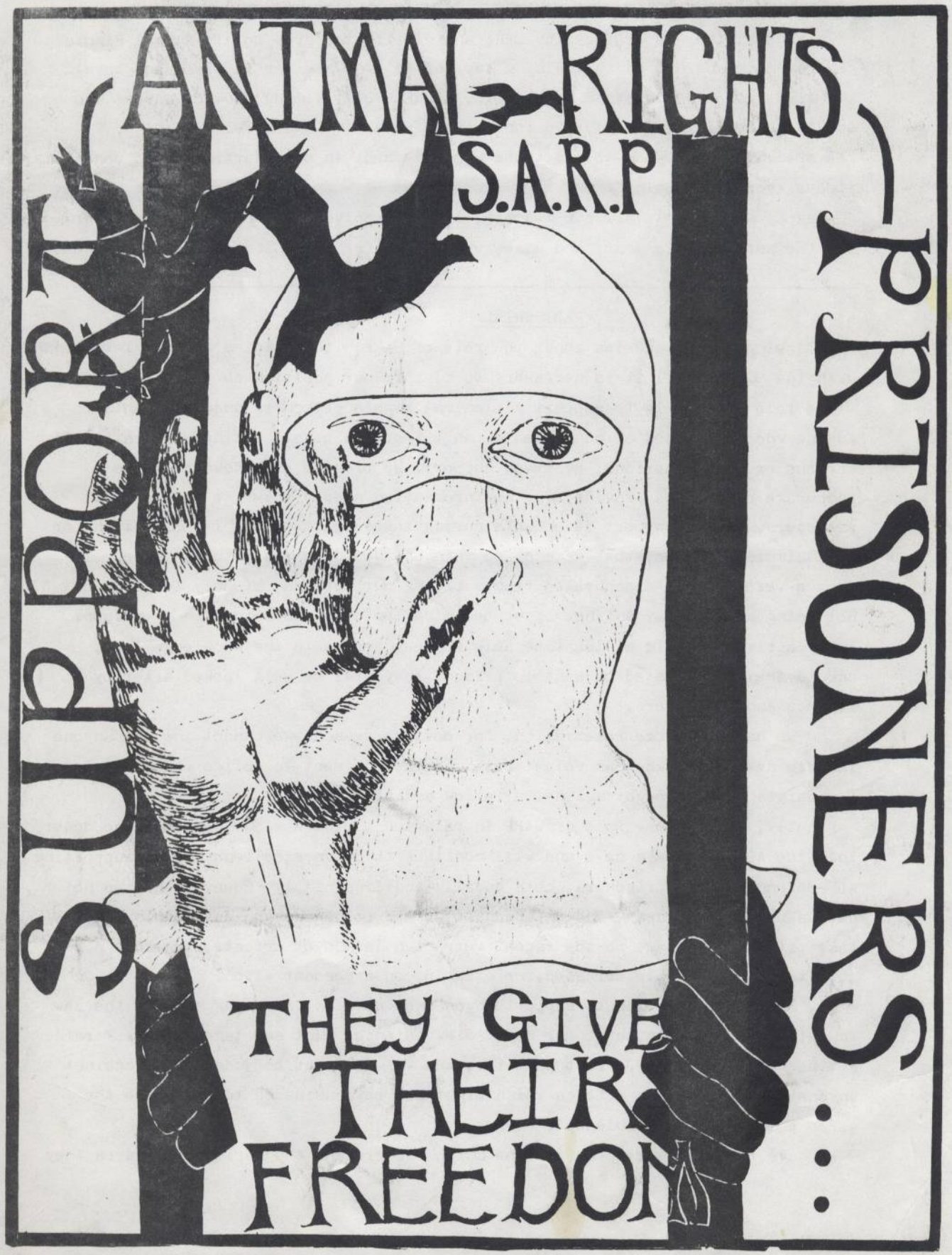
S.A.R.P. NEWSLETTER

January '92



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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 please let us know.

A special 'thank you' to all those who have sent in news, articles and donations, please keep them coming!

A Happy New Year to all our readers, let us resolve to work harder than ever for the animals this year, and make 1992 a year for the animal abusers to remember!

EDITORIAL

Following recent queries about the role of SARP, its policies and its relationship with the SG, we feel it is necessary to clarify our position on these matters.

The role of SARP is to support ALL animal rights prisoners and defendants. Anyone who is accused or convicted of an offence on behalf of the animals, be it serious or not so serious, deserves support. We produce this newsletter to encourage people and provide all the information needed to write to and visit prisoners, and to support defendants during their court cases. It is as much for the animals sake too, that we must do this. It would be a sad thing indeed, if people were to feel discouraged from carrying out actions, if only for fear of not being able to pay a fine, or of becoming isolated and forgotten in prison. Every activist should at least be able to feel secure in the knowledge that, should they be arrested or sent to prison, they will be well looked after by friends and supporters.

We have only one reservation, for obvious reasons we cannot include anyone in this newsletter who has voluntarily made a statement to police which has led to charges being brought against a fellow activist.

Finally, what is the role of SARP in relation to the ALF SG? There is no doubt that the ALF SG always have and will continue to do an excellent job of supporting ALF defendants and prisoners, both morally and financially. However,they do not have a bottomless purse, and unfortunately, ALF prisoners and defendants must take priority, and due to the recent very high levels of arrests, they are not able to support people arrested,for example, on a demonstration.

So, SARP's position is to support anyone who gets on the wrong side of the law in defence of animals,be it for civil disobedience, hunt sabotage or an ALF raid. Neither do we have any strict policies, and we would not be judgemental against anyone charged with an offence which might not be considered to fall into the ALF's policy of 'non violence'.

We have the utmost respect for the SG and understand the various pressures they

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are facing .We hope our work will complement that of the SG,and help to unify the more radical side of the movement a little more.

Unfortunately SARP is unable, as yet, to offer full financial support to defendants If you have been arrested and need financial assistance, we suggest that you start up a defence fund, to which SARP will be happy to make a donation. Anyone starting up a defence fund is also welcome to use the SARP box number c/o, if needed, and we will also advertise appeals, fundraising events, benefit gigs, etc., in this newsletter.

At the Horse and Hound Hunt Ball in London during early 1991, Robin Webb- then a member of the RSPCA's ruling council -was standing on the edge of the pavement near the main doors of the Grosvenor House Hotel.

A police constable told him to move to the wall of the hotel, which he did. Another member of the Met told him to move back to where he'd been. He did. The first constable then told him again to move over to the wall of the hotel, so he complied. Again he was told to move back to where he'd come from. When he did so, the first constable told him to do as he'd said and Robin tried to explain what was happening. He was immediately arrested without warning.

Having to ask at least six times why he was being arrested, the sergeant holding his left arm finally replied "Because you were there ".Meanwhile, the constable put Robins right arm in a lock and repeatedly said "Don't struggle sir, it will only hurt more" whilst continually forcing it further,

Processed and in a cell by 8.30pm, he was finally released at 5.00am the following morning, not even having had a glass of water. The serious charge? Obstruction.

At the subsequent magistrates court hearing the sergeant testified that he had seen Robin speaking to the constable and that Robin had gone away and returned twice. This confirmed Robin's evidence. The constable swore that Robin stood arguing with him for 7 or 8 minutes and at no time moved away. In spite of this, Robin was found guilty, fined £75 plus £50 costs.

John Mackenzie lodged an appeal on Robin's behalf which was set for June but then adjourned to September. John, Robin and defence witnesses sat in the inter- view room at Southwark Crown Court going through the evidence, after which John Mackenzie smiled and said "We've got a very good case". However, the day ended without the case being called. Adjourned again, this time until December. More travel costs for everyone. No legal aid for Robin.

Arriving at Southwark Crown Court on the morning of 5th December, John Mackenzie offered a revised opinion by greeting Robin with the words "We haven't a prayer". He had found that the judge was to be Anwal Davies - known throughout the legal profession as 'Animal' Davies - who no one can remember ever upholding an appeal.

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One 'highlight' came after the 1979 Southall riots when he heard an appeal by a group of lads. He quashed all their fines and gave them prison sentences instead. John comforted Robin by explaining that he couldn't be sent to prison for obstruction!

In court the sergeant at last agreed with the constable's version of what took place. Perhaps he found another notebook? These things do seem to happen.

The judge, delivering his verdict, actually indicated that he believed the defence rather than the police. But... he upheld the magistrates conviction, fine and costs....and added on another £196 for appeal costs. £321 for trying to obey a police officer. Another glorious victory for British justice.

Robin was at first determined not to pay, preferring to go down for a few days, but was persuaded that his role as ALF press officer - currently very busy - required his freedom to continue, at least while he had the choice.

Please send donations to help with the fine, costs and other expenses (remember legal aid was refused) to Robin Webb, c/o ALF Press Office, BM 4400, London, WC1N 3XX. Any money left over will go to where it's most needed at the time.

Dolphin Outrage

In December 1990, Alan Cooper, a dedicated animal rights campaigner, became the innocent victim of a smear campaign by animal abusers. Solely on the basis of false statements made to police by Peter Bloom and friends, Alan was arrested and charged with sexually molesting a dolphin. Bloom is a notorious animal abuser who makes a living out of keeping dolphins in captivity and exploiting them for so called entertainment. Having had this charge hanging over him for almost a year, Alan was finally cleared at his trial last month at Newcastle Crown Court. Here is his story...

I was arrested on 20th Dec. 1990, and on the advice of my solicitor, and my own gut feeling, co-operated in answering the police questions. I had thought that when it became apparent whom my accusers were, the whole thing would be taken no further. How naive!

One week before the six month period the police have from arrest to summons had elapsed, a summons arrived. I had decided to elect for a crown court trial, to maximise the case in anticipation of putting my accuser on trial, when I learned that it could only be dealt with in a crown court anyway.

During the nine months to trial, a fair amount of time, energy and money was expended in formulating my defence. I was possibly unique and in the unenviable position of an allegation labelled against an animal rights person of harming an animal by sexual molestation.

Of course, the Sun and the other tabloids had their amusement, when I was charged, even to the extent of two Sun reporters coming to my door and slyly

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getting photographs of me. However, they left a lot quicker than they arrived!

The Flamingo Land Dolphin Campaign, which I was co-ordinating, had a national demo in York on April 6th '91, and on the evening before I received a death threat. One more was to follow, with lots of unsolicited mail and a house burglary. However, all this just strengthened my resolve to continue with the campaign, and prove my innocence in the forthcoming trial. However I would not be being realistic in not admitting that the charge hanging over me, often left me feeling low. At the end of the day, it was something that I had to live with, and the ridiculous charge that I, who had loved animals from a small child, could do such a thing. A small number of people who knew me or of me, offered their solidarity which was of some comfort.

In the summer my Mother died suddenly, and I believe a contributing factor was the inevitable heartache she suffered due to my charge. Coming to terms with her death and the approaching court case had to be faced.

As for the trial, my thanks go to Tony Jennings, my barrister, for a typically brilliant job in exposing prosecution witnesses as either liars or unreliable witnesses. A lot of good came out of the trial for our campaign. Peter Bloom, the dolphin trainer at Flamingo Land- the man who told other people that I was masturbating the dolphin, even before they had seen me swimming with the dolphin, admitted under oath his involvement in a film, which had used 'his' dolphins in sexual connotations. His assistant admitted that dolphins are masturbated in captivity, to releive sexual frustration.

We hope this year our campaign will gather momentum, we will be having another national demo in York in early April to co-incide with Flamingo Land opening. For more information contact- FLDC, PO Box II, S.E. District Office, Manchester.

Finally, a word about swimming with wild dolphins. This is a magical experience, especially so for vegans. It was ironic that I had chosen to swim with the dolphin to escape the terrible world we live in, only to find myself caught up in a situation belonging to that same uncaring world. Yes, in a vegan world, swimming, inter-acting and communicating with an intelligent wild animal, could only be recommended. But in this present world, can it be a good thing to develop and encourage a relationship with a wild animal? That will have to be a personal decision. If I was ever lucky to be in the water with any other dolphins, I would have a hands- off attitude, eyes only, as using our hands to touch a dolphin, might not be in the best interests of that individual dolphin. Its effect may be to 'domesticate' that creature and lull it into a false sense of security, that all humans are safe to interact with.

LUCOZADE

At 4.30am on 13th Nov. 1991, a large number of police officers came into our house and told us we were being arrested 'on suspicion of contaminating foodstuffs'. When I saw the search warrant it stated they would be searching for 'salt, vinegar and rat poison'.While the house was being searched I was asked,"are you a sympathiser of the Animal Liberation Front?" I said nothing and he replied "That means yes". It became apparent from this remark that this was the reason I was being arrested! We help run an animal rights group, so naturally they found animal rights leaflets, posters, petition forms and badges. The police seized these items with great fervour as if they'd found something really incriminating. And yet, strangely, completely overlooked the damning salt and vinegar which I confess I had in my kitchen cupboard.

On arrival at the police station I realized I was just one of several people arrested in my area, and that it was something to do with a contamination scare involving Lucozade. Another member of our group who had also been arrested, told me that the police had virtually dragged her six year old son out of bed, and terrified him by threatening to have him put into care.

When my solicitor arrived I was interviewed and said nothing. I was pleased to see that several bottles of citronella antimate taken from my house had burst open in the interview room and the whole police station reeked (hopefully still does!) My solicitor told me that the police were wrong to arrest us ,since there was obviously not enough evidence even for suspicion, and it was therefore just a general intelligence sweep. After about 13 hours we were finally released on police bail. I heard that other people had been arrested up and down the country and also released without charge.

The media had a field day, and the police were boasting to have foiled an 'ALF plot' just in the nick of time. The story was that they received information from an infiltrator in the animal rights movement that the ALF were about to launch a nationwide contamination scare of Lucozade, which is owned by SmithKline Beecham the vivisectors. Their disgusting practices were recently highlighted in the media by an undercover investigator who worked for 5 months in their vivisection laboratory at Stock. She was able to take photographs and documented the many distressing scenes of negligence and cruelty witnessed in the process of their sick and useless experiments.

Yet, although millions of bottles of Lucozade were removed from the shelves and poured away, <u>not one</u> was found to have been tampered with. Although the police claim their 'tip off' came from an AI source, they were still unable to uncover a shred of evidence.

The ALF claimed a few days later, to have orchestrated a hoax, by deliberately feeding out false information, which seems to be the most likely story. The police typically over-reacted, and whatever their story happens to be, they

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are the ones to blame for the huge financial losses. It was their actions alone that caused 5 million bottles of Lucozade to be taken off the shelves, resulting in the fall of the value of SKB shares by I30 million.

Despite all the hysteria in the media, which was to be expected, I was especially saddened to see so called animal rights 'representatives' condemning what had happened and calling the ALF mindless terrorists, without the slightest hesitation and without knowing the real facts. How can you condemn an imaginary action that has never really taken place, with no evidence even that it was going to take place, let alone harmed anyone?? In addition to that it was also an outrageous slur to all those innocent people who were arrested.

At the end of the day though, a lot of good came out of it. SKB lost a huge amount of money overnight, with consumer confidence severely damaged, and most people are now aware that they experiment on animals into the bargain.This can only be good news for the animals.



No. I48- 'Smiler',one of 24 beagles doomed to a life of misery and pain at SmithKline Beecham.

FOREVER TOGETHER - A POEM.

With me now, with me forever,
Through good times, through bad times,
Through stormy weather. You are
My friends, you care like I do,
I'm proud to fight for animals
With people like you
Never get sad, never give in,
Don't get down hearted, you know
We will win. I'm with you always
From deep in my heart,
We'll keep up the struggle
Till death do us part..

BY AN ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONER.

Dear SARP,

Great to see the appearance of the November issue despite the obvious attempts by the police to silence not only yourself but also the ALFSG and Arkangel. Keep up the good work long may you continue,there is a real need for a radical pro-all direct action group. I was a bit disappointed however to note that the newsletter will only be appearing every 2 months now. Without knowing the reasons behind this I can only surmise it is because of problems with the police in the last few weeks and if so I think SARP should inform us of this fact. At a time like this with so many people in prison or on bail the decision to move from being a monthly publication to being bi-monthly seems something of a backward step.

I'd also like to comment on the article entitled 'Unity or Folly?' in the November issue. This article by WARFARE has, for me, hit the nail squarely on the head, as concerns the ongoing debate on unity. As the article so rightly stated, unity is inconceivable between groups such as the ALFSG on one side, and CIWF, BUAV etc. on the other. Lets get one thing straight, we're not talking here of one big happy family that has unfortunately fallen out over minor issues. We're actually talking about two opposing factions who believe in different goals. The difference between those two goals is so vast that it is impossible for them ever to be reconciled. Lets take the BUAV as the biggest and richest organisation on one side and the ALF on the other. What do each believe in? Well we all know that the ALF fights fights for total Animal Liberation, meaning an end to all animal abuse of every kind. Obviously to achieve this goal society will have to be altered drastically and revolutionary changes will have to occur in all areas of society affecting not only our treatment of animals but also how the majority of ordinary people, the working class are treated. We are not talking of Socialism or some other harebrained creed but total Liberation for all areas from the lowest to the highest and equality for all, animals and humans. SARP itself said in the Nov. issue that capitalism controls society and capitalism is controlled by animal abuse, so to destroy one we must destroy the other. Does anyone really believe that this is also the goal of the BUAV or its fellow travellers? The BUAV is not interested in liberating animals, no thats far too radical a concept for them. Their professed goal is to reform society away from animal abuse and towards a more 'Humane' approach. How long reformism like this may take, well, no one knows but not to worry as its taken the BUAV over a hundred years already to achieve nothing, so whats another hundred years between friends? Of course as we've already seen, animal liberation is impossible to achieve within society's present framework. Surely the BUAV must realise this so what really are their intentions? To call them an animal rights organisation is an insult to those genuine people who fight for animal liberation every day of the week, 52 weeks a year. As far as I can see the goal of the BUAV is to accumulate as much power, prestige and money as possible while taking no risks at all on behalf of the animals that they profess to care about. The BUAV are the biggest national society with this goal but all the others such as Animal Aid and CIWF must also share this goal only on a smaller level.

So on one side stands the ALF and others who fight for animal liberation. On the other side we have the rich national societies who campaign peacefully for change that they know they can never achieve. On one side are the people who believe in fighting for a better world for all and on the other side those who only believe in minor changes that are acceptable to the animal abusers. How can these two widely different sides ever work together? The whole idea of unity in this situation is totally ridiculous.

What we should mean by unity is unity amongst those who truly care and believe in animal liberation. And by that I don't just mean ALF activists. There are many people who do believe in the liberation of all and a just and fair society but, because of the giant con-trick perpetuated by the national societies, support them financially and actively, believing them to be fighting for animal liberation. Let us appeal to them to see through the lies and deception and instead fight alongside those who truly care. Lets have unity for animal liberation and not for animal abuse reformism. Support the ALFSG. support SARP, and support true Animal Liberation. Lets consign the enemies in our midst to the gutters where they belong and all fight as a unified movement for the same goal- the goal of total Animal Liberation.

Barry Horne.

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ALF Animal Liberation Front

Press Office: 0954 30542 (24 hrs)
0836 310763 (mobile)

BM4400, London, WC1N 3XX

December 1991

Dear Fellow Campaigner,

I am writing to you and your group as a matter of urgency to ask for help.

You will have been aware over the past few weeks of the vastly increased media coverage gained for Animal Liberation activities. The apparent lull in ALF actions during the preceding 4½ years was merely the result of having no Press Officer as a recognized point of contact.

Previous press officers Ronnie Lee and Robin Lane, together with former Northern press officer Roger Yates, were alleged at their trials to be an integral part of the Supporters Group organization. This caused immense problems for the SG which exists solely to assist remanded or convicted activists in legal ways, eg with defence costs, etc.

The Press Office has therefore been reconstituted as an independent unit, thus protecting the SG from charges of conspiracy and/or incitement. However, this means that the Press Office has no funding.

In one day, 13th November, over £25-worth of 'phone cards were used. The mobile 'phone bill during the first few weeks was over £200. Plus travel, postage, BT telephone and other essential expenses. The amount of media coverage recently obtained surely justifies the outlay - some national societies pay tens of thousands of pounds for far less publicity.

If you think that the new Press Office is filling an important role in an efficient manner can you help with a donation towards running costs?

If you think that the ALF should get across to the public why it does what it does and what its methods and tactics are then please send a donation, large or small, to ALF Press Office, BM4400, London, WC1N 3XX. Cheques and PO's should be made payable to 'ALF Press Office' and crossed. Please enclose a SAE if you require an acknowledgement or a receipt.

I realise that money is desperately needed in many parts of the animal protection movement but do hope that you will be able to support this appeal both now and in the future. Thank you.

With very best wishes. Yours in the struggle for total liberation,

Robin Webb

Robin Webb (Press Officer)

ps: If you would like an ALF spokesperson to address your group or a public meeting please write to or telephone the Press Office to arrange details.

Diary of a saboteur

'Diary of a Hunt Saboteur' appeared in the Guardian 1st Dec. '91.

THERE IS scarcely a more emotive subject today than hunting. In the wake of the furore of proven cruelty by the Quorn Hunt — of which Prince Charles is an ardent follower — I was trained for a week as a saboteur.

The following diary is a blow-by-blow account of direct action in the frontline against an activity which most people find indefensible and which the Labour Party has vowed to abolish should it win the next General Election.

Saturday:

WE MET by moonlight in darkest Dorset, deep in traditional hunting country, where, for some, the second worst pest is the fox and enemy number one is the saboteur.

Joe Hashman — tall, athletic, ginger-bearded and looking like a youthful, born-again Fidel Castro. He and girlfriend Wanda Harrup had a gig in full swing at the Red Lion pub, Gillingham, a village at the county border. The landlord had no idea that he was hosting a fund-raising night for the North Dorset Hunt Saboteurs: many of the pub's regulars were field sports devotees, the irony of which was not lost on the Sabs.

The pop group, The Beckets, waived their fee, resulting in £280 going towards vehicular repairs: the phone bill would have to wait.

Sunday:

THE western region of Hunt saboteurs had hired a room in Shaftesbury Town Hall for their annual meeting. There were representatives from Avon, Somerset, the Cotswolds, Dorset, Hampshire, Oxford and Wiltshire. I had difficulty identifying the hotheads. There was a professional tennis coach (Joe Hashman), a farmer, a lawyer, a Classics graduate from Oxford, a doctor's daughter whose parents and sister were passionate foxhunters, a beauty therapist, a nurse, an author, students and a woman (Ms Harrup), whose life had been "changed irrevocably" at Greenham Common. The Rev Bert Jones sent his apologies.

Joe Hasham took the chair. Oxford reported "not a duff day sabbing" since the beginning of the Hunt season, receiving sound intelligence from a supportive local farmer.

The Bath delegate had everyone hooting approvingly. One Hunt had "packed-up in disarray at midday, dismounted and looked for sport assaulting Sabs". Another Hunt had been "ripped apart" after a kill in front of Sabs. The group had raised enough money to buy a "tasty" van. More cheers.

Then it was the chair's turn: "We've seen a lot of kills. The Blackmoor Vale slaughtered four in one day; it was horrific. But every time one died, we saw another fox get away.

"Heavies came to my house on three occasions and whipped me. Once they jumped on my car. Another time a terrier-man pushed his head through my car window. 'I don't want violence,' I said. 'We're pacifists.' He replied: 'Violence? I'm not violent. I'm a sweetheart.' Then he thumped my nose.

"Another terrier-man was about to shoot a Sab but was dragged off just in time. He'd already been sacked from another Hunt for being too violent. When I tried to stop a fox being dug out the other day, a terrier-man shouted at me: 'I'd give my life to have you down that hole instead.' " The meeting lasted 3 hours.

Monday:

I WAS late arriving at Cadman's Pool, a popular New Forest beauty spot. We marched briskly towards Milkham Wood, where the New Forest Buckhounds and their supporters would rendezvous.

Joe Hashman told me: "Most Sabs are burnt-out within two years . . . I've been doing it for nine; it's hard, very hard. You're beaten up most days; always on Saturdays. There are those Hunt followers who come out only for a punch-up. I never retaliate, but that doesn't save me from the beatings. I try to keep my head protected and hope to avoid serious injury. Some Sabs wear combat gear, but I never do. We're not a paramilitary organisation. Saboteur is a misnomer, but we're stuck with it; too late to change now. But, basically, we're pacifists. We're in the business of saving lives, not harming.

"In the past, my tennis-coaching in the summer has financed my sabbing through the winter. I didn't coach last summer. I went sabbing the mink hunts, which was good and bad. Good that we were so successful; bad that I earned no money."

After about two miles we came to crossroads, where more saboteurs had assembled, plus two country coppers.

"Good morning, all," one of them greeted us. He seemed to be on first name terms with most of the Sabs; even I got a warm, pastoral smile. Few scenes could have been more deceptively peaceful.

Meanwhile, the Hunt was mounting up a few hundred yards behind on the fringe of Milkham Wood. Behind us and to each side the backdrop resembled rusty, open safari landscape. Also out in force was a mobile squad from the New Forest Animal Protection Group, plus a representative of the League Against Cruel Sports.

Just before the Hunt set out at 10.45am, Joe Hashman gave me a crash course. "First thing they'll do is send in the tufters to a herd of deer . . . "

"Tufters?"

"The six or eight most experienced hounds," he explained. "They'll split the herd, giving the huntsman the chance to choose which buck looks like giving them most sport. Then they'll set the rest of the pack, probably 30 in all, after that buck."

I was assigned to the mobile team. "The deer hunt goes at one helluva lick," said Hashman. He was really saying: "You'll never keep up, especially if you've never done it before." Armed with ordnance survey maps and CB radios, we set off on a roller-coaster route along twisting tracks and lanes, past isolated pubs and cottages to take up a position to the east. Other vehicles headed north, south and west.

News came over the radio that a buck had been "picked up" and the main pack was in full flight.

"What's your position?" my driver asked Hashman.

The reply was a cacophony of crackles. Muttering, she tried again. Same answer. She changed frequency. More disturbance. "Damn!" she said. "The opposition's jamming us. It happens all the time."

A few minutes later the radio spluttered back to life. "Get the hell out of there! Get back to Cadman's Pool. Quick as you can. Everyone's needed. The pack's hot on the trail. They've got one (a buck) running."

We drove as fast as we could to the map reference. The entire mobile team arrived about the same time, just as the hunted buck galloped frantically towards us, hounds and horses in hot pursuit now over flat heather bogland.

Instinctively, I wanted to help the animal. But as I went to leap from the vehicle, a hand gripped my shoulder. "Don't you dare!" My compassion almost killed the buck we were there to save. If I had moved, the frightened quarry would have been scared back into the jaws of the hounds. "Keep still . . . *NOW!*"

With the buck safely across the road, everyone piled from their vehicles, shouting as loudly as possible, scuffing their feet and spraying the area with a harmless liquid which dampens the deer's scent. By then I had learned that the hounds follow their nose, never their eyes.

Suddenly, the sabs foot patrol materialised from bushes like genii from bottles. They emulated the huntsmen's horn-blowing.

From that moment, it became personal. I was running with the buck, in spirit if not in body. The hounds had been delayed a few valuable seconds but they were soon back on the scent. The action, frantic and relentless — over-riding any beta-blocker — moved swiftly into Milkham Wood again.

Five times in the next few minutes Hunt supporters had the terrified and exhausted buck surrounded. Five times the Sabs helped it free. Joe Hashman, now a Pied Piper figure, head back, blowing his horn, managed to split the pack, half of them following him away from the Hunt.

This was repeated several times until▶

►by mid-afternoon the Hunt had run out of steam and went without a kill.

All I could think was: we'd won! Before I was dismissed, Hashman had a few more tips: "Sometimes we carry a whip, not to hit anybody but to help take control of the hounds. A crack of the whip is a signal for the dogs to form a circle. I get them around me if I can, then lead them away from the deer or fox they're chasing."

Tuesday:

DAY off to recover.

Wednesday:

A 10AM start at Marnhull, near Shaftesbury, where the Portman Hunt was meeting in a field. White wine was served on trays by tweedy ladies. I was not offered a glass. The local bobby was, declining with the B-movie cliché: "Sorry, not while on duty."

Conversation was like this: "Hashman's out again." It sounded like Flashman. "God, he gave us a hard time yesterday out with the Blackmoor . . ."

"Why don't they lock him up and throw away the key? Worse than any fox."

"We should 'unt 'im; wouldn't mind one bit spending all night diggin' out that blighter."

When I reported back, Hashman took the hostility as a compliment.

"Completely different technique today," he said. "They'll be hunting private land the whole time, which means we'll be working from the roads."

Not only were we restricted to public roads, there were only five of us and one car; a very special car called Bambi. On the day it was given to Hashman, it was used to save the a deer's life.

For half an hour we drove around a maze of country lanes. Every five minutes, Hashman would park, clamber on the roof of his car and scan the horizon.

The hounds were spotted, way off. We piled back into the car. Hashman seemed to know where to drive, and once we got there he was again imitating the huntsmen. Soon the hounds — chasing a fox — had abandoned their prey and were circling Hashman's car. The piqued huntsman galloped out of the field to retrieve his hounds. He did not look amused.

We continued our patrol. Not long after, the pack had a fox holed-up in bales of hay near the road. The head terrier-man, bespectacled and melancholy, was summoned. His hand was in plaster, broken in an accident, he claimed. Hashman told a different story . . ."

A terrier was sent into the bales to flush out the fox. "They're going to bolt it into the hounds to be eaten alive," Hashman warned.

"This is the kind of abomination that will end foxhunting," shouted Hashman's girlfriend, Wanda Harrup. The hunters conferred, before the master called to the terrier-man: "Leave it." As they rode off, Hashman rubbed his hands: "Another one saved!" But he added grimly: "If we hadn't been there with our cameras, they'd have had no mercy on that one."

Hashman and his small squad had now developed a smooth working rhythm. They continued to scatter the pack and once a fox ran beside a stream while another crept along a hedgerow: both were enticed away from the sniffing hounds. All that was killed was their scent.

Finally a copper caught up with us. "I hope you haven't been blowing that horn of yours on the highway, Mr Hashman?" he said.

"Of course not, you know me better than that!"

"I believe you." While not turning a blind eye, most of the officers, like good football referees, tried to allow play to flow without shouting foul too often. This policeman also knew a thing or two about country life. "Foxes have their own highways and byeways mapped out in their heads. Streams and hedgerows are their motorways. They're not running haphazardly; they know exactly where they're going, and they're familiar with the quickest and safest routes."

When the policeman had gone, a gang of Hunt supporters threatened to send me home "headless". Inspired by Hashman, I turned the other cheek . . . I still had a lot to learn and resorted to old, but well-tried, habits. I ran.

By 3.30 the Hunt was bragging three kills. "I don't believe they got any," said Hashman. I like to think he was right.

Thursday:

ANOTHER rest day.

Friday:

BACK TO the New Forest. It was bitterly cold and raining, slippery for the horses, never mind us. The routine was similar to Monday's operation. About mid-morning, we rescued one buck which was almost in the teeth of the hounds. "Leave 'em alone you filthy bugger!" roared one quite elderly, wan-faced Hunt follower. He was coming straight at me, shaking a fist. "If I ever get you on your own, I'll . . . I'll . . . I'll kill you." Was that all? I thought these hunting folk were turning soft.

Four of us had to jump clear of a blue car that was driven straight at us. We could see the driver taking aim as the car slithered up the muddy hill. The vehicle actually clipped my right hand, prompting the driver to stop, get out and demand of me: "Why did you hit my car, you bastard? I suppose you're unsocial like the rest of 'em?" By now his hysterical wife was commending me to fuck off. All of this was recorded on video and microphone by a senior member of the New Forest Animal Protection Group. At the time, we must have been at least two miles from the hounds and on a treacherous track not open to transport. Twice the lady threw blows which caught my arm.

One rider galloped past us so fast that we were all splashed with mud. I called him back to remonstrate with him for breaking Forest byelaws. Sulkily, he apologised.

By three o'clock, it was all over. Once more no kill. The success of failure can be a heady brew.

Monday:

BY 9AM, there were more than 100 Sabs in the New Forest at Buckler's Bench, Lyndhurst. They had come from all over the county. The plan was to blockade the Buckhounds kennels, some three miles out of town. But as our 20-vehicle convoy headed for the kennels, the trailer of hounds passed us in the opposite direction. We gave chase.

A bit later, one of the cars, driven by Steve Glintenkamp, of New Milton, Hampshire, overtook the trailer and pulled sharply in front. Hashman, directly behind, boxed-in the trailer, while a fully-loaded mini-bus drew alongside. Huntsman John Stride, behind the wheel of the trailer, had no alternative but to brake fiercely and swing towards the Forest undergrowth. Within seconds the trailer was surrounded by vehicles. The saboteurs had their quarry cornered.

"It's going to be a long morning," said Glintenkamp. "The longer the police take to hear about this, the less time this lot will have to hunt."

It was more than an hour before Inspector Marcus Watts, from Lyndhurst, had taken charge of the police operation at the scene of the "hijack". Even when the vehicles around the trapped trailer were moved, saboteurs threw themselves under the trailer which meant more negotiations and more time wasted.

The final result? A nightmare for the Hunt. A dream of a day for the deer. ●

More details about the activities of the Hunt Saboteurs can be obtained from: HSA, POI Nottingham, NG4 2JY (Tel. 0602/590357).

PRISONERS AND DEFENDANTS

CONVICTED PRISONERS

RONNIE LEE,
V02682,
LB2 CLYDE,
HMP CHANNINGS WOOD,
DENBURY,
NEWTON ABBOT,
DEVON, TQ12 6DW.

Ronnie is serving a 10 year sentence for two charges of conspiracy and one of incitement. He is expected to be released this year.

SIMON RUSSELL,
ND2666,
LAKES WING,
HMP THE MOUNT,
MOLYNEAUX AVENUE,
BOVINGDON,
HEMEL HEMPSTEAD,
HERTS. HP3 ONZ.

Simon is serving a 4 year sentence for possession of incendiary devices ($2\frac{1}{2}$ years) and an offence committed on a poll tax demo (18 months).

JOHN CURTIN,
JC0305,
HM PRISON,
HORNBY RD,
WALTON,
LIVERPOOL,
L9 3DF.

John was sentenced to 18 months for his part in a raid on the Interfauna breeding centre in 1990 in which over 100 animals were liberated.

MICHAEL SHANAHAN
HD2664,
HMP STOCKEN,
STOCKEN HALL RD,
STRETTON, Nr. OAKHAM,
LEICS., LE15 7RD.

BARRY HORNE,
HD2665,
HMP MILLERS PARK,
DODDINGTON RD,
WELLINGBOROUGH,
NORTHANTS.,NN82NH.

Michael and Barry were convicted in Nov. 91, for possession of incendiary devices. Both are serving 3 years.

REMAND PRISONERS

KEITH MANN,
NE0316,
HM PRISON,
LONGPORT,
CANTERBURY,
KENT, CT1 1PJ.

VIVIEN SMITH,
TT2743,
HM PRISON,
PARKHURST RD,
HOLLOWAY,
LONDON, N7 0NU.

Keith and Vivien were arrested in Kent in Oct. 91, and have been remanded in custody on a charge of 'Conspiracy to commit arson'. They are expected to appear in court on 29th Jan at Folkestone magistrates for committal.

RHIAN THOMAS,
FV2387,
HM DETENTION CENTRE NEWHALL,
DIAL WOOD,
FLOCKTON,
WAKEFIELD,
WEST YORKSHIRE.

ALISTAIR HOWSEN,
GC1213,
HM PRISON,
WELFORD RD,
LEICESTER.

Rhian and Alistair were arrested in Oct. 91 in Derbyshire, and charged with 3 counts of'criminal damage' to windows, and one of 'going equipped to cause criminal damage'. Rhian and two others (who were given bail- see defendants list), are appearing in court at Liverpool Magistrates on 16th Jan, for one of the 'criminal damage'charges .

MAX WATSON,
BJ2477,
HMYOI,
STOKE HEATH,
MARKET DRAYTON,
SHROPSHIRE,
TF9 2J4.

RHIAN HOPKIN,
GB1885,
HM REMAND CENTRE,
RISLEY,
WARRINGTON,
CHESHIRE,
WA3 6BP.

JOHN MORGAN,
EE1615,
HMP
SOUTHALL ST,
MANCHESTER,
M6 9AH.

Max Watson, Rhian Hopkin, John Morgan and Claire Rush were all arrested during police raids in the Manchester area in Dec. They have been charged with 'conspiracy to cause criminal damage',to windows, and'going equipped to cause criminal damage'. All four were remanded in custody, but Claire was given bail (with strict conditions) after a few weeks.

IRELAND

DAVE NELSON,
A8030,
B2, HM PRISON,
CRUMLIN RD,
BELFAST, BT14 6AE.

Dave was arrested along with 5 others (who all received bail- see defendants list) in Oct. 91. He is on two charges of planting incendiaries, one of planting a petrol bomb under a car, 5 charges of arson and one of criminal damage.

FRANCE

HASSEN SADELLI,
PRISON ST PAUL,
33 ERS SUCHET,
69272,
LYON,
FRANCE.

Hassen was arrested and remanded in June 91, on a charge of setting fire to 11 butchers shops in Lyons, France. Letters of support in French only please!

SUPPORTING PRISONERS

WRITING

Prison isolates people from the outside world. Writing to prisoners helps break down that isolation,so that the prisoner does not feel forgotten. If you can't think of much to write, then just send a card wishing them well, it is the fact that you have bothered to write that counts. If you know a prisoner personally it is especially important to write as obviously contact from old friends is valued. Please remember that all letters are opened and censored so don't write anything that could jeopardise future actions or someones freedom.

Many prisoners are allowed to receive SAE's particularly those on remand but if not please don't expect a reply as these will be restricted.

VISITING

Many animal rights prisoners on remand have a visiting rota organised by friends so please don't just turn up to visit without checking first. This is useful to ensure that the prisoner gets a visit every day, and also that two people don't turn up on the same day at different times, as only the first visitor will be allowed in.

If sending in money to prisoners it is better to send a postal order rather than cheque or cash.Apart from money, rules regarding what prisoners are or are not allowed tend to vary from prison to prison. So, if sending in stamps, cigarettes books or magazines, for example, it is usually best to check with the prisoner first.

Ireland

In Northern Ireland, on October 15th 91, 5 people - David Nelson, Alistair Mullan, Michael Kerr, Graeme Campbell and Kerry McKee were arrested and their homes searched under the Prevention of Terrorism Act. One other person was also arrested but released without charge after 24 hrs. The remaining 5 were kept for the full 48 hrs under the PTA, without access to any solicitor. They were then all charged with various offences (25 charges in all) ranging from arson, planting incendiaries and criminal damage.

At Belfast Crown Court, they were all granted bail apart from Dave Nelson. Dave was not granted bail due to being on a 3 year suspended sentence of 6 months. The arrests apparently followed 2 or 3 months of police surveillance by the Anti-Terrorist Squad, involving over 50 detectives. They appeared in court on 8th Jan, and the date of the trial is expected to be around March/April this year, which according to the law in Northern Ireland may be decided by a judge rather than jury ie. a 'Diplock Court' hearing.

A few weeks later, another person, Chris Roberts, was arrested and charged with criminal damage to a hare coursing fence, and breaking a window.

Please send donations to;

ANIMAL BUST FUND,
P.O. BOX 148,
BELFAST, BT1 2FP.

Right- press cutting from local blood sports magazine.

ANIMAL RIGHTS — FIVE ACCUSED FACE COURT

FOUR men and a woman have appeared at Belfast Magistrates' Court charged in connection with a series of attacks by animal rights activists throughout the Province.

They are: Kerry McKee (25), 9 Arras Park; Alastair Roy Mullan (27), 26 Victoria Drive, both from Bangor; Graeme Campbell (19), 107 Orangefield Road; David Nelson (20), 62 Dunraven Park, and Michael Peter James Kerr (18), 2 Knocksdene Park, all from Belfast.

They were remanded in custody to appear at the same court on November 6 to face a total of 25 charges including arson, planting incendiary devices and criminal damage.

Nelson faces nine offences allegedly committed between March and October this year, including placing incendiary devices at Braddell's gun and tackle shop and the Sunday World offices, Belfast, in August.

He is also accused of burning battery chicken houses in Comber and Portaferry; placing a petrol bomb in a car at Holywood; burning caravans at Dungannon and Portaferry; burning a car at Crossgar and a marquee in Bangor.

Mullan is jointly charged with the offences in Comber, Bangor, Crossgar, the Portaferry hen-house offence and with planting the Braddells and Sunday World firebombs.

Campbell is accused of the Comber and Portaferry hen-house attacks and with placing the petrol bomb in the car at Holywood.

As this magazine goes to press, the Province's fieldsportsmen and women eagerly await the outcome of court proceedings.

If the guilty have in fact been apprehended — it will serve to send a stern warning through the ranks of those opposed to our traditional field sports.

DEFENDANTS

HUDDERSFIELD OTT

In the early hours of August 22nd,four people- Denise Booth, Daryl Covenagh, Richard Anderson and Gavin Robinson were arrested at a halal poultry farm and slaughterhouse, near Huddersiield. This was'a result' of 'Operation Fox' - a massive cross county police operation to combat the high level of ALF activity in the north of England. The police showed they are prepared to use new levels of intimidation against activists. Two people were arrested with guns pointed at their heads, another was punched in the face and another was bitten twice by a police dog and had to receive nospital treatment. A helicopter was also used to search for those trying to leave the scene.

The four were remanded in custody for a week, before being granted bail, with strict conditions of residency, curfew and non-communication with co-defendants. Two cars 'arrested' near the scene didn't get bail and still remain in police custody.

All four face six separate charges; conspiracy to trespass (at the farm).with intent to burgle and steal within; conspiracy to cause criminal damage; burglary with intent to steal; burglary with intent to cause criminal damage; going equipped with intent to burgle, and possesing articles with intent to cause criminal damage.

Four other people were also dragged in for questioning but released without charge.

The four are appearing in court next on 20th Jan. at Huddersfield magistrates.

DODDLESTON

In Febuary 91, 31 people were arrested and charged with riot, following a demonstration outside the home of hunt thug Alan Summersgill, who was responsible for the death of hunt sab Mike Hill. On 6th of November, 29 of those people were committed for trial to Chester Crown Court, and are currently awaiting a trial date.

A campaign has been set up to raise money in order to take out a private prosecution against Alan Summersgill, to raise awareness about the facts surr-ounding Mikes death, and to stop the Cheshire Beagles Hunt.
Please send donations and write for more information to:

JUSTICE FOR MIKE HILL,
P.O. BOX 155,
MANCHESTER,
M60 1FT.

DEFENDANTS

SWALESMOOR FUR FARM

On October 5th, 43 people were arrested following a demonstration outside a mink farm near Halifax. 39 people were eventually charged with various public order offences, the majority being charged with section 4 of the Public Order Act, the rest charged with section 2,(a more serious charge).

When they appeared in court on December IIth, all but 7 of those charged with section 4 agreed to be bound over; with a number refusing. Two of the people from section 4 were moved up to section 2 for no apparent reason.
The remaining defendants have been committed for trial.

ROYAL LONDON HOSPITAL

Adam Spare is charged with 'conspiracy to commit burglary','criminal damage' and 'theft of security cards', following a raid on the Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel, in which I000 mice and 4 beagles were liberated, and years worth of vivisectors 'work' destroyed. He has bail conditions not to take part in any animal rights activity.

LIVERPOOL

Rhian Thomas, Sam Remmington and Alex Sneldon are charged with criminal damage to windows at Liverpool University. Their trial starts on I6th Jan. at Liverpool magistrates.

MANCHESTER

Claire Rush, Max Watson and John Marnell are charged with 'criminal damage' after being arrested in Manchester on I0th August. They are currently awaiting a trial date.

JOHN HUGHES

John Hughes was released on bail from Liverpool prison on 9th Jan. This was due to a change in circumstances. He is charged with criminal damage and conspiracy to cause criminal damage.

NORTHAMPTON

Annette Tibbles, Angela Hamp and Richard Duriez are charged with 'conspiracy to cause criminal damage between May and August 9I' After their arrest they spent several weeks in custody before being released on bail. They are due to appear in court on I0th Feb for committal.

DEFENDANTS

LAUNDRY FARM

Angela Hamp is charged with burglary and various driving offences following an ALIU inspection of Laundry Farm breeding centre. The case was committed on Nov 15th to crown court.

Please send donations to:

'Campaign to close Laundry Farm',
c/o ALF SG, BCM II60, London WCIN 3XX.

LEICESTER

Jamshed Patel and Mick Burle, charged with going equipped to cause criminal damage, were up in court on IOth Jan. Mick was bound over for I year with £69 court costs, and Jamshed- who refused to be bound over- received a conditional discharge for I year, with £69 costs.

Jamshed is facing a separate charge of going equipped to cause criminal damage and is due to appear in court on 28th Jan.

BOOTS - BIRMINGHAM

6 people charged with obstruction at a Boots demo in Birmingham are up for trial on I5th,I6th and I7th of Jan. at Birmingham magistrates.

BOOTS - LONDON

During a picket of Boots by London Boots Action Group on Nov. 30th, Geoff Sheppard was arrested and charged with obstruction. He is due to appear in court on 22nd January.

BOOTS - HUDDERSFIELD

In May 9I a man was charged with criminal damage to a Boots window in Huddersfield. On 20th December his case was adjourned because the main prosecution witness failed to turn up. This seems to be the only evidence the prosecution have, and so a witness summons has been issued on the witness. The really unfortunate thing about this case is that this prosecution witness is a friend of the accused man. The police unfortunately managed to convince him that making a statement would help his friend. A statement that should never have been made is now the only evidence in this case.

The trial is due for trial on 26th Feb at Huddersfield magistrates.

Obviously, the defendants list is by no means comprehensive. If you have been arrested and wish to be included in this list please wiite to us giving details.

SALTWELL ANIMAL SANCTUARY- UPDATE

Saltwell animal sanctuary would like to thank everyone who has sent donations to their recent appeal, especially those who have sent money annonymously. All the money sent has been spent on vets bills and animal feed. We are now putting out another very urgent appeal on their behalf, as Saltwell do not have any transport at all. They have to rely on public transport, which runs only twice weekly, and with the nearest town being I2 miles away, the situation is quite desparate, especially at this time of year as they are often cut off due to wintry weather conditions. If any of the animals are sick, the vets have to come out to them and they charge the earth for this.

Please help them raise funds to buy a vehicle- a ford escort- type van would be ideal. Both of the permanent workers there are voluntary,and every penny raised will go directly to help the animals, of which there are at present over 70.

Please send donations to:

SALTWELL ANIMAL SANCTUARY,
WENTNOR,
BISHOPS CASTLE,
SHROPSHIRE, SY9 5EJ.

The SARP newsletter is produced for the purpose of encouraging support for those arrested or imprisoned in connection with animal rights. No article published in this newsletter is intended to incite any action which may lead to criminal charges.

Please do not send us any inciting articles as we will not be able to publish them.

DONATIONS

At the moment, SARP's financial situation is such that we are lucky to have just a few pounds left after the production and mailing out of each newsletter and lately have been in danger of going into debt. We are committed to keeping SARP a free information service available to all, but at the same time we must rely on your donations if you want us to continue. If you are receiving SARP newsletter regularly, and wish to continue receiving it, we would be most grateful if you could make a small donation now and again.

THANKS.

ANGLER EATEN

A CROCODILE apparently ate an angler at Rapid Creek near Darwin, in northern Australia. Police found a seat and fishing tackle by the water's edge — near croc tracks in the mud.

A FIRE attack on the Hor
nels, in Renfrewshire, is
police to recent fire-raising
out Scotland by anin
extremists.

The attack on the premise
in the early hours of yest
destroyed a horse-box. An i
in another vehicle was later
bomb disposal experts.

The kennels are used by
and Renfrewshire Hunt, w
planned for this morning.

As police forensic scie
searched the premises for ev
detective in charge of the in
there was a similarity betwee
recent attacks.

Detective Chief Superinte
son, of Strathclyde police
said: "We cannot
there is eve
Callin
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Polic
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Police, meanwhile, are appealing for anyone who may have noticed anything suspicious in the vicinity of the kennels yesterday morning to come forward. No-one was injured in the incident.

OPINION

Thursd

ANIMAL RIGHTS:

ll who turn away are guilty

IMAL rights issues have hit headlines yet again, and in for all the wrong
e media reall
bs and

attract
ention, but as
burn a meat lorry
page news.

decades, law-abiding campaigners like myself have been telling the dia what is actually happening in tish laboratories. Every laboraty is like Fort Knox, with no me- public or RSPCA access. We do have a Freedom of information that would give people access to ails of the hideous cruelty inted on the 70,000 animals that die British laboratories every week.

m not a violent person, and do not condone it, but I ask your readers to think carefully before categorising animal rights activists as terrorists. How would you respond if laboratories, factory farms and slaughterhouses had glass walls. Would you stand by and do nothing? How do the people who have worked undercover, rescued animals, witnessed the utter hopeless misery of animals, contain the anger and frustration at what they have seen.

How on earth do they come to terms with the helplessness of being able to do nothing to stop this carnage.

Animal rights is a depressing movement to be involved in. There's no kicks, no laughs. It's not uncommon for animal rights campaigners to commit suicide because they cannot cope with witnessing any more animal abuse. I am proud to be a friend of Michael Shanahan, last week sentenced in Northampton C Court to three years imprison for possession of makeshift e sives. I find it unbelievable that gentle, kind man is in prison. Michael may not have had a paid job but every day of his life was spent helping animals that had been abandoned and ill-treated by the people of Northampton.

All of you that turn away from the reality of what is happening to animals in our society are guilty. Often I hear "Oh don't show me any photographs. I don't want to know what goes on." Force yourself to know. Face up to the facts and choose a cruelty-free lifestyle. Don't give up until those wretched people that spend their lives, and earn their living, by force-feeding animals with pharmaceuticals, weed killers, oven cleaners, bleach, cosmetics etc. until it kills them, have ch
ways of resea
terrori

BOFFINS SLASH THROAT OF LIVE BEAGLE PUPPY

BOREM IN OUR LABS SPECIAL INQUIRY

SL

Is this cruelty really needed?

ST BARTS IN RATS TEST ROW

rocking

ED BY FIREBOMB

e hounds respond

the huntsman's horn. Eventually, they ran down their

quarry. But the saboteurs were waiting. And onc

again the sabs' tactics prevented a kill. Among ther

were evacuated from the
police cordoned off the area.

The bombs in the slaughterhouse were placed in an area of Linlithgow with three schools nearby, including St Joseph's and Linlithgow Primaries.

EXPERTS

Ken Henderson, boss of the family firm, said the initial device was triggered when a driver opened the back of a lorry to load the vehicle.

This set off a following explosion bath another nearby lorry.

But police say no-one was hurt and the damage to the lorry was minimal.

Chief Detective Inspector Bill Hiddlestone confirmed that a mixture of controlled and detonated explosions were

EXPOSED

ANIMAL AGONY AT ST BARTS

WARD A WAY TO BEHAVE!

RESEARCH CENTRE ... St Barts, where animals are lab fodder

VICTIMS ... Rabbit on cholesterol diet (above) and shaved rats

Is all this necessary to save children's lives?

SHOCKING medical experiments are being carried out on animals at St Bart's, a top London hospital, we can reveal.

The National Anti-Vivisection Society smashed in these pictures taken at the world famous St Bartholomew's Hospital.

Here we present the campaigners' argument AGAINST research, and the case FOR such work, put by a top doctor ... now YOU vote.

NO LOUISE WALLIS Britain's No 1 campaigner on animal rights

YES DR JULIAN AXE Administrator of St Bartholomew's Medical College

WE KNOW all about Louise Wallis. But our work is far more important than one snooper from a group which opposes vivisection.

A MYSTERY blaze at a top Scots widlife centre yesterday destroyed 30 years of research results.

Detectives probing the fire haven't ruled out an attack by animal liberation activists.

And last night an Animal Liberation Front admitted: "It