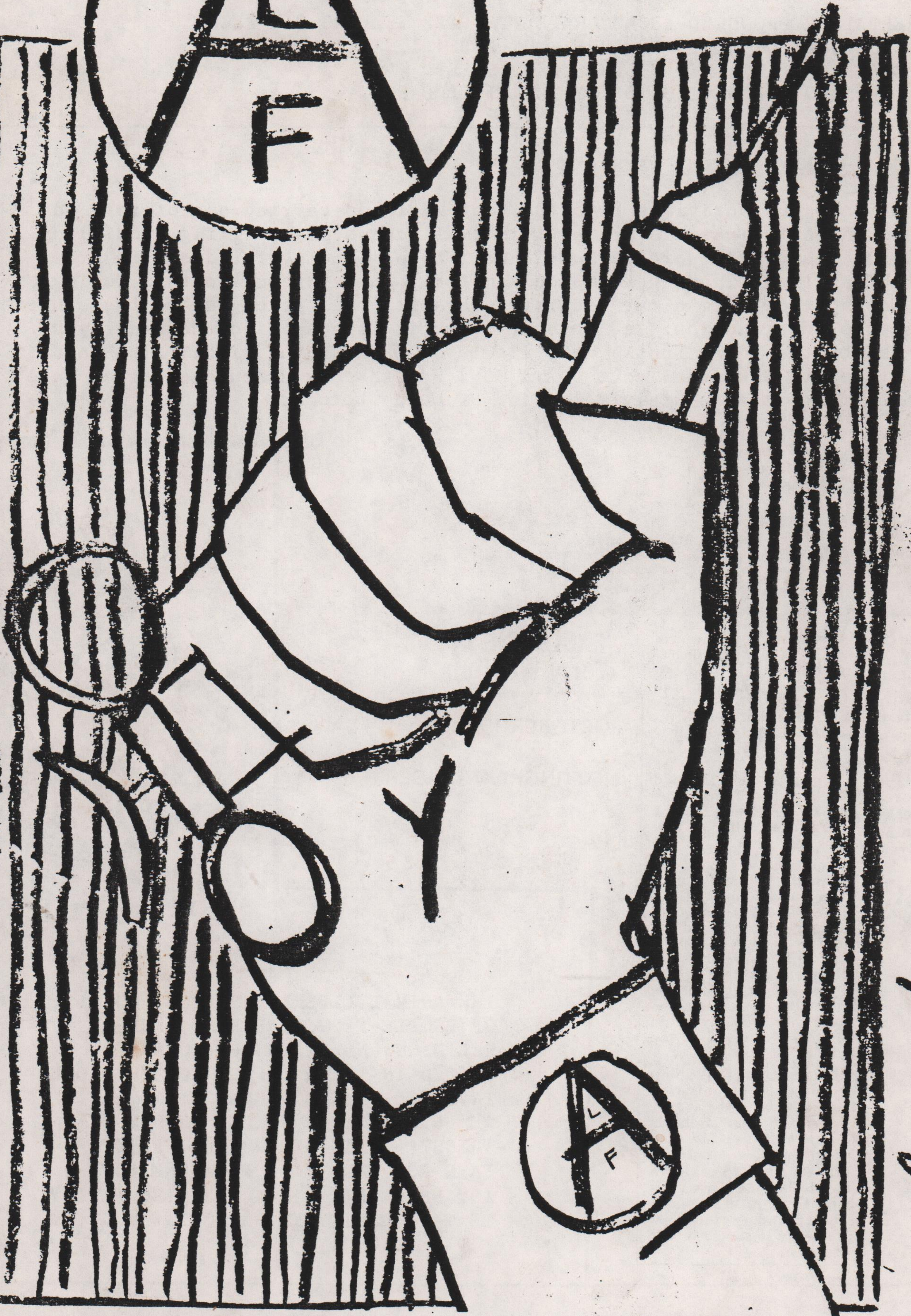


NOTTINGHAM ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT



Autumn 1984

THE BEGINNING OF ANIMAL LIBERATION.....THE END OF ANIMAL ABUSE.....
LOCAL ALF ACTION, NEWS AND VIEWS. PRICE 30p. EDITION NO. 1.

DIARY OF NOTTS. ALF ACTIONS
UP TO AUTUMN 1984

THE ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT IS NOT AS SUCH AN ORGANISATION,
IT IS MORE OF A STATE OF ANGER AND FRUSTRATION.

THIS NEWS SHEET IS REPRODUCED AS ACCURATELY AS ALF MEMBERS CAN RECALL.
ANY ERROR IN PUBLICATION WOULD BE PURELY UN-INTENTIONAL.
THERE IS NO COPYRIGHT ATTACHED TO THIS NEWS SHEET.
THE NOTTS. ALF IS NOT CONNECTED TO ANY POLITICAL PARTY.

12 OCTOBER 1983 - LEA MARSTON, WARWICKS

Animal Liberation Front activists from the East Midlands carried out of raid on a fox fur farm where the animals are kept in small cages in appalling conditions. Around 1,800 foxes are incarcerated in this hell-hole, waiting for death in order to satisfy the vanity of inadequate women and their lust for fur coats. During the raid at Cocksparrow Farm a car and refrigeration unit belonging to the owner were smashed to pieces and four red foxes (which it is suspected the owner was keeping for use by the local hunt) were liberated back to the wild. Also one alsation dog (used by the owner as a guard dog) was taken and found a caring home. The female alsation was absolutely terrified of human beings.

Action, not words say animal welfare group

ANIMAL "free-
dom fighters" from
Nottingham
claimed responsibil-
ity this week for
"rescuing" foxes
from a Warwick-
shire breeding farm.

They said they're re-
sponsible; too, for wreck-
ing a car at the farm at
Lea Marston, near Birm-
ingham.

And they say they'll
make more raids to strike at
people who abuse animals.

A group of 21 members of
the East Midlands branch of
the Animal Liberation
Front are thought to have
been involved in the attack
on Cocksparrow Farm,
where up to 2,000 Silver
Foxes are bred for the fur
trade.

A member said the raid
was launched because the
farm is an "animal Belsen"
where foxes suffer in tiny
cages.

Four red foxes found liv-
ing amid rubble and squalor
in an out-building, were re-
leased. An alsatian dog,
claimed to be neglected and
ill, was "rehoused," says a
statement from ALF.

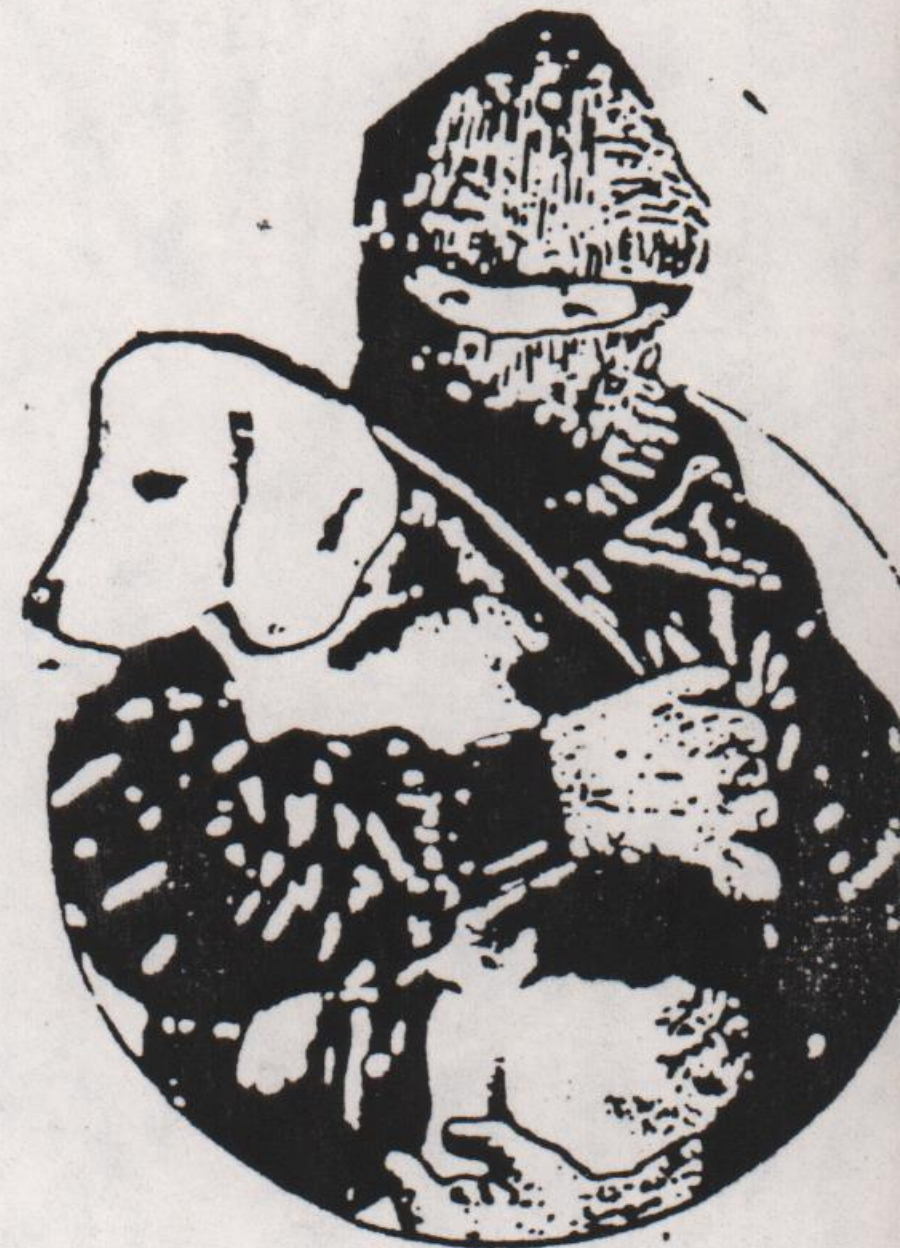
Silver foxes were not re-
leased from their misery,
added the statement, be-
cause they probably would
not have survived in the
wild.

Local groups of the anim-
al liberation organisation
have now banded together
to form an East Midlands
branch. Organiser Mrs. Sue
Merrikin, of West Bridg-
ford, vowed this week: "We
plan to become more mili-
tant to help stamp out
cruelty and exploitation
whenever it comes to our
attention."

EXCLUSIVE by
Terry Wootton

OCTOBER 19, 1983

NOTTINGHAM TRADER



THE ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT CONSISTS
OF PEOPLE FROM DIFFERENT RACE,
RELIGION AND STATUS - WHO ARE
UNITED IN THEIR OPPOSITION TO THOSE
INVOLVED IN THE ABUSE OF ANIMALS.
WE BELIEVE THAT NO PERSON HAS THE
'RIGHT' TO IMPRISON AND INFLICT
PAIN FOR PROFIT OR PLEASURE, ON
ANY SENTIENT BEING. WE ALSO BELIEVE
THAT NECESSITY KNOWS NO LAW!.....

8 APRIL 1984 - DERBY, DERBYSHIRE

Three shops were the subject of attacks by ALF activists in Derby. Debenhams store and Boots the chemist had their windows smashed and damage is estimated at over £600. A further attack took place at a gun shop to show repugnance towards people who hunt and kill animals for pleasure. The lock was glued, a window smashed and the slogans "Bloodsports scum", "Hunting scum out" and "Tools of death" were sprayed over the shop front.

8 APRIL - CARLTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

ALF activists set fire to an empty poultry unit, causing considerable damage, but not completely destroyed. Initially ALF checked for any live animals and found two birds left still alive. One bird was found a free range home and the other was so badly damaged the vet had no choice but to put it to sleep.

11 APRIL 1984 - NOTTINGHAM, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

ALF activists carried out attacks at two Nottingham city centre stores in a protest over the fur trade. A shotgun pellet pierced a plate glass window at fur and leather shop 'Lafayette' on Pelham Street which sent glass all over the goods inside. And another window was broken at Debenhams, Long Row which houses 'Sovereign Furs'. A spokesman for the ALF said: "The fur trade is immoral and until it is stopped we are going to carry on our campaign."

MID-APRIL 1984 - CLIFTON & WEST BRIDGFORD, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Members of the ALF claimed responsibility for breaking windows of Boots the chemist shops in Clifton and West Bridgford in a protest against torturing animals. In an anonymous message to the local paper they stated the attack was carried out "as a protest against animal experimentation in the drug industry".

24 APRIL - NOTTINGHAM

ALF activists paid a visit to 'SKINCRAFT' a fur shop in Clumber St, Nottingham. In protest against the fur trade, the window was broken again. This attack was one of many against this particular shop since 1983.

30 APRIL 1984 - NOTTINGHAM

ALF activists smashed a window of a shop in Radford Road which sells ritually slaughtered (halal) meat. The owner of the shop ritually slaughters goats in the back of the premises and has been warned that further action will take place if he continues with murdering animals in this way.

6 MAY 1984 - CALVERTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

ALF activists attacked an intensive poultry farm at Calverton. 20 broiler chickens were rescued from a shed the doors of which were so badly damaged during the break-in that they had to be replaced by the farmer. ALF and anti-factory farming slogans were daubed on the building. The chickens are now in free range conditions.

5 MAY 1984 - SHARDLOW, DERBYSHIRE

18 Animal Rights activists were arrested for an attempted break-in at Safepharm Laboratories, during which several hundred pounds worth of damage was caused to a door. The police have sent a report of the incident to the Director of Public Prosecutions and it may be that charges will be brought against some of the activists. Safepharm is a notorious contract testing house which carries out the infamous LD50 poisoning test and other painful experiments on animals including rabbits and guinea pigs.

21 MAY 1984 - WEST BRIDGFORD, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

The homes of two animal abusers were the subject of attacks by the ALF. Dr. Cliff of Boxley Drive, West Bridgford, who works in the Toxicology Dept. at Boots had the locks to his home filled with glue and Dr. Lewis of Chaworth Road, also West Bridgford, who is one of the chief vivisectors at Boots, had paint stripper over his garage and its lock glued. Boxley Drive was daubed with the following - 'Animal Murder' 'Boots animal murderer'. 'Cliff animal killer' Boots scum etc.

EARLY JUNE 1984 - NOTTINGHAM

ALF activists sprayed slogans on a shop selling venison meat in Mansfield Road and also poured paintstripper and broke the windscreen wipers of a van belonging to the shop. A car owned by the proprietor also had paintstripper poured over it and the locks glued up.

EARLY JUNE 1984 - NOTTINGHAM

ALF activists broke a window at Farnborough Road School in the Clifton area because of its involvement in dissection. It was noticed that the window had been merely boarded up so the activists returned the following night, prised the wood off with a screwdriver, entered the school and rescued 8 frogs due to be used for dissection.

EARLY JUNE 1984 - EAST MIDLANDS

8 rats were liberated from an East Midlands Hospital and homed safely. Some had undergone vasectomy operations.

8 JULY 1984 - NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

Skincraft fur and leather shop attacked for the second time by ALF. The window was damaged with a ballbearing shot from a catapult. Estimated damage - over £1000.

MID JULY 1984 - NOTTINGHAM

Boots at Sherwood attacked and Osbournes butchers at Carrington both attacked by local ALF. Windows in both shops were damaged.

8 AUGUST 1984 - CHEADLE..STAFFORDSHIRE

Cheadle taxidermist attacked - see enclosed press cuttings. The man, TOM WHITEHEAD, denies all accusations. ALF has conclusive evidence from several sources that this scum is snaring, shooting and trapping our wildlife for his own profitable business of taxidermy.

8 AUGUST 1984 - DERBY

Debenhams, who sell Sovereign furs, and MacDonalds windows smashed by ALF. Estimated damage over £1,000.

MID AUGUST 1984 - NOTTINGHAM

Boots the chemist at Clifton attacked again twice within three days. The window was smashed yet again. The window has now been divided into two sections due to this action.

23 AUGUST 1984 - SHARDLOW, DERBYSHIRE

SafePharm Laboratories raided by Notts ALF - see full report. Estimated damage is several thousands of pounds, with the liberation of 20 guinea pigs.

31 AUGUST 1984 - NOTTINGHAM

ALF activists threw a smoke grenade through Boots window at Victoria Centre, after first smashing the window with an axe. This was done to activate the sprinklers in order to destroy all stock. The sprinklers did not however become activated, but the next day staff at Boots were seen cleaning up a horrible yellow mess from the floor of the shop.

SEPTEMBER 1984 - NOTTINGHAM

A shop selling venison and game on Mansfield Road, and also Boots in Victoria Centre had their windows smashed.

23 SEPTEMBER 1984 - NOTTINGHAM

ALF activists smashed Pork Farms window on Central Avenue, West Bridgeford. A brass weight was thrown through the window.

8 OCTOBER 1984 - NOTTINGHAM

Lafayette windows smashed for the second time and also Pork Farms at West Bridgeford had windows smashed for the second time.

11 OCTOBER 1984 - NOTTINGHAM

Seven fishing tackle shops had their windows smashed by ALF as a protest against them selling lead weights - see press release and press cuttings. Damage estimated around £3,000.

14 OCTOBER 1984 - DERBY

McDonalds beef burger shop in main Derby precinct had its window smashed by ALF. Damage is estimated at around £400-£500.

14 OCTOBER 1984 - DERBY

Boots the Chemist had two windows smashed in the same shop on the main shopping area of Derby. Estimated damage £800.

14 OCTOBER 1984 - WEST BRIDGFORD NOTTINGHAM

Pork Farms had it's window smashed for the third time within five weeks by ALF. Total estimated damage of all three attacks is put around £1,200 - £1,500.

14 OCTOBER 1984 CLIFTON - NOTTINGHAM

Boots at Clifton was attacked by ALF for the third time. Total estimated damage is around £1,200 - £1,500.

Arson probe in farm fire

A FIRE in an empty chicken shed at a Gedling farm — which would usually house up to 10,000 birds — may have been started deliberately, police said today.

The chickens, worth more than £12,000, were moved four days ago from the 100ft by 45ft timber and asbestos shed at Greens Farm, Willow Lane, off Yew Tree Lane, where a neighbour spotted flames at 1.23am and raised the alarm.

When Carlton firemen arrived the timber frame at the front of the building was well alight, said Sub-officer Ivan Gladish. But damage was confined to half of the building's frontage and a small area of roofing.

Farmer Mr Noel Green said: "It was lucky that the birds went out last

week because they could easily have panicked and suffocated from the smoke.

"It was lucky too that the fire started in an isolated part of the farm away from the main farm buildings."

'More and more people are prepared to break the law'

Flare attack on city store

ANIMAL rights campaigners are believed responsible for an attack on Boots' store in Nottingham's Victoria Centre today when a shop window was smashed by an axe and a lighted flare hurled through the broken pane in an unsuccessful bid to start a fire.

NOTTS. EVENING POST.
SEPTEMBER 1984.

CITY SHOPS DAMAGED IN FUR DEMO

MILITANT animal rights campaigners smashed windows at two city centre stores in a protest over the fur trade.

A shotgun pellet pierced a plate glass window at fur and leather shop Lafayette on Pelham Street, sending splinters of glass all over the goods inside.

And another window was broken at Debenhams on Long Row, which houses Sovereign Furs.

A spokesman for the Animal Liberation Front, who are claiming responsibility for last night's attacks, said: "The fur trade is immoral and until it is stopped we are going to carry on our campaign."

City police are investigating.

EVENING POST.
NOTTS. APRIL 1984

APRIL 1984
NOTTS. EVENING
POST.

IN ORDER FOR THE ALF TO BE MORE EFFECTIVE IN COMBATTING ANIMAL CRUELTY, WE NEED YOU THE SUPPORTER AND GENERAL PUBLIC TO SEND US ANY INFORMATION (ANONYMOUSLY IF NECESSARY) ABOUT ANY CRUEL PRACTICE AGAINST ANY SPECIES OF ANIMAL. ALL INFORMATION WILL BE TREATED IN THE STRICTEST CONFIDENCE. SEND ANY USEFUL INFORMATION TO OUR LOCAL BOX NUMBER PRINTED ON THE BACK OF THIS BULLETIN.

CHEADLE & TEAN TIMES, FRI AUGUST 17TH 1984

Paint attack on home 'unjustified' says householder

SLOGAN daubing vandals have caused hundreds of pounds of damage to a Cheadle family's home.

The vandals struck in the early hours of Friday morning at the home of the Whitehead family in Derwent Drive.

Now, the occupant has offered a 'substantial' reward for information from anyone who may have been the incident which could lead to a police prosecution.

Blue and black spray paint was used to cover brickwork with slogans in foot high letters and the raiders also filled door locks with car body filler.

Slogans such as 'badger killer' and the words 'filth', 'scum' and 'murderer' were sprayed across the house, as well as the initials of the militant animal concern organisation the Animal Liberation Front.

The raid was apparently motivated by Mr Thomas Whitehead's hobby of taxidermy - but this morning he bitterly attacked the vandals' motives as unjustified.

"I'm annoyed they used the name of the A.L.F. - there is no way their people would do something like this," said Mr Whitehead.

Mr Whitehead, a worker at Thomas Boltons and a former Cheadle fireman, started his taxidermy hobby four years ago. "It's all completely above board. I only accept the carcasses of animals brought to me - I don't go out shooting badger or foxes."

Mr Whitehead indicated that he often accepts animals from the Ministry of Agriculture or even the RSPCA themselves.

He believes this latest incident is just part of a long-standing orchestrated campaign against

himself and his family. "We're had bricks thrown through our living room window, stones thrown at the house and garden

and police round to search the house after someone gave them false tip-offs," said Mr Whitehead.

Neighbours of the family have kindly helped to help clear up the mess and police launched an investigation into the incident.

EVENING SENTINEL FRI AUGUST 10TH 1984

Paint vandal attack

SLOGAN daubing vandals have caused hundreds of pounds worth of damage to a Cheadle family's home.

The vandals struck in the early hours of this morning at the home of the Whitehead family in Derwent-drive.

Blue and black spray paint was used to cover brickwork with slogans in foot high letters and the raiders also filled door locks with car body filler.

Slogans such as "Badger killer" and the words "filth, scum, and murderer" were sprayed across the house, as well as the initials of the militant animal concern organisation, the Animal Liberation Front.

The raid was apparently motivated by Mr. Thomas Whitehead's hobby of taxidermy, but this morning he bitterly attacked the vandals' motives as unjustified.

"I'm annoyed they used the name of the A.L.F. - there is no way their people would do something like this," said Mr. Whitehead.

Mr. Whitehead, a worker at Thomas Bolton and a former Cheadle fireman, started his taxidermy hobby four years ago. "It's all completely above board. I only accept the carcasses of animals brought to me - I don't go out shooting badgers or foxes."

Mr. Whitehead indicated that he often accepts animals from the Ministry of Agriculture or even the R.S.P.C.A.

He believes this latest incident is just part of a long-standing orchestrated campaign against himself and his family.

"We've had bricks thrown through our livingroom window, stones thrown at the house and garden and police round to search the house after someone gave them false tip-offs," said Mr. Whitehead.

Neighbours of the family were this morning rallying round to help clear up the mess.

Police are investigating the incident.

Hate campaign beats Tom

A two-year-old campaign of hate against a Cheadle family reached new heights over the weekend, as slogan-daubing vandals caused hundreds of pounds worth of damage.

In an early morning raid on the Whitehead family's home in Derwent Drive, the vandals, armed with black and blue spray paint, covered brickwork and doors with slogan in foot-high letters.

The attack was just the latest case of violence direct at Mr. Thomas Whitehead's hobby of

taxidermy.

"Tom took up taxidermy four years ago and these people have not left us alone since," his wife, Anita, explained.

"They seem to think he is shooting animals, but he only uses birds that have been hit by cars or flown into windows," she added.

"Badger killer", "filth", "scum" and "Murderer" were just a few of the words sprayed across the house, as well as the initials of the Animal Liberation Front.

But despite the initials, Anita insisted: "This is definitely not the work of ALP. We know who it is, it's just a matter of prov-

ing it."

Her husband is offering a substantial reward for information leading to the arrest of those responsible.

Even so, Tom, who works at Thomas Bolton, has decided to give up his 'costly' hobby.

"It's just now worth the aggravation. We are left wondering what will happen next because it gets worse each time," Anita explained.

"We have had the police searching the house after false tip-offs, stones thrown on the roof at night, a double glazed window smashed by a brick, threatening phone calls and now the paint," she added.

EVENING SENTINEL
SAT AUGUST 11TH 1984

Paint attack 'by A.L.F.'

ANIMAL Liberation Front activists today claimed responsibility for a paint attack on a Cheadle house causing damage estimated at hundreds of pounds.

In a call to the *Evening Sentinel*, a man purporting to be a member of the organisation, said the attack, at the home of Mr. Tom Whitehead, in Derwent-drive, "was done to warn him that if he carries on snaring, shooting and decapitating animals for taxidermy more serious action will be taken."

The caller, who refused to reveal his identity, gave a London number which he claimed was the A.L.F. press office, but a man there said he had no connections with the organisation and denied all knowledge of the incident.

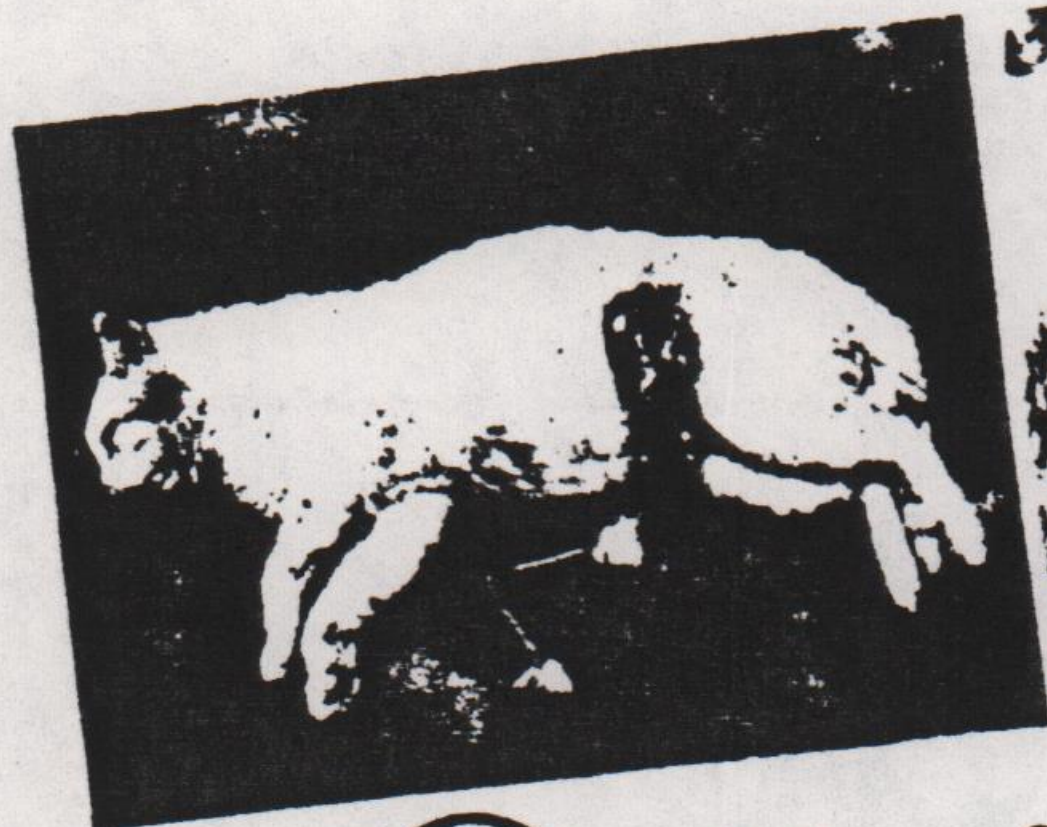
Mr. Whitehead, who took up taxidermy as a hobby four years ago, stressed that he only accepts the carcasses of animals brought to him - often by the Ministry of Agriculture or the R.S.P.C.A.

He believes the latest incident, in which blue and black spray paint was used to daub foot-high slogans across the house and the door locks were filled with car body filler, was part of a long-standing vendetta against him and his family.

"It was a terrible mess," he said today. "We got a couple more threatening phone calls last night but they do not bother me."

Police at Cheadle are investigating the incident.

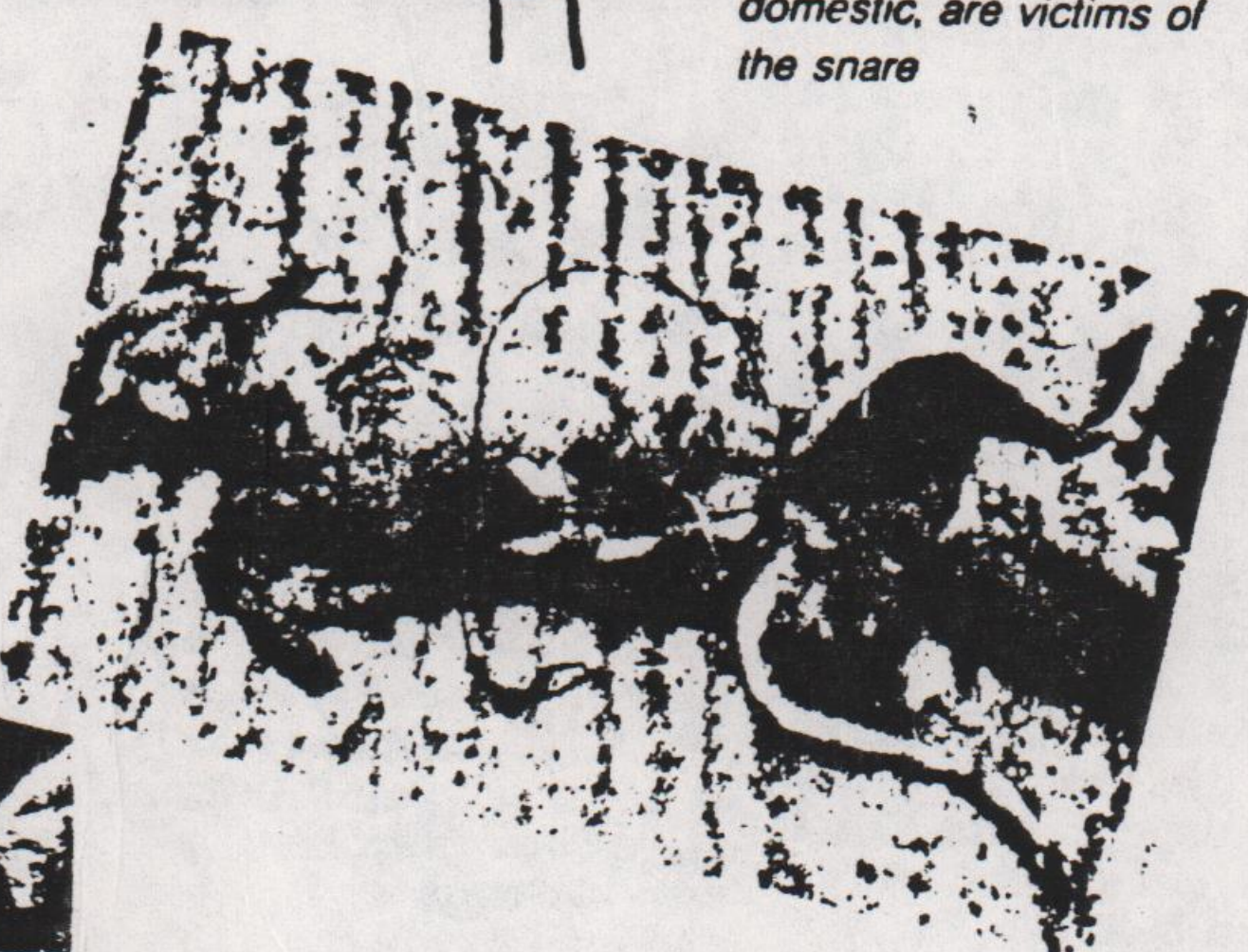
CHEADLE POST & TIMES, THURS. 18TH AUGUST 1984.



Snare



Animals, both wild and domestic, are victims of the snare



THE ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT

By now you will know that the above group made a striking attack against Tom Whitehead at 1, Derwent Drive, Cheadle. Tom occupies his spare time with the practice of taxidermy. Tom does not wait for the animals to die naturally, but he goes out and kills them for that purpose. The killing of wild animals is bad enough, but it is the way he kills them that is so despicable. Snaring, shooting, and trapping animals like the Fox (unprotected by law) the Badger (protected by law) and wild birds. **SNARING** an animal is the most cruel method ever used by man. The animal is caught usually by the throat and slow strangulation then takes place. On every occasion of snaring, the animals dies slowly and in terrible agony. Once snared, Tom Whitehead then decapitates their heads, and proceeds to make 'Masks' (the term used in Taxidermy for head plaques and trophies). Tom also brags openly about his obscene pastime, which eventually came to our attention because of his own carelessness. We have satisfied ourselves beyond any doubt that the evidence against this evil man is overwhelming. Tom has claimed to the press that he only uses animals that have been brought to him already dead. **TOM WHITEHEAD IS AN ABSOLUTE LIAR.** Why not give Tom a ring on Cheadle 755692 and tell this scum what you really think about your disgusting neighbour. OR, better still why not ring his employers Thomas Bolton's Copper Factory on Cheadle 752241 ask for the Brass Works Dept. Tell his boss what a diabolical individual he has to work with. You can also keep an eye on him for us and if he does not stop this filthy practice please let us know (anonymously if necessary) by writing to the ALF Box number. If Tom Whitehead does not STOP murdering our wildlife, then far more serious action will be taken against this MONSTER!!!!!!!!!!!!!! WE PROMISE.

CHEADLE TEAN TIMES

AUGUST 24TH 1984

Activists intensify Cheadle campaign

MILITANT animal rights activists launched a vicious personal attack last week on a Cheadle man they allege has been snaring wild animals.

A letter from the Animal Liberation Front attacking Mr Tom Whitehead for his involvement with taxidermy was sent to several of his neighbours on the Rakeway estate.

The letter accuses Mr Whitehead of snaring, shooting and trapping animals and gives his home and works phone numbers, encouraging neighbours to

'keep an eye on his for us.' Describing Mr Whitehead's hobby of taxidermy as 'an obscene pastime' the letter adds: "We have satisfied ourselves beyond any doubt that the evidence against this evil man is overwhelming."

Referring to Mr Whitehead's claim that he only uses animals which are already dead the letter describes him as 'an absolute liar.'

It ends: "If Tom Whitehead does not stop murdering our wildlife then far more serious action will be taken against this monster... we promise."

The hate-mail campaign, in which letters postmarked Derby are believed to have been sent to everyone on the large estate, follows an incident in which vandals daubed foot high slogans on the Whitehead home, causing hundreds of pounds of damage.

Mr Whitehead revealed that he had given up his hobby in the wake of incidents. "I've packed it up - enough's enough. Neighbours have been bringing the letters around - they are outraged."

He added: "In a way I am glad they sent the letters as they gave an address - I just want to contact one of them so I can talk it over face to face."

Mr Whitehead, who sent his two children to stay with his mother after last week's attack, commented: "There's no answer to it - I am fighting an army although I've done nothing to give any aggro."

A Cheadle police spokesman has indicated that several of the letters have been handed over to them and they were now examining these in line with the investigation into last week's criminal damage incidents.

EVENING SENTINEL SAT AUGUST 18/1984

Threats victim quits hobby

A CHEADLE taxidermist whose home has been attacked by animal rights activists said today that he had given up the hobby.

Letters accusing Mr. Tom Whitehead of killing animals have been sent to his neighbours, and last week vandals daubed foot-high slogans on his home in Derwent-drive, causing hundreds of pounds of damage.

The letters postmarked Derby, urge neighbours to keep an eye on Mr. Whitehead's activities and say: "If Tom Whitehead does not stop murdering our wildlife then far more serious action will be taken against his monster... we promise."

Mr. Whitehead said he had sent his two children to stay with their grandmother after the attack.

Investigation

"I have packed it up, enough is enough. Neighbours have been bringing the letters around, they are arranged."

Mr. Whitehead said he only used animals which were already dead, but the hate mail accuses him of snaring wildlife.

"I am fighting an army, although I've done nothing," he said.

A Cheadle police spokesman said several of the letters had been handed in and they were being examined as part of the investigation into the vandalism incident.

Guinea pigs snatched from Shardlow Farm

DERBYSHIRE Police believe an animal liberation group carried out a raid on a laboratory at Shardlow in the early hours of Thursday morning.

Six cage-loads of guinea pigs were snatched from the Safe Farm in London Road. The open cages were later recovered near to the premises and some of the animals were also found.

Nottingham Recorder, August 30 1984

NOTTINGHAM
RECORDER
30/8/84

SABOTAGE

BY SID LEE

ANIMAL LIB MAN'S THREAT TO MAKERS

ANIMAL Liberation Front members are to continue their campaign of illegal sabotage — and Nottingham could be the next target.

This was the astonishing threat made by Ronnie Lee, the Front's national press officer, when he visited the city the day after bleach-contaminated bottles of shampoo were removed from the shelves of a Hull supermarket.

But he claimed those responsible were doing everything possible to ensure that injury was not caused to any member of the public.

"There are now at least three acts of economic sabotage a day in this country directed against the use of animals in experiments, factory farming, the fur trade and blood sports."

Mr Lee said there was a deliberate policy to expand the illegal acts from the laboratories and the homes of the people who carried out the experiments to the shops in which the products were offered.

"Putting bleach in shampoo is such an easy thing to do that it's obvious A.L.F. members will be doing it again. And as we've got members all over the country it could be done anywhere — this city or any other could be next."

But Mr Lee stressed that the quantities of bleach were very small as the intention was to harm the manufacturer and not the public.

"We're not surprised the manufacturers deny they abuse animals, when we know they do. They have to consider public opinion."

"But more members of the public are coming to share our view that appeals to stop on moral grounds will fall on deaf ears."

"About 99% of animal abuse is done for profit and we know we have to make them stop for economic reasons."

STICKERS

"When bleach was added to shampoo in stores in Southampton, London and Leeds a few weeks ago, the bottles were marked with a cross," he said.

"At Hull stickers bearing the word 'Toxic' were also put on the bottles. In all cases warnings were issued immediately after the shampoo was contaminated."

Mr Lee, who has served time in prison for illegal acts as a member of the Front, said he had given up being an undercover activist in order to become the A.L.F. spokesman.

"But more and more people are prepared to break the law to help us achieve our aim, which is to cause so much economic loss and disruption to those who abuse animals for profit that they will stop doing it."

SafePharm Laboratories Ltd.

ACUTE TOXICOLOGY DEPARTMENT FEBRUARY 1982 PRICE LIST

Eye Irritation Studies

Federal Register test 1973	carried out in 6 rabbits	£75
Journal Officiel de la Republique Francais protocol	carried out in 6 rabbits	£78
E.T.A.D. protocol	carried out in 6 rabbits	£75
P.S.P.S. 1979 protocol	carried out in 9 rabbits	£120
O.E.C.D. 1981 protocol	carried out in 3 rabbits	£45

Skin Irritation Studies

Federal Register test 1973	carried out in 6 rabbits	£80
Journal Officiel de la Republique Francais protocol	carried out in 6 rabbits	£80
E.T.A.D. protocol	carried out in 6 rabbits	£80
P.S.P.S. 1979 protocol	carried out in 8 rabbits	£120
O.E.C.D. 1981 protocol	carried out in 3 rabbits	£45

Acute Toxicity Studies

Formal Oral LD ₅₀ determination in the rat	from	£305
Single dose oral toxicity study in the rat	from	£55
Formal acute dermal LD ₅₀ determination in the rat	from	£235
Single dose acute dermal toxicity test in the rat	from	£95
Phototoxicity study		£120

Sensitization studies

Magnusson and Kligman maximization test	from	£230
Buehler protocol	from	£350
Klecak open epicutaneous test	from	£220
Photosensitization study		£180

Quality Control tests

Rabbit pyrogen test to U.S.P., B.P./E.P.	from	£9
Undue toxicity test in the mouse	from	£8
U.S.P. Biological tests for Class VI plastics		£350

Fish toxicology

A range of acute toxicity tests are available	from	£220
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Mutagenicity Tests

Micronucleus test in the mouse	from	£700
Ames test		£420

At approx. 3.0 am on Thursday 23rd August, 1984, seven Animal Liberation Front activists raided SafePharm Laboratories, Shardlow, Derbyshire, and rescued 20 guinea pigs who were undergoing torturous experiments by means of skin irritation studies.

One Escort van was used on the raid. All activists were driven in this van to the road at the rear of SafePharm. The driver dropped everyone at a convenient hedge and then proceeded to drive off to a quiet location in order to wait for 30 minutes. During this time the remaining six activists hid behind the rear hedge to the laboratory, and two of them then used bolt cutters to remove the padlock from the main gate, and to await the arrival of the van.

The driver then proceeded to drive around the area for any sign of Police activity. All was very quiet so the van was driven into the SafePharm Complex, and up to the main gate. On arrival at the gate two activists opened the gate allowing the van to pass through unimpeded. The van and driver then proceeded towards one of the main steel reinforced double doors to the laboratory. The van was driven at the door at a speed of 25 mph hitting the door head on. The door moved back a little but did not open. This impact set off the alarm. The driver, amazed that the door did not open rammed twice again. On the third impact the door including the frame fell out completely. The raiders then proceeded to smash down the lighter interior doors with tools like hammers and crowbars. One minute had now elapsed which only left one further minute to remove as many animals as possible. We knew from previous visits that guinea pigs were inside this particular building and in order to save precious seconds, the entire cages with the animals in were removed.

After two minutes the time keeper and van driver shouted to everyone to leave. We all ran away to the back field of the laboratory. Approx. two minutes later a shot gun was fired either in our direction or over our heads. We did not stop to find out. Further on we paused and carefully removed the guinea pigs from their cages into rucksacks. We left the cages and proceeded to move off.

When we arrived at the safe house, where the animals were destined, a veterinary trained individual began the examination. All of these animals had been shaved on their backs, and several black dots were present on or under their skins. The dots were about 3-5 cms in diameter. All of them had undergone surgical incisions in their necks at the back of their heads. Some of these incisions were still bleeding, and were up to about $\frac{1}{2}$ " in length. Four of the guinea pigs were covered in bandages. These bandages were bound so tight that the animals could barely breathe, and after being carefully removed metal foil was found. Underneath the metal foil, crossed plasters were discovered, and underneath the plasters the black dots were revealed. All of the animals began drinking enormous quantities of water, and were still doing so one week later. These beautiful non-aggressive creatures were absolutely terrified by human presence. After several days they were transported to a permanent home where they have an enormous compound to play in, which is completely sealed off from predators, including the human variety. All twenty have survived and are in as good health as can be expected, considering the abuse they had experienced by undergoing painful experiments. The Van was thoroughly cleaned out and repainted and acquired anonymously, not registered and equipped with false number plates. The minimum amount of petrol was used, and a fire extinguisher was carried as a fire precaution.

DAILY MIRROR, Monday, May 14, 1984

Watership let-down

IT REALLY couldn't be described as the most successful outing for RICHARD ADAMS, author of Watership Down.

The Hampshire-based writer, whose acclaimed story of bunny rabbits has made him a most sought-after spokesman

Nobody turns up for Adams

on animal welfare matters, was invited last week to speak at the House of Commons.

His address was to have followed a film about vivisection.

The event was arranged by Brighton animal campaigner RENA COLLINS,

whose MP, TONY BOWDEN, booked the House's Grand Committee room. Mr Bowden, the Tory member for Brighton Kemptown, is known widely for protesting to the American ambassador about a dancing chicken in a New York juke box.

He posted notices of the Richard Adams talk throughout the Palace of Westminster. And even

invited Prince Charles. In the event no one turned up.

Says Miss Collins: "It was awful. There was nobody for Mr Adams to give his talk to. Absolutely nobody."

"Mr Adams spent much of the film with his head on his arms."

In the end, the author returned home to the bunnies in Hampshire with his speech undelivered. About the only person present to hear it was the projectionist.

ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT (NOTTINGHAM)

PRESS STATEMENT

During the early hours of this morning (11th October, 1984) the Nottingham group of the ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT made a striking attack against seven fishing tackle shops in Nottingham. All of the shop windows were damaged as a protest against the selling of lead weights for the 'gruesome' sport of fishing.

The local ALF have been compelled to take action due to the fact that lead fishing weights are killing our wildlife and in particular the magnificent SWAN population.

More and more evidence is forever forthcoming about this problem - as illustrated by statements from the National Conservancy Council, and reports from a Senior local Park Ranger, that careless fishermen have caused deaths in Swan populations due to lead being discarded.

The local Animal Liberation Front (although totally opposed to the sub-cultural activity of 'Fishing') INSIST that if this sport is to carry on, LEAD WEIGHTS must be abolished from this pastime!

The local ALF state that if these shops continue to sell lead weights for the purpose of catching fish.....or any other species, then far more serious action will ensue -

The shops attacked in the early hours 11th October 1984 were as follows:-

TERRY DORMAN - 276, Denman St. Nottingham tel. 781695.
MATCHMEN - 5, Bannerman Road, Bulwell. tel. 278859.
J & S Fishing Tackle, 59, West St., Arnold. tel. 262644.
AQUARIST & ANGLER, 8, Westdale Lane, Gedling, tel. 612657.
TOM WATSON, 1, Oak St., Carrington. tel. 609561.
A. TIZLEY, 100 Bunbury St., The Meadows. 868960.
THE TACKLE BOX, Trent House, Pavilion Road, West Bridgford. tel. 822081.

Del Root's summary

THE major problem with most of the tested alternatives is that they cannot be used to lock waggler floats - probably one of the most popular float models in use these days. Coiled Shot is the only product which fits this bill.



An angler could use tiny plastic leg stops to hold a float or use a self-cocking float with one of the lead shot alternatives strung down the line to "dot" it.

From my point of view, as a critical match angler, the tests were very revealing and I favour Anglers Weight for cocking the float - or Coiled Shot. A combination of both would work very well.

Clearly, a lot of effort has gone into the other products but I feel that further development would improve them. There are one or two problems which need ironing out.

It wouldn't bother me if lead shot was banned tomorrow because I now know there are viable alternatives which I can use with confidence.

PLEA TO WRECKERS

NOTTS. EVENING POST. 12/10/84

'Talk to me' says fishing shop owner

FISHING tackle shop owner Iain McLuckie has issued a challenge to the people who smashed his shop window - "Come along and talk to me."

Mr McLuckie owns The Tackle Box on Pavilion Road, Trent Bridge, and his shop, with others across Nottingham, was reported to have been attacked by members of the Animal Liberation Front in protest against lead weights used in fishing, which the Front claim are killing swans.

Police say an object like a ball bearing was used to smash the windows.

"This is the second time in three weeks that this has happened to me," said Mr McLuckie.

"Last time someone rode past on a bike and hurled a rock through the window. It cost me £400 to replace the window and alarm system and it'll cost the same this time."

Appreciated

"If the people concerned would like to come along and talk to me about their concern

over the swans and persuade me that it is lead weights causing the damage, I'd be delighted," said Mr McLuckie.

"I'm an animal lover myself and I appreciate the point they're trying to make but not the way they set about making it."

"I'm not convinced that lead weights are the culprits. Many of our rivers are full of chemicals and pollutants which cause much more damage."

By IAN WHEELER



Mr McLuckie at his damaged window.

ALF COMMENT (COPY SENT TO MR. MCKLUCKIE)

We would like to draw your attention to the ANGLER'S MAIL Week-ending October 20, 1984. In particular Del Root's summary of tests he carried out on several alternatives to lead weight. Del, a critical match angler states that it wouldn't bother him if lead shot was banned tomorrow. See Del's summary above. However, whilst ever your customers demand lead, we think that you will supply, because you will not have your profit affected. We feel that unless continued pressure is brought to bare by the retailer, lead shot will continue to be sold. OUR CAMPAIGN WILL CONTINUE AGAINST YOU UNTIL YOUR APATHY SUBSIDES. SO HURRY UP AND BAN LEAD WEIGHTS NOW. IT IS IN YOUR OWN INTEREST TO DO SO. EDUCATE YOUR CUSTOMERS BY BANNING LEAD SHOT NOW!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

ANGLERS SLAMMED AS MORE BIRDS DIE



Ranger bids to tackle problem after tragic find

THIS gull starved to death because it was prevented from feeding by fishing-line which snared its beak.

It took a hooked maggot, and the attached line and weights formed a noose that caused a slow death.

The victim is one of a number of birds which have been killed by anglers' discarded tackle at Holme Pierrepont water sports centre and country park.

And now, senior park ranger Chris Garton has told careless fishermen to sling their hook.

Recently, a dove and a starling have fallen victim to abandoned tackle with lead shot.

Another casualty was a coot which took a pike-plug and tackle into the side of its mouth. Its foot became entangled in the line, and the creature drowned. Angling materials claimed a kingfisher too.

A post mortem on a mute swan taken to the Government's veterinary investigation centre at Sutton Bonnington revealed that it had swallowed 11 pieces of anglers' lead shot in its gizzard. The bird died from lead poisoning.

Discarded

Another sorry case was a fox which vets discovered had been killed by the same discarded tackle which had killed a duck in the nature reserve. The fox took in the tackle when it began feeding on the dead fowl.

Now, Chris is disturbed at reports that one of the rare herons at the park has line and shot hanging from its beak.

Said Chris: "I want all anglers to take action now to halt this unnecessary suffering and death. I appeal to them to make sure they don't leave any hooks and line lying around — and to remove any that others might have left."

Chris has already booked in 4,000 anglers for 1985, but he reckons casual anglers and not match fishermen are to blame.

Said Chris: "I'm sure the majority of anglers are careful and take away any unwanted tackle. It's just the thoughtless few who are causing the problems."

Chris has also made a plea to anglers to use a readily-available alternative to lead shot. He said: "The lead is poisoning swans and other wildlife, and that's a great shame."

QUEEN JOINS FIGHT TO SAVE SWANS



TV vet—Robert Hardy with swans at Henley

By DAVID DAWSON

Creatures Great And Small series said: "You can see there is a problem just by walking down the towpath."

"At one time there would have been dozens of swans. Today there is just one family."

Lead poison

The Queen's survey is being carried out by the Edward Grey Institute, part of the zoology department of Oxford University.

Director Chris Perrins said: "From post mortems we have found that 70 per cent of swan deaths in the Reading area are attributable to lead poisoning."

"This rises to 80 per

cent on the stretch approaching London.

"The swan would be facing extinction in this area if it were not for smaller rivers nearby where they can breed and then fly on to the Thames."

Now a group called Save Our Swans is raising money to build a £100,000 sanctuary and hospital for swans.

Mrs. Zillah Cooke, who is heading the SOS campaign with her vet husband Stephen, said: "It takes just seven lead shot to give a swan a fatal dose."

The birds take in the anglers' discarded weights as they suck up gravel to aid their digestion.

Non-toxic weights are available and at Reading lead weights have been banned by the council.

Anglers' weight problem

BRITAIN'S two million anglers were urged last night to stop using lead weights—and save more than 3,000 swans from being poisoned each year.

The International Fund for Animal Welfare claims that swans are disappearing from rivers because of the numbers killed from lead poisoning. Wildlife supporters have sent more than 50,000 letters and postcards to Mrs Thatcher asking for a ban on lead weights.

Tackle shops attacked

THE Animal Liberation Front today claimed responsibility for attacks on fishing tackle shops in Radford, Gedling, The Meadows, West Bridgford, Arnold, Carrington and Bulwell. It appears a metal ball-bearing was projected through the shop windows, say police.

POST NOTTS. EVENING 11/10/84

SWAN No
1205


371/9/83
22/9/83

1. Name of Owner of animal _____
Date Collected 1 / 1 / _____
FULL _____
Farm _____
Address _____

2. NAME AND FULL POSTAL ADDRESS OF VETERINARY PRACTICE (to which report will be sent.)
[THE WARDEN,
Nest Bridgford Country Park,
Nest Bridgford
Nottingham

3. Examination Required
p.m. EXAMINATION

DETAILS OF ANIMAL
4. Species/Breed Avian MUTE SWAN
(enter Sire first, if mixed crosses enter mixed)
5. Identification (e.g. ear no.) Z38643
6. Age _____ (average if batch) 7-0kg.
7. Type of specimen 1 Swan
8. Is herd/flock registered in M.A.F.F. Health Scheme (Pig health, Brucellosis etc.)
(YES/NO)
9. Sex (tick ONE ONLY as appropriate)

MIXED BATCH	FEMALE						MALE		OTHER X
	KNOWN PREGNANT				NOT Pregnant	Other	Entire 	Cast- rated	
	First third	Second third	Last third	Stage unknown					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	X

REPORT from Veterinary Investigation Centre, The Elms, College Road, Sutton Bonington,
(telephone: Kegworth 2332) Loughborough, Leicestershire LE12 5RB

KN/2

The swan was an adult male weighing 7 kg. This is very light, the normal weight range being 10 to 12 kg. There was very little subcutaneous fat. The oesophagus was impacted with bread and the liver was congested and decomposing. The gall bladder was enlarged. The kidneys and heart were both small and no heart worms were found. The small intestine was contracted and empty. There was atrophy of the musculature but no abnormalities were found in the skeleton. The adrenal glands were enlarged.

The impacted gizzard contained bread, maggots and chrysalises - anglers bait and 11 lead shot.

The liver, kidney, spleen and brain were lighter than usual at 100 g, 55 g, 1.6 g and 13.62 g respectively.

The tissue lead levels were as follows :

- Liver - 203
- Kidney - 267
- Brain - 25.2
- Bone - 278

These values were all very high and would confirm the diagnosis of lead poisoning.

Signature
Veterinary Investigation Officer

11 January 1984
(date)

THURSDAY FEBRUARY 16

MR SUNDAY FLIES AGAIN!

An unusual love story called *White Spirit, Fly Free* is published today. It's about Len and Sheila Baker's devotion to injured swans, like our own very special Mr Sunday. But often their happiest moments—when a swan flies away cured—are also their saddest...



Remember Mr Sunday? Remember the poor agonised creature discovered one afternoon in 1981, near to dying, his own washday-white beauty threatened for ever by the killing black shadow of lead poisoning? That was when Mr Sunday the swan became important to every reader of *SUNDAY* magazine, because writer Pamela Townsend happened to be there to see his rescue.

She saw him in his sorrowful, limp-necked state. She saw his black eyes battling with pain and his will to live draining rapidly from his body. But Mr Sunday was lucky.

And the good news is that today he's a happy, healthy and handsome four-year-old, living in a special sanctuary set up by Len and Sheila Baker, who rescued him two years ago.

When Pamela Townsend first met the Bakers, she was writing a feature for us about the Swan Rescue Service, which the Bakers started nearly seven years ago. And it was while she was out doing the rounds with Len, who was showing her "black spots" on the Norfolk Broads where many swans are injured, that she first saw the bird that was to be named Mr Sunday.

He was with a group of swans at Oulton Broad, but he was clearly unwell. Len diagnosed lead poisoning immediately and lifted him, struggling, from the water.

Unfortunately, Mr Sunday's story is common to hundreds of swans—he had become poisoned by swallowing the lead weights that weekend fishermen had carelessly left behind. An X-ray showed eight pieces of the killer lead in his gizzard (like a stomach) and three stuck in his throat. "He was in a bad state," said Len.

"Lead poisoning attacks the liver, kidneys and brain. Mr Sunday must have been feeling very nauseous, his vision was blurred and he kept treading on his own feet. His neck was limp. Quite frankly, he was nearly dead."

The sick Mr Sunday—then just two years old—was tethered in a kind of straight-jacket, put on the back seat of Len's car and taken home for the emergency treatment that was to save his life. Force-feeding and three-hours of painful massage every night pushed the lead through his system and he was eventually set free.

Today he's safe and strong and should continue to stay that way so long as he chooses to stay in Len and Sheila's sanctuary.

Mr Sunday is one of many birds saved each year by the Bakers, but it was his story in particular that inspired Pamela Townsend to go one step further to publicise the plight of swans and write a book about the Swan Rescue Service. Called *White Spirit, Fly Free*, it's published by Sidgwick & Jackson (£7.95) and most of the profits will go towards helping other swans who have become the victims of man's neglect, carelessness and, in some cases, downright viciousness.

The book is about the Bakers' single-minded commitment to the injured swans they spend weeks nursing back to health. And about the joy and

"People have called me a crank," says Len Baker. "What they don't realise is that I'm the happiest man alive. I wish everyone could have the privilege of spending ten minutes of their lives in the company of a swan. They are so dignified and trusting—they're loyal once they know you're a friend"

rewards of a life surrounded by such noble, dignified creatures. But it also has harsh words to say, and it points an accusing finger at Britain's anglers. Because, the terrible truth is, fishermen are hurting, maiming and killing these beautiful birds by the score.

Of course, many anglers respect the rivers and the birds that live there. But thousands don't. There are more than three million anglers in Britain; in fact, fishing is the largest participant sport in the country. But only one third belong to clubs. The rest get little instruction, advice or guidance, and what they do get can often be wrong.

Some couldn't care less that anglers' lines, hooks and lead weights are potential killers. Others are ignorant of the damage they cause, or too young to appreciate it.

Our riverbanks are like minefields to swans, says Len Baker, who has rescued birds tangled in nylon line or injured by sharp, barbed hooks. Many die from gruesome internal injuries caused by swallowing hooks.

More sinister still is lead, which doesn't rot or disappear. It's swallowed by swans along with the reeds they eat. Once lead is in the system they die within weeks from a slow, agonising illness, unless they're lucky enough to be spotted by the Bakers, who travel hundreds of miles a week looking for injured swans.

If necessary, they take them back to their Norfolk farmhouse for treatment. Len's success record is excellent; many fly back to freedom, but those injured too badly to survive, see out their days in his garden or in the sanctuary he's established on 14 acres of nearby land. The Bakers give up most of their own time and money to their cause, but still rely on donations from the public to cover their £16,000-a-year running costs.

Anglers aren't responsible for every death. Swans are also hurt by oil pollution, boats and by senseless vandals. The Bakers have tended swans hit by trains and mutilated by thugs. But, without doubt, the peaceful-seeming fisherman is the swans' biggest threat. With just a little more human consideration from anglers they could live much safer, happier lives. Swans should live to the age of about 40, but many are lucky to make it to five. At four Mr Sunday hasn't yet shown much inclination to settle down and father a family of cygnets, but, with luck, there's plenty of time for that. **Mary Woodstock**

FISHERMEN: BE CONSIDERATE!

- Never leave tackle—such as nylon fishing lines, barbed hooks or lead weights—on riverbanks (or in litter-bins where other birds can get at it). Take it home
- Never cast your fishing line near swans—or any water birds
- Keep your tackle, especially lead

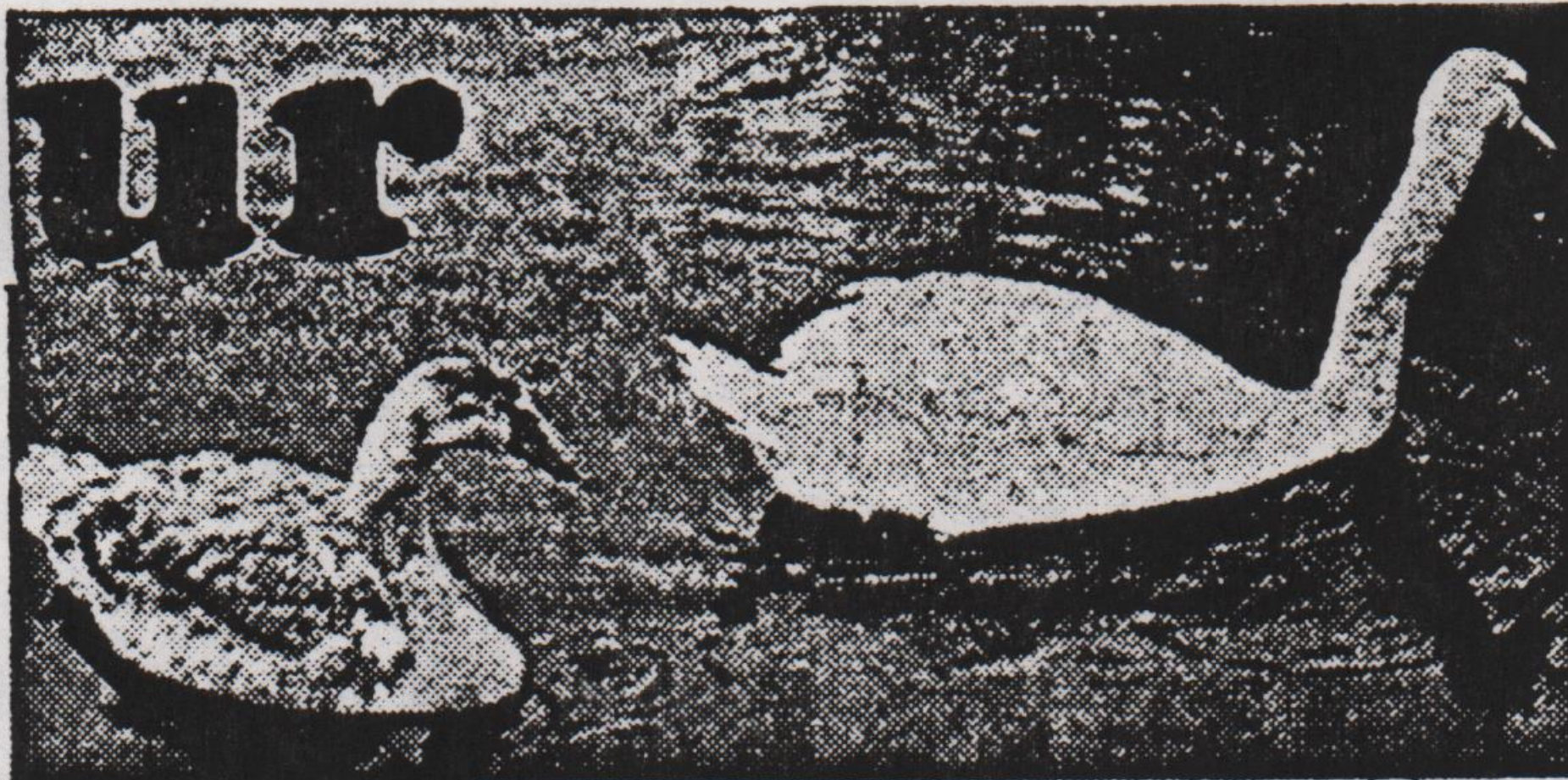
weights, in spill-proof containers

- Join a fishing club
- If you injure a swan, don't panic, contact the Swan Rescue Service (anonymously if you wish) at: Swan Rescue Service, Hill Farm House Sparham, Norfolk. Telephone: Norwich (0603) 29444

IT'S YOUR OPINION

Send your letters to:
Opinion, Evening Post,
Forman Street,
Nottingham, NG1 4AB

Save our dying swans...



● On the right is a swan showing the kinked neck which is the first sign of lead poisoning.

NOTTINGHAM river banks and the water of the River Trent is one of the worst areas affected by lead weights, used and left by selfish and uncaring anglers and which are harming our swans.

Don't people realise the suffering and carnage they are perpetrating. The swans and their offspring die slowly painfully poisoned.

Their digestive systems are paralysed. They are unable to straighten their tortured necks to eat. These birds starve to death. They suffer kidney and liver failure. The swans die hard.

In the water some are so weakened and wracked by pain that they don't know what they are doing. They end up trapped in sluices or locks.

There are alternative non-lead weights now on the market. The angling shops must share the blame in this despicable trade.

I hope all anglers and fishing tackle suppliers will heed the appeal to use and stock only the unharmed weights, before our beautiful swans and other wild life is extinct.

ANNE M.
CHALONER (MRS)

Kneeton Road,
East Bridgford.

FACTS ABOUT THE NOTTINGHAM ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT

The Nottingham ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT Inner Cell consists of a few people who meet regularly to discuss tactics, targets and timetables.

There is an outer cell which consists of snoopers, supporters and fund raisers.

The cells have no leaders - we simply discuss matters until a common agreement can be reached. It is hoped that people wishing to be invited into the inner circle will be patient. It takes a good deal of time to assess new activists. There are also ALF activists working in this area either as individuals or in their own cell which is not necessarily affiliated to the main central cell. We know most of the other cell people, but we do not know many of the individuals who work alone. We wish all ALF activists success with their campaigns who ever they are.....



HEY, IT SAYS HERE THAT THROUGH VOTING
FOR LABOUR, ANIMAL LIBERATION WILL
BE ACHIEVED!

WEDNESDAY

WITH
RICHARD
HARRIS



IT'S an occupational hazard, I suppose, getting all these anonymous phone calls.

Anyone who works on a newspaper gets used to them after a while.

And very often we even get to depend on them.

Animal experiments

IN REPLY to Richard Harris's Wednesday article, "Not the right way to do it", I am an ALF supporter. Yes, we certainly do feel very strongly about animal cru-

elty. We have all written to MPs and gone on peaceful demonstrations, to no avail.

Vivisection started in 1876 and the number of animals used and experiments have increased over the years.

Anaesthetics are not used in the majority of cases. It is not surprising that people are not permitted to watch experiments such as the LD50 test. Animals slowly poisoned to death, gasping for breath, writhing in pain, bleeding and vomiting from the damage caused by toxic chemicals etc. Is it any wonder that people take matters of protest and rescue work in their own hands? We have waited long enough but peaceful methods have no result.

The plight of these helpless creatures continues to worsen. The Suffragettes did not get the vote for women by sitting at home, nor was slavery abolished by writing.

The ALF might appear to some people as doing it the wrong way. But they are people with such great love and compassion for creatures who are helpless and so abused by man in so very many ways.

God never intended human health and happiness to be bought at the expense of cruelty and pain inflicted on those sentient beings.

ANNE M. CHALONER

Kneeton Road, East Bridgford.

"I thought you might like to know..." they say, before explaining very politely that they'd rather not tell you who they are because you never know, do you, what might happen if everyone finds out they've been talking to you.

Most of them have good reasons for keeping their names to themselves — and it very often has to do with the fear of having a brick heaved through their window.

But there's another kind of anonymous phone call and I can't for the life of me see the sense in it.

We've had a lot of them lately.

They're always muttered at the same break-neck speed, in the same boring monotone and with the same contempt for whoever it is who's unfortunate enough to answer the phone.

"The A.L.F. claims responsibility for an attack on a shop in..."

and before you know where you are they've put the phone down and you're left with just a faint humming in the ears.

Now, there are several things wrong (and very few right) with this approach and if there's anyone out there from the A.L.F. I'd like to explain.

For those who don't know, the A.L.F. is the Animal Liberation Front, an organisation which claims credit (if that is the right word) for throwing bricks through the windows of chemists' shops which stock certain

Not the right way to do it

brands of cosmetics, for daubing stores with crude graffiti if they stock certain types of fur coats, for hurling paint stripper at selected butchers' shops and for breaking into scientific laboratories if they suspect them of keeping animals in the wrong sort of cages.

Now, whether these people are right or wrong is beside the point.

They clearly feel strongly about something or other — strongly enough to break the law, anyway — and believe they have some kind of point to make.

And if anyone feels that strongly about anything, then I've always got time to listen to them.

Which is why I can't understand it when they phone us with those ridiculous little messages of theirs.

If they have such an important point to make why on earth don't they hang on the telephone long enough to make it?

I tried to engage one in conversation the other

day, but a conversation was clearly not in his book of rules.

"Before you go..." I said.

"No," he droned.

"That's the message." And he slammed the phone down.

What I wanted to say to him was this:

I don't know who you are, and don't particularly care.

But what bothers me more is that I don't understand you or what you're about — and until we get the chance to talk I never will.

And unless I understand you, I'll never know whether the point which you are trying (and hopelessly failing) to put across is the message of some loony fringe. Or whether it is just plain decent common sense.

If it is a message worth sharing with the world, surely it's too important to be entrusted to some muttering spokesman who, with a rude and anonymous phone call, succeeds only in getting everybody's backs up.

NOTTS. EVENING POST

SEPT. 1984

ALF COMMENT TO MR. RICHARD HARRIS

The reason the ALF give very short and sometimes incoherent messages to the Evening post Mr. Harris is, (and we are very sure that you are well aware) that the reporters put us on to another line which is directly linked to the Police. One ALF activist engaged a reporter from your paper in conversation lasting some considerable time, and within minutes the Police arrived at the Call Box interviewing the next user and people within the immediate vicinity. The Police were followed by a reporter. We suspect that the reporter/photographer wished to get the days "SCOOP" of catching an ALF activist before the very eyes of local press. However, we do hope that our new arrangement of posting press releases to you is more satisfactory, but never mind, you will still be able to hand them in to the Police, so that forensic can cast their beady eye upon them. We thought that your article was inane, uninformative and impolite, considering that your paper compelled us to be inarticulately brief on the telephone in the first place.

EVENING POST
NOTTS JULY
1984

Animal tests

IN 1983, the Fund for the Replacement of Animals in Medical Experiments (FRAME) committee announced its findings arrived at after three years work. They decided that animals are still essential for safety testing, and although many researchers emphasised the difficulties of transferring results from animals to human beings, they concluded from this that MORE research was necessary to discover how to transfer the result of animal tests to human beings.

If it takes a good dose of idiocy to put out such rubbish, it certainly also takes a good dose of idiocy to fall for it.

The only valid alternative is abolition enforced by law.

PAT GIDDINGS
(BUAV Contact Nottm)
Loughborough Road,
West Bridgford.

Cutting animal safety tests

A FEW weeks ago, you reported that the Government is to provide a substantial grant to assist the Nottingham-based charity, FRAME (Fund for the Replacement of Animals in Medical Experiments), in its search for valid alternative methods to replace safety tests which currently rely on experiments on living animals.

Your excellent editorial which accompanied the report was a source of great encouragement to our staff and local supporters. However, not all your readers were so positive in their response.

Ray Shepherd wondered why this grant had been awarded at a time when a research unit at Cambridge has lost its support. As Martin Brandon-Bravo MP and Mrs Joan Rudge pointed

out, there was no reason to link one event with the other.

In any case, the grant to FRAME has been awarded by the Home Office, while the decision not to continue the funding at Cambridge was taken by the Medical Research Council.

More recently, Pat Giddings, Nottingham contact of the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection, has used your columns to pass on a secondhand misleading impression of a complex, 40-page report containing 192 paragraphs and 30 recommendations aimed at reducing the numbers of animals used in safety tests, minimising the discomfort caused used in procedures considered necessary by governmental regulatory bodies, and eventually making such tests unnecessary as a result to the development of valid alternatives.

Why should the BUAV wish to destroy the credibility of an organisation with ultimate goals so similar to its own? Presumably because they do not wish people to know that there is another way forward, which involves positive thinking and good science, rather than the preaching of simplistic solutions.

I invite any of your readers who are tempted to believe Pat Giddings' assertion that FRAME puts out rubbish which only idiots fall for, to send for our literature and judge for themselves how it stands up to comparison with that of the BUAV.

MICHAEL BALLS
Chairman of the Trustees,
FRAME,

The Poultry,
Nottingham.

EVENING POST
NOTTS.

2.8.84

EP at Notts 10/8/84

Animal tests unsound

I HAVE just read the Evening Post Comment of Friday, June 29 and the later letter from Michael Balls.

Both the editorial and the letter from Michael Balls miss the crucial point in the debate over the use of animals in scientific procedures in that their continued usage is both morally objectionable and scientifically unsound.

It is certainly harrowing to see human beings suffer but, contrary to the statement in the editorial that human beings are crippled and dying for want of the right medication I am sure that it is recognised by now that the truth lies in the fact that human beings are suffering and damaged by the use of medications tested on other species.

We do not accept that alternatives to animal experiments must be sought before abolition can be achieved. The question of the alternatives merely detracts from the fundamental issue in that progress lies in observation and careful clinical pathological correlation.

Research will not be held up if animal experiments are abolished and the only thing in favour of the grant to FRAME is, that as far as the animals are concerned, it is better than nothing.

SHELAGH DICKETY
(MISS)

Nurses Anti
Vivisection Movement,
Hillcrest,
Uppertown,
Matlock.

Fur farms

MR SHELTON objects to my description of the excellent conditions at fur farms but does not deal with the central point — it would be against the farmers' own interest to ill treat their animals, and they do not.

His account of trapping inflates the number of animals trapped for their fur by claiming that many times that number of domestic and unwanted animals are caught.

Trapping is essential work, whether to control pests and vermin, or to maintain healthy and balanced populations of wild animals — trappers are experts, working under government licence, and it is not in their interest to set traps carelessly so that unwanted animals are caught.

HARRY COHEN

(Chairman, British Fur
Trade Association),
Upper Thames Street,
London. E.P. at 3/8/84

Cruel to cage

CORRESPONDENT Mrs A. Lundell, who writes on fur rearing should appreciate that first of all, wild animals belong to the wild and to cage such a creature is utterly cruel.

Is a prisoner doing life sentence happy because he is? The only difference between a human prisoner and an imprisoned animal is that the human has committed a crime, while the animal has not.

The difference between the Animal Liberation Front and the fur breeders is, the Animal Liberation Front save lives, at great risk to themselves, while the fur breeders destroy lives for "big business" and gain to themselves.

E. S. GUNSTRIP
Handos Street,
Etherfield.

ALF BOOK REVIEW-----by a Nottingham ALF supporter

HEALTHY EATING FOR THE NEW AGE.....by Joyce D'Silva

Published by Wildwood House, London Price £3.95p.

'The recipes in this book contain no animal flesh, fats or by-products'. Great, I thought, and about time too! It continually amazes me just how few vegan cookbooks there are and I'm pleased to say that this appears to be one of the better ones.

Better not because it's thicker, got more pages, more flash recipes that we probably couldn't afford anyway, but because it covers just about everything. Having said that, it's no culinary encyclopaedia, being only 142 pages in toto, but if you fancy a snack or alternatively something that means your friends will have to wheel you away on casters, then this could be for you.

As is the way with most books of the cookery kind, Healthy Eating categorizes everything you've ever wanted to know about vegan cooking, but were afraid to ask into simple sub-sections covering such items as soups, starters and snacks, main dishes, side dishes, salads, puddings, breads, cakes, biscuits and sweets, gasp for breath!

Of course one of the perennial gripes about recipe books, is that you always get a stack of good food ideas that need 2oz. of this, a millionth or a gramme of that, and 'I'm sorry, I've never heard of that', or the other. Well, Healthy Eating is much better than most on that score although you still get the inevitable '½ inch cinnamon stick', and the odd bay leaf creeping in. But when all is said and done, 'aint that better than killing to eat! I strongly suspect that once bought, you might find yourself relying more and more upon it's mysteries held within, and with that in mind you probably wouldn't mind buying quantities of the more 'exotic' ingredients.

Only one moan: the addendum at the front of the book details one food mentioned in recipes that have now been deemed to be well out of bounds for those who who would be interested in buying the book because IT WAS A VEGAN COOKBOOK. Nasty slip-up here. Nought out of ten. Provided there are no more skeletons in the cupboard, and one only hopes there aren't, it's good.

My opinion: BUY IT!

Why not try this? A hearty one-pot meal for the winter months is VEGETABLE HOT POT
PAGE 53.

PAWS TO APPEAL

A P P E A L F O R P . A . W . S . (THE PROTECTION OF ANIMAL WAIFS & STRAYS)

Run by Vera Riot at Hathern, the dogs are cared for by Margaret Barker at kennels in Hathern. In five years, they have taken in and homed nearly 500 dogs. Every dog is examined by a vet and injected against parvo. No dog has ever been put down - homes are found for all of them. All homes are well vetted. A small number of women raise funds all year round to keep the place running. No one is paid - all work is voluntary. Money is always needed!.... If anyone can help with raising funds or homing dogs - please contact the following -

Vera Riot Loughborough 842421
Margaret Barker " 842327

SHELAGH DICKETY - FOUNDER OF THE NURSES ANTI-VIVISECTION MOVEMENT TALKS TO
ANIMAL RIGHTS GROUP IN NOTTINGHAM.
23rd SEPTEMBER, 1984

The Nurses anti-vivisection movement was founded in 1983 as a professional pressure group working towards the total abolition of vivisection. Shelagh so impressed us by her speech in Trafalgar Square at the Mobilisation Rally that we felt a more in-depth talk would be beneficial for those members in other groups. The Nottingham Animal Liberation Front well attended this meeting, which over-ran in schedule due to the immense interest in what Shelagh had to say.

Shelagh told us that she wished to have animal experimentation abolished, not only for ethical reasons, but for the fact that so many Pharmaceutical drugs are damaging the nations health. In particular she drew our attention to MIMS the monthly index of Medical Specialities. MIMS is an index used by General Practitioners and other medically qualified personnel, as a guide to the prescribing of medical drugs. An extract from MIMS follows:-

LISTED IN THIS INDEX ARE PROPRIETARY PREPARATIONS AVAILABLE FOR PRESCRIPTION IN GENERAL PRACTICE. ABBREVIATIONS USED IN COMPILING ENTRIES ARE AS FOLLOWS:-
▼ INDICATES THAT A PRODUCT IS RECENTLY INTRODUCED AND ANY SUSPECTED ADVERSE REACTIONS SHOULD BE REPORTED TO THE COMMITTEE ON THE SAFETY OF MEDICINES, PREFERABLY ON A YELLOW CARD. SERIOUS OR UNUSUAL REACTIONS TO ALL OTHER PRODUCTS SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE REPORTED.

ALF COMMENT

It has not gone unnoticed that General Practitioners are not compelled in law to give details of adverse reactions. In fact there is no clear mandate to do so. We wonder just how many GP's either forget to fill in these yellow cards or in the hustle and bustle of a busy surgery these cards even get filled in at all. We also wonder just how many drugs are actually killing human lives in the attempt by governments and Pharmaceutical industry to keep up the balance of payments. (Refer to the governments white paper on Scientific Procedures on Living Animals Cmd No. 8883. page one). If any true statistics could ever be realised, we wonder just how many human lives have been harmed or terminated by drugs tested on animals, compared to how many human lives animal experiments are supposed to have saved. We think that any true figures would be alarming.

WE DO NOT PLAY THE NUMBERS GAME. WE DO NOT TRY TO JUSTIFY ANY BETRAYAL OF ETHICS.

THE NOTTINGHAM ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT WISH SHELAGH DICKETY AND THE NURSES EVERY SUCCESS IN THEIR CAMPAIGN WORKING TOWARDS THE TOTAL ABOLITION OF VIVISECTION.

NURSES ANTI VIVISECTION MOVEMENT

Full Membership open to Qualified Nurses ☐ Associate Membership open to Learners

Information and Membership forms from

SHELAGH DICKETY, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.
HILLCREST COTTAGE
UPPERTOWN
BONSALL
DERBYS. DE4 2AW
Telephone WIRKSWORTH 4664

SUFFER THE CHILDREN AND THE ANIMALS

Animal Aid members and other anti-vivisectionists were in Canterbury on World Day for Laboratory Animals. During the demonstration they were approached by Mrs. Valerie Alexander, the mother of Keith, a 'Debendox' baby, and Chairwoman of the 'Parents Action Group' which is campaigning on behalf of parents of children with drug-induced birth defects. As a result of the meeting she has kindly written the following article for *Outrage*, in which is incorporated a review of the book *Suffer the Children* written by the Sunday Times Insight Team and published by Futura Publications, price £1.75.

My baby, the youngest of five sons, is just fourteen months old. He was born with his right arm missing from just below his elbow and mismatched ears in shape and position. The shattering moment at his birth when my lovely husband Ron, took him in his arms and casually said 'Well, that's one way to get out of the washing up!' and a young midwife sped from the delivery room choking back tears are a dim memory now, as he takes his first steps, utters his first words and laughs and causes joy from dawn to dusk.

It was just over two months ago that our little Keith was to join forces with a known 140 other such 'statistics' under the auspices of Rt Hon Jack Ashley C.H., M.P. a truly remarkable man, who never lets his own problems prevent him from unstintingly helping others.

The only 'common denominator' shared by all our mothers is that they were prescribed Debendox in the early weeks of their pregnancies. This is also true of women in America, Australia, Japan and half dozen other countries where this drug is freely available. Many of the children that have survived have far worse malformations than Keith, the teratogenic effects are in many cases remarkably similar and frighteningly familiar. Many have not survived for very long at all, the drug manufacturers refer to such mutations as 'statistics' and 'alterations'. Can anyone help us to understand the minds of Company investors or those employed by, or anyone who profits from, a manufacturer whose products have caused these appalling tragedies?

What about the heartbreak of one young couple with four other healthy children, meeting the constant needs of a baby girl who amongst a multiplicity of defects does not have one properly formed joint in her pathetic body and at the age of six months has already undergone ten major operations? I know another couple whose only child, a little boy, had to have his hideously malformed legs amputated at twelve months and now at twenty-one months proudly walks on his artificial 'pins'. The avid readers of *Outrage* will understand I am sure that in situations such as these, particularly when the full nature and magnitude of vivisection has not been detailed to them, parents would not equate the two problems. Perfunctory attention would seem to place priority on callous disregard for other species, in order to protect human welfare. Many of us are conditioned into accepting these

experiments as a necessary evil conducted by people whose concern for living creatures have certain priorities and who function under a strictly controlled code of conduct, monitored by a vigilant establishment. How wrong can you be?

It was then perhaps more in sorrow than in anger that I approached campaigners of presumed fixed ideals in Canterbury and it was undoubtedly their courtesy which caused my restraint and the realization that they saw my son and I as allies. That animals

should be forced to endure torture of such inconceivable proportions under any pretext is horrifying, but when one sees that the only guaranteed benefit to humanity is a financial one, then the picture is indeed black. Any remaining doubts one might have had were removed after digesting the enormity of our problem from the literature I received, including 'Animal Aid' publications sent to me by the Canterbury ladies and Jean Pink. Amongst them was Hans Ruesch's book 'Slaughter of the Innocent' and he doesn't just mean animals believe me!

Another book which I see as a companion work is one titled 'Suffer the Children'. It is written by the Sunday Times Insight Team. Both these books are published by Futura and present compelling reading of profound poignancy.

The latter, whilst an indictment of named drug firms and their hirelings, is a dreadful story of how the drug Thalidomide was prescribed for thousands of unsuspecting humans. It also reveals how animal experimentation failed to show its dangers for many years, yet when its toxicity was detected the companies continued with 'high powered' marketing techniques for a further two years. This was in the full knowledge that their product was almost certainly the direct cause of peripheral neuritis, a particularly horrific paralysing condition which is almost always irreversible. Many readers will be surprised at such a revelation simply because the word Thalidomide has become almost a euphemism for malformed babies, but you

will learn from the book that the manufacturers admitted to 4,000 cases of polyneuropathy although one investigator put the figure at nearer 40,000 and this in Germany alone. Facts supported by names and dates stagger the mind. One doctor with no clinical trial experience, 'experimented' on forty children at a University Clinic without either the parents' permission or knowledge, having noted 'interesting adverse reactions such as circulatory collapse, death from heart failure, lost vision etc.' This doctor discounted the possibility that the drug had anything to do with such destruction and actually reported to the company 'In general terms it could be described as a rapid acting sedative particularly suited for use with children.'

The reader is left to ponder upon the motives of a woman doctor who wrote an article for a Medical Publication in which she notes 'The drug's (Thalidomide) particular advantage is its atoxicity and the lack of side effects after long use.' It is recorded that she had previously 'done some work' for the manufacturers. In Germany when the Drug Commission of the Federal Medical Association questioned Thalidomide's side effects the company sent out representatives to public health officials to convince them of its 'complete harmlessness'.

What price experiments upon animals and their results, positive or negative? The manufacturers knowing that their wonder drug had introduced new and terrible maladies in humans, did their best to foster confusion. One bright employee suggested that Thalidomide be mixed with other sedatives so that if it became impossible to dodge the issue, any alleged side effects could then be attributed to the other ingredients.

Soon afterwards the onus was shared by General Practitioners when it was put on prescription only, and up to that time it must be presumed that there was no easily detectable cause for malformed births. It seems to me that Thalidomide's teratogenic effect was only recognised because there was an element of repetition shown by virtue of doctors' prescriptions. Some, thank God, do keep adequate records, do recognise the fallibility of the drug manufacturer and do care what happens to their patients.

'Suffer the Children' is an in-depth chronicle of one drug and its now notorious effects upon humanity, effects of a magnitude impossible to calculate, but still present amongst us today.

Debendox was 'tested' by some of the same laboratory boffins who 'tested' Thalidomide, and incidentally in the same place and at the same time, all those years ago and I have only just discovered there are several preparations sold over the counter containing the same chemicals as Debendox.

Enoch Powell was Minister of Health at the time it became apparent that Thalidomide was distorting human babies in the most dreadful ways. Many were deprived of limbs, sight, hearing and even of sound minds. The ensuing agony inflicted on thousands throughout the world defies even the most inventive imagination. Broken homes, insanity, suicide, even 'murder' followed in its wake, but the Right Honourable Gentleman of Her Majesty's Government when he was approached, seemed to treat the whole affair with callous indifference. Does the gentleman at present in that supreme office intend to see his terms of reference in the same way? We are not causing anyone any harm and relatively

little cost or effort by saying 'We feel that something is very wrong here, please, please look at this drug very carefully!' All we are saying is that it is wrong that the Minister seems to be relying on the Drug Manufacturers' assurances that their product is safe, when they rely on old and very inadequate human study data as evidence. Only five out of the 140 doctors treating our children have actually reported to the Committee for the Study of Medicines. This surely shows the entire profession to be an ad hoc structure built upon the concept that its constitution is beyond the understanding of us ordinary mortals, from whom they precept millions of pounds via the Government. Can the present Government deny that they have a tangible vested interest in some of these companies? Adam Smith's observation over 200 years ago seems particularly meaningful. He said in 'The Wealth of Nations', 'The doctor has great power, and no one can tell if he is abusing that power. We have to trust him and therefore he must be a man of substance and character.'

In this communication to the readers of *Outrage* I have borrowed from the book 'Suffer the Children' an astonishingly moving story of how corrupt are some of the drug vendors and the amazing courage and tenacity of the victims and the parents in their two decade fight against a thoroughly corrupt system from which emerge few honourable men and women. It tells how easily it could happen again, with the 'Poker Players' technique of everyone from G.P. upwards. We might well remind them of that much quoted adage 'Wonder not for whom the bell tolls—it tolls for Thee!'

Reprinted from an article in 'OUTRAGE', Number 9, July/August 1984, the publication of ANIMAL AID SOCIETY, Castle Street, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 1BH

LEAFLET OF THE NURSES ANTI-VIVISECTION MOVEMENT

LATE PRESS

Reported in DAILY TELEGRAPH on 16th July, 1984

"An American Pharmaceutical Company has agreed to pay £92 million to settle claims that its drug, Debendox, caused birth defects in hundreds of children. Up to 30 British youngsters are said to be involved."

ALF activist, Nottingham cell.

ANIMAL LIBERATION - IT'S IN YOUR HANDS

ALF ACTIVIST NOTTINGHAM CELL.

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