S.A.R.P.

NEWSLETTER

28 OCTOBER '91.

ANIMAL RIGHTS

SUPPORT PRISONERS



THEY GIVE THEIR FREEDOM

Over the last month or two several people have contacted S.A.R.P. complaining that we havent answered letters that they have sent in the past. On investigation we have found that nearly all these complaints refer to mail sent during the period May-June-early July. As S.A.R.P. '91 has from day one kept a detailed record of all incoming and outgoing mail this was easy to check up on. In every case no letters were ever received at the S.A.R.P. p.o. box. We dont doubt that these letters were sent and we have narrowed this problem down to three possible causes. 1) The letters mysteriously disolved in the post! 2) The POST OFFICE has lost them (could happen to anyone!). 3) The far more sinister one of the letters being diverted by the forces of darkness, Babylons very own secret police. Animal rights activists and campaigners will be familiar with this last one as i'm sure we've all experienced lost, delayed or mysteriously opened mail in the past. As already stated the problem period seems to have been around May/June/early July time but may still be going on. So if anyone out there has written to S.A.R.P. and received no reply, dont be discouraged, or worse, curse and swear at us, cos it means we never received it! So why not write again! Due to the ridiculously small voluntary staff here, replys are sometimes delayed, but all letters are answered, if a reply is necasery, within 10 days at the most. So dont let Babylon grind us down, show them we cannot be defeated, OK!

Apologies for the lateness of this issue. This is supposed to be the October issue but most people wont receive a copy until early November. This has been the hardest issue to get out so far but things will improve, they have to! October has seen the S.A.R.P. newsletter struggle on alone with a greatly reduced number of people to help it but "against all odds" it has succeeded! So please bear with us and rest assured We'll continue to keep bringing out a monthly newsletter and supporting our prisoners and defendants.

This newsletter is produced by S.A.R.P. 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 isnt, 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.

All information contained in this newsletter is based on facts and figures gained by S.A.R.P. through its own research and those of its supporters.All information is checked, where possible, to make sure it is accurate. If we are not satisfied as to the accuracy of anything then it is not included until it is further researched. However inaccuracies are always possible, so if you spot anything in the newsletter which you know to be innacurate then let us know and it will be corrected in the next issue.

S.A.R.P. COMMENT

Following the S.A.R.P. comment in last months issue, when our policy on unity and support for ALL animal rights prisoners and defendants was outlined, we asked people to let us know if they supported us on this or not. We weren't sure what sort of reaction this would produce but secretly feared criticism. How wrong we were! We recieved more mail on this issue than we have on anythin g else and not one person disagreed with us, or raised any criticism of our policy. This movement is more unified than people realise if this is anything to go by, it certainly gives us hope and we hope it does you to.

THE BUAV

In this issue we have included an article/letter(?) which is critical of the BUAV. On the face of it this may not seem to sit well with our policy of unity and non-criticism but we believe that unity cannot be extended to cover the actions of those who knowingly cause disastrous and unnecasery division in the movement. Unity can only apply to those who truly believe in the cause of animal rights but may unwittingly cause division by their actions but whose committment to the cause cannot be questioned.

In the case of the buav, we cannot believe that they can have been unaware of the great harm they would do to the campaign against the barbaric slaughter houses of Sainsburys, when they agreed the deal. On the face of it the BUAV could appear as money-grabbing and arogant, as though they and they alone are all that matter. We hope that this view is wrong and look forward to the BUAV's reply on this issue.

There can be few in the movement who have not heard the rumour of secret negotiations between the BUAV and Boots. If that rumour were true then it would represent an unprecedented sell-out by a major animal rights organisation. For this reason we find it hard to believe and are mystified at how such a rumour could have started. Again we eagerly await a reply from the BUAV confirming or denying the rumour.

FUND THE NHS

With this issue has been included a copy of the leaflet "FUND THE NHS - NOT ANIMAL EXPERIMENTS". This is part of an excellent campaign being run by ACTION FOR ANIMALS and like us i'm sure you'll be amazed and disgusted at the revelations on the leaflet and in the article in last months newsletter. This is a campaign well worth supporting and promoting all over the country and more information on this can be obtained from ACTION FOR ANIMALS at the address on the leaflet.

S.A.R.P. CONTACTS

The main object of the S.A.R.P. newsletter is to promote support for all prisoners and defendants by publicising all arrests, trials, etc. We rely to a great extent on S.A.R.P. contacts all over the country sending in information to achieve this. In areas where we have no recognised contact we either have to rely on someone to inform us of arrests, etc or else hope that the grapevine tips us off. This can be very disheartening especially when we know that arrests have occured but because we have no local contact and no one in that area has thought to send us the details we can only give scant or no information on what is going on. So why not volunteer to be a S.A.R.P. contact for your area/town/city? That way you can supply us with all relevant info for your area and ensure prisoners and defendants are not forgotten. This newsletter is distributed all over the country including Scotland And Wales, The circulation figures have risen every month. So prisoners and defendants can be sure of support from every corner of the land but only if we know about them so we can publicise them in the newsletter. If you dont want to be a contact, thats fine, but you can still do your bit by sending in any info you come across. Dont leave it to someone else to do, there may not be anyone else. Finally, reports on trials would be welcome, OK?

HUNT SABOTEURS ASSOCIATION LEGAL SURVEY

LEGAL SURVEY SHOWS INJUSTICE

The first legal survey of its kind to be undertaken by the Hunt Saboteurs Association (H.S.A.) has shown that many saboteurs are being treated unfairly and in some cases unlawfully by POLICE FORCES up and down the country.

ITS FINDINGS

At the end of the 1990-91 Foxhunting season the H.S.A. sent a legal questionaire to all of its groups in England and Wales. This questionaire has shown that out of the total number of arrests during this season approximately FIFTY PERCENT (50%) of the people detained are not charged with any offence. It not only shows that police forces are arresting people for nothing, but also means that innocent members of the public are being unlawfully detained.

A number of cases have also shown that saboteurs can find themselves in a situation whereby they are treated as a criminal even when in fact they are the victim. Saboteurs have been viciously attacked and when they have complained to the police have found themselves being arrested for an offence.

Our findings also show that someareas receive a lot more policing than others and many saboteurs are arrested week in, week out and always released without charge. The HAMPSHIRE/SUSSEX and CHESHIRE areas have shown an alarming amount of arrests this year. In some cases saboteurs have found themselves before courts on ridiculous charges(a trend affecting all areas of animal rights at present). Four groups that operate in the Hampshire/Sussex area (Brighton, West London, Portsmouth and Winchester) account for over 50% of the countries total arrests, and saboteurs from the Cheshire area(Manchester and Liverpool) have seen an average of 5 arrests for every 4 meets they attend, at least one arrest every time they go out to sabotage a hunt.

SABOTEURS TO SUE THE POLICE

Due to this increase in the amount of saboteurs that are being arrested and NOT charged thee H.S.A. are now advising saboteurs to TAKE THE POLICE TO COURT over their actions. At this moment in time the H.S.A. has over ONE HUNDRED cases coming to court against the police for UNLAWFUL ARREST and DETENTION. Some of these cases have already been settled out of court with the police forces involved offering the saboteurs a considerable sum of money.

It must also be noted that a great deal of money and resources are being wasted by the police arresting saboteurs, not charging them and then releasing them. This new tactic will hopefully stop the police forces up and down the country acting unlawfully and give saboteurs rheir right to demonstrate back.

The H.S.A. is always striving for better relations with the police, but feel that in the present climate of police bias this task is being made much harder for us.

SURVEY RESULTS

Just after the end of the recent hunting season the H.S.A. sent out a legal questionaire to all of its local groups. Between 80 and 90 have now been returned, giving the first comprehensive picture ever of the H.S.A.'s legal affairs.

In past years the H.S.A. has relied on knowledge of individual incidents as a guide to the overall situation. Since the individual incidents have only been a tiny fraction of the seasons events, this has resulted in a very vague and sometimes inaccurate idea of whats been happening. It's also meant that

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any complaints the H.S.A. has made about levels of policing or numbers of sabs arrested and released without charge have been difficult to prove. It's also made it difficult for the H.S.A. to have any coherent legal strategy.

All that is now changing. First of all, sabs are tending to inform the H.S.A. much more about their legal problems. In consequence, even if only one member of a particular group is arrested for (say) section 5, held till the hunt ends, and released without charge, the H.S.A. is much more likely to hear about it. That one arrest may not be particularly newsworthy in itself, but it is part of a much larger picture. For instance, in June of this year there were sabs in court virtually every day that the courts were open. Mostly these were the usual dribs and drabs of section 5 cases — so if everyone had neglected to tell the H.S.A., we'd have been saying to the press that there were only one or two court cases that month!

So what else has the survey revealed? One interesting point is that section 5 is going out of fashion with the police. This comes as something of a shock to most people! Anyone who can remember the run up to the introduction of the public order act in 1987 will recall the glee of the bloodsports fraternity: Douglas Hurd told the Tory party conference that the public order act would give police much wider powers to deal with sabs. They will also recall quite a bit of angst in the sab world. The H.S.A.'s legal officer at the time sent out a copy of the entire act to every group contact. (it was the first contacts mailout that i received, and i dutifully waded through it, wondering if it was going to be like this every month! I understood about one word in ten — but it looked bad).

But when the cases started coming to court, it became apparent that section 5 wasn't all it was cracked up to be. There were a few dwfeats along the way, but except for the North-East, most courts have aquitted more than they've convicted. With section 5 convictions hard to come by, police forces around the country are gradually falling back on that old chestnut Action Likely To Cause A Breach Of The Peace. Surrey and Sussex police, for instance, have more or less given up charging people with section 5. First of all the standards of proof required is less for Action Likely(the balance of propabilities as opposed to "beyond reasonable doubt" for section 5). Secondly they are propably hoping that sabs will accept a bind over without too much fuss — with section 5 pleading guilty results in a criminal record and very likely a fine.

Another trend is reflected in the number of serious charges sabs are facing in relation to clashes on hunts. This season has seen an upturn in violent attacks by hunt supporters. Very few hunt members have been arrested following these attacks — but numerous sabs have been charged with Section 2 and Section 3 of the Public Order Act(Violent Disorder and Affray respectively), ABH and Criminal Damage. Many of these charges have been reduced already; no doubt more will be reduced in the future. A large proportion propably wont make it to court. But its an interesting response by the police, to treat the victim as the criminal. Interestingly, most of these charges were brought after Mike Hill died — regardless of when the alleged offences took place. There couldn't be a crackdown going on could there?

Looking at the number of arrests across the country, it's clear that the worst place to be a sab in terms of legal grief is the Hampshire/Sussex area. The four sab groups with the highest number of arrests (Brighton, portsmouth, West London And Winchester) operate mostly in those counties. Following closely on thier heels are groups operating in the Northumbria, Humberside, and Lincolnshire Constabularies. Cumbria seems to be the place with the least legal problems: furness sabs report no arrests in the last 8 years! No doubt there are other problems to compensate for the lack of police attention.

Despite the large number of arrests, most groups felt that this season had been better than last, possibly as a result of the steady stream of Section 5 cases which most of them had won. (Leicestershire police, for example, would have high up on the league table in the 89-90 season.)

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The survey also revealed several court cases against hunt members that we werent previously aware of, and provided several more firms of solicitors for the H.S.A.'s "approved" list.

CONCLUSIONS

So what does it all mean? Well, as they say, you can prove anything with statistics, but i'd draw your attention to the following:

1) The fact that a lot of sabs are arrested and released without charge.
2) The fact that this is not just the normal wastage - almost everyone arrested for a serious offence is charged. (though section two may come down to section three etc). Almost all the people released without charge were arrested for Action Likely To Cause A Breach Of The Peace or section 5.
3) The fact that Hampshire/Sussex provides most of the arrests. The four most arrested groups were Brighton, Portsmouth, West London and Winchester.

CASES TO NOTE

Patrick Kelly case:

Mr Kelly (a hunt saboteur) was whipped and head butted by a Mr Mark Evans a whipper-in for the HAMPSHIRE HUNT. When Mr Kelly went to complain to the police about the incident he was immediately ARRESTED and held in a police cell at Alton. Upon being released Mr Kelly was advised by the police not to press any charges against Mr Evans. Not taking the police advice Mr Kelly decided to take Mr Evans to court. After a two week battle he won his case and was awarded £25 damages. Mr Kelly did not benefit from this court case as he was told he would have to pay all his own court costs which amounted to close on £5,000. So it therefore cost Mr Kelly over £4,500 for being attacked and arrested for nothing.

CHESHIRE FOREST FOXHUNT CASE:

21 saboteurs from Manchester and Liverpool were arrested whilst attending the Cheshire Forest Foxhunt. Out of the 21, 19 were charged with a mixture of three offences:

OFFENCE 1: Cruelly terrifying a herd of cows.
OFFENCE 2: Cruelly terrifying a flock of sheep.
OFFENCE 3: Causing a breach of the peace.

The case was brought before Crewe Magistrates Court on the 10th and 11th of May; the outcome was as follows:

OFFENCE 1: Charge dismissed.
OFFENCE 2: 12 found guilty and fined £100 and ordered to pay £20 costs. 7 aquitted but ordered to pay £10 costs.
OFFENCE 3: All 19 found guilty and all were bound over to keep the peace for one year in the sum of £100.

13 of the 19 sabs that were convicted at Crewe appealed against their charges and after appearing in court, successfully won their appeal.

This case shows a total disreguard for the rights of saboteurs and the extent that some police forces will go to to bring them to court. During the appeal, one police officer stated that he had arrested some saboteurs, "because they had mud on their boots" - surely an arrestable offence??

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Ben Ponton (H.S.A. press officer) on (091) 273 9206

HUNT SABOTEURS ASSOCIATION, P.O. BOX 1, CARLTON, NOTTINGHAM. NG4 2JY.

HERTFORDSHIRE ANIMAL RIGHTS CHARTER CAMPAIGN

PO BOX 66, BROXBOURNE, HERTS EN10 6LU

0426 911785 (24-hour Voicebank)



HOUNDS OFF OUR WILDLIFE!

I would like to thank SARP for inviting us to contribute this article, which is aimed at helping groups contemplating an Animals Charter campaign avoid some of our mistakes!

The Herts Animal Rights Charter Campaign (HARCC) was set up in 1990 with the aim of persuading Hertfordshire's County and Borough Councils to adopt our Herts Animals Charter. Local Government does still have a wide range of powers (eg the power to ban hunting/circuses/animal prizes from their land) and pending probably distant National legislation, we believe it is important that Councils are at least made to prevent as much suffering as they are able.

Knowing that our lack of knowledge of local Government bureaucracy would lead us to make tactical mistakes (it did!) we decided to "test the water" by initially only lobbying the County Council, so that when we later started on the 10 Boroughs, we would have valuable experience behind us.

If you're thinking of launching a Charter campaign, the first thing you'll need is a Charter! Drop us a line and we'll send you ours, which you'll see can easily be adapted to any Council.

We then contacted all the local animal groups which would be affected if the Charter was adopted, and asked them to lend their names to the Campaign. This had the huge advantage of 15 animal groups as diverse as the local Cats Protection League to sab groups working together for the first time.

It is important to, as soon as possible, establish contact with a sympathetic Councillor on your target Council, who will help you understand how the Councils work and advise you on how to conduct your campaign. But don't make the same mistake as we did - contrary to what your supportive Councillor may say, animal rights will almost certainly not be their top priority! On several occasions, Councillors would just say "Send me a copy of the Charter and leave it with me." We would then wait weeks for them to get back to us and tell us how things were going, only to find when we contacted them they'd forgotten all about it!

Getting the Council to discuss the Charter is your first hurdle and can often be difficult - we found the best way was to arrange a series of imaginative publicity stunts, attracting press interest and leading to the Council receiving a stream of phone calls from reporters. The Council won't want to be seen to be ignoring you and will probably put it on the agenda. It also helps, when you write to the Council asking them to discuss the Charter to make it clear you've sent copies of the letter (& Charter) to the local press.

Petitions are of limited value in persuading Councillors, but provide good publicity and do attract people to your stalls. Our 33,000 signature petition (3 times bigger than any other ever received by Herts County Council) attracted huge publicity including local Radio & TV.

While proceedures vary somewhat from Council to Council, once your Council has agreed to discuss the Charter, the proceedure will be more or less as follows:

Council officers will prepare an "Officers Report" on the Charter, discussing the implications (legal, cost, staffing etc) to the Council if they were to implement the Charter. This report will be studied by members of one of the Council's committees, who will eventually recommend a certain course of action to the Full Council - the recommendation could be anything from taking no action, to implementing all or some of the Charter's proposals.

The final decision will be taken by the Full Council, who are not obliged to accept the Committee's recommendation although they often do.

When lobbying Herts County Council, we wrote, right from at the beginning, to all Councillors - this was a mistake. It takes a long time for the Charter to reach the final Full Council debate (usually 6 months, often 12!) and by this time Councillors will have forgotten what your letter said.

We now wait until the Charter and Officers Report are to be discussed by a Committee. A week or so prior to this Committee meeting we write to all members of that Committee, enclosing as much information on the issues raised in the Charter as possible.

It is important to have someone in the Public Gallery at the Committee meeting. This way you will get some idea of what arguments those Councillors who intend to oppose you will rely on.

After the Committee meeting, we then write to all the remaining Councillors, countering in detail the arguments used against you in Committee.

From the beginning it is vital to have supporters writing to, phoning or visiting their Councillor - if you can get him/her to back you in advance, it will be far more difficult for them to back down at a later stage.

The cost of the campaign is almost entirely up to you. A campaign simply aimed at persuading Councils need involve producing a few Charters and leaflets, postage to Councillors, props for publicity stunts, and cost very little.

We decided to combine this aspect of the campaign with a huge "public education" programme. Our reasons was, frankly, that if the campaign itself failed, at least we could rest assured that we had converted large numbers of people to our way of thinking!

We therefore produced our own leaflets attacking our two local hunts, organised over a dozen public meetings, produced newsletters and fact sheets, sent out thousands of information packs to enquirers etc, and the cost soon then ran into four figures, although much was recovered by holding around 150 street stalls).

Already, Herts County Council have banned hunting on land they occupy, and Watford Borough Council have adopted the entire Charter (making them the first in the Country to completely boycott battery eggs). The Charter is still at Committee stage with the rest of the Councils.

Despite the hard work involved, the results we expect to achieve will have made the campaign more than worthwhile and we would strogly encourage other groups to consider similar campaigns. Anyone wanting more detailed information can contact us at PO Box 66, Broxbourne, Herts EN10 6LU, or leave a message on 0426 911785.

FRESHFIELDS ANIMAL RESCUE CENTRE

In the september issue of this newsletter it was stated that Freshfields animal rescue centre was the contact address for the campaign against the Cheshire beagles hunt, the murderers of Mike Hill. Freshfields have informed us that this is incorrect and that no one at the centre has any involvement or connection with this campaign. SARP accepts that we were in error on this and we apologise to Freshfields for any inconvenience we may have caused them in this matter.

LETTER TO S.A.R.P.

Dear s.a.r.p.,

First of all i'd like to say what a breath of fresh air that your newsletter is. Its what we Anarcho-Vegans need at present.

I have been "in the movement" for over 10 years and in all that time i have never come across unity. So why should there be a call for it now? The answers lie at the doors of those who see fit to slag off direct action, whenever they can. People who week in, week out draw fat salarys from us the subscribers, and members. Lets face facts, the big guns dont want to see the end of animal abuse, or their wages would cease. Animal abuse is big business as we all know, and is top of the capitalist league. Genuine campaigners up and down the country stand in the pouring rain handing out leaflets or getting covered in shit on hunt sabs, getting spat at, horsewhipped, punched, kicked, and sadly we have now had an animal rights brother murdered. We've had all sorts of attacks on us, yet when theres a decent action taken against property, out they all squirm from the pits to condemn it.

The ALF - violent? Dont make me laugh - The only violence dished out is by the other side. War is being waged against the animal kingdom and we, who are in the firing line week in and week out attempting to defend them are, beleive me, hitting them hard financially, and if the odd person gets hurt during an action, so what? Its about time the animal liberation movement dropped their kid gloves and said enough is enough. If you see someone kicking a dog in the street - you will try and intervene, yet when someone is getting a good going over at a circus or whatever we all stand around and cry, "leave him/her alone". Its time to fight back.

I'd like to make another point and its this. Everyone has said that S.A.R.P.'s newsletters are really good. Its information is up to date and its what we need. Especially as there never seems to be a week that goes by without there being more arrests.

In the interests of unity i feel the buav and others should use their millions of pounds to really help animals instead of letting it rot in the vault boxes of their banks, earning interest. After all, isnt that what they're there for?

Victory to the ALF
ANN-ON.

A POEM

Unable to say no,
to the tests they undergo.
Feeling lonely and afraid,
prodded and poked,
injected, provoked,
for the sake of the make-up brigade.

How they long to be free,
just like you and like me.
Happy with every breath.
Instead they are tortured,
butchered and slaughtered,
a ptolonged and painful death.

ARKANGEL

We have been asked to state that although the new edition of ARKANGEL has been delayed it will, hopefully, be available soon and if people can be patient it will be soon hitting the streets again.

CHALLENGE TO THE BUAV

Dear SARP,

congratulations on producing a good, informative news letter. While recognising your sincerity on the subject of unity we think there are other good reasons for closing down SARP as a prisoners financial support organisation. The ALF SG has always done a good job in this area and we feel there is no need for two organisations apparently competing on this. So your decision to concentrate solely on producing a prisoners support/animal rights newsletter is very welcome and we feel may allay peoples suspicions of SARP's true motives. This must be obvious to all now by the fact that you produce a free newsletter every month along with the pledge to use excess funds monthly to support prisoners and defendants. At least we think thats what you meant in the last issue!

We would ask you to print the following in your newsletter. While not apparently fitting in with your stated policy of "unity" we feel it raises some important points about the BUAV which need answering and for that reason we call on the BUAV to publicly answer these issues (perhaps in your newsletter?).

OPEN LETTER TO THE BUAV

Dear comrades,

there is much concern in the general animal rights movement at present over your apparent endorsement of one of the biggest animal abusers in the country - Sainsburys and of your rumoured negotiations with Boots the vivisectors.

Animal rights campaigners in this country were disgusted by the news that the BUAV accepted 5 thousand pounds from SAinsburys in return for the BUAV's endorse ment of the company as people who care about ending animal suffering. How could you be naive enough to believe them? During negotiations with them did you ever mention the terrible suffering inflicted on the animals in thier slaughterhouses? Do you even care? Or is all that matters to you the money they gave to you? Please dont say that the BUAV is a single issue group concerned only with ending vivisection and does not concern itself with animal suffering in other areas because we cannot believe this can be so. So please explain to the animal rights movement how you can allow yourself to be brought off for £5000?

A rumour currently going the rounds is that the BUAV is negotiating with Boots for these vivisectors to use your cruelty-free logo on thier alleged cruelty-free cosmetics.If this is true then it is a betrayal of everything that the BUAV used to fight against and a stab in the back for the countless numbers of people who week in and week out campaign against Boots vile animal torture business. To endorse even one Boots product as "cruelty" free is to give support to thier entire animal torture business. Can you not see this? How much money are you accepting this time? As for some of thier products being cruelty-free., well, even Boots admit that they cant garantee that ingredients used are not animal tested before they use them. Apparently the BUAV has some inside information regarding this that Boots do not or perhaps the BUAV doesent much care as long as money is involved.

We call on the BUAV to answer these two cases before the animal rights movement. Silence from the BUAV will be answer in itself and people can at least then know who really cares about animal rights and who is just in it for the money.

yours for true animal rights

MIDLANDS ANIMAL LIBERATION.



DJURENS BEFRIELSE FRONT
(SWEDISH ALF)



The DJURENS BEFRIELSE FRONT (a direct translation of ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT) was born at springtime 1985. At present they have 3 action groups in Sweden and most of their actions are liberating animals although they also carry out sabotage such as destroying hunting platforms, visiting fur shops with paint and glue and spraying red henna on foxes and minks at fur farms. Their targets have included Universities, breeders of "experimental animals" and private animal owners who abuse their animals. Their latest action, carried out on October 4th, was against 18 fur shops in Stockholm who were "visited" with glue, red paint and anti-fur posters. In the 6 years of its existence no member of the D.B.F. has ever been convicted of any offence and, in fact, the police only know of one member - press officer EMILIE E:SON. Emilie is questioned by the police every time animals are liberated and has been prosecuted once but was aquitted due to there being no evidence.

ANIMAL LIBERATION truly is an international cause and the D.B.F. need all the support we can give them. The D.B.F. are very strong on supporting animal rights prisoners as all imprisoned animal rights activists in this country will be well aware. They'd like to hear from you so send messages of support to:

DJURENS BEFRIELSE FRONT,
BOX 2051,
S - 265 02 ASTORP,
SWEDEN.

LONDON BOOTS ACTION GROUP

The LONDON BOOTS ACTION GROUP is a new London-wide animal rights organisation which has been set up to campaign against Boots PLC throughout the city.

In London alone, Boots have 120 branches, yet the vast majority have never been regularly picketed by animal rights groups. The L.B.A.G. aims to campaign more effectively against the company by working closely with animal rights groups in the area.

They are holding their inaugural meeting on 19th November when there will be speakers from the L.B.A.G. and the A.L.I.U. who in November 1990 staged an inspection of Boots' Thurgaton lab, just one week after an ALF raid had liberated 8 beagles from their animal torture chamber. The purpose of this meeting will be to plan a highly effective anti-Boots campaign throughout London in the coming months. The new film "ANIMAL LIBERATION ? THE MOVIE" will also be shown and there will be merchandise and Vegan refreshments available. The LONDON BOOTS ACTION GROUP will also be holding a series of demo's up to christmas.

NOVEMBER 19th - Inaugural meeting of the LONDON BOOTS ACTION GROUP.
"THE TRUTH ABOUT BOOTS THE VIVISECTORS"
7.30pm at Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1.
Nearest tube: Holborn (Picadilly/Central lines)

PRISONERS AND DEFENDANTS

SIMON RUSSELL,
ND 1666,
LAKES WING,
HMP THE MOUNT,
BOVINGDON,
HEMEL HEMPSTEAD,
HERTS.
HP 3 0 NZ.

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

RONNIE LEE,
VO 2682,
LB 2 CLYDE,
HMP CHANNINGS WOOD,
DENBURY,
NEWTON ABBOT,
DEVON.
TQ 12 6 DW.

Ronnie has now served over 5 years of a 10 year sentence for two charges of conspiracy and one of incitement.

DANNY ATTWOOD,
JC 0306,
HMP,
SUDBURY,
DERBYSHIRE.
DE 6 5 HW.

JOHN CURTIN,
JC 0305,
HMP STOCKEN,
STOCKEN HALL ROAD,
STRETTON,
Nr. OAKHAM,
LEICESTERSHIRE.
LE 15 7 RdD

Danny was sentenced to 9 months and John to 18 months for their part in a raid on the Interfauna breeding centre in 1990 during which over 100 animals were liberated.

KEITH MANN,
REMAND PRISONER,
HMP,
LONGPORT,
CANTERBURY,
KENT.
CT 1 1 PJ.

VIVIEN SMITH,
REMAND PRISONER,
HMP,
PARKHURST ROAD,
HOLLOWAY,
LONDON.
N7 0 NU.

Keith and Vivien were arrested in the Folkestone area on October 14th and have been remanded in custody ona charge of "conspiracy to commit arson".

DERBYSHIRE

RHIAN THOMAS,
FV 2387,
HM DETENTION CENTRE,
NEW HALL,
DIAL WOOD,
FLOCKTON,
WAKEFEILD,
WEST YORKSHIRE.

ALISTAIR HOWSEN.

(No prison address is available for alistair at present but should be known soon. For further info on where to write to Alistair, please contact Manchester on (061) 236 9227)

Rhian and Alistair were arrested on the evening of October 22nd in Derbyshire and charged with three counts of Criminal Damage, one of Conspiracy to Commit Criminal Damage and one of Going Equipped To Commit Criminal Damage (5 charges, each, in all). They appeared in court on Wednesday, October 30th and were further remanded.

JOHN HUGHES,
REMAND PRISONER,
HM PRISON,
68 HORNBY ROAD,
LIVERPOOL,
L9 3DF.

John is charged with Criminal Damage and was due to appear at Manchester Crown Court on October 25th but the Crown failed to produce him. A second person charged along with John on the same charge is currently on bail on strict curfew.

SUPPORTING PRISONERS

Prison isolates people from the outside world. Besides visiting, writing is the most important thing you can do to help break down that isolation, so that the prisoner does not feel forgotten. If you cant think of much to write then just send a card wishing them well, it is the fact that you have bothered to write that matters. If you know a prisoner personally it is especially important to write as obviously contact from old freinds is valued. But this does not mean that if you're a stranger to the prisoner they wont appreciate your letter. Remember that All letters to prisoners are opened and censored so dont write anything that could jepardise future actions or someones freedom. Dont expect a reply to your letter as prisoners are restricted as to how many letters they can write each week.

VISITING. Many animal rights prisoners have a visiting rota organised by freinds so dont just turn up to visit without checking first. This is useful to ensure that the prisoner gets a visit every day and also so that two people dont turn up on the same day as only the first visitor will be allowed in (and the other person will have wasted time and fare money).

It is essential that prisoners are supported as they are inside for us. They have been imprisoned because they are struggling for a better world, like all of us. Furthermore, supporting prisoners can help to break down the myths and mystifications that surround prisons, creating fear in us. It is a good idea to set up local prisoners' support groups to ensure that there is regular and and organised support for prisoners. Even one letter can be a good booost for prisoners. And there is so much more that we can do - publicity, visits, financial support, regular letters, pickets of the prison(if the prisoner agrees) campaigning for better conditions for prisoners, continuing the struggle. We must never forget the prisoners as they need our support.

Two animal rights trials are scheduled for the early part of November and three committals throughout the month. It goes without saying that the best way of supporting the defendants involved is to turn up at the court and letting them know you support them. This is particularly true where the defendants are facing prison sentences, it is a real morale booster for them to see a full public gallery supporting them.

The trials and committals are:

BRAMPTON THREE

BARRY HORNE, MICHEAL SHANAHAN and GARI ALLEN are charged with Possession Of Explosives (incendiary devices). Barry and Micheal were arrested in the village of Brampton on October 28th last year. In the car driven by one of them a number of incendiary devices were allegedly found. The next day in the West Midlands Gari was arrested and all three were remanded on the same charge. The three wre held in Bedford prison for over three months before finally being allowed bail on strict conditions. Their trial begins on NOVEMBER 4th at NORTHAMPTON CROWN COURT and is expected to last about 1½ weeks.

ALAN COOPER

Alan is on trial soon on a totally ridiculous charge concerning a Dolphin. As anyone who knows alan will verify, he is a totally dedicated campaigner for animal rights and this trial is absurd. Alan is on trial starting NOVEMBER 9th at NEWCASTLE CROWN COURT.

DODDLESTONE

The 31 people charged with Riot at Doddlestone earlier this year are due to appear at Chester Crown Court on November 4th for committal. It seems highly improbable that all 31 will be dealt with on that day and the committal proceedings may go over into a second day or even longer. Alternatively some or all of the defendants may be given other dates to appear. At the moment though, as far as is known, all of the 31 are still all charged with Riot and all are due to appear on NOVEMBER 4th at CHESTER CROWN COURT*.

THE McLIBEL TWO

In September 1990, 5 members of London Greenpeace were issued with writs by Macdonalds claiming that they had libelled the company in literature produced on behalf of the group. Three of the 5 subsequently apologised to Macdonalds and the actions against them was dropped. The other two have refused to apologise and Macdonalds are proceeding with the action against them. The McLIBEL TWO are due to appear in the high court for committal hearings on NOVEMBER 6th.

For more information contact: LONDON GREENPEACE, 5 CALEDONIAN ROAD, LONDON N1.

LAUNDRY FARM

Following a A.L.I.U. inspection of Laundry Farm breeding centre in Cambridge earlier this year, one person was arrested, held for three days and finally released complete with 12 charges including Burglary and other related charges. This defendant is due to go for committal on NOVEMBER 15th at CAMBRIDGE MAGISTRATES COURT.

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* This should read CHESTER MAGISTRATES COURT!

SWELLSMORE FUR FARM

Following incidents outside this fur farm near Halifax on saturday, October 5th, 43 people were arrested. Some were released without charge but eventually 39 people were charged. Of these, 34 were held overnight and released on sunday, all charged with Section 4 of the Public Order Act plus one person was also charged with assault. The other 5 people were held until monday before being released charged with Section 2 of the Public Order Act. Under the bail conditions the defendants are not allowed to attend any demo's and they have to sign on at a police station twice a week. They are due in court on December 11th.

HUDDERSFEILD

On August 21st, four people were arrested at a poultry slaughterhouse in Huddersfeild. Two had guns pointed at their heads and another was brought down by a police dog and had to receive hospital attention after being bitten. Armed and camoflaged police officers, police dogs and helicopters littered the scene. The four have been charged with conspiracy to burgle, attempted burglary and going equipped to burgle, and were remanded in custody for a week before being granted bail on strict curfew conditions.

GUILDFORD 9

NINE North Downs Hunt Saboteurs are currently on bail following incidents during a sab against the Surrey Union Hunt in January. All nine are charged with Violent Disorder, with 3 also charged with ABH and one with Criminal Damage. Police appear to be over reacting somewhat in an attempt to wreck sabbing against this particular hunt and have so far produced at least 60 prosecution witness statements although the figure may be as high as 120. The 9 have been committed for trial at crown court but at present have no trial date.

HURSLEY HAMBLEDON

Four Hunt Saboteurs are currently on bail after a sab against the Hursley Hambledon Hunt in March of this year. Four sabs are facing Violent Disorder charges with three ABH charges in addition.

CHARGES DROPPED

A charge of Criminal Damage against one person has been dropped by the police due to lack of evidence. The defendant was arrested earlier this year and the charge relates to Devon Eggs of Cheshire.

MANCHESTER BOOTS DEMO

At Manchester Magistrates Court earlier this month 6 people were found guilty of Breach Of The Peace or Obstruction and all received a one year conditional discharge and were ordered to each pay £97 costs. One of the 6 was also found guilty of ABH and ordered to pay £40 compensation as well. The cases were brought against the 6 following the Manchester Medical School demo earlier this year when police ran riot and attacked a peacefull picket of Boots, physicaly assaulting people and arresting anyone who got in the way, including innocent members of the public who were watching. At the time the police tactics were described by the shoppers as "violent" and "provocative".

AYLESBURY SABS V THAMES VALLEY POLICE

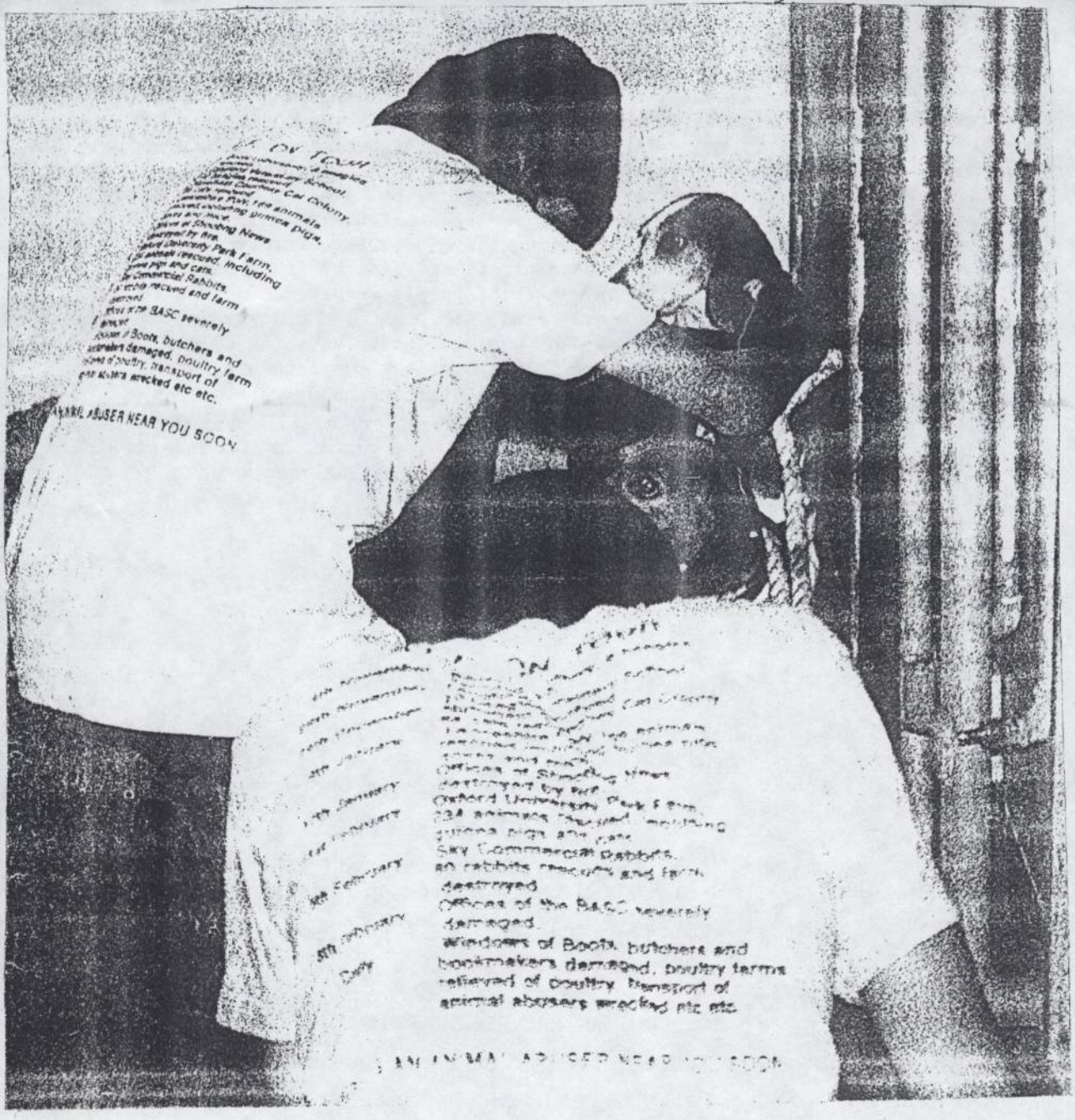
Nine hunt saboteurs from Aylesbury have been awarded a total of £12,000 compensation at court in Oxford in a case brought against the Thames Valley Police for "ILLEGAL ARREST".

In October of last year, Aylesbury sabs were out against the Old Berkely Beagles when the Thames Valley Police launched an unprovoked attack against them using a helicopter. The helicopter hovered dangerously close to the sabs forcing them to the ground before other officers moved in and arrested them. In court the pilot of the helicopter was asked about this and he denied it ever happened. He had no answer, however, when photographs were produced of the incident occuring. The sabs were held in Aylesbury police station and claimed the police deliberately turned the heating up full making it unbearable. The sabs who were arrested on a variety of charges were eventually released without charge.

Dont forget that if you know or hear of any animal rights arrests including on Hunt Sabs then let S.A.R.P. know so we can publicise it in this newsletter. We beleive all arrests are important enough to be included. For to long Hunt Saboteurs have seemingly led a seperate existence from the rest of the animal rights movement and failed to get the support they deserve when arrested, even though they are quite often for serious charges. Sabs are out there week in, week out fighting for animals the same as the rest of us and this puts them on the same side as the rest of us - the side of the animals. For this reason S.A.R.P. has begun to correct the absurd situation where sabs are treated as a race apart, by including them in the prisoners and defendants. Many good animal rights activists began their carreers as sabs so why should sabs now be excluded from the term "Animal Rights"? While this newsletter may not be able to financially help arrested persons, be they for animal rights or sab offences, we can at least publicise those arrests, trials, etc and in this way support all those who stand up and fight back on the side of the animals.

SUPPORT ALL ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS AND DEFENDANTS,

THEY GIVE THEIR FREEDOM FOR THE ANIMALS.



TAKE CARE

People should be aware that at the present time, ARNI, in conjunction with police forces all over the country, is waging war against animal rights. At the present time, many, many people all over the country are being WATCHED, FOLLOWED and their every movement is under vigorous SURVEILANCE.

So if you're out and about on these dark nights, TAKE CARE.

SUPPORT ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS, P.O. BOX 96, NORTHAMPTON. NN5 5JT.

S.A.R.P. expresses its opinion in the S.A.R.P. comment on page 3, all other opinions, articles and letters in this newsletter are by people unconnected with S.A.R.P. We do not necaserily agree with all opinions expressed in the newsletter but we beleive it is important to include all points of view.

When the S.A.R.P. newsletter was first discussed it was decided that it was important for it to be a free service. Support for our prisoners and defendants had to be encouraged from all sections of the movement including those with very little money. Rich or poor we are all on the same side and all involved in animal rights for the same reason - because we care. To produce the newsletter and try and sell it would necaserily exclude those who couldnt afford to buy it and this would obviously defeat our aims of encouraging support and unity from the entire animal rights movement. We have, of course, gratefully received donations over the months towards the newsletters costs but these have never came anywhere near to covering the expenditure involved. The shortfall has been raised through seperate fundraising by those who produce this newsletter. Unfortunately the number of people involved has dwindled drastically and it is now becoming difficult to raise the money required. For this reason we appeal to anyone who can, to donate anything at all towards the running costsof this newsletter. We believe that the newsletter has improved month by month and judging by the letters we have recieved many people agree with us. So if you think this newsletter fulfills a usefull purpose and you think you can afford to send a donation no matter how small you'll be helping us to keep the newsletter as a free prisoners and defendants service. send anything at all to:

S.A.R.P.
P.O. box 96
Northampton.
NN5 5JT.

T- shirts.

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.

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

NOVEMBER 2nd - NATIONAL MARCH AND RALLY AGAINST LIVE EXPORTS.
Saturday, 2nd November, 1991, in the city of Gloucester.
Assemble 1pm Gloucester Park, move off at 2pm sharp, march through city centre. Awreath will be laid at the entrance to the market. then back to the park, where will be speakers, personalities, refreshments, stalls.

NOVEMBER 2nd - THE LONDON GREENPEACE FAYRE. The fourth great year! An all-day extravaganza of stalls,workshops, videos, music, good food and drink and fun!!!
11am - 9pm, CONWAY HALL, RED LION SQUARE, LONDON WC1

NOVEMBER 9th - MARCH AGAINST MACDONALDS. Demonstrate for free speach.
Support the McLIBEL TWO.
Assemble 12 noon outside EUSTON STATION (BR & Underground)
March through London in support of the Mclibel Two, and all others threatening for exposing the practices of multinational companies.

NOVEMBER 19th - LONDON BOOTS ACTION GROUP PUBLIC MEETING.
"THE TRUTH ABOUT BOOTS THE VIVISECTORS"
7.30pm at CONWAY HALL, RED LION SQUARE, LONDON. WC1.
(nearest tube: Holborn - Picadilly/central lines)

DECEMBER 1st - ANNUAL "MEAT OUT" DEMONSTRATION against the Smithfeild Show, Earls Court Exhibition Hall, London SW5.
March plus Demonstration.
Details from the Vegetarian Society 061 928 0793.

USEFULL ADDRESSES

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