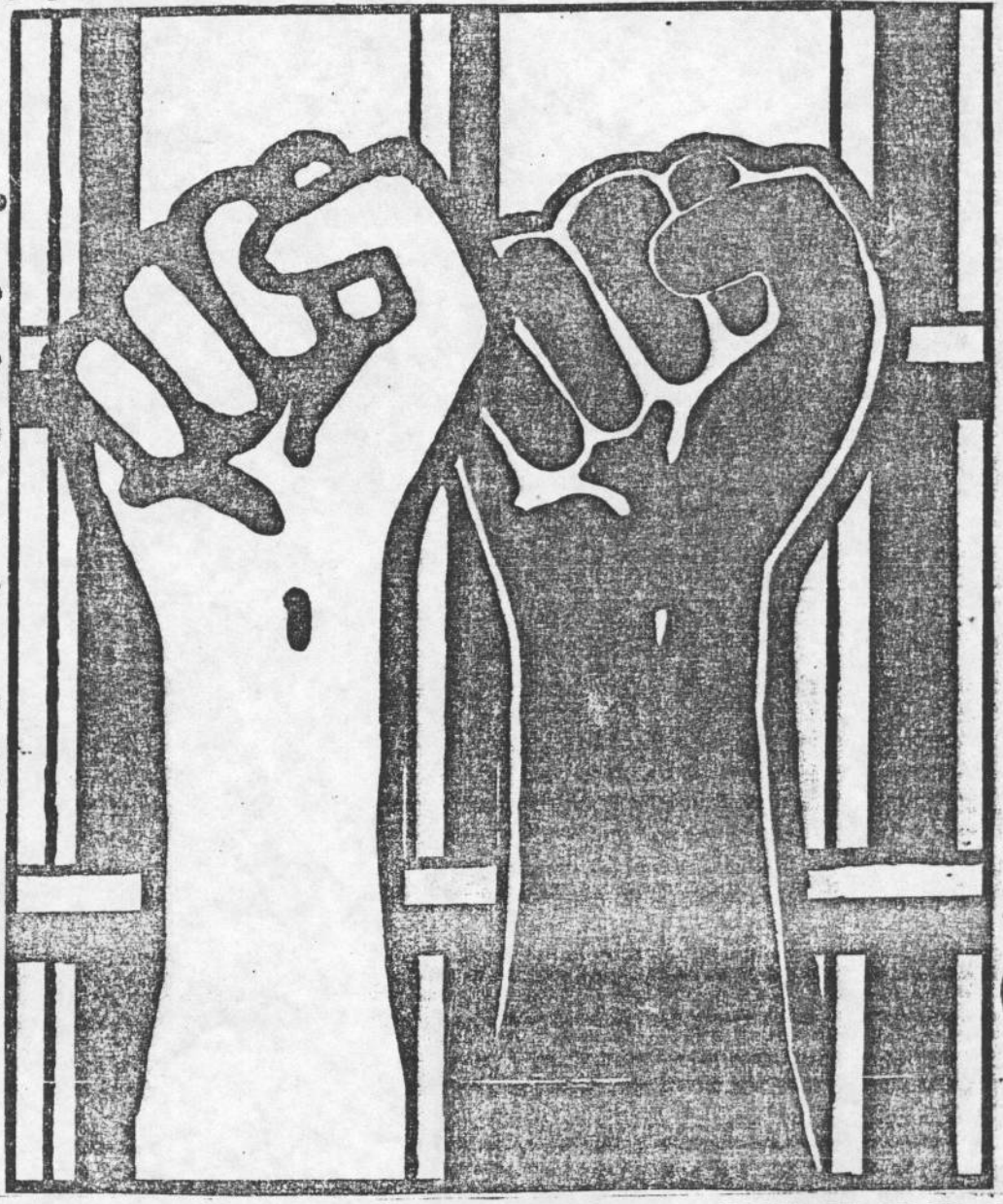
S.A.R.P.

NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 1991

ANIMAL RIGHTS



SUPPORT

PRISONERS

THEY GIVE THEIR FREEDOM

S.A.R.P. , P.O. BOX 96 , NORTHAMPTON. NN5 5JT.

This newsletter is produced by SARP and distributed free to all Animal Rights groups and concerned individuals. A copy of this newsletter is also sent to all Animal Rights prisoners and defendants, WHERE KNOWN. If you know of anyone who should be receiving a copy, and isn't, then let us know as soon as possible so we can remedy that situation. Similarly, if your group is not receiving a copy then let us know.If you feel able to donate anything at all towards the running costs of this newsletter you will help to enlarge and improve its coverage for future issues. At present the quality and size of the newsletter are governed by the limited funds available for its production.

COMMENT.

Now, more than ever, we have need of unity, we have a need to be as one, to act as one and to battle on as one. We have to put our personal feelings aside and respect our fellow activists for what they are, not who they are. Our commitment has to be 100% for Animal Rights and leave no room to hate each other. For united we can win but divided we will surely fail, and this has never been truer than it is now. Our struggle, the struggle for Animal Rights, is now entering a new era, an era of hope, determination and renewed commitment. Activists are once again prepared to stand up and be counted, to put their liberty at risk for the greatest cause of all — the cause of Animal Liberation.

The authorities and the media have done their best to try and hide the truth, to keep quiet about the level of direct action taking place. Despite them it is very clear that direct action is on the increase in all parts of the country. New activists have joined the struggle, people who know nothing about the petty jealousies and divisions of the past and who care little about them.Tell them about the reasons why they should hate other sections of the movement and they will treat you with justified contempt. Older activists have forgotten what our struggle is really about while the newer recruits understand only to well that it should be about the animals alone. We who have struggled on alone through the dark years, the years when direct action was at an all time low, can learn much from our newer fellow activists. Let us direct them in all that is good about our movement but lets forget the past, the days of division and hate must now be over for the sake of the animals. All that matters is the animals and ending their suffering, let us forget the mistakes of the past and move forward as one united movement.

The best way of supporting our prisoners and those awaitin trial is with unity. Division and bickering creates only dissilusionment and futility. A strong unified movement encourages those imprisoned in Babylons dark cells to bear their ordeal with dignity and upon their release to once again play their part in the struggle. Too many good activists have left prison dissilusioned and defeated to be lost to Animal Rights for ever. They have said, with much justification, that they are sick of hearing of the criticism and back-biting, the lack of support, the hatred that blinds us to the real reasons for our fight.

SARP appeals to all sections to support all Animal Rights activists in prison and awaiting trial. If you cannot support them then we appeal to you to refrain from criticism of them. Let us, together, unify our fragmented movement and fight the real enemy as we once did - Together.

THE INTERFAUNA TRIAL

In April 1990 the Interfauna breeding establishment near Huntingdon was raided by the ALF. In an operation lasting 3½ hours, 8 ALF activists liberated 82 beagles and 26 white rabbits in two vans which had to be parked several feilds away, the animals being carried over the feilds to the vans. The activists gained access to one building by forcing a door and entered another through the roof. In the police operation that followed 10 people were arrested and charged, 3 with burglary and the other 7 with handling the liberated beagles. To date, out of the 108 animals liberated on that night only two beagles have ever been recovered by the authorities.

Interfauna UK ltd breeds animals for vivisection, its main customer being the notorious Huntingdon Research Centre.

There follows an account of the trial of the 10 people who were arrested and charged following the raid.

DIARY OF A TRIAL

Monday July 8th, and gathered at Leicester crown court are a hoard of lawyers, barristers, various clerks, 10 defendants and their supporters. It is the start of yet another animal rights trial —— this time for an ALF raid that took place at Interfauna UK ltd, a breeding centre near Huntingdon in Cambridgeshire, during which 82 beagles and 26 rabbits were liberated.

It had taken 15 months to bring this case to court, from the arrests in early April 1990, until today, with forensic work being carried out virtually until the last minute by the crown.

The charges ranged from burglary (against three of the defendants) to handling stolen goods(the beagles), against most of the other people.

Once in the dock, all assembled and ready to go, came a bit of shocking news - three of the accused were to plead guilty! Two of the women accused of handling pleaded guilty and received one year conditional discharges each, and one of the raiders, Dan Attwood, pleaded guilty to burglary - his sentence being adjourned until the end of the trial, and he being allowed bail until then. After this turn in events the judge, Christopher Young, decided to adjourn for a few minutes, and there was a sudden burst of frenetic activity by lawyers representing the other alleged handlers. Eventually a deal was struck: three more handlers would plead guilty in return for conditional discharges, one would have all the charges against her dropped and one, Dan's brother James, would plead not guilty.

So a trial that was expected to last for four weeks with 10 defendants was cut back and the time scale reduced to one or two weeks with just three defendants - John Curtin and Jim O'Donnell for burglary and James Attwood for handling.

It was adjourned to start the following day at 10.30am, so at the appointed time Jim, John and James sat in the dock to await the start of the performance.

The first witness to be called was Joy Pamella Jackson, a director of Interfauna. This witness was at court to lend credence to the crowns assertion that Interfauna was not such a bad place after all. She failed miserably. She proved herself to be a callous,conceited woman, a qualified veterinary surgeon, who had turned her back on compassion and her animals, in the pursuit of profit from the blood of her charges.

(cont on next page)

DIARY OF A TRIAL (cont)

Despite trying to present a compassionate image, she let herself down and gave her game away by refering to the rescued animals as research tools and animal models. She even expressed her surprise, when it was mentioned, about how easily the liberated dogs which were found had become "pet-dogs", and how well they had settled into their new homes - this had come to light when she was pressed on why Interfauna had decided to leave them where they were if found by the police. What does she think of? A dog is a dog is a dog! It does not stop being a dog just because it lives in one of her hell holes or the lab of one of her cronies - a"pet-dog"and a "lab-dog" are one and the same - both sensitive creatures with basic needs - food, warmth, shelter, love, care and attention. She seemed to be able to draw a blind between her own "pet-dog" and the dogs she was breeding for torture and abuse. Jackson even had the audacity to suggest that she liked to give the beagles "a little bit of what i call T.L.C. A little bit of Tender Loving Care". Joy Jackson was shown to be exactly what she, and all her sidekicks are - a group of profit hungry, insensitive, callous people. She might have hidden behind a mask of smiles and confidence, but you could see what was lurking behind that mask.

SO THE TRIAL CONTINUED.....

Various witnesses came and went - one, a DC Trotter was asked about his drinking habits - in particular his being drunk when turning up to arrest Jim in London. He replied that he had only had one pint of beer, a pint that was sufficiently strong to warrant a metropolitan police officer driving Jim back to Huntingdon police station, and an official compliaint to be put in by Southwark police station.

There were also excellent testimonies put in by Sarah Kite of the BUAV, and Robin Webb of the RSPCA. Both witnesses provided a small but shocking glimpse into the hidden world of vivisection : Sarah giving an account of her time at Huntingdon Research Centre, an expose carried the Today newspaper in 1989, (Interfauna is the main supplier of beagles to HRC), an account that was at times quite harrowing. Robin gave his view, from his vast knowledge of vivisection and animal abuse, about breeding centres and their conditions in this country. He told also of a small monkey in a lab, a small pathetic creature that sobbed uncontrollab when its cage was tapped by a workman on an electrical contract, who just happened to stumble into this waking nightmare, not quite able to beleive the horror of what he was seeing. Robin also relayed to the court the RSPCA's official line that all animal experiments should be ended.

After Robin Webb came the turn of John Curtin to enter the stand. John gave a very convincing speech about his feelings on the moral and scientific bankruptcy of vivisection, and about how he felt moved to try and end the suffering and potential suffering of all animals. His defence was that of honest intent, meaning that he didn't "steal" the beagles but instead liberated them, not for his own gain, but for the sake of the animals.

Jim O'Donnell on the advice of his counsell didn't give evidence.

James attwood did and he gave an account of how he had received some of the beagles and passed them onto new homes.

After the witnesses it was the crowns turn to sum up their case.

Then came the defence.

(cont on next page)

DIARY OF A TRIAL (cont)

Isabella Forshall, for Jim, gave an excellent speech, as did Mary Mckeone for John and the counsel for James Attwood.

So, on Wednesday I7th July, at I0.30am, the jury retired to consider their verdicts.

At 2.30 pm they returned.

Jim was aquitted.

John was found guilty, and subsequently sentenced to I8 months in prison.

James Attwood was also aquitted.

Dan Attwood, on his return to be sentenced, was given 9 months.

The judge in this case, Christopher Young, lived up to the reputation judges have for giving fair trials. He virtually accused John of taking the beagles and rabbits with a veiw to receiving some sort of financial renumeration. Even when John had emphasised that this was not the case, but that some of the recipients of the animals had offered donations towards the vets bills incurred by having the animals spayed and neutered and having their tattoos removed, the judge seized on this as proof of John "stealing" animals for profit! Sarah Kite also received this treatment, the judge suggesting that she was in the employ of Today newspaper, and as such she therefore received sums of money for her expose of HRC.

To account for there being no direct evidence against Jim, to link him in any way to Interfauna, his honour said that jims van must have been cleaned exceptionally well, to rid it of forensic evidence, and that if Jim wasn't at the Interfauna raid he was propably committing a crime somewhere else!

IN CONCLUSION:

Interfauna was the biggest animal rights trial for a few years. The police performance was, on the whole, pretty thorough. They did blunder a bit, but in the end they got their act together. Forensic evidence was used in abundance - even down to wheat samples from one of the vans being matched by a plant pathologist to a feild near the site of the raid. Hair samples were taken from Jim and Danny to be matched to hair in some balaclavas.

Extreme care does need to be taken by activists, as the police do have virtually limitless resources, and some pretty amazing forensic techniques available to them.

One of the defence lawyers said that they had never seen as much forensic work done for just a burglary, likening the amount done as being more akin to a murder enquiry.

TAKE CARE!

BRITISH JUSTICE.

On march 8th of this year, at 10.50am, three police officers came round to my flat out of the blue, and charged me with riot. They claimed i was involved with the trashing of Alan Summersgills house after the murder of Mike Hill, a few weeks before. I had heard about Mike Hill, it was a tragedy, but not really surprising sadly, as most of us in our time have had to face a blood crazed, mentally deranged huntsman and it was only a matter of time before this happened.

The police told me i had been identified from a photograph taken at the time. This is impossible because i wasn't there, maybe in spirit perhaps, but i am a single parent with a son of 6, and i realized long ago that i couldn't be a parent and an activist, but i could support the struggle from the side-line.This is what i have been doing for the last 4 or 5 years, but the police obviously took one look at my past record, one look at a grainy photograph of someone who looks slightly like me, and decided to pin it on me.

My son was at school that day but i was told that i would be released in a couple of hours. They forgot to take off my watch at the station, i was locked up at 11.15am, after being told that i would be interviewed"in an hour or so". At 4.30pm, i was taken out, and handed over to 2 detectives who told me they were going to take me to Northwich in Cheshire for questioning. I told them i had a small son to think of, and what was going on? They laughed and one said"you didn't think about that when you went to Chester the first time did you"! I said, "have you ever heard of the phrase innocent until proven guilty?". He didn't seem to understand, just laughed again. I was allowed to speak breifly with my mum who was looking after my boy, and then i was taken to Northwich with 2 detectives, who i learned later were the two who decided the personin the photograph was me. I had never met either before.

We got to Northwich at 7pm, and i was interviewed with a solicitor present, one which my family had arranged for me. The whole interview lasted 2-3 minutes. They kept on about the photograph but wouldnt show it to us. I was fingerprinted, photographed, etc, then put in the coldest cell i had ever been in. From arriving there i had repeatedly told them i was a vegan, but after a freezing sleepless night i was offered bacon and eggs(that old joke). The woman on breakfast duty didn't know what vegan meant. At 9am they sent me a tomato on a plate. I felt they were taking the piss and sent it back. Eventually i was taken to Cheter court, 17 miles away, and handcuffed and hungry, i was given bail, as long as someone stood a £1000 surety. I was taken to Chester police station and checked in. Luckily my parents were kept in touch via my solicitor, and my dad immediately went to Coventry police station with proof of his bank balance. This was at 11.10am. I was again locked up while the desk sargent waited for the proof to be faxed through. After an hour, he came and said Coventry police were still checking up on me and my family (whatever that meant). So i asked for some food as i hadn't eaten in 24 hours. I said again i was vegan and he said i'd have to eat what the others do. It was lucky there was plenty of brick walls for me to smash my head against. At last, at 1.45pm, one and a half hours after my dad had offered the £1000, and 27 hours after the had stood on my doorstep, promising "a couple of hours", i was finally freed. My dad had left £15 at Coventry police station so they could issue me a travel warrent, but the desk sargeant decided that as i had £60 on me,(i was going to pay my gas bill that day) i could afford my own way home.

On getting back to Coventry i learnt that freinds had started out to pick me up from Chester and had broken down half way and had to phone for a mechanic, etc, so it cost us all dearly that day and not just in money. The way i see it is if you're going to be put through an experience like that, every time the police need a few arrests, then why be law-abiding? My little boy hates policemen, and under that is fear, and i'm sure he'll never go to one for help. My solicitor says that one photograph is all the evidence they have against me. This charge will be hanging over me until at least November, and this is just yet another example of great British justice, my fault perhaps for being in possesion of dreadlocks, a tatty parka and a "strange" diet.

BOOTS THE VIVISECTORS

The campaign against Boots is gaining momentum all over the country with regular pickets of Boots stores and some spectactular demonstrations, notably the rooftop demo at Thurgatton. Mass leafletting outside Boots stores has met with an amazing response from the general public. Most say they were unaware that Boots were active vivisectors and on hearing of the truth have expressed shock and indignation against the firm with many pledging never to shop there again until they change their evil ways.

Boots, themselves, have remained strangely silent, making no attempt to stop the protests beyond token gestures such as objecting to the campaign's use of the Boots logo, Perhaps they realise that the Boots campaign are telling the truth on the leaflets and daren't try and stop them for fear of the bad publicity they would get. Since the early 80's court orders have prevented the national animal rights societys from campaigning against Boots. They have used that time to clean up their public image considerably and present a nice freindly image to the public with their own range of cruelty-free cosmetics. That squeaky clean image is now being blown apart by the revelations of what Boots are really up to behind the scenes. Boots the vivisectors torture and murder vast numbers of innocent animals every year in the name of profit. This time the campaign against them wont be silenced until they close down their vivisection laboratories and leave the animals alone.

Police tactics against Boots demo's and pickets are very erratic. In Manchester, they poured in ridiculous amounts of reinforcements and then violently attacked a demo which until then had been peacefull. Protesters were physically attacked as they were arrested, the police were seen punching and kicking people as they dragged them to waiting vans. So eager were they for arrests that some innocent shoppers were arrested as well! In Birmingham a rooftop demo resulted in 16 arrests - 6 of them for merely handing out leaflets - while in Nottingham a similar rooftop demo saw the police take no action and arrested no-one. In some towns protesters leafletting outside Boots stores have been moved on while in others the police have ignored them and taken no action.

A petition pledging a boycott of Boots has been remarkably successfull wherever it has been running with people signing their names and vowing to boycott the store until they close down their evil labs. Boots even with their vast resources, must by now have seen a reduction, no matter how slight, in profits because of the protests and boycotts and will perhaps make some move eventually to try and end the campaign. One thing is sure though, this campaign wont be as easily silenced as previous ones.

Boots a.g.m.

As part of the ongoing campaign against Boots the vivisectors a demonstration was held at the firms A.G.M. at the Queen Elizabeth the second hotel in london in July. People arriving were leafletted and the shareholders and directors of Boots will have been in no doubt as to what people think of them.

For more information about the campaign contact:

A.L.I.U.
P.O. BOX 87,
ROCHDALE,
LANCS.
OLI6 IAA.

PRISONERS AND DEFENDANTS

SIMON RUSSELL,
ND I666,
LAKES WING,
HMP THE MOUNT,
BOVINGDON,
HEMEL HEMPSTEAD,
HERTS.
HP3 ONZ.

Simon is currently serving a 4 year sentence, imposed earlier this year, for possession of incendiary devices(2½ years) and an offence on a poll tax demo(I½ years).

RONNIE LEE,
VO 2682,
LB2 CLYDE,
HMP CHANNINGS WOOD,
DENBURY,
NEWTON ABBOT,
DEVON.
TQI2 6DW.

Ronnie has now served over 5 years of a ten year sentence for two charges of conspiracy and one of incitement. He has consistently been turned down for parole.

DANNY ATTWOOD,
JC 0306,
HMP,
SUDBURY,
DERBYSHIRE.
DE6 5HW.

JOHN CURTIN,
JC 0305,
HMP MOUSEHOLD,
KNOX ROAD,
NORWICH,
NORFOLK.
NRI 4LU.

Both Danny and John have been imprisoned for their part in the Interfauna raid in I990 (see seperate article in this newsletter). John was sentenced to I8 months and Danny to 9 months.

ANGELA HAMP,
TT 22I4,
HMP,
PARKHURST ROAD,
HOLLOWAY,
LONDON. N7.

ANNETTE TIBBLES,
TT 22I5,
HMP,
PARKHURST ROAD,
HOLLOWAY,
LONDON. N7.

RICHARD DURIEZ,
HMP,
ST LOYES STREET,
BEDFORD.
MK40 IHG.

Angela, Annette and Richard have all been charged with "conspiracy to cause criminal damage". Following increased ALF activity in the Northampton and bedford Areas, the police in Northamptonshire have over-reacted like mad, putting at least 20 officers full time on the animal rights "problem", and raiding the houses of every animal rights sympathiser they could think of. Desperate to arrest someone(anyone) they have had various people in for questioning and have charged Angela, Annette and Richard, despite the fact that they appear to have no evidence on any of them. All three were remanded in custody for a week on July I2th. A fourth man has also been charged with criminal damage and going equipped to cause criminal damage and released on bail.

PRISONERS AND DEFENDANTS. (cont)

THE BRAMPTON THREE.

Gari Allen, Micheal Shannahan and Barry Horne were arrested in October I990 in the village of Brampton, near Huntingdon. A number of incendiary devices were allegedly found in the car being driven by one of the three and subsequently all three were charged with "possession of explosives". The police came out with some wild scare stories about the three which were gleefully printed by the local madia and even some national papers with the result that the three were refused bail and they spent over three months on remand in bedford prison.They were finally released on bail on January 30th because after three months the police still couldnt cobble enough evidence together to commit them for trial. Strict bail conditions were impossed on all three, they had to sign on at a local police station twice a day and a curfew was impossed between 8pm and 6am every night. After 6 months these conditions were relaxed slightly to one daily signing and a curfew between 9pm and 6am. They have now been given a provisional trial date in early November at Northampton crown court.

A defence fund has been set up and all donations and messages of support can ba sent to:

D.A.S.H.
C/O SARP
P.O. BOX 96
NORTHAMPTON
NN5 5JT.

OXFORD.

Following an ALF raid on Churchill hospital, a notorious animal torture centre in Oxford, 5 people were arrested and held in custody for two days. They were finally released without charge on one months police bail.

LAUNDRY FARM.

One person was arrested following an ALIU inspection of Laundry farm in cambridge, held in police custody for three days and finally released on bail charged withburglary and other related offences. Laundry farm is a breeding centre owned by Cambridge university to supply animals for vivisection to numerous laboratories including Addenbrookes hospital. The ALIU inspection was carried out following "a tip-off that they were experimenting on mongrel dogs which were believed to have come from questionable and dubious sources"

A black mongrel dog was removed from laundry farm and the ALIU believe it may be a stolen pet and are now trying to trace its owner.

NEIL THEOBALD.

Neil was arrested in the latter half of I990 and charged with arsonand criminal damage. spent considerable time on remand in prison before being released on bail.

PRISONERS AND DEFENDANTS (cont)

CHESHIRE BEAGLE HUNT

At least 38 people have so far been arrested and charged with riot following incidents outside the home of hunt thug Alan Summersgill on February IIth. Summersgill was the huntsman responsible for the death of hunt sab Mike Hill two days previous.

MANCHESTER MEDICAL SCHOOL

Eighteen people are currently on bail following a demo outside a Boots store during the recent march against the Manchester medical school. Altogether 25 people were arrested when police attacked the peaceful demo but only I9 were actually charged, I7 with either breach of the peace or obstruction and two with assault. So far only one case has been heard, against a man accused of assault - he was aquitted. Eyewitnesses described the police tactics as "violent" and "provocative" and say the police "over-reacted".

BIRMINGHAM BOOTS DEMO

Police made I6 arrests when breaking up a demo outside a Boots store in Birmingham city centre. Ten people have been charged with breach of the peace and seven others, arrested for handing out leaflets, have been charged with obstruction. Of those latter seven, one man has already appeared in court, and was fined £IOO. The other six were due to appear in dourt on August I2th. The other IO, who, following arrest, were held in custody for two days, are due to appear in court in two groups of five on Sept 20th and Sept 23rd.

ROYAL LONDON HOSPITAL

Following a raid on the Royal London hospital in London, in which IOOO mice and 8 beagles were liberated, two people were arrested, one from London and the other from Coventry, and held by the police for questioning. Both were released without charge on police bail.

MANCHESTER

Three people have been arrested in Manchester and charged with criminal damage and conspiracy to cause criminal damage. All have been remanded in custody until August 2Ist.

SALES GOODS.

T- shirts. Three designs now available.

I) the original S.A.R.P. design.

Two clenched fists protruding from cell bars with the slogan:

"SUPPORT ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS"

"THEY GIVE THEIR FREEDOM"

Available in black design on white shirt or black and white design on blue shirt.

Sizes - medium/ large/ ex-large.

Price - £7-00 inc p&p.

2) "FREE RONNIE LEE"

Available in various colours and sizes.

Price - £5-00 inc p&p.

3) ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT.

New and original design available soon.

For more info and to place orders contact the SARP address.

BADGES.

"SUPPORT ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS"

White lettering on black background.

Price 50p inc p&p.

CAR/WINDOW STICKERS

"SUPPORT ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS"

TWO CLENCHED FISTS PROTRUDING FROM CELL BARS.

"THEY GIVE THEIR FREEDOM"

White design on black sticker.

Price - 80p inc p&p.

PENS

"SUPPORT ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS"

"THEY GIVE THEIR FREEDOM"

Price - 40p inc p&p.

Please make all cheques/postal orders out to "SARP".

Allow 2to 3 weeks for delivery.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

FLAMINGOLAND DOLPHIN CAMPAIGN

Over the bank holiday weekend FDC will again be at Flamingoland as part of their campaign to close down the dolphinarium. On sunday night (august 25) they will be holding an all night vigil and then on bank holiday monday (august 26) they will be picketing the main gate handing out leaflets.

Support the vigil and picket at Flamingoland August 25 - 26.

F.D.C. , c/o M.D.C. , P.O. Box 63, Lancaster. LAI 4GD.

BRISTOL UNIVERSITY

March and rally against animal experiments at Bristol University on September 2Ist.

Assemble at the: Water Tower, Durdham Downs, Clifton, Bristol.

March sets offat: 2.00pm. Rally at College Green 4.00pm.

N.A.V.S. (Bristol Branch), P.O. Box 589, Bristol. BS99 IRW.

OVENDEN WOOD FUR FARM

The fur farm at Ovenden wood, Halifax, West Yorkshire, is the last arctic fox prison in England and Wales. Anational march and demonstration will be held against it on saturday, october 5th, I99I.

Assemble at: Northbridge Leisure centre car park, Halifax town centre. October 5th at I.00pm.

March sets off at I.30pm.

Demonstration outside the fur farm 2.45 - 5.00pm.

Animal Protection Foundation, P.O. Box I68, Cardiff, South Wales. CF5 5YH.

SHEFFIELD UNIVERSITY.

On october I2th there will be a march and rally against animal experiments at Sheffield University.

Assemble at: Caborns Corner, Spital Hill. at IO.I5am.

March sets off at II.00am sharp.

Afternoon cruelty-free exhibition at Sheffield city hall.

N.A.V.S. (Sheffield group), Tel: (0742) 6I035I or (07o9) 524616)

SUPPORT ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS,

P.O. BOX 96,

NORTHAMPTON,

NN5 5JT.