SUPPORT ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS

S.A.R.P. NEWSLETTER - JUNE 1993

First, the good news...

On the second day of their trial, 22nd June, the "Reading Three" - Marianne MacDonald, Ed Shephard and Sam Remington - were all acquitted of conspiring to cause criminal damage by fire.

The judge ruled that the police had to produce certain files which, they claimed, would reveal how their information had been obtained. They did not wish to disclose their methods, refused to give up the files, and so the whole prosecution case collapsed!

After the acquittal one of the three issued a statement that the intended target was a farmer who had some 100 convictions for cruelty to animals. The intention had been to rescue all the animals and then burn down his buildings. This countered misinformation from the media that meat trucks were to be the target.

Yet another success for the animal liberation movement and another disaster for the Crown Prosecution Service. To Marianne, Ed and Sam from all of us...congratulations on a wicked result.

Secondly, yet more good news...

On the very same day that the above trial was collapsing around the prosecutions' ears another prisoner gained his freedom, although this time it wasn't exactly official!! Keith Mann, who has been on remand since mid-October 1991 in various prisons and police stations, had been taken from HMP Walton in Liverpool to Stretford Road police station in Manchester for questioning about further possible charges against him. How many more can there be?

Having arrived at the police station the van was left unattended for a brief period, apart from Keith himself. Keith, thinking it wasn't really in his place to keep an eye on the police van, decided to go elsewhere and hasn't been since. Nice one, Keith. Take care and stay free. Say "Hello" to Angie for us and, if you make it to the USA, say "Hi" to Rod Coronado as well.

Thirdly, a bit more good news...

Paul Smith has had his sentence reduced on appeal from 3 years to 18 months. His expected release date will now be 17th September 1993. Nice one, Paul...not too much longer now.

PO BOX 96 NORTHAMPTON NN5 5JT

And the fourth piece of good news...

Jonathon Paul, who was imprisoned in the USA for refusing to testify before a Grand Jury, has been released. Jonathon was refusing to give evidence about alleged ALF activities in the USA.

THE FUTURE OF S.A.R.P.

Support Animal Rights Prisoners was originally formed in 1985 to keep the movement informed of all animal rights prisoners and produced a regularly updated list of internees. At that time the ALF (SG) was a quite different format being prior to the Sheffield and Cardiff trials. After that period the ALF (SG) was restricted to providing support for activists who had been arrested, imprisoned or fined plus listing the prisoners. To avoid duplicating work SARP, as it then existed, merged with the ALF (SG) in early 1990.

However, the ALF (SG) newsletter was, for legal reasons, only listing prisoners and details of why they had been arrested or held. SARP therefore reformed as an independent organization in February 1991 to produce the newsletter that you have known since.

With the volume of work that this entailed, the more recent format of the ALF (SG) newsletter which includes articles and letters once again together with Arkangel magazine also gradually getting it together since the police operations during October 1991 onwards, the future of SARP has been discussed between the people involved and the following has been agreed:

1. Arguably the most important function of the SARP newsletter was to keep people up-to-date with who was in and who was out. With the ALF (SG) newsletter appearing roughly quarterly SARP was fulfilling a crucial role. The ALF (SG) will now produce updates whenever necessary so that, between newsletters, the lists are kept smack up to date.

2. The forum for discussion will still be available as articles and letters can be published in the ALF (SG) newsletter and/or Arkangel magazine as appropriate. Hopefully this will still provide a wide enough platform for debate, albeit not on a monthly basis.

3. Since all animal rights prisoners and defendants, not just those alleged to be ALF activists, now appear in the ALF (SG) newsletter no one should be missed out providing someone tells us about them. Please don't leave it thinking "Oh, they'll know about it" because if everyone did that there would **never** be a prisoners listing - rather we were told ten times than not at all.

4. Anyone who currently receives the SARP newsletter but is not on the mailing list of the ALF (SG) will, from the time of this mail-out, have 12 months free membership of the SG.

5. The "Urgent Action Helpline" set up in the May issue of SARP newsletter will be run by the ALF Supporters Group. If you have already volunteered your letter will be forwarded, if not please write to ALF (SG), BCM1160, London, WC1N 3XX. The contact number will now be that of the ALF Press Office, 0954 30542.

THE FUTURE OF S.A.R.P.

(Continued from preceding page)

So, in short, the ALF (SG) will continue its regular newsletter which lists all animal rights prisoners and will issue updates whenever necessary. Articles and letters should be sent to ALF (SG), BCM1160, London, WC1N 3XX and/or Arkangel, BCM9240, London, WC1N 3XX. Those who currently receive the SARP newsletter but are not on the SG's mailing list will be given 12 months subscription free. News of any new prisoners, or any being released, should be telephoned to the ALF Press Office on 0954 30542. Please support the Urgent Action Helpline.

If, in the future, anyone feels that SARP should be relaunched then please feel free to contact the ALF (SG) with your ideas. They would help in any way they could - just remember we are all on the same side!

It just remains to thank those who originally launched SARP for their concern and compassion for animal rights prisoners and a special thank you to those who ran the "new" SARP newsletter from February 1991. It has made a solid contribution to the movement in addition to promoting unity and uncensored debate. The best "thank you" that you could give them is to not just read the old SARP newsletters but to learn from what they tried to say and act on it. They ask no more.

WORLD DAY DEFENCE CAMPAIGN

Contrary to earlier reports, many of the people arrested on the World Day demonstration were not released but were charged with various offences under the Public Order Act, as well as assault on the police, and even a charge of A.B.H.

The World Day Defence Campaign (WDDC) has been instituted to bring together all the people arrested in Piccadilly Circus and to collect evidence from anyone who witnessed, videoed or photographed the arrests.

It is believed that about 15 people were arrested and there must be hundreds of witnesses to the arrests and the generally aggresive behaviour of the police.

It is vital that the police do not succeed in either escaping without punishment for their behaviour or be rewarded with convictions against folk who were wrongfully arrested, as this will encourage them to take similar action at future sit-downs.

Please write to **WDDC, PO Box 370A, Surbiton, Surrey, KT6 4YN** if (1) You were arrested on World Day, (2) You witnessed the arrests or police tactics on World Day or (3) You have video footage or photographs taken in Piccadilly Circus on World Day.

All defendants will have a much stronger case if witnesses come forward and photographic evidence can be produced, so **please help if you can.**

DID NEW R.S.P.C.A. COUNCIL MEMBER KILL AN ANTI-RACIST ?

It has been alleged that new RSPCA national council member Ron Kirkby, of Kingston-upon-Thames branch, is the police officer who struck the blow that killed Blair Peach in Southall some years ago. True or false ?

ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS

TERRY HELSBY EF0761, HM PRISON, SOUTHALL STREET, STRANGEWAYS, MANCHESTER, M60 9AH. **Note new number and new address.** Terry was released on bail from HMP Walton for allegedly being in possession of an illegal substance with intent to supply (an inmate of HMP Walton!). Unfortunately, he was asked to attend Stretford Road police station in Manchester on 22nd June (see page 1 for other famous happenings that day) for questioning and was charged with incitement to commit criminal damage, incitement to commit arson and incitement to steal motor vehicles. At the time of writing he is due to appear in court on 30th June to answer charges that he breached his bail conditions and on 4th August to face the new charges.

ANNETTE TIBBLES TT2215, HM PRISON, PARKHURST ROAD, HOLLOWAY, LONDON, N7 ONU. Annette was found guilty on 13th May of conspiracy to commit arson and sentenced to four years but will be lodging an appeal against sentence. Her co-defendant was also found guilty and sentenced to four years but does not wish to be listed as an animal rights prisoner.

DAVE NELSON A8030, A WING H6, HMP THE MAZE, LISBURN, CO. ANTRIM, NORTHERN IRELAND, BT27 5RF. Dave is due to be paroled on 15th July. His cell-mate and fellow animal rights activist Alistair Mullan was released in May.

CHRIS TUCKER RR1914, HMP HIGHPOINT, STRADISHALL, NEWMARKET, SUFFOLK, CB8 9YG. Chris had his appeal turned down and is now due for parole on 3rd August.

PAUL SMITH WN1294, DORMITORY 5, HMYOI HEWELL GRANGE, REDDITCH, WORCS., B97 9QQ. As mentioned on page one, Paul had his sentence reduced on appeal and is now to be released on 17th September.

DARREN THURSTON, EDMONTON REMAND CENTRE, 9660 - 104 AVENUE, EDMONTON, ALBERTA, T5H 4B5, CANADA. Darren still keeps sending news from his side of the world. In a letter dated 15th June he reports just hearing about an ALF raid at John Hopkins University School of Medicine at, he thinks, New York. He'll send further information a.s.a.p. and is meanwhile starting to prepare for his trial. Good luck, Darren.

RIK SCARCE, SPOKANE COUNTY JAIL, WEST 1100 MALLON, SPOKANE, WA 99260, USA. On 14th May Rik refused to testify to a Grand Jury about interviews with ALF activists for his book "Eco-Warriors". He could be facing up to 18 months for not co-operating.

JOHN GOODWIN, JESSE KEENAN & MICHAEL KARBAN were all sentenced to a maximum of 11 months 29 days on charges arising from damage done to fur shops in Memphis, Tennessee, during August 1992. Happily, they were all released on appeal bond on 4th June. A sentencing appeal has been scheduled for August. Thanks to Darren Thurston for this latest information.

Apart from Annette's co-defendant there is one female prisoner who doesn't wish to be listed at this time for personal reasons but we all wish her well plus one other male prisoner who requested that he be taken off the list. In addition to Keith Mann, wherever he may be, our thoughts are also with the other famous fugitives Angie Hamp in this country (possibly!) and Rod Coronado in the USA. Stay free!!

PLEASE CONTINUE TO SUPPORT ANIMAL RIGHTS PRISONERS AT ALL TIMES -

REMEMBER THEY GIVE THEIR FREEDOM FOR TRUE LIBERATION

THIS IS THE LAST ISSUE OF THE S.A.R.P. NEWSLETTER - READ IT AND UNDERSTAND

Over the last few issues of this newsletter we have tried to put across a certain message. That message has not been understood by any except a very small number. We have basically been talking to less than 1% of this so-called movement of ours.

That message has been about Animal Liberation and what must be done to achieve it. Recognise those two words? ANIMAL? LIBERATION? Possibly everyone recognises them but almost no-one understands their meaning. For if you did then you would do something about it. When we talk of winning Animal Liberation we mean just that. Fight for it, battle for it, go to prison for it, **WIN IT.** Don't waste time talking about it, drinking down the pub for it, eating vegeburgers for it. Go out there and **WIN IT.**

Does anyone out there really understand what the words "torture", "suffer", "agony", "die", etc, really mean in terms of the animals? The answer is **"NO!"**, because you don't want to. Instead you want to hear radical speeches, get an almost sexual thrill from buying an ALF T-shirt and read words of militancy in this newsletter. You substitute these pathetic things in place of actually **DOING** something to help the animals. What use is a T-shirt to a beagle being tortured in a death lab? How many lives has the most stirring speech ever saved? What has been the point of this newsletter stating the obvious over and over again? Any fool can write words of militancy. Each issue of this newsletter has contained articles that are basically full of shit and not worth the paper they are written on. Why? Because, almost without exception, no-one has understood a word of their meanings and have instead used them as a substitute for real action.

We've lost count of the number of times people have written to this newsletter or approached SARP volunteers at demos and uttered those immortal words "That last newsletter was brilliant" or "I really agreed totally with that article in the last newsletter". No-one has ever said that the words written made them **ANGRY** or made them **HATE**, the only two positive emotions capable of inspiring anyone to **FIGHT** for Animal Liberation. The people involved in the production of this newsletter are not in the business of entertaining people and certainly not there to provide thrills for anyone who obviously cares little for the animals.

The SARP newsletter has always attempted to inspire, educate and provoke people. It has failed on all three counts. The apathy and indifference of almost everyone who reads it has ensured that animal abuse continues uninterrupted. That same apathy means we are not winning. It means we are not even standing still. It means we are losing.

The animals continue to die and the torture goes on in greater and greater measure. People's answer to this? More vegeburgers, more Special Brew and more apathy.

There is no longer any Animal Liberation movement. That died long ago. All that is left is a very few activists who care, who understand and who act. We are also left with a vast number of people who treat this war as a joke, a social occasion, an opportunity to display their oh-so-caring false faces while doing...nothing.

Well, the facts are these. For some of us Animal Liberation **IS** a war that we intend to win. If we fail it won't be because we didn't try our hardest to or because we didn't care enough. For some of us the tears are real, our hearts really do break and we **ARE** prepared to die for it, not just chant for it.

READ IT AND UNDERSTAND

(Continued from preceding page)

As for the rest of you...Well, are you in touch with reality? When you go on a demo how can you queue up at a vegeburger stall outside a death lab and show no emotion? At Huntingdon Research Centre in 1990 people picnicked and laughed with their friends while the beagles could be heard from the buildings. Out of all the people there that day fewer than 20 felt enough anger and hate to try and tear down the gates.

What a joke. A joke so black that you won't even understand it.

For the first time ever this newsletter was trading at a profit. Our merchandise sells well and more and more people support us. In effect you are supporting something that you cannot even begin to understand. You buy our T-shirts, oh-so-radical-and-daring of you, to wear and impress your friends with. A recent T-shirt of ours showed two vivisectors torturing a rabbit. Anger? Outrage? Not a bit. It was snapped up in great numbers because it was "really good" and also because it was...of course..."a new design". Buy it, add it to your collection and one day we shall inherit that great ideal...we shall produce more T-shirts than any other movement in history. What an accomplishment that will be! How many T-shirts must we sell to achieve Animal Liberation? Basically, you pay your money to us or to others and hope we will act for the animals because you're incapable of doing it yourself. Well, it's time to hold up **YOUR** hands and admit **YOUR** guilt.

If **YOU** don't act then **YOU** condone...If **YOU** don't fight then **YOU** don't win.

And if you don't win then you are responsible for the death and suffering that will go on and on and on and on...

The activists have more in common with Colin Blakemore and his sort than they have with the vast majority of those involved in this "movement" of ours. The scum who torture and kill at least do so because they think they're right. The activists fight back because they **KNOW** they're right. But the rest of you talk words of peace while murder is done. You condemn those who care because you don't agree with their "tactics" while closing your ears to the truth. "Let's win in the right way" it has been said by people who have never done one single thing for the animals. Win in the right way? The animals don't give a damn how we win or even why. All they want is freedom and life **NOW**. To hell with compromise and keep your words of betrayal to yourselves. The tactics of victory are those that will **WIN** that victory. If you don't agree with those tactics then you are of no use to the animals and should get out now. The animals have no use for traitors and freeloaders. Only for those who will **FREE** them...the activists.

This newsletter has failed and is now ceasing publication. Not with sadness but with anger. **WE** feel the anger and **WE** feel the hate and **WE** will fight on for victory. For the rest of you it's time to ask yourself why you bother at all.

If these words have made you angry then **GOOD**. That will be the only positive emotion this newsletter will have ever inspired in you.

How sad that only by telling you the real truth can we provoke you.

"Read it and understand" was the final contribution from the editors of the SARP newsletter from February 1991 on. They would like to make it clear that the newsletter may be dead but the ideal of SARP will live on.