spring 2010

Direct Action Against All Bloodsports

HOWL 94

The Magazine of The Hunt Saboteurs Association



Hunt sabs & the law

getting fit for sabbing

violence in the field

group news

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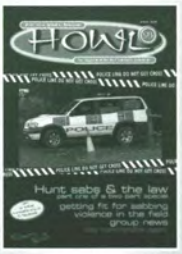
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HOWL 94

Cover image - Cops watching us

Magazine of the Hunt Saboteurs Association
BM HSA, London WC1N 3 XX Tel. 0845 450 0727
Howl e-mail: howleditor@huntsabs.org.uk
HSA e-mail: info@huntsabs.org.uk
website: www.huntsabs.org.uk

The Hunt Saboteurs Association has been in existence for over 40 years, and is dedicated to saving the lives of hunted animals directly. Prior to the Hunting Act of 2004, hunt saboteurs used non-violent direct action to prevent the horrific deaths of thousands of hunted animals every year. Post hunt ban the primary tool of hunt sabotage has switched from the hunting horn to the video camera, as saboteurs monitor hunts with the aim of capturing their illegal activities on film. This in turn can immediately save lives on the day, and can lead to police action against the hunt concerned. Our range of pre-ban nvda tactics remain in active service, and saboteurs will continue to use them should they be deemed the best way forward on the day for the hunted animal at risk.

The HSA committee is made up of a maximum of 12 voting members, supported by as many non-voting members as is deemed necessary. All posts are voluntary and unpaid – **no-one on the HSA committee is paid** – as we believe that all money raised by membership and donations should go towards the running of the organisation, and to directly help saboteurs in the field. As a member of the HSA your contribution is vital – thank you.

Editors: Mel
Contributors: Cumbria sabs, all group who sent in group news
Design/Artwork Chiccicocoa
Photos: Cumbria sabs, Off the Hoof, Dreamstime, Greyhound action, Indymedia, HSA archive. Imageriot, Deidre, Stan
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MYSpace:
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The views express in Howl do not necessarily reflect those of the editor(s) or the Hunt Saboteurs Association Committee. Nothing printed should be construed as HSA policy unless so stated. Nothing in Howl should be taken as encouragement to commit illegal acts. Printed on recycled material, using vegetable inks.

EDITORIAL

2009 has seen many beautiful creatures in our countryside killed in the name of 'sport' and 2010 will undoubtedly see just as many killed, potentially more if the Hunting Act is repealed. There are 190 registered fox hunts in England, Scotland and Wales and many more unregistered packs; most of them will hunt 3 or 4 times a week. If there are no sabs or monitors out with them it is likely they will kill a fox. That doesn't include beagle packs, harrier packs, stag hunts, and mink hunts. That's a lot of murdered animals! Anyone who has been sabbing will know that all groups are limited as to how many hunts they can cover by the number of people they have and the resources available to them. Membership of the HSA is increasing and a rise in active sabs has been seen this season but to save more hunted animals we still need more people to come out and help. If you have ever considered going sabbing please give it a go, if you can't go yourself but know someone who might then please pass this magazine onto them to read. Check out group news to find out what some of the local groups are up to. Contact the HSA to find out details of your local group.

Check out our new improved website, it looks great and you can now buy merchandise online.

www.huntsabs.org.uk

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NEWS ROUND UP

JAPANESE VESSEL SINKS ANTI-WHALING BOAT





Six Sea Shepherd members had to be rescued from their sinking boat, the 78ft Ady Gil, after it was rammed by the Japanese vessel the Shonan Maru 2. The Sea Shepherd vessel was in the area to disrupt the illegal whaling carried out by the Japanese whaling fleet using peaceful tactics. However the lightweight design of the Ady Gil made it more susceptible to attack from the Japanese security ship. The $1.5 million carbon fibre trimaran was launched on December 19th and had been designed to run on low-emission, renewable fuels.
Jeff Hansen, the group's director, said the incident occurred after two activist vessels intercepted the Japanese fleet near Antarctica's Commonwealth Bay and that the Ady Gil was trying to get out of the way when it was hit. "It was stationary at the time. It tried to back out of the way but the Shonan Maru 2 had it in its path. It came through and took off a section off the fuselage. The wreckage of the boat was still afloat, but it was expected to sink in the next few hours as it took on water. We have it all on film and we're getting onto all the authorities at the moment."
Commercial whaling is banned in the Southern Ocean, but the Japanese have exploited a legal loophole to continue whaling for "scientific purposes". This season the Japanese fleet aims to harpoon up to 935 minke whales and 50 fin whales, both of which are classified as endangered. Sea Shepherd estimate that they have saved the lives of hundreds of whales. Their success is highlighted by the actions of the illegal whalers who brought in the Shonan Maru 2 specifically to keep activists away from the whaling vessels. Paul Watson, captain and founder of Sea Shepherd, said the attack "seriously escalates the whole situation. If they think that our remaining two ships will retreat from the Southern Ocean Whale Sanctuary in the face of their extremism, they will be mistaken. We now have a real whale war on our hands now and we have no intention of retreating."

BEAVER PLANS OUTRAGE BLOOD SPORTS ENTHUSIASTS



Labour's Parliamentary Angling spokesman, and Reading West MP Martin Salter, used a Commons debate on fisheries to describe as "ludicrous" plans by Natural England to re-introduce the beaver to the English countryside. He claims that they are "four stone giant rodents" and that they would devastate the fish stocks which him and his blood junkie buddies want to drag out of the water for 'sport'.

Evidence from Canada suggests that beavers are in fact beneficial to the environment. "Through their damming activities beaver supply up to 25% of the low summer water reserves required for viable fish habitat". Additionally the wildlife authorities of Oregon state that "beaver dams can be of tremendous benefit to Oregon's native fish. By providing ponds where fish are protected from strong winter flows and by providing plenty of brush and woody debris in which juvenile fish can hide from predators, beaver dams help young trout and salmon survive their first, vulnerable year."
Canada has a thriving salmon population despite an estimated 15 million beavers (previously 200 million before Europeans arrived).

Natural England and the People's Trust for Endangered Species have published a feasibility study into the re-introduction of the European beaver and acknowledged the "contribution that beavers make to river and wetland management." The study stated that "it is clearly feasible to re-introduce beavers into England with many consequent benefits, not least for beavers to assist with river and floodplain restoration."

TEMPORARY SHOOTING BAN

A waterfowl hunting ban was imposed in Ireland to protect wild birds as their feeding grounds on lakes, ponds and marshes had been frozen for weeks. The temporary ban was aimed at protecting more than a dozen wild ducks, migratory birds like Canada goose and waders, including the woodcock. Shooting was also restricted in Northern Ireland and Scotland after weeks of freezing conditions.

DEER CULL HAS FAILED, ADMITS NATIONAL TRUST



The National Trust for Scotland has admitted that a controversial cull of more than 12,000 deer on one of its Highland estates has failed to regenerate ancient woodland. The heritage body, which began the cull on Mar Lodge estate in 1995, has spent £750,000 on killing thousands of red deer which, it believed, caused deforestation. The animals were blamed for destroying young trees but it is thought that poor soil may also have contributed to the decline in Caledonian pine woodland on the land in Royal Deeside. Alexander Bennett, the trust's group manager, said: "We haven't achieved the level of regeneration we wanted and are now trying to look at what is practical." His admission, made in the Scottish Gamekeepers' Association (SGA) magazine, has provoked criticism from those against the cull. About 800 deer a year have been slaughtered and the herd now numbers 1,500 compared with 4,000 in the mid-1990s. The SGA said the cull had produced virtually no new trees and accused the National Trust of ignoring advice to use fences. "All the money spent over the last 14 years to establish regeneration without fencing has not worked," said George MacDonald, a spokesman for the SGA. "Some areas are being choked by blanket heather because the focus is on killing deer. The trust is supposed to set the standard for land management but it's anything but an exemplar." Willie Forbes, a former head stalker at Mar Lodge, said: "What is disgusting is the killing of deer at night using spotlights, which means they are pursued 24 hours a day. There are virtually none left. Tourists come here to see wildlife but go away disappointed. The glen has been silenced." Earlier this year, the Deer Commission raised concerns after a site visit revealed little evidence of regeneration.

LABOUR U-TURN ON BANNING BATTERY HENS



photo courtesy of dreamstime

As a result of intense pressure from campaigners, the Labour government had promised to ban the cruel practice of battery farming hens by 2012; however a leaked Whitehall letter has confirmed what many animal rights campaigners suspected would happen. Officials have written to other European governments, which were also due to stop battery farming under an EU directive, saying that the ban should not be enforced. They claim that farmers do not have the time or money to change their buildings – despite the ban first being promised in 1999 – and that the move will lead to a shortage of eggs. Animal rights campaigners have accused the Government of scaremongering tactics and say reneging on the ban will condemn millions of hens to misery. The tiny battery cages prevent birds from performing natural activities such as foraging and nesting. Hens routinely have the tips of their beaks sheared off with a hot wire to prevent the frustrated animals pecking each other. Senior official Richard Jones from the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs, wrote in the leaked letter that farmers should be allowed to battery farm hens after 2012 provided the eggs are sold only in their national markets.

CHARITY COMMISSION BANS CHARITY 'CRUEL TORY' ADVERT

The Charity Commission has banned the League Against Cruel Sports from using an advert which highlighted the letters "Cruel Tory" in its slogan, deeming it too political. The League Against Cruel Sports has launched a campaign called 'Keep Cruelty History' to stop the Fox Hunting Act being repealed. The original campaign included a play on words within the slogan 'Keep Cruelty History'. The colouring of the slogan focused on certain letters which spelt out and highlighted 'Cruel Tory' but this was deemed too political by the Charity Commission. The new campaign still features the slogan 'Keep Cruelty History' but all letters are now the same colour.

LOOKS LIKE IT' S CURTAINS FOR COVENTRY



A five year campaign against the Coventry greyhound stadium situated in the nearby village of Brandon has paid off as the stadium is forced to close. This is a great victory for Coventry Against Greyhound Exploitation (CAGE), who launched an intensive campaign to close the stadium's dog track after it reopened in April 2004. Since that time CAGE have held hundreds of demos and leafleting sessions (averaging at least one a week) outside the stadium, to educate punters about the plight of the greyhounds and urge them never to go dog racing again. Their valiant efforts helped reduce attendances at the Coventry track to such an extent that it began to suffer big financial losses and has now been forced to close. This is the second big success for CAGE, who successfully fought plans to construct another Coventry greyhound track in 2002.

The closure of the track is excellent news for greyhounds, as we estimate that its existence was responsible for the putting to death of about 500 of these dogs every year. The ending of greyhound racing at Brandon means that only three dog tracks now exist in the West Midlands area - Hall Green and Perry Barr in Birmingham and Monmore Green in Wolverhampton. To get involved in the campaigns to close them contact Greyhound Action at info@greyhoundaction.org.uk or on 01562 700 043.

OTTERS DROWN IN ILLEGAL TRAPS



Otters have been found drowned in illegal crayfish traps in the River Wid in Essex. The two animals, believed to be a mother and her cub, suffered what Essex Wildlife Trust said would have been a "long, drawn-out death". Darren Tansley, from the trust, said: "This is a tragic find, especially if it is a mother and her cub." Killing otters or native crayfish can result in a fine of up to £5,000 or up to six months in prison. Anyone setting a trap must obtain a licence from the Environment Agency. Mr Tansley said of the otters: "These are animals that are used to diving -they are semi-aquatic and can hold their breath, so to drown in this way is a long, drawn-out process." He added that the traps were now one of the biggest threats to otters with more dying this way than on the roads.

'BADGER SHOOT' PROTEST OVER CULL

Following ministers announcements for a cull of badgers in Pembrokeshire, a mock shooting of a badger has been staged outside the Welsh assembly, to protest against a cull of the animals.
Around 30 Pembrokeshire Against the Cull (PAC) supporters dressed up as badgers enacted the mock killing on the steps of the Senedd building. A protester in a badger costume crawled around the steps of the Senedd building before becoming trapped in a cage and 'shot' by another protester brandishing a banana.
Announcing the cull, Rural Affairs Minister Elin Jones said: "Bovine TB is out of control and unsustainable and last year cost the taxpayer nearly £24m in compensating farmers. However, Ciff Benson from Pembrokeshire Against the Cull said there was no moral or scientific justification for the cull and that assembly members had not asked people in West Wales for their views on the eradication plans. He said "They've taken what we consider to be the advice of the best scientists in the country and they've ignored that and they've decided to go on with the cull. Morally we're against it, we know it doesn't make any sense scientifically, and we think that if these people expect to be elected in the future then they'd better not kill our badgers because we don't want them to." The cull area covers 288km_ (111 sq-mile) of north Pembrokeshire, and a small part of Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire.



HUNT HAVOC

Beaufort hounds killed on railway line

Six hounds from the Beaufort hunt have died and others were injured after straying onto a train track. The incident happened on New Years Eve near Wootton Bassett, Wiltshire. The train was a First Great Western service from Bristol Parkway to London Paddington. Passenger Josh Farrington, 22, from Cowbridge, near Cardiff, said he heard a grinding sound coming from beneath the train about 15 minutes after leaving Bristol. He said: "The train slowed down very quickly. We were in the middle of nowhere. A call came over the tannoy for the train manager and then there was an announcement that the train had been involved in an incident involving about 20 dogs. They checked that the driver was OK to carry on and then the train moved off again after about 20 minutes." A spokeswoman for Network Rail said the line had been closed for about 30 minutes.

Worcestershire hounds chase fox through housing estate

Hounds from the Worcestershire hunt caused panic after they rampaged through a housing estate in Droitwich, Worcester, in hot pursuit of a fox. The pack of up to 12 hounds apparently caused hundreds of pounds worth of damage as they trampled flower beds, dug up bushes and defaecated on paths. Resident Campbell Deas said "I was outside taking down the Christmas lights when I saw a fox running down the street. About 30 seconds later a whole pack of baying hounds came charging after it. I didn't see where the fox went but the hounds were running through people's front and back gardens looking for it. Some of the dogs managed to get over a six-foot fence at the end of the road before a man came along and attempted to round them up. He was shouting and yelling, trying to get them all together which just added to the chaos of the whole situation. He didn't offer any apologies to the residents. He was just bothered about getting the hounds under control. The other residents in the street were in shock. There are a lot of youngsters living around here. Had it not been so cold there would have been lots of kids out in the street playing with their new toys. Why were they chasing the fox in the first place? It is supposed to be illegal."

Louise Robertson, spokeswoman for the League Against Cruel Sports, said: "We have reports all the time about hunts getting out of control in this way. And if they do catch the fox and tear it up it can be very distressing for members of the public. We would recommend that members of the public report these incidents to the police.'

Ward Union Hunt cause RTA

In Ireland, a stag being chased by the Ward Union Hunt Club collided with a Mercedes on a main road between Ashbourne and Slane and had to be euthanized on the side of the road due to serious injuries. The Minister for the Environment Mr John Gormley has been urged to suspend the license he had previously granted to the Ward Union Hunt.



They meant to run him until his blood
Clogged on his heart as his brush with mud,
Till his back bent up and his tongue hung flagging
And his belly and brush were filthed from dragging,
Till he crouched stone-still, dead beat and dirty,
With nothing but teeth against the thirty,
And all the way to that blinding end
He would meet with man and have none his friend...

From Reynard the Fox by John Masefield

Getting fit

This morning I saw a fox arise from his slumbers on the wall in our back garden. His coat looked like a golden fire amid the snow. He stretched and then dreamily picked his way down the wall and into our neighbour's garden. At moments like this I feel, as you may do, even more determined to go out sabbing to try and save these magnificent animals. Like me, I am sure that you must think about how we can improve sabbing tactics as a way to save more lives. For example, do you ever think about your personal fitness as playing a crucial role in sabbing? Not only does being fit help save lives, but also being fit helps you to protect yourself and your companions from the hunters.

For the last few years I have been sabbing with different groups around the country and I have noticed how much more effective sabbing can be when a group is fit, and as a consequence the difficulty that this creates for the hunters. Sab groups tend to stay close together for safety reasons, so if the group is fit it can move fast and keep together with the hounds, thus in general successfully sab the hunt. However if the group is unfit then the effectiveness of sabbing is lowered. Even if only one person in the group is unfit, they slow down the rest of the group and as a result may lose the hounds.

Another advantage of personal fitness for sabbing is during those threatening situations- when you need to protect yourself and fellow saboteurs; especially those stressful moments when it feels as if your body is really heavy and your heart is pounding inside your chest. Being fit means that you can control your heart rate better, hence you will not become out of breath. Furthermore, being fit enables you to recover more quickly from a fast sprint. This in turn means that you are able to think logically about what action to take next and of course in a short period of time run again, which may save a life. I know sabs who can run next to the hounds for a long period of time, sometimes during the whole hunt and the impact that this has is apparent, as these sabs are able to stop the hounds just when they start to find the scent of an animal. However, this does not mean that you need to become a runner in a season in order to be fit. Simply just improve your level of fitness, and then if the rest of your group do the same, you and your group will move faster, thus maximising the time spent alongside the hounds and therefore be more proficient at saving lives.

There are many ways to become fit, for example, running, cycling, swimming, walking, gyms, and aerobics. In fact any aerobic exercise will improve your cardiovascular system. Yet because sabbing requires running and walking, then the most beneficial way to improve your fitness level is to go running, or for a long walk. Nevertheless it can be difficult to suddenly take up running if you have not exercised before. So it is better to start by walking and increase the length of the walks each week. Then after this a training plan is recommended, which would include a combination of running and walking, with recovery breaks between the running slots (see running plan below).

All you need is motivation- nothing else- the rest is easy. If you can push yourself to exercise your body, then you will soon see the improvement. However, you must keep training all year round to keep up a respectable level of fitness. If you stop exercising during spring and summer, then you will have lost your original level of fitness when sabbing starts again, you will be out of shape and it will be a few months before you reach your previous fitness level again. I know it can be difficult to find the motivation to go outdoors and run, or walk, especially in the rain, or cold weather, but just think of how it will benefit your sabbing:

- If you are fit you can think more strategically.
- If you are fit you are more adept at protecting yourself and your fellow sabs.
- If you are fit you can help save more lives.

If you want any animal to have a friend nearby during a hunt then go out and start running, cycling, walking...Then, like the fox I saw in the garden this morning, these magnificent animals will have friends nearby to help them escape and live another day.





for sabbing

WEEK	DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3
1	*5 x 2min run/ 2min walk	5 x 2 min run/ 2min walk	5 x 2min run / 2min walk
2	5 x 2min run / 1min walk	3 x 3min run / 2min walk	3 x3 min run / 2min walk
3	3 x 3min run / 1min walk	2 x 4min run / 2min walk	2 x 4min run / 2min walk
4	2 x 4min run / 1min walk	2 x 5min run / 2min walk	2 x 5min run / 2min walk
5	2 x 5min run / 1min walk	2 x 6min run / 2min walk	2 x 6min run / 2min walk
6	2 x 6min run / 1min walk	2 x 7min run / 2min walk	2 x 7min run / 2min walk
7	2 x 7min run / 1min walk	2 x 8min run / 2min walk	2 x 8min run / 2min walk
8	2 x 8min run / 1min walk	2 x 10min run / 2min walk	2 x 10min run/ 2min walk
9	2 x 12min run / 2min walk	2 x 12min run / 2min walk	15min run
10	15min run	17min run	18min run
11	20min run	20min run	23min run
12	25min run	25min run	30min run

* For example: 2 minutes running, followed by 2 minutes walking, then 2 minutes running etc. Repeat 5 times.



Legal News

Judicial review hoped to halt badger cull

The Badger Trust launched a Judicial Review before Christmas to try and stop the Welsh badger cull and they are hoping that it will be granted a hearing before the cull is due to start. The Welsh Assembly (WAG) has confirmed it's decision to hold a 'pro-active, non-selective badger cull', despite the Independent Scientific Group concluding in 2007, after 9 years of research, that 'badger culling cannot meaningfully contribute to the future control of cattle TB in Britain. The cull will cost £9m, take 5years, starting in early May 2010 and cover an area of 288 sq km in south Ceredigion, north Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire. The culls will take place over 12-14 weeks in each of the 5 years and (according to WAG) kill around 1500 animals - mostly by trapping and shooting. Elin Jones ruled out the use of oral badger vaccines saying that culling is the only way to tackle a disease that is 'out of control and unsustainable'. The Wildlife Trust strongly opposes the cull but has 7 nature reserves inside the pilot area. Due to new legislation, pushed through the Welsh Assembly in November 2009, the Wildlife Trust can be forced to allow the cull in their reserves.



Hunting Act doesn't breach human rights

The Countryside Alliance and Brian Friends challenge to the Hunting Act in the European Court of Human Rights has failed. Confirming what would to most people be considered common sense that the Hunting Act does not breach human rights. With regard to the Hunting Act and the Protection of wild Mammals (Scotland) the court concluded that 'the bans had been designed to eliminate the hunting and killing of animals for sport in a manner causing suffering and being morally objectionable'. Claims that the hunt ban would end the livelihoods of many in the countryside were dismissed by the court. Hunters can still enjoy the spectacle and excitement of hunting without the pursuit of 'live quarry' by going drag or trail hunting, which involves following a pre-laid scent. The Court also found that the law 'did not affect negatively the applicants right to private and family life'.



Legal action taken over monkey photo

Five animal rights protesters are to receive substantial payouts after taking legal action against Lancashire police. The arrests were made during 5 demonstrations outside Vodafone shops in Blackpool and Preston in 2006 aimed at raising awareness of Vodafone's involvement with Oxford University. Placards were used which showed images of monkeys being experimented on, these were considered offensive. Police said at the time that the pictures were "likely to be insulting, threatening and abusive to members of the public". One of the campaigners accused police of acting as "censors". He said: "We wanted to show the truth of animal experiments to the public; this kind of research is legal and funded with public money and the public should be informed about it. The reaction of the police to the images was a case of shooting the messenger. On one protest, five police vehicles, including a riot van, attended when there were just three of us."

As a result of the legal action taken, a statement issued by Lancashire Police said: "The Chief Constable, having reviewed matters, agrees that the images shown by the claimants in the course of protests were not themselves insulting, threatening or abusive. The claimant's actions in protesting were a legitimate exercise of their rights under articles 10 and 11 of the European Convention on Human Rights."

SUPPORT ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS



LEWIS POGSON (A6454AK)
Birthday: 27 January
HMP Lincoln, Greetwell Road, Lincoln, LN2 4BD

Sentenced to 3 years at Lincoln Crown Court in connection with alledged offences at Highgate Farm, breeders of rabbits and ferrets for vivisection based in Lincolnshire.

JONNY ABLEWHITE (A5750AH)
Birthday: 27 January
HMP Hewell, Hewell Lane, Redditch, Worcestershire, B97 6QS.

Serving 12 years for conspiracy to blackmail the Hall family who run Newchurch guineapig farm, which has now closed down.

SARAH WHITEHEAD (VM7684)
Birthday: 12 February
HMP Bronzefield, Woodthorpe Road, Ashford, Middx TW15 3JZ
Sentenced to two years for removing a beagle from a garden where it was kept muzzled in a wooden cage and regularly beaten.
Cheques/postal orders made out to 'The Governor'. Books, stationery, stamps; saes. Write prisoner name/number on the back.

GREGG AVERY (TA7450)
Birthday: 5 December
HMP Coldingley, Shaftesbury Road, Bisley, Woking, Surrey GU24 9EX.

Sentenced on 21 Jan 2009 to nine years in connection with HLS.

NATASHA AVERY (5180 AD)
Birthday: 28 December
HMP Send, Ripley Road, Woking, Surrey GU23 7LJ.
Sentenced on 21 Jan 2009 to nine years in connection with HLS.

Cheques/postal orders made out to 'The Governor'. Stationery, stamps; saes, blank cards, but no Bday or Anni cards. Write prisoner name and number on the back.

KERRY WHITBURN (TB4886)
Birthday: 18 April
HMP Lowdham Grange, Lowdham, Nottingham. NG14 7DA.
Serving 12 years for conspiracy to blackmail the Hall family who ran Newchurch guineapig farm, which has now closed down.
Stamps; p/os/cheques payable to HMP LOWDHAM GRANGE inmate's name & no on back & name/address of sender. No paper or envelopes.

DAN AMOS (VN7818)
Birthday: 19 November
HMP & YOI Guys Marsh, Shaftesbury, Dorset SP7 0AH
Sentenced on 21 Jan 2009 to four years in connection to the campaign against HLS.

Writing pad (non ring binder), envs £5.00 of stamps. Cheques/POs made out to 'HM Prison Service' inmate's name/number on back, with a return address.

DAN WADHAM (A5705AA)
Birthday: 3rd February
HMP Camp Hill, Newport, Isle of Wight, PO30 5PB.
Sentenced on 21 Jan 2009 to five years in connection with HLS.

Only cheques and postal orders can be sent in made out to 'HMPS' with inmate's name and number on front and the sender's details on reverse.

MEL BROUGHTON (A3892AE)
Birthday: 5 July
HMP Frankland, Brasside, Durham, County Durham DH1 5YD
Sentenced to 10 years in relation to the SPEAK campaign.

SAEs; a small, non ring-binded calendar; Postal Orders made out on front to "HMPS", with the inmate's name and number on back, and also the sender's name and address if there is room

GAVIN MEDD-HALL (WV9475)
Birthday: 20 March
HMP Coldingley, Shaftesbury Road, Bisley, Woking, Surrey GU24 9EX
Sentenced on 21 Jan 2009 to eight years in connection with HLS.
What you can send: stamps (12 in letter); Saes, cheques/postal orders made to 'HMP Headquarters' with Gavin's name, number and sender's details on reverse. (Please remember that Gavin has poor eyesight and will appreciate if you write in clear, large writing).

HEATHER NICHOLSON (A3158AJ)
Birthday: 30 January
HMP Foston Hall, Foston, Derby, Derbyshire DE65 5DN
Sentenced on 21 Jan 2009 to eleven years in connection to the campaign against HLS.
Cheques/postal orders made out to 'The Governor'. Stationery, stamps; saes, blank cards. Write prisoner name and number on the back.
Heather can now receive emails via www.emailaprisoner.com

NICOLE VOSPER VM9385
Birthday: 15 February
HMP Bronzefield, Woodthorpe Road, Ashford, Middx TW15 3JZ
Nicole Vosper made a plea at Winchester Crown Court on 16/03/09 on charges relating to Huntingdon Life Sciences and was remanded.
Cheques/postal orders made out to 'The Governor'. Books, stationery, stamps; saes. Write prisoner name/number on the back.

GROUP NEWS

nb_pix@yahoo.co.uk



SOUTH DEVON sabs are happy again with the way our season is going. We had a good Boxing Day. Thanks to sabs from upcountry joining us down 'ere in the west country with all the inbreds. We had them running around in circles and on the run all day, they were definitely upset. They got a bit violent; at one point they tried to pull one sab out of his car. Others on foot were also attacked but gave as good as they got; makes you feel proud to be a sab. We've been down to Cornwall as well doing the East Cornwall Hunt, spending the day on Bodmin moor again keeping them on the run. Two tyres were slashed on a Landrover that had been parked up for the day in what was thought to be a safe area so I guess they had the last laugh that day, but mustn't they have been upset to do it!
During one meet of the South Devon foxhounds they arrived very late, so late in fact we went out and about in search of them. But eventually they arrived and after they had their drinks they got started but on foot! They were only out for no more than 10 minutes when they went back to the meet and made a big announcement to the support that because we were there and the weather was not good they were gong to relocate and if the support could keep up they could follow but were sorry if they did not as they needed to lose us. Of course the idiots never lost us and we spent the day with them; it was not one of our best days but they did not kill so it was good for the fox and made us feel better. They, on the other hand, walked back to kennels with their tails between their legs.
Our season so far has been a good one, our Landy has been off the road for some time and we have had to go out in cars or on foot but we have still been out and about. Thanks again with the help to those joining us from up country. And of course thanks for the support of Lush.

READING sabs season so far has had some ups and downs. On a midweek visit to the VAGSB a fox was killed in quite close proximity to sabs and just metres away from a road, it happened very quickly and there was nothing we could do to save him/her. Hunt scum in a panic to get the body away from us then trampled sabs with their horses. The hounds had also killed a pheasant shortly before that; she didn't quite manage to take off in time before one of the hounds grabbed her by the wing. We have had some really good days and have managed to keep the pressure on the Garth despite their copper buddies coming out to protect their illegal activities. On a joint meet with the Garth and the Taunton Vale harriers, hounds were so out of control that a local farmer threatened to start shooting hounds if they weren't taken away from his livestock. We also had a good day at the Tedworth on Boxing Day where we met up with sabs from Pewsey, Southampton, Bath and Bristol. The hunt abandoned their usual Boxing Day meet and tried to escape onto Salisbury Plain, however, we managed to keep with them for most of the day. New people are always welcome, if you want to join us call 07984977603 or readinghuntsabs@hotmail.com

Since cubbing, **BRISTOL** sabs have been out with their usual chums the Berkeley, Cotswold Vale farmers and the Monmouth (sabs would like to thank the senile old hunt supporter who thought we were hunt supporters and gave us a jump start!), most of the time the hunts just leg it and try to avoid sabs and cameras. Sabs also joined up with other groups to keep the Garth and Taunton Vale on their toes, working hard to keep a kill free day with the added delight of the huntsman losing most of his pack and a heated altercation with a local, the former sent off with his tail between its legs. Boxing Day saw a run around Wiltshire with the Tedworth - just to shed those mince pies! Bristol sabs are looking forward to their new Landy after the demise of their trusted friend of over what seems a long period of time.

Southampton sabs have had a busy season so far, and have had a full Landy out most weeks. We have been paying a lot of attention to the New Forest which has seen them being their usual sneaky selves although their run and hide tactics were no good as our good numbers have enabled us to split into two groups and keep on them all day long, quite often having to step in and sab them. Their opening meet was attended by us and the local press whose attention was



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caught by the Lush campaign. They spent the day with us and saw the hunt making fun of recent violence against sabs, being outright arseholes and harassing us. The two page feature that followed was a great piece of publicity for us and resulted in a huge response from the public sending in letters of support for us to the local paper. This did not stop them illegally hunting in the following weeks and when we stepped in and sabbed them they made allegations of animal cruelty (their words) saying we were attacking hounds with whips and a harmful spray, and that a stand-off between us and the local plod followed when we refused to talk to them and locked ourselves in the Landy. We also joined up with Pewsey, Bristol, South Wales and Reading for a joint meet of the Taunton Vale and the Garth. It was a hectic day with them hunting in front of us and police acting as if there was no ban, obviously we all did what was needed and traditional tactics were used. As a result of that day we made a return visit two weeks later for another joint meet between them which saw the same again. The cold weather and frost saw the Forest hunt on foot, and due to the fact the police could keep up with them and see them at all time they actually trailed; they soon got bored and packed up at 1.30. Another gathering of us, Pewsey, South Wales and Bristol was made for a trip to the South Dorset but it was a no show, maybe because of the frost, so we went to the Cattistock who were also not at their meet. No doubt the rest of this season will be very busy for us and hopefully we will keep getting the numbers out that we have been.

SOUTH WALES sabs have had a good season so far, as usual not a trail in sight - unless the police show up! We've seen some stunning foxes and helped them to stay running free, sometimes just our presence is enough, other times we've had to intervene robustly. In mid December we visited the Monmouth who went about their business in the usual way - losing the hounds early on and spending the rest of the day trying to get them back together again. Whilst out with them, we witnessed the most sickening animal abuse when a red coat repeatedly and viciously beat his horse about the rear, neck and face with his whip handle (apparently the horse had done something wrong) the only thing that stopped the attack was the production of a video camera. Even some of the mutant mounted field looked shocked in the face of such brutality. Of course none of them said anything, but then animal abuse is first nature to these freaks. Snow has stopped play for the moment but we will be back out in the field just as soon as they are. Thanks to all the groups we've worked with so far.



The 14th of November saw 30 sabs from the **NORTH DOWNS HSA**, Croydon, Southampton, Hastings and Brighton at the Surrey Union at Tilford. There were 30 riders and 5 police cars on a mega-wet day, and the hunt packed up at two when they couldn't lose us. A fortnight later 3 sab Landies from NDHSA/Guildford, Croydon and Brighton were at the Surrey Union at the Crown PH, Capel. There was a larger field of 35 riders, but no arrests, no aggro, and no known kills. We stayed on them most of the day, and the hunt packed up at 2.45 – a good day. Spotter (JT) did well finding the hunt when we had lost them. The following week saw the NDHSA, Croydon, Brighton and Hastings return to the Surrey Union at Stilemans Munstead. 6 police vehicles were out, but no arrests. The hunt was very pissed off from the start of the day when we got the video cameras out. They were definitely hunting illegally a few times throughout the day and riding off every time we caught up with them. Spotters in cars did well finding the hunt twice when we had lost them, but we did lose the hunt late in the afternoon when we bumped into a shoot. A week later saw us at the Surrey Union again, this time at Stubbetts Farm, Forest Green. The hunt was again very pissed off from the start, and rode a sab down, which the police are investigating. This was the best sab of the season so far with the hunt unable to lose us in some very hilly and woody country. On Boxing Day the Surrey Union were at the Punchbowl, Oakwood Hill. Lots of scum were present, and just 2 sabs did a great job,



keeping with the hunt and filming most of the day. And then on New Years Day the Surrey Union met at Greenaways Farm, Lower Eashing. This time there were 7 sabs from NDHSA, Croydon and Brighton. Sabs did a bit of pre-beating and did well for the first half of the day then lost them later....

WEST SUSSEX hunt monitors would first of all like to thank other local groups that have supported us. We have been monitoring the Crawley and Horsham Hunt with occasional visits to the Chiddingfold. We have had some success with cubbing despite the lengths the Crawley and Horsham hunt go to avoid us. We monitor the Crawley and Horsham twice a week if possible and are having some success, despite the best efforts of the hunt stewards who harass and try to intimidate us. Their sole purpose is to protect the hunt so as they can continue to illegally hunt foxes, but as said we are having some success and it makes it all worth while when we are able to force the hunt to call off hounds just because we are present with our video cameras. We have lots of footage of the fox that got away.

If you have visited the H.S.A. website recently, you will already know that the main season got off to a bad start for **CROYDON** sabs, with the driver and navigator being attacked by thugs from the Southdown and Eridge FH. Undeterred, both were back out on the Southdown the following week when the Croydon van was joined by vans full of sabs from Brighton and North and East London. The Southdown's attempts to give us the slip by going out early in the morning backfired, as not only did we close them down in less than three hours, but also found time to give old adversaries the Old Surrey, Burstow and West Kent FH their first visit of the season afterwards.

The next week saw Croydon, Brighton and Southampton linking up with the new Guildford group on the Surrey Union in torrential rain, followed by a long trip to Essex the week after to join up with North and East London again and also the Suffolk and Essex sabs. This was an excellent day's sabbing, with lots of new sabs out and a fox saved from under the noses of the pack late in the day.

The next two weeks saw us link up with the Guildford sabs again on the Surrey Union, followed by a return to the Southdown the following week ably assisted by Brighton and Hastings groups.

The first of this winter's snow gave us a welcome rest the next week, and we ended the year with the Boxing day meet of the Southdown, again joined by Brighton and Hastings for a little festive cheer which was much enhanced when we realised that not only had they packed up after just two hours of riding in driving rain, but that they had not even had the hounds with them. Unless they have invented a cloaking device, we can only assume they must have a major problem at the kennels. Thank you, Santa!

BATH sabs with no vehicle of our own, have been hitching, catching buses, blagging lifts to join up with only groups, jumping in Pewsey Vale's, Bristol's and Southampton's Landies to get out sabbing. Visiting the Monmouth, Cotswold Vale, Berkeley, North Cotswold, Tedworth hunts, plus a visit to Dorset with a couple of hunts not going out!! Too cold for the little darlings...We have received a £500 donation from a grateful supporter - thank you very much. We'll continue joining up with other groups to get out and save lives until we have the money together for our own Landy...

Since its reformation, the **YORK** group has attracted good numbers of saboteurs and monitors throughout the season which have resulted in some fantastic sabbing. So far this season we have followed the Middleton, Sinnington, Derwent, Holderness, York and Ainsty and the ever entertaining Bilsdale hunts. They're insistent that no kills are down to their obeying of the Hunting Act, but in reality this is of course very different. Many instances of flouting the hunting ban have come to light, with saboteurs intervening to stop the killing of wildlife, thus resulting in no kills.

We were surprised to receive the approval of



the North Yorkshire Police, who were called to our arrival at the Middleton Hunt, only to hear the Police tell hunt followers we were there to 'protect the law'. Just a shame the Police feel unable to do the same, as they left the scene. found success at pheasant shoots we have stumbled across while we have temporarily lost our hunt - we're often amused by the Barbour-wearing London accountants whose minds run into overdrive at our mere arrival. The success of the Lush campaign allowed us to talk to customers in the York store about our important work, which even made it to the local press. We plan to continue going out every Saturday throughout the season, with a few weekday meets thrown in.

NOTTINGHAM and **SHEFFIELD** sabs started the main season with an afternoon visit to the Rockwood Harriers. Although this gave us a lie-in after all our early morning cubbing exploits it was a difficult day as the hunt had spent a few hours in the pub and were well tanked up! Drunken driving and general aggression were the order of the day and this combined with the usual biased policing in the area made it difficult for sabs to get near the hunt. The following week we paid a trip to the lesser-spotted Colne Valley Beagles on the Yorkshire moors. It was hard going and we lost them for a time but sab perseverance paid off and we found them again and packed them up a few hours early. Then a group of twenty or so sabs returned to the Rockwood Harriers, but the cowards smashed up one of our vans that two sabs were in. Police then held some sabs for around three hours and stopped us getting anywhere near the perpetrators. Complaints have been made to the police about the officers on the scene but we won't hold our breath!

Sick of Yorkshire police, the following week we headed to Derbyshire to check out the Meynall and South Staffs. Derbyshire police are keeping a low profile at the moment after recently paying out £38,000 after wrongfully arresting members of our group last year. The weather was atrocious and it was depressing at 2pm when we thought the hunt were packing up due to the driving rain to find that they were actually just changing horses! Despite this, and despite constant aggro from hunt bumpkins, we had a pretty good day; staying with the hunt for long periods and constantly popping up where they least expected it.

The last week of November saw us head to Lincolnshire to sab the traditionally fast and aggressive Blankney hunt and what an excellent day we had. Sabs were in exactly the right place at the right time to take hounds off a fox that was only 10 feet in front of the lead hounds and would definitely have been killed if we weren't there. We stayed on the hunt all day and were always in the right place to sab them if necessary.

We visited the South Notts on one of their rare Saturday meets and packed them up at 2 o'clock and at the end of December as the cold snap began we had another trip to the Blankney. They weren't out due to the hard frost so with a bit of luck and skill we managed to find the elusive Per Ardua beagles who took one look at sabs, boxed up and headed back to kennels. Sabs from the group also had a successful mid-week trip to the Bramham and Badsworth Moor and have been to Cumbria to support the local sabs with the fell packs.

Greetings from Cumbria! Believe it or not, **CUMBRIA** sabs have been out on more occasions during the first half of the season, than the whole of last year (18 so far). This coincides with the worst weather Cumbria has seen since last year! From mid Nov-Jan 1st you could say the local hunts have only been out a handful of times (good news for the wildlife). Saturday Nov 7th, saw us out against the Blencathra fhs at Littletown. We could hear that the hunt were getting nervous, thinking every large group of walkers were sabs. For ten minutes or so we could pick up over the CBs that they had put a fox up. When we caught up with them, you could hear a warning over the CBs not to say anything more. The pack was in full cry. When Barry realised we were in the area, he made repeated efforts to call his pack off the fox. We caught this on video and posted two clips on Youtube. The first clip shows the pack on cry and the warnings about the CBs, the second clip shows Barry ten minutes later still struggling to get his hounds back. This footage was passed onto the police and the local press. No fox was caught on this day, due to our presence.

Mid-November saw Cumbria hit by severe floods, which played havoc with the hunts until mid- December. We turned our attention to the Cumbria beagles, with them packing up most times that we turned up. A big thanks to those who came up from out of the county to help.

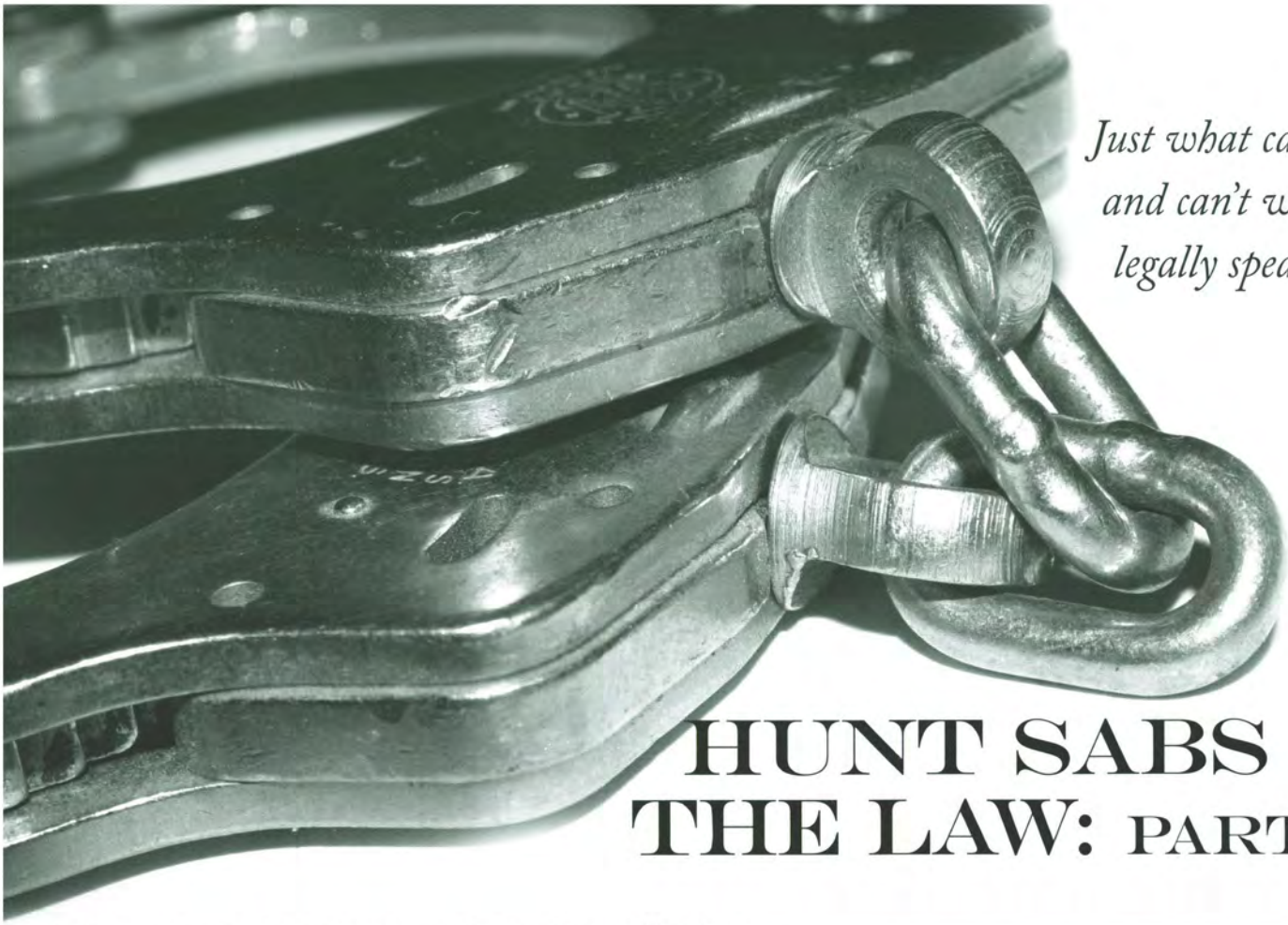
Late December saw us out against the Melbreak; when we turned up in the van a fox ran across the road, followed ten minutes later by the pack. When the hunt realised we were out, they scarpered as is per normal of the Melbreak.

Tuesday 15th Dec saw the Blencathra out for the first time since mid-November. Within five minutes of them starting we turned up; they were so overjoyed to see us out in the middle of nowhere that they decided to abandon the false trail which had been laid early that morning (not)! Once again the Blencathra's support blocked us in, so as to let Barry lay a false trail somewhere else. This is the fourth time this season we have been blocked in. Footage has been passed to the police.

Boxing Day saw us with the Blencathra, but now the snow had arrived and was playing havoc with the meets throughout Cumbria so they just had drinks and had the photos taken. We made sure that they made it back to the kennels safely. As far as we are aware no hunts were out on New Year's Day. So here's hoping we have entered an ice age! If you are interested in coming up to Cumbria email vulpuscarlisle@yahoo.co.uk

BIRMINGHAM huntsabs have been out regularly this season, we've been joining up with Bristol and South Wales sabs. Hunts we've done have included the Ross Harriers, the Berkeley and the Cotswold Vale. We've had some good days of sabbing – sticking with the hunts for most or all of the day and we've generally kept them on the run. We've stopped them from killing, either by our presence with camcorders or by intervening to save lives.

Everyone in our group wants to say a big thank you to all the Lush stores & HQ for doing so much hard work for the Fabulous Mrs Fox campaign. Extra special thanks to all the staff in our local Lush stores in Birmingham, Solihull, Coventry, Merryhill, Telford and Hanley. They did a brilliant job of promoting the campaign and selling the bubble bars, and they also made our group feel really welcome when we went into the stores to do leafletting and talk to customers.



Just what can we do and can't we do, legally speaking?

HUNT SABS & THE LAW: PART 1

Just what can we do and can't we do, legally speaking? What can the hunt do? What is aggravated trespass? What is breach of the peace? What is illegal hunting? When do we have to give our details to the police? What is a policeman/woman? Why do they have funny shaped heads? Confused?!! Have no fear! In a series of articles about legal matters, the HSA's legal officer will guide you through the minefield that is the law, and try not to lose any limbs in the process...In this first article in the series, we will look at how the general legal landscape has changed post-Hunting Act, considering the legal position of hunt sabs and our relationship with the police. We will also look in detail at the most important law that affects sabs: aggravated trespass. It promises to be a bumpy ride, so hang on...



The Legal Landscape

Before the Hunting Act came into force, everything was very simple. The hunt was there to hunt, the sabs were there to disrupt the hunt, and the police were there to protect the hunt and stop (or, if possible, arrest) the sabs. Disrupting the hunt sometimes (though by no means always) involved committing minor criminal offences, especially aggravated trespass. The police tried to arrest us whether or not we had broken the law, the hunt tried to get away from us, or failing that, beat us up, and we tried to keep away from the police and keep up with the hunt (or keep away from them as well if they were trying to beat us up). This was not a pleasant state of affairs, but it was at least straightforward and everyone knew where they stood.

The Hunting Act has muddied the water. Are we now hunt saboteurs, simply disrupting the hunt as before, or are we hunt monitors, collecting evidence of illegal hunting? I'm sure all groups have wrestled with this question. Initial optimism in the early days of the Hunting Act led to many sabs thinking we could discard the hunting horn, whip and spray in favour of the video camera. There was even talk of changing the name of the Hunt Saboteurs' Association to the Hunt Monitors' Association. However, following the very small number of prosecutions of organised hunting, the lack of interest shown by the police in enforcing the Hunting Act, and the business-as-normal attitude of most hunts, that optimism has all but died out. Recognising that the Hunting Act does not do what it says on the tin, most groups now take a more realistic view of their role, and a consensus seems to have emerged that we are still, and always will be, hunt saboteurs. Our main role must always be that of saving hunted animals from a cruel death, and given that the Hunting Act is not doing what it was meant to do, and probably cannot do so, many groups continue to disrupt hunting in the traditional way.



However, the Hunting Act exists and has changed the legal and practical landscape of hunting and hunt sabotage. Most hunts seem to be hunting as normal under the cloak of supposed "trail hunting". Such hunts are scared of their illegal hunting being recorded on camera, so blowing their cover. Despite the ineffectiveness of the so-called ban, it is vital that we record, and archive, as much evidence as possible of illegal hunting. Video cameras have always been essential for hunt sabs, but nowadays are even more important. There are four main purposes of carrying video cameras. They still perform the function they always have performed in protecting hunt sabs from, and recording, hunt violence. However, there are three additional functions that they perform post-ban. Firstly, we may obtain sufficient evidence for a prosecution of the hunt. Secondly, even if we don't achieve this, we may record sufficient evidence to defend us against potential prosecutions for disrupting the hunt (more on this later). Thirdly, and perhaps most importantly, many hunts become shy when sabs point a video camera at them, and stop hunting. Thus, the Hunting Act gives us another tool in our hunt sabbing toolbox; the video camera is just another means of disrupting the hunt, along with the traditional horn, spray and whip. Some groups have found that video cameras are indeed the most effective tools they have for stopping hunting. This does not mean that those groups are hunt monitors and not hunt saboteurs. Rather, they are saboteurs who have found an alternative means of hunt sabotage. In my view, this is the best way of thinking about the Hunting Act; it has not banned hunting but it has given those who take direct action against hunting an additional means of sabotage.

There is, however, another way in which the Hunting Act has confused things, and that is in terms of the relationship between hunt saboteurs and the police. Prior to the Act, our relationship was antagonistic, but simple. We all knew the police were not (and are not) impartial, or simply "stuck in the middle" between hunters and hunt sabs. We all knew where their sympathies lay. It was best to keep away from the police at all times. Any interaction with the police was not likely to be beneficial to hunt sabs, and was likely to be detrimental to the practice of hunt sabotage. We knew exactly where we stood. Now, however, we are in uncharted territory. Just as sab groups struggled with their identity after the Act came into force, so we struggled, and still do struggle, to define our relationship with the police. On the one hand, we want to maintain some sort of constructive relationship with the police because they are, in principle at least, potentially on our side. We share (again, at least in principle) a common aim, which is to prevent illegal hunting. This means that we may at times want to point out to them instances of illegal hunting in the hope that they will take action against it. It also means that we may at times want to make complaints of illegal hunting, make statements and give the police video evidence. On the other hand, most police take very little interest in enforcing the Hunting Act, take at face value the claims made by the hunt that they are trail hunting, and simply try and obstruct or arrest hunt saboteurs exactly as they did before the Hunting Act came into force.





Furthermore, because of the enormous loopholes in the Hunting Act, and the way in which the Act has so far been interpreted by the courts, there are occasions on which hunts are hunting live animals and yet are not in breach of the Hunting Act. Sabs who then disrupt such hunts face legal consequences that are exactly the same as those they faced prior to the Hunting Act. In my view, our relationship with the police is an issue that remains to be resolved satisfactorily, and each group will have to decide for itself, based on local policing, what is the best approach to take in dealing with the police. This is a purely tactical decision which should be made in the interests of maximising group effectiveness.

Aggravated Trespass

So, just what can sabs do, and what can they not do, legally? The most important law affecting the activities of hunt sabs is aggravated trespass (AT). Police powers in relation to AT are defined in sections 68 and 69 of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994. The full text of acts of parliament is freely available at www.statutelaw.gov.uk, and I shall only summarise sections 68 and 69 here. All the case law referred to below, with the exception of the Lancashire case, can be seen at www.freebeagles.org.

Section 68

Section 68 defines the offence of AT. There are four elements to this offence: (1) You must be trespassing on land, (2) people must be engaging in, or about to engage in, a lawful activity on that land or adjoining land, (3) whilst trespassing you must do something, and (4) you must do whatever it is you do with the intention of disrupting or obstructing the lawful activity, or of intimidating those people engaging in (or about to engage in) the lawful activity so as to deter them from engaging in it. This points to a second way in which the Hunting Act benefits hunt sabs (and therefore foxes), in addition to providing us with another tool of sabotage. Hunting wild mammals is (at least in principle, although there are complications) illegal.

This means that if the hunt is hunting animals, it is not engaging in a lawful activity and sabs cannot be guilty of AT. If we are charged with AT for disrupting a hunt that is hunting animals, clearly one of our best defences is to show that the hunt was not a lawful activity. This is one reason, alluded to above, why it is more important now than ever to collect evidence of illegal hunting. Even if that evidence is insufficient to prosecute the hunt (i.e., to prove beyond reasonable doubt that the hunt is illegally hunting), it may well be sufficient to cast doubt on whether the hunt is engaging in a lawful activity (i.e. to cast doubt on the prosecution's case that the hunt is not hunting illegally), which should be sufficient to return a not guilty verdict on charges of AT.

Evidence of illegal hunting which might assist sabs includes, but is not limited to:

- footage of hounds on cry (even if it's just the sound)
- riders on point
- holloas and people waving their caps

- riders "holding up" around a covert as happens during cubbing
- footage of the hunt persistently going from covert to covert and other places where foxes are likely to be, and hounds being deliberately "drawn" through such places by the huntsman
- hounds in cry going across or through places where trails are unlikely to be have been laid, such as very thick undergrowth and hedgerows, through crops, over very rough or rocky ground, across main roads and railway lines, residential areas and domestic property, etc.
- any earths being blocked
- the presence of terriers and digging equipment

These are of course in addition to the obvious things such as hounds visibly chasing a fox and the huntsman hunting hounds onto the line of a fox. With regard to showing that the hunt is not engaging in a lawful activity, it is also worth sabs familiarising themselves with what real trail hunting looks and sounds like (and it's very different from hunting animals), so that should the need arise, your evidence of illegal hunting can be strengthened by pointing out to the court the differences between what you saw (and what you are charged with disrupting) and legal trail hunting. It should be noted when reading the case law described below, that these cases were prior to the Hunting Act, when hunting was lawful.

AT is not a simple offence; all four elements described above must be proved for a conviction under Section 68, and each one can be complex. The important points in relation to these four elements are described below:

Trespassing and the Definition of "Land"

There are two standards of trespass. Firstly, there is civil trespass which is basically being on land when the landowner doesn't want you there. This is straightforward - you either have permission to be there or you don't. If you don't have permission to be there and you're on private land to which the public have no legal or customary right of access, you're committing the civil offence of trespass. Then there's trespass as part of a criminal offence, such as AT or burglary (which is trespassing with intent to commit criminal damage or theft). When trespass is a component of a criminal offence, whether or not you are trespassing depends on your state of mind. In other words, you may not have permission to be on a certain piece of land, and the landowner may not want you there, but if you honestly, and with reasonable grounds, believe you are allowed to be there, you are not trespassing for the purpose of a criminal offence of which trespass is a part. It comes down to having what is known as an implied licence to be on a certain piece of land. An implied licence is something that makes us believe we are allowed to be in a certain place. For instance, a sign next to a gate saying "Visitors welcome" is an implied licence to go through the gate. However, implied licences do not have to be words or signs; postal workers have an implied licence to go into people's gardens to deliver mail. If we have an implied licence to be on a particular piece of land, we are not trespassing for the purpose of a criminal offence because we have an honest and reasonably held belief we are allowed to be there, and we cannot be guilty of the criminal offence of which trespass is a part.



However, an implied licence is not a get-out-of-jail-free card as far as disruption is concerned. For instance, implied licences typically evaporate if you start disrupting a lawful activity on the land in question; it will be argued that although you might think you are allowed to enter a certain piece of land, you cannot reasonably think that you have an implied licence to disrupt a lawful activity on that land. In other words, as soon as you start the disruption, you exceed your implied licence to be there and you become a trespasser. The same is true of any land, for example, Forestry Commission land, National Trust land and open access land (i.e., land where we have the "right to roam") to which the public are granted a general right of access either by the landowner or by act of parliament; the right of access is limited to the pursuit of certain activities, and once we go beyond what we are permitted to do, we become trespassers.

For the purposes of AT, "land" does not include roads, but does include footpaths, bridleways and byways open to all traffic ("green lanes"). You can be a trespasser on a footpath, bridleway or byway because although you have the right to pass and repass along these highways and also to make other uses of these highways such as are reasonable, once you start using these highways to disrupt lawful activities, you cease to make reasonable use of them. You then go beyond what you are permitted to do on them and you become a trespasser. Thus, you can commit AT from a footpath, bridleway or byway but not from a road (including its verges, which are part of the highway).

Definition of "Lawful Activity" and "Adjoining Land"

There are differing degrees of unlawfulness of activities. For instance, it is possible for an activity to be unlawful and yet not to amount to an actual offence, either civil or criminal. However, for the purposes of the offence of AT, the activity that one intends to disrupt is regarded as lawful if those engaged in it are not committing a criminal offence and are not trespassing. In other words, an activity might be unlawful in the wider sense of the word, but lawful for the purposes of AT, and one could be guilty of AT if one disrupts that activity.

Case law sheds further light on the meaning of "lawful activity". For instance, in the case of Hibberd v DPP, an anti-roads protestor was charged with AT for occupying a tree in the path of a by-pass under



construction. His defence was that the activity he was charged with obstructing (tree-felling) was not a lawful activity because one of the chainsaw contractors was not wearing gloves, in breach of health and safety law. However, the judge distinguished between the fundamental activity of the contractors in felling trees, and the manner in which that activity was carried out. He ruled that although the law had been broken in the manner in which the trees had been felled, the fundamental activity, that of felling trees, was lawful. Furthermore, this was the activity the protestors sought to obstruct. It is clear from this case that to use this defence, the activity that is disrupted must be fundamentally unlawful in itself, rather than have one or more incidental aspects that are unlawful. However, in a more recent case involving health and safety law, anti-shooting protestors were charged with AT in relation to disrupting a shoot in Lancashire. They were found not guilty, having successfully shown that the shoot was not a lawful activity because it had not conducted a health and safety risk assessment. In this case, the lack of the risk assessment was so fundamental as to render the shoot itself an unlawful activity.

In the case of Nelder and others v DPP, a hunt saboteur charged with aggravated trespass for disrupting a fox hunt argued that the hunt was not a lawful activity because it had trespassed on a railway line. However, the judge ruled that the fox hunt, taken as a whole, was a lawful activity because it had only trespassed on the railway line for a relatively short period of time, and for most of the time it was not trespassing. Had the saboteurs confined their disruption to the period of time that the hunt was on the railway line, they would not be guilty of AT. This case shows that an activity taken as a whole must be unlawful for this to be used as a defence against a charge of AT.

I am unaware of any case law relating to the definition of what constitutes "adjoining land", and this would be up to a court to determine. A pragmatic approach would be for the court take the view that any land close enough for you to be able to disrupt an activity that is taking place on it must be adjoining land. However, in this case it would be unnecessary for Section 68 to specify that the lawful activity that is disrupted must be taking place on the land on which you are trespassing or on adjoining land; disruption of a lawful activity taking place anywhere would be an offence. Therefore it is open to someone charged with AT to argue that the lawful activity they allegedly disrupted or intended to disrupt was taking place neither on the same land that they were on, nor on adjoining land. This could be argued if, for instance, there was more than one field boundary, or a major feature such as a road or river, between you and the activity you are charged with disrupting. It could also be argued if the land you were on was owned by someone (person A) other than that (person B) who owned the land the lawful activity was taking place on, and there was land in between you and the lawful activity owned by a third person (person C). I have no idea if these arguments would hold any weight; I merely suggest them as possibilities.

What Constitutes "Doing Something"?

Under normal circumstances, a specific act (other than the mere act of trespassing) must be carried out (with the intention of disrupting a lawful activity) in order to commit AT. However, it is important to be aware of the legal concept of attempted crime, by which it is possible to be guilty of an offence without actually committing that offence, if one intends to commit an offence and one carries out an act which is more than merely preparatory to committing that offence. An example is that you could be convicted of criminal damage after being arrested standing in front of a window with a brick held in your raised hand, even though you had not thrown the brick at the window. This is because the act of raising the brick in your hand is more than merely preparatory to the act of throwing the brick at the window. In other words, you are so close to

throwing the brick that you clearly intended to do so, and probably would have done so had you not been arrested, and from a legal point of view, you can be considered to have actually thrown the brick.

This principle has been used to convict hunt saboteurs of AT. In the case of Winder v DPP, a hunt saboteur was convicted of AT in relation to disrupting a fox hunt for running towards the hunt. The judge ruled that the saboteur intended to disrupt the hunt and was running towards the hunt in order to carry out that intention. The act of running was sufficiently closely connected to the intended disruption as to be more than merely preparatory to it. The judge therefore ruled that the saboteur had attempted to disrupt the hunt, and was guilty of the offence of AT. If the Crown Prosecution Service would apply creativity like that to prosecuting the hunt, I'm sure we'd see a few more convictions for illegal hunting.

Intent

From a legal point of view, a person's intent is anything which is a natural consequence of their actions. Thus, for instance, you could not argue that you did not intend to disrupt a hunt by blowing a horn because disruption of the hunt is a natural consequence of blowing the horn, and therefore you must have intended to disrupt the hunt. You could, however, argue that you did not intend to disrupt a hunt by holding up a banner proclaiming your disapproval of hunting because it does not follow that the hunt will be disrupted as a result of your holding the banner.

Section 69

Section 69 gives the police the power to order trespassers to leave the land if they believe those trespassers are committing, have committed, or intend to commit aggravated trespass. Having been ordered to leave the land, those people commit an offence if they fail to leave the land as soon as practicable, or if they re-enter the land within three months. The important points about this section are:

1. It confers on the police a power to order people to leave the land they are trespassing on. In other words, you must be trespassing before the police can use this power, and the only order the police can give is to leave the land. The police cannot order you to do anything other than leave the land, and they cannot order you not to enter land you are not yet on (something they often try to do).
2. The police can only use this power if they reasonably believe you have been committing, are committing, or intend to commit aggravated trespass. In other words they cannot order you to leave land just because you are trespassing; they must have reason to believe you are there to disrupt a lawful activity.
3. Having been ordered to leave, it is not an offence not to leave as soon as practicable, or to re-enter within three months, if you have a reasonable excuse for not leaving or for re-entering.
4. Section 69 does not confer on the police the power to require people who they have ordered to leave the land to give their details, nor does it give the police the power to search those people. This is not to say that the police cannot search you, or require you to give them your details, in these circumstances, just that the police would have to rely on powers other than Section 69 if they wanted to search you or obtain your details.

I hope that this article has been informative and will give sabs more confidence in the field because they are more aware of their rights (or lack thereof) and police powers. Future articles in this series will build on this. The article in the next issue of Howl will focus on the main law that affects the hunt: Hunting Act.

Disclaimer

Nothing in this article is intended to incite, encourage or condone illegal acts. The author is not a solicitor; the information contained in this article is for general information only and does not constitute legal advice. For legal advice, always seek the services of a trusted solicitor recommended by activists (see below).

Legal Information for Activists

The following websites are good sources of legal information:
www.freebeagles.org
www.liberty-human-rights.org.uk

Recommended Solicitors

The solicitors below all regularly work with animal rights and other activists and are trusted.

Birds Solicitors
Tim Greene
1 Garratt Lane
Wandsworth
London
SW18 2PT
020 8874 7433
Out of hours arrests: 07966 234994
Email: info@birds.eu.com
Website: http://www.birds.eu.com

KieranClarkeGreen
Kevin Tomlinson & Gavin Haigh
36 Clarence Road
Chesterfield
Derbyshire
S40 1XB
Tel: 01246 211006
Email: kevin.tomlinson@kieranclarke.co.uk
or: info@kieranclarke.co.uk

Sonn MacMillan Walker Solicitors
Tim Walker
19 Widegate Street
London
E1 7HP
020 7377 8889
Emergency advice (24 hrs) 07659 591505
Email: enquiry@criminalsolicitor.co.uk
Website:www.criminalsolicitor.co.uk

Kellys Solicitors
Lydia Dagostino & Teresa Blades
9, St. Georges Place, Brighton, East Sussex BN1 4GB
Tel: 01273 674898

Bindmans Solicitors
Mike Schwarz & Shauna Gillan
275, Gray's Inn Road, London, WC1X 8QB
Tel: 020 7833 4433
Website: www.bindmans.com



VIOLENCE

HUNT VIOLENCE AND HOW TO AVOID IT

Sabotaging hunts always has the potential for violence. What follows is a guide of how to avoid it. Many hunts have a well-deserved reputation for being a bunch of in-bred psychos and sabs unfortunately seem drawn to them like moths to the flame. Dealing with violence starts at the beginning of the day – always try to have a few alternative hunt meets if your numbers are low due to Saturday morning hangovers. Discretion can be the better part of valour and you can do a softer hunt where less trouble is expected.

HOW TO SAB VIOLENT HUNTS

First of all, don't be predictable. Turning up every week and staying from the beginning to the end is a recipe for trouble, as sooner or later the hunt thugs will react. Sometimes just do some pre-beating and spraying, and tie up gates etc., and then bugger off to an alternative hunt. At other times start at another hunt and turn up later in the day when they are not expecting it and half their thugs will have made off home or will be spread out all over the place.

When you do start at a violent hunt don't charge in straight away. Have a little drive around and check the numbers of terrier-thugs and in-bred farmer bumpkins and revise your actions accordingly.

Next we should look at when and where sabs are attacked. Mainly this happens when sabs are on their own or in small groups, and the cure is obvious: stay in big groups, don't run off on your own, and don't leave people behind.

Sabs have a tendency to follow the hunt on foot wherever they go from cover to cover, and this at a violent hunt is a big mistake

as it enables the hunt to make plans to ambush you. Everybody has a mobile phone these days, and it's easy for the hunt staff to say to their thugs which way they are going and how many sabs are following. Many sabs have been attacked because of this, usually in woods, under railway bridges etc. The way to avoid this is to use the vehicles (hopefully nice Landrovers) more. When you spy the hunt, use a footpath (if available – trespass is usually a starting point for aggro) to get to the hunt. After you've sabbed them and have hopefully messed up a draw, don't stand around like targets having pissed the hunt off. Return to the vehicles, drive around to head them off at the pass (i.e. the next cover) and repeat the process throughout the day, the idea being to have the hunt in front with you and your vehicles behind you so you can retreat to them if required.



If you are attacked or trouble is brewing, use video and stills cameras (video cameras have prevented many an assault and ensured successful prosecutions later) but remember that the police are likely to seize cameras, so be careful what you film. Stick together, back each other up, and defend yourselves with vigour (the hunt are mostly cowards and will back off if they think they might get hurt). Be aware of your surroundings and changing situations; a lot of assaults develop because sabs fail to notice when bumpkins start turning up out of the woodwork and the odds start to turn against them, or when a sab is overly-mouthy and exacerbates a confrontation by failing to notice what's going on. Keep aware of this and retreat (together in one group) back to the vehicles.



Most of this assumes that you are safe in the vehicles (I know sabs have been assaulted in their vehicles but this is much rarer than being attacked out on foot; vehicles may get damaged but it's better than sabs getting hurt). Drivers should drive defensively: don't park up where you could get blocked in, don't drive down narrow dead-end lanes, and when you do drop your sabs off do it from the safest place (i.e. a main road with lots of witnesses if possible). Do use mobiles and radios, driving to locations with good reception if necessary to enable foot sabs to contact the vehicle to arrange a pick-up if they get into trouble.

Horses, and being ridden down by them, are constant problems. If you're walking down bridleways, keep an eye out. Walk just off the bridleway behind trees to avoid a kick in the back. If riders are going to ride you down avoid open spaces, get behind obstacles (trees are good), walk near barbed wire fences and hop over the other side if being ridden at. If caught out in the open by a persistent rider, get control of the horse (i.e. take hold of the bridle) which should discourage them.

If you have been attacked, contact the HSA press officer (bad press should discourage them in the future and shame the police into action). Call the police ASAP (remember to collect car registrations and bumpkins' descriptions and photos). Police have a tendency not to investigate hunt assaults fully, so be ready to make official complaints if they don't. Invite the press and TV out with you – it normally calms down hunt behaviour (and if it doesn't, then a beaten-up reporter is always guaranteed good publicity!)



Lastly, the most important thing is joint hits. Support other groups if they have had trouble with their local hunt. Most hunts are sensible and will leave sabs alone if it means a hundred sabs turning up next week if they don't. When the Surrey Union Hunt seriously assaulted sabs back in the glory days of the nineties, 400 sabs turning up the following week ensured we were not assaulted again and made them give up hunting on Saturdays for years afterwards.

Are you moving?

If you move house, please don't forget to tell us.

The HSA has a disproportionate number of returned envelopes due to unknown addressees, which inevitably means wasted funds on postage.

We greatly appreciate your support and want to ensure you receive your precious copy of Howl as usual.

Make sure we know where you are!!

ta muchly

CLUB DRAW ☆ WINNERS ☆

As part of our fundraising activities, the HSA operates a 'Club Draw' - Just like the National Lottery (except unlike them we wouldn't donate to 'worthy causes' like the Museum of hunting: Past, present and future) If you'd like to take part fill in the leaflet which should be included in your issue of Howl. If the slip is missing, just write to the HSA office and request an entry form.

NOV 09

E. FINE
E.MILES
D.HEALD

DEC 09

M FORSYTH
P. FENN
B. CHAPMAN

JAN 2010

F. FORD
D. THURLEY
P. PERRIN



HELP SAVE A LIFE AFTER YOUR DEATH

REMEMBER THE HUNT SABOTEURS ASSOCIATION IN YOUR WILL

You may think that it is not worth your while making a Will but you may be surprised at how much you are worth, especially if you own your own home. Most people in this country die without making a Will and that means that the government gets more than their fair share. Making a Will need not be complicated or time consuming and it could save your loved ones a lot of unnecessary heartache. If you do not have a Will when you die there is no guarantee that those closest to you will benefit from your wealth and property. In addition, many people like to know that the organisations they support whilst alive will continue to benefit after their death.

The Hunt Saboteurs Association relies entirely on the generosity of its membership to function. As the organisation has no paid staff and minimal running costs more of the money coming in can be put to good use where it counts most – in the hunting field. Leaving a gift to the H.S.A. in your Will helps to ensure that the good work carried out by active hunt saboteurs can continue. With a ban now in place, and so many hunts blatantly flouting it, the role of sabs has never been more important, so your gift will still be put to good use – the HSA will continue until no sentient creatures are abused in the name of sport.

A Will is a legally binding document and needs to be prepared properly. The services of a solicitor should be employed. A solicitor is the only person who can give professionally qualified advice. Have a look in Yellow Pages (under 'Solicitors') or call the Law Society on *020 7242 1222*. If you already have a Will you can include a gift to the H.S.A. by adding an amendment (known as a 'codicil') – you will need to consult your solicitor about this.

If you are able to remember the H.S.A. in your Will it would help if you could let us know.

I plan to / have already prepared a Will and have remembered the Hunt Saboteurs Association as follows (please tick as appropriate):

☐ **Residual Legacy** - a percentage of my estate once my family and friends have been provided for.

☐ **Pecuniary Legacy** - a cash gift of £.....

☐ **Specific Gift** - an individual item of value e.g. jewellery.

Name.....

Address.....

.....Postcode.....

Signature.....

Date.....

VERMIN PATROL

CRUELTY CASES IN THE COURTS

To keep up to date on all Vermin Patrol cases visit www.nwhsa.org.uk

bloodsports
VERMIN

Three men were spared jail at Newton Aycliffe magistrates court after admitting organising a cock fight and causing unnecessary cruelty to animals. They were seen pitting two cockerels against each other in a County Durham field. Police found cock-fighting paraphernalia at the scene, including 2in metal spurs and drugs to treat injuries and so avoid using vets. The court were told how the birds had been prepared for fighting, having had their natural spurs honed down, enabling steel spurs to be attached, and the birds' wattles and combs removed.



James Sheldon Welch, 19, of Yarm Road, Darlington, admitted he was a regular gym user and steroids found among the drugs were his.



Walter David Welch, 19, of Honeypot Lane, Darlington, said he had been "at the wrong place at the wrong time" and "went along for the ride". Both Welchs were given ten weeks' imprisonment, concurrent for each offence, suspended for 12 months, and made to do 80 hours unpaid work. They were each ordered to pay £500 towards the RSPCA's costs, estimated at £6,800, and banned from keeping animals for five years. **Thomas Mounsey**, 18, of Durham Road, Bishop Auckland, is expected to receive the same sentence.



Two men are facing jail after slaughtering nine protected birds at a beauty spot. Paul Reed, 27, and Dane Ord 22, were part of a gang of three who startled Kittiwakes at cliffs beside Marsden Rock with a torch before firing on them with an air rifle. They then set two dogs on them as they fell to the ground. The birds were later found in a bloody pile by a member of the public. Both men pleaded guilty to killing all nine birds.

The trial of three gamekeepers has collapsed after they were accused of accosting suspected poachers. Jeremy Wearmouth, 42, of Keepers Cottage, Gunnerside, near Richmond; Douglas MacLean, 31, of Richmond; and Lewis Williams, 23, of Thirley, Gunnerside, were found not guilty of assaulting and threatening two rabbit hunters from Manchester after a trial at Teesside Crown Court. Williams was also cleared of possessing a firearm with intent to cause fear of violence. During the trial, the jury heard that in the middle of the night, Michael Collins, 22, and Luke Doyle, 19, were found near a van beside a moorland road in Swaledale. The pair had permission by the parents of a university friend to shoot rabbits on their land in Aysgarth, but got lost in the dark and ended up six miles outside their boundary on the Gunnerside estate. The pair claim they were assaulted and threatened by the three gamekeepers and that Williams held a shotgun to Collins' head.

On 14/12/09 11 people were arrested in a police operation against hare coursing. The neighbourhood policing teams in Wantage, Faringdon and Hungerford are running an operation targeting anyone who is hare coursing and committing any related offences. Arrests have so far been made near Steventon and East Hanney with everyone arrested bailed to return.

A hunt master was cleared of assaulting two campaigners who were trying to film his activities from bushes. Gary Watchman, joint master of the South Durham Hunt, demanded that two camouflage-clad women "get off private land" when they attracted the attention of hounds in Sedgefield. On 14/12/09 at Bishop Auckland magistrates they found him not guilty of hitting the two LACS protestors with a riding crop. The court was told that when Watchman discovered the pair, he became angry and said they were trespassing. He admitted his anger with campaigners who repeatedly "crop up" at his farm, in Bradbury, and while he is out hunting. He said: "I did not use foul language. I was annoyed because of the length of time these people have been pursuing us." Both LACS protesters said he hit them with a riding crop and barged into one. They also said he tried to take equipment. The bench acquitted Watchman of both charges

How YOU can help end 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.
- 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. Contact us if you don't already have a salesgoods order form, page 2.
- 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 AND 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*)

❑ £15 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.....

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

Please return to HSA, BM HSA, London WC1N 3XX

For a standing order form, to pay via Paypal or for more information phone 0845 450 0727
or email us - info@huntsabs.org.uk

USEFUL ADDRESSES

A.L.F. Press Office
BM 4400, London, WC1N 3XX
01623 746470 alfpressoffice@yahoo.com

ALF Supporters Group
BM 1160, London, WC1N 3XX
www.alfsg.org.uk

Animal Rights Coalition
PO Box 339, Wolverhampton, WV10 7BZ
0845 458 0146 www.arcnews.redblackandgreen.net

Arkangel magazine
BM 9240, London, WC1N 3XX
arkangel@arkangelweb.org www.arkangelweb.org

The Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade (CAFT)
PO Box 38, Manchester, M60 1NX
0845 330 7955 caft@caft.org.uk www.caft.org.uk

Digging Out (Campaign for the Abolition of Terrier Work)
BCM Digging Out
London WC1N 3XX info@diggingout.org www.diggingout.org

Earth First!
www.earthfirst.org.uk www.eco-action.org

The Fox Project
The Lodge, Kings Toll Road, Pembury, Kent, TN2 4BE
01892 842111 mon-fri 9am-3pm
fox@foxproject.org.uk www.foxproject.org.uk

Hunt Watch
PO Box 487, Norwich, NR5 8WE
07952 550054 contact@huntwatch.info www.huntwatch.info

League Against Cruel Sports (LACS)
New Sparling House , Holloway Hill
Godalming, Surrey, GU7 1QZ
0845 330 8486 info@league.org.uk www.league.org.uk

The National Anti Snaring Campaign (NASC)
PO Box 3058
Littlehampton West Sussex BN16 3LG
info@antisnaring.org.uk www.antisnaring.org.uk

National Fox Welfare Society
135 Higham Road, Rushden, Northants, NN10 6DS
01933 411996 natfox@ntlworld.com www.nfws.org.uk

POWA (Protect Our Wild Animals)
www.powa.org.uk

SchNEWS
PO Box 2600, Brighton, BN2 0EF
01273 685913 schnews@brighton.co.uk www.schnews.org.uk

Sea Shepherd
BCM Bass, London, WC1N 3XX
uk@seashepherd.org www.seashepherd.org

SPEAK Campaigns
PO Box 6712, Northampton, NN2 6XR
0845 330 7985 07906 497317 info@speakcampaigns.org
www.speakcampaigns.org

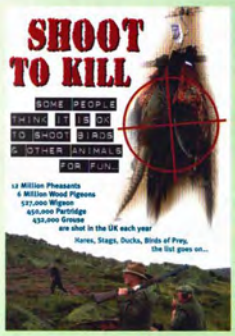
Stop DEathFra Badger Killers
www.badger-killers.co.uk

Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC)
C/o FRIEND, 89 Bush Road, East Peckham, Tonbridge, TN12 5LJ
info@shac.net www.shac.net

Vegan Prisoner Support Group (VPSG)
BM 2107, London, WC1N 3XX
020 8292 8325 info@vpsg.org www.vpsg.org

The Vegan Society
Donald Watson House, 21 Hylton Street, Hockley, Birmingham,
B18 6HJ 0121 523 1730 0845 458 8244
info@vegansociety.com www.vegansociety.com

HSA PROMOTIONALS





Full colour A5 'Shoot to Kill' leaflet. Explains what you can do to stop our wildlife being killed and persecuted by shooters.

'Shoot to Kill'
FREE (+p&p +DONATION)



Full colour A5 'It ain't over 'til it's over' leaflet. Explains what sabs do post-ban and why we're needed more than ever to protect wildlife from the hunters.

'It ain't over 'til it's over'
FREE (+p&p +DONATION)



'How to sab game shooting' leaflet giving a brief outline o how a shoot operates and how it can be sabbed with well researched arguments against it.

Per 1000 'And How to Stop It' leaflets
FREE (+p&p +DONATION)

Striking 'Anti' stickers - Stick these on your own property and nowhere else. (clearly unsuitable for lamposts, hunt supporters cars, etc as this would be illegal! Also wholly unsuitable for plastering over the statistically absurd '59% say keep hunting' posters)
FREE! (+p&p+DONATION)



BACK ISSUES OF HOWL
FREE (+p&p +DONATION)

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 sab groups receive a discount of 20% when ordering (cost price)** Please quote the name of your group contact when ordering.



POSTAGE AND PACKING
To keep promotional material free we would ask you to make a donation to cover postage.1 Howl costs 55p to send as do 5 posters. 250 leaflets cost approx. £3.75, 500 leaflets £4.25 and 1000 leaflets £6.25.







COME AND PARTY

HSA AGM & Benefit gig!

sat 5th June 2010

3 CHORD BADGER

Liberty

Live bands & DJ
great vegan food,
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Saturday 5th June 2010
Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, Holborn London, WC1R 4RL
1pm til Midnight

I'm co-signing Hilary Benn's letter to David Cameron

Hilary is Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

David Cameron
House of Commons
London
SW1A OAA

Dear David,

February 2010 is the fifth anniversary of the Hunting Act.

We believe it is a sign of a civilised society that we have finally put an end to the practice of setting animals on each other in a fight to the death.

Five years after its introduction, the RSPCA have said that the Hunting Act compares favourably to other wildlife crime legislation currently on the statute book and is enforceable. While the grave predictions for the rural economy following the ban have proved baseless.

Seventy five percent of the British public support the ban on fox hunting. More than eight out of ten people oppose bringing back stag hunting and hare coursing, both of which are also outlawed by the Hunting Act.

In the light of all this we find it impossible to understand why you are determined to legalise once again the tearing to pieces of foxes by dogs. It's also very hard to see why this would be a priority for any incoming government.

Since voting against the ban on fox hunting you have not seemed very keen to talk about this. But, given the strength of public feeling I would be grateful if you would clarify whether you also plan to repeal the ban on hare coursing and stag hunting as well as fox hunting?

We have asked the many thousands of people who have joined our Back the Ban campaign over the last few weeks to co-sign this letter to help you realise how unpopular your plan to bring back hunting wild animals with dogs really is.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

Hilary Benn

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Co. signed by:

Name .....

Address .....

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.....

Postcode .....

I would appreciate the courtesy of a response to this communication, thank you.