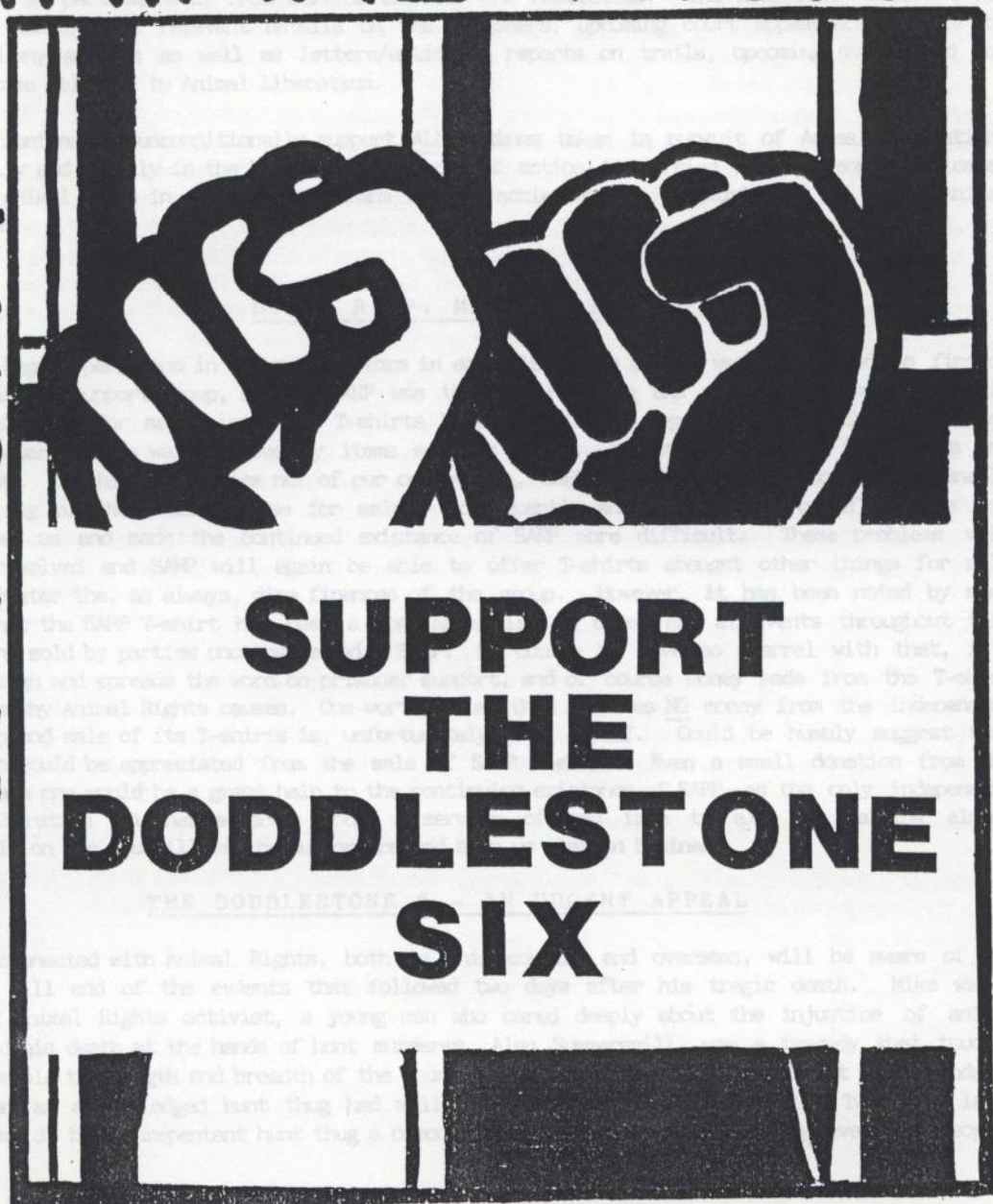
S.A.R.P.

NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1992

ANIMAL RIGHTS

SUPPORT



PRISONERS

SUPPORT THE DODDLESTONE SIX

THEY GIVE THEIR FREEDOM

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

* * * * *

This newsletter is produced by S.A.R.P. and distributed to a large number of 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 someone who should be receiving a copy and isn't get in touch. If your group would like to be included on the mailing list then get in touch. S.A.R.P. is a free service that relies on donations and independant fund raising for its continuing exsistance.

Apologies to all for the lateness of this issue of the SARP newsletter. Due for production as the September issue, certain problems saw it produced late and it is now the September/October issue. These problems have now been resolved and the good news is that the SARP newsletter will now, as of this issue, revert back to it's original monthly production. In this way we feel that support for the prisoners and the publicising of arrests and forthcoming court appearances will be better achieved than before. The next issue will appear first week in November and anything intended for inclusion should reach SARP, more or less, by the last week in October, although exceptions can be made for urgent or important items. SARP will endeavour to continue as a free service to the movement by publicising the prisoners and defendants, any arrests (hopefully none) and any relevant information connected with court appearances etc. We will do this by answering all queries as part of this free service and via the newsletter. The newsletter itself will, as always contain all relevant details on the prisoners, upcoming court appearances, dates of trails and any arrests as well as letters/articles, reports on trails, upcoming events and any general items relevant to Animal Liberation.

SARP will continue to unconditionally support ALL actions taken in pursuit of Animal Liberation, uncritically and totally in the belief that ALL direct action is carried out by people dedicated to ending animal abuse in any and every form and to achieving the eventual goal of total Animal Liberation.

S. A. R. P. MERCHANDISE

When SARP began operations in its present form in early 1991, one of the ways envisaged to finance a free prisoner support group, such as SARP was through producing and selling merchandise. This we did, offering for sale, initially T-shirts bearing the SARP logo of two clenched fists and the prison bars. This was followed by items such as badges, stickers and for a time, mugs and other items. Due to difficulties not of our own making, SARP has for several months been unable to offer any of these merchandise for sale. Consequently an important source of revenue has been denied us and made the continued existance of SARP more difficult. These problems will soon be resolved and SARP will again be able to offer T-shirts amongst other things for sale to help bolster the, as always, dire finances of the group. However, it has been noted by many people, that the SARP T-shirt has been a popular seller on demos and at events throughout this year, being sold by parties unconnected with SARP. Of course we have no quarrel with that, it's a good design and spreads the word on prisoner support, and of course money made from the T-shirt goes to worthy Animal Rights causes. One worthy cause that receives NO money from the independent production and sale of its T-shirts is, unfortunately SARP itself. Could be humbly suggest that a donation would be appreciated from the sale of SARP T-shirts? Even a small donation from the sale of each one would be a great help to the continuing existance of SARP, as the only independent Animal Liberation prisoner support group, a service offered free to all but relying almost exclusively on the goodwill of its supporters and help us stay in business.

THE DODDLESTONE 6 - AN URGENT APPEAL

Everyone connected with Animal Rights, both in this country and overseas, will be aware of the name Mike Hill and of the ev4ents that followed two days after his tragic death. Mike was a dedicated Animal Rights activist, a young man who cared deeply about the injustice of animal abuse, and his death at the hands of hunt murderer, Alan Summersgill, was a tragedy that touched us all. People the length and breadth of the country grieved at Mikes' death and felt understandable anger that an acknowledged hunt thug had maliciously killed a hunt saboteur. Two days later at the home of this unrepentant hunt thug a demonstration took place attended by over 120 people;

people who had turned up there to publicly express their contempt for the hunt in a peaceful show of unity and strength. They were also there to publicly condemn Alan Summersgill as a murderer and a coward, a man who hadn't even the guts to face up to his actions but instead chose to run away after Mike was killed. Understandably feelings ran high on that day and certain events unfolded that saw many people arrested and charged by the police with amongst other things, riot. The police alleged that windows in Summersgills' house had been broken and certain other damage is alleged to have occured. No harm came to Summersgill and none was intended, Animal Rights people are not thugs or hooligans, unlike hunt followers, such as Summersgill who regularly inflict suffering and death on the animals and contamination of the countryside by their activities. The alleged events of that day in February of last year, finally came to a close at Knutsford crown court in July of this year when six men were imprisoned.

Six caring men are now in prison solely because they, allegedly, dared to express anger that a hunt saboteur had been viciously murdered by the hunt. Remember, that Alan Sumersgill, the thug responsible for Mike Hills death has never, to this day, been charged by the police with any offence connected with Mikes' death, while the six men now in prison, are there because, according to police, they broke a few windows and nothing else. The six men have no choice but to serve their sentences, but we, all of us on the outside DO have a choice. On the one had we can simply shrug our shoulders and shake our heads at the blind bigotry of the British legal system and do nothing. Or we can opt for the second choice which is to ensure that these six caring men are NOT forgotton while they are in prison and that we will do our utmost to support them in any way we can.

Support Animal Rights Prisoners is now making an urgent appeal for donations to ensure that support is forthcoming in a practical and morale boosting way. An important source of strength for any activist while in prison is the regular visits by friends, relatives and loved ones. In the case of the six men now in prison for Doddlestone it is of added importance because of the injustice and severity of their sentences. All six are from different parts of the country making visits by their partners and relatives a costly business, some have to travel several hundred miles every visit, an expensive and unnecessary drain on already limited financial resources for those who are unemployed and already in debt. Money is also needed to ensure that these six men are able to purchase the few essentials available to them while in prison, and thereby making the injustice a little more bearable. SARP appeals to everyone in the movement to donate whatever they can afford. It doesn't matter how small that donation is as long as you show you care by making it. To all Animal Rights groups we ask that you organise collections at your meetings and events. To all National Animal Rights Societies we ask that you make a donation in recognition of the fact that the Doddlestone six have been unjustly imprisoned. To everyone we ask that you ensure the Doddlestone Six are NOT forgotton and contribute now to ensure they know we support them. SARP makes this appeal on behalf of the Doddlestone 6, in the belief that everyone in the Animals Rights movement will join with us in ensuring that the Doddlestone 6 are not forgotton.

Show your support by sending a donation to:

The Doddlestone Six Appeal
c/o S.A.R.P.
P.O. Box 96
NORTHAMPTON NN5 5JT

Please make all cheques/postal orders payable to 'SARP'.

A copy of this appeal is being sent to all Animal Rights groups and national Animal Rights societies and to many sympathetic individuals and organisations connected with Animal Rights.

THE CO-OP BANK AND ANIMAL RIGHTS

In the appeal it will be noted that donations sent have to be made out to S.A.R.P. for us to forward to the appeal. The reason for this is simple. To our amazement and disgust the CO-OP bank, despite its new ethical policy stand against animal abuse, refused to allow SARP to open a bank account under the name of 'Doddlestone Six Appeal' or indeed any other wording of a similar nature. This may seem strange to many people in the movement in view of the fact that the CO-OP bank is currently promoting itself as an ethically sound, caring bank who have publically stated their opposition to animal testing and other areas of animal abuse. It will not sound strange to the growing number of Animal Rights and Hunt Saboteur groups who have been refused banking facilities by the CO-OP bank over the last few months. They seem to be distancing themselves from Animal Rights as much as possible which makes a mockery of their much vaunted stance on animal abuse. SARP expected hostility from other, shall we say, less ethically sound banks and we weren't disapointed. We expected more of the CO-OP bank but there it is. Consequently donations are requested payable to SARP to be transfered by us to the Doddlestone Six Appeal Fund.

SUPPORTING PRISONERS

WRITING

Prison isolates people from the outside world. Writing to prisoners helps to break down that isolation, so that the prisoner does not feel forgotton. 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 matters. 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 someone's freedom. Many prisoners on remand are allowed to received SAE's but if not please don't expect a reply as these will be restricted.

PRISONERS AND DEFENDANTS

Ronnie Lee
V02682
LB2 Clyde
HMP Channings Wood
Denbury
NEWTON ABBOT
Devon TQ12 6DW

Ronnie was arrested in 1986 and sentenced to 10 years for two charges of conspiracy and one of incitement. He has been consistently denied parole and will finally be released in November of this year having served over 6 years in prison.

* * *

Keith Mann
NE0316
c/o PO. Box 155
MANCHESTER M60 1FT

Keith was convicted at Maidstone Crown Court in June of this year on the charge of attempted arson. He faces further charges and will be sentenced at a later date.

* * *

Alistair Mullen
A8028
A Wing, H6
HMP MAZE
Lisburn
CO. ANTRIM
N. Ireland BT27 5RF

Dave Nelson
A8030
A Wing H6
HMP MAZE
Lisburn
CO. ANTRIM
N. Ireland BT27 5RF

Graeme Campbell
A8029
Hmyoc Hydebank Wood
Hospital Road
BELFAST
N. Ireland BT8 8NA

Alistair, Dave and Graeme were all convicted in May of this year for criminal damage and arson to battery sheds and bloodsports targets. Dave received 3½ years, Alistair 2 years and Graeme 2 years.

Mark Power
HP0606
HMP FOSTON HALL
FOSTON
Derbyshire DE6 5DN

Mark is currently serving a 4 year sentence for various charges of criminal damage, arson and going equipped to cause arson.

* * *

Hassen Sadelli
33 Cours Suchet
69272 LYON PERRACHE
FRANCE

Hassen is currently serving a 2 year sentence for setting fire to 11 butchers shops in Lyon, France. Letters of support in French only please.

* * *

* Please note - Keith Mann has no current prison address and letters of support should be sent to the Manchester PO. Box to be forwarded on to him. Keith faces further charges and due to ongoing police enquiries into alleged other offences he is frequently moved to different prisons and police stations. A fuller report will appear in the next issue of the SARP newsletter on Keith's situation.

Neil Croucher	-	DV1515
Martin Eggleton	-	DV1518
Dave Blenkinsop	-	DV1530
Graeme Wood	-	DX0976
John Curtin	-	DX0978

All five at :-
HM Prison
Kirkham
PRESTON
PR4 2RA

Neill, Martin, Dave, Graeme and John were all found guilty at the Doddlestone trial of section 2 of the POA in July of this year. Dave was sentenced to 15 months in prison and the other four were sentenced to 12 months each.

* * * * *

CANADA

Darren Thurston
Edmonton Remand Centre
9660 - 104 AVE
Edmonton
ALBERTA
T5H 4B5
CANADA

Darren has been in prison on remand since June of this year charged with a number of alleged offences in connection with the ALF in Canada. He has been refused bail on three occasions and does not expect to be released before his trial which is currently set for the summer of 1993.

Grant Horwood was also arrested around the same time as Darren, and, like Darren, was also charged with a number of alleged offences in connection with the Canadian ALF. A warrant was also isssued for the arrest of a third man on similar charges. Grant has since been released on bail. Money is urgently needed to cover legal costs which are running at approximately 10,000 dollars. Anyone wishing to make a donation should make cheques payable to: ALF SG, CANADA, and send to:

ALF SG. P.O. BOX 75029
Ritchie Postal Outlet
EDMONTON
ALBERTA T6E 6K1
CANADA

Further information on Darren's situation and the activities of ALF in Canada are included in this issue.

HUDDERSFIELD FOUR

In August '91 Denise Booth, Daryl Cavenagh, Richard Anderson and Gavin Robinson were arrested at a halal poultry farm in Holmfirth, West Yorkshire. The arrests came about as a result of 'Operation Fox', a joint operation by West Yorks and Greater Manchester police forces. The circumstances of the arrest involved the punching in the face of one of the defendants, another was trunchioned four times, one person was badly bitten by a police dog and another had a snipers rifle placed against his head by a camoflaged police officer. A police helicopter was also present. All four defendants were granted bail after a week on remand. They have now been committed for trial on three charges; Conspiracy to cause Criminal Damage, Conspiracy to steal and Conspiracy to cause damage by fire.

The trial will take place at Leeds Crown Court on 9th November.

* * * * *

ROYAL LONDON HOSPITAL

Following a raid on the Royal London Hospital in which 1000 mice and 4 beagles were liberated and many years of vivisectors work was destroyed, Adam Spare has been committed for trial and is currently awaiting a trial date. He is charged with Conspiracy to burgle, Criminal Damage and theft of security cards. The raid allegedly took place while Adam was working undercover for an anti-vivisection society.

Nine months after the raid the CPS decided to charge Nancy Phipps in connection with it. She is charged with Conspiracy to burgle and with Forgery. Nancy is due to appear at Thames Magistrates on September 30th.

* * * * *

SWALESMOOR FUR FARM

Five people are still facing charges following alleged incidents at a demo last year. They have been committed for trial and are awaiting a date.

* * * * *

NORTHAMPTON

Annette Tibbles, Richard Duriez and Angela Hamp are charged with 'Conspiracy to cause criminal damage between May and August '91'. After their arrest last August they spent several weeks in custody before being released on bail. They have been committed for trial and are currently awaiting a date, which is expected to be early next year.

* * * * *

MANCHESTER CONSPIRACY

Ten people are now charged with 'Conspiring to pursue the aims and purposes of the Animal Liberation Front by causing criminal damage'. They are due to appear in Manchester Crown Court on 23rd October to plea, and fix a trial date.

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McDONALDS

Chris Tucker was arrested in London in May for allegedly throwing a smoke bomb into McDonalds. He was charged with Affray and remanded in custody for two weeks before being granted bail.

* * * * *

LONDON ZOO

On 30th September 8 people; 7 from Manchester and 1 from London were arrested for allegedly taking documents from London Zoo. They have all been charged with burglary and will appear before Marleybone Magistrates on 13th November. They have all elected to be tried before a jury.

PRISONERS AND DEFENDANTS (contd)

FITZWILLIAM HUNT

Three people have been arrested and charged following alleged incidents on a cubhunt of the Fitzwilliam Hunt. The three hunt sabotuers have been charged with GBH. and one with Malicious wounding. No hunt members were arrested.

* * * * *

AMERICA

Three people have been arrested and charged with alleged Animal Liberation offences and may face further charges relating to other alleged incidents. The three, from the Minneapolis area, were originally held in prison but are now believed to have been released on bail.

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UNCONFIRMED ARRESTS

Information has been relayed to SARP that two arrested have taken place, one in Chelmsford and the other in Burton-on-Trent. Both are claimed to be for Animal Liberation related offences. The one in Chelmsford against Boots the vivisectors and the one in Burton against 'animal abuse targets' and both happened within the last month. Unfortunately, we have been unable to confirm this information as being correct from any of our contacts or other sources and cannot offer any further details. If anyone has any information on either of these arrests then please get in touch as soon as possible.

* * * * *

It is of vital importance that as much information as possible on any Animal Liberation related arrests is sent to either SARP or the ALF SG as soon as possible after the arrest(s). This ensures that support is forthcoming and should the arrest result in frmand to prison or so that the arrest can be publicised fully should bail be granted. Should arrests occur where no publicity/support is wanted then SARP will comply with that request, but the information should still be passed to us for future reference should the situation change. This applied to ALL Animal Liberation related arrests including for hunt sabotage. Don't leave it to someone else, if you know, then let us know.

PRISONERS RELEASED

The good news this issue is that three prisoners have been released. Barry Horne and Micheal Shannahan, the two convicted members of the Brampton Three, were both released on full parole on August 10th, having served 1 year of their 3 year senctences imposed last year for possessing incendiary devices.

In mid-September, Alistair Howsen, one of the defendants imprisoned for Doddlestone, was released having served half of his 12 month sentence.

Good Luck in the future to barry, Micheal and Alistair.

SUPPORT NEEDED FOR ANIMAL LIB ACTIVISTS

In the early morning hours of June 1, 1992, twenty-nine cats were rescued from a fate filled with pain - neurological experiments. The cats were liberated from a kennel belonging to the University of Alberta in Edmonton. The Animal Liberation Front claimed responsibility for the action, which caused over $50,000 in damages to offices and labs.

In the late evening hours of June 19, armed men raided the home of Darren Thurston and arrested him for break, enter, theft over $1000, and mischief over $1000. Confiscated were all his clothes, books, files, computer and computer disks. Several days later RCMP pulled Grant Horwood off a bus and charged him in the same incident. Grant was given bail at $4000 cash, ordered to live with his mother in Calgary, and not to associate with anyone involved in animal rights. Darren has been denied bail three times now. Police have also issued a Canada-wide warrant for the arrest of another "suspect" - an activist living in BC.

Among Darren's files taken by police were all those relating to the ALF Support Group and its publication COMBAT. In a move similar to the arrest of ALF members in Toronto in 1987, the police have charged Darren with almost every ALF action that took place in Edmonton over the past year. His files contained press releases and communiques mailed to the Support Group from ALF cells claiming responsibility for various actions. It seems that, to the police, possession of these documents warrants charges.

To date, Darren has been charged with the following (in addition to the three U of A charges): Arson, in connection with a firebombing of three trucks belonging to Billingsgate Fish Co.; Mischief over $1000, in connection to another attack on Billingsgate where 18 tires were slashed; Three counts of mischief over $1000, in connection to the paint-bombing of Fur Council of Canada billboards; Break, enter, and arson, in connection with an incident where a Hook Outdoor Advertising boom truck was burned, and; Attempted arson and mischief, in connection to an attempt to burn an Ouellette (egg) Packers van.

It is typical of police to lay on the charges in the beginning so as to have an advantage in plea bargaining. At this point we are unaware of any physical evidence in regard to any of the charges Darren and Grant face. The only clue comes from an Edmonton Journal article (June 23) which states, "A picture sent to the Journal - showing two people holding cats - led police to a local hotel room and, eventually, to the suspects."

When the Preliminary Hearing comes up Oct. 26, Darren will have been in jail for more than four months. He is surviving off of overcooked and nutritionless vegetables, a vegan diet being just a fantasy in jail. With the ALF Support Group no longer functioning, there is virtually no support or community in Edmonton to support him. What is needed now most are letters of support, which would surely brighten up his day.

Letters can be sent to: Darren Thurston
Edmonton Remand Centre
9660 - 104 Ave.
Edmonton, Alberta
T5H 4B5 Canada

Animal liberation group trashes kennel, takes cats

Vandals claiming to be from the Animal Liberation Front trashed a University of Alberta kennel for dogs and cats used in medical research Monday and stole 29 cats.

The 4 a.m. break-in appeared to have been carefully planned by people who were familiar with the isolated facility, says Dr. David Neil, director of the Health Sciences Laboratory Services section which operates the kennel.

There was no sign of forcible entry at the site on 127th Street north of Ellerslie Road, he said.

An employee sleeping in a house 35 metres away heard nothing, although the kennel holds about 50 dogs which usually bark and howl at strangers.

Thick red paint was splashed on walls and windows, drug vials were smashed, equipment was wrecked, files lay in pools of water from taps left turned on and bags of animal bedding were ripped open and scattered.

Slogans such as "ALF" and "Freedom" were spray-painted on the walls, and "Happy Environment Week" was sprayed on the walls of the trashed main office.

"They wreaked (a) considerable amount of vandalism. That's an act of terrorism, it's not an act of rescuing," said Neil.

"It's calculated to try and strike fear into the research community so that they will move away from the use of animals."

Damage was estimated at up to $50,000.

The cab and box of a truck used to transport animals were blistered with paint thinner, while an obscenity was sprayed-painted on an exterior wall.

An envelope later left in an *Edmonton Journal* mail slot contained a press release headed "Animal Liberation Front Celebrates Environment Week With Cat Liberation."

Film that was enclosed included a shot of two masked people each holding a cat.

The press release was printed on stationery taken from Laboratory Animal Services and claims the cats were to be involved in "useless and painful experiments."

"Today's liberation and economic damage are part of our on-going campaign against all animal torturers which will end only when the last animal is free and the last lab is burned to the ground."

But one of the researchers who works with the cats says they are required for a variety of purposes, including neurological experiments.

During these experiments, the animals are anesthetized so they don't feel pain, says the researcher, who asked not to be named to avoid harassment.

When the experiment is finished, the cats are killed with an overdose of anesthetic, the researcher said.

Eight cats apparently too wild to catch were left in the community pens from which the others were stolen, said Neil. None of the 50

ALF stickers have previou been plastered in university la but this is the first time that fac ties have been damaged, Neil sai

The U of A recently opened a search animal care centre on main campus with improved ho ing facilities and tight security, cluding video cameras, motion s sors and special locks, he said.

Security at the Ellerslie kenn was minimal. Neither the ma gate nor the kennel gate w closed and employees found two eight entrance doors unlocke Several people have keys for t building.

Officials had decided additior precautions would be too difficu and costly, says Neil. That will ne



A staff member at the University of Alberta kennel assesses the damage done Monday

SOUTH EAST ANIMAL RIGHTS COALITION

As part of the national Animal Rights Coalition, SEARC has now been formed for the South East to co-ordinate activities between local groups and individuals in the region. The newly formed South East Animal Rights Coalition "will distribute literature and information through monthly mail-outs and bi-monthly meetings, co-operate with groups in organising area events, and assist in setting up new groups". SEARC "have installed a computerised news and data collating system ensuring that a service of specialised current information will be freely available to groups. In effect, the group contact will only have to phone in for info on say; 'salmonella poisoning' and it will be forwarded.

"The Animal Rights Coalition (ARC) began to establish a network in the North West of England about 16 months ago. Since then an extensive contact tree has been established, and the North West groups have worked together on many events including this years Grand National and Waterloo Cup demonstrations. Currently the North West groups are organising a Natinal Meat Free march for 1993. They are also assisting people to set up groups in areas where none have previously existed".

ARC networks now exist "in the West Midlands, East Midlands, East Anglia, West Scotland, and possibly in the South of England as well as the South East".

Sunday 27th September 1992 is the date of the inaugural bi-monthly meeting of SEARC and they can be contacted at:

SOUTH EAST ANIMAL RIGHTS COALITION
19A AMHEARST ROAD
BEXHILL-ON-SEA
EAST SUSSEX TN40 1QH
Tel: (0424) 730154

This postcard was recieved from an American anti-vivisection society. How very true it is, the whole world over.



EVERY TIME AN ANIMAL EXPERIMENTER GETS INTO TROUBLE,
HE GRABS A CHILD AND HIDES BEHIND HER.

IN DEFENCE OF ROBIN

Many people will have seen the recent publication entitled 'As long as there are slaughterhouses.... ...then there will be battlefields', which describes itself as an historical look at the actions against animal abuse from 1991 onwards, which indeed it is. Personally I have no problem with that; in fact I think its generally a very pleasant read. One section did however disturb me a little; 'Who is Robin Webb we wonder?'. This attacks Robin for speaking to the press about ALF actions, and also makes some points I feel should have been made in a personal letter to, say, Arkangel or, maybe in person to Robin himself, and non anonymously in a publication designed, I presume, to be positive. I believe without reservation in the need for an ALF spokesperson, and have to reply to the offending article.

To begin with, it is suggested Robin set himself up as the ALF spokesperson/press officer without consulting anyone else. In fact discussions were afoot sometime before he took over the previously vacant post, and Robin, being conversant with the ALF, and not involved in ALF actions was the best person for the job. Previous ALF spokespeople have all fallen foul of the law because of their involvement in illegal acts. Robin will simply explain the ALF to those who want to know, without breaking any laws, and as such retain the job and his liberty.

In October last year a press conference was organised with Robin and a handful of others who saw the need for a press officer. Unfortunately, the police were double busy around that time, and just before some of those due to attend were imprisoned for their nocturnal activities. The press conference was cancelled but Robin announced his position regardless.

There are a number of reasons why the ALF needs a press officer, one of which was mentioned in the article. The press generally can't be trusted. They lie, it's all part of the dirty job they do. Consequently, activists who have trusted them in the past have on occasion suffered for it, and activists who have trusted them recently may do likewise.

Press coverage of actions can be as important as the actions themselves, and an explanation of why the actions take place is vital in highlighting the subject of cruelty.

Some activists consider the actions themselves to be risky enough without putting their liberty in the hands of reporters, and others, either don't like speaking to them or are not confident in doing so. With the press officer all these problems are overcome. If, for whatever reason the person(s) responsible for questioning Robin Webb's position or anyone else with similar thinking doesn't want any press to follow their actions, he can be told to make no comment when approached by the press, either over the mobile phone, which isn't a 100% safe method, or by passing on a message. I'm confident Robin will oblige.

I do believe the benefits of having someone to speak publicaly about the reasons for people being prepared to suffer for the benefit of animals far outweigh saying nothing or risking losing activist through having trusted reporters.

KEITH MANN

ANIMAL LIBERATION - THE WAY AHEAD

Time and time again we have heard the call for unity within this 'movement'. Usually after ALF actions have been criticised by spokespersons from some of the 'national societies'. We're told that there's room for both ALF activity and for parliamentary and educational campaigns in this struggle. I would have to say, though, that unity is absurd when we consider the differing elements within this 'movement' from the ALF through to the RSPCA., but it's not just absurd, for I would say that such a proposition could endanger our ability to achieve Animal Liberation.

Of course there is room for all types of campaigning. The question that has to be looked at is how effective they really are and whether we're wasting a lot of energy on them. Whilst it may be an unfortunate reality, with political and educational campaigns, it seems to me as if we're always hanging one, waiting to get that bit further forward down the road to victory, but in most cases it never seems to come and when it does it is usually just a small step with so many conditions it is turned into a side-step. Most of the 'national societies', namely the BUAV, Animal Aid, RSPCA, CIWF, Lynx, LACS and the Vegeterian Society and to a lesser extent NAVS seem to spend endless amounts of money on campaigns geared to the public, the media or politicians. Yet we know that politicians really don't give a toss. The general public tend to stay immersed in apathy and ignorance in this 'free market' TV culture. They may be shocked by major media exposures, but it quickly becomes yesterday's news for them in their busy lives. The powers that be are happy for us to play within their media circus and political arena because they know that they can keep us in check so long as we don't step outside those limits. They have the money, the clout, the newspapers and TV to make sure they always come out on top, but the aforementioned 'national societies' still believe they can make progress through these avenues. No matter what they say about being for Animal Rights/Liberation or what their real motives might be, one only has to look at what they actually do - activities aimed at getting society to reform it's own treatment of animals, a society whose very social fabric is based around the holocaust of animal abuse, and at the same time condemning the direct action tactics that go beyond this sphere and really do make a difference.

For it is only through direct action and ALF activities have things looked like changing - the reduction in the number of animal experiments through ALF raids breaking down lab walls and exposing vivisection; the closing down of fur outlets through firebombings and disruptive picketing, butchers shops through constant hassle, pack hunts through persistent sabbing; the destruction of labs; the stopping of animal research programs; and of course the rescuing of thousands of animals.

Now in the past couple of years the level of economic sabotage has soared with thousands of windows broken all over the country and firebombings aimed at the core mechanisms of the meat industry. If there's any doubt about the effect this is having on the animal abuse industries, we only have to look at how they and their state sponsored protectors have reacted. Scared and desperate they have gone over the top with numerous arrests, court cases, raids on offices, closing down bank accounts and PO. boxes, confiscating mail, publications and equipment, constant survellience and police harassment over the past year in a bid to oust the newly found vitality in direct action for Animal Liberation. a vitality that is shown not only in illegal actions, but in the growing number of inspections and investigations of animal abuse establishments as well as the harder edges, more confrontational approach to picketing with roof-top protests, sit-in and disruptions. These new tactics, highlighted mainly through the work of "Animaliberation" and ALIU, have shown how we can out-manoeuvre the animal abusers and their protectors and make life very difficult for them, thus increasing the momentum in our fight for Animal Liberation.

In the early eighties, after the high public profile ALF raids, it was newly formed animal rights groups around the country that made the running whilst the 'national societies' tended to lag behind being mainly influenced by grassroots activity, making them more radical. However in the last eighties/early nineties the tables have turned and the 'national societies' have taken the upper hand, being very influential on local groupts and activists with their now much softer approach. It's as if the powers that be had been losing control of the strong feeling "animal loving minority" in those early years, but have now regained it or at least put it back in check courtesy of the 'national societies'. The initiative to confront the animal abusers head on seems to have gradually drained away from us. Its time to regain that initiative as has already

been happening with "Animaliberation" and ALIU, with the tactics which will really hit the abusers where it hurts, and this means much more emphasis on direct action tactics as mentioned. Can we really afford not to do this? What would those incarcerated animals think if they saw twenty-two thousand activists marching through the streets for them? Not a lot I would imagine, but they might see the potential there to achieve their freedom. As it says in the Animaliberation newsletter: "The animals are crying out for us to get our acts together - they are literally dying for DIRECT ACTION".

Whilst I would say there is still a role for activites like leafletting, stalls and demos etc. I believe we must persuade and encourage all local groups and activists, not already enlightened, to take back the initiative and reinvigorate the fight for Animal Liberation. Alternatively they can be led around by the 'national societies' going through endless weekly routines of leaflett-ing, stalls and letter-writing and marches, and being dragged away from their real potential through numerous national 'days os action' and futile campaigns which are mapped out from them to plug away at for years on end. Surely, all of us, who are genuine activists in the fight for Animal Liberation, have a responsibility to see that this does not happen. If we stick to our guns it won't matter how much hassle the opposition give use, for we are now starting to realise our full potential. We are becoming stronger and more determined all the time, and know that we are capable of winning, and will, because we are right!

Yours for Animal Liberation

Alistair Mullan

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FOX HUNTING

I'm quietly resting underground,
When I hear a stampede of the hound,
Barking and howling for humans' fun
and the worst has just begun.
I'm torn out of my house and stripped of life,
The dogs' teeth stick in me like a knife,
I'm torn and shook and pulled to bits,
And humans out ther just watch and sit.
And when I'm dead I'm thrown like trash,
And all for the sake of prestige and cash,
And as I watch from above,
I wonder if anyone gives their love?

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PERSONAL OPINION

DON'T SUPPORT ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS

Animal rights prisoners are people who have been arrested and imprisoned for taking direct action against animal abuse. There are two organisations, at present, and numerous individuals expending a lot of time, effort and money in support of such people, support that I would argue is both unnecessary and wasteful. Unnecessary because animals rights prisoners like any others, receive all the support they need from their family and friends and not from supporters and strangers. Wasteful because the time, effort money and resources could be better used in support of further direct action against animal abuse and not in support of previous action.

Imprisonment restricts their freedom of movement and action to the confines of the prison, but cannot restrict or confine their freedom of thought or expression. They can imprison bodies but not minds. All prisoners are free to think what they like and to express those thoughts in written or spoken words, in letters or on visits. If you did not communicate with a prisoner prior to the their arrest and imprisonment, then there's no reason to expect you to do so afterwards, and no loss if you don't. If you agree with the actions they have taken then you can take such actions yourself.

Supporting animal rights prisoners does not help animals. It does not encourage nor discourage people in the fight for animal liberation. Everyone involved in the animal rights movement is an animal liberator whether they are active or passive, legal or illegal, free or captive, violent or non-violent. There is no difference and no reason to treat anyone differently. Nobody is by their circumstances any better or any worse than any other. There are far better people on the outside and far worse on the inside and perhaps the best people of all are those that have never been caught.

All animals have a right to life and liberty. The basic needs in life are shelter, warmth, food and drink, which the prison provides, and love which is provided for by family and friends. The only thing missing is our freedom, which is taken, not given, for which there is no substitute. The best way to support animal rights prisoners is to exercise the freedom you have, to liberate other animals, by any means necessary.

These are the views of an individual and do not reflect those of animal rights prisoners, Support Animal Right Prisoners and the Animal Liberation Front Supporters Group.

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Each month in the S.A.R.P. newsletter, this page will be devoted to a personal opinion. Perhaps you would like to air your views on why animals rights prisoners should be supported in answer to the article above. Or perhaps you have an opinion on what is right or wrong with animal liberation at present. Perhaps an opinion on the way forward for animal liberation or perhaps just an opinion on animal liberation/animal rights in general. Anything that is relevant to the struggle will be considered for inclusion on this page. The only stipulations we make are that any criticism should be constructive and not counter-productive, and that for obvious reasons, any article submitted should not be of an inciting nature.

The article on this page was submitted to S.A.R.P. for inclusion and does not necessarily reflect the views of S.A.R.P.

THEY WILL NOT BE FORGOTTON

When you close your eyes, what do you see?
I wonder if you see at all.
Just visions of a world, as nice as can be,
The illusion never allowed to fall.

Or like me, do you see,
The terror in an animals eyes.
The horror and the misery,
As yet another innocent dies.

Do you dream in colour of the blood,
That soaks our Mother Earth?
The animal slaughter flowing like a flood,
Is money really all they're worth?

And when you listen, I wonder,
If you hear at all.
The cries of torment on the winds soft murmur,
And the animals dying call.

Endure the anguish until you shout,
Of how you'd change it, if you could
And tell your mind to block it out,
Oh how you wish it would.

For we are few, and oh so weak,
Still holding back, still lost in debate.
A peaceful solution, THEY say we must seek,
And most of all, refuse to hate.

But there behind the cruel barbed wire,
Far from the publics gaze,
Through tears of rage I wished for fire,
So to the ground the buildings raze.

So I close my eyes and see again,
The visions of grim reality.
And hear the anguished cries of pain,
Of a world that should never be.

Yes we are few and changes come slow,
But together we could climb that hill.
But still you dont want to know,
And so, of course, you never will.

But your children hear and understand,
And in them there is no fear,
That change must come by their own hand,
And pay the price that is so dear.

And they will win the victory,
And all around they will see,
No more death and misery,
Our brothers and our sisters free.

But now once more, as the wind sighs,
The killing continues, as I listen,
Dying lonely deaths, far from my eyes,
No, they will not be forgotton.

TIME TO END THE TALKING

At the moment, more people than we are used to, have been personally affected by the imprisonment of people they know as good friends or fellow activists. The fight for Animal Liberation is in a bit of a lull just at the moment what with so many people in prison, others awaiting trial, and the sometimes dampening effect these factors have had on many people within the movement.

Police over-reaction, it seems, is a tactic becoming more and more widespread across the country for use against the Animal Liberation movement, following the early 1990's upsurge of catapault and incendiary attacks activity, with 'Operation Fox' in the North-West and the prison sentences following the Doddlestone 'riot' marking only the tip of an iceberg we'd rather now know about. It seems people are getting 'conspiracy' charges thrown at them for just walking down the street, and if people believe these ludicrous charges won't stick in court look at the 'Guildford 4' and 'Birmingham 6' and all the other police frame-ups we'll never even know about. You'd think, with the authorities abusing their powers so blatently in a desperate attempt to protect this system we live in that evolves around animal explotation and suffering, that people within the movement would see more clearly what needs to be done to end animal abuse and destroy the capitalist state we live under today. But instead people still see compromise with the animal abusers as a step forward, mocking the ideals of Anarchism, allowing apathy and selfishness to creep into their lives. We've got to remember, every second of every day, the national societies along with the media, police and ruling classes who control our lives, are as much the opponents to Animal Liberation as the butchers, vivisectors and bloodsports fraternity. They are all perpetrators of society as we know it, and as such are one and the same, a common enemy to the struggle for animal and human liberation alike. However, some people still see fit to play into the hands of the enemy, and air their views to the media. Following the Doddlestone sentencing - sentences based mostly on photographic evidence obtained from the media - Eric Staples, self-appointed spokesperson for the hundreds of hunt-sabs that span the country, described the incarceration of six good people as "fair".

Someone who is supposed to be opposed to animal suffering somehow came to the conclusion that it was fair that people who acted upon their moral beliefs, angered by the injustice surrounding Mike Hill's death, were sentenced to prison by the system we are all fighting against along the path to a better world, whilst Alan Summersgill is still walking free, no doubt training hounds for another seasons terrorism and murder of innocent wild creature. People were incensed over what was said to the same scum that label Animal Liberationists as "terrorists", and rightly so, it was the gravest of humiliations, not only for those people imprisoned that day but for the memory of Mike, and the cause he died fighting for. As if this isn't enough, the majority of the 54 defendants haven't written words of support to their imprisoned co-defendants, choosing instead to whimper at the threat of imprisonment, willingly paying costs to a court that has unjustly incarcerated our friends in the struggle, in the same way the system cages, hunts and slaughters the animals we are all fighting for. So much for solidarity, without it, what sort of movement are we? No sentence given to someone who has chosen to defy the immoral, sadistic laws that govern the lives of animals and ourselves is a fair sentence, but a cowardly attempt to protect the system and its underlying animal abuse industries and institutions.

We must see the media for what they are. They perpetuate animal exploitation, racism, sexism, 24 hours a day. We are all indoctrinated into an 'accepted' way of thinking/life by everything we see and hear of the TV and press. All media is ultimately state controlled, forcing capitalism and competitiveness down our throats, feeding us with consumerism and lies from the day we are born. And just in case we don't take the hint, the footsoldiers of our indoctrinations, namely the police force, are there to enforce the cruel systems ideals on us all. So lets stop talking to the enemy, and start acting for the animals. Nobody else will.

Mat.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Friday October 16th

WORLDWIDE DAY OF ACTION AGAINST McDONALDS

On world food day, demonstrate against your local McDonalds. or BOYCOTT McDonalds by attending a demonstration at McDonalds UK. HQ. HIGH ROAD, LONDON. N2. (by East Finchley tube station) from 4.30pm to 6.30pm.

Saturday October 17th

NATIONAL CAMPAIGN AGAINST HUNTING

National demonstration in Bedford against hunting. Show your opposition to the hunt by being at: ST. PAULS SQUARE, BEDFORD at 12.00 noon.

Event organised by Herfordshire Animal Rights Campaign (0426) 911785 (24 hours).

Saturday October 31st

LONDON GREENPEACE FAYRE

For the fifth great year LONDON GREENPEACE presents a day for a world without industrial exploitation or pollution, without money, borders, governments or armies. Without oppression of people or animals. Without the destruction of nature.
Stalls, videos, music and cabaret, Vegan food, creche, discussions, from 11.00am to 9.00pm at CONWAY HALL, RED LION SQUARE, LONDON. WC1. Free admission but donations welcome.

Saturday November 7th

DEMONSTRATION AGAINST BOOTS THE VIVISECTORS

National march to be followed by rally and cruelty free fair. Assemble at:
FOREST RECREATION GROUND, NOTTINGHAM (1 mile north of city centre) at midday.*

Tuesday November 17th

LONDON BOOTS ACTION GROUP MEETING

"FIGHTING VIVISECTION" 7.30pm at CONWAY HALL, RED LION SQUARE, LONDON. WC1. (nearest tube: HOLBORN). Speakers will include Louise Wallis, Robin Webb and the ALIU. There will be videos, Vegan refreshments and stalls.

*LONDON BOOTS ACTION GROUP will be running a coach from London to Nottingham for this march. The cost is £5 return and it will leave Kings Cross (York Way, next to the station) at 8.30am to return by 10.pm. Anyone who wants to go should book in advance by sending a cheque/postal order for £5 payable to LBAG together with an SAE. to:-

LBAG.,
c/o ALARA
58 SEVEN SISTERS ROAD
LONDON N7 6AA