was also sabbed despite a last minute change of day by the hunt. Thanks once again to *West Kent* sabs and the *Hastings* posse.

Croydon sabs ITA!

Spring 2003 saw Reading sabs sabbing the Hampshire Hunt repeatedly at a big estate near Basingstoke. **West London**, **Southampton** and **Basingstoke** sabs joined with us as usual and suffered the wrath of Sergeant Bignose and his terrible hoards with several arrests and, shit yeah, biased policing. Undeterred, we of course continued and all cases were dropped. Hopefully Bignose has been posted to Uist or somewhere. Believe me, he'd fit right in. Other than that we worked with **Chiltern** on the *Vale of Aylesbury* and the *Garth* and had several happy days out at the *Surrey Union*. We also spent some special moments sabbing the *Woodland Pytchley* with everybody else.

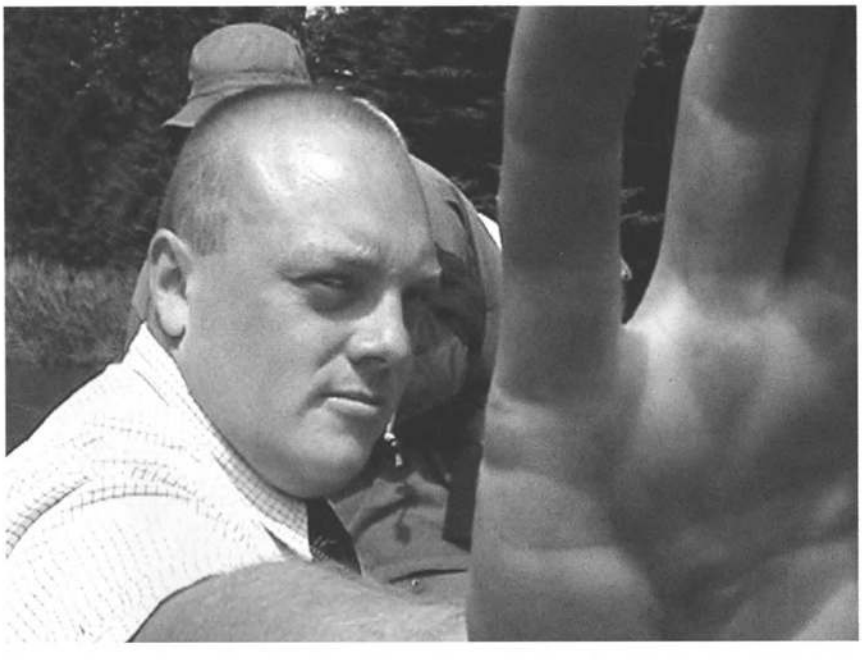
The cream of **Reading** sabs (or is it scum? I dunno, they both rise to the top!) heard about the *Valley* mink hounds trespassing on our manor. A few hasty phonecalls and three sabs on foot scared them off before our landrover could even get there. Then we chased 'em off our patch and back to the kennels.

This was followed by a mass sab of a joint meet of the *Valley* and *Three Counties* in Aldermaston, with loads of groups coming. A top day was made even better by a visiting **West London** sab simply throwing all her possessions into the river in an attempt to distract the hounds. Nice one! The *Three Counties* were done again, and then it was summer stall time!

Despite the best efforts of Surrey police and the *Old Surrey, Burstow and West Kent* (*OSB*) foxhunt, **West Kent** sabs are back in action every Saturday and occasional weekdays visiting bumpkins across Kent and Sussex in our trusty Landrover. Our first visit to old favourites the *Ashford Valley* FH with **South Downs** sabs resulted in angry hunt supporters swinging spades, trying to punch out our windscreen and attempting to run the south downs Landy off the road - with a Fiesta. Boxing Day was spent with the *OSB* in the company of **Croydon** sabs, a good day's sabbing with the hunt being kept on the run all day.

New Years Day saw sabs out in torrential rain with the *Bolbroke Beagles* at Eridge park, stopping the hunt on every hare they put up and resulting in a kill free day. A return visit to the *Ashford Valley* with **Croydon** sabs saw that the hunt's mood hadn't improved. Within a couple of minutes of arriving sabs had been ridden into and whipped by riders, had the landy rammed by a supporter in a 4x4 and a sab had been hit with a Land Rover Discovery, flying over the bonnet but escaping serious injury. The driver hung around to make a complaint to the police that his vehicle had received a dent. The hunt calmed down once the police arrived and sabs were able to get on with the job at hand, routinely taking the pack from the huntsman at every opportunity.





Wanna come sabbing?
or
Start your own group?

Contact the HSA

We'll be happy to put you in touch with your nearest local group and/or arrange an informal tactics talk.

We can also supply you with free posters and leaflets, as well as providing limited financial support to new groups.

Get in touch -
You know it makes sense!

The tail end of the season was spent with the *Chid* with good results, at one meet near Billingshurst, sabs stopped the hounds on the line of a fox, only to have the huntsman re-find the line and try to ride down the fox with his horse. More sabs arrived and soaked the area in citronella ensuring that the fox wasn't chased any further. We also had a cracking day with the *Chiddingfold* who decided to hunt on foot, paid plenty of visits to the *OSB*, visited the *Weststreet Tickham* FH, made a couple of trips down to the west country for the badger cull and had a splendid day out at the *Three Counties* and *Valley* mink hounds joint meet.

Shoreham Protesters are still regularly protesting/sabbing the *Crawley & Horsham* FH and getting results. We have also been joined by other local sab groups, which is great. Many lives have been saved this season by either getting the hunt to keep moving on just by our presence or by spraying in the tracks of a passing fox. Sadly, we have also turned up at a couple of kills where we suspect a bagged fox has been let out near the hounds – after all, these bloodthirsty people want the paying riders to go home with the satisfaction of a kill or they may not return. We have also been subjected to violence and criminal damage from the hunt, something that we always pursue with the police no matter how reluctant they are to do anything.

One of our group had her wing mirror smashed by the huntsman's whip and was threatened by him a week later because she has made sure the police do something. Another had his windscreen and side window smashed by some thug supporters of a neighbouring hunt and the hunt has paid for the damage!! One of our group was assaulted as he filmed a kill on a footpath, several women have been ➲

ridden at and others threatened. The police change from week to week – some are real sticklers for the Sec 68/69 and keep ordering us off public footpaths when the hunt are around telling us that the land has been 'statemented' through the magistrates court but enquiries have proved this not to be true. Other weeks the police are fine and just leave us to it for most of the time. They have admitted to us that they know we aren't violent and that the violence comes from the side of the hunt.

We are also following up ALL damage done to footpaths by the hunt. The law states that they may not ride along/hunt or kill on a footpath (only cross them) yet they have done all of these things. Any damage to a footpath must be made good by the landowner. During the recent wet weather footpaths have been made impassable by hunt riders and we have filmed the damage and are working with the council to get this sorted out. Other sabs/protesters should do this too as it's going to cost the hunt money and show them that they can't just do as they like even if the police aren't prepared to do anything.

And finally, we are winning. How do we know? Because the hunt are always so angry. If you live in the Sussex area why don't you consider joining us or one of the other groups. You don't have to be super fit. Those who don't want to trek across fields make themselves useful by driving around the lanes to let others know where the hunt is. They also pick up sabs as they emerge on the lanes after crossing the countryside and get them on to the next place. Contact the Shoreham Protester for details of where to meet.

Midlands & North East

Even during the cubbing season **Northants** sabs were very effective! The *Pytchley* FH were quite upset and whipped our windscreen, smashing it in two places. Red faced, the poor dears coughed up for a replacement window, the same day after the police had a word.



Hunts have got gradually more violent. At the start of the season a member of the *Grafton* FH snapped the aerial off our van after they failed to kill a single fox. Two sabs were attacked by hunt supporters at a meet of the *Pytchley* in December before the hunt even moved off. One was held face down in the mud, then gripped around the throat while another supporter tried to gouge his eyes out. The policeman present didn't feel this was a serious enough attack to warrant running, and took his time sauntering slowly down the farm track.

Excess Christmas spirit could have been to blame when sabs visited the *Grafton* on Boxing Day, with four riders falling off their horses. A sab was nearly killed by a hunter who seemed to gallop straight into him, causing his horse to fall onto him. He was taken to hospital, but miraculously escaped with nothing worse than internal bleeding (!) The incident is being investigated. The lovely police also held up an ambulance with a flashing light in order to let the hunt pass. Let's hope it wasn't one of their grandmothers suffering a heart attack. The following Saturday a *Pytchley* supporter gave us £100 after he broke our camera and then admitted it on video. He was scared by the nasty police cell and said he was very sorry.

On New Years Day the brave *Fitzwilliam* FH penned in a group of at least three foxes and despite the best efforts of sabs killed one. This was a work of genius since the only way a fox could get out of the area was straight past the red coats.

January saw violence escalate to almost intolerable levels. The hunts now have a group of thugs hired specifically for to track us down and do us some damage. The police at the *Grafton*, who failed to take any details after sabs were ambushed and assaulted, made things far worse. Their actions only seemed to be helping hunt thugs, who blocked our van in for the whole day. Two of the thugs had already been cautioned at the start of the day for violence and intimidation toward sabs, but as usual we were the ones treated as criminals. Early Feb saw a visit to the *Oakley* FH, but Bicester stewards followed us again and brought their gang of thugs. The *Oakley* followers joined in with the stupidity. Sadly, this proved to be too much for one of their supporters, who promptly suffered a heart attack and died.

During the NAHC week of action we did a photo shoot outside the *Grafton* kennels. The local press weren't quite as organised, turning up with a broken camera! We joined **Derby** and **Nottingham** sabs on the *Quorn* FH in March over very hilly terrain! No kills though. For the last three weeks of the season, we sabbed the *Woodland Pytchley FH*. One sab got a broken leg, and another suffered an epileptic fit. The *Woodland Pytchley* has always been a 'challenging' hunt to sab, but we were joined by many more groups, (see bottom) and the police began to take the matter of hunt violence more seriously. Two arrests were made in connection with the first assaults.



Has this season been the craziest yet? **Derby** has had hilarious fun at the *Meynell and South Staffordshire* FH with the **Wolves** group and HRH Prince Charles, the *Belvoir* FH and *Quorn* FH with the **Nottingham** group, the *Atherstone* FH, and that good old favourite, the *Woodland Pytchley* FH, supporting the Northants Group. Thank God for the two weeks of sanity when **Derby** visited the *High Peak Harriers* in February.
At the first meet at Monyash four hares were saved directly by textbook sabbing and interception. Probably more were saved when the pack was split a number of times. The next week was harder due to the terrain but again no kills.

Later in the season, when **Sheffield** claimed the *High Peak* for themselves [greedy so and so's!], **Derby** struggled to find a hunt to do (!). A historic visit to the sadly neglected *Atherstone* FH was in order. The hunt themselves are fairly passive, but after sabs finally defeated the excellent control of the pack by the veteran huntsman and whipper-in, the hunt support got a little tasty! **Derby** returned the next week and saved at least one fox directly that day.

After experiencing the hunt stewards personally in January, that the **Northants** group have to put up with week in, week out, **Derby** were keen to go and meet up with them again (not)! The group supported **Northants** for the last 3 weeks solid and wondered when the season was ever going to finish!





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CLUB DRAW
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As part of our fundraising activities, (and also as a means of bringing a little gambling glitz to our sorry lives), the HSA operates a 'Club Draw'. If you'd like to take part ('Gamble!', 'Open the Box', 'No, take the money!' etc etc – or maybe not) then simply fill in the leaflet which should have fallen into your lap, get out your cheque book and wahey, you're off! If the leaflet is missing either take it that fate is telling you you're not one of life's winners, or alternatively contact the office and get them to send you one. The choice, as they say, is yours....

Jan	1st	R Wilson	**May**	1st	P Fenn
	2nd	E Milburn		2nd	H Door
	3rd	N Green		3rd	R Wilson
Feb	1st	D Thurley	**June**	1st	M J Clark
	2nd	G Marsh		2nd	C Handcock
	3rd	H C Heady		3rd	P Fenn
March	1st	R Banham	**July**	1st	F Ford
	2nd	S Prescott		2nd	G Jebb
	3rd	G Marsh		3rd	S Higham
April	1st	E Milburn			
	2nd	F Inkley			
	3rd	D Dunbar			

Oh No! It's Section 60...



The subject of this article is Section 60 of the 1994 Criminal Justice and Public Order Act. In my recent experience of sabotaging hunts, particularly in Hampshire, Berkshire and Surrey, this piece of legislation has become a particular pain in the arse.

This article deals with the stop and search powers contained in Section 60. It does not deal with the stop and search powers contained in the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984. However, you will all be familiar with that having read the article in Howl 75. That article touched on Section 60 searches - some of the information is repeated, however, this article is intended to complement that contained in Howl 75. If you want a copy of the Howl 75 article contact the office or website.

A bit of history

It is not entirely clear why section 60 was included in the original 1994 Act. S.68 and 69 were clearly aimed at hunt saboteurs. S.61 & 62 were aimed at New Age travellers. S.63-67 were aimed at raves and S.72 - 76 were aimed at squatters.

The most likely explanation for S.60 is that it was intended to be used to control football fans. Under certain circumstances it allows for random stop and search powers to be used in a designated area for a specific period of time. Therefore, S.60 could be used in a specified radius of a football ground on match days. The first reported occasion that S.60 was use against hunt saboteurs was in Kent in 1997. There may be earlier occasions – drop a line in to *Howl* if you know better.

Since its introduction section 60 has been amended twice. Firstly by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 and secondly by the Anti-Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001. Many sabs, it seems, have only the vaguest notion of what Section 60 allows the police to do – not to mention the amendments.

OK – so what does it mean?

60.(1) Where a police officer of or above the rank of superintendent reasonably believes that-

(a) incidents involving serious violence may take place in any locality in his area, and

(b) it is expedient to do so to prevent their occurrence,

he may give an authorisation that the powers to stop and search persons and vehicles conferred by this section shall be exercisable at any place within that locality for a period not exceeding twenty four hours.

(4) This section confers on any constable in uniform power –

(a) to stop any pedestrian and search him or anything carried by him for offensive weapons or dangerous instruments;

(b) to stop any vehicle and search the vehicle, its driver and any passengers for offensive weapons or dangerous instruments.

(5) A constable may, in the exercise of those powers, stop any person or vehicle and make any search he sees fit whether or not he has any grounds for suspecting that the person or vehicle is carrying weapons of that kind.

So there you go. All nice and simple so far. Section 60 can only be used if it is authorised in advance by a Superintendent. It has to be in a specified area for a specified length of time (subsection 9). There has to be a fear that serious violence may occur (it can be authorised by an Inspector if the violence is imminent). Once authorised it essentially gives the police the power to make random stop and searches of people and vehicles.



> "The most likely explanation for S.60 is that it was intended to be used to control football fans."

The Amendments

The first amendment came with the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. This added Sub-Section 4A.

(4A) This section also confers on any constable in uniform power-

(a) to require any person to remove any item which the constable reasonably believes that person is wearing wholly or mainly for the purpose of concealing his identity;

(b) to seize any item which the constable reasonably believes any person intends to wear wholly or mainly for that purpose.

This amendment, then, gives the police the power to ask people to remove face coverings. It also allows the police to seize face coverings which are found during the course of a search. It only applies when a Section 60 has been authorised under the required conditions. However...

A further amendment contained in the Anti Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 complicates the matter further. Section 94 of this Act adds section 60AA to the original Act.

60AA Powers to require the removal of disguises

(1) Where-
(a) an authorisation under section 60 is for the time being in force in relation to any locality for any period,

or

(b) an authorisation under subsection (3) that the powers conferred by subsection (2) shall be exercisable at any place in a locality is in force for any period,

those powers shall be exercisable at any place in that locality at any time in that period.

(2) This subsection confers power on any constable in uniform-
(a) to require any person to remove any item which the constable reasonably believes that person is wearing wholly or mainly for the purpose of concealing his identity; ➲

(b) to seize any item which the constable reasonably believes any person intends to wear wholly or mainly for that purpose.

(3) If a police officer of or above the rank of inspector reasonably believes-

(a) that activities may take place in any locality in his police area that are likely (if they take place) to involve the commission of offences, and

(b) that it is expedient, in order to prevent or control the activities, to give an authorisation under this subsection,

he may give an authorisation that the powers conferred by this section shall be exercisable at any place within that locality for a specified period not exceeding twenty-four hours.





"It is galling that this Act, which came into force as a result of the fear of terrorist attacks, was used to smuggle a host of unrelated powers onto the statute books."

This is significant for a number of reasons. Firstly this section reduces the required rank of the police officer giving authorisation. Secondly it reduces the requirement from the fear of serious violence to the fear that offences may be committed. It needs to be remembered that this section only deals with the removal of disguises – not stop and search powers generally. This section does not allow the police to stop and search people for disguises.

It is galling that this Act, which came into force as a result of the fear of terrorist attacks, was used to smuggle a host of unrelated powers onto the statute books.

In the House of Commons debate on the bill on 26th November 2001 Norman Baker MP for Lewes made the point:

"There are already measures to deal with serious violence, and that is what terrorism and terrorist attacks are. However, the Bill has been hijacked in order to bring in a whole range of powers that have nothing in particular to do with terrorism. This clause seems to be one of them."

Well said Norm!

This is all really tedious - what do I need to know?

All these sections and amendments are difficult to summarise but basically:

- Section 60 allows a police officer of the rank of Superintendent or above to authorise random stop and search operations when there is a risk of serious violence. The area and time limit have to be specified.

- If in the course of a search an offensive weapon or dangerous instrument is discovered the police officer has the power to seize it.

A dangerous instrument is described as "instruments which have a blade or are sharply pointed".

An offensive weapon has the same meaning as defined in section 1(9) of the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984:

Any article-
(a) made or adapted for use for causing injury to persons; or
(b) intended by the person having it with him for such use by him or by some other person.

- The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 amendment adds to the original power the authority for the police to order people to remove articles that may be used to conceal identity and to seize these items – the original requirements for Section 60 apply.

- The Anti Terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 adds the power that an inspector may authorise his officers to order people to remove articles that may be used as disguises and seize those articles. For this power to be used a section 60 order must already be in force (with the area and time limit defined) or the Inspector must fear that activities, which may lead to crimes being committed, are taking place anywhere in his/her area of authority.

The Inspector should also be satisfied that by making the order it will assist in preventing or controlling the activities.

What is not authorised!

All too often (in my experience) the plod show up at a hunt and announce that a section 60 order is in force. Also, (in my experience) the officers on the ground have only the faintest notion as to what this means and what powers it provides – so they make it up! Whether or not the power has been correctly authorised in the first place the cops proceed to search everyone and their vehicles and confiscate anything they think people should not have.

Although I appreciate it may be difficult to stand your ground when you have four burly coppers grabbing hold of you and confiscating your belongings you should be aware of what they can and cannot take. These powers only allow for offensive weapons, dangerous instruments and disguises to be taken. There are no powers to seize hunting horns, sprays, C.B. radios, gizmos etc. Whips are slightly more contentious. However, as they are neither made nor intended to cause injury they should not (I believe) be considered as offensive weapons.

Also whilst the power in the 2001 amendment may be used in isolation to allow the police to seize disguises (when the conditions outline above are met) there is no authorisation to search for disguises unless the powers contained in the original legislation are being used.

Conclusion

Extreme as these powers are they are still subject to the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 Codes of Practice and the anti-discrimination requirements they contain. Whether, or not, your average copper on hunt duty cares may be another matter. In a Home Office circular sent to Chief Officers of police (England and Wales) prior to the implementation of the 2001 amendment the following guidance was given:

"The Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE) Code of Practice A draws attention to the need for caution in respect of face coverings which are worn for legitimate reasons, for example the wearing of veils by Muslim women. The officer must be satisfied in each case that the face covering is being worn wholly or mainly to conceal identity. Care should be exercised in considering items which may be legitimately worn for other purposes, for example a coat with a hood worn in winter."
Home Office Circular 32/2002 – emphasis in the original.



As stated in the *Howl* 75 article – the more the police believe they can get away with pushing you around the more they are likely to try it on. Sometimes the only way to put a stop to oppressive policing is to take a stand. You may end up in the cells for the rest of the day (and therefore not sabbing) but this may sometimes be a price worth paying to remind the police what they can and cannot do.

Taking a stand against the police is always a gamble and one that should not be taken lightly. You must weigh up each situation as it occurs and make the decision based on this. It is only worth taking a stand if you are confident that you are in possession of the correct information regarding police powers.

As with any gamble you should only take it if you are prepared to accept the consequences if you lose...

Knowledge is Power

Being aware of laws that affect hunt saboteurs and your rights are as important as learning to blow a hunting horn. It is well worth investing time gaining the knowledge that you need.

Acts of Parliament can be obtained from:
The Stationery Office
P.O. Box 29
St. Crispins House
Duke Street
Norwich
NR3 1PD
Tel.:*0870 600 5522*
www.thestationeryoffice.com

For legal advice check out:
www.freebeagles.org

Keep an eye on those in power:
www.statewatch.org

assorted VERMIN

On 27/3/03 three members of a gun club who admitted shooting dead nearly 20 goats were ordered to pay £6,000. **John Collins**, **Diarmid O'Neill** and **Aidan Shannon** with addressed in Drimoleague Co. Cork pleaded guilty to two counts of criminal damaged over the shooting of 18 goats. The men initially entered a not guilty plea at Skibbereen District Court, claiming they had been asked to kill the goats by a local farmer. They told the court Padraig Collins asked them to kill the animals because they were causing damage to land and crops near Drimoleague. Dunmanway District Court heard the defendants shot the goats with a rifle in the forest. A local man found a wounded goat in the forest and contacted the gardai. Sadly, the goat had to be put down. The judge described the defendants as "foolish". The men's solicitor said his clients believed they were eliminating a pest problem. They were ordered to pay a total of £6,000 to the ISPCA, the Court Poor Box, the owners and the Garda Benevolent Fund. Sentencing was adjourned until 24/3/04.

A fish dealer who tried to smuggle diseased foreign carp into the UK, risking a fatal viral outbreak among this country's native species, was given a nine month suspended prison sentence at Maidstone Crown Court on 31/3/03. Essex fish dealer **Mark Anthony Dallas**, trading as Premier Fish Supplies, pleaded guilty to two illegal import offences under fish health legislation, is the first fish smuggler to face this penalty. A co-defendant, **Lee Coles**, of Chelmsford, received a 100-hours community service order. Both men were ordered to pay costs set at £1,200 and £500 respectively. 1.8 tonnes of diseased large live carp were smuggled into the country, via Dover. The consignment of 262 fish was intercepted at the Channel Tunnel by Government fish health inspectors. Tests carried out by identified the killer virus, Spring Viraemia of Carp (SVC) in samples taken from the consignment.

The owner of Basildon Zoo (now closed to public) **Yolande Surcouf** was convicted under the Dangerous Wild Animals Act on 24/7/03 for selling a lioness to undercover BBC reporters. They paid her £1,500 cash and were able to drive off with the lion in back of their van. She commented to the reporter "I don't care if you chop her up into lion steaks." She was fined £750 plus £500 costs.

Fears over animal-rights activists prompted a Caterham stockbroker to move her car after a night's drinking, a court has heard. **Sharni Clark** (26) wanted to get the Ford Ka inside the family's security gates in Tupwood Lane when she was caught. The banker ignored a policeman's warning not to drive just minutes beforehand, Redhill magistrates heard on 21/8/02. The court heard the family home had been targeted by animal-rights activists. The trader's father was finance director of a large drugs company that tested on animals. A breathalyser test showed Clark was more than twice over the legal limit. Clark was fined £500, ordered to pay £60 costs and banned from driving in the UK for 18 months.

On 22/5/03 a Fleetwood pet shop owner was fined for keeping animals in conditions branded in court as "dirty, smelly and overcrowded". Conditions at Pets' Corner on Poulton Road came to light when a woman who visited was so appalled by conditions that she complained to environmental health officers. **Wayne Garside** (43) of Poulton Road, admitted eight cases of failing to keep to the conditions of a pet shop licence and was fined £750 and ordered to pay £450 costs.

The owner of a Cumbrian puppy farm has appeared in court to face cruelty charges after nearly 50 puppies were imported from Northern Ireland. **John Walsh** (52) of Denton Hall, Low Row, near Brampton, was accused of cramming 49 puppies and three kittens into nine plastic containers, causing them unnecessary suffering and distress. Walsh, who advertises as operating licensed breeding kennels from Low Row, denied the charges levelled against him at a court appearance in Stranraer on 29/7/03. Charge one claims that the manner in which the animals were being transported, in nine plastic carry cases, caused them unnecessary suffering, due to lack of adequate space, water and ventilation. A second charge alleges that the animals were found to be in a state of distress, and that nine of them were unwell and should not have been transported. It is further alleged that Walsh did not have the correct documentation necessary for the transportation of the puppies and kittens. The case will go to trial on 8/8/03.

A pet shop owner has been banned from selling exotic pets for ten years after a collection of his reptiles were found close to death. **Robert Allen** (57) of Rockbourne Avenue, Woolton, Liverpool, was fined £2,000 and ordered to pay £2,600 in costs after neglecting to care for two pythons, an iguana and a lizard. Allen who was described at Liverpool magistrates on 27/6/03 as "ignorant" of how to care for exotic reptiles after RSPCA officers inspected his Lister Drive Fisheries and Pets Centre in Old Swan, Liverpool. They found a 5ft long green iguana which had severe lesions across its body, mites, roundworm, tapeworm and was losing its scales. Two Burmese pythons were found to be malnourished and suffering from burns, lesions and a loss of skin. The burns are believed to have been caused by housing the snakes in tanks set at the wrong temperature or with naked bulbs. A collared lizard had to be destroyed after it was found to have a pus-filled wound, two fractured ribs, warts and a missing toe. Allen pleaded guilty to four charges of causing unnecessary suffering to animals, although the prosecution accepted he had not been deliberately cruel. Liverpool City Council will now decide whether to renew his general pet selling licence.

Robert Powton (35) of Darlington Road, West Auckland and **Daniel Matthew Robinson** (37) of Ashcroft Gardens, Bishop Auckland, were seen carrying a lamp and a gaff, a large hook on the end of a pole. Enviroment Agancy officers found a bag containing a net and two sea trout, one of the trout was still entangled in the net, the other was seen to have gaff marks in it's side. The fish were examined and found to have been spawning, or about to spawn. Fish eggs were also later found in Powton's car. Robinson and Powton were each sentenced to 130 hours community service and fined £100 with £100 costs by Bishop Auckland magistrates on 25/6/03.

Two men from west Cumbria were fined £500 each after being caught poaching salmon. **John Anthony Taylor** (43) of 20 Queens Crescent, Frizington and **Derek Andrew Bulman** (22) of 15 Arlecdon Road, Frizington, both pleaded guilty to two offences when they appeared at Whitehaven magistrates on 25/7/03. As well as being fined, the men were ordered to pay £125 costs each to the Environment Agency, which brought the prosecution.

Two Cleveland poachers resorted to "barbaric" means to illegally snare spawning salmon. **John Richard Spaven** and **Darren Smitheringale**, both of Thames Road, Skelton, near Saltburn, admitted using a spear to catch fish after officers discovered the weapon in the boot of their car. They pleaded guilty to three charges at Guisborough magistrates on 25/3/03. Both were fined £150 and each were ordered to pay £150 costs. The court heard how Spaven admitted using the home-made spear, which had been fashioned from a broom handle and three welded barbs, and Smitheringale said he had used the lamp to help catch fish. The men offered no defence in court.

farm

VERMIN

Michael Gillett of Kilncroft, Thackthwaite, Dacre, near Penrith, was fined £1,200 by Penrith magistrates on 2/8/03 for six charges of breaching the 20-day standstill rule imposed on livestock. Gillett was fined a further £600 relating to three charges that he failed to accurately record animal movements, and a further £100 for failing to provide a movement record to an inspector. Gillett was also told to pay £1,500 court costs to Cumbria County Council.

A farmer was charged with affray on 26/2/03 after a woman veterinary official was allegedly held face down in liquid slurry at a farm in Cornwall. **Roger Baker** (60) was also charged with making threats to kill and obstructing a police officer in the lawful execution of his duty. He was remanded in custody and is expected to appear before magistrates in Truro. The incident happened when the vet was investigating complaints about the welfare of sheep and cattle at a farm at Ventongimps, near Truro. The pair were allegedly held in a slurry pit. They emerged covered in mud and animal dung, and were hosed down.

domestic

VERMIN

Victoria Spiers (25) of Emma Street, Accrington was been banned from keeping animals for five years after the rotting carcasses of two dead rabbits were found at her house. At Hyndburn magistrates on 12/7/03 she admitted charges of causing unnecessary suffering to three rabbits and a dog. Magistrates also imposed fines totaling£1,081.60, including £500 costs.

A puppy survived by drinking from a leaking shower and eating mouldy pizza after its owner abandoned it for a month. The pup has been re-homed and is now fine. At Macclesfield magistrates on 18/7/03 **Christopher Taylor** (26) of Thornway, Bramhall, was sentenced to a one year community rehabilitation order plus 60 hours community service after pleading guilty to causing unnecessary suffering and abandoning the dog. He was also banned from keeping animals for ten years and ordered to pay £1,220 costs.

Robert Howsam (28) of Banksbottom, Hadfield, near Glossop was found guilty of killing two puppies he hanged from a tree. Howsam left the dogs to choke to death 6ft above the ground after pretending he was taking them for a walk. Then in a bid to cover his tracks, he invented a "fairytale" story about how he had given the dogs away to a man he had come to know while walking the animals. Howsam was convicted of two counts of animal cruelty at Glossop magistrates on 20/8/03. Howsam, who has convictions for assault, burglary and theft, was released on conditional bail. He is due back in court on 9/9/03 for sentence. The RSPCA will ask the court to issue an order preventing Howsam from being allowed to keep pets. He has two dogs of his own.

A reptile collector was allowed to keep his collection of reptiles, including crocodiles and pythons, despite being convicted of causing them unnecessary suffering by housing them in a ramshackle barn. After a trial which cost £30,000, **Colin Shaw** of Wingate, Co Durham was fined £250 and ordered to pay £250 in court costs at Bishop Auckland magistrates on 31/7/03. Shaw had denied the charge.

A man who slaughtered a young sheepdog has escaped jail but **Brian Kenneth Evans** (48) is being forced to flee North Wales because of an alleged death threat from animal rights campaigners, Bangor magistrates were told. Magistrates also heard that Evans, whose parents live at Bull Bay, Anglesey, is moving to London. On 23/7/03 he was handed a three-month suspended prison sentence for stabbing the defenceless dog at least five times while it was tethered to a tree. At an earlier hearing Evans pleaded guilty to charges of causing unnecessary suffering to seven-month-old Welsh border collie and criminal damage. As well as concurrent prison sentences, suspended for two years, he was fined £500 and told to pay £35 costs. He was also ordered to pay £500 compensation to the dogs owner.

A Tranmere man has been banned from keeping all animals for life after the RSPCA discovered his pet dog severely underweight and chained up in the back yard. The German shepherd, was found by the RSPCA chained up behind a terraced house in Tranmere. She had a scruffy appearance and on closer physical examination the inspector realised the dog was emaciated as her bones were prominent enough to touch. On 5/3/03 at Wallasey magistrates **William Watson** (59) of Allerton Road, Tranmere pleaded not guilty to causing unnecessary suffering but was found guilty after a trial. Magistrates banned Watson from keeping any animals for life. He was also given 12-month community rehabilitation order and was ordered to pay costs of £500. Watson had refused to relinquish ownership of the dog and the court confiscated her. A new home has already been found for her by the RSPCA and she is reported to be doing very well.

A 10-year-old crossbreed dog was virtually bald when it was taken from its owner by the RSPCA Blackburn magistrates heard on 21/5/03. **Clive Atkinson** (48) of Princess Street, Great Harwood, plead not guilty to failing to act, therefore causing unnecessary suffering. The case was found proved after a trial and Atkinson was banned from keeping any domestic animal for three years. He also given a conditional discharge for 12 months and ordered to pay £100 towards the costs of veterinary care for the dog.

Two men from the West Midlands have been jailed for beating a dog to death. Magistrates heard the Jack Russell terrier's skull had been split open with an axe during the attack which lasted up to 15 minutes. On 31/7/03 **Jonathan Jacobs** (20) of Nursery Road, Bloxwich, Walsall and **Alan Bytheway** (24) of Buxton Close, Little Bloxwich were sentenced to six and four months respectively for killing the dog, which belonged to Bytheway's mother. The court heard Jacobs and Bytheway were both drunk when they attacked the dog. They used an axe, a garden rake, a spade and a clothes pole. Bytheway had admitted the charges and Jacobs was found guilty. As well as being jailed, Jacobs and Bytheway were also banned from keeping animals for 15 years. Outside court, Bytheway's mother said she was "sickened" by their behaviour and had disowned her son.

egg/bird

VERMIN

An Oswestry builder sent three wild birds for delivery to a customer in a cardboard box with only tiny slits for them to breathe any air, a court heard. The shocked recipient opened the box to find the rotting carcass of a bird inside and two jays in a poor state of health, Wrexham magistrates heard on 28/3/03. Police, RSPCA inspectors and an RSPB expert raided the home of the sender **Mark Boilstone** (41) of Nant Glyn, Pontfadog, where they found wild birds caged illegally in aviaries. They included a tawny owl, a curlew, a redshank, a bar tailed godwit, a hawfinch and a crossbill. Boilstone admitted illegal possession of live birds, advertising live wild jays for sale, and transporting the jays in a way likely to cause unnecessary suffering. Sentence was adjourned until next month for pre-sentence reports to be prepared and Boilstone was allowed bail.

A trapper who caught wild birds in the woods around Ongar was convicted and fined £3,000 after an elaborate undercover operation involving the police and the RSPCA. Officers from the RSPCA followed **Paul Souter** (55) from Loughton and watched him inspecting his traps and spreading bird seed on a mist net which he used to catch wild birds. At the same time, police and RSPCA inspectors raided his home and found cages containing wild British songbirds. When Souter's wife phoned his mobile phone to tell him of the raid he was observed disposing of his traps in a lay-by on his way home. ➲

➲ At Epping magistrates on 3/4/03 Souter was fined £500 for possession of the wild birds and a further £500 for taking birds from the wild. He was ordered to pay the £2,000 costs of the RSPCA and forced to hand over his equipment.

An application by the wife of a jailed wildlife smuggler to continue keeping birds on her land was granted by West Norfolk Council on 16/4/03. After the meeting, animal welfare campaign group the Captive Animals' Protection Society said it was taking advice about the decision. "We are now looking at taking further action, including a possible judicial review". The decision allows **Sheila Humphrey** of Shepherdsgate Road, Tilney All Saints, near Lynn, to retain existing aviaries at her property. The board also approved retrospective planning permission for a large aviary which had been built on the land without prior permission. Humphrey's husband **Raymond Humphrey** was jailed for six-and-a-half years in January last year for his part in an operation to smuggle illegal birds into Britain. During a raid at the couple's home, Customs and Excise officials found an extensive collection of 54 birds – including crested serpent eagles and changeable hawk eagles, a golden cheeked gibbon, seven slow loris and five tortoises. Humphrey's application prompted 28 letters of objection, together with six protest petitions signed by a total of 240 people.

A prolific bird egg thief who preyed on the nests of rare species was jailed on 11/4/03 for four months. **Anthony Higham** (39) of Malmesbury Park, Sandymoor, Runcorn admitted stealing more than 800 eggs, including 160 belonging to threatened species such as the golden eagle, chough and osprey. Higham earlier pleaded guilty to 13 offences under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. At Northwich magistrates Police were led to Higham after raiding the home of one of his accomplices, **Carlton D'Cruze**, 41, of Whitemeadow Drive, Thornton, near Crosby, who was jailed last year for similar offences.

A Serial trapper caught more than 200 wild songbirds and kept them in squalid cages. The collection of chaffinches, yellow hammers, wrens, turtledoves and linnets was one of the largest hauls ever uncovered by the RSPCA. When RSPCA inspectors raided **Phillip Vellas's** (51) home in Pinkneys Green, Maidenhead they found some of the birds dead in the bottom of cages, frozen in a freezer or in need of urgent veterinary care. On 14/5/03 magistrates convicted Vellas of two charges of causing unnecessary suffering to birds, 18 charges of keeping wild birds in captivity and one charge of unlawfully confining a bird in a cage. Vellas was sentenced to 220 hours community service and ordered him to forfeit his trapping equipment he was also banned from keeping birds or animals for a decade and ordered to pay £5,000 costs.

A nature photographer was jailed on 8/7/03 for hiding and destroying his illegal collection of stuffed wild birds. **Dennis Green** (60) of Deysbrook Lane, West Derby, Liverpool admitted perverting the course of justice and was sentenced to four months imprisonment at Liverpool Crown Court. Green was prosecuted under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 for possessing 4,000 wild birds' eggs and 99 taxidermy specimens. He was convicted of illegal possession of birds and eggs and given a 12-month conditional discharge by Liverpool magistrates. The prosecution told the court that Green had given away some of his collection to another collector of wild birds' eggs. Police and officers from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds searched the home of **Carlton Julian D'Cruze** (41)of Whitemeadow Drive, Thornton near Crosby. They immediately recognised some of Green's birds which he had said he had burnt. D'Cruze was jailed for possessing scores of birds' eggs. Green had originally denied burning and concealing the birds, but changed his plea to guilty before he was to stand trial for perverting the course of justice.

equine VERMIN

Allan Clynch (56) of Portland Street, Blackburn broke a court order banning him from keeping horses after he starved one so badly it had to be put down has escaped being sent to jail. Clynch formerly of Barnmeadow Lane, Great Harwood, left Hyndburn magistrates on 2/7/03 with a 12-month probation order that will extend an order given for the previous ban by six months. Clynch was also told he had to pay £10 a fortnight towards costs, totaling£3,365 for all legal proceedings. The court was told how he already had a three-year ban from May 2002.

Barbara Joyce (51) of Manor Farm Cottages, South Heighton (51) hit an RSPCA inspector over the head with her handbag and threw two cups of water over him Lewes magistrates heard on 15/5/03. Joyce who runs Quimper Stud at Rodmell, denied two counts of common assault. On 16/6/03 Joyce was given a two-year conditional discharge and ordered to pay £300 costs as well as the compensation to the inspector.

On 3/6/03 **Donald Edward Perkins** was cleared of indecently assaulting a colt after producing a bag of mints in the witness box to back up claims he was only feeding the animal. A jury at Wolverhampton Crown Court, found him not guilty of outraging public decency after accepting his testimony that his approach to the equine world was modelled on that of The Horse Whisperer. Perkins (62) formerly of Wavell Road, Quarry Bank, Dudley, had denied committing a lewd, obscene and disgusting act. The defendant told the jury that he had admitted outraging public decency with a Shetland pony in April 2001

equine VERMIN

Three men were caught digging at a badger sett that had been disused for years, Barnsley magistrates heard on 26/6/03. **Darrell Harper** (38) of Wellington Crescent, Worsbrough, **Anthony Fisher** (31) of Monksprings, Worsbrough and **Kenneth Hume** (54) of Park Road, Grimethorpe, deny the charge of interfering with a badger sett. Hume also admitted he had been rabbiting for 40 years. The three accused were arrested after a swoop by police acting on a tip-off. The trio, who had two Patterdale terriers tethered nearby, told police a third dog had gone down one of the holes after a rabbit. It eventually emerged wearing a locater collar. The site was said to have been recorded as a badger sett by South Yorkshire Badger Group since at least 1996. Dr Barry Peachy was appearing as an expert witness for the defence. On 28/6/03 all three were acquitted of all charges.

HSA RAFFLE 2003

The HSA's chapter of 'Gamblers Anonymous' met as part of the Annual General Meeting on Saturday 12th July. The main motivational event was the drawing of the Annual raffle, which was received very well and raised loads of dosh to help the foxes who gamble with their lives everyday (oh, that was bad).

The lucky, lucky winners were as follows:
1st Prize J Broadway, Bath
2nd Prize S Styles, Hailsham
3rd Prize P Thornton, Mowbray

THINK *HOWL*'S CRAP?

Howl is **your** magazine

Make sure it reflects your views by contributing to it.

Letters, articles, photos/video stills, cartoons and Group News are always needed.

All contributions to the office marked '*Howl*' or e-mail direct

to

howl.editor@virgin.net



Legal News

IT SHOULDN'T HAPPEN TO A SAB...1

The HSA was appalled to see a Suffolk policeman cleared on an assault charges arising from an incident at a meet of the Essex and Suffolk Foxhounds at Chattisham near Ipswich in which a hunt saboteur was attacked. Pc Keith Warren, 48, based at Hadleigh, appeared before Ipswich magistrates to answer a charge of assault by beating. After a 2 day trial he was cleared of the charge.

HSA spokesperson Nathan Brown said "This outcome is yet another nail in the coffin of hunt saboteurs' trust in the legal system. We were surprised but glad that the case got this far, highlighting the overzealous behaviour of some police officers towards hunt saboteurs. We are extremely disappointed with the verdict, especially given that PC Warren's evidence was inconsistent with evidence provided by both prosecution and defence witnesses in court. The court acknowledged that PC Warren lost his temper, pushed a saboteur with the heel of his hand and grabbed the saboteur's clothing. The police are trained to keep calm and should not be permitted to strike protestors under any circumstances. It could be argued that the court has decided that violence against people who protest against bloodsports is acceptable.'

IT SHOULDN'T HAPPEN TO A SAB...2

Early sabbing meets so far this new season have seen certain hunts quick to attack hunt saboteurs. The HSA's Press Officer commented 'With a ban on hunting imminent, hunters have turned their attention to inflicting cruelty on anti-hunt protestors who stand between them and the animals. These attacks show a total disregard for the law beneath the veneer of respectability.' Late August saw two protestors at a meet of the Crawley and Horsham Fox Hounds jumped from behind by three hunt supporters. One of the protestors, aged 16, was punched in the face, kicked in the ribs, then had a hunting horn ripped from his neck, where it was hanging from a bootlace. The attackers then went on to threaten the pair, saying 'We're fed up of talking. You're all gonna be f***ing dead and buried.' At the time of the attack the protestors had not even attempted to disrupt the hunt. After the attack the protestors ensured the hunt did not kill from the safety of the road. The police were called and recovered the stolen hunting horn, after being shown where it was by men who are suspected to be supporters or employees of the hunt.

IT SHOULD BLOODY WELL HAPPEN TO SABS MORE DAMN OFTEN...1 (OF 1)

Further to our in-depth report on the activities of the Surrey Police in the last mag, *Howl* is pleased to report that four hunt sabs who were charged with Sec 68/69 CJA (Ed - what is the bloody difference, anyway?) charges in February this year have just heard that the cases will not proceed to court. Six hunt sabs were initially arrested whilst attending a meet of the Surrey Union Fox Hounds, and the usual over-zealous policing by the fluorescent fury meant that they weren't happy until they had a police carrier full of sabs to despatch to the police station. Two sabs were released without charge, and the remaining four have faced several pre-trial reviews prior to the case being dropped. The sad thing is that of course the Surrey Police will learn nothing from this farce, and we'll no doubt be reporting more arrests sooner rather than later...

SAB ARRESTED DURING HUNT TRESPASS

A Hastings sab charged with Sec. 69 offences during a meet of the Old Surrey, Burstow and West Kent Foxhounds had the case against him discontinued by Surrey CPS after there was' insufficient evidence to provide a realistic prospect of conviction'. There *is* sufficient evidence however, to prove the arrest was unlawful - a HM Land Registry search showed the sab was arrested on land owned by Surrey County Council, where hunting is not permitted. Video footage also shows the sab being assaulted by an overzealous 18 stone Police Officer! Civil proceedings are under way...

SURREY CPS DROP MORE CASES

3 sabs arrested at the 2002 opening meet of the Surrey Union Foxhounds have had their charges dropped following pre-trial reviews. The Sec. 68/69 charges against the sabs followed their arrests at a dig-out which the three were forced to watch before being led away by Police officers. Legal action against Surrey Police is under way...watch this space.

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. **Please remember letters are opened before they reach prisoners so don't write anything stupid in them!**

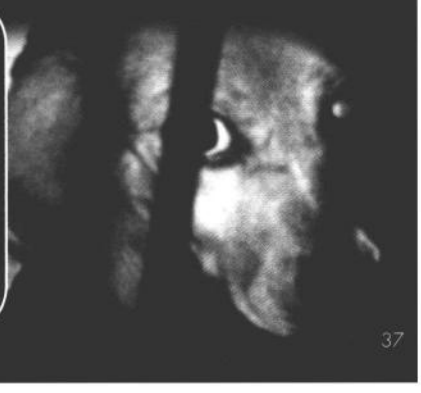
Most prisons now allow stamped addressed envelopes to be sent in with your letters and cards. Please enclose these if you write, so that prisoners don't waste their limited funds on postage.

As well as writing you can support AR prisoners by sending a donation to the A.L.F. Supporters Group and the Vegan Prisoners Support Group (VPSG) who provide financial help and support for them.

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

VPSG: PO Box 194, Enfield, Middx EN1 4YL, UK.
Tel/Fax: *+44 (0)20 82 92 83 25* email: *info@vpsg.org www.vpsg.org*

DAVE BLENKINSOP
EM7899
HMP Bullingdon
PO Box 50
Bicester
Oxon OX25 1WD
Serving 3 years for GBH on HLS director Brian Cass, 18 months for burglary of 600 Newchurch guinea pigs & 5 1/2 years for possessing explosives.



USEFUL ADDRESSES

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

A.L.F. Supporters Group
publishes ALFSG Newsletter
BM 1160, London, WC1N 3XX www.alfsg.org.uk

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

Arkangel magazine
BM 9240, London, WC1N 3XX
www.arkangelweb.org email: arkangelweb@hotmail.com

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

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. 0845 458 4775
email: laa@londonaa.demon.co.uk
www.londonaa.demon.co.uk

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 564734 www.guineapigs.org.uk

SchNEWS
PO Box 2600, Brighton BN2 2DX
01273 685913 email: schnews@brighton.co.uk Web:
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

Surrey Anti-Hunt Campaign
Publishes free newsletter
B.M. Box 7099
London WC1N 3XX
0781 565 8371 email: surreyantihunt@yahoo.com
www.sahc.org.uk

Vegan Prisoners Support Group (VPSG)
PO Box 194, Enfield, Middx EN1 4YL, UK
Tel/Fax: +44 (0)20 82 92 83 25
Emergency arrest line: 07743 536 114
email: info@vpsg.info
Visit: www.vpsg.org

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 in government.

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) 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. You don't have to go sabbing to join! We value 'supporting' members just as highly as sabs in the field.
- 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*)

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

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

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

Address .....

.....

..... Postcode .....

Telephone Number.....

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

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

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

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

Please return to HSA, PO Box 5254, Northampton NN1 3ZA

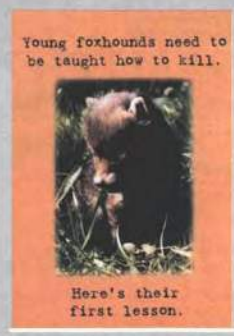
For a standing order form or more information phone Tel. 0845 450 0727

HSA PROMOTIONALS





Full colour, glossy A2 posters. Ideal for stalls, displays, etc
.....**FREE (+p&p +DONTION)**





Full colour, A5 HSA 'Still Legal' Leaflet. Explains what sabs do and why we're the only viable option for wildlife NOW! Reverse side has salesgoods and membership details. Ideal for stalls and as an insert for 'Animal Rights' publications

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

Full colour, A5 leaflet explaining cubhunting; the side of foxhunting the hunters want to keep quiet. Help 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 200,000 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 73 & 74 available.

Single back issues 50p each

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

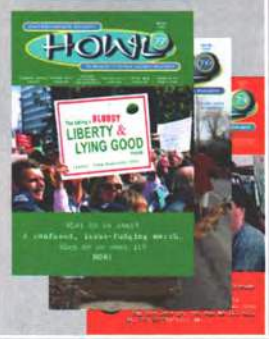
ORDERING MORE COPIES OF THE LATEST HOWL.

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.





Colour stickers
Help promote the HSA (clearly unsuitable for putting on lamposts, hunt supporters cars, etc as this would be illegal!)

.....**FREE!**

(+p&p +DONATION)



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.

Don't ban hunting...

or all of these little

people will have to

be destroyed!



Hunt Thug

Badger Baiter

Village Idiot

WE'RE MAD!

Countryside Annoyance