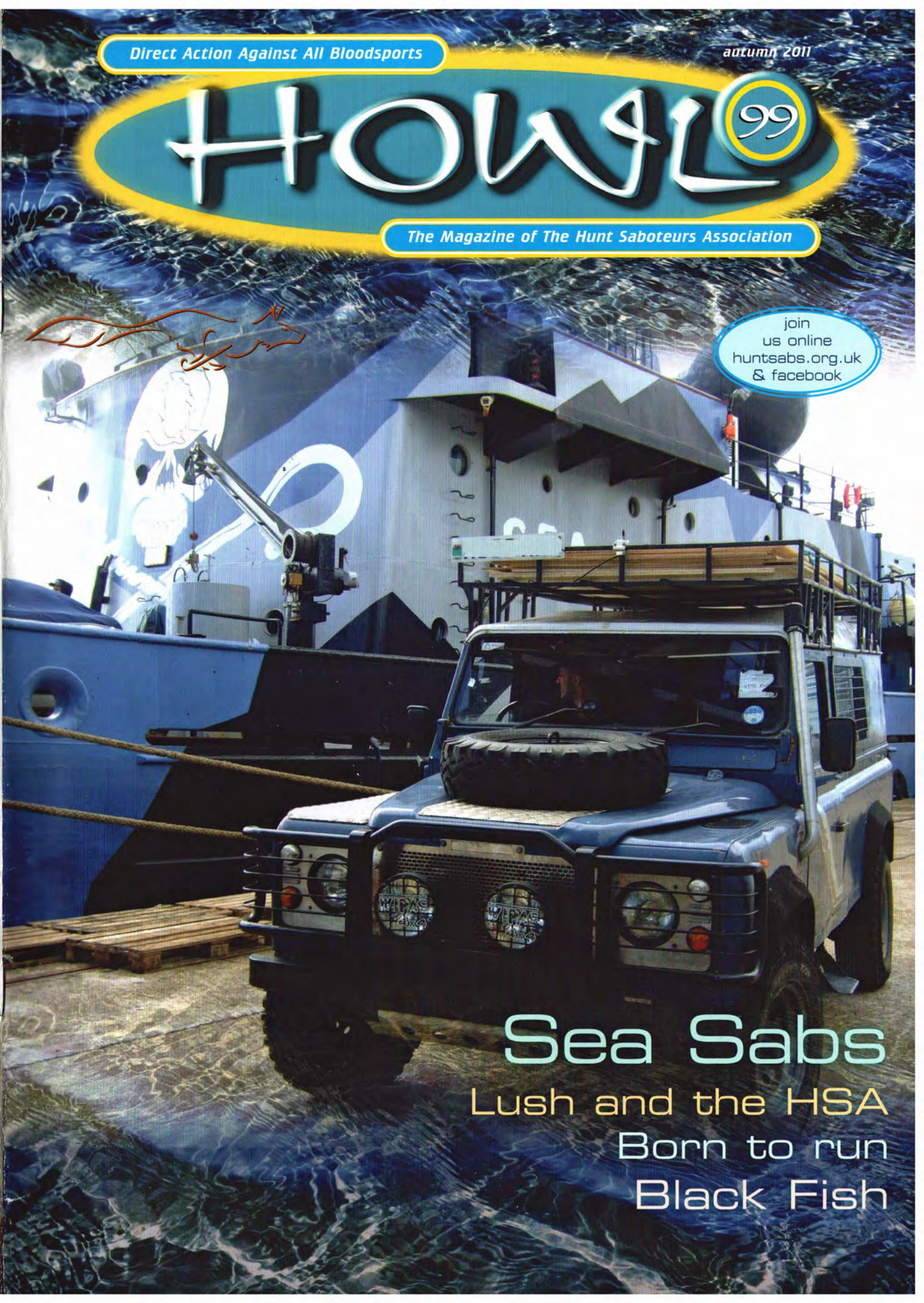
Direct Action Against All Bloodsports

autumn 2011

HOWL 99

The Magazine of The Hunt Saboteurs Association



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HOWL 99

Cover image - huntsabs and Sea Shepherd

Magazine of the Hunt Saboteurs Association
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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.

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INSIDE

REGULARS

News round up 4
Prosecution roundup 8
Vermin patrol 10
Group news 14
AR prisoners 22

FEATURES

Sea Shepherd 6
Hounds Off 9
Lush Fest 12
Born to Run 20
Black Fish 24

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EDITORIAL

Welcome to the 99th issue of Howl! Don't forget that there is a competition to design the front cover for the next issue of Howl and for the best sabbing story sent in (see back cover for more details).

For this issue's editorial our chairperson has written a summary of the 2011 AGM for anyone who couldn't make it...

On the 20th August hunt saboteurs from around the country gathered in London for our Annual General Meeting. This is of course a legal requirement for the organisation, where the usual business of presenting accounts, committee reports and the stand down and re-election of committee positions takes place. It was also the time to discuss the coming season's activities, tactics being used, pass on news and to watch some videos of past season's activities. The organisation is going from strength to strength as proven by an overview of our accounts and assets. In just four years we have doubled our assets and quadrupled the money given out as grants to groups. There is as always room for improvement and we will continue to work to increase the HSA's financial situation.

The day was, as always, a time to meet old friends from years back and to make new ones and was followed by a well-attended benefit gig. Although the headline act of Conflict had dropped out a week before, the other bands Liberty, Disrupters, Virus, and The Sporadics all played. Conflict had supplied a large amount of merchandise free to the HSA so all profits went to the organisation. The purpose of the benefit is to cover all costs of the AGM thereby stopping it being a drain on our resources and, thanks to the thirsty gig-goers, we not only achieved that goal but made a healthy profit. Like all HSA work, those running the event and the bands themselves received no payment for the day; so a big thank-you to everyone who worked hard to make the whole day a success.
During the past few years there has been a decline in the numbers of people offering themselves for committee positions. As such there have been no recent elections held. It is clear that this is not the case anymore and although we have a full committee of twelve people, as per our constitution, it would only take a single person to create an election situation. So next AGM it is highly likely that we will have an election. Due notification will of course be given to all members, but if you feel you would like to stand for committee next year, contact us in advance for the procedure and requirements.

The HSA was started in 1963 and so is coming up to its fiftieth birthday. We know of no other non-violent direct action organisation which has such longevity and consistency, a testament to all those over the years who have worked to keep the organisation going and hunt sabs in the field saving lives. We would of course love to disband once hunting is truly dead and gone, but that is in the hands of the politicians. They need to follow the will of the vast majority of the population and strengthen the Hunting Act, to an extent where just riding out with thirty odd dogs is illegal. Until the day that our wildlife is safe from the countryside vandals this organisation will continue to put sabs in the field and save lives.

Check out our improved website, it looks great and you can now buy merchandise online. www.huntsabs.org.uk

Facebook:
http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=32757379750

NEWS ROUND UP

MORE VIOLENCE AGAINST HUNT SABOTEURS.





Members of the Hunt Saboteurs Association, from different groups in the South East, visited the meet of the Old Surrey, Burstow & West Kent Fox Hunt, taking place just outside Lingfield in East Sussex. Due to previous violence from this hunt's staff and supporters (whose huntsman has a conviction for assaulting a hunt saboteur in 1991) the police had been informed of the hunt saboteurs intentions, and were in attendance.

At around 3pm saboteurs were attempting to cross a narrow metal bridge on Environment Agency land when a supporter of the hunt took it on himself to block their passage. Other hunt supporters on foot were behind the group, and pushing forward against their backs. In the struggle the supporter pulled a female hunt saboteur over, knocking her head onto the concrete base, causing a deep bloody wound to the crown of her head.

Riders of the hunt, supported by the foot followers, proceeded to barge into the other hunt saboteurs in what seemed to be an attempt to cover up the actions of their supporter. Some saboteurs were then asked to 'arraign it' so that the incident was not reported to the police. It is suspected that the perpetrator has a gun licence he would be in danger of losing if convicted of violence. The incident was reported to the police and the man was questioned. Formal statements and video evidence will be submitted to ensure a conviction.

LANCASHIRE HUNT WITNESSED CHASING HARE



hare ©dreamstime

Police are investigating claims that hounds from the Pendle Forest and Craven Hunt were seen chasing a hare. Two local people in their car described how they saw the hounds chasing the hare across fields between Barnoldswick and West Marton in Lancashire. One witness from Barnoldswick said "That poor hare must have been terrified. I could see it running desperately for its life". The other witness from Darwen was visiting her pet sheep when she saw the hunt and said "It was absolutely awful. I locked myself in the car because I just couldn't bear it".
Hunt master Tom Bannister said: "We were completely within the law"!

COTSWOLD VALE HOUND KILLED ON BUSY ROAD



A hound from the Cotswold Vale Farmers Hunt was killed by a lorry, on the A38, South of Tewkesbury, during an illegal fox hunt. Members of the Hunt Saboteurs Association who were present at the hunt in October said the hunts pack of hounds were illegally chasing a fox when one of them ran straight into the road and was killed outright by a lorry that had no opportunity to stop. It was only the presence of the hunt saboteurs that prevented further fatalities as they were able to stop more hounds running into the road.

PARIS WORLD VEGAN DAY

At the London vegan festival this summer some sabs got chatting to the organiser of the Paris World Vegan day, who was kind enough to agree to let the sabs have a stall at the event in Paris in October.
Saturday morning dawned bright and clear in Paris as a London sab and another volunteer braved the Paris traffic to start setting up at half past seven, which probably sounds like a lie in to those of you who were out at cubbing meets.
The Sab/ALF stall was definitely 'overspill', and got given a pitch outside the main building in a courtyard, but any worries that this might be a quiet spot were soon dismissed. There was a constant stream of people at the stall all day, in fact there were still people trying to talk to us when we were told to pack away at 7pm!
The event was truly international with activists from all across Europe and North America. Most wanted to know how we actually sabotage hunts, and demonstrations of horn blowing and whip cracking were attracting a lot of attention. We learned that the situation in France is much worse than at home. There is a specific law that prevents interference with a hunt and the penalties include a jail sentence of up to ten years or a 10,000 euro fine. The government and hunts are closely linked. Most small town mayors are shooters.
Many of the international activists we spoke to expressed an interest in coming to Britain to go out with sab groups and learn more about sabotaging hunts so that they could take the knowledge back to their home countries. We also managed to sell a reasonable amount of merchandise through the day, and overall we felt it had been very worthwhile and productive. We are hoping we can return again next year.



Fallow deer ©dreamstime

RICHMOND PARK DEER CULL

Every year in Richmond Park and Bushy Park, 2 deer culls will take place. Richmond Park will see a cull of female deer each November and a male cull in February; Bushy Park will cull females in September. There are currently 650 deer in Richmond Park - a mix of Red and Fallow deer - which was originally used for deer-hunting and which spans nearly 2500 acres.

Park management claim that the numbers of deer must be kept at around 650 to ensure that the deer remain healthy. They claim that due to the park being an isolated site, deer numbers would increase by around 30% each year, resulting in over-population and starvation and that there are no other realistic alternatives to the cull. Despite expert opinion that populations will regulate themselves at a sustainable level in time if left alone, even in the absence of natural predators and in isolated areas, the park continues to shoot hundreds of deer every year. A census is carried out annually to decide the proportion of male and female deer to be culled, along with their ages.
The "venison that results from the cull" is advertised for sale and is sold to a wholesaler and on to retailers.

So what can we do about it? Simon Richards from the park have said that the public aren't consulted about the cull as "the cull is a necessary part of the management of a deer park which has been normal practice for several hundred years". Well, we sabs don't like "tradition" being used as justification. It seems Richmond Park never stopped being a deer-hunting park. Activists have organised petitions & leafleting (with great support from locals), information stalls, have attended the regular nature walks around the park to ask repeatedly about the deer and the cull, demos are being organised and some sabs have attempted to sab the cull. Help is needed with all aspects of the campaign - research, public outreach, direct action. Both culls can last for up to six weeks each, though, depending on weather, usually last around four to five weeks from the beginning of the month. The culls take place at night when the park is closed to the public and are supposedly done by members of the Royal Parks staff. The park technically closes between 4pm and 5pm, although the gates don't usually physically close until around 8pm. Magenta Security - www.magentasecurity.co.uk - were spotted driving around last year and some sabs reported seeing others patrolling on foot and on bikes. The park (all 2500 acres of it) is supposed to be checked for stray members of public before the shooting begins.

There are other ways of getting into the park, other than hiding in a bush until the park closes (it gets dark early, this isn't too hard). Many of the walls and fences are easy to climb - check out a map of the park (the park website and leaflets have some good ones) and look for some options. Look out for details of future demos and actions.

HUNT PAY COMPENSATION

South Devon hunt, the Modbury harriers have had to pay compensation after their hounds frightened a pet llama to death. The animal was in a field in the village of Aveton Gifford when the incident happened. A vet was called but the llama died of a heart attack.

Parish council vice chairman Stephen Harding said: "I have received several calls from villagers. It's outrageous that the dogs were allowed to frighten a pet like this. The dogs should have been kept under control."

SEA SABS

SEA SHEPHERD AND THE HUNT SABS



On Saturday the 17th December we were on our way home from the New Forest after a cubbing meet when one of our group who is also an on shore volunteer for sea shepherd got a call from the ships manager on board the conservation groups main vessel the Steve Irwin saying that the ship had docked in Southampton and did he know anyone who would be able to help them out. As I'm sure every other sab in the country would have done, the group jumped at the chance.

Over the next five weeks we spent a hell of a lot of time on board and made some great friends and built a good relationship between sea shepherd and the HSA. Between seven members of our group we carried out a wide mixture of jobs on board from carpentry and painting to shopping and cleaning freezers.

We started with the whole group and one of the crew taking one of our landys to b&q to pick up a selection of timber and screws and tools. We arrived back at the ship for a quick tour and then got to work. While one of the group had landed the job of standing watch on the gang plank two others had to go and help get the food shopping for the ship. The remainder of the group helped with the main reason the ship had docked in Southampton which was to have both of it engines taken apart, removed for cleaning and reconditioning. This was a huge job that took quite a few days .

After the first couple of days most of us had decided to bunk off work to go back to the ship and help out. One of our group is a carpenter which meant they found him plenty of jobs to do. The first job being to build and fit the new control panel and fit the dials for the new electronic steering controls. Another member who works in computers was put to work fixing some of the crews lap tops. Other members of the group carried out lots of other jobs including gang plank watch, cleaning the deck, painting safety notices and warning stripes, cleaning freezers, washing dishes, sanding off rust, re-sealing the showers, shopping for tools and components. As the weeks went on they found plenty of jobs for us to do and we were more than happy to help, they even started to order their food supplies from Essential trading through the vegan future food co op run by members of our sab group.





As we got to know the crew quite well, we started to spend a lot of time with them socially which normally involved watching movies, eating dinner on board and frequent trips to the local boozer. We even had a house party for the crew and local sabs. The more time we spent with the crew the more they wanted to know about the HAS and what we do. None of the crew on board at the time were from the UK they didn't know too much about hunting with hounds or about what we do to stop it so they invited us to come on board to do a tactics talk. The talk went very well and the realities of hunting with hounds hit home to a lot of the crew who were not aware of hunting in the UK. After this a few of the crew planned to come out sabbing with us on their day off. Sadly due to them being in the UK on visas and their address whilst here being the ship, it was too risky for them to come out with us this time. After the tactics talk, a lot of them felt that what sea shepherd do and what we do is the same thing just in different places and they said they felt inspired knowing that other people are fighting the same cause. After all we are all defending wildlife from hunters of one kind or another. They were all keen to show their support for the sabs, they put HSA stickers all over the ship and between the crew they bought over £400 of merchandise.

After the engines were fixed and back in the ship, and they passed their MCA safety checks, they did various repairs and maintenance and even bought two new Humber arctic challenge speed boats. We all had dinner and hung out together one last night before they set sail for Australia to pick up the final supplies and rest of the crew ready to head off to the



Antarctic to sab the Japanese whaling fleet.

The morning they left we got up at five thirty to head down to the docks and wave them off before we headed off to do a beagle pack. We were quite sad to see them go but excited knowing that they were leaving to go and defend wildlife. It was inspiring for us knowing that somewhere in the middle of the ocean thousands of miles away there are a bunch of sabs on a ship who support the HSA.





HUNTING ACT CONVICTIONS



Two members of the Fernie hunt in Leicestershire have lost their appeal against conviction under the Hunting Act and the Protection of Badgers Act. Huntsman Derek Hopkins and terrierman Kevin Allen were originally found guilty of both hunting a wild mammal and interfering with a badger sett after a seven day trial which ended in January 2011.

The court case relates to an incident in January 2010 when the hounds chased a fox into a badger sett and marked it to ground. The huntsman then summoned the terriermen to the site. They dug into the sett and bolted the fox out. The huntsman then laid the hounds on to continue chasing the fox. All of this was filmed by League monitors from a distance of about 1_ kilometres. Later the same day the hunt was filmed chasing a second fox across a road.

The pair claimed to have been hunting an artificial trail during the day and had then been attempting to shoot a fox that they had happened across. They also claimed that the land dug into was not an occupied badger sett. However their appeal was dismissed and they remain guilty of hunting a wild mammal and interfering with a badger sett.

The appeal judge found that the pair had used the pretext of trail hunting in order to cover up their pursuit of the fox. He commented that "their conduct amounted to cynical subterfuge. The notion of trail hunting was a cover." He also found the huntsman to be "an unconvincing and unimpressive witness" and the terrierman "even less impressive. We found him shifty and evasive. It was plainly a badger sett in current use."

The judge added a further £6,360 in costs against the pair leaving Hopkins with £5,745 in fines and costs to pay and Allen with £4,295 to pay. The appeal itself is believed to have cost the hunt around £100,000.

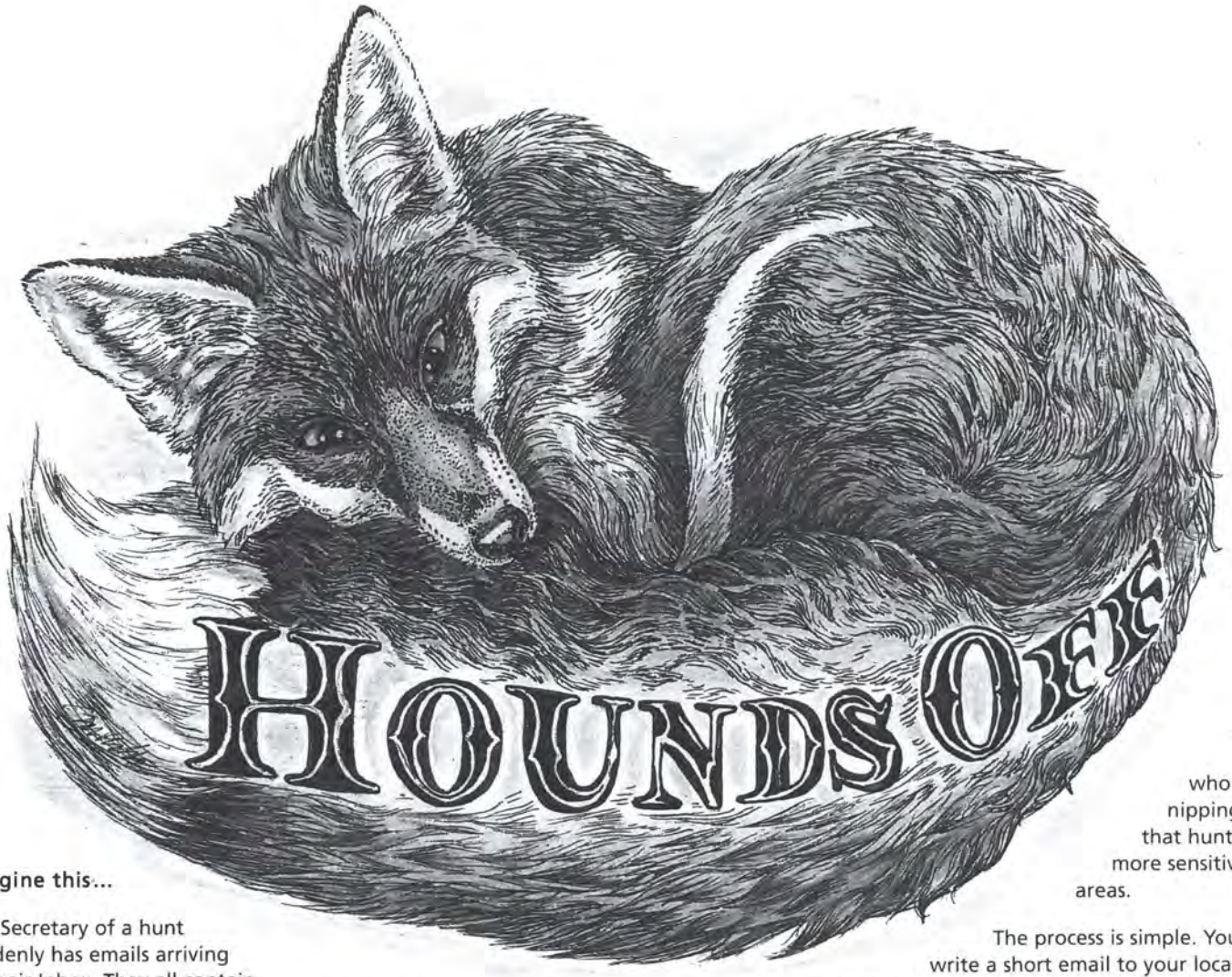
Julian Barnfield, huntsman of the Heythrop hunt is being prosecuted by the RSPCA for two offences of hunting a fox under the Hunting Act. The prosecution is based on film taken by POWA monitors at two meets of the Heythrop in February and March 2011. The next hearing is due in December.

At the same time Barnfield's future hangs in the balance. Rumours are rife that he could be dismissed by the hunt as Charles Frampton, currently huntsman at the Portman, wants to move up to the Heythrop.

Four members of the Crawley and Horsham hunt are being prosecuted by Sussex police under the Hunting Act. They are joint masters Jamie Hawkesfield and Neil Millard; former huntsman Andrew Phillis and hunt secretary Rachel Holdsworth. The case has been adjourned.

The defendants are facing multiple charges concerning offences that are alleged to have taken place during three separate hunt meets in January and February 2011. Video evidence taken by local monitors showing hounds killing foxes was passed to the police earlier this year prompting an investigation.





Imagine this...

The Secretary of a hunt suddenly has emails arriving to their Inbox. They all contain instructions from ordinary members of the public requesting that the So-And-So Hunt keeps off their land. At first these emails are from people in towns and villages with small gardens and backyards. The So-And-So's don't go there anyway these days but wait! A Warning Off letter arrives through the post with a map for clarity, and there are more emails from folk who own paddocks and parcels of land in prime hunting country. Suddenly a farmer or two is included and by this stage the Hunt Secretary knows that the So-And-So's could be in trouble. Access to the land is important to keep hounds running but the Secretary starts to see that some of their favourite haunts could become no-go areas.

This is exactly the scenario which an anti-hunting movement called Hounds Off wants to see become reality.

The Hunting Act (2004) should have ended the hunting of wild mammals with dogs in England and Wales. In some respects it has. Over 180 successful prosecutions under this legislation prove it can work. But what's also apparent is that certain members of society are prepared to test it and break the law. And this is why creating Hunt Free Zones, which are essentially wildlife sanctuaries owned and cared for by the British public, is potentially such a powerful approach.

The idea is to create pockets of land where hunting is forbidden. Over time, by joining up these isolated areas Hounds Off believes that, together, we can make the hunting of wild animals with dogs impractical over large stretches of countryside.

If you live in a town or city where urbanisation has curtailed hunting then Hounds Off still wants you! Your Warning Off email or letter to the hunt which would have frequented your neighbourhood in days of old will show solidarity with others who are nipping that hunt in more sensitive areas.

The process is simple. You write a short email to your local hunt. It politely informs them that your property is now officially out of bounds. You copy this to your local MP as well, which informs them of your actions. It means that, in the event of any future incident, your MP will already be involved in a process which might involve them and / or the police.

Everything you need to know, including a sample letter, can be found at www.houndsoff.co.uk .

The wonderful thing is that you can do all of this from the comfort of your own home. If you've ever wanted to take non-violent direct action without having to get up out of your chair then here you go! Access to the internet and a few clicks of a mouse is all that it takes.

And so...

You've warned your local hunt away from your property. So have the neighbours. In fact, most of the families in your street have done the same and everyone looks out for each other. The So-And-So Hunt no longer rides down your way because they know they're not welcome and now there is nowhere for them to go anyway. All over the country, while politicians politicise and pressure groups exert pressure to either repeal or (hopefully) strengthen the hard fought-for Hunting Act (2004) the compassionate majority - that's you and me - is making a practical, peaceful and positive anti-hunting stand.



Photo courtesy of PW/IFAW

VERMIN PATROL

CRUELTY CASES IN THE COURTS

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

bloodsports
VERMIN

On 24/8/11 seven men and a 16 year-old were granted unconditional bail at Scarborough magistrates on charges brought under the Protection of Badgers Act and the Hunting Act. Alan Alexander, 32, of Bramham Grove, York; James Henry Doyle, 34, of Eastfield Avenue, Knottingley; William Edward Anderson, 26, of Hillside, Cropton Lane, Pickering; Christopher Martin Holmes, 28, of Bell Farm Avenue, York; Richard Simpson, 37, of Wains Road, York; Paul Ian Tindall, 33, of Bramham Grove, York; and Malcolm David Warner, 28, of Princess Drive, York; and a 16 year-old from York, were each accused of interfering with a badger set, digging for badgers and willfully killing a badger. Alexander Holmes and Simpson were also accused of causing unnecessary suffering to a protected animal.

Two Burnley men were fined for poaching activity in Longridge and Altham. Nicholas Green, 23, of Reynolds Street, Burnley, was fined £400 by Preston magistrates on 5/7/11 when he pleaded guilty to hunting a wild animal with a dog. He was caught after officers attended a report of a suspicious vehicle on the outskirts of Longridge and discovered a man leaving nearby farmland with lamps and two lurcher dogs. Jeffrey Johnson, 34 of Forfar Street, Burnley, was fined £535 after being found guilty of hunting with dogs.

Raymond Foster of Half Moon Lane, Spennymoor, County Durham, narrowly escaped jail after a dog died in a snare which he set. Foster was also banned from keeping animals for life and ordered to pay £500 compensation to the dog's owner at Darlington magistrates on 21/7/11. At an earlier trial Foster, was found guilty of causing unnecessary suffering to a female springer spaniel. The court heard how the 55- year-old volunteered to carry out vermin control, killing rabbits and rats for the local allotment association. On the day that the dog died, he had also warned one person that he had set fox snares in a field. A vet's report confirmed the dog had died of strangulation and would have been in a lot of pain and distress. The chairwoman of the bench told Foster she was imposing the ban and sentenced him to an 18 week jail sentence, suspended for 12 months, as well as making the compensation order.

A prolific poacher who committed a series of offences over six years was given an anti-social behaviour order on 4/8/11. John Langan from Stokesley was arrested in March 2010 in Bridlington and charged with hunting a wild mammal with dogs. Humberside Police then applied for the Asbo due to the high number of poaching and hare-coursing incidents involving Langan between January 2005 and January 2011. Running for three years, the order features a number of conditions. If they are breached, Langan could face prison. Langan, 25, of Sowerby Crescent, Stokesley, received the Asbo from magistrates in Hull. The order bars him from causing alarm, harassment or distress in the force area and from entering it other than to catch or arrive on a ferry from Hull with pre-booked tickets, to travel to and from Humberside Airport with pre-booked tickets, to work in the East Riding in the construction industry, or to stop to buy fuel.

Three men have admitted deliberately hunting foxes in the east end of Glasgow. Samuel Burgoyne, 44, Robbie Lees, 26, and David Cassels, 24, used dogs with radio collars to hunt the animals on the Clyde Walkway. On 30/8/11 Glasgow Sheriff Court heard that the trio was caught by a wildlife crime officer who saw one of them holding a fox by the scruff of the neck. Sheriff Daniel Convery deferred sentence for good behaviour. The three men, all from Alexandria, Dunbartonshire, pleaded guilty to deliberately hunting foxes with four dogs. The court was told the area of ground is a badger sett which has been used by hunters in the past and regular visits are made to ensure the safety of the animals. The court heard that two of the dogs were found with fox hair and fox DNA in their teeth. All three accused used their dogs to hunt rabbits and rats and that was their initial intention when they set out that day. The court was told that their dog's names were Nipper, Bruiser and Asbo and had cared for them for years. The court also ordered that the dogs are re-homed and disqualified all three from owning dogs for two years.



A gamekeeper from Wiltshire has been given a suspended five-month jail term after he drove his Land Rover at a low-flying Army helicopter. Malcolm Hughes, 61, of Pewsey, was told he could have killed the two crew members in the incident. The pilot, who was flying at 5ft (1.5m) at one point, avoided a collision when he



spotted Hughes' vehicle. Hughes, who said he was trying to see the aircraft's registration, was sentenced at Swindon Crown Court on 2/9/11. He was also told to carry out 120 hours' unpaid work and pay £1,000 prosecution costs. Hughes was found guilty of endangering an aircraft, at an earlier hearing and was suspended for 12 months.

A farmer and his company face a £310,000 court bill for damaging a famous North Yorkshire daffodil valley in their quest for bigger profits from game shoots. Residents of Farndale, near Pickering, told York Crown Court on 10/9/11 how they saw "waves" of pheasants on the roads and 20 at a time in one field after Yorks Sports Ltd and its director, Michael Wood, defied official warnings and illegally increased the number of game birds in and around the valley's conservation area. The court heard how, in 2006, sportsmen shot nearly 15,000 birds on the Farndale Estate where the farmer and company had shooting rights, double the bag of three years earlier. Between 2006 and 2009, the tens of thousands of birds on the land significantly damaged the landscape on top of considerable damage caused by flooding in 2007 in the Farndale site of special scientific interest. The company and Wood are now working with Natural England on restoring the Farndale SSSI to its former state. Wood, 66, and Yorks Sports Ltd, both of Cropton Lane, Pickering, both pleaded guilty to seven offences under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. They were each fined £20,000, plus a £15 victim surcharge and £125,000 between them towards prosecution costs. Natural England, who brought the case, had applied for £200,000. In addition, the defendants must pay a £145,000 defence costs bill. The company was valued in court as worth about £245,000. Wood and Yorks Sport Ltd have shooting rights in Farndale Estate, owned by Sir Lawrence Barratt.

The master of a Teifi Valley hunt was obstructive towards a council animal health officer and a veterinary surgeon who visited the kennels. Robert Gordon Thomas, master of the West Wales Farmers Bloodhounds, of Cwmdu, Cwmcou near Newcastle Emlyn, appeared at Ceredigion magistrates Court on 28/9/11 and pleaded guilty on five charges. He admitted obstructing the officials and four offences of breaching animal by-product regulations. He was ordered to pay fines and costs totalling £9,000. Thomas was fined £2,000 for the obstruction offence, £1,000 on each of the four by-product offences and ordered to pay £3,000 costs.



A huntsman appeared in court on 18/10/11 accused of raping a woman at a ball. John Norrish, 67, who is a member of the Tiverton Staghounds, did not offer a plea but Exeter Crown Court was told the charge is being contested. Norrish, of Mouseberry Farm, East Worlington, near Tiverton, is accused of raping a woman at the event.

Two "barbaric" brothers have been jailed for their part in a dog fighting ring after an undercover investigation by an animal welfare charity. David and Colin Reid admitted taking part in an animal fight and keeping a dog for fighting purposes when they appeared at Banff Sheriff Court on 21/9/11. Scottish SPCA inspectors removed six animals from the Reid brothers and discovered graphic video footage of dog fights during raids on their homes. David Reid, 22, of Boyndie Street West, Banff was jailed for six months while 24-year-old Colin Reid, of Moray Street, Macduff was jailed for four months. Both men have been banned from keeping dogs for five years. During raids on the Reid brothers video evidence was found which not only proved their guilt but also clearly demonstrated their fascination in watching the poor dogs involved viciously fight each other. In 2006, David Reid was banned for two years from keeping animals and fined £300 after pleading guilty to cutting off part of both ears of two bull terrier dogs, cruelly ill-treating them and causing them unnecessary suffering at Banff Sheriff Court.



On 20/10/11 a father and son received prison sentences for owning and training dogs for illegal fighting. Ian Draper, 47, of Sylvester Close, Burford, was jailed for 20 weeks and disqualified from handling dogs for life at Swindon magistrates after he admitted seven charges, including a breach of a previous 10-year ban on keeping dogs. His son Danny Draper, 25, of Tapells Avenue, Witney, was jailed for 12 weeks after admitting his part in the dog fighting. He was also disqualified from handling dogs for 15 years. The pair's girlfriends, Katy Davies (33) and Laura Hornsby (24), also appeared before Swindon magistrates on 28/9/11 where they pleaded guilty to related offences; Laura Hornsby was disqualified from keeping dogs for 12 months and ordered to pay £300 in costs. She was also given a three-year conditional discharge. Katy Davies was ordered to pay a £300 fine, £300 in costs and a £65 surcharge.

Two men from the North East have been jailed after causing 'gross cruelty and tremendous suffering' to a dog that had already been bit by a car. The dog's owner failed to get veterinary attention for her and tied chopsticks to her broken leg before his friends tried to kill her. The two men stood on the six-month-old lurcher-type dog and forced her back legs over her head, breaking her neck. She was stabbed several times with a potato peeler and then dumped on a grass verge to die. Kevin Stuart Varty (D.O.B 20.4.68) of Magdelen Place, Ferryhill and Andrew Painter (D.O.B 30.8.78) of Church Close, Kirk Merrington, Spennymoor were sentenced at Newton Aycliffe magistrates on 1/8/11. They were jailed for 18 weeks and banned from keeping animals for life. The sentencing of owner, Kieran Wynn (D.O.B 19.2.93) of Hallgarth Terrace, Ferryhill, was adjourned. The court heard that the dog had been run over at around 8pm on Saturday night (5 March), just hours after Wynn bought her, and that he couldn't afford vet treatment so tied chopsticks to her broken leg with red lace and Sellotape. The leg was later amputated.





Friends Varty and Painter visited his home the following day and decided to kill her. Wynn pleaded guilty to causing unnecessary suffering to Maggie May by failing to provide her with veterinary care following a road traffic accident. Varty and Painter admitted causing unnecessary suffering by subjecting her to physical trauma resulting in a fractured neck. Painter also admitted causing unnecessary suffering by repeatedly stabbing her with a potato peeler.

SOAP DODGERS?

How ironic. The 'soap dodgers' had been invited to the first, and possibly only, International Lush festival – Lushfest 2011 – to represent the Hunt Saboteurs Association, to talk to staff about who we are, what we do and to add some context to the biggest selling charity soap campaign the company had experienced to date. We love Lush so were very honoured and excited by the opportunity.

Wednesday

After trundling down several small Dorset country roads in fairly gloomy weather, the sab convoy rounded a corner and were faced



with huge circus style tents, lines of bunting, brightly coloured signs decorated with flower garlands and Lush staff from stores throughout the world sitting in wide circles, all chatting emphatically. Even in an open field the distinctive smell of Lush products was heavy in the air and the landy was quickly filled with the delicious smells drifting out of the tents. We were directed towards the 'What We Believe' field where we were in the good company of Sea Shepherd, the Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade, the Captive Animal Protection Society, Free West Papua and War on Want to name a few, we found the perfect area right by the field entrance (and - by chance - the food stalls).

With the landy parked we headed to the welcome tent to sign in and were given goody bags containing name badges, Lushfest camping mugs, a map of the site and some meal and drinks tokens to last us 2 days. As we set up the tents and got started on the sab gazebo, Mark Constantine (MD of Lush) and Hilary (Ethical Director) wandered over for a quick chat – Hilary with her vibrant hair and Mark with his eye-catching shirt – they really do epitomise what Lush are all about and they're such fantastic people.

Once we had set up camp we started to get peckish and had already noticed the stalls and vans that were set up in the food area. Usually festival catering for vegans consists of chips, baked potatoes and very over priced breakfasts so we were delighted to see that Veggies Catering Campaign were there as well as stalls offering vegan pizza, vegan organic ice cream, curries, chillies, cakes, cookies and an endless supply of free tea and coffee. We honestly didn't know where to start since we had our generously supplied Lushfest food and drinks tokens and it wasn't long before we had all over indulged and were nursing very swollen tummies.

Entertainment that evening was a set from Afro-Celt Sound System and a Silent Disco, which for those who aren't aware is a gathering of people each with their own headsets tuned in to records that the DJ is playing all dancing together in what is seemingly a silent room. It's quite a sight to behold but we decided we couldn't brave it just yet and instead spent the night sitting around camp with the Sea Shepherd (who are also Southampton sabs) and CAFT volunteers enjoying some good music, delicious food and drink and even some impromptu horn blowing practice.



Thursday

It was with bleary eyes and pounding heads that we got started setting up the HSA merchandise and info stall on Thursday morning and prepared our 'Sab Game' in some nearby woods. Lush had suggested that they would love for their staff to be able to get a taste of what we do and how we do it so our game included practical elements such as horn blowing, cracking a whip and using a citronella spray as well as taking staff through a variety of scenarios out with a hunt and what the appropriate action might be.

Everything was in place and Lush staff were beginning to trickle into the field. We got to chat with some lovely, enthusiastic people and also engage in some healthy debate with one or two individuals who weren't as thrilled to see us there as others. I like to think that we won them over and failing that perhaps at least gave them food for thought to take away with them. We managed to get staff having a go with the whips and horns and definitely found some real natural horn blowers!

As the day wore on, people began gravitating towards the food stalls and we took the opportunity to indulge in a water fight with the Sea Shepherd volunteers using the large water pistol they had bought along for the game they had set up. One of the group did an interview for Lush TV (which you can find on youtube.com), and we continued to chat to Lush staff and volunteers from other campaigns.

That night, after several rounds of 'courage', we decided to brave the Silent Disco. We grabbed a headset each and chose between one of two DJs who were set up at the front of the tent. It's quite an experience to be part of a very large group of people wailing along to The Smiths and Madonna in the middle of a quiet field in Dorset – it was good fun if a little strange!



Friday

On Friday morning, with heavy hearts we packed up our camp and made the most of our remaining food tokens. We had enjoyed a fantastic festival, been lavished with food and drink and met some lovely people and for all that Lush had generously given all campaigns and charities £3500 for taking part. It was a brilliant few days and we all agreed on the way home that we really hoped there would be a Lushfest 2012!





Over the summer months **Cumbria** hunt sabs held a benefit gig in Carlisle to raise money towards transport and with help from the HSA, we purchased a 4x4 Land Rover in August. Very smart it is too.

The beginning of September saw us spend a late afternoon out in the company of the Blencathra Foxhounds; it was the first week of the pre-season. Straight away we were called into action, as the hounds were chasing a fox. As soon as we were spotted with our video camera trained on the hounds and some voice calls put to good effect, huntsman Barry was calling the hounds back to him and heading back to the meet.

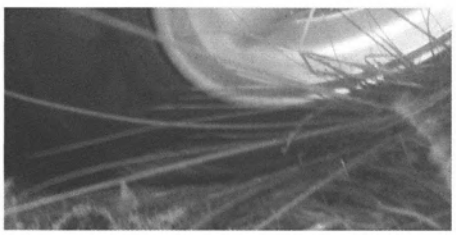
Mid September saw us back to early mornings. We staked out the Blencathra kennels and discovered they had sneaked out. We checked out all the usual haunts and at about ten o clock, whilst driving in the Mosdale valley we came across a highways sign saying 'road closed'. Our curiosity got the better of us, plus the fact we could see through our binoculars approx. eighty or so vehicles belonging to supporters of the hunt (just a bit of a clue). We proceeded on down the valley. Soon as we were spotted Barry called it a day to the annoyance of his support. We left our transport briefly and on return we found that our tyres had been slashed. So we were left stranded and had to be towed back to Keswick.

Mid October saw us attend the opening meet of the Blencathra at their kennels. At about midday we came across hounds marking to ground. As soon as we were near the earth Barry started to try and call his pack, but they more interested in what they had run to ground. All this occurred very close to the A66, a very busy route. In the past hounds have been killed on this stretch of road. When he did get his hounds back, he headed back up onto the fell to steer clear of us, but could not shake us off.

Later on the hounds put a fox up, but were soon called off when we used the horn and had our camera trained on the hounds.



If anyone fancies coming to the lakes to see irate scowling hunt supporters not having fun!! Drop us a line and we look



forward to your company.

After a busy summer of fundraising, recruiting and training, **Sheffield & Doncaster** sabs started sabbing fox cub hunting as it started in August. We've been out each Saturday and one Monday with considerably larger groups than last season and with other sab groups, focusing on Yorkshire hunts. We've sabbed the Badsworth & Bramham Moor regularly, as well as visiting the York & Ainsty South, the York & Ainsty North, and the Grove & Rufford.

We had our van burnt out in September so went out in a borrowed vehicle until we had raised enough money to buy a bigger, faster and all round better van a month later. We've saved foxes every week – often seeing three run free in a day – and had no foxes killed. The only low points so far have been the cops forcing us to leave a shoot that we started to sab on the way home one day and hearing that a terrier from the Y&AS had been killed by a car as the terrier men reportedly threw it into the road.

We've had some violence from hunt supporters but dealt with it accordingly, and had lots of hassle from the cops (particularly in North Yorkshire), but it's not stopped us doing what we've planned. All in all we've had an extremely successful few months. We're into main season now and plan to do much the same for another five months!

We'd also like to thank the HSA, XminY and the other sab groups and individuals who helped us buy our new van. Email sheffieldsaboteurs@live.co.uk or doncastersabs@live.co.uk to find out more and get involved.

Frustrating start to the season – **West Yorks** sabs have never seen a fair cop but this year feels worse than ever. There's a great deal of familiarity between some of North and West Yorkshire's high ranking police and members of the hunt scum which will never bode well. We are detained almost every week for nonsense searches from weapons of mass destruction to illegal fuel. It's not uncommon for us to get seven or eight vehicles out and yet they are blind to the illegal hunting...even refusing to act when a fox raced across a road in front of a moving police car...closely followed by hounds. This all goes to show that despite the ban, sabs are needed more than ever and we will not be deterred. We have been out every week since mid-August and are pleased that our pitiful numbers have doubled to a respectable van full. The new sabs are all really enthusiastic which is a breath of fresh air and helps keep the spirits up. We can still squish up for a few more so get in touch if you haven't already. So far, touch wood, no kills and we have seen a fair few foxes make their escape behind us.

Liverpool sabs have been out and about again this season, both teaming up with other groups and taking on one of our local hunts ourselves, when possible. We've had the usual responses from the Holcombe - "we're only drag hunting, nothing illegal here" etc. Funny how we end up calling the hounds off animal trails, that have not been laid by the hapless Holcombe. Anyway, we plan to keep at the fools and become a once more, ever present part of a day out in the countryside, for the scum that think it's okay to hunt our wildlife. We also plan to get a new van a.s.a.p. and get back on the road. We'll see you folks out there soon. Stay safe and keep at the bastards!

Manchester hunt sabs have had a very busy start to the season with new and old faces and a full van more than once. We started the first weekend in September, our earliest start in years, picking up where we left off at the Badsworth and Bramham Moor with comrades from Sheffield and West Yorks Sabs. They weren't where we thought they were going to be, but it didn't take long with a bit of detective work to track them down.

The following week we again headed over to Yorkshire, to sab a hunt that had not been done, by our reckoning, for several years. The day was nearly spoilt only by excessive and ridiculous policing with our driver being really put through the mill by one particularly obnoxious female cop. After being made to wait

half an hour for traffic police to turn up to make sure we didn't have red diesel, we could at least kind of have the last laugh when said traffic officer, made his displeasure at being dragged out there by some petty pro-hunt cop plain for all to see.

Since then we have been more local at the Holcombe Harriers a couple of times who for the most part seem to trail hunt....at least when we are there. Returning to the Badsworth we have had to deal with the twin problems of more and more Police, (with a section 60 every week within an hour of sabs getting there) plus increasingly aggressive support which culminated in an attack on sabs the second to last time we were there (and one of said sabs then getting nicked). Neither of these problems have however, stopped us sabbing and saving foxes or from going back more recently where we were joined by 4 mounted cops, a PCSO on a quad bike (his career highlight) and the local plod copter.











Anyway, no more early mornings, thank frak! Want to get involved? You know where we are.

After an excellent summer of fundraising **Nottingham** sabs started cubbing on the August Bank Holiday (seems like a life time ago!) and have been out every week since.

We've been heading up the M1 to support our Northern comrades on the ever delightful Bramham and Badsworth where we've had some very eventful days - saving 5 foxes in one morning springs to mind despite the best efforts of North Yorks finest and various hunt heavies.

We've also been going out locally, both on our own and with other Midlands groups. It feels really positive to get back into this neglected part of the country where the big Shire packs have had it all their own way for far too long. After hitting the Quorn in early September and packing them up in an hour and a half they decided to forego cubbing on a Saturday and stick to mid weeks. Surprising how they think that'll save them when they're always banging on about us not having jobs!

Our numbers are increasing all the time, so much so, that we're looking at getting a second vehicle and we've got a really positive, committed group of sabs who are looking forward to wreaking havoc in the East Midlands during the main season.

The **Derby** group has really upped their game this season by concentrating on their old favorite the Meynell & South Staffordshire Hunt. Besides catching them blatantly cub hunting on camera (watch this space), the group has also managed to get them into trouble with the Woodland Trust. The Trust don't allow hunting on their land and on this particular piece of land don't allow even horse riding, not that this little fact has stopped the hunt. Anyway, rattles have been thrown out of prams and lawyers called...

Now the group has a ridiculous amount of dirt on this hunt, it has also been sabbing them proactively with all the tools of the trade whenever they've gone anywhere near a covert. Cub hunting is normally carnage for foxes but sabs have literally lost count how many they've saved so far.

Many thanks go to the awesome



Nottingham group and other sabs from around the region for their help from time to time. The favour was returned with a joint visit to the Atherstone Hunt for a newcomers meet. Despite the sabs being classed as newcomers, the hunt didn't, for some reason, seem pleased to see the sabs. No hunting was done that day. :)

If you would like to join in the fun in the Derbyshire area please e-mail derbyar@wildmail.com.

2nd September at 06.30 **Coventry** Group sabbed the Ledbury hunt near Apperley. Two fox cubs were assisted in their escape from a corn field at Turley by sabs who foiled their scent and were ever present with cameras. In all, 5 cubs left that field unscathed. The huntsman clearly thought better of pursuing them and a fox who sought refuge in a barn was protected by one sab with a camera. A strange experience ensued at Apperley when two very odd women cornered the car and accused sabs of worrying sheep! Apparently it is an offence to be on a footpath in a field where there are sheep and with cameras in hand. The standoff ended with the influx of Gloucestershire's finest who seemed to want to arrest sabs but couldn't think what they would arrest us for; we left before they could think of one as the hunt had packed up.

The 5th September saw another day with the Ledbury near Collinpark wood. The huntsman, Will, was a bit miffed and did some rather naughty sign language; again foxes were helped in their escape. Again Will got a bit flustered by all the attention, so much so, that one of the farm workers from Pauntley Court aimed a tractor at our vehicle complete with huge metal spike aimed at the windscreen. We reversed away and went to watch the hunt pack up.

The following week we visited the Cotswold Vale for our first time this season. The hounds seemed more interested in playing with each other than anything else, the huntsman didn't seem to have much control over them. They only went on cry once towards the end of the day, but the fox made a clean getaway.

16th September we found the Ledbury at their kennels in Eggs Tump. They became very aggressive at the Bromsberrow estate where sabs stopped hounds hunting a young cub. Sadly for them they could not get over the cattle grid in time to stop sabs and had to resort to showing us a dead rabbit after the event. We remained decidedly unflustered and kept on their heels all day stopping any little "accidents" as they like to call ripping a fox to shreds. Huntsman Will was so annoyed that he decided to harass one sab at a local car boot that Sunday.

20th September it was the turn of the Cotswold Vale to again be honoured with our presence at Aston Cruz. It was a very bizarre day as the huntsman from the local harriers was keen to be a bit of a bad boy to the new Cotswold Vale huntsman which involved driving over fields with an open back pickup full of rotting flesh...nice. One fox definitely helped by sabs.

22nd September, Cotswold Vale again, but this time an evening meet at Wharton Farm. Two foxes ran from a large covert and half an hour later hounds started to pick up the scent and were duly stopped by sabs. Many strange folk were encountered within the woods that evening but sabs remained unhindered.

1st October, we were out with the North Cotswold near Snowshill lavender farm. These lots have not seen sabs or monitors for maybe as long as 12 years, their faces were a picture. Favourite quote of the day, the whipper-in said 'ANTIS?? Where?' The presence of sabs made the huntsman avoid drawing certain places and certainly stopped him doing what he wanted. A quad bike trailed the vehicle but no problems ensued.

8th October, North Cotswold hunt kennels with Pewsey Vale sabs. Kennel watch led us nowhere but a very long drive after the huntsman who was keen to elude us and was aided and abetted by a large tractor. Sabs then came across a shoot just south of Evesham at Hinton on the Green which was persuaded to pack up for 2 hours saving many partridges and forcing the shoot to imbibe many cups of coffee in a standoff.

11th October, Cotswold Vale at Longhope, hounds spent the day in thick woodland and with only 2 sabs it was impossible to leave the vehicle with this hunts reputation for violence. For the sake of the loose horse and the general public though it was just as well sabs were present. A horse came running down the main road near and through the village of Long hope when the rider, a hunt follower, did not hold onto his horse when he dismounted to open a gate. Sabs tried to catch the horse and eventually succeeded when he ran into a field at the meet. A bit negligent we think, especially as the same rider whilst out with the Ross Harriers the following Saturday repeated



the same mistake with a different horse who nearly entered the town of Ross on Wye with police in attendance.

15th October, Worcestershire fox hounds with Bristol and Bath sabs, another hunt that has not been visited for a while. Followers were not pleased to see us and there was a general air of aggression. The hunt were kept on the move and packed up reasonably early. We saw and helped one fox get away and helped a sheep stuck in a muddy ditch.

October 22nd Atherstone hunt, with Derby and Nottingham sabs. This hunt hadn't been visited in a while either. Think they were surprised to see us and the police kept us company as well. The hunt supporters were a bit feisty but it wasn't a bad day.

Bristol Sabs have been out and about laughing at our usual web toed, boggled eyed friends from the country, whilst meeting up with our less family focused friends from the South Wales group. And when not twitching from all the laughter, we also held a benefit gig making close to 370 quid profit.

bristolhuntsabs@hotmail.co.uk

www.network23.org/bristolhuntsabs/

The **South Wales** group got off to a good start this season; we've been out every week since the start of September, spreading our special brand of love around South and West Wales and the West Country. Foxes have been saved. Citronella has been sprayed. Whips have been cracked. The bumpkins seem pleased to see us too. Cotswold Vale terrier boys said 'look - they're back from Dale Farm'.

Thanks go to all who support us - financially and/or morally and the canine division (dog sitters). Special thanks go to those who organised and played at our recent benefit gig - much needed funds raised. Thanks folks.

Get in touch if you'd like to join us southwaleshuntsabs@gmail.com

Although we were able to carry out some surveillance, **Devon** sabs were unable to sab during cubbing this season.

The Mid-Devon Hunt had its opening meet at Chagford, on Dartmoor, on Saturday, 22 October. Formerly of the Haydon Hunt in Northumberland, new huntsman Charlie Shirley-Beavan ("Charlie" to his friends, "Shirley" to us) discovered early on that we could take his hounds and that he needed several members of the mounted field to round up hounds that were responding to our calls. After the first occasion, every time we called hounds he quickly took them away without allowing them time to respond to us, so we kept the hunt on the move all day. Unfortunately, they gave us the slip and sneaked away out of sight along some low ground into Fernworthy Forest for the last half an hour but we caught up with them just after they finished and, as far as we could tell, they did not kill.

The following week we sabbed the hunt at Belstone, a small village in a remote and picturesque area of north Dartmoor. A very strong westerly wind made scenting conditions difficult on the open moor and we compounded that by using it to our advantage. Time and time again hounds responded to us, returning briefly to their master before showing their sterns to him and their faces to us. With Shirley calling from one direction, the whip and supporters calling from another, and two groups of sabs calling from opposite directions hounds were everywhere. Confusion reigned supreme. Surely, Shirley must be wondering why he ever came to Devon ....

Cornwall has sadly been without a sab group for a few years, and as such the hunting fraternity have had it easy – boasting about 'not having to deal with sabs at all' on Facebook groups and internet message boards. Going out to hunts unwatched, allowed to kill our wildlife indiscriminately without penalty. The times are changing however and the Cornwall hunt saboteurs are now re-forming.

There have been huge interest levels from the locals about this news, with many potential new members – a mixture of experienced hunt saboteurs and completely new people alike. We have also been made aware that the hunts in Cornwall are not popular with most of the locals, which is always a good sign and should help in the future when we begin sabbing. The group was originally reformed due to the declaration of one woman who had simply had enough of the local hunt killing foxes which used to visit her land one by one. In one particularly harrowing report, she informed us that she witnessed a vixen leading hounds away from her young during a fox hunt. She lost sight of the

vixen and hounds but heard a cheer from a crowd of hunt supporters and never seen this vixen again during subsequent weeks. This vixen sacrificed her life to save her cubs from perverted sadists, something which will have been done in vain unless we do something to protect these foxes and other foxes in Cornwall area from these scumbags.

The group is still in the early stages but we are progressing quite rapidly, thanks to the support of our new members and neighbouring sab group Devon hunt saboteurs, who have offered to help us set up. So far we have over 20 people who have expressed an interest and are willing to help out the group in some capacity – this is a promising number and shows how much potential a Cornwall Hunt Sab group has.

We have a Facebook group set up which so far has well over 100 supporters and a revamped website has been made (www.cornwallsabs.co.uk) along with a new email address for potential sabs to contact us (cornwallsabs@live.co.uk). News has already spread about the group, as indicated by the Four Burrow Hunt removing their meet card from their website – something they have not done in previous years.

A meeting is scheduled to take place in mid-November whereby members will get the chance to see each other face to face, discuss ideas and talk about the future of sabbing in the South West. The meeting will also discuss plans for fundraising – the current target is to raise £2000 to be able to invest in a vehicle for the group. Once the meeting has taken place, there are plans to join up with the Devon hunt saboteurs in order to 'train up' new sabs and also to form a positive working relationship between the two groups. As saboteurs reading this article will know, the importance of nearby groups working together cannot be underestimated.

It is an exciting time for both Devon and Cornwall hunt saboteurs and indeed the Hunt Saboteurs Association, which is going from strength to strength as indicated by the setting up of more groups throughout the country. We will not stand by while our wildlife is being killed in the name of a perverse and outdated pastime for bloodthirsty cowards who choose to pick on those who cannot fight back. Together we can work to end hunting across the country directly. The Cornwall hunt saboteurs may have disbanded in the past, but let me assure you all of this – the group is back, and we will be stronger and more determined than ever!

After spending most of the summer fund raising, getting the landy up together, prop shafts, steering, tyres, MOT etc. replacing the camcorder, thanks, **Bath** sabs finally get out into the field to sab some 'cub' hunting.

1st Oct -Joined up with Bristol, South Wales and Ross sabs to visit the Monmouth Foxhounds, who were classic 'cub' hunting, so sabs get into the field quickly closing them down and off they go. We play 'Cat and Mouse' with them for the rest of the morning and early afternoon, with a couple of minor run-ins with 'terrier boys' and car followers, including 'hyper' woman in a disco screeching she couldn't do hill starts and driving like a manic with 3 small children bouncing around in the back! With the hounds and horses suffering from the heat of the hottest October day on record the hunt pack up about 12:30pm. A great day's sabbing, NO KILLS!

15th Oct- Pick up Bristol sabs and off to meet up with Coventry sabs near Worcester. The Worcestershire foxhounds are hunting when we arrive, hounds are 'speaking', sabs straight into the field, hunt doesn't know what to do! They've not been sabbed for a while. The huntsman gathers the hounds and the 'field' arrive, F**k there must be 40 riders, one hell of a 'cubbing' meet. A quad bike turns up with a bit of webbing being dragged behind; of course they're 'trail' hunting! Off the hunt go, with sabs close behind, keeping them on the move. The hounds go into 'cry' a couple of times, but sabs are there to close things down. The Landy's blocked in, we do a 'U'ie, a quick circuit, just past the meet, Mr (or Mrs) Fox is spotted crossing a field, hounds are in 'cry' so scent maskers are soon deployed. Foot sabs picked up, some mouth from 'terrier' boy, off for another circuit, back to the 'meet', where 'huntsman' packed up about 10:30am.

22nd Oct - Off to the pickup Bristol sabs, South Wales sabs and Ross sabs, then straight to the meet, it's 8:10am and the hounds are in 'Cry'! It's the Cotswold Vale fox hounds. The driver sees a fox shoot past in his rear-view mirror, sabs are out and soon there's a lemony scent pervading the area, 'I love the smell of citronella in the morning', quad bike whizzes past, they don't know what's going down, now the hounds, sabs soon 'rate' them, getting them off the scent and back towards the huntsman, Jason, who must be 12 and by all reports seems to be Ross Harriers huntsman's best mate. The hounds are off the scent and scattered, Jason and the 'Whip' spent the next half hour gathering the hounds, then run back to 'meet' and on the phone to 'plod'. Terrier boys/men, can't tell the difference any more, do a poor attempt of ' blocking in', sabs back on board, five minutes we're back up with the hunt.

A 'couple' of hounds are 'marking ground' only 200 metres from a main road, there's hounds all over the place, cars going by at 50+, 'Huntsman' off his horse, 'terrier boys' off their quads something's going down! Oh look 'plods' arrived only a couple hours after they've been called, 'foot' sabs disembark and follow the hunt, one confused traffic cop, does vehicle checks, id, the usual, a lesson on landy driving, a little 'brown nosing', 'I love the smell of bull in the morning' a warning that 'LARGE' numbers of officers are on their way and we're mobile again, with personal police escort following. In the meantime 'foot sabs' have moved Jason and friends along. The landy losses it's escort and catches up with the hunt with the hounds on 'cry', into the 'field' and the hunt's closed down again. Sabs control traffic to protect hounds in the road and are praised by scum, then accused of calling hounds on the road! Jason and friends spend the next hour



'gathering' the hounds before packing up, time to go home and another great day!

29th Oct - Everyone on board we're off to the Caerphilly/Caerffili foxhounds, a small unregistered pack, it's their opening 'meet', with the large amount of 'foot' support in 4x4's and limited road access along very narrow, steep country lanes, it's decided to get sabs in the field in front of the hunt. Hey it's raining, but very soon after being dropped off we hear hounds, but it sounds a bit strange, we soon find out why, it's the hunt kennels. Whilst we've been trekking around the mountain, the landy has caught up with the hounds and keeps them under surveillance, until we can get back on level ground. By the time we meet up with the landy, most of the very soggy field are calling it a day, but no sign of hounds or huntsmen, so back into the field, no should have said river, lake falling from the sky, back up the mountain, a different mountain, but a mountain. Is that a 'Horn call', a 'Holla' no, well maybe. It's so wet, there can't be any scent in the ground, air or water, gone 3pm. Surely, it's time to go home, one more check, just in time to see the bedraggled huntsman, whip and hounds heading off towards the kennels. Not a great day... it happens, but no one hurt!

Cubbing started for **Pewsey Vale** sabs in September, we joined with **Bristol** sabs for a Cotswold Vale meet. 3 a.m getting up never gets any easier! A great deal of time was spent trying to find the hunt and we eventually struck lucky when we

noticed a "CV meet "sign at the entrance to a farm - thank you Cotswold Vale. Sabs very soon found the huntsman & hounds hunting a field of maize. A fox was put up which then laid low in a small wood. Sabs waited anxiously as huntsman & hounds passed by without the hounds picking up. The Vale's new huntsman tried a couple of halfhearted attempts to put his hounds into coverts but sabs very visible pointing cameras were enough to keep him moving, a very quiet meet for this lot .

We were joined by Southampton sabs for a really good day on Salisbury Plain with the Tedworth. Sabs kept up with the huntsman & hounds for the entire meet. The hounds went into full cry whereupon sabs split the pack leaving the huntsman the embarrassing job of spending the next hour trying to gather his hounds while sabs had a well-earned rest from running.

On our next cubbing outing we joined forces with Southampton sabs for a New Forest Foxhounds meet. A big thank you to Southampton sabs for the yummy breakfast and arranging our tour of the Sea Shepherd (we couldn't believe it either!) ship, The Steve Irwin, which was docked in Southampton for repairs. Fantastic!

Back on dry land we next joined up with the newly formed Coventry group for a

North Cotswold meet. After kennel watching the hound van gave us a real run around for well over an hour, quite a mystery tour, only to finally cut off our path by a James Bond style road block with tractor and spiked impaler. Their tactic worked and we never saw them again. But, on our way back we spotted a partridge shoot, sabs were soon out and up with the guns. The drive was stopped apart from one mad shooter firing over the head of a sab. Sadly one bird was killed but dozens flew off to safety. For the next 2 hours not a gun was cocked let alone fired as the shooters watched us watching them while the police, who of course were called, watched us.

Another really good day was had joining with Southampton again for another Tedworth meet yet again on Salisbury Plain. Once more sab's stamina paid off and we kept with the hounds at all times. Sabs needed to intervene with horn and voice calls on two occasions when the huntsman was blatantly encouraging hounds to hunt.

The Tedworth had our company again the next week - I bet they love us. A big thank you to Southampton for coming our way again. Sabs carried out some textbook tactics when hounds in full cry flushed a fox out 20 yards away from sabs. Sprays, whips & the rating of hounds were instantly put into action. The entire pack were stopped in their tracks and sent in the opposite direction to the fox, one life most definitely saved. That brief moment makes all the aches, pains and abuse we



(all sabs) have to put up with, a bit more bearable. This looks like being the last cubbing meet for 2011. Main season and here we go again!

As a footnote to our group, or should that be grope news, Pewsey Vale sabs would like to say a big thank you, or should that be spank you to our local hunt, The Tedworth for their sizzling glossy article in the Observer Magazine (16.10.11)

They are proud to admit in print that they break the law (we sort of guessed that) and are only too willing to tell all about their sex in the saddle, or to be precise the back of a horse box. Early mornings and following boxes is never going to be the same again for us and the term mounted field has now taken on a whole new meaning - and they had the cheek to call us stupid. Keep it up (whoops!) Tedworth.

Southampton sabs have had a decent start so far. We started cubing at the New Forest fox hounds, catching them illegally hunting on several occasions which resulted in them shi***g themselves and running away, so job done. We then made a couple of trips to the Tedworth with the Pewsey vale group, each time having great success. The first trip ended up with the pack nicked, the pack split, then packed up. The second trip they seemed much more determined to hunt but we were just as determined to sab. With another two pack nickings they had enough and called it a day. The next week we did the New Forest beagles at 6.30am and then on to the fox hounds at 9am. The beagles looked very unhappy to see us and they made a very feeble unplanned attempt to trail hunt where the huntswoman didn't even run with her pack, so they got bored and packed up after an hour. Then we went over to the fox hounds where we kept them running all day until they packed up and left.

At a return to the New Forest we found ourselves in an interesting situation when an hour before the meet we came across them hunting in a wood on private land.

Shooters were firing guns into the air to flush back into the wood. When we went in to investigate we were met with a very hostile reception. The shooters claimed they were using the beagles to flush rabbits to guns. While the head keeper and a couple of lads tried to push us off the land, the hounds disappeared and everything went quiet. After that we went to the actual meet and there was about twenty field riders and one of the masters but no hounds, no huntsman, no whipper-in and no hound truck. The riders, master and police all looked very confused as they sat there all dressed up and nowhere to go. On the way home we took a detour past the beagles' kennels and we saw them just leaving on foot to exercise their hounds, so we are guessing that it wasn't them that were in the wood at the so called shoot.

Another day out with the Pewsey group at the Tedworth was very successful with a fox breaking cover and some good old fashioned whip cracking to stop the hounds. On the way home we stopped off at the New Forest beagles and kept them running all day.

Finally on the last Saturday of October we did the Tedworth for their opening meet. It was a hard going day but we had the help of a pilot and his micro-light. They illegally hunted all day but we split into two groups and kept on them at all times. Over the course of the day they had their pack taken off them four times and their hounds taken for a run in the wrong direction. At the end of the day they chased a fox to ground in a badger sett. The huntsman and the whips all got off their horses to try and get at it but they soon backed off as they knew they were being filmed. The hunt hacked off but the

terrier men stayed there so we stayed with the fox to make sure they did not dig it out. While we stood guard the hunt had returned to the meet. Job done bring on the main season.

North East London sabs have been out with our SES colleagues every Saturday and have been cosying up in their comfy landy. Comfort for sabs has been a theme as more sabs than usual seem to prefer a lie in. Alarms have not had to be set as early as last year though, as fewer kennel watching has been necessary.

Cubbing has gone on in our region with more than usual blood thirsty vigour in spite of some late summer-like sunshine and lack of rain. Hunts we've sabbed have been the east Essex; Essex; and Essex and Suffolk hunts. We are six weeks into the season already. The day of a bagged fox with the Essex and Suffolk prompted attacks on sabs and the theft of a camera which was returned with the footage erased.

The huntsman of the Essex and Suffolk, Gary the twerp, has been transferred in disgrace to the East Essex and it seemed he was as unpopular there as the hunt he was deposited from. However when NELS and SES did a double morning/evening sab - the two hunts were his previous and current employers, who were united in bristling aggression at out effectiveness and as the dusk was drawing in so were there vehicles of support boxing us in and getting bolshie. Sabs stood firm and though well outnumbered sabs spoiled their sick fun.

There have been kills, police harassment, assaults and a camera stolen and returned during cubbing to test the ability and determination of the sabs. However foxes have been saved, wildlife protected and the hunts frustrated.

Well done NELS sabs and big thanks to our SES colleagues who we have been relying on for warm seats and a bit for experience.

The worst start in living memory came for the **East Kent** sabs this year-a guy had our van all summer to fix, and did not. Then it got clamped. Then it got impounded (nearly crushed!), all because of f**k ups with the DVLA - fines were paid, we are hoping to try and get some money back...But that hasn't meant we have stayed in bed.

Saturday mornings have still seen us up early (with some new supporters), out and about, sneaking around meets in various vehicles, this tactic has been interesting in many ways. Instead of the usual "sit outside the kennels and wait" tactic, we have found local hunts by intuition, old meet cards and luck. Last season, great results came from undercover work, often now, hunters are smiling and saying "good morning" to sabs/monitors, as we walk dogs in the woods, or drive by coverts, rather than riding us down. Much observation/covert videoing has gone on, and no prizes for guessing that cub hunting is being carried out as normal all over the county, and by accident, we even witnessed a hunt we haven't found for a couple of years, (so that's where you kennel now!!).

So, with the old landy now MOT'd, we were back to normal early kennel watching again, yielding little (save the huntsman coming out to film us). So off to our old mates THE WYE BEAGLES who appeared to be just leaving the kennels when we got there, and then went straight back in when they saw us and called the police.

Almost an hour of no movement, then one solitary copper appeared. Did the old "I'm just going to take all your details" routine, then when refused, went into the kennels to sulk with the hunt. Amazingly, he then sat in the kennels entrance for about an hour in his car, rather handily blocking the (still sulking) hunt in, then, without even a goodbye, he f**ked off.

The hunt still didn't go out, just kept lurking in the bushes and taking photos. When finally at about 3pm we decided enough was enough, they weren't going out with us there, we drove one vehicle away. Four hunt members excitedly followed us into the town, and almost caused us to back into them when they got a little too close for comfort, pathetic little tossers. So back to the kennels, where the same bullshit started again, so we left. It was all over, a hunt too afraid to go out just because we were there to film them.

So, a shambolic start, but now ready for the season ahead, with some new members to "break in"...

Guildford saboteurs have started the 2011/12 season very well with lots of new keen recruits, we have been out six times mostly against the Surrey Union with one trip to the Crawley and Horsham, sometimes working with the Hastings, Brighton and Croydon sab groups. Most of our cub hunt sabbing consisted of turning up with cameras and the hunts running away and packing up early. We had a very successful opening meet of the Surrey Union at Forest Green when we stuck to the hunt all day preventing any kills. The police reported a hunt supporter for driving at a sab which will result in a court appearance for dangerous driving, bald tyres and defective mirrors. Some of the Croydon sabs were ridden down and a video will be supplied to the police which will hopefully lead to further arrests.

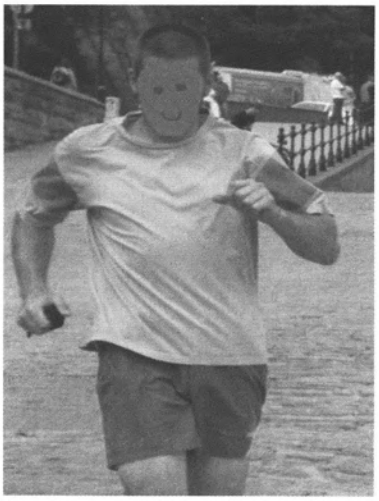
First day out cubbing saw **South Coast** sabs with the Crawley & Horsham who quickly packed up due to our presence and pouring rain. Next we visited the Surrey Union which saw the glorious site of 24 sabs and only about 10 hunters. Not much was done by them that day. First visit to the South Down and Eridge saw a very large field, but mostly pony club girls. Hunt was kept on the move and even with the present of Stewards we kept effective contact for a day without hounds going into cry. The following week was back to the Southdown. As usual they had their stewards out who at the end of the day showed their true colours by attacking the Brighton Land Rover and it occupants. Needless to say they were met with resistance and the sabs escaped unscathed this time.

The following week was back to the Crawley & Horsham Fox Hunt with usual friends from Brighton and West Sussex hunt sabs. Kept them moving all day and stopped them short from killing when they realised we had them bang to rights on film. Not very happy to see us and they ended the day trying to run us down with a quad bike. All par for the course with hunts in the South East.

At the end of the last season the **Croydon** sab's landy failed its MOT and repairs were looking at costing between £1500 and £2000. The landy would not have been compliant with the new low emission zone regulations that are coming in on January 2012. So after 8 years of service with Croydon our old landy would be used for spares for groups in the south. As a result of the new regs we needed to buy a diesel vehicle newer than 2002 or buy a petrol version. The diesel option was too expensive so we started looking for a petrol land rover. Fundraising was the main event of the summer. We organised a vegan curry night in one of our favourite curry houses which raised over £500 and we also had a sponsored walk which raised nearly £300. We would like to say a big thank you to those supporters who have given us money over the summer, either by sponsorship or us just plain pleading. In July we bought a new landy, Ex-military, V8 with the added bonus of LPG which is cheaper to run. Unfortunately we only had the vehicle 2 weeks before it was stolen and found burnt out. Luckily as we had only just bought the vehicle the insurance company paid out the full amount. So we had to start the search again and found another ex-military vehicle in September.

With our new landy we have been out for the cubbing season on the Surrey Union and the Southdown and Erridge. As with previous seasons we have been meeting up with Hastings, Brighton and Guildford sabs.

Born to Run



A few weeks ago, I completed a 65 mile sponsored run for our sab group. I'd like to share with you some of the things I learned about running, particularly the ideas that are relevant to sabbing. Other than sabbing, I have had very little experience of running – I've never been a "runner". However, whilst sabbing I have thought to myself, if we really wanted to I bet we could stay with 'em all day. I've been told there are people who do just that – no need for a landy – they just run and stay with the hounds all day! That got me thinking – ok, nice big run to raise some cash, and lose a few inches. I wonder how many miles it is to Scarborough?...because at least in Scarborough there's a beach and a chip shop, (see why I need to lose weight?) It turned out to be roughly 65 miles from north Leeds to Scarborough – I just thought if I took it nice and steady it was doable. That was in April.

So, I mentioned the idea to a few people and some common questions came back at me; "Leeds to Scarborough? You're having a giraffe aren't you?" "Is this your mid-life crisis?", then once I pointed out that maybe I was having a midlife crisis but I'm gonna do it anyway, the questions became a little more serious;

"Why not just run half a marathon? - you really don't have the experience to tackle such a long distance", "How about postponing till you've done some proper scheduled training? I can guarantee you will injure yourself", at this point I decided the run was definitely happening, if only so I could raise my middle finger to the people who were so negative. I set the date for the end of July.

However, I should point out that I was lucky enough to have a core of supportive people, (most of all, my ever suffering partner), who encouraged and helped me to follow through with the plan as they knew how much of a stubborn sod I can be. I had been occasionally jogging a couple of miles to work, in a pretty feeble attempt to keep up my fitness level for the sab season ahead, but I knew I would need to up my game in order to get in shape for the run. My spare time is usually pretty booked up as I have a family, (including 4 legged dependents), and a job to fit in, (contrary to red coat comments) but I squeezed in 4 big runs - 8, 15, 20 and 30 miles long. A few friends recommended a book to me; "born to run" by Christopher McDougall. I finished reading it a few weeks before the run and by the last page I felt that failure was never going to be an option.

One of the main issues the book talks about is how, in recent years, running shoe companies like Nike have been constantly pushing their products, with ever more creative technology and gadgetry – torsion bars, gel cushioning, pronation devices, arch supports – and yet there is absolutely NO peer reviewed evidence to suggest that these fancy trainers prevent injury amongst runners. In terms of cushioning for our feet, less is definitely more. The author interviewed Olympic coaches, and the world's best distance running experts, he cites findings from exhaustive studies from marathon runners' testimonies and they all point to the same conclusions – expensive trainers are actually more likely to CAUSE injuries for runners than prevent them. McDougall spent a lot of time researching and running with arguably the best runners in the world – the Mexican tribe known to us as the Taramuhara. They caught his attention when one of their 55 year old elders trounced the competition in a 75 mile race against the best of the "western" runners – wearing his Taramuharan sandals! What he discovered was the importance of running technique, and how modern running shoes encourage us to land on our heels. The Taramuharan technique is all about landing on the forefoot – which is how you land when you run barefoot. Obviously running barefoot is not such a good option when sabbing, but I cannot stress enough how beneficial it is to our performance and to our health when we revert to this style of forefoot running, even if we are wearing steel toe capped boots. I used the word revert as when we were young children (and enjoyed running around everywhere) we landed on the forefoot. Olympic Kenyan runners don't even wear shoes till the age of 17. The running community is slowly but surely appreciating the importance of incorporating barefoot running into training schedules, and a host of new styles of running on the forefoot are gaining popularity; chi running, evolution running, P.O.S.E running – all saying the same thing – land on the forefoot. For me personally, since changing to this style of running I have found the stresses and aches in my knees have disappeared – and

although at first I could really feel the strain on my calf muscles, I am running pretty much pain free.

McDougall also talks about the reasons why humans are so good at running long distances; irony of irony, we evolved to be able to literally run animals to exhaustion, without the use of weapons (they didn't have the vegan society informing them where to get B12 from.) This is known as persistence hunting and is still carried out by a small number of tribes. Apparently, thanks to the way we breathe when running and perspire through our skin, we are able to literally keep going for miles and miles. This enables us to outrun animals like deer and antelope with relative ease. Even horses are not as efficient as us in covering long distances. So next time someone moans about the hunt having horses, please feel free to point that out (and then duck!)

This idea of persistence hunting does, in a weird way, fit in with some basic truths about sabbing. It has been shown in many studies that long distance running is not just for young men. We start to significantly improve at long distance running when we reach the age of 19, we then peak at the age of 27. We don't revert to our 19 year old ability till the ripe old age of 64! Pretty cool! Jack Kirk – a.k.a "the Dipsea Demon", was still running the hellacious Dipsea trail race at age 96! The race begins with a 671 step cliffside climb. "You don't stop running because you get old", said the demon, "you get old because you stop running".

Also, the gap between men and women's ability narrows dramatically in long distance running – ultra marathon finishing times have consistently shown this to be the case. (Ultra marathon means any race over 26.2 miles). Ask Emily Bauer, who beat 90 other men and women, (finishing eighth overall), in a 100 mile race, while stopping at every aid station to breastfeed her infant son!

So – young or old, male or female, most of us can run! Going back to McDougall's theory on hunting, this fits with a picture of the past in which the whole community moved together in the search for food. He also maintains that "Humans are among the most communal and cooperative of all primates; our sole defence in a fang filled world was our solidarity". Sounds pretty relevant to sab safety to me – look out for each other or the terrier men have a field day.

If you're thinking of going out for a few midweek runs to improve your performance on Saturdays, here are a few tips that have helped me out;

1. Don't worry about how far you run, or how fast you run, too many runners get hung up on breaking personal bests and completing a certain distance in a certain time. I find it much more fun to just enjoy the run without clock watching.

2. As mentioned before, try and avoid landing on your heels; every time you land on your heels you are actually slowing yourself down – running is in essence a series of jumps, (it is very different from walking) ; when we jump up in the air the last place we land is on our heels.

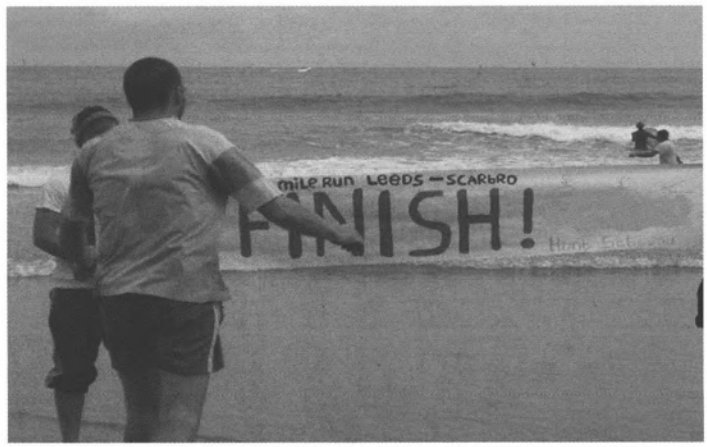
3. This might sound obvious but your performance will be far better if you are not nursing a hang-over or are still stoned from the night before.

4. Pace yourself; don't set off at a too fast pace – this is one of the most common mistakes. Start off nice and steady, and if you feel like speeding up later on you will still have some energy.

5. Don't bother with an mp3 player – seriously, just enjoy the moment. Listen to the rhythms and noises that your feet and breathing make and be present. Yes, I sound like a hippy but it's well documented that running releases "happy chemicals" in the brain, why not enjoy them and let your mind gently daydream, instead of blasting out music.

6. If there are three words that you should aim for, go for EASY, LIGHT and SMOOTH. Speed will come later.

I'll finish with a quote from "Born to Run":



"That was the real secret of the Tarahumara: they'd never forgotten what it felt like to love running. They remembered that running was mankind's first fine art, our original act of inspired creation. Way before we were scratching pictures on caves or beating rhythms on hollow trees, we were perfecting the art of combining our breath and mind and muscles into fluid self-propulsion over wild terrain. And when our ancestors finally did make their first cave paintings, what were the first designs? A downward slash, lightning bolts through the bottom and middle--behold, the Running Man.

Distance running was revered because it was indispensable; it was the way we survived and thrived and spread across the planet. You ran to eat and to avoid being eaten; you ran to find a mate and impress her, and with her you ran off to start a new life together. You had to love running, or you wouldn't live to love anything else. And like everything else we love--everything we sentimentally call our 'passions' and 'desires' it's really an encoded ancestral necessity. We were born to run; we were born because we run. We're all Running People, as the Tarahumara have always known."

SUPPORT ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS

UK prisoners

Mel Broughton (A3892AE)
HMP Bullingdon, PO Box 50, Oxford OX25 1WD.
Mel was remanded on 14 December 2007 and was sentenced on 13th February 2009 to 10 years.
Birthday: 5th July

Gavin Medd-Hall (A3624AD)
HMP Coldingley, Shaftesbury Road, Bisley, Woking, Surrey GU24 9EX
In January 2009 Gavin was sentenced to 8 years in relation to charges in connection with HLS campaigns. (One of the UK SHAC 7)
Birthday: 20th March
What you can send: stamps (12 in letter); Self-addressed envelopes, cheques/postal orders made out to 'HMP Headquarters' with Gavin's name and 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)
HMP Foston Hall, Foston, Derby, Derbyshire DE65 5DN
In January 2009 Heather was sentenced to 11 years in relation to charges in connection with HLS campaigns. (One of the UK SHAC 7)
Birthday: 30th January
What you can send: Cheques/postal orders made out to 'HMPS', Write Heather's name and number on the back. Stamps & an SAE. Also stationery and blank cards, no parcels.

Sarah Whitehead (A8369CE)
HMP Downview, Sutton Lane, Sutton, Surrey, SM2 5PD
Sarah is one of the second UK SHAC 6 trial campaigners and has been sentenced at Winchester Crown Court to 6 years on 25-10-10 for conspiracy to blackmail HLS and other companies involved with HLS. Sarah has been in prison since 30th June 2008, after being sentenced previously to two years for removing a beagle from a garden where it was kept muzzled in a wooden cage and regularly beaten.
Birthday: 12th February
What you can send: Postal orders made out to 'The Governor'. Books, stationery, stamps; an SAE. Write Sarah's name and number on the back.

International prisoners

Nathan Block, 36359-086
FCI Lompoc, 3600 Guard Road, Lompoc, CA 93436, USA.
Sentenced 7 years and 8 months
Birthday: 6th March

Walter Edmund Bond, 2011-03339 - New address pending
Walter Bond, 34, was arrested by federal agents on 22nd July2010 after his brother informed on him and he was sentenced on 11/02/11 for burning down the Sheepskin Factory in Glendale, Colorado and has been sentenced to five years and three years parole. Walter is currently in the custody of the U.S. Marshall awaiting transfer to a Federal prison.
Birthday: 16th April

Adrian Magdaleno Gonzalez, a Mexican university student of 21 years, has been sentenced to 7 years 11 months and five days (he was detained February 2010) at the Reclusorio Norte del Distrito Federal Prison in Mexico.
For more information or to send letters of support, email his support at: libertadparaadrian@hushmail.me

Marie Jeanette Mason, 04672-061
FMC Carswell, Federal Medical Center, P.O. Box 27137, Fort Worth, TX 76127, USA.
According to the BOP inmate locator, Marie Mason is at the Federal Medical Center in Fort Worth. Although rumors continue to swirl, there is no confirmation at this time as to where Marie will end up. Marie is vegan. Please drop Marie a line. If you are writing a longer letter, we recommend you photocopy it, in case she is moved again by the time it arrives. This way you can resend it again later.
Marie was sentenced on 5th February 2009 to an outrageous 21 years and 10 months imprisonment for ELF/ALF actions.
Birthday: 26th January

Eric McDavid, 16209-097
FCI Victorville, Medium II, Federal Correctional Institution, PO Box 5300, Adelanto, CA 92301, USA.
Eric was sentenced to just under 20 years imprisonment for conspiring to think about actions! (Part of an FBI sting operation)
Birthday: 7th October

Daniel Gerard McGowan, 63794-053
FCI Terre Haute - CMU, P.O. Box 33, Terre Haute, IN 47808, USA.
Sentenced to seven years imprisonment for his part in two arsons and his role in an ELF/ALF conspiracy.
Update: Daniel was moved back into a CMU this week (26-02-11), this time at Terre Haute. We aren't really sure why at this time, but we are sure he will fight the move. Daniel's holding up as well as can be expected. He's stressed out, of course, and he would appreciate your letters, especially at this time. Please write to him.
Birthday: 2nd May

Steve Murphy, 39013-177
FCI Beaumont Medium, Federal Correctional Institution, PO Box 26040, Beaumont, TX 77720, USA
Steve Murphy has been charged with a 2006 E.L.F. action in Pasadena, CA. and was sentenced to 5 years on April 5th, 2010 after previously pleading guilty. Steve is a vegan animal rights activist.
Birthday: 3rd September

New Swedish prisoner - Viktor Padellaro
Viktor is being held on remand in Gothenburg, West Sweden facing seven charges relating to an alleged arson against a McDonalds and also for anti-fur trade actions. More news when we get it.
Please send letters of support to:
Häktet Gothenburg, Viktor Padellaro (11/11 7-4), Ullevigatan 11. BOX 216, 401 23 Gothenburg, Sweden

Justin Solondz, 98291-011
FDC SEATAC, Federal Detention Centre, P.O. Box 13900, Seattle, WA 98198, USA.
Justin Solondz is currently awaiting trial in Seatac, Washington. He is being accused of actions under the Earth Liberation Front/Animal Liberation Front. Briana Waters, his former comrade and friend turned informant will be testifying against him.

Joyanna L Zacher, 36360-086
FCI Dublin, Federal Correctional Institution, 5701 8th St - Camp Parks, Unit E, DUBLIN, CA 94568, USA.
Sentenced 7 years and 8 months
Birthday: 25th January

Save us some dosh! if you re moving?

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

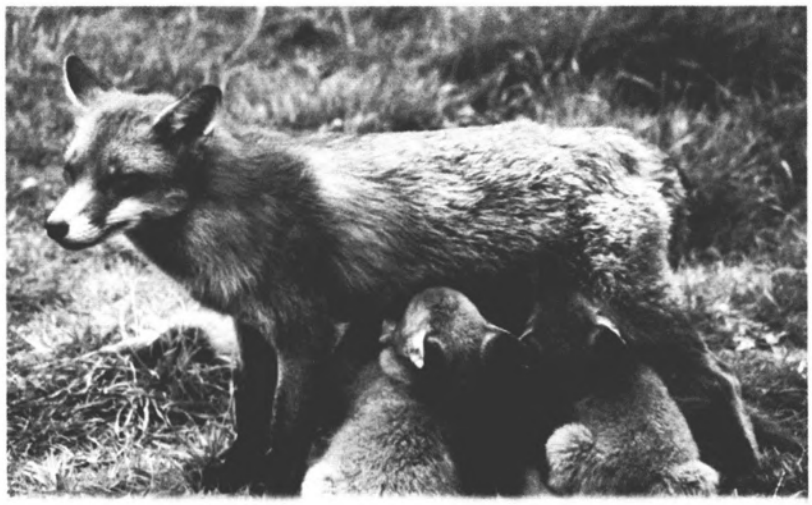
The HSA has a disproportionate number of returned envelopes due to unknown addressees, this inevitably means wasted funds.

Make sure we know where you are!!

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.

Jan-11	1st	
	2nd	F Ford
	3rd	R Metcalf
Feb-11	1st	P Fenn
	2nd	K Sherridan
	3rd	M Britton
Mar-11	1st	R Kerry
	2nd	R Metcalf
	3rd	F Ford
Apr-11	1st	K Sherridan
	2nd	
	3rd	P Fenn
May-11	1st	P Fenn
	2nd	F Marshall
	3rd	J Fenwick
Jun-11	1st	I Liggett
	2nd	R Banham
	3rd	F Ford
Jul-11	1st	P Fenn
	2nd	S Burge
	3rd	R Banham
Aug-11	1st	K Sherridan
	2nd	M Mead
	3rd	J Insley
Sep-11	1st	F Ford
	2nd	J Fenwick
	3rd	J Insley
Oct-11	1st	F Ford
	2nd	F Ford
	3rd	
Nov-11	1st	R Banham
	2nd	
	3rd	J Insley
Dec-11	1st	
	2nd	R Banham
	3rd	J Fenwick
Jan-12	1st	R Banham
	2nd	J Fenwick



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.....

the black fish

The Black Fish - the marine wildlife needs us!

Covering three-quarters of the globe, the oceans are the largest wilderness on this planet and the deep blue depths are home to the largest number of species. The world's oceans are also the scene of the largest slaughter of animals in the world, caused by industrial fishing, habitat destruction, underwater mining and drilling operations. The story of industrial fishing is one of unchecked exploitation, corruption, illegality, criminality and lack of political will to do something about it. In recent years industrial fishing has impacted on the oceans to such an extend that it is no overstatement to say that it is now among the most cruel and destructive human activities on earth.

For centuries people have been fishing, it has been the pillar on which many civilizations have been built. Fish was plenty and the seas were seen as an inexhaustible source of food. Aided by technologies developed during the world wars, such as radar and sonar, the fishing industry experienced a technological revolution during the 1950's. Fishing companies were able to build larger vessels which could stay at sea for longer periods and they equipped the fishing fleets to become ruthlessly efficient. Fish became cheap and aided by government subsidies, big business.

Age old fishing techniques started being produced on an industrial scale. Driftnets for example could now measure over 25 kilometers in length and catch everything in their path. Often referred to as the 'curtains of death' these nets catch indiscriminately, killing many more different species than those targeted. Millions of whales, dolphins, turtles, sharks, rays and an unimaginable number of fish and other smaller creatures have found their end at the hands of a driftnet. Longlines have a similar destructive effect as they are left out for a number of hours or sometimes days. Animals that get hooked either suffocate or die of the stress involved in trying to free themselves. Bottom trawling is another widely accepted fishing technique. Here, large nets scrape along the seabed, killing off corals, sponges, bottom dwelling fish and turn the habitat into rubble in a matter of minutes.

Yes, the picture is bleak. Even more bleak when you realise that almost



flickr.com/adstream, Trawler out at sea



Projeto Tamar Brazil/Marine Photobank, Dead turtles in abandoned net



half of the global fish catch is for industrial use, feeding pigs and poultry such as chickens and egg laying hens in the meat industry, salmons and shrimps in aquaculture and minks and foxes for the fur industry. A large percentage also ends up in pet food. This situation has gotten so out of hand that the pig is now the top predator of the oceans, closely followed by the chicken and cats in a close third spot. All of these animals now eat more sea creatures than any marine species on earth. To make matters worth, industrial fish meal is also used as fertilizer in the agriculture industry and even accepted by some organic food certification standards.

It is clear that we cannot leave the protection of the oceans to those who are working to destroy it. Politicians, the sea food industry and the responsible government agencies are all to blame for the current atrocities. Last summer a group of us who worked as crew members on the ships of Greenpeace and Sea Shepherd decided that more needs to be done to stop the destruction of the world's oceans. In August 2010 we started the new marine activist organisation The Black Fish. What began as a small group that set up a non-profit with some borrowed money has grown into an international organisation relatively quickly, thanks to some successesful actions.





flickr.com/merintia, Orca Morgan in her tank

We started a campaign in Münster, Germany, for the closure of the local run-down dolphinarium and relocation of the four dolphins kept there. After an intense few weeks of pickets and actions, the owners announced to close down the facility by the end of 2012. To make the link between European dolphinariums and the international captivity trade it was decided to take on the dolphin traders on their home turf. Under the cover of darkness and after a week long surveillance operation, activists from The Black Fish swam out into the harbor of Taiji, Japan, the scene of the annual dolphin drive hunts. Arriving at the holding pens which hold animals before transportation, the nets of six of them were cut and an estimated ten dolphins swam back out into open sea, escaping lifelong captivity.

Back in The Netherlands, the Orca Coalition was founded, cooperating with six other organisations in a campaign for the release of orca Morgan, a young female killer whale stranded on the Dutch coast in June 2010. She was cut off from her family and found malnourished and although back to health, the dolphinarium where she is held, refuses to release her. Together with other organisations a successful lawsuit was initiated, for the first time ever blocking the transport of an animal to a captive facility. The case has since moved on and the Orca Coalition is now involved in a new round of legal and direct action to give Morgan back her freedom.

The Black Fish bought its first direct action boat this summer and is currently working to get it ready for action. We are also publishing a book on the lucrative trade in the endangered bluefin tuna and are busy with an investigation into industrial fishing around Scandinavia. The fact that The Black Fish has grown to an international organisation in a matter of months shows that a lot of people see the need for a new force to stop the oceans being pillaged by corporate enterprise. We are a new generation that are taking on the whalers, fishermen, fish farmers and poachers that are destroying the very foundations which enable life on this earth and inflicting cruelty on millions of animals. We have started small and are building from the grassroots. We need to build a broad movement of people and groups and start taking responsibility for what lies closer to home. For that bluefin tuna in the Mediterranean, cod in the Baltic, mackerel in the North East Atlantic and porpoise in the North Sea. For the whales that continue to be slaughtered by Norway and Iceland. For them we have made a commitment and will stand our ground.

Join us at www.theblackfish.org

As a small organisation The Black Fish relies entirely on the hard work and support of volunteers: ordinary people with a passion for the marine environment that are looking to help make a difference in its protection. The Black Fish is currently expanding into new campaigns and we are looking for people to join our direct action team and future ship's crew. If you are committed to taking action for the protection of marine life in European seas and are able to dedicate time to work with us, please check out our website: www.theblackfish.org/crewing

We look forward to hearing from you!

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

ARPS (Animal Rights Prisoner Support)
PO Box 2174, LEIGH-ON-SEA, SS9 0AZ
Website: http://www.arprisoners.org
General email enquiries: info@arprisoners.org
Newsletter email enquiries: newsletter@arprisoners.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

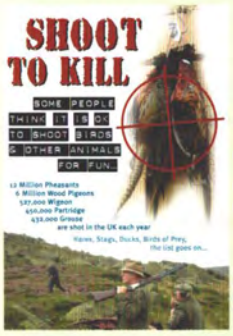
Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC)
C/o FRIEND, 89 Bush Road, East Peckham, Tonbridge, TN12 5LJ
info@shac.net www.shac.net

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

Veggies Animal Rights Calendar
http://www.veggies.org.uk/events/arc/

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)



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

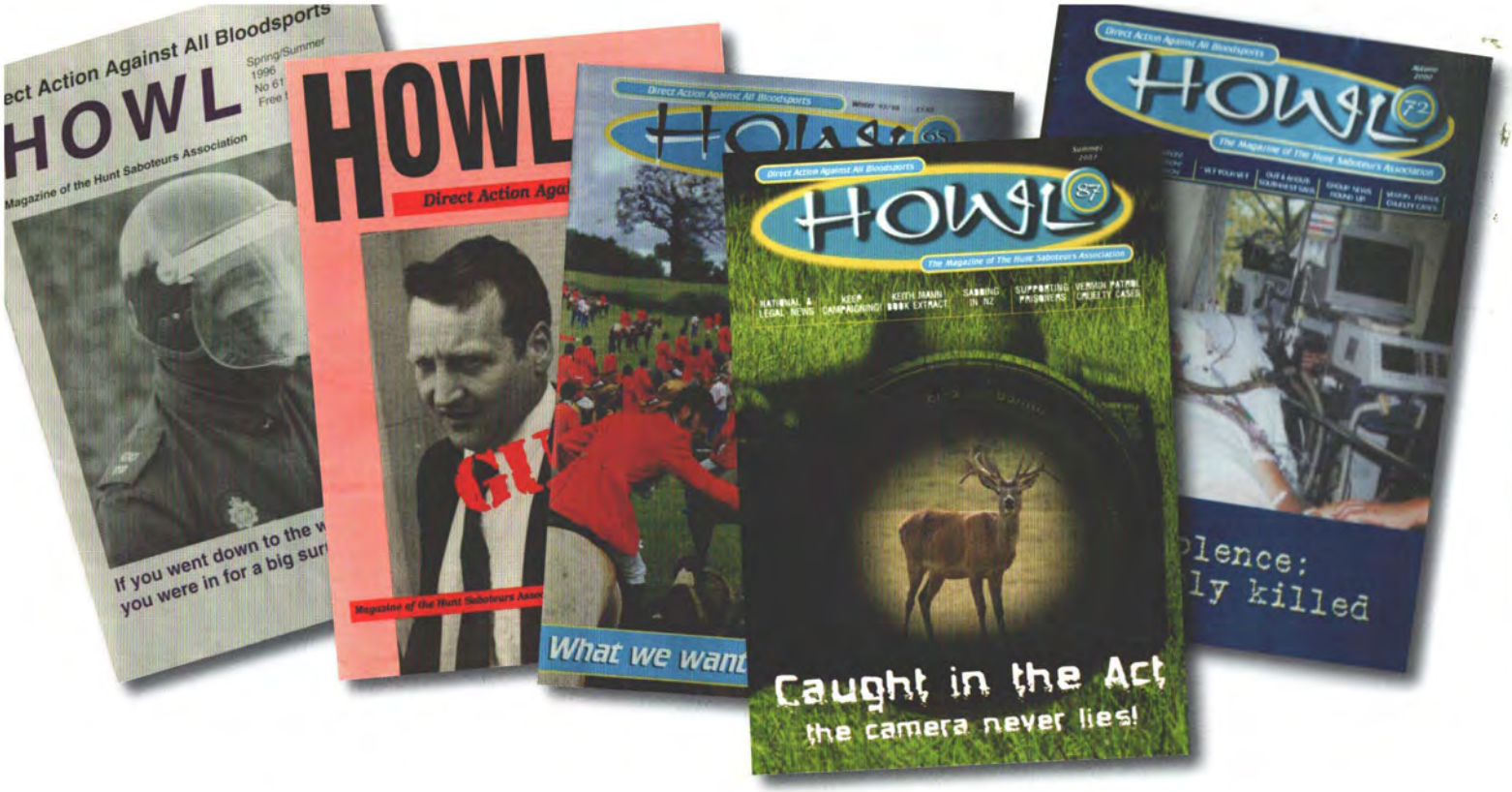
You can also affiliate to the HSA for £30 for 4 issues of Howl. Affiliated groups will receive 10 copies of each Howl in the c their subscription. (The cost of affiliation includes postage)

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

POSTAGE & PACKING

To keep promotional material free we would ask you to make a donation to cover postage.1 Howl costs 72p to send as do 5 posters. 250 leaflets cost approx. £3.75, 500 leaflets £4.25 and 1000 leaflets £6.25.





We are nearly 100!

100th Howl

To celebrate the 100th issue of Howl in early 2012 there will be a **competition** to design the front cover for this very special edition of the magazine. You'll get a reminder nearer the time but just so that you can get your thinking caps on....

There will also be a competition for the best story to go in the 100th issue. It can be funny, sad, educational, it's up to you. This issue will be in full colour so send in your best photos too.

Also we would love your ideas of what you would like to see in the 100th issue. Send them in to howleditor@huntsabs.org.uk

www.huntsabs.org.uk

