

STOP HUNTINGDON ANIMAL CRUELTY

Newsletter 5

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THINGS ARE REALLY STARTING TO HEAT UP AGAINST HLS!



RBS to withdraw HLS's loan,
Demo report,
Co-op sell shares,
Corporate brokers desert HLS
and more inside...

Pictured: Activists burn the Royal Bank of Scotland's Ethical Policy outside the bank's HQ



A daring demonstrator tries to gain entry to Interfauna

GRINDING DOWN HLS


THE INDEPENDENT

THURSDAY REVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • THE ARTS AND THE INFORMATION DAILY

The siege of Huntingdon

Activists have been waging war on Europe's biggest animal research laboratory for eight months. Their weapons are hate, paint, spit and intimidation. But now they've discovered how to hit Huntingdon Life Sciences where it really hurts: in the pocket. It's a tactic that's paying instant dividends and threatens to bring animal testing in Britain to its knees

BY MARY BRAID

ANIMAL ABUSER

CLOSE DOWN HUNTINGDON LIFE SCIENCES

The demo was featured in National press

The police thought they were well-prepared for the national demo due to take place at HLS on the 17th June - vanloads of plainclothes coppers had been spotted at the lab in the weeks beforehand walking round the site looking worried and obviously keen on preventing another World Day demo success. Demonstrators on the gate had been amused to see a huge moat being dug around HLS – good to see HLS are settling into that siege mentality!

On the morning of the demo we fully expected their usual ineffective Section 14 and were well prepared for it, hence the visit to HLS's beagle supplier Interfauna who, it must not be forgotten, hold over 1,000 beagles for torture at any one time. On the back cover of this newsletter are some of the lucky dogs liberated from Interfauna just months ago.

We came so close to freeing more puppies but were thwarted, but REMEMBER THIS:

OUR TIME WILL COME, AND WHEN THE TIME IS RIGHT WE WILL BRUSH THE POLICE ASIDE AND STORM IN AND FREE THE BEAGLES AT INTERFAUNA. The day was yet another great turnout and a show of strength against HLS.

Many people were moved to tears by Michelle Rokke's account of her 10 months working undercover at HLS in USA and many people were visibly moved to hear her descibe the animals as bloody pieces of meat after HLS had finished with them. Next up was Steve Beddard who proved beyond all doubt that vivisection is nothing but scientific fraud.

The last speaker was John Curtin who was truly inspirational. He

continued on next page...

described two raids on Interfauna which saw over 150 beagles rescued. His passion was there for all to see and it is passion like this THAT WINS! After the demo over 200 people made their way to HLS and extended the demo to 6pm. Bear in mind that there were at least 7 police forces in attendance - oh the costs, the costs! We are on the attack and we will keep coming and coming and coming forward until HLS's gates close for good and all the animals in that filthy, concentration camp are rehomed, then we move on to the next victim who we will, in turn DESTROY.







Pictures clockwise from right:
Another demonstrator tries to gain entry.
The road is blocked as hundreds march on Interfauna.
The sign says it all!

Editorial

One thing you may have noticed is that this newsletter is thinner. This is because we will be bringing the newsletters out twice as often as before to keep you more up to date, so as a campaign we can all react to events quicker. We always need to be flexible in our battle with HLS and speeding up the information output is part of this.

As we all know and as you can see from the Independent article on page 2 we have HLS very much 'under siege.' In the past month we have made immense progress in destabilising Huntingdon, beginning with C.I.S. selling all their shares. This was closely followed by West LB Panmure pulling away from HLS without even bothering to tell them. Shortly after, the Royal Bank of Scotland gave a strong indication through leaks that they will not renew the £24.5 million overdraft facility when that contract comes up for renewal at the end of August. We have decided to suspend the campaign against the RBS so we can use our time and resources against Huntingdon in different ways, but if we get the slightest whiff that the RBS are not removing the funding from HLS, then 'hell hath no fury like the SHAC campaign scorned.' The campaign against the RBS will begin again immediately and they will fully understand that they ain't seen nothing yet!!

The most important message of this editorial is for us all to understand that this is NOT the time for us to rest on our laurels! In fact the exact opposite needs to happen. We have Huntingdon under the cosh and now is the time for us to really pile on the pressure. The two most important ways for us to increase the pressure is for us all now to fully target their SHAREHOLDERS and CUSTOMERS. These two will now be a recurring theme throughout the campaign as these are now the two large pillars supporting HLS and we must remove them.

Firstly, you can find every HLS shareholder on our website www.shac.net in county form, as well as all the corporate shareholders. For those of you without internet access, just ring us on 0121 632 6460 and we will send you your local list plus shareholder posters for flyposting in their areas and leaflets to send to their neighbours. We have had significant success with HLS shareholders and we need to build on it. These people need to understand our anger and realise that investing in HLS is a bad idea. Ring them, visit them and expose them.

Secondly, focusing on Huntingdon's customers is something the campaign intends to spend a lot of energy on. Without these HLS is simply no more. The campaign has a list of pharmaceutical and chemical companies some of whom are definitely customers of HLS. The others, who have either given no answer or inconclusive ones to enquiries, will be treated as guilty until proven innocent. If they have no association with such a disgusting company then surely there will be no problem in saying this in writing. Please ask for a list or look at it on our website www.shac.net

Now is the time for us to take a deep breath, picture in our minds the helpless animals who have been murdered inside HLS today, and with renewed vigour GET UP AND AT 'EM!

JUST DO IT...

Here we have a list of shame. All of the people listed below have worked at HLS for years and hold shares in the company. Inside information tells us that the tactic of sending "send no money now" offers is causing an enormous headache to HLS staff. Everything they receive has to be sent back otherwise it affects their credit rating. So don't waste those Sunday magazine supplements, they are always full of these offers. Let's step up the pressure. Staff morale is at an all-time low – let's destroy it completely. Take a good look at the list below and remember these people torture animals at HLS every day.

Alistair Ballantine & Sharon
Personal details removed

David Kirkpatrick
[redacted]

Helen Clarke
Personal details removed

Brenda Parcell
[redacted]
Personal details removed

Suasan Oxbury
Personal details removed
Personal details removed

Mr M. Wickert
Personal details removed
Personal details removed

David Darcy-Cozens
Personal details removed



Eric Nobbs
Personal details removed

Graham Keeble & Patricia
Personal details removed

Stuart Potter & Melanie
[redacted]

Carl Peppercorn & Evelyn
Personal details removed

Isobelle Rolph & Keith
Personal details removed

Shirley Morgan
Personal details removed

Robert Fisher & Elizabeth
Personal details removed

Marjorie Bond & Keith
Personal details removed

Mary Braid from Independent:
"The workers spend hours going through their junk mail and sending back unwanted gifts because if they don't it will effect their credit rating. Brian Cass tried to make out that staff morale was fine but when speaking to the workers I was told a very different story - they seemed fed up and complained of colleagues leaving and being on the sick which increased their workload."

MINIBUS TO HLS VIGILS IS DRIVING WORKERS MAD!

SHAC is now running a minibus to the gates of HLS every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, with other groups giving the workers hell on Thursdays, Fridays and over the weekend, HLS is really under pressure. Hammering HLS animal killers all day every day is proving to be highly effective - the police, security and most of all, the workers are getting very hot under the collar! It seems they are hot & bothered by megaphones and sirens blaring, drums banging and constant screaming and yelling - can't think why – sensitive lot aren't they?
The daily pickets are proving so effective that after only 3 weeks the local papers are full of adverts for jobs at HLS – workers are leaving because they just can't take the pressure – shame! It is vital that we keep the pressure up – we need YOU on the gate!
Every fortnight the minibus picks up from



the following areas:
Wolverhampton, Birmingham, Coventry
Manchester, Stoke-on-Trent
Nottingham, Leicester, Peterborough
Gloucester, Cheltenham, Worcester,
Oxford, Northampton
Southend-on-Sea, Chelmsford and Colchester.
If your area can join the daily vigil then get in touch.
All you need to do is give us a ring for details and book yourself a free seat – easy as that!
If you are over 25, an experienced driver and have some free time, can you go on the minibus drivers list? If yes then contact us.
If you are working, please consider helping us to fund the minibus. It costs £400.00 a week to give everyone a lift to HLS – if you can't come yourself, please help make sure that other people are there giving 'em hell! Just make cheques payable to SHAC and mark your envelope 'Minibus Fund'.

BLACK FAX MONDAY

Make every Monday your day to send a black fax to HLS. Think how happy HLS office staff will be to know you're thinking of them at the start of the week!

Sending a black fax has many effects. Firstly it blocks the fax line at HLS, preventing customers getting through and causing much frustration! And secondly it uses up all of the toner in the fax quite quickly.

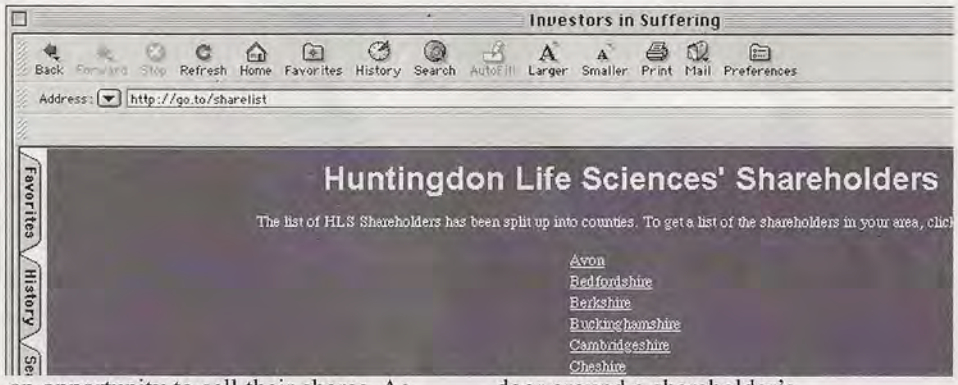
You do this by getting about 3 A4 pages of black paper (make sure it is the black side that gets sent). Tape the sheets together and start sending them through the fax machine. When they are partially fed through, tape the two ends together to form a continuous loop. This fools the fax into thinking it is sending a really long sheet of black paper. Clever, eh?

HLS FAX Numbers: 01480 892195 01480 890693 01480 892222

INVESTORS IN SUFFERING

The entire list of HLS sharholders is now available on the internet. To find it you can either go through the SHAC website (www.shac.net) or you can simply type in go.to/sharelist (as shown below).

We cannot emphasise enough the importance of targeting these people. They are responsible for animals dying inside HLS - it's as simple as that! Anyone who bought their shares before 25th March 2000 has already been sent a letter informing them of the facts about HLS, so they have no excuse for still owning their shares. People who bought shares after 25th March 2000 may be completely ignorant of the facts that HLS poison and torture hundreds of animals every day. They may have just bought HLS shares at a low price in the (false) hope that the share price would rise. It is important that we contact these people to inform them of the facts and give them an opportunity to sell their shares. As soon as they send us confirmation of the sale of their shares they will be removed from the list.



There will always be some people who need more persuasion to sell. For this purpose we can supply you with 'Shareholder Posters' and now new shareholder leaflets for delivering door to door around a shareholder's neighbourhood. These are full colour posters where you just fill in the shareholder's name and address and flypost their local area. Let's see how determined they are to hold on to their shares when all their neighbours know that they are trying to make money out of animals' suffering and misery.



STOP PRESS:

On Monday 26th June we recieved a letter from one of HLS's corporate shareholders, Jarvis Investment Ltd, who were the target of a shareholders demo (see press cutting). In the letter it stated: "...this company then took a decision to no longer deal in Huntingdon Life Sciences shares. In fact, we disposed of all the shares we held at the time, regardless of the clients' wishes and the effect on our fees. We now have a policy of not dealing in this stock under any circumstances."


Targeted over animal rights

The Courier MAY 12th 2000

ANIMAL rights protesters demonstrated outside a Tunbridge Wells investment company which they claim plays an "evil part" in supporting Europe's largest animal laboratory.

Jarvis Management in Dudley Road was slammed by a noisy crowd of demonstrators on Wednesday.

Protesters blamed it for "allowing and encouraging" three clients to buy shares in Huntingdon Life Sciences, where they say 500 animals die each day from laboratory testing.

Armed with banners, the nationwide Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty Campaign group pushed leaflets into nearby flats and houses which said: "Animal abusers, your near neighbours".

Police tried to defuse tension by asking a Jarvis Management representative to talk to the crowd. Protesters handed leaflets to directors Andrew Grant and Mike Studholme.

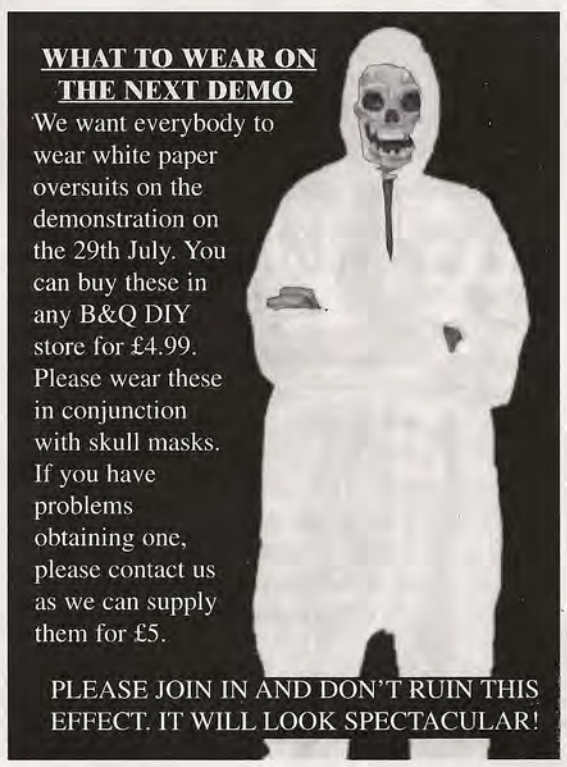
A demonstrator who refused to give her name, said: "The director agreed to pass our leaflets on to his clients. There is no excuse now - they are well aware of the situation.

"We will target them until they stop. The animal cruelty involved in this is just disgusting."

Andrew Grant said: "In over 2,000 clients, only three have shares in Huntingdon Life Sci-

What do readers think?
Should local people be coerced into selling their shares by mob action?
If you feel they should sell, call 0901 1222275
If you feel they should NOT, call 0901 1222276
Calls will cost 25p and lines are open from 6am today (Friday) until midnight on Tuesday.

ANIMAL DEATHS PROTEST: Campaigning outside Jarvis House, in Dudley Road, against Jarvis Investments' shares in Huntingdon Life Sciences



TROUBLE IN THE CITY

On the 9th of June a very successful demonstration took place in the City of London. About forty demonstrators met at Liverpool Street tube station, conveniently situated near the offices of many of Huntingdon Life Sciences's corporate shareholders. A few activists went on ahead and were soon followed by two police officers trying to blend into the lunchtime crowds. The activists started running with the coppers in hot pursuit. They then jumped in a taxi and a mad chase started with police motorbikes nearly crashing as they tried to keep up! The incompetent police were eventually given the slip. As we approached the first target of the day it became obvious that paranoia was raging among HLS's corporate shareholders. As we passed some of the offices of small league shareholders, private security guards were everywhere, pacing up and down clutching walkie talkies and looking worried.

First stop was Kleinwort Benson Securities Ltd, who hold 17,780,578 shares in HLS. Kleinwort Benson have a long-standing connection with HLS as they were also HLS's stockbrokers when 'It's A Dog's Life' came out. A carefully deployed activist calmly strolled past security and treated herself to a 20 minute D.I.Y. guided tour. As the demonstrators approached, panic ensued and all the entrances to the building were locked – unfortunately for Kleinwort this meant that none of their employees or customers could get in or out! Their senior manager was locked out of the building by security and surrounded by shouting demonstrators. The rest of the demonstrators made sure everybody in the surrounding area knew about Kleinwort's shameful shareholding – not exactly good for business…..

Surprise surprise, when Kleinwort were contacted by the campaign after the demo they assured us that the shares had been transferred to the Bank of New York, and that Kleinwort "would have nothing more to do with Huntingdon Life Sciences".

After a noisy hour everyone moved onto The Royal Bank of Scotland in Lime Street, and as if by magic the bank closed for the day.

Eager for more excitement the convoy of protestors and police converged on HSBC in Pepys Street, who hold 3,156,627 shares. It was a very hot day which seemed to affect the police's judgement - apparently it's illegal to sit on a wall!

Hambros Bank were next to benefit from a surprise visit, by which time the police were delirious from sunstroke, until a police car arrived, sirens wailing, with crates of water to cool them down.

This demo was covered extensively in the national press, resulting in yet more bad publicity for Huntingdon Life Sciences and yet another big shareholder realising that investing in HLS is just more trouble than it's worth...

Demonstrations in the City have proved to be highly effective and will be stepped up in the following months - see you on the next one!



A Good Day at Occold

About 150 demonstrators from all over the country turned up at Huntingdon Life Sciences's site at Occold on Saturday 20th of May. Police presence was well over the top numbering 150-200 officers including half a dozen mounted police and trial bikes - another colossal waste of taxpayers' money!

Demonstrators were greeted with a section 14 map saying where and how long we could demonstrate, how nice of them! They proceeded to search everyone's vehicles and persons looking for suspect tools etc. Several bags of masks were confiscated. Police also had EG teams photographing everybody as they were searched.



This did not deter us, as, on arrival, people were greeted with cups of tea and chocolate cake provided by the 'SAFE Catering Crew'. Due respect to the providers of tea!

After several speakers, including Robin Webb whose empassioned speech fired up everybody's determination to close HLS, an impromptu march towards Occold village took place with several people managing to get to the village despite police blocking off the roads. Several people managed to get round the entire perimeter of HLS Occold.

Three people were arrested, cautioned and later released, one for waving a banner at the fence! There's impartial policing for you! Afterwards 30-40 people picketed a local shareholder's house in the nearby town of Eye. The shareholder was surprisingly not at home but I think he'll get to hear from his neighbours that we called!

Next National Demo at Occold is on ***Saturday 8th July*** *12 noon at main gates*
If you can attend daily pickets at the Occold site call SHAC on 0121 632 6460.
Let's turn the up the heat on HLS!

WITNESSES WANTED

If you were a witness to any of the following incidents on the National Demo on 17th June please write down what you remember and send it to us at the campaign (quoting reference number).

Ref:5A

The woman pictured needs witnesses to her arrest. She was arrested at around 1:30pm to the right hand side of Interfauna (looking from the road). She has blonde hair and was wearing a dark blue vest top, faded blue jeans and DMs. We would like to hear from the woman who took the pictures and any other witnesses.



Ref:5B

The daughter of the woman above needs witnesses to her assault. At about 3:25pm around the back of Interfauna a 14 year old girl was hit in the face by PC1069. She was wearing white/lilac trainers, denim pedal pushers and a black vest top.

Ref:5C

Around the back of Interfauna at about 1:50pm a young woman with long fair hair, medium build, HLS T-shirt, camouflage trousers went to help a woman who was being dragged by police. PC1061 came up behind her, picked her up and threw her 10 foot. She landed heavily on the ground. If you saw this please contact us.

USE YOUR MONEY TO SAVE LIVES

SHAC does not exist without funding from you. We are funded entirely by voluntary donations and every penny goes towards closing down HLS. We can't do it without your help! Here's what you can do:

1. CHEQUES & POSTAL ORDERS - Make them payable to SHAC and send them into the campaign! Couldn't be simpler!

2. STANDING ORDERS - Fill in one of our standing order forms and send it into us at SHAC to make a regular monthly contribution. However big or small your contribution is, will make up part of a regular guaranteed income for SHAC every month.

3. MAKE A WILL - Remember in your will all of the animals imprisoned and tortured in the laboratories. We are committed to fighting animal abuse for the rest of our lives! So if you want to help the animals after you are gone, here's what to do: Send the following words into us and we will pass it on to our solicitors "I bequeath unto Closing Animal Abusers Now, c/o Kieran & Co. Solicitors of 31 Clarence Rd, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, the sum of ..... free of tax and I direct that the receipt of an authorised officer of the group shall be a good and sufficient discharge of such a legacy."

4. STALLS - Do a street stall for SHAC - we can supply leaflets, posters, petitions and collecting tins and other campaign materials.

We have a number of exciting projects in the pipeline and very often the only thing holding us back is lack of money

WHERE DOES YOUR MONEY GO?

Printing leaflets, factsheets, posters etc. - over 1 million leaflets distributed so far!

Newsletters - we mail out a free newsletter every month

Advertising - We have run a hugely successful advertising campaign in the Big Issue which has brought in many new campaigners to animal rights.

Minibuses to HLS - It costs £400 a week to keep up the pressure on the gates.

Fundraising Ideas



Here are just two examples of how SHAC supporters have thought of clever ways to raise cash! First Liz from Basingstoke AR was sponsored to have her lovely long shiny hair shaved off. She raised £200 and still looked beautiful!

Another supporter was sponsored to cycle the London - Brighton Bike ride which was 58 miles long. She raised £90.

Pictured left: Liz before her hair cut and right: Liz after having her head shaved.

Thanks to everyone else who has raised funds and donated so generously.



GETTING TO DEMOS HAS NEVER BEEN EASIER

The campaign now has quite a comprehensive network of transport pick-up points for national demos see the map on the right. If you are running transport not listed or can do so then please contact us because you could make the difference between somebody getting to a demo or not.



Pick-up points for national demo

Maps & Mobiles

The key to success on National demos is our flexibility to react to change. How Huntingdon and the police would love us to throw our hands in the air and screech "Oh my God!" when the police impose their draconian Sec 14s. This will never happen at Huntingdon because we will always make our voices heard. The best two ways are by making sure your transport has a mobile phone on board and that the campaign has your mobile contact number. Ring the campaign with your mobile contact number at least 3-4 days before the demo and please make sure that the phone is always switched on from early in the morning and throughout the demo so we can stay in touch with you. Please ensure that there is always a good up-to-date road atlas in your vehicle with someone who can map-read.
These are just two of the ways we stay ahead and win.

Website Victory

In a further embarrassment to HLS the SHAC campaign has nabbed HLS's website (domain) names from under their noses. What amateurs they are! Customers looking for their website will get ours instead!
Listed below are domain names that do NOT divert to the HLS website but instead all go to the SHAC website (www.shac.net) where the truth is revealed. This is yet another example of HLS's weakness and stupidity and shows that they are so dim that they didn't have the vision and foresight to register these domain names before we got hold of them.
We, on the other hand, now possess these names - yet another example of why we are crushing HLS.

DOMAIN NAMES REDIRECTED TO www.shac.net:
www.huntingdonlifesciences.net
www.huntingdonlifesciences.org
www.huntingdonlifesciences.org.uk
www.huntingdonlifesciences.co.uk
www.huntingdon-life-sciences.co.uk
www.huntingdon-life-sciences.com
www.huntingdon-life-sciences.net
www.huntingdon-life-sciences.org
www.huntingdon-life-sciences.org.uk



WestLB severs ties with HLS

Oh dear, oh dear, oh dear! HLS just don't seem to be able to hang on to their corporate brokers. HLS were first dumped by their previous corporate brokers Kleinwort Benson about 6 months ago but quickly replaced them with WestLB Panmure.

HLS were so overjoyed they press-released the news! I bet they never thought that WestLB would crumble under pressure from SHAC within months!

WestLB faxed the SHAC campaign on the 6th of June stating that they no longer work on behalf of HLS.

After we had confirmed that the fax was genuine we immediately phoned HLS's Marketing Manager, Andrew Gay:

Us: *"Hello, I'd like a quote from you about the fact that WestLB are no longer your corporate brokers."*

Gay: *"I didn't know they weren't."*

Us: *"Now that is a quote, see ya!"*.

This major success is again down to you! WestLB's decision was no doubt reached as a result of your campiagning activities. WestLB realised HLS are more trouble than they are worth when they had phone blockades, demonstrations at directors' homes, office occupations, a mass letter writing campaign, and corporate parties being crashed. NICE ONE!

Cuts ties with animal experiments company

by DAVID GREEN

STOCKBROKERS acting for an East Anglian-based research company have severed their connection following a campaign by animal rights activists.

WestLB Panmure Limited announced yesterday it no longer acts for Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) which carries out experiments on animals at laboratories in Occold and Huntingdon.

The stockbroking company has given no reason for its decision but it comes only a few days after the names and addresses of directors were published under the heading Dealers in Death in a newsletter distributed by the protest group Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty (SHAC).

The group has been targeting WestLB for some months, setting up telephone blockades, demonstrating at directors' homes, occupying the firm's offices and "gate crashing" corporate parties.

Heather James, spokeswoman for SHAC, said the company's decision to end its association with HLS, was "a victory for the animals".

Ms James also warned that any investment broker taking over from WestLB would be targeted.

The company was engaged by HLS to handle sales of its shares in the UK after it became listed on the London Stock Exchange.

HLS share prices have been depressed for more than two years – since a Channel 4 documentary about activities at the Huntingdon laboratories led to a Home Office inquiry and the stepping-up of the animal rights campaign.

SHAC was launched seven months ago with the declared aim of bringing about the demise of HLS, which employs about 350 people at Occold.

Andrew Gay, HLS spokesman, said WestLB had given no explanation for its decision to withdraw.

However, it was not a major blow to HLS because its share-owning base had been shifting to the United States.

"We are not going to appoint a replacement stockbroker for the time being. We are considering our options," he said.

Mr Gay said the targeting of financial institutions marked a shift in the tactics of the animal rights movement.

There had also been an increase in violence, extremists being blamed for the fire-bombing of a car outside the home of an HLS employee in Cambridgeshire last month.

Michael Morrison, spokesman for WestLB, said the company was making no further comment about its decision to sever its link with HLS.

ANIMAL ABUSE IS FUNNY...

According to HLS workers, causing animals a lifetime of agony, torture and pain is just a big laugh. The letter to the right was sent in to us by a SHAC supporter who couldn't believe the reaction of HLS staff when she expressed her concern about animal welfare.

We must always remember that these people are monsters and animal abuse is part of their daily lives. You cannot reason with these people - all you can do is destroy them. We must make every effort to ensure that people like this lose their jobs!



Dear SHAC,

After reading your article on the wild-caught baboons, I decided to telephone the genetic toxicology department at HLS on 141 01480 892174 to ask them directly how they justified what they were doing to these animals. I was appalled at the response. The woman who answered said "Hold on a minute. I'll put you on the loud speaker, then we can all have a good laugh." She then put the telephone speaker on and called to her colleagues to come and listen. After trying to appeal to these people that what they are doing is morally and ethically wrong, I had to hang up as no one would talk to me directly and my words were only met with sniggering and heckling.

I think it is impossible to reason with people who have the attitude that animal torture is "a good laugh."

I am telling you about this in the hope that you can share this with other members, to show them what sort of people we are dealing with.

Many Thanks

CIS share success



They all give in in the end and see sense. No bank, company or business can justify holding shares in Huntingdon Life Sciences morally or financially. We expect other shareholders, whether individual or otherwise, to follow suit.

This is a copy of the statement from CIS (Cooperative Insurance Society):

"Re: Huntingdon Life Sciences

As part of the ongoing rationalisation of our investment portfolios, we have recently disposed of our investment in Huntingdon Life Sciences. The holding in Huntingdon represented less than 0.002% of the society's total assets.

CIS has a policy of Socially Responsible Investment, under which it engages with companies to encourage them to adopt best practice within the areas of social responsibility and corporate governance. We believe that pressure from ourselves and likeminded investors has been instrumental in helping to bring about a change in attitudes and a pursuit of best practice!

CIS does not, and cannot, endorse the practices of any campaigners who have threatened the jobs and lives of ordinary people - that is not the way to bring about desirable change."

yeah, right.

The Royal Bank of Scotland pulls plug on HLS

On 10th June 2000 a story appeared on the front page of The Guardian stating that The Royal Bank of Scotland would not be renewing the £24.5 million loan to HLS (originally granted by the NatWest bank in 1998).

We have been hearing these rumours since we started to target RBS. We contacted Jill Treanor, the Guardian journalist who wrote the article and she said she was "100% certain the story is true" otherwise she wouldn't have put it in the paper. Her story claims "Industry sources" had confirmed "the credit overdraft facility will not be renewed when the deal with RBS expires in August."

It's possible this story was deliberately leaked by the RBS to get SHAC off its back.

Although we are forever cautious, we feel it is highly unlikely that the loan will be renewed in August. So for now we are not targeting RBS or NatWest and we will concentrate on the major shareholders in HLS such as the Bank of New York.

Is it just a coincidence that the announcement that the RBS have decided not to renew their loan to HLS came the day after a brilliant demo outside their headquarters in Edinburgh by SHAC supporters?

Well done to all of you who targeted the NatWest for so long without giving up, all of you who stickered and leafletted, wore the T-shirts, wrote letters and made thousands of phone calls! Result!



Activists 'will chase animal research lab to the US'

Huntington reels as bank support wavers

Bank pulls plug on 'cruel' animal lab

Jill Treanor
Deputy city editor

The Royal Bank of Scotland is to pull the plug on a £20m overdraft with the controversial animal testing laboratory Huntingdon Life Sciences after bank staff were threatened by animal rights protesters.

The Edinburgh-based bank's involvement with the laboratory is the result of its takeover of NatWest which had allowed the firm to borrow £22.5m to run its business. Industry sources confirmed last night the overdraft facility will not be renewed when the deal with RBS expires in August.

The decision leaves the laboratory searching for new sources of crucial funding before the debt becomes repayable on August 31 and follows months of intimidation of the bank's staff by animals rights groups such as Stop Huntingdon Animals Cruelty.

The overdraft facility was set up two years ago by NatWest around the time new management was installed at Huntingdon's laboratories after it was exposed for cruel treatment of puppies and told to clean up its act by the government.

Huntingdon's corporate broker, German banking group WestLB Panmure, has also severed ties with the laboratory. Protests against the laboratory have increased. The most recent took place on Thursday against City firms linked to Huntingdon Life Sciences.

The Labour Party's staff pension fund has ordered its fund managers, Phillips & Drew, to ditch its holding in the laboratory. Phillips & Drew no longer owns any shares in Huntingdon Life Sciences. It held an 11% stake until February.

In April, pensioner David Braybrook, one of 1,700 of the then investors in company, opened his front door to find protesters from the British Union of the Abolition of Vivisection Reform Group on his doorstep.

The bank last night refused to confirm or deny the decision to stop providing banking facilities, citing reasons of "client confidentiality".

Huntingdon's annual report contains a note which makes clear the critical nature of the loans. The report said that while the directors were confident about the outcome of the negotiations it was "too early to predict the outcome".

Brian Cass, managing director of Huntingdon Life Sciences, denied he knew that the bank would not renew the facility but said the laboratory had always known it would come to an end in August.

The Cheltenham-based Stop Huntingdon Animal Cruelty campaigners insisted last night there would be no let up in the campaign "until Huntingdon closes".

"Demonstrations in the City will be stepped up," a spokeswoman said.

Huntingdon Life Sciences, which employs 1,100 on two sites in the UK and another 220 in the US, says it carries out non-clinical safety trials for pharmaceutical companies.

The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc
Sir George Mathewson GBE LLD FRSE
Executive Deputy Chairman

Nevertheless on this general issue I do hope I can give you some reassurance. We at The Royal Bank of Scotland are very aware of the high level of concern that exists, both among our customers and more widely among the public, on this very important issue. Indeed we share that concern.

WATCHING BRIEF: RBS's Mathewson, above, has written to the RSPCA saying "We are aware of customers' concern"

STOP PRESS:
LOCAL COUNCIL AGAINST HLS

St Ives Town Centre Management Committee has refused funding from Huntingdon Life Sciences, sparking debate in the Town Council.

The committee was offered sponsorship by HLS for its week-long arts festival in August, but refused on the grounds that it did not want to be associated with such a controversial company.

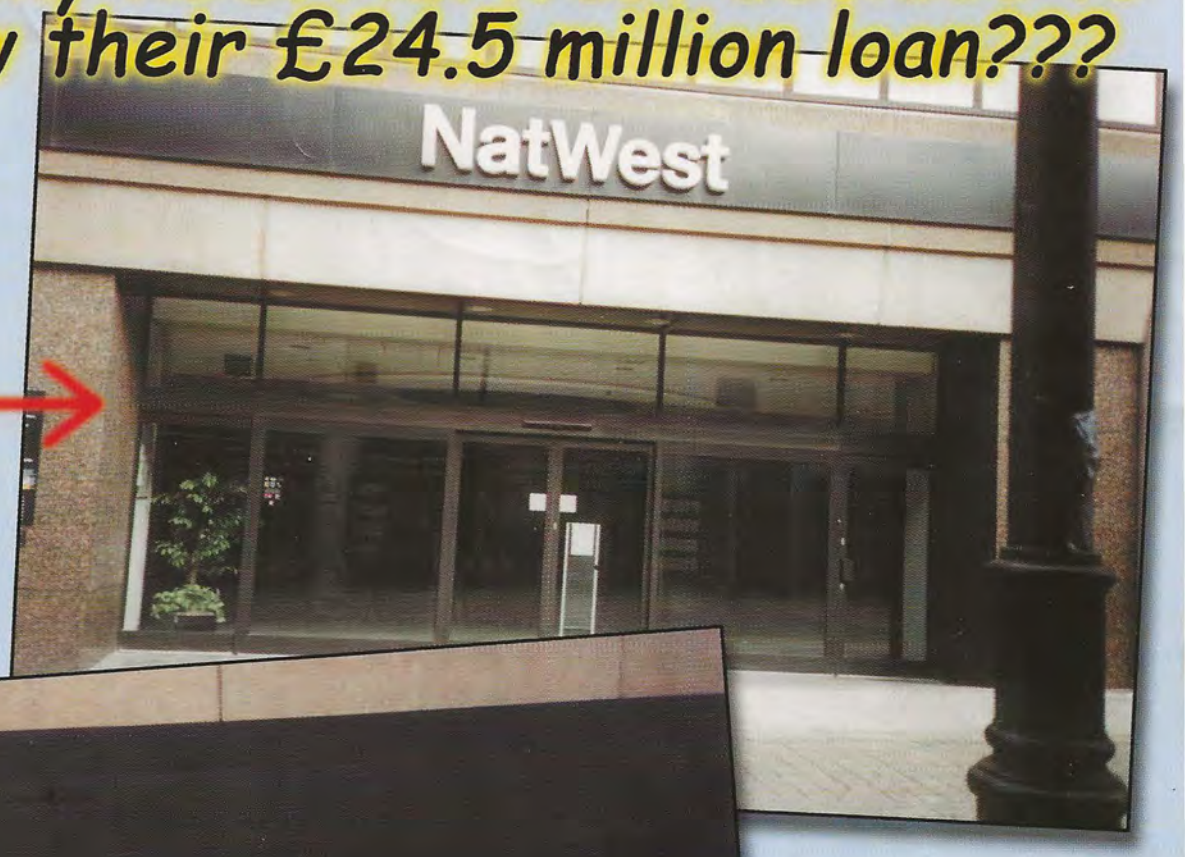
Town councillors Ian Dobson and Kevin Reynolds both questioned this decision because they felt that it could be unfair for taxpayers' money to be used when an alternative was available.

Councillor Reynolds said: "I can understand why the committee does not want to be involved in anything controversial, but we should think long and hard about giving public money to any group that has refused commercial funding. It is not our money to throw around."

Town centre manager Geoff Drinkel said: "I am very concerned that councillors could question why we turned down funding from a company that has quite a reputation for causing unrest, protest and, in some quarters, horror. I do not feel that they should be associated with a cultural festival."

Sponsorship worth £5,500 has been accepted from Choices video and TXU Europe. "We are not adverse to commercial sponsorship, just where it might come from."

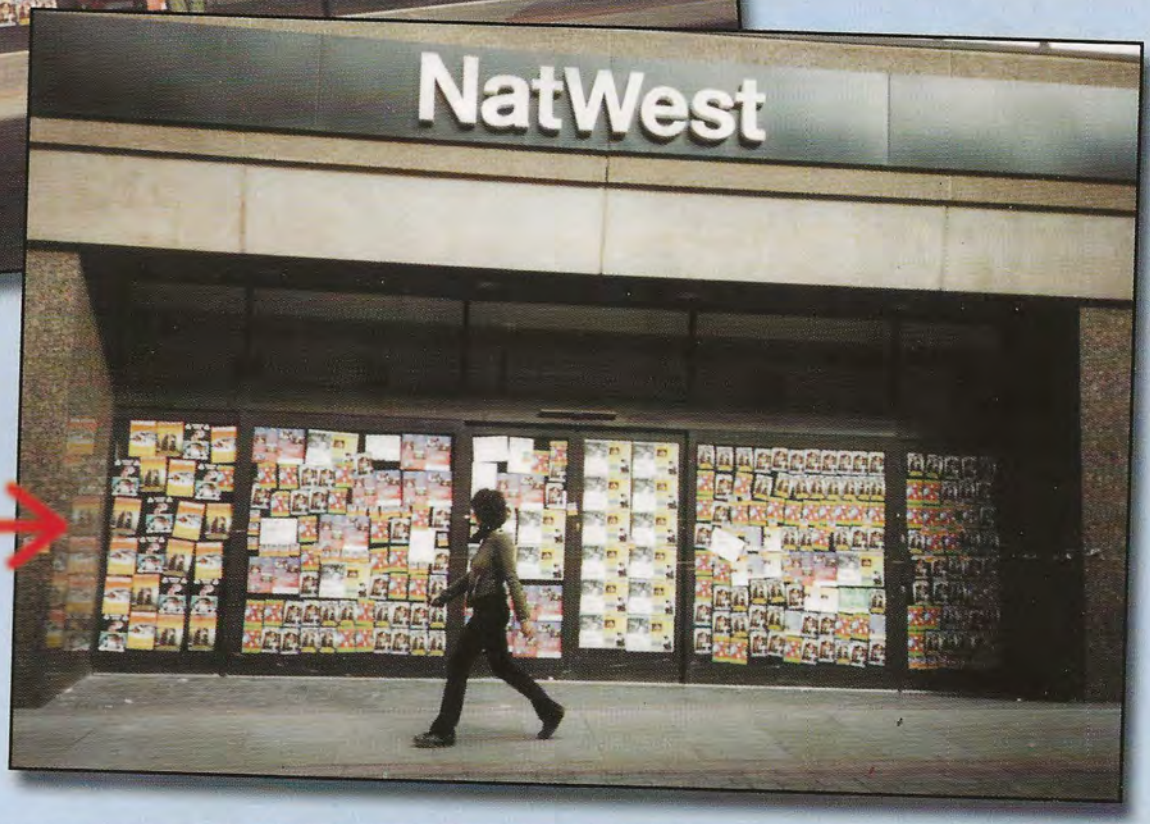
Oh dear, could this be one of the reasons why RBS/NatWest decided to withdraw their £24.5 million loan???



before →



← during



after →

Now that's what I call flyposting!

HUNTINGDON LIFE SCIENCES...



Beagles rescued from Interfauna



HERE'S SOME YOU DIDN'T GET, YOU BASTARDS!