

Arkangel - for Animal Liberation!

A petshop owner, Mr. Gerald Carter, was banned from keeping pets for 2 years and from running a pet shop after he admitted eight charges of causing unnecessary suffering to animals. He was also ordered to pay £463 vet and court costs. Mr. Carter runs Whitehill Pet Stores in Jarvis Buck. (Meridian TV 5.3.1998)

Michael Meacher, the Environment Minister, announced a £335,000 aid package to help save endangered species. Most of the money will be used to protect elephants and tigers from poachers. (Times 7.3.1998)

A man choked to death yesterday after swallowing a live five and a half inch fish for a bet. (Virgin Radio 7.3.1998)

Michael Colvin, 65, Tory MP for Romsey, Hampshire, was fined £1,000 and ordered to pay £14,000 costs by Alton Magistrates, when he was convicted of polluting ground water beneath his farm in 1996. (Independent 12.3.1998)

ICI was fined a record £300,000 with £51,100 costs at Warrington Crown Court yesterday after pleading guilty to causing one of Britain's worst ground water pollution incidents, when 150 tonnes of chloroform gushed from a broken pipe at its Runcorn site last April. (Guardian 13.3.1998)

A plan to run races on the Appian Way using chariots from the epic film Ben Hur was shelved at the weekend after protests from environmentalists and animal rights groups. The chariots would be confined to the grounds of a restaurant. (Times 16.3.1998)

A British initiative to end cruelty in zoos won European backing when environment ministers agreed to support legally binding standards of animal welfare yesterday. British officials now hope that they will be able to secure a framework directive in the summer to crack down on zoos, aquariums, bird gardens and dolphinariums in the EU that keep animals in cramped, boring and unhealthy conditions. (Times 24.3.1998)

Ex-slaughterhouse worker, Anthony Noel-Kelly, 42, has been charged along with Neil Lindsay, 25, a former butcher and slaughterhouse worker with theft and handling stolen goods. Kelly and Lindsay smuggled the human remains from the Royal College of Surgeons late at night and later buried them on Kelly's father's estate, leaving some at a friend's flat in Brixton. The artist, Kelly, paid technician Lindsay to help him smuggle heads, limbs and torsos from an anatomy laboratory to use as moulds for his sculptures. The trial continues. (Times 24.3.1998)

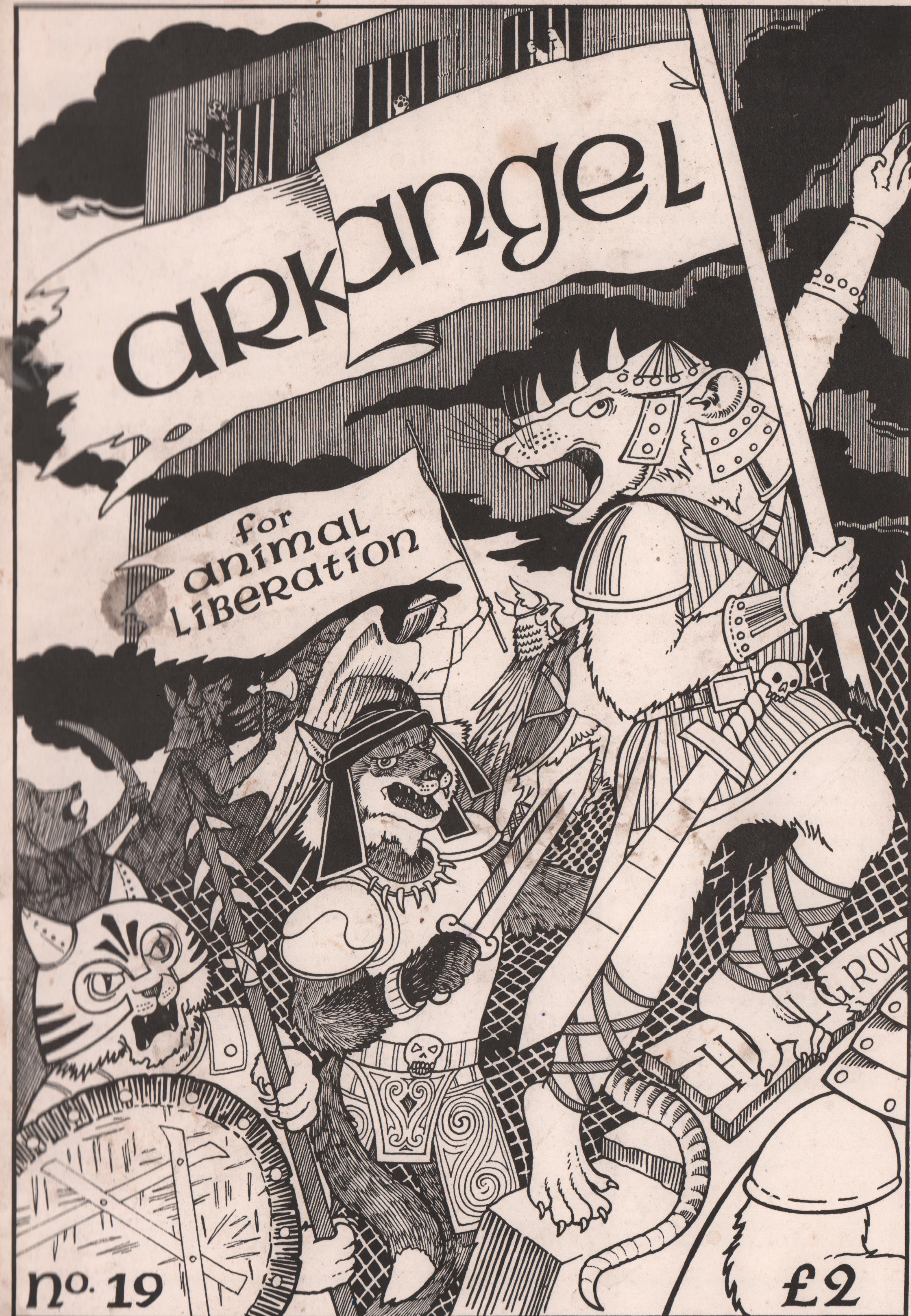
Special protection to save the basking shark was announced by the Government yesterday. Bluebells, along with scores of other native plants as well as water voles and the freshwater pearl mussel, have also been added to the list of species with special safeguards under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act. (Guardian 27.3.1998)

Wild beavers may return to Britain for the first time in four centuries. A programme to introduce them into Scottish lochs and rivers could begin within three years. (Broadsheet newspaper, March 98)



Arkangel
Magazine
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WC1N 3XX

Arkangel 19



Introduction to Issue 19

Firstly, we'd like to say a few words about Arkangel. We are completely independent of any other organisation and completely self sufficient. Arkangel Magazine is produced solely with voluntary help and our aims are to further the cause of animal liberation. We provide useful information to those involved in the animal liberation movement, a resource for other readers, such as school students, a forum for debate on animal liberation issues and an update on all animal liberation activities. We rely for the content on contributions from readers in the form of reports, letters, artwork, newspaper cuttings and articles and we try to make each issue as diverse as possible - but we need your help to achieve this.

A Brief History

Arkangel was founded by animal liberationists Ronnie Lee and Vivian Smith in 1989. The first issue attracted a great deal of interest because its content combined animal liberation activities with general animal rights and animal welfare campaigning reports, news of hunt sabotage and a list of successes under the heading 'Road to Victory'. All was going well until Vivian and fellow worker Keith were arrested in October 1991 for matters unrelated to the production of Arkangel Magazine. Subsequently, the powers-that-be took into their possession the issue that they were working on, the incomplete Issue Number 6 (which is the reason why it is missing from some people's collections!) Certain other important items such as subscribers mailing lists went the same way so, basically, Arkangel was in a bit of a predicament. However, after a couple of months, other people stepped in and put things back on course, producing Issue Number 7 in early 1992.

Which Brings us to Now!

Arkangel Magazine has, over the past six years, had its financial ups and downs. This has been mainly due to the fact that the editors have wanted to keep the price of subscriptions as low as possible for as long as possible, while producing a magazine of a high quality. However, printing and postal costs do not remain static and the result of this led to Issue number 18 finding itself in debt at the time of printing. Which leads us on to a necessary subscription price rise. From Issue number 20, four issues will cost £10 (p&p inc.). The unwaged cost will stay at its present £6 and the overseas rate will stay at £15. The cover price will rise to £2.

We send our sincere thanks to those who have generously

donated money to help us to produce and distribute this magazine. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the regular contributors.

Where Now?

The animal liberation movement has seen a few victories, many defeats and an awful lot of pain over the past 20 years. A change of government brought about, well just that, a change of government, nothing more. People in other countries look upon the UK as some kind of haven for animals but nothing could be further from the truth! During 1997, this so-called 'nation of animal lovers' allowed the killing of thousands of stray dogs, 60,000 mink in small cages in 15 fur farms to be turned into fur coats, consumed 720 million factory farmed animals, reared and shot about 100 million game birds, experimented on millions of animals and tore to pieces about 20,000 foxes. The list goes on...

The Way Forward

In the past 20 years we have seen a massive increase in the awareness of the general public with tens of thousands becoming vegan. The amount of alternative non-animal products in the shops is testimony to the way many people now see animals - not as machines or merely produce, but living sentient beings. There are numerous reasons why this new awareness has come about and it is mainly through the work of the animal liberation movement. Whether people are involved in direct action, in national and local animal rights groups or whether they are individuals who fight tirelessly for the liberation of animals from pain and suffering, they all play a part in the raising of awareness regarding the exploitation of animals. Every aspect of campaigning has its place.

We encourage support for the Animal and Earth Liberationists currently languishing in prison, put there by a corrupt and morally bankrupt system, one which makes heroes of murderers and torturers and locks up the defenders of the innocent.

The Road to Victory

The Animal Liberation Movement is relatively young and we have a long way to go until we can honestly say that an end to the abuse of animals is within our sights. We encourage people within the movement to work together (a

good example of how not to do this was demonstrated recently when the League Against Cruel Sports, the RSPCA and IFAW actually encouraged its members not to attend the NAHC anti-hunting march through London!). A good example of how great results can be achieved was demonstrated in the 1980s when the ALF, LYNX and local animal rights campaigners decimated the fur trade in the UK.

As we stated in a previous issue of Arkangel Magazine - we would like to be able to say that animal liberation is just

around the corner, but the road to victory is very long and the corner is a very long way off. However, if we keep moving towards that point and we keep fighting for what we believe in we shall rid the world of the sick, depraved and thoroughly disgusting abuse that animals have endured for so long. The animal liberation movement has the resources, the numbers and the commitment to achieve its aims and objectives. With solidarity on our side and not fragmentation, which only serves to make us weaker, we shall eventually achieve our goal - animal liberation and the preservation of the Earth.

Southern Animal Rights Coalition

SARC is a coalition of local animal rights and hunt sab groups in Dorset, Hampshire and West Sussex. Collectively they organise protests, demonstrations, direct actions and hunt sabotage to save animals and highlight their suffering.

Animals desperately need the active support of all compassionate people. In our current uncaring society they are the helpless victims of oppression. Our species exploits them ruthlessly - for food, clothing, sport and so-called scientific progress. It is difficult for members of the public to relate to the cruelty involved because it is carefully and deliberately concealed by those with vested interests.

When atrocities in factory farms, circuses, hunting and vivisection are exposed by video evidence obtained by animal rights activists, most decent people are horrified at the cruelty involved. It is our job to convert these humane and compassionate feelings into effective and meaningful actions.

SARC organises letter-writing campaigns, petitions, fund-raising events, information stalls, protests, demonstrations and takes direct action to save animals from suffering. The more that awareness of the suffering of animals is raised and the more people that become involved the quicker the suffering will be diminished.

To get involved in helping animals please write to SARC or any of the local groups below:

SARC:

c/o 4 Onslow Road, Southampton SO14 0JB

Fareham & Gosport Animal Rights:

26 Brune Lane, Gosport.

New Forest & Bournemouth Anti-Bloodsports:

PO Box 1097, Bournemouth BH12 2YJ

Portsmouth Animal Rights Group and Portsmouth Sabs:

c/o 167 Fawcett Road, Southsea, Hants PO4

Southampton Animal Concern and Southampton Sabs:

(address as for SARC)

South Dorset Anti-Bloodsports and Animal Rights:

PO Box 1119, Dorchester, Dorset

West Sussex Wildlife Protection / Animal Rights:

PO Box 3058, Littlehampton BN16 3LG

Winchester Animal Concern:

6 South Street, Ropley, Winchester SO24 0DY



GENETICALLY-MODIFIED FOOD

The prospect of genetically-modified foods entering shops and supermarkets is causing growing concern. A detailed article is available from Arkangel Information on the subject and is available for 2 x 20p stamps (postage/ photocopying).

Greenpeace International have leaflets available for distribution and you should contact them regarding costs, etc. at the address below:

Greenpeace
Canonbury Villas, London N1
Tel: 0171 354 5100

News from Animal Aid

Animal Aid have produced an excellent and shocking report entitled: *'A Brutal Business - An Investigation into the Treatment of Animals at Livestock Markets'*.

The purpose of the report is to alert the British public to the wholly unnecessary pain and stress endured by the 20 million sheep, pigs and cattle sent to market every year en route to the slaughterhouse or to a second farmer for 'finishing'.

The brutal treatment of 20 million animals, hit with sticks, kicked with boots and prodded with electric goads goes on amid farmers justifying the harsh treatment with words such as: "It doesn't matter, they'll be dead by the morning".

Following the furore that greeted the publication of Animal Aid's first report on the conditions at animal markets 'Auctioning Animal Flesh', in 1993, Animal Aid established a network of voluntary market monitors - known as MarketWatch. These are ordinary people who care about animal suffering and have taken the trouble to inform themselves about the law and about the general principles of animal husbandry. They regularly visit one or more local markets and, where possible, work closely with Trading Standards Officers of local councils - the government's official enforcement authority.

In the words of Juliette Gardner, Essex MarketWatch monitor: "Once you spend time with and touch animals in markets you feel responsible for them. You want to ensure that they aren't kicked, punched or beaten; that if one is injured you are there to make certain it is treated; or if one is thirsty you can get it water". Animal Aid's ultimate objective is to encourage people to adopt a meat-free diet but for so long as animals are raised and slaughtered for meat they believe the animals should be spared the wholly unnecessary additional hardships of a day at market. If you are willing and able to offer your assistance by being a MarketWatch monitor then you should contact Animal Aid.

Sheep Race Victory

A series of sheep races were planned for the village of Thornborough in Buckinghamshire last year but were halted after complaints were made by Animal Aid. Thanks to coverage of the proposed event in the Daily Express, two local newspapers, national and local radio and regional TV, the sheep race organisers switched plans and staged races involving villagers dressed in sheep costumes and others where wooden sheep were pulled along.

Meat Out

It was reported in the February 1998 issue of 'Outrage'

that, following a survey conducted by Realeat, 5000 people are giving up meat every week. 5.4% of the population are now vegetarian - an increase of 20% since 1995. Health implications and mounting animal welfare concerns have ensured that the number of vegetarians in the UK continues to grow.

Kennel Plans Refused

A planning application to extend kennel facilities at Glencrest Kennels in Copley, Co. Durham, has been refused. The kennel owners who have bred cats and dogs for the pet industry for decades, were strongly suspected to have been planning to breed dogs for vivisection.

Planning Consultant, Tony Keen, will generously offer advice to Animal Aid members on animal-related planning applications. Opposing applications can be complicated - local councils will only take note of 'material' planning considerations. Professional advice is invaluable. If you need help with objecting to an application in your area, contact Tony on: 01622 814640 (daytime).

Membership Details

£12 waged, £ 8 unwaged (or aged 17), £5 youth (16 or under), £15 for all supporters overseas. £200 life membership.

Animal Aid members automatically receive the magazine 'Outrage' 4 times a year, a membership card, Animal Aid badge and a window sticker. Membership also entitles you to a range of mail order and High Street discounts. Ask for details.

UKAVIS

UKAVIS produces leaflets for distribution to the general animal rights / anti-vivisection movement. The leaflets show that vivisection is a medically unworkable methodology - so that all the grand claims made for it have no basis in reality. The general public still do not realise that vivisection is not only cruel but is also a meaningless and frequently misleading pseudo-science which actually hinders medical progress, rather than advancing it. If you order more than 400 leaflets, you can have them for the discounted price of £2 per 100.

UK Anti-Vivisection Information Service
PO Box 4746, London SE11 4XF

SANCTUARIES



Illustration by Guy Troughton

Freshfields Animal Rescue Centre
East Lodge Farm, East Lane, Ince Blundell,
Liverpool L29 3AE
Tel: 0151 931 1604 / Fax: 0151 924 6010

The Rescue Centre has been running for 22 years. Most of the work at the centre involves the rescue and re-homing of dogs and cats as there is such a massive stray problem on Merseyside, but they are by no means the only animals which are abandoned or neglected.

In the past year, the Centre have taken in quite a few birds such as cockatiels, budgies and lovebirds. Most of the birds in the aviary are strays whose owners did not claim them. They do, however, live quite happily enjoying the company of their own kind with a reasonable amount of space to fly around in, compared to the poor birds who endure their miserable lives in tiny cages. The Centre have also taken in several terrapins, an epileptic chipmunk, numerous gerbils and dozens of unwanted rabbits. Recently, the Centre rescued 10 baby goats and sheep which were due to be slaughtered.

As well as the resident pigs at Freshfields, the Centre recently took in several other unwanted pigs. Frank, a pink pot-bellied, came from a back garden in Liverpool and George, a young black pig had been kept in a flat. They do try to re-home pigs whenever possible but good homes for this sort of animal are few and far between. At the present time, Freshfields have nine ponies in their care and during the summer of 1997 had 150 cats and kittens so you can well imagine the cost that is required to keep the Centre running smoothly. The vet bill alone is around £3,000 a month and having just been given planning permission to convert part of the existing house into a veterinary surgery and converting the barn into staff accommodation, the Centre needs to raise in the region of £25,000. If there are any fundraisers out there, please get in touch as soon as possible.

There are various other ways you can help Freshfields:

- ◆ Sponsor an animal at the Shelter. Contact them for details
- ◆ Sponsor a Kennel - For a donation of £300 or more a plaque will be engraved to place on a kennel.
- ◆ Pet wall of Remembrance - For a donation of £30 you can have a permanent memorial for a much loved pet (wording of your choice).

- ◆ Write for leaflets, posters, etc. to distribute or put in shops, schools and libraries, etc.
- ◆ Take a collecting box.
- ◆ Collect jumble, bric-a-brac and saleable items for the Shelter's charity shops at 28 & 73 St. Johns Road, Waterloo (0151 474 2183); 42a Station Road, Ainsdale, Southport; and 10 North Road, St. Helens (01744 611044).
- ◆ Freshfields are always looking for reliable helpers in the different areas of Liverpool, Southport and St. Helens with a car and phone who would pick up jumble/animals, etc. Also people to do home checks (urgently needed) in South Liverpool.
- ◆ Any genuine offers to provide the animals with good homes are welcome, but we are very strict on re-homing. Do not be offended if you are asked lots of questions to ascertain your caring attitude.
- ◆ Please remember Freshfields in your will and if you wish them to take care of your animals (please make your wishes known to your solicitor).
- ◆ Items that are always needed are blankets, jumpers, newspapers, metal buckets, dog and cat feeding bowls, puppy chews, greens (for rabbits), cat carrying baskets, dog collars, leads, tools (i.e. hammers, screwdrivers, spades, etc.), boiler suits, overalls, roofing felt and bread (for ducks and hens), and last but not least, any donation that you can spare.

Hounslow Animal Welfare Society
PO Box 234, Hounslow, Middlesex TW3 2QG
Tel: 0181 560 5443

The Society has, in the past year, taken into its care for re-homing, dogs, cats, rabbits, chinchillas, guinea pigs, terrapins, rats and hamsters. The Society also aided over 100 animals mostly with routine and veterinary treatment but also by the provision of transport, occasional temporary accommodation and assistance in helping people with their animals in times of need. If possible, please donate animal food which will leave other money for essentials such as medical bills. Just £2 a month will help pay for the treatment of sick or injured animals.

Hillside Animal Sanctuary
Hall Lane, Frettenham, Norwich NR12 7LT
Tel: 01603 891 237
& Bridge Farm, Downham Market,
Norfolk PE38 0AU

Hillside was founded to help all animals in need, particularly those who suffer in the intensive factory farming industry. If you would like to adopt one of the rescued animals (only £6 minimum a year) please write for details. Hillside also have an extensive range of merchandise available and the Sanctuary produces a very informative magazine packed with information - Contact Hillside if you can help them in any way.

Pigeon Recovery
8 Vermont Road, Sutton, Surrey SM1 3EQ
Tel: 0181 644 7349

Lyn and Maggie Allen take in injured pigeons and lovingly nurse them back to health before releasing them back into the wild. Because pigeons are generally given very little regard, their work is all the more difficult and they rely upon donations, no matter how small, to be able to continue with their important work.

Animals in Need / Maxicare Dogs
PO Box 145, Northampton NN1 3EQ
Tel: 01604 231075 / Fax: 01604 604343

Animals in Need have rescued hundreds of animals over the years and are always in need of help both voluntary and financial. At present they have several young hedgehogs in their care which are underweight. They will be released in the spring when the weather gets warmer and they are fit and well. You can sponsor a hedgehog for £3 a week. The money will go towards the cost of food, bedding, heating and veterinary treatment. Also, Maxicare Dogs have several dogs in their care which have been with them for quite some time now and will continue to stay with them until suitable homes can be found. If you are willing to sponsor a dog for a day, week, month or however long you would like, it would be much appreciated. If you feel you can help then please contact the telephone number/address above.

Farm Animal Rescue Sanctuary
25 Springhill Road, Fen Drayton,
Cambridge CB4 5SR
Tel / Fax: 01954 230988

The Sanctuary was set up 8 years ago and over 500 animals have been rescued during this time including lambs, sheep, goats, calves, bullocks, piglets and chickens. Many had suffered injury, cruelty, neglect or were too old and worn out after years of breeding. Many were infant lambs whom farmers just wanted to be rid of. The Farm Animal Rescue

Sanctuary is run on a purely voluntary basis, and relies solely upon donations. All the money goes directly to helping the animals. Operating costs are high - animal feed, veterinary attention and farm maintenance takes a great deal of money - and at the present time the lack of funds has reached a crisis point.

Carole Webb (founder) works an eighteen-hour day, week in week out, without ever having a day off. This she can manage, her love for the animals keeps her going. However, financial worries on top of this work load cause stress and makes her task much more difficult.

There is a special appeal to keep this oasis for ex-farm animals safe and financially secure. If 1,000 people paid just £2 per month (only 50p a week) the Sanctuary would be secure so here is a case where so little could achieve so much!

If you are able to help please send donations to: **Kaylie Day (Trustee), 59 Edgell Road, Staines, Middlesex TW18 2EP Tel: 01784 461360.**

Tail Ends
PO Box 1550, London SW4 6HP

Tail Ends is a small vegan animal rescue network which needs homes for abused and abandoned animals - mainly cats and dogs. All the money, which is desperately needed, goes towards animal food, vet's bills, neutering and spaying.

Wildlife Aid
Randalls Farmhouse, Randalls Road,
Leatherhead, Surrey KT22 0AL
Tel: 01372 377332
Emergency helpline: 0839 800132

Simon Cowell, ex-city broker, gave up his job to care for wildlife and set up Wildlife Aid. So far, thousands of creatures have been nursed back to health including bats, fallow deer, badgers, foxes, hedgehogs and owls. It makes a nice change not to have to report the centre is struggling because of lack of help and money, although volunteers are always needed. Wildlife Aid, at present, have over 100 volunteers, and Simon has managed to find sponsors for the centre whilst successfully seeking gifts such as equipment from hospitals. He has also built up a 2,000-strong membership. If you would like more information, contact the address above.

Hen Heaven Sanctuary
Linda Turvey, Squirrels Farm, near Henfield,
West Sussex Tel: 01273 495614

Hen Heaven is home to former battery hens and turkeys. Linda Turvey, who runs the sanctuary in West Sussex, would appreciate any help towards the cost of feed, vet bills and

materials. More than 400 hens and chickens, along with 50 turkeys live there and, as you can imagine, costs are high.

There are numerous other animal sanctuaries in the British Isles (far too many to list) and if you would like to find out about these, write to:

Veggies
180 Mansfield Road,
Nottingham NG1 3HW
Tel: 0115 958 5666

for a copy of the Animals Contacts Diary
(97/98 Edition), price £4 (£3 unwaged)

Save the Rhino

97% of the world's rhino population has been wiped out in the last 30 years. The plight of the rhino is one of the most urgent global issues. Save The Rhino International (SRI) is a small, dynamic charity that has at its core aim the protection of this endangered species. The 460 square kilometre Kaziranga National Park is a haven for two-thirds of all living Indian rhino. With one guard for every square km, it should be one of the most protected parks, but at least one rhino every fortnight is poached, due to the high commercial demand for rhino horn in the Far East. (The current figure stands at anywhere between 25 and 50 victims per year.)

Save The Rhino International has set a target of £1m to establish the Indian Rhino Fund to support India and Nepal's rhinos. The aim is to emphasise the vital role rural communities play in the survival of all endangered species, by funding projects whereby the local communities become guardians of the wildlife. All money raised will be used to fund projects that will contribute to the co-existence of the people and the wildlife to ensure long-term security of all the endangered animals in the area.

If you would like to join the Save The Rhino Direct Club, or would like more information about SRI, you can check out their website on
<http://www.savetherhino.co.uk>
or E-mail them on
save@rhinos.demon.co.uk

Save The Rhino International
Winchester Wharf
Clink Street
London SE1 0DG
Tel: 0171 357 7474

Special Appeal: Celia Hammond Animal Trust

Do you want to do something practical for animals? Celia Hammond Animal Trust in Lewisham, SE London, urgently needs volunteers - attached to the Trust's low cost neuter clinic for cats and dogs. They need help cleaning and feeding the animals and also with their rescue work. Ability to drive would be an advantage but is not essential. Accommodation can be provided. Live-in volunteers are also needed for the same sort of work at the sanctuary near Hastings. Hard, but rewarding work in beautiful surroundings.

Please phone CHAT on
01892 783820 / 783367 (office hours)



Rescues Against Greyhound Subsidies

RAGS have a campaign motto which reads: "A greyhound bred... is a greyhound dead".

RAGS are running a campaign against the proposed European grants for Irish farmers to increase the number of greyhounds that are bred each year by a staggering 50%. The EU have proposed grant aid for the development of the Greyhound Industry, which means the number of greyhounds exported from Ireland will rise by 5,000, from a baseline in 1993 of 10,000 dogs to a projected forecast of 15,000 by the year 1999.

RAGS are opposed to these grants, and with a steady decline in attendance figures at NGRC tracks and track closures these grants are totally unjustifiable.

If you would like further information regarding the exploitation of greyhounds and what you can do to help, write to:

Steve Graham
RAGS
4 Caldey Place, City & County of
Swansea, South Wales SA5 5PN
Tel: +44 01792 561823
Web: www.k9.co.uk/rags

ANIMAL RIGHTS CAMBRIDGE

Animal Rights Cambridge, Animal Aid and Huntingdon Animal Concern were heavily involved in the setting up and continuation of Camp Rena, the eviction from the first site and the establishment of the second camp on the same day in a field by the A1 motorway, in sight of Huntingdon Life Sciences. There were many arrests at the time of eviction and at the various demonstrations. The four people who got onto the roof of the buildings were also arrested and charged. There was good media coverage.

There has been a great deal of support from animal rights groups around the country, from people from various peace camps and from road protesters who campaigned with the camp bringing gifts of food, money and materials.

Other activities have included a fast which raised over £750 and a graphic exhibition of primate photographs supplied by Mike Nunn, from the Shamrock Farm campaign group. Animal Rights Cambridge are planning a continuous hunger strike for July, outside the main entrance of Huntingdon Life Sciences, with campaigners fasting for various periods according to their strength. For further details you should contact Joan on the number below or Sue on 01223 8924435.

Animal Rights Cambridge and Animal Aid meet every last Monday of the month at the Bath House, Gwydir Street, Cambridge and hold a weekly stall in the market. The group has been actively involved in the setting up of the Huntingdon Death Sciences Campaign raising £1,600 for office equipment, etc. and after a four day fast raised a further £1,800 which was needed to re-home several distressed primates with animal rights campaigners. The money was used to pay vet and licence fees. The fast was also in support of 660 primates held in HLS.

The group has also given a great deal of support to the Hillgrove campaign as well as local hunt sab groups. A telephone and information helpline (when National groups offices are closed) is available; contact Joan's number. The group is currently supporting the campaign to stop the lethal control of pigeons in Cambridge and are in consultation with the local wildlife hospital (C.A.R.E.S.).

Animal Rights Cambridge
Joan Court, 74 Sturton Road
Cambridge CB1 2QA
Tel: 01223 311828 / Fax: 01223 300318

Vegan Village

You can find everything you need that's vegan at the virtual village for vegans on the Internet. Vegan gifts, vegan footwear, vegan chocolates, vegan perfume, vegan contacts, vegan books and magazines, vegan solicitors, vegan everything!

The Story so Far

The Vegan Village was established in September 1997 in order to provide a listing on the Internet where vegans could track down goods and services offered by fellow vegans. In the first three months over 70 individuals and companies joined the Vegan Village. The Vegan Village website has been visited by over 2000 people, who between them have looked at over 6000 pages of information. Not all the visitors are from the UK. Approximately half are from overseas - many are from the USA but there are also some from Europe and even Japan!

The Vegan Village is divided into categories. The most looked at category is Shoes and Clothes, with almost a quarter of all visitors looking at the entries in that category. The top 10 looked-at categories are as follows:



Shoes & Clothes
Food & Drink
Eating Out
Contacts
Books & Gifts
Shops
Beauty Products
Services
Accommodation
Health



Plans for the Future

So far, interest in the Vegan Village has been generated by word of mouth and by the search engines on the Internet. Marketing activity to vegan consumers will be stepped up in Spring 1998 when the Vegan Village will be marketed proactively through direct mail, advertising and publicity.

Everybody listed on the Vegan Village is invited to use the Internet address - www.veganvillage.co.uk - on brochures and leaflets, headed paper, press releases and in advertisements.

Imaner House
14 Wynford Grove, Leeds LS16 6JL
Tel: 0113 293 9385
E-mail: info@veganvillage.co.uk
Website: www.veganvillage.co.uk

join the torrent

Angling No Longer Neglected "The vitriol against fishing is no longer a drip, drip, drip. It is a torrent, with high-profile people briefed by so-called spin doctors, using the mass media to indoctrinate the masses with the views of the minority." ... John Kelly, editor of Angling Times, 4.3.98.

National Anti-Angling Week

June 13th-20th 1998

June 16th is the start of the angling season. Although the close season has been scrapped on many waters, a large number of anglers still turn out on the 16th to 'celebrate' the traditional start of the season.

Make sure you're there to greet them!

A selection of the many demos:

Sunday 14th Angling sab, meet 10am Kings Cross tube (outside WHSmiths), London.

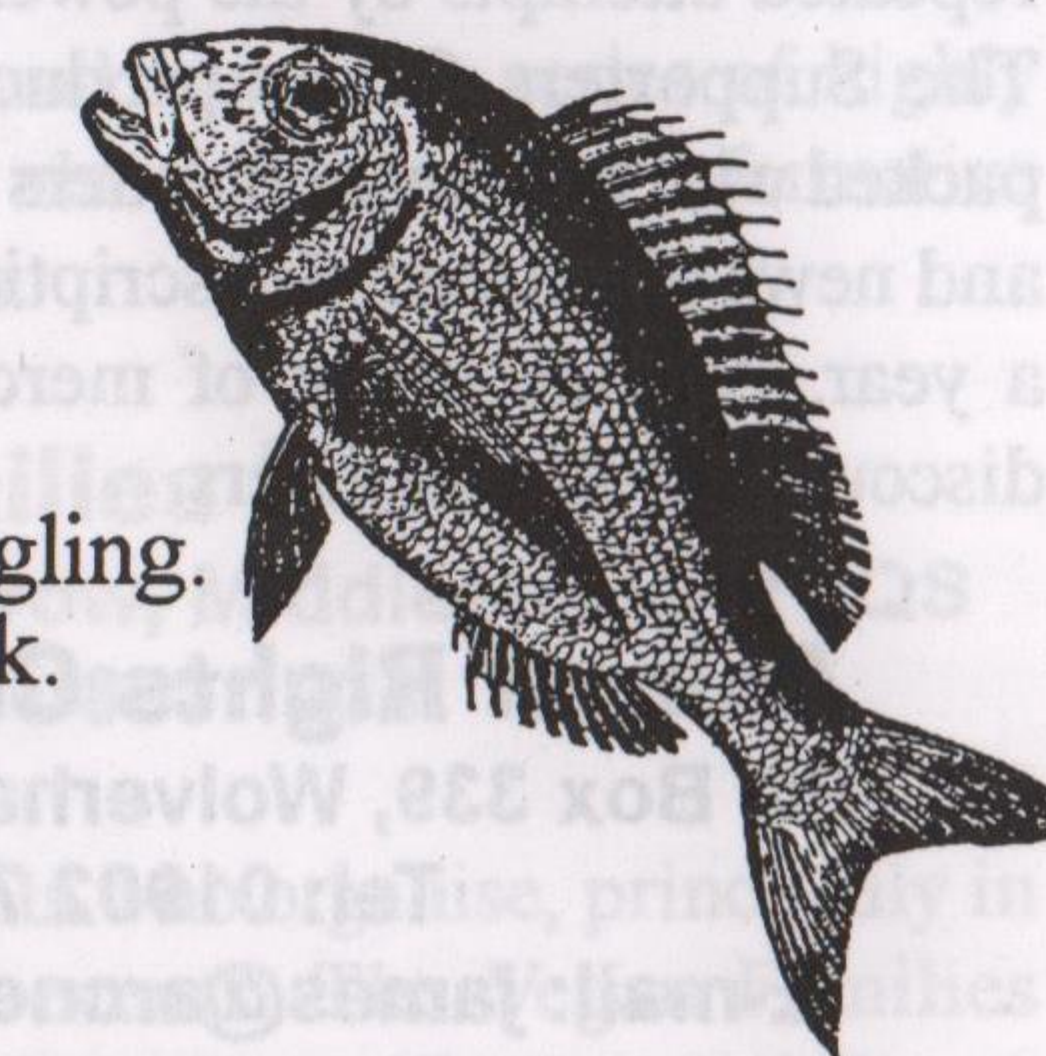
Monday 15th Anti-angling stalls and picket/stunt at tackle shop, meet 10am Kings Cross tube (outside WHS), London.

Tues 16th Angling sab, meet 10am Kings Cross tube (outside WHS), London.

Date to be confirmed Demo and presentation of livebaiting petition, at the Environment Agency, Bristol.

If you can't get to these why not organise your own:

- Leafletting/rooftop demo/occupation of your local fishing tackle shop.
 - Anti-angling street stall.
 - Angling sabotage.
 - Write to your local press to raise awareness of the cruelty inherent in angling.
 - Contact CAA nearer the time for more details of actions during the week.
 - Let us know about your actions so that we can tell others!
- Before NAAW**
- Please get signatures for the livebaiting petition.



CAA now has limited funds to give to bonafide local groups organising actions/campaigns against angling. Send us a rough plan of your project and estimate of cost.

Please send me:

- livebaiting petition.
- general anti-angling leaflets (50p per 100).
- full colour youth leaflets (£1 per 100).
- sheets of stickers (20p a sheet).
- info sheet no.9 - Achieving a local authority ban on angling.
- info sheet no.10 - Tactics for sabbing angling.
- info sheet no.11 - Writing to and dealing with the press.
- general information pack.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Angling Sabbing

- Take a dinghy or canoe onto the water to prevent anglers casting or make them reel in.
- Swim, wade or splash feet in the water.
- Make noise above and in the water.
- Use poles (eg bamboo canes tied together) to disturb the line or float.
- Aim a high powered water pistol at the angler's float/line.

Campaign for the Abolition of Angling

BM Fish, London, WC1N 3XX.

☎ 0171-2783068

Arkangel 19

National Groups Update

Animal Liberation Front (Supporters Group)

BCM 1160, London WC1N 3XX
Tel: 01203 632873

E-mail: 100302.1616@compuserve.com

The ALFSG has, since its formation in 1982, provided much needed support for animal liberation prisoners despite repeated attempts by the powers-that-be to close it down. The Supporters Group produces an excellent magazine packed with information, letters from A/R prisoners, articles and news of actions. Subscription costs £2 a month or £24 a year. A wide range of merchandise is available with discounts to SG members.

Animal Rights Coalition (ARC)

PO Box 339, Wolverhampton WV10 7BZ
Tel: 01902 711935E

E-mail: james@arcnews.demon.co.uk
Web: <http://www.envirolink.org/arrs/arc>

ARC encourages local animal rights groups to make contact with one another. ARC produces ARCNEWS (see Recommended Reading), which is an invaluable source of information. They also send out lists detailing addresses of current animal abuse establishments. Please send an sae for details.

Animal Liberation Front (Press Office)

BM 4400, London WC1N 3XX
Tel: 01954 230542

The purpose of the ALF Press Office is to explain to the media the reasons why activists are prepared to break the law to help animals. All donations are gratefully received.

Anti-Bullfighting Committee

PO Box 233, Liverpool L69 7LF

This group liases with Spanish A/R groups, lobbies travel agents and holiday makers and generally raises awareness regarding the brutal sport of bullfighting.



British Hedgehog Preservation Society

Knowbury House, Knowbury, Ludlow,
Shropshire SY8 3LQ

For information on anything hedgehog, you should contact the Society. They are a very active organisation fighting against ignorance and cruelty. They produce a very informative newsletter, 60p to non-members. Please write for details of subscriptions.

Fruitarian and Raw Energy Support & Help (FRESH)

Hales, Heath Cross, Whitestone, Exeter,
Devon EX4 2HL
Tel: 01647 61729

FRESH offers support and help for fruitarians and raw food eaters. Write for further details.

Hunt Saboteurs Association (HSA)

PO Box 2786, Brighton BN2 2AX

Tel: 01273 622827

E-mail: hsa@gn.apc.org

The HSA are an invaluable organisation who sabotage hunts on a nation-wide level. The head office provides legal and tactical support for local hunt sab groups and can provide speakers for talks. They produce the highly informative 'Howl' magazine. See 'Recommended Reading' for details.

Muslim Vegan & Vegetarian Society

Rafeeqe Ahmed, 59 Brey Towers,
136 Adelaide Road, London NW3 3JU
Tel: +44 0171 483 1742

The MVVS has been set up to promote the mental, physical and spiritual benefits of a meat-free diet. Organiser Rafeeqe says, according to the Koran, kindness and compassion towards animals is an Islamic duty. For details and copies of 'Islam and Vegetarianism' write to the address above.

Plants for a Future

'The Field', Higher Penpoll, St. Veep, nr.
Lostwithiel, Cornwall PL22 0NG
Tel: 01208 873554

Vegan-organic information centre for edible/useful plants. If you would like details of the Vegan Eco-Village you can write for further details.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)

PO Box 3169, London SW15 3ZG
Tel: 0181 785 3113

PETA are a very active organisation with a high media profile. They actively campaign against the fur and meat trades and produce very informative leaflets covering all areas of animal abuse. Write for details about the group and to obtain copies of their magazine 'Animal Times'.

Pet Stealing Alert

PO Box 94, Cheltenham, Glos. GL50 4AB

The group seeks information on adverts offering homes to cats, kittens or small dogs and information on disappearances.

Shark Protection League

BM L.A.P.L., London WC1N 3XX
Tel: 0589 173033 / mobile 01424 211071

Since the formation of the SPL in 1994, many successful protests have taken place to highlight the abuse shown to sharks at the hands of fishermen. The group now have their own office in Bexhill-on-Sea due to an ever increasing membership. The group is now able to take on volunteers with a base to work from so if you can help out, please contact them. The Shark Protection League produce an informative 'Action Update', a magazine and merchandise so write for further details to the address above.

Vegan Prisoners Support Group

PO Box 194, Enfield, Middlesex EN1 3HD
Tel: 24hr Arrest Helpline: 0181 292 8325

VPSG is a very important organisation where vegan A/R prisoners are concerned. They offer support for day-to-day problems, giving practical assistance and moral support where needed. They are always in need of volunteers and any practical and financial assistance.

Vegans International

c/o 11 Guinea Street, Bristol BS1 6SX

VI produce an informative magazine letting people know about the progress being made regarding veganism on a world-wide level.

The Vegan Society

Donald Watson House, 7 Battle Road,
St. Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex TN37 7AA
Tel: 01424 427393 / Fax: 01424 717064
E-mail: info@vegansociety.com
Web site: <http://www.vegansociety.com>

The Vegan Society, with increased membership, can spread the vegan message far and wide, but they need your help. For all things vegan, subscribe to 'The Vegan' magazine. (See 'Recommended Reading' for details.)

Veggies

180 Mansfield Road, Nottingham NG1 3HU

Veggies run a catering co-operative which travels all around the country providing tasty vegan food at demos, festivals and other events.

VIVA!

12 Queen Square, Brighton BN1 3FD
Tel: 01273 777688 / Fax: 01273 776755

This group is very active and has run a series of highly successful campaigns. They also produce a very informative magazine. Write for details.

Vegan Families Network

4 Wooster Mews, Harrow, Middlesex HA2 6QS
Tel: 0181 861 1233

An informal group of parents who organise, principally in London, quarterly family events. The Vegan Families Contact List is available from the Vegan Society (see above) providing a link between parents throughout the UK seeking to raise their children in accordance with vegan principals. To receive a copy of the list, send an SAE marked 'Vegan Families Contact List'. To register your family, please send an SAE marked 'Vegan Families Contact List Application'.

For a complete list of national and local animal rights groups you should write to Veggies for a copy of their 'Animals Contacts Directory' which is available for only £4 (£3 unwaged).



SABBING NEWS

HUNTING'S NAZI LINKS

A recent issue of 'Earth Dog - Running Dog' magazine, the house journal of terrier men and those who hunt with lurcher dogs, has recently contained outrageously racist articles. The magazine is a trade member of the British Field Sports Society, and carries its logo.

A leading article in the publication criticised black Labour MP Oona King, an opponent of fox hunting, and also spouted a racist diatribe against black Londoners. The editor is David Harcombe, a terrier man with the Cwrtycadno fox hunt in mid-Wales, who wrote the article. Ms King, MP for Bethnal Green and Bow, had appeared on Question Time when she spoke against hunting.

Note: Terrier men are unsavoury characters who follow fox hunts in jeeps and Land Rovers with spades and fox terriers. Their job is to 'dig out' foxes who find sanctuary underground. Terriers are also used to flush out the fox, which is then supposed to be shot. Often however, the fox will be captured alive to be illegally released in front of the hounds, or be used for some other torture. Terrier men are often also involved in badger baiting.

The neo-nazi British National Party also had a presence on the Countryside March, distributing pro-bloodsports leaflets to the assembled in-breds.

ANTI-HUNT PROTESTERS SABOTAGE MARCH FM

Hackers claiming to be hunt saboteurs 'hi-jacked' the Countryside March's temporary radio station to broadcast their own message. March FM went off-air in some areas of London and listeners heard music and a voice saying they were tuned in to 'the Hunt Saboteur's Broadcasting Corporation'. Tens of thousands of people streamed into London for the march. However, it is believed that about 15% of them were anti-hunt protesters.

BADGER TERM JAIL STAYED

Two men sent to prison for digging badger setts have been returned to jail after their appeal against conviction and sentence was thrown out by a judge at Oxford Crown Court. David Clark, 37 and Richard Underhill, 38, took their protest before judge Charles Harris after Banbury Magistrates gave them 60-day sentences for attempting to take badgers, sending a dog into a badger sett and damaging a sett in August 1996. Clark, of Bentley Close, Lillington, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, and Underhill, of Abbey Lane, Southam, near Banbury, claimed they were digging into the sett, at Great Bourton, near Banbury, to rescue their terrier, which had run into the badger sett.

Judge Harris ordered the men serve the remaining time of their original sentences, and gave them 30 days each on the other 2 charges, to run concurrently with their longer sentence.

'MEN IN BLACK' TERRORISE HUNT

The Vale of Aylebury foxhunt, based in Buckinghamshire, got a taste of the public anger which followed the throwing-out of the Mike Foster Bill to ban hunting. A hundred sabs turned up at the hunt's final meet to stop the scum from torturing wildlife.

During the course of the day several members of the hunt were violently assaulted by activists. Christopher Henry, 55, one of the joint masters of the hunt who was in charge, said: "I have never seen anything quite like this, nor come across people who were so determined to do harm. They were all in black, everything, coats, jeans and balaclavas. They had all sorts of things with them. It was absolutely terrifying. There were masses of them. They were not interested in the hunting, they just wanted to get someone." The hunt chairman, John Gardiner, described the attackers as "anarchists". He said: "It's extremely distressing. Someone could have been killed."

PORTMAN HUNT ATTACKED

Michael Tory, joint master of the Portman, said that up to 80 saboteurs had attacked its meet, again arriving in a fleet of large vans. He said that the gang split up and attacked in several places, with the worst incidents coming close to the meeting place of the hunt where a sports pavilion was broken into. "They smashed up furniture and then used the pieces as weapons," he said.

Tim Goodings, the Hunt Saboteurs Association's southern spokesman, claimed the hunt employed a 'flying squad' to beat up protesters. "Now huntsmen and followers know what it's like to be on the receiving end of violence."

POLICE HARASS KENT HUNT SABS

Kent hunt saboteurs have been on the receiving end of severe harassment by the local police over the last year or so. Here are a few incidents:

■ In the summer a court case was adjourned due to "police intimidation of witnesses" because police had cameras and videos outside the court filming all the witnesses and supporters. That night one sab was sacked from his job as his employers mysteriously found out about a conviction from over a decade ago. The next night a sab's car was broken into and documents taken, though valuables left behind.

■ A sab was visited by police on suspicion of murder. Police claimed everyone in the local area with previous convictions for violent offences were visited. However, the sab was only on bail for common assault on a huntsman (not very serious) and several of his neighbours (who were not visited) had previous for GBH and other violent offences.

■ Last Boxing Day a sab van was stopped for not having a petrol cap and given a prohibition notice. The petrol cap had been stolen by the hunt earlier that day. The driver was charged with driving an un-roadworthy vehicle, overloading and dangerous driving and subsequently fined £85.

■ The same day a sab was ridden down and hospitalised. The police refused to take any action.

■ On 20 August, after the hunt had packed up, Maidstone police arrived and started pushing and hitting a sab with a video camera, pulling CS gas out but not actually using it. Another sab had Antimate taken off him, had it sprayed in his eyes and given back.

■ On 29 August a sab van was towed away by police and the driver arrested for suspicion of theft of a motor vehicle as he couldn't remember the address of the registered owner.

■ On 15 September, a sab was arrested for swearing as he was being jostled and threatened by hunt scum with sticks. A fight occurred between sabs and police when police tried to steal a sab video camera. The camera was smashed and the tape seized. When sabs went to the police station to make a complaint they were locked in, videoed and several arrested.

■ On 27 September, a sab was ridden down by the Master of the East Kent foxhounds and received a serious head injury. Police refused to act unless the person injured gave them the details of all the sabs present that day.

■ On 8 October, three sabs were arrested and threatened with CS gas for criminal trespass and criminal damage on the say-so of the hunt.

■ On 11 October, two sabs were driven into by a 'quad' bike. One was impaled on the front and driven at speed for 50m before the driver stopped and beat the sab with a stick. Another sab was held down and beaten with an iron bar, kicked and punched by six scum, who even took photos of the attack. Police arrived and arrested the injured sab(!) for assault, as one of the scum had a cut on the side of their head which required six stitches. The sab was taken to hospital and miraculously escaped any fractures but sustained severe bruising and swelling.

■ On 18 October, a sab was driven over by a horsebox. Police saw the event and arrested the sab(!) for criminal damage. In the confrontation that followed police used extendable batons and CS gas sprays. One woman was hit in the face with a baton and another punched in the face after being arrested for breach of the peace. Three sabs were arrested for affray, two for offensive weapons. One sab was sprayed in the face with CS gas. The arrested sabs were made to kneel handcuffed by the side of the road and slapped

about by police. A police officer received a nasty bruise over his eye.

■ Police regularly follow sabs home, and also harass and video sabs at petrol stations, meaning sabs have to pay for their petrol wearing balaclavas(!).

■ The current master of the Ashford Valley foxhounds is Matthew Knight - the solicitor to the Master of Foxhounds Association - and the man responsible on numerous occasions for persuading police not to arrest hunt scum for serious assaults on sabs.

OBITUARIES

A gamekeeper killed himself because he feared the campaign to ban bloodsports would cost him his job and tied cottage. A shooting party found Donald Sedgwick, 63, lying in undergrowth on the 1,700-acre Melton Constable estate near Fakenham, Norfolk, where he'd worked for 32 years.

A huntsman died on the Chiddingfold, Lecontree and Cowdray hunt on Monday 2nd February after falling from his horse and suffering head injuries. The police helicopter had to be called out in order to air lift him from a field. Michael Taylor (60) from Surrey was a former master of the Surrey Union hunt.

Peter Ketteridge, a member of the Puckeridge Hunt's committee died after a fall following the Hunt's opening meet on 1 November. Mr Ketteridge had been taken to Harlow hospital with head injuries and was later transferred to the Neurological Hospital in London, where he later died.

Geoffrey Fox was the Joint-Master of the Cambridgeshire Foxhounds from 1989-93 and was in office at the time Tom Worby was killed by members of his hunt. He died recently of a brain tumour aged 50.

Sunshine & Shadow - an Autobiography

by (the late) Wilfred Crone

Wilfred Crone was a well-known advocate of the vegan and fruitarian diets. He loved to entertain his guests with stories from his varied past - life in poverty in NE England, emigration to Australia (where he worked on farms in the 1930s) and interesting experiences with animals and humans.

After his death, these were found written down and are presented in this book, together with his idea of Universal Harmony, in the hope that a wider public may enjoy these stories and gain some idea of his warm personality.

This book is available from:

Mr H Mather, 6 Hayes Avenue,
Bournemouth BH7 7AD

at a cost of £7.50 per copy (inc. p&p).



INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ARGENTINA

Rosario, Argentina's second largest city, has announced plans to close its antiquated zoo and to transfer the current animal residents to existing facilities with more spacious enclosures, with the possible reintegration of native species into the wild.

(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb 98)

AUSTRALIA

Two court decisions have condoned the trespass by AR activists who videoed conditions at some of Australia's largest poultry farms and piggeries to highlight the plight of animals there.

(Liberate!, July/Aug 97)

Exports of all species of seahorses, seadragons and pipefishes found in Australian waters will be stringently controlled with effect from 1 January 1998.

(Environment Australia Media Release, Sept 97)

Restaurants in New South Wales serving live prawns and lobsters face a two-year jail term and a fine of up to \$5,000 after the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act was amended in June. The Act now recognises crustaceans as 'animals', thereby affording them some protection from suffering.

(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct 97)

The State of New South Wales has passed legislation providing a sentence of up to 2 years for anybody serving live fish or sea food.

(Liberate!, Nov '97)

Following protest action by Animal Liberation Victoria, the Waterfront restaurant removed live lobsters from the ice in which they were being kept and put them into tanks of water.

(Animal Liberation Vic. News, Feb 98)

A fundraising mouse race planned by Melbourne Taranga Cricket Club was cancelled following a letter of protest

from Animal Liberation Victoria.

(Animal Liberation Vic. News, Feb 98)

After a long campaign by animal rights activists, experiments where macaque monkeys have part of their skulls removed and a probe inserted into their brains have been stopped by the Australian Ethics Committee.

(Animals Today, Feb/April 98)

Byron Bay has become the first area in New South Wales to place an official ban on fast food chains. The authorities there have written to McDonalds politely telling them they are not welcome.

(Animal Times, Feb/April 98)

After much debate, Coles have again decided not to sell kangaroo meat in their Victoria stores.

(Animals Today, Feb/April 98)

The federal government intends to change the rules for long line fishing in an attempt to reduce sea bird fatalities by 90% in five years. Thousands of albatrosses, petrels and other sea birds drown each year when they feed on floating bait attached to the lines and become caught on the hooks.

(Animals Today, Feb/April 98)

After a long campaign by animal rights activists, experiments where macaque monkeys have part of their skulls removed and a probe inserted into their brains have been stopped by the Australian Ethics Committee.

(Animals Today, Feb/April 98)

AUSTRIA

The provincial government of Lower Austria has voted to ban fur farming, meaning that fur farming is now outlawed in the whole of Austria. Five years ago there were 43 fur farms in Austria but following an anti-fur campaign by the Austrian animal rights movement there will soon be none.

(London Animal Rights News, March 98)



BAHAMAS

Bahamas Humane Society has convinced government officials to bring in greater protection for carriage horses in Nassau.

(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec 97)

BORNEO

The area of Tanjung Puting National Park has been increased by one-third and now covers 400,000 hectares, giving greater protection to many different species of animals, including orang-utans and large populations of waterfowl.

(Care for the Wild News, Winter 97)

BRAZIL

The cruel Farra do Boi (Ox Fun Days) festival has been banned in more than 13 communities. Ministers of the Supreme Federal Tribunal of Santa Catarina voted to do away with the sometimes days-long torture and killing of oxen during annual celebrations.

(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb 98)

BULGARIA

City officials in Sofia are planning to ban performing animal acts from the city's streets.

(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec 97)

CANADA

After animal rights activists disrupted a press conference held by the Mississauga District Manager for Parks and Recreation to announce a plan to kill 2000 Canada geese because their droppings were inconveniencing visitors to a local lake front park, people in New Brunswick offered to give homes to the geese rather than see them slaughtered.

(The Activist, Summer 97)

CYPRUS

Animal Responsibility Cyprus has succeeded in halting a plan by Greek Cypriot fishermen to slaughter dolphins.

(Pro-Animal, Oct 97)

EGYPT

A series of bullfights that were due to take place in Cairo were cancelled after the Mufti of Egypt (the country's top Islamic leader) declared that bullfighting was cruel and therefore violated Islamic principles.

(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb 98)

EUROPE

A new European Wildlife Regulation which will ban or control the trade in more than 25,000 species of animals and plants has come into force.

(Wildlife Guardian, Summer 97)

Under EU law animals have finally been recognised as 'sentient beings' rather than 'goods or agricultural products'. This means that the EU must address 'the welfare requirements of animals' when creating and implementing policies on agriculture, transport, research, etc.

(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct 97)

In February, MEPs voted for a major improvement in zoo standards.

(Teletext, 24/3/98)

FRANCE

Burger King announced it was pulling out of France after 16 years and that it would close its 39 outlets by the end of 1997, with the loss of 550 jobs. Burger King's turnover fell from 325 million francs in 1995 to 300 million francs in 1996.

(ARC News, Aug 97)

HAWAII

Honolulu has passed a city ordinance prohibiting the display of animals in cages or on stands.

(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec 97)

HOLLAND

A Dutch court has refused to extradite Paul Watson of Sea Shepherd to Norway, where he would have faced charges in connection with the disruption of whaling.

(ARC News, July 97)

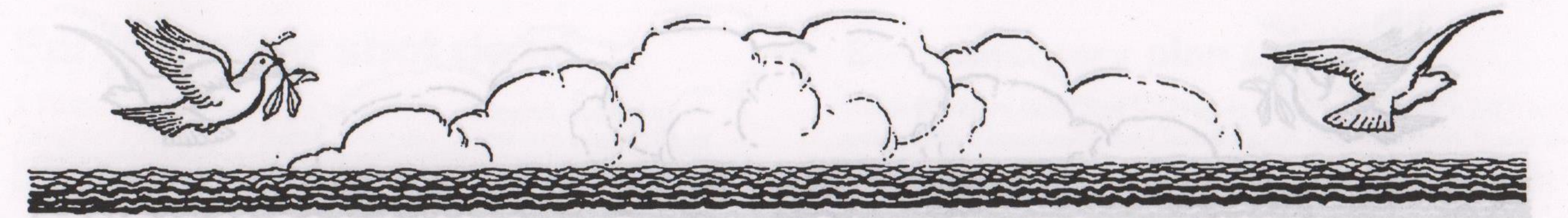
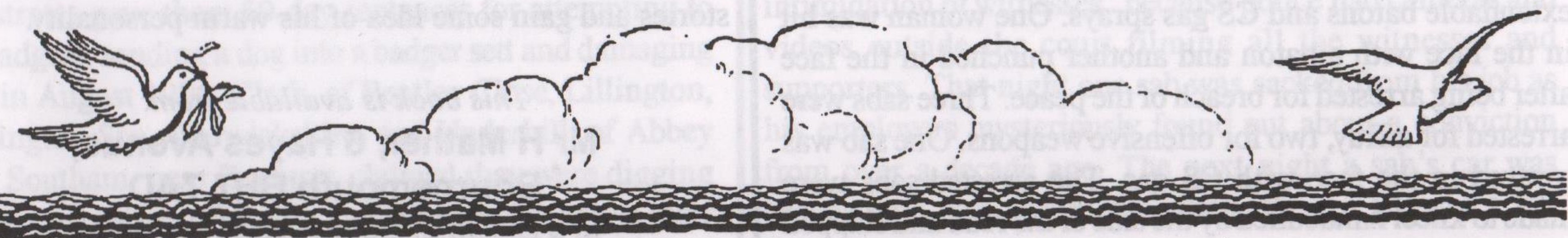
INDIA

The Delhi High Court has ruled that children up to 12 years old have the right to opt out of dissection carried out on animals in schools.

(ARC News, July 97)

The world's oldest active sportsman, 105 year old Joginder Singh, is a vegetarian. He recently took part in the Oceania Veteran Games in New Zealand and is able to run 100 metres in 20 seconds.

(The Vegetarian, Spring 98)



INDONESIA

Indonesia has banned the export of captive-born pregnant, nursing, and baby monkeys after the International Primate Protection League discovered these categories of monkey in two separate shipments of crab-eating macaques headed for a South Carolina laboratory. The export of wild-caught monkeys is already banned in Indonesia.

(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct 97)

ISRAEL

The Israeli Supreme Court has outlawed wrestling between humans and alligators as a spectator event, after saying there is no justification for such treatment of the animal just for the amusement of spectators.

(Pro Animal, Oct 97)

Israel's Finance Ministry has waved £30,000 custom duty for the importation of an animal ambulance following a campaign from Concern for Helping Animals in Israel. The donated ambulance can now go to an animal refuge in northern Israel.

(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb 98)

IVORY COAST

The Ivory Coast has banned all domestic trade in ivory tusks and has implemented strict controls on the smuggling of tusks into and out of the country in an effort to protect the African Elephant.

(TRAFFIC Bulletin, Sept 97)

PERU

A plan to cook and eat cats as part of the St Efigencia Celebrations was abandoned after protests from local animal activists.

(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec 97)

POLAND

The Polish government has announced plans to ban wolf hunting for three years. The main impact will be in the forested southeastern province of Krosno, which last season controversially allowed hunters to shoot 70 wolves from a population of just over 200.

(Independent, 13/12/97)

PORTUGAL

A Judge has ruled that the European Champion pigeon shoot is illegal and must not be permitted.

(Animals' Agenda, July/Aug 97)

SINGAPORE

A team of scientists in Singapore have found a way of producing chitosan - which traditionally comes from crabs - from a tropical form of fungi. Chitosan has a variety of uses, including skin surgery, dressings, hair and skin care, water treatment and for strengthening paper.

(Pisces, Spring 98)

SOUTH AFRICA

The pre-plucking of live ostriches before slaughter has been stopped.

(Animal Voice, Mar/June 98)

The NSPCA put a halt to 3 rodeos in the last quarter of 1997. *(Animal Voice, Mar/June 98)*

SPAIN

Plans to dam the Itoiz River in the Basque Country in Spain were put on hold when acts of sabotage forced the authorities to abandon the project.

(Underground, Autumn 97)

The village of Calonge has proclaimed itself an "anti-bullfighting" city and is to pass a law banning the display of any bullfighting propaganda. It is the fourth town/village in Catalonia to take such a stand.

(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec 97)

The Catalan Parliament voted overwhelmingly to shut down the bullring at Lloret de Mar on the Costa Brava, following a campaign waged since 1990 by Fight Against Animal Cruelty in Europe.

(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb 98)

SWEDEN

A fur farmer was ordered to shut down his three fox farms after a raid by animal rights activists. Activists publicised the fact that his fox cages were smaller than that required by law. He was later ordered by a judge to close his mink farm too. The same group of activists (who call themselves the "Wild Minks") have closed two more fox farms by going in and taking all the foxes.

(ARC News, Nov 97)

In 1997, 6 fur farms and 5 fur shops closed down and a meat company also shut after a sustained ALF campaign against it.

(Underground, Winter 97)

Huddinge fur shop is closing down after a long campaign of pickets and direct action, during which their windows were constantly smashed.

(Eliminera P., Isindustrin, 17/2/98)

USA

The US Government has announced a prohibition on the importation or transit through the USA of sea cucumbers and shark fins harvested illegally in the Galapagos Islands.

(Charles Darwin Foundation Press Release, 9 July 97)

A new law in Michigan requires the spaying or neutering of all dogs, cats and ferrets adopted from shelters. For animals that cannot be sterilised before leaving the shelter, adopters must leave a 'good faith' deposit to ensure this will be done within a certain period.

(Animals' Agenda, July/Aug 97)

The Governor of Maryland has vetoed a bill legalising hook and line catching of turtles in duck nesting areas, following calls and letters from animal rights activists. He also said there was no evidence to support claims made by duck hunters that duck populations were suffering from turtles eating duck eggs and young.

(Animals' Agenda, July/Aug 97)

Sarasta County, Florida has voted unanimously to ban the shooting of pigeons that are released from captivity to be killed.

(Animals' Agenda, July/Aug 97)

A law has been passed in Connecticut to prohibit wildlife control trappers from using such methods as drowning, Conibear traps, paint thinner injections and other cruel practices to kill animals. The law marks the first time a state legislature has banned these killing methods.

(Animals' Agenda, July/Aug '97)

Cincinnati has become the first city to prohibit the transport of injured animals to any facility, including slaughterhouses within city limits, unless the animals are being transported to receive veterinary care.

(Animals' Agenda, Jul/Aug 97)

Vidbel's Old Tyme Circus, which features performing animals, cancelled its appearance in New Paltz, New York after animal rights activist Soni Golden announced that a demonstration would take place.

(Animals' Agenda, July/Aug 97)

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has released about £100,000 to fund international projects concerned with tiger and rhino conservation.

(TRAFFIC Bulletin, Sept 97)

A pair of swans and their 3 offspring have been saved from death thanks to the efforts of Michigan residents who went to court against Wolverine Lake village and the state Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR) to stop the family from being slaughtered. After being continually harassed by water craft operators, the male swan had become aggressive towards them in order to protect himself, his mate and their cygnets, so Wolverine Lake obtained a permit from the DNR for the swans' removal and destruction. The lawsuit was settled by allowing the swans to be relocated to a safe haven in North Carolina where they are now doing well.

(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct 97)

After lobbying by the Michigan-based Wyandotte Animal Group, the Manistee county and Taylor city councils both voted unanimously to stop selling stray and abandoned animals to researchers.

(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct 97)

Following a campaign by local residents and animal activists, the US Interior Secretary has suspended the killing of 6,000 black-backed and herring gulls on Monomere Island off Cape Cod, pending the development of "management" recommendations by an independent group of scientists.

(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct 97)

Animal protection groups have thwarted the passage of a Philadelphia ordinance that would have made it legal for every household to keep 2 pot-bellied pigs. Instead a limited ban is to be enforced, which prohibits anyone keeping new pigs in the city but allows those who already have pigs to keep them, provided they buy a yearly licence.

(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct 97)

Illinois Animal Action successfully stopped several animal acts around the state. After IAA representatives and members contacted the organisers of the various events, the Sauk Village Policemen's Association agreed to no longer use circuses with animals for its fundraising. A festival in Chicago Ridge decided to forgo elephant rides, as did the Oakbrook Terrace 'Run for Kids' fundraiser, and with the help of the North West Animal League and Chicago Animal Rights Coalition, the Wauconda Library cancelled an exotic animals show.

(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct 97)



Protests by Chicago Animal Rights Coalition have succeeded in cutting attendances at the Wauconda Rodeo by half.

(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct 97)

Colgate-Palmolive has agreed to create a committee to improve the care and housing of animals in its product testing labs. The committee will include a representative from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals. The company also agreed to pressure the Environmental Protection Agency and Food and Drug Administration to stop requiring animal tests.

(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct 97)

A new law in Pennsylvania forces pet shops and breeders to be more accountable for the health of dogs being sold.

(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct 97)

Four Amazon river dolphins are to remain free after the Dallas World Aquarium abandoned plans to capture and import dolphins from Venezuela following months of pressure and protest from AR and environmental groups.

(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec 97)

Wild Oats / Alfalfa's, the second-largest natural foods grocery chain in the US has pledged to no longer carry pate de foie gras products in its stores. Whole Foods has also made a commitment to stop selling the pate.

(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec 97)

Nevada has become the sixth US state to outlaw greyhound racing following a campaign led by the local branch of the Greyhound Protection League.

(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec 97)

A law has come into effect in Nevada making it compulsory for all cats and dogs adopted from shelters, pounds and rescue groups to be sterilised.

(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec 97)

Kay Bee toy stores agreed to stop selling the Rat Trap - a battery operated toy rat that writhes and cries while caught in a trap - in response to a spate of calls from animal defenders.

(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec 97)

Following a lawsuit brought by the Fund for Animals and the Animal Protection Institute, the US Bureau of Land Management has agreed to take measures to prevent wild horses adopted out under its federal wild horse adoption program being sold for slaughter.

(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec 97)

Macy's West division has stopped selling fur following pressure from AR activists.

(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec 97)

Following a lawsuit filed by the environmental protectionists, the Bureau of Land Management has stopped its sale of the Maple Syrup forest to the timber industry. The forest contains hundreds of acres of habitat for the Northern spotted owl.

(Earth First!, Nov/Dec 97)

Following letters from AR activists, the US Dept. of Agriculture suspended the license of the King Royal Circus, which had to cancel subsequent performances. The letter-writing campaign took place after Albuquerque police found a dead elephant, 2 live elephants and 8 llamas crammed into one of the circus's trailers with the temperature inside estimated at 130F.

(Animal Times, Winter 97)

Huntingdon Life Sciences (HLS) called off a legal action against PETA after spending more than £1.5 million in solicitors' fees and other expenses. HLS sought to recover some of the £7.5 million it estimated it lost as a result of PETA's eight month investigation into animal cruelty at a laboratory near New York.

(Letter from PETA, Jan 98)

Predator Hunt Extreme 98 in Arizona was cancelled after the state Game & Fisheries Commission and the hunt's sponsor, Outdoor Promotions, were deluged with phone calls from animal advocates. The contest, planned for early February, would have involved teams of hunters shooting cougars, bobcats, foxes and coyotes and offered a ten thousand dollar cash prize.

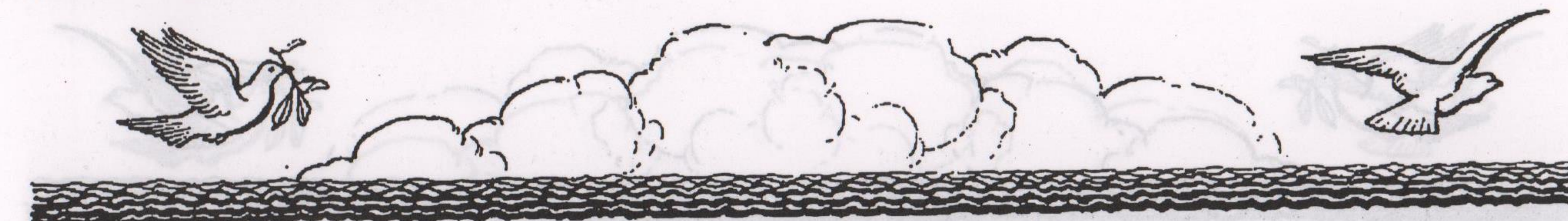
(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb 98)

New York's Rockefeller University has announced the end of cat-brain studies following an 18-month campaign by In Defense of Animals. The procedures involved cutting open hundreds of cats' brains and implanting electrodes to study balance and vomiting reflexes.

(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb 98)

The US Fish & Wildlife Service agreed to immediately stop killing coyotes in Southwest Washington following a lawsuit brought by Friends of Animals and the Predator Defense Institute.

(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb 98)



What the Papers Say

A Selection of Press Cuttings from the Past Few Months

Public opinion on fox-hunting 'being ignored'

By Fran Abrams
Political Correspondent

THE Government ignored public opinion when it refused to find parliamentary time for a Bill to ban hunting, the head of Britain's biggest polling organisation has claimed.

Bob Worcester, chairman of MORI, said only half a per cent of the population had attended the Countryside March in London - protesting against moves to ban fox-hunting - a figure which in polling terms would be considered "statistically insignificant".

"Can the Government ignore that? No, it seems they cannot," he wrote in the latest edition of *British Public Opin-*

ion, a MORI publication. "And what about public opinion as represented by their elected representatives in Parliament, their MPs? They are the lot who stayed in Westminster on a Friday rather than return to their constituencies to give the second

Badger case is upheld

TWO Judges - one who allows fox hunts to cross his land and one who does not - have clarified the law on the extent to which hunters can interfere with badgers' sets.

Lord Justice Rose, sitting with Mr Justice Sullivan in the High Court in London yesterday, ruled that soil could only be used to "stop up" a set and prevent a fox going to ground if it was sufficiently broken so as not to interfere with a badger's ability to use its home.

The two Judges rejected an appeal by Richard Lovett, a full-time employee of the Vale of White Horse Hunt, against his conviction for interfering with a badgers' sett in Wiltshire in 1994. He had been fined £100 after using clay soil to stop up two holes.

Both hunt supporters and the RSPCA claimed the ruling as a victory. A spokesman for the RSPCA said it had always been a "matter of common sense."

OBSERVER 31-8-97

Bomb hoax at harbour

SCOTLAND Yard is investigating a hoax letter bomb sent to Dover Harbour Board.

reading of Mike Foster's Bill the biggest majority ever recorded for a Private Member's Bill. Can the Government ignore that? Yes, it seems they can."

Mr Worcester said systematic polls showed that 63 per

cent of people living in or near the countryside supported the Bill, brought by Mr Foster, the Labour MP for Worcester.

The Countryside March had attracted mainly people from the higher social classes, he said - 82 per cent were ABC1 compared with 48 per cent of the electorate. More than half were from the AB professional and managerial classes which represented just 18 per cent of the adult population.

Eight out of 10 marchers had said they would vote Tory in a general election, while just 7 per cent were Labour supporters. They also displayed strong convictions on a number of issues which have recently exercised the Conservatives, with 87 per cent "strongly opposed" to the beef-on-the-bone ban and 48 per cent "strongly opposed" to right-to-roam legislation.

Janet George, chief press officer for the Countryside Alliance, said she did not accept Mr Worcester's poll of the march.

Some observers had claimed MORI's pollsters had interviewed mainly the better-dressed marchers, she said.

Recent polls for the alliance by Research Studies of Great Britain showed that 55 per cent would instruct their MP to vote for a ban on hunting, but only 47 per cent wanted to see it made a criminal offence. While 67 per cent of 16- to 24-year-olds wanted a ban, the figure dropped to 39 per cent in the 55-plus age group.

"I would contend that the vast majority of those people would not cross the road to sign a petition for a ban. People may be against hunting in the way they are against all sorts of things, but they don't care that much," she said.

THE DOVER EXPRESS

Farm worker shot dead

A FARMER killed one of his workers in a bungled attempt to slaughter a cow, a jury heard yesterday. Roger Voyle, aged 33, of Haverfordwest, West Wales, twice missed the heifer but shot Michael Spencer through the heart. Voyle denies manslaughter.

THE GUARDIAN 3-2-97

Hoax bomb threats sent by animal rights group

By Daily Telegraph Correspondent

A NEW splinter group of violent animal rights extremists sent out hoax bombs as a warning to 20 targets in Britain yesterday.

The Provisional Animal Liberation Front said it would be launching a genuine campaign of terror within two months.

Anyone working in, or associated with, industries involving animals is liable to be chosen as a target.

The group sent the hoax devices to organisations and individuals plus a list of targets and a statement outlining its aims.

"Unlike some areas of the animal liberation movement, we do not accept that it is wrong to endanger secretaries and others who may be perceived by some as 'innocent'," said the statement.

"We argue that anyone who profits in any way from animal abuse is as guilty as those who actually perpetrate the obscenities. The abusers at the 'sharp end' could not continue in isolation. They shall all pay.

"None who receives rewards from evil deeds shall be exempt from vengeance until they renounce animal torture."

Companies and individuals were sent video cassette boxes containing cat litter and a diagram showing how a real bomb could just as easily have been sent.

Recipients came from

areas such as vivisection, meat and fishing industry, pet trade, field sports and live export industry. A zoo and a fur trade company were also targeted.

Packages were also sent to two individuals who appear to have angered the group. Edinburgh's Roslin Institute, which produced Dolly the cloned sheep, was also on the hit list.

Dr Maggie Jennings, who works for the RSPCA's research animal department, received a package. The RSPCA is opposed to experiments on animals but Dr Jennings is described by the group as a "pro-vivisectionist lackey".

The statement said real bombs would be sent next time. "We intend these hoaxes to act as a warning so animal abusers and traitors may have the opportunity to change their ways before our unashamedly violent campaign begins in earnest."

One box was sent to the Dover Harbour Board because the activists claim that it has refused to stop live animal exports.

Robin Webb, Animal Liberation Front press officer, said: "The Front would not condone any action that endangers human life. But at the same time we do understand the frustration that people feel when they see that peaceful protest is not changing things."

DAILY TELEGRAPH 10-2-98

86-4-4 THE INDEPENDENT

INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY 16-11-97

Bird sanctuary plan takes off

Welsh Secretary Ron Davies has given the go-ahead for a 1,000 acre wetland bird reserve on the Gwent Levels near Newport. It will involve the creation of wet grasslands, saline lagoons and reedbeds.

Animal rights activists attack scientist

Lucy Patton

AN OXFORD professor was attacked by animal rights activists as he delivered a lecture last night. Colin Blakemore was presenting the 72nd Conway Memorial Lecture to the South Place Ethical Society in London when a bottle was thrown and two women jumped on the stage.

One woman was arrested on suspicion of assault, criminal damage and threatening behaviour after kicking a car door closed on the academic after the lecture.

Prof Blakemore said last night: "I have never been physically attacked like that before. I am willing to talk to any group that has any strong feelings concerning these issues."

Prof Blakemore has been at the forefront of controversy over animal testing, becoming animal activists' main target in 1972 when he revealed he had sewn up kittens' eyes under anaesthetic to study child blindness.

In the past, he has had windows smashed and his three children threatened with kidnapping. In 1993 a bomb packed with needles was sent to his home and last August paint stripper was poured over his car.

However, in October last year, Prof Blakemore said he supported a ban on most testing of cosmetics on animals, and set up the Boyd Group for dialogue between scientists and animal rights activists.

THE EXPRESS
23-2-98

Clash at demo over lab cats

RIOT police yesterday clashed with animal rights protesters trying to invade a farm where cats are bred for scientific experiments.

Trouble flared as activists tore down fences and threw missiles. Around 700 protesters had converged on Hillgrove Farm, Witney, Oxon, demanding it close. Thirteen people were arrested.

Record sentence for animal rights bomber

By Simon de Bruxelles

AN ANIMAL rights bomber who carried out arson attacks on stores across the South of England was jailed for 18 years yesterday. It is believed to be the longest sentence for an animal rights extremist.

Barry Horne, 45, described by the judge as an urban terrorist and by police as "dangerous, ruthless and absolutely committed", caused millions of pounds of damage to shops on the Isle of Wight in 1994.

He used disguises and was not caught until two years later, when detectives acting on a tip-off arrested him as he planted incendiary devices in shops at Bristol. Judge Simon Darwall Smith told Horne yesterday: "This was urban terrorism for a particular cause and objective. You put communities in terror. But I do accept you did not intend an attack on human life."

Last month Horne was found guilty on four charges of arson, five of attempted arson and one of possessing bomb-making equipment. He had earlier admitted two charges of attempted arson and two of possession of articles with intent to damage property.

Horne punched the air in defiance as he was sentenced and cheering animal rights supporters banged on the windows of the public gallery



One of Horne's cigarette-packet firebombs

at Bristol Crown Court. The court was told that Horne, who gave an address in Northampton, had previous convictions for similar offences.

After his release from prison on a charge of possessing incendiary bombs, he began planting firebombs in shops at Ryde and Newport on the Isle of Wight. In one night he caused so much damage that the island's emergency services called in reinforcements from the mainland.

His targets included a Boots store in Newport, which was destroyed at an estimated cost of £2.8 million. Other targets included a fishing tackle shop, Halfords and Cancer Research shops, which were badly damaged in simultaneous explosions.

In January 1995, detectives raided Horne's temporary home at Swindon, Wiltshire, where they found an article bragging about terror cam-

pagans carried out by animal rights extremists. The piece, entitled *1994 - Fighting and Winning*, said: "What an excellent year 1994 was: a year in which we fought back and inflicted losses on animal abusers."

Horne was arrested in July 1996 in Broadmead shopping centre, Bristol, by detectives from the South East Regional Crime Squad, who had been following him for more than a month. He had been seen placing incendiary devices in two stores. When he was searched, four devices were found inside the lining of his jacket. He had put tape around his fingertips to avoid leaving prints.

Detectives found 18 more devices, each using a watch face, battery, theatrical maroon flare and incendiary powder mix stuffed into a cigarette packet. The firebombs were primed and ready

to explode. Linda Jones, an explosives expert who gave evidence at the Oklahoma and World Trade Centre bombing trials in the US, told the court that most of the bombs were viable and had been designed by one person, or a small group "working closely together to a common plan".

Horne, who is unemployed, did not give evidence or call witnesses during the seven-day trial. In mitigation, Alistair Edie told the court that he never placed devices near residential properties and that all were timed to go off late at night.

He said: "Mr Horne is not a ruthless and dangerous man. He is not a Mr Big. He is not a Lenin of the animal liberation movement, nor an urban terrorist."

Detective Chief Inspector Roy Lambert, who headed the investigation, said after the case: "Horne is a very dangerous and ruthless man absolutely committed to his cause. We are very pleased at the sentence."

"We believe we have saved Bristol and other cities from horrendous firebombing campaigns. This man was not going to let anything come in his way."

After Horne had been found guilty, the court was told that he had convictions from 1988 to 1995 for offences carried out during his campaign.

A THE GUARDIAN 16-1-98

THE TIMES 6-12-97

A U.S.A. TODAY 29-10-97

Nebraska

Neligh - Vandals caused \$100,000 in damage at the construction site of a controversial hog farm. Antelope County Sheriff Ralph Black said the farm faces strong opposition from people who fear the facility will seriously harm the environment.

Utah

Salt Lake City - State Rep. Dennis Iverson, R-Washington, is reviving a bill to target crimes by environmental extremists trying to interfere with legitimate mining, logging and farming. The crimes would be third-degree felonies carrying a maximum penalty of five years in jail and a \$5,000 fine.

parts of America. But he will have trouble with the airlines and the Ministry of Agriculture. There are sea-lion diseases, you know. But I won't play any part in this endeavour and nor should anyone in my profession."

DNA used in hunt for killers of badger

By Russell Jenkins

FOUR men accused of killing a badger after digging it from its sett were linked to the crime by DNA tests on the animal's body, a court was told yesterday.

Magistrates in Bakewell, Derbyshire, were told that it was the first time genetic profiling had been relied upon by the RSPCA in such a case. Blood found on one of the men's clothing and on another's knife was matched with tissue taken from a dead badger, it was alleged.

Garry Shaw, 26, of Matlock; Russell Pettipierre, 37, of Alderwasley; David Wragg, 32, of Belper, and Michael Holland, 32, of Chaddesden, all Derbyshire, deny killing and digging for a badger and interfering with a sett at Cromford Moor in Derbyshire.

John Sutcliffe, prosecuting for the RSPCA, said tests showed that bodily fluids or tissue from the dead badger were present on Mr Holland's boiler suit and Mr Wragg's knife.

The trial continues.

Minister: We'll block any bid to ban shooting

ANIMAL rights campaigners have been warned that the Government will block any attempt to introduce a ban on shooting and fishing.

Countryside Minister Elliot Morley last night ruled out a crackdown on game or clay-pigeon shooting.

Field-sports enthusiasts fear a proposed ban on fox hunting could strengthen the campaign to abolish angling and shooting.

But in an interview for next month's issue of the Shooting Gazette, Mr Morley made clear the Government thinks shooting is an 'essential' part of country life.

"My own view as Countryside Minister is that shooting and angling

have no difficulty in justifying themselves," he said.

His attempt to reassure the countryside lobby is another step in Government efforts to reassure those who fear it has put the interest of city-living campaigners first.

A Private Member's Bill to ban hunting with hounds will go before the Commons later this year.

Tony Blair promised a free vote, but earlier this month announced he would back a ban.

Then a mass rally of over 100,000 countryside sports activists in Hyde Park forced the Government to promise it would not allocate extra Commons time to guarantee the Bill's passage.

THE TIMES 17-11-97

THE INDEPENDENT 4-4-98

THE HERALD TRIBUNE 28-8-97

A HUGE seven-year programme of experimentation and research into mad cow disease, involving hundreds of cattle and sheep and thousands of mice - some of them genetically engineered - has been quietly launched by the Government.

One Whitehall source told *The Independent*: "We are leading the world on research into BSE, which is quite right because we did, after all, give the world BSE in the first place."

• The Animal Liberation Front has claimed responsibility for a fire that destroyed a horse-processing plant and slaughterhouse in Redmond, Oregon, causing an estimated \$1 million in damage. (AP)

Activists target store chairman

ANIMAL activists descended on the Bledlow home of the chairman of the John Lewis Partnership last week to protest against the company's organised pheasant shoots.

The 15 demonstrators blew whistles, chanted and battered on the doors of the farm belonging to Stuart Hampson on Tuesday night.

The group also claims to have smashed a front window at the house but when the police arrived they found no sign of any damage or protestors.

The attack was said to be part of a campaign to end the shoots, organised for John Lewis employees at the company's Leckford Abbas Estate, near

Stockbridge in Hampshire, where the birds are bred.

The Animal Liberation Front denied the group was connected with them, and issued a statement which it claims was sent to its press officer anonymously.

"It would have taken us two minutes to trash the house completely and unless we hear very soon that the shoots are not to continue that is exactly what we'll do," it read.

A spokesman for father-of-two Mr Hampson (51) said it was not company policy to comment on such matters.

Hoax packages have been sent to the estate by a group calling itself the Provisional Animal Liberation Front.

JULIA HINDE

ANIMAL rights activists turned on the Government this week following attacks on five Oxford academics this month.

Animal Liberation Front protesters demonstrated at Labour party headquarters in London to draw attention to Barry Horne, a remand prisoner in Bristol Prison, who is on a second hunger strike.

Mr Horne, 45, who is charged with possessing explosive devices, claims the Government has reneged on pre-election promises to protect laboratory animals from experimentation.

Robin Webb, spokesman for the ALF which last week claimed responsibility for the recent attacks on Oxford academics including Colin Blakemore, who later this month will succeed as president of the British Association for the Advancement of Sci-

EDITORS JAILED FOR CONSPIRACY

By Diane Taylor

Three editors of radical publications have been found guilty of conspiring to incite 'persons unknown' to commit criminal damage. Civil liberties lawyers say the verdicts have huge implications for freedom of speech.

At the end of the 10-week case bought by Hampshire Police, the first of its kind for a decade, Steve Booth, Sax Wood and Noel Molland were jailed for three years each for reporting the actions of green and animal-rights activists in two publications, *Green Anarchist* and *Animal Liberation Front Supporters Group Newsletter*.

Co-defendant Simon Russell was acquitted following jury deliberations lasting three and a half days. An appeal has already been launched.

Tim Greene, the defendants' solicitor, said he was disappointed but not surprised: "This result has very severe implications for anyone who wishes to report events in radical or other publications in anything but a condemnatory way. It gives the green light to reactionary police officers to concentrate on this sort of activity."

Threat of more animal rights activist attacks

JULIA HINDE

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Robin Webb, spokesman for the ALF which last week claimed responsibility for the recent attacks on Oxford academics including Colin Blakemore, who later this month will succeed as president of the British Association for the Advancement of Sci-

ence, said Mr Horne had stopped his initial hunger strike after written promises from Labour that it would set up a Royal Commission on animal experimentation, but that this had now been dismissed. Mr Webb said: "There will continue to be demonstrations and other action against other people who are involved in animal experimentation and testing. I can't predict what is going to happen. Certainly anyone who is involved in the use of animals in research and in other areas would be a legitimate target for demonstrations and other actions."

The British Association annual meeting, being held at Leeds University early next month, will include a debate between those at either extreme of the animal rights spectrum, including Professor Blakemore, who has been the focus of attacks for over a decade.

A BIG ISSUE 17-11-97

A THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT 29-8-97

A BUCKS. HERALD 23-2-98

Secret slaughter of eight million animals 'not suitable' for tests

by David Harrison

MILLIONS of animals bred for scientific experiments are being slaughtered because they are 'not quite right' for the tests. Many other 'unsuitable' animals are sold to research centres or to markets in what one MP described as 'a hidden trade in misery'.

Monkeys, horses, dogs, cats, rabbits, guinea pigs, mice and rats are among the animals being rejected by scientists because they are not the right sex, age, weight, or 'quality' for experiments.

The scale of the slaughter in British research centres has outraged animal welfare groups. Animal Aid, Britain's biggest animal charity, described the cull as 'the great secret scandal of animal experiments'.

The figures are based on those given to Liberal Democrat MP Norman Baker by John Chisholm, chief executive of the Defence Evaluation and Research Agency (Dera) at Porton Down in Wiltshire, where scientists carry out tests on animals.

They show that two or three times more animals are culled than are used for experiments. Dera says this is 'in line with commercial operation'.

The Home Office admits that 2.7 million animal experiments take place in Britain every year. Mr Baker, MP for Lewes, said: 'If two or three times the number of animals experimented on are being killed then the total number being slaughtered is between five and eight million.'

'These animals are being bred in artificial conditions, never seeing the light of day, and are then killed by lethal injection, gassing or by having their necks broken.'

The MP added that this 'unnecessary slaughter' exposed the shallowness of the government ban on using animals for cosmetics tests, which had cut the number of experiments by only 200 a year.

The Porton Down figures show that 94 Marmoset monkeys were killed and 12 used for experiments between 1994-95. In the nine months to January, 3,167 mice were killed and

923 used for experiments, while 2,504 rats were slaughtered and 724 used for tests.

The Home Office admitted that it kept no record of the number of animals killed in research establishments other than Porton Down because no licence is required to kill 'surplus' animals.

Andrew Tyler, director of Animal Aid, said: 'The least these animals deserve is to turn up in official statistics, but they are denied even that.'

The British Anti-Vivisection Society said its own investigations had shown 'horrendous' numbers of animals were killed because they were unsuitable for tests.

The number of animals

Labs on alert as cloning centre gets bomb threat

SCOTTISH research laboratories have been put on alert after a fake bomb was sent to the institute which created Dolly the sheep.

A package was received at the Roslin Institute near Edinburgh on Wednesday.

used and destroyed during military testing at Porton Down has more than doubled to 11,221 since 1992. Anaesthetised pigs were strapped on to trolleys and subjected to blasts at close range to test body armour, and monkeys shot above the eye to investigate the effects of high-velocity missiles on brain tissue.

The number of animals used in military experiments is expected to soar following the Government's announcement last year of a £2.5 million research programme into the effects of vaccines and tablets given during the Gulf war.

But a United States Defence Department statement said recent tests on animals had failed to explain symptoms suffered by American troops in the war.

Anti-Hirst protest caused mayhem

BY JOANNA BALE

FIVE animal welfare activists barged into a London restaurant to protest at an exhibition of pickled cows' heads by the artist Damien Hirst, a court was told yesterday.

They scuffled with staff at Quo Vadis, a Soho restaurant owned by Hirst and the chef Marco Pierre White, in January as customers dined near the exhibits — glass cases containing two bull's heads in formaldehyde. The protesters kicked a painting, broke a vase, ripped telephones from their sockets and tipped rubbish on the floor. They were eventually thrown out of the restaurant, which exhibits work by young British artists.

In the dock at Middlesex Guildhall Crown Court were

Melanie Gatty, Paul Gravette, and Brendon McNally, of north London; Niel Hansen, of Hertfordshire; and Robin Lane, of southeast London.

Brendan Kelly, for the prosecution, said that he would accept not guilty pleas to affray from Gatty and Gravette. He read out a list of previous convictions against the other three, many linked to animal welfare activities.

Gatty and Gravette were each bound over by Judge David Paget, QC, in the sum of £100 to keep the peace for a year. The other three, who admitted using threatening words and behaviour but denied affray, were fined £200, ordered to pay costs and bound over in the same terms.

Hunt arrests

Forty-two people were released on police bail after being held following clashes at Hursley and Hambledon Hunt at Warnford, Hampshire, on Saturday. Three people had needed hospital treatment. Officers studied footage taken from a spotter plane of saboteurs ambushing the meeting.

THE TIMES 14-10-97

THE TIMES 15-12-97

THE DAILY MAIL 12-2-98

SLOUGH AND LANGLEY EXPRESS 13-7-97

Dread herring

A HUGE school of herring caught in a trawler's nets swam for their lives and sank the boat.

The fish swam for the seabed, pulling down the 63ft Steinholm, as crew tried to haul in nets. Six men abandoned ship off Norway.

THE OBSERVER 1-2-98

Butchers' shops under attack

ANIMAL rights protesters are targeting butchers shops in a nationwide campaign of vandalism.

At least three butchers shops were hit on Monday night — two in Burnham and one in Windsor.

Police have warned butchers to be on their guard and to report anything suspicious immediately.

At just before midnight on Monday, two activists were spotted vandalising John The Butcher in Burnham High Street.

A neighbour saw a car draw up with its lights out. One passenger sprayed ALF (Animal Liberation Front) in red paint across the shop front while the other threw a brick through the window, causing £300 damage.

On the same night the window of Hearn & Son Butchers in Burnham High Street was also smashed.

'I'll not give in' says farmer after bomb threat

A CAT farmer whose business is at the centre of regular demonstrations has revealed that animal rights protesters have threatened to bomb his home.

Mr Chris Brown, who breeds virus-free cats for animal research, is one of a number of businessmen who have received bomb threats from the Provisional Animal Liberation Front.

The farmer, who is in his late 50s, suffered burns to his face and stomach when a letter-bomb exploded at his cat-breeding farm in Minster Lovell, near Witney, in 1993.

The latest package sent to his home contained a video cassette box with cat litter and a diagram of the internal workings of an explosive device. There was a warning that next time the bomb would be a real one.

He handed the package to police who are making inquiries.

The Provisional ALF which sent the hoax device declared a policy of committing acts of violence against its targets earlier this month.

Mr Brown said he refused to be intimidated. He continued: 'Last time I opened one of these packages, it exploded and burned my eyebrows, face and stomach.'

'My concern is that even though these packages are addressed to me, another member of my family might open it. What is happening is frightening but I don't intend to give in.'

Acting Supt Dan Clacher, the head of Operation Stile, established earlier this year to monitor protests at Hillgrove Farm, said: 'This is yet another example of threats and intimidation against Mr Brown. An investigation is now under way.'

THE OXFORD TIMES 6-3-98

Protesters in demo at superstore

Bleach poured on to meat in protest against exotic food.

By Jonathan Smith and Lorna Shearman The News

Nine animal rights activists who poured bleach on to meat in Sainsbury's supermarket at Fareham were arrested by police after staff evicted them from the store.

About 15 demonstrators who were spotted damaging the meat in the store at about 8pm last night claimed they were protesting against the importation of exotic meats.

Sainsbury's today condemned their actions and said the store in Broadcut did not even stock exotic meats like kangaroo, crocodile and ostrich.

As well as contaminating the meat with suspected bleach, the activists also pushed children's lollipops into packs of beef and lamb before Sainsbury's security staff ejected the protesters.

A man claiming to represent the demonstrators telephoned

THE NEWS 21-11-97

Animal tests to go on

ANIMAL experiments to test new cosmetics are to continue despite pledges to ban them made by Tony Blair during the general election, writes Jason Bennetto.

Labour has also reneged on promises — contained in an official policy document — to set up a Royal Commission into the issue and to reduce the number of animals used. Government funding of research into alternatives to animal testing is being cut by £60,000 to £197,000 next year.

The Home Office, however, is to increase the number of inspectors used to check laboratories and breeding farms, and to intro-

duce a tougher code of practice with better training for animal workers. Any site using animals will have to give details of what alternatives it has considered.

News that Labour has gone back on its promise to act on animal testing has dismayed anti-vivisection campaigners.

About 2,800 animals, mostly rabbits, guinea pigs and rats, were used last year to test cosmetics for problems such as irritation or effects on the reproductive system. The vast bulk of animals — 2.7 million last year — are used for medical research, pharmaceuticals, and testing military defensive equipment.

Kelly Flynn, a spokeswoman for Sainsbury's said the protesters were 'irresponsible'.

'It upsets our customers and they do not tend to get any sympathy from the public.'

She said there was no connection between the attacks and the so-called Mardis Gras bombers who have targeted Sainsbury's stores in London with incendiary devices.

The nine suspects were held in custody over night at Fareham police station and were due to be questioned later today.

Bardot in court on race charge

Paris: Brigitte Bardot, the animal rights campaigner, said yesterday that Islamists were "manic throat-cutters" at a court hearing where she was accused of inciting racial hatred and of racial slurs.

She told a court here that she stood by an attack on Islamic ritual slaughter she made in *Présent*, the daily newsheet of the extreme-right National Front.

Mme Bardot, 63, who is being prosecuted by three anti-racist groups and the Justice Ministry, told the court that she was proud she had written that Muslims "covered France with blood" by cutting the throats of sacrificial sheep at the feast ending the Ramadan fast.

She had written: "They cut the throats of women and children, our monks, our officials; they will cut our throats one day."

Judgment was reserved until January 20. (AFP)

Meat arson

THE radical Animal Liberation Front has claimed responsibility for a fire that destroyed a Belgian-owned horse meat-processing plant.

The fire in the central Oregon town of Redmond did an estimated \$1million (£650,000) in damage.

An ALF communique said the arsonists used flammable gel to fuel the fire and poured hydrochloric acid into air-conditioning vents to taint stored horse meat.

INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY 19-10-97

Lecture arrest

A woman was arrested after Colin Blakemore, the Oxford University professor, was attacked by animal rights activists while delivering a lecture in London last night.

PRESS AND JOURNAL 6-8-97

THE TIMES 3-12-97

THE TELEGRAPH 16-1-98

Firebombers target butcher

Builders badgered to a halt by shy residents

BY MARCUS BINNEY

ALL seemed lost for heritage campaigners trying to save a Georgian estate. Then, just as builders began to rip out hedges and iron railings to make way for executive homes, the badgers came to the rescue.

The grounds of Downe Hall in Bridport, Dorset, are a haven of badger setts and, as naturalists pointed out, damaging or interfering with the sett or disturbing a badger carries fines of up to £5,000 or six months in prison. Work has been halted.

ANIMAL rights campaigners are believed to have planted an incendiary bomb which damaged a Wanstead butchers shop.

The front window of AG Dennis's shop in the High Street was left with a foot long spider's web-like fracture. The whole window was replaced on Tuesday.

PC Paul Mitchell said the cause of the damage was an incendiary device, which caused minimal damage to the window between 12.30 and 1am early on Friday. The Bomb Squad had been called to investigate.

BY DAVID GRIFFITHS

Although PC Mitchell could not confirm if it was the work of animal rights campaigners, a spokesman for the Animal Liberation Front is certain that his members taped the device to the window.

Robin Webb, press officer for the Animal Liberation Front (ALF), said his organisation had not claimed responsibility, but added: "I am confident that ALF activists did this. That would be in line with the Animal Liberation Front."

Devices had also been strapped to butcher shop

windows in Collier Row, near Chigwell, in December 1996 and East Ham in February. Mr Webb said he was confident that activists had been responsible for these incidents.

The devices were fixed when the shops were empty so no life was endangered, he added.

"The aim is economic sabotage - to drive the meat industry out of business. When one butcher's shop is damaged, they not only have the cost of replacing the window, they pay an increase in insurance premiums and additional costs in security, such as closed circuit TV cameras," he said.

The meat industry was targeted because it was the biggest area of animal abuse, he claimed.

And he said high street butchers were being hit rather than supermarkets because they sold only meat.

But when asked if people should be allowed to eat

meat if they wanted, he said: "There is the argument that you should do something because you enjoy it, but child pornography and dog-fighting are enjoyed by some people. The fact that they enjoy something does not make it morally right."

The boss of Dennis's Butcher's, who did not want to be named, said it was the first time such a device had been attached to his window, although he was aware of similar incidents at other butcher's shops.

The remains of the device had gone by the time he arrived at the shop at 6am.

● Three London area anarchists have been jailed for three years after being found guilty of inciting readers of a magazine to smash the windows of butchers' shops and send letter bombs.

A fourth defendant, said to be associated with the Animal Liberation Front, was acquitted.

△ WANSTEAD AND WOODFORD
REDBRIDGE GUARDIAN
20.11.97

Hunting ban Bill runs out of time

By Colin Brown
Chief Political Correspondent

JACK STRAW, the Home Secretary, is under pressure to announce an inquiry into blood sports to head off the Labour MPs' demands for a ban on fox-hunting after a Private Member's Bill yesterday looked doomed to a lingering death.

After last Sunday's mass march on London by the countryside lobby, dominated by the hunting, shooting and fishing fraternity, the Bill to ban fox-hunting was slowly dispatched with a whimper.

The anti-hunting campaign managed a token protest of 12 bedraggled people, with four banners, in the rain outside the Commons.

The Tory old guard who led the assault on the Bill were nearly tripped up by new technology. Michael Heseltine, who led the charge, was in full flow during his speech, when his mobile telephone went off in contravention of a ruling by the Speaker, Betty Boothroyd. Mr Heseltine, a former minister in

charge of technology, fumbled with the instrument before carrying on. Supporters of the Bill tried to force the pace by halting a debate on one amendment with a closure vote.

The opera hat - needed to make a point of order during a division - was passed around during the vote as the supporters of the Bill cried foul over the slowness of their opponents.

The Serjeant at Arms was dispatched to investigate, but it was clear that the number of amendments would leave the Bill too little parliamentary time, and it will get the *coupe de grace* next Friday.

Tony Blair, who was in Scotland, told MPs last year that Labour's election manifesto commitment to allow a free vote had been fulfilled. But the size of the record 260-vote majority on the Bill's second reading last November was a warning that the demands will not go away.

A cross-party group of MPs, including the Labour MP Kate Hocoy, who are seeking a "middle way" out of the foxhunting row, last night led calls for an

independent inquiry to allow a compromise to be reached.

An inquiry has not been ruled out by Michael Foster, the Labour MP who introduced the Bill. Supporters of the ban fear an inquiry will be used to put the issue off until after the next election, but it may keep alive their hopes. They were furious with Mr Straw for saying the Government had no mandate for a ban. Former Labour frontbencher, Kevin McNamara said: "There will be many Labour supporters... who will see this as a sheer shift of ground from 'no time this session' to 'no time ever'."

Mr Straw is anxious to avoid the Government's Crime and Disorder Bill being targeted in the autumn by anti-hunting MPs to outlaw foxhunting.

Government sources confirmed that Home Office officials were studying an inquiry among the options for dealing with public concern about blood sports.

Ms Hocoy said: "Today's debate strengthened the case for an independent inquiry because so many new things were coming out."

△ THE INDEPENDENT 7-3-98

Masked saboteurs hit hunters with bats

Thirty-one people were arrested and three others taken to hospital yesterday after animal rights activists clashed with supporters of the Hursley and Hambledon Hunt at Warnford near Bishops Waltham, Hampshire.

The masked saboteurs attacked the hunters' cars, smashing windows and damaging bodywork. Three hunt supporters were injured while trying to protect the vehicles.

Jeffrey Mansfield, 51, said: 'About seven or eight Transit vans containing as many as 100 people turned up and the thugs spilled out of them. They started shouting and smashing up the cars which were parked on the verges. They were using clubs, staves and iron bars, and they attacked anybody who offered any resistance or who tried to defend themselves or their vehicle. It was very violent and very frightening.'

Hunt Saboteurs Association spokesman Paul Gammon said he was appalled by news of the violent clashes, which were 'utterly out of character from our usual type of actions'.

THE OBSERVER 14-12-97

RSPCA hit by terror scare list

by Siobhan Ryan

SECURITY has been stepped up at the Horsham-based RSPCA after threats from an animal rights group.

The move comes after the discovery of an Animal Liberation Front hit list which targets some of the charity's senior staff.

The list was compiled after the RSPCA dropped one of its policy statements which declares support for animal rights.

The society had been warned by the Charity Commission it risked losing its charitable status unless its commitment to the policy was dropped.

Under guidelines, the RSPCA is supposed to seek the prevention of cruelty to animals using a non-violent approach.

But the commission said the RSPCA's animal rights policy statement connected it too closely with terrorist groups like the ALF.

A spokesman for the charity confirmed it had received threats from the ALF and two hoax parcel bombs had been intercepted.

△ THE TIMES 30-12-97

£10,000 grant for otters

Wildlife experts have won a £10,000 grant to lure the otter back to the Yorkshire Dales. The money will provide suitable habitats at nine secret locations along the River Wharfe. The last otters in the area were killed by pollution during the 1940s. Half the money comes from the Millennium Trust; the rest from the Environment Agency, Yorkshire Water, Yorkshire Electricity and landowners.

A CHIPPERFIELD Circus worker's arm was bitten off and eaten by a tiger at the family's winter quarters at Heythrop, Oxfordshire, last night.

Nigel Wesson, 32, had been feeding the four-year-old Bengal tiger from outside, the cage when the animal lunged for his arm and severed it just below the elbow.

△ THE TIMES 26-2-96

Animal rights attack on store warehouse

AN animal rights group this week claimed responsibility for a vandalism attack which caused hundreds of pounds of damage at a Stevenage warehouse.

The Animal Liberation Front (ALF) said it targeted the John Lewis depot, in Cavendish Road, Symonds Green, pouring paint over lorries and smashing windows.

Stevenage police said the break-in took place between 4pm on Saturday and 9.30am on Sunday.

△ STEVENAGE MERCURY 13-3-98

Fast-food firm hit by firebombs

Athens: Fire-bombers struck at two McDonald's restaurants in a northern suburb of the Greek capital (John Carr writes). What police said were home-made explosive devices went off outside the fast-food outlets in the suburb of Halandri within two miles and ten minutes of each other. Both branches suffered damage, but nobody was injured as they were closed. No organisation took responsibility for the blasts, which shattered windows in nearby flats.

△ EVENING ARGUS 23-2-98

△ THE TIMES 4-2-98

MARCO PIERRE White will do almost anything with a dead stag if you pay him enough. But for some reason he won't be photographed with one. The testy cook has decided that being pictured with dead animals would be bad for his image.

"I knew he liked hunting, shooting and fishing, so I wanted him walking through Piccadilly at dawn carrying a dead stag across his shoulders."

△ EVENING STANDARD 3-4-98

Man fined £3,000 for smashing pet's jaw

A RETIRED RAF squadron leader has been fined £3,000 for smashing the jaw of his elderly Jack Russell terrier.

Dennis Warne, 71, was also banned for life from keeping animals and told to pay £775 costs by magistrates in Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire.

△ WESTERN DAILY EXPRESS 12-11-97

THE TIMES 4-1-98

Protest ends

An animal rights protester was dug out of a tunnel outside Huntingdon Life Sciences, an animal research centre in Cambridgeshire, yesterday after 59 hours underground. Greta Sawyer, 24, of southeast London, was arrested for obstruction.

THE TIMES 3-10-97

Bomb warning

SECURITY has been stepped up at Dover after animal rights activists sent a parcel to the harbour board containing details of bombs.

The Provisional Animal Liberation Front warned in a note that a bombing campaign would begin in April if the animal export trade did not stop.

KENT TODAY 19-2-98

E-coli poison fine

The butcher's shop at the centre of the world's worst *E-coli* 0157 food poisoning outbreak, in which 20 people died, was fined a total of £2,250 for breaches of food hygiene and safety laws.....

THE TIMES 12-1-98

Hunt protesters fear 'kill' threats

Farmers admit killing deer

TWO prominent hunt leaders yesterday admitted shooting 100 red deer on the Quantock Hills since the National Trust banned hunting with hounds. They claim the hunt can no longer control the number of wild deer on their farms, but outraged hunt opponents accused them of emotional blackmail, claiming they had blown apart a deal setting a deer culling quota.

One scientist warned that red deer could disappear from parts of Exmoor and the Quantocks if shooting continued at such a rate. The National Trust and Forestry Commission insisted there would be no U-turn over their ban.

Robert Rowe and Ben Bartlett, of the Quantock Stagholds, are both farmers and active hunt supporters.

They revealed their cull at a meeting of the Exmoor Deer Management and Conservation Group, but would not disclose how much they made selling the carcasses, though they are said to be worth up to £100 each.

Other landowners condemned the two, while anti-hunt campaigners called for an end to all hunting and shooting. Farmer Michael Fry, a neighbour of Mr Bartlett, said: "These are people who profess to love deer. This is barbaric, pure greed."

THE GUARDIAN 10-2-98

Report by Michael Butler

HUNT protesters fear for their lives, claiming they have received death threats from hostile fox-hunters.

The county's most prominent hunt protest group, South Dorset Hunt Saboteurs Association, says its members are being threatened in their own homes by hunt supporters and are calling for police protection.

Dorset Police confirmed yesterday that they are investigating the claims.

"We've had thugs come to people's homes in Dorchester and Blandford issuing death threats and we're terrified.

We've seen these people at hunts and know they're violent," said a saboteur, who refused to be named for fear of reprisals.

One protester claimed he was threatened on Saturday in the centre of Dorchester as he dropped his wife off at work.

"Two hunters stopped their car and said they were going to kill me," he said.

Another said he had to leave his job in East Knighton after being threatened by two car loads of hunters with guns and dogs.

The saboteurs have blamed the recent anti-hunting Bill which has divided rural communities. Last month some of the worst violence in the country was at Dorset hunts.

"The hunters have known they're fighting a losing battle

and it looks like a small minority are now intent on intimidating us in our homes, where we work and in our neighbourhoods. We know who they are and the police do also," said one saboteur.

Det Sgt Rob Lee of Dorset Police said: "Violence surrounding the hunts has entered a new phase during past months and police have been notified of several incidents," he said.

But the death threats have been played down by hunt representatives.

"We've heard nothing of these accusations and would never support this kind of action," said Alison Hawes, spokesman for British Field Sports Dorset, who claimed the allegations were a publicity stunt.

Saboteurs avert A35 danger

THE GUARDIAN 26-2-98

Grim circus routine of animal beatings

CIRCUS animals are being routinely beaten, whipped and clubbed by trainers, according to a report yesterday by animal rights campaigners.

The 18-month study into the use of circus animals by a group called Animal Defenders involved studying the animals, and working practices in winter quarters and travelling circuses.

The report, called The Ugliest Show on Earth, also drew on 400 hours of videotape which included scenes of beatings and long confinements.

One piece of footage featured an elephant being beaten relentlessly with an iron bar.

In another, an infant chimpanzee, 18 months old, is seen being kicked and whipped.

The report claimed that animals were frequently left locked up for long periods on time.

The study said one elephant spent 98 per cent of her time chained in a lorry or tent. Large cats were found to spend 75-80 per cent of their time in cages while horses were locked in their stables for 23 hours a day.

Animal Defenders director Jan Creamer said: "In over 20 years of studying the use of animals and campaigning for animal protection, this is the most appalling abuse I have ever seen."

"Elephants were beaten with pitchforks, shovels, el-

phant hooks and anything else to hand — on one occasion the animal was brought to the ground screaming.

"It is time that the use of animals in circuses was abandoned and performing animal training centres brought under the Zoo Licensing Act."

In the absence of a ban on the use of animals in the circus trade, Animal Defenders is calling for zoo animals to be protected under the 1981 act which

'Elephants were beaten with pitchforks, shovels and anything else to hand'

regulates standards of animal welfare in zoos and safari parks.

But a spokesman for the Chipperfield circus family said its animals are all seen regularly by veterinary surgeons.

He said: "The companies all employ experienced veterinary surgeons who advise them. Where appropriate the local authority issues licenses for the premises and in order to get a licence they have to be inspected each year.

"Where animals are in quarantine they have to be visited every week by a ministry approved vet."

Tiger attacks circus man

Chipperfield family employee loses arm feeding big cats

Lucy Patton

A LION tamer employed by the Chipperfield Circus family was last night recovering in hospital after his arm was bitten off and swallowed by a tiger.

The 32-year-old man, who has not been named, was helped to safety by police and paramedics after the tiger sunk its teeth into his arm, severing it just below the elbow.

The accident happened inside a compound at the circus's winter quarters at Chipperfield Norton, Oxfordshire. Emergency services stabilised the man at the scene before he was airlifted to the

John Radcliffe hospital in Oxford. His condition was not known last night.

A spokesman for Oxfordshire ambulance trust said: "I can confirm that we have a victim whose arm has been bitten off by a tiger, just below the elbow. We understand that it has been swallowed by the tiger."

It was revealed later that the man had been feeding the tiger from outside the cage when it lunged for his arm and chewed it off.

Staff at the quarters usually use a long stick to put food into the cages, but it was believed that the victim had put his arm into the cage.

A spokesman for Thames Valley police said: "He suf-

fered extensive injuries to his left hand and lower arm. The tiger was in its cage when the incident happened."

Some of the animals at the Chipperfield site are circus animals in winter quarters, while others there are used for television, film and advertising work.

The Chipperfield family, one of the oldest circus families in Britain, has already suffered a tragedy this year.

Last month Richard Chipperfield, a 24-year-old trainer, was mauled by a tiger during a photo shoot in Florida. He had his head in the tiger's mouth when it slammed its jaws shut.

He lost part of his brain in the accident and doctors have said he will probably be paralysed if he recovers consciousness.

His brother Graham, aged 28, later shot the Bengal tiger.

THE GUARDIAN 3-2-98

When the faeces hit the fan

A SRI Lankan charged with theft threw a plastic bag filled with human faeces at policemen, but it hit a fan and showered the entire court, court officials said yesterday.

They said Subhasinghe Premasiri, who had been charged with stealing gas cookers and cylinders, had taken the bag out of his pocket and thrown it at policemen when he was asked to step into the witness box. "The bag struck a fan, got entangled and the entire court was showered with excreta." — Reuters, Colombo.

THE GUARDIAN 26-3-98 (FOOD FOR THOUGHT)

Arkangel 19

Save the Hillgrove Cats



The Hillgrove Campaign is growing in strength and gathering momentum. Since last summer the national demonstrations have increased in numbers with over a thousand people at the one on 22nd February 1998 and many more on World Day For Laboratory Animals on 18th April 1998.

Christopher Brown has been breeding cats for vivisection for the last 27 years. He has over 1,000 cats and kittens all kept in windowless sheds. Brown and two Hillgrove workers - Susan O'Shea and Helen Ramsay all maintain they "don't know" where the cats end up when they are sold!! Funnily enough we don't believe them. They only have to ask us! We'll tell them. As a result of the constant publicity, demonstrations at the farm and home visits, most of the workers have left. There were eleven workers originally. Now there are only three. Brown has had to resort to employing workers from an agency.

Hillgrove Farm has appeared on national television, radio and newspapers and is constantly in ALL the local papers. We put a lot of effort into publicity and now mailout to over 2,500 people. As we all know, publicly exposing an animal abuser is one of our most powerful weapons. They DON'T LIKE IT! A lot of locals are now opposed to Hillgrove Farm. MPs, local councillors, shopkeepers and newspapers are all turning on Mr Brown.

The whole situation isn't just about Brown anymore. As far as the establishment and the vivisection industry are concerned we MUST NOT WIN. They must be panicking after seeing Consort Bioservices destroyed and Copley Kennels nipped in the bud and prevented from even starting their filthy trade. They know deep down that even though the majority of the public don't do a lot, many of them are backing us all the way, and these massive national campaigns are educational and expose the horrors of the laboratories and the fraud of vivisection.

Brian Shiel, Nicola Maddocks and Kevin Hickey appeared at Oxford Crown Court in March and were all found not guilty of burglary after a raid at Hillgrove Farm on 18th January 1997 where cats were rescued. The police must be panicking. The jury were clearly sympathetic to the campaign, which is why it is in the police's interest to keep the charges down to magistrates level.

The judge was furious with the verdicts and claimed he would have given the acquitted defendants 2 years in prison

had they been found guilty! The judge vented his anger on Kevin Hickey with a savage 12 month sentence for handling stolen goods (he refused to hand over a cat to a police officer). Sickening when you look at what badger baiters get.

As a result of the facts that emerged during the trial we have decided to take legal advice on taking out a private prosecution against Brown under the Protection of Animals Act, 1911. We learned that Brown loses 10% of new-born kittens to cannibalism by their own mothers (a sign of extreme stress). Breeding queens are continuously bred from until they are 10 years old and then they are 'culled' - the cat that Kevin Hickey had in his arms had no tattoo in her ear and was killed two weeks before the trial. Brown said, "there is nothing sinister about Margaret being culled, she had come to the end of her breeding life".

We know the campaign is having a very damaging effect when the Research Defence Society devote nearly two whole pages to Hillgrove and the animal rights movement.

This campaign WILL win! It MUST win!

We need people to support the national demonstrations, all night vigils and daily demos. Please contact us if you can take on one day a week or even once a month! There are demos every day at Hillgrove Farm and one particular worker takes great delight in laughing at the banners and waving at protestors!! The others aren't anywhere near as confident!

There is a demo every Sunday morning from 7.30am at Dry Lane, Witney, Oxon.

Please phone if you can help in anyway or would like leaflets, newsletters, a video, etc.

SAVE the HILLGROVE CATS
Box CB, 111 Magdalen Road,
Oxford OX4 1RQ
Tel: 0121 632 6460



Arkangel 19

DOGS IN NEPAL

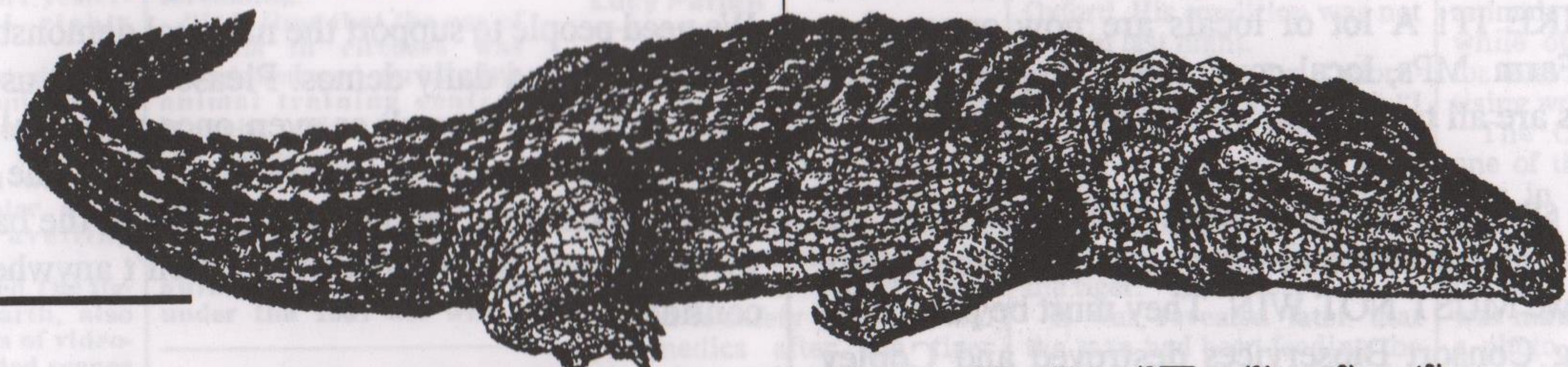
by Victor Schwanberg

When I was in Nepal in March/April 1997 I was appalled by the sheer number of stray dogs wandering about, many of them crippled and a great number of them were generally ill. During my feeble attempts with fellow friends and travellers to help some of the dogs, we were horrified to learn that the Nepalese authorities encouraged the population to beat to death or poison these creatures.

Apparently there are certain days of the year when dogs are killed to keep the stray population down. I have heard rumours that there are even financial rewards which depend on the number of dogs killed. 1998 is a special year for tourism in which an even greater purge will be made to keep the dog numbers down. I was hoping to return to Nepal in March to gather more information but unfortunately I have had to cancel this trip.

I hope this information may be of use and I would be happy to answer any queries regarding this terrible abuse of animals.

My telephone number, should you wish to contact me, is
0181 878 5679.



RAINBOW'S DREAM

Our opponents are not, despite the strength of your convictions to the contrary, each other. No, all of us, the entire human race, and by extension all that lives, indeed all that is, are kin, facing together the same opponents. Whether or not we realise it, this is the truth.

These opponents are anger, fear, hatred, greed, guilt, by which and because of which we cause such negative emotions. All violence has its roots here. We cannot end suffering or abuse through generating more anger, more fear, more hatred, either in ourselves or in each other. It is an impossibility. Indeed, to generate negativity within ourselves is to increase it in those others in the world around us. Nothing happens in isolation. The rules must apply to all, or to none.

Victory as Tesco Withdraws 'Exotic' Meats

The Tesco supermarket chain has agreed to stop selling kangaroo and ostrich meat in all its 350 stores. The general public's reaction to the brutality involved in the trade, exposed by the campaigning group VIVA!, has been one of widespread shock and disgust.

The campaign against ostrich meat had been running for several months, but that against kangaroo meat had only just been added.

Asda do not stock exotic meats as they say there is no demand, and Safeway, the Co-Op and Marks & Spencer refuse to stock them for animal welfare reasons. However, Waitrose has been trialling ostrich meat in 26 of its stores, while Sainsbury seems to have no qualms whatsoever about selling exotic meats. Somerfield, another major store, were poised to add exotic meats to their food range which was to include kangaroo, ostrich and crocodile but decided to drop the idea after hearing about VIVA!'s campaign and Tesco's decision. This will affect all 590 stores trading under the names Gateway, Solo and Food Giant as well as Somerfield.

Therefore, let us put aside our creeds of coercion, bullying, force, guilt-tripping, intimidation and violence, on whatever levels we are using or supporting them. Let us leave them behind us and show an example by which others, we might pray, can see that there is a better way than the bloody road we have walked for so long.

It is no use trying to push through the gates to Paradise those who most fear to go. They will only resist more strongly. We must lead them - show them there is nothing to fear. Show them, indeed, that the utopia we all long for somewhere deep within our hearts is an achievable reality.

by Rainbow(?)



Items of Interest

Compiled by
Martin Masterman-Lister



Polar animals, such as beluga and elephant seals, have amazed scientists with their ability to navigate through enormous tracts of ocean and control their metabolism to stay alive. Beluga can travel thousands of miles each year, dive more than half a mile and navigate long distances under ice, finding tiny, thinly scattered patches of unfrozen water where it must surface to breed.

(Independent 9.9.1997)

People who abuse animals are often likely to assault or abuse other people as well, according to a survey conducted in the US by the Humane Society of the United States. Also the survey found that women who abused animals were most likely to be child abusers.

(10.9.1997)

A shopkeeper who had 12 year old tinned steak pies for sale has been fined £300 by magistrates. Malcolm Bailey, 59, who has run his corner shop for 27 years said he had no idea that the pies were of such a vintage.

(Daily Telegraph 17.9.1997)

The misery and cruelty of factory farming could be ended if consumers were to spend just a few extra pence a week, a report said yesterday. The economics of factory farming showed that a free-range egg costs just a little over 1p more to produce than a battery egg, a report by Compassion in World Farming revealed.

(Independent 19.9.1997)

Cutting down the amount of salt in the diet could prevent thousands of deaths from strokes, scientists say.

(Independent 19.9.1997)

Dr. Narash Narang, a research scientist who claims to have tests for BSE in humans and to have diagnosed BSE in chickens, went to the High Court to issue a writ against his former employer, the Public Health Laboratory Service. He believes he was sacked from his post as a microbiologist with the PHLs laboratory because of his belief in a link between BSE and CJD.

(Independent 26.9.1997)

An environmental group accused NATO troops on manoeuvres in Southern Greece of damaging a nesting site for the endangered caretta sea turtle. The President of the Sea Turtle Protection Society said the beech has been destroyed but NATO denied this.

(Independent 3.10.1997)

A gentleman passing through Burslem a few days since, had his attention arrested by the agitation of an oak tree, from whence the acorns fell in showers. On approaching it, he observed 11 young pigs faring on the fruit, whilst the mother sow which had ascended the tree, clung with her forelegs to an upper branch, and shook the lower with her left hind leg.

(Shrewsbury Chronicle 25.10.1811)

Some scientists fear a real possibility that the new-variant of CJD (NvCJD) could be passed via blood transfusions.

(Independent 8.10.1997)

Genes resistant to herbicides can cross from specially engineered crops to weed species, say French scientists at the National Research Institute at Le Rhue, France.

(Independent 10.10.1997)

Excessive use of food colouring may explain why some people feel ill after a curry, says a survey. Tests in Swansea found up to 29 times the permitted colouring levels in ten dishes.

(Daily Mail 13.10.1997)

A public school established in the late 19th century by a pedagogue of the 'Greens are good for you' persuasion has 2 scholarships going begging for boys or girls who eschew meat in favour of a vegetarian diet. George Sibly, a strict vegetarian throughout his life, was said to have set up the first vegetarian house in a boys' boarding school in 1882. The school's present headmaster, David Prichard, said: "I am convinced diet plays a significant part in the success of individual students. What you put in you get out. You wouldn't drive a Porsche on two-star petrol."

(Guardian 14.10.1997)

American scientists at the University of Delaware's Affordable Composites from Renewable Sources have found a way of making tractors, cars and bridges out of soya beans. Meanwhile another US group has discovered a way of making water-resistant, bio-degradable containers from corn.

(Guardian 29.10.1997)

Britain's farmers have started trials on new crop varieties of soya which could take over thousands of acres of British countryside.

(Independent 3.11.1997)

A new loaf, Burgen bread, a wholegrain loaf made with soya flour and linseed oil, can help symptoms of the menopause. Increased plant oestrogens in the diet is believed to help restore natural oestrogen levels, which decline at the menopause.

(Independent 4.11.1997)

Increasingly bizarre videos are being smuggled into Britain to satisfy a small but growing number of fetishists. The trade 'squish' films (the animal equivalent of snuff movies) was discovered last year following a raid by Customs & Excise. The films show close-ups of insects, small fish or baby rodents being squashed by women wearing high heeled shoes and stronger versions feature cats, dogs and horses being brutally executed.

(Time Out 12.11.1997)

A teenager is this week due to become the first patient to stockpile his own blood in the light of fears that transfusion stocks could be contaminated with CJD. So-called autologous transfusions are increasing.

(Independent on Sunday 16.11.1997)

Britain is becoming caught in a vicious circle of obesity, with an increasing number of fat parents bringing up fat children. The prevalence of obesity in couples doubled between 1969 and 1991, with both partners in 6% of couples now seriously overweight.

(Times 18.11.1997)

A post-mortem was being carried out yesterday on a former kennel worker who may have been one of the youngest victims of new-variant CJD. Vicky Rimmer, 20, had been in a coma for four years.

(Independent 22.11.1997)

Bettie Phillips told a court in Virginia she saw nothing wrong with piercing a deer's ear, saying: "I thought it would be pretty." Mrs. Phillips and her daughter were fined for trying to improve upon nature.

(Independent on Sunday 23.11.1997)

The Government pledged to tighten up organ transplant procedures after it was revealed that tissue from a woman suffering from CJD was used in operations on three people, even though a post-mortem revealed she was suffering from CJD.

(Guardian 1.12.1997)

Wildlife as well as people will be endangered by man-made climate changes, the WWF and Birdlife International will tell the Kyoto treaty today. Changes in climate will accelerate the pace of change and threaten flora and fauna, threatening extinction to thousands of species.

(Independent 3.12.1997)



There is at this time in the possession of Mr. Sample, of the Angel Inn, Felton, a hedgehog which runs about the house as familiarly as any other domestic quadruped, displays a docility hitherto unknown in that class of animals and answers to the call of Tom.

(Derby Mercury 20.12.1798)

The World Health Organisation has called for a cut back on the use of anti-biotics in farm animals as resistance to anti-biotics is being passed to humans who consume animals.

(BBC News 11.12.1997)

In California, Dr. Diana Dawne has concluded her attempt to expose the ease with which qualifications can be obtained by mail order. She gave up when Ventura, her Labrador was awarded his twelfth university degree. He's now qualified in zoology, psychology, law, archaeology and philosophy, and can marry and bury people too.

(Independent 18.12.1997)

The Government ban on the sale of green top (unpasteurised/raw) is set to start on 3rd February 1998.

(Observer 4.1.1997)

A meat substitute made from a grain eaten by the Incas and a 2,000 year old Indonesian mould is being developed by the EU's funding of a group of small organic food companies. The high protein rival to tofu should be on the shelves by the end of the year. The EC has provided a £350,000 grant.

(Observer 4.1.1998)

Deep divisions across the EU over the admission of genetically modified maize remain. Austria and Luxembourg have banned the import of the cereal from the US. They have been given two more months to comply or show that it is harmful to human health.

(Guardian 10.1.1998)

Nearly one in five packs of minced lamb contains illegally added beef, a nation-wide survey has discovered, in some cases up to 30% of meat in lamb and pork mince packs was beef despite being labelled 100% pure.

(Daily Express 11.1.1997)

Potassium, found in oranges, bananas and green leafy vegetables, can significantly lower blood pressure and reduce the risk of heart attacks and strokes, Frank Sacks at the Harvard School of Public Health has said, writing in the American scientific journal 'Hypertension'.

(Guardian 16.1.1998)

Lord Steele, former LibDem leader, is to be investigated by Sir Gordon Downey, the parliamentary commissioner for standards, for failing to disclose details of his £93,752 job as chairman of the Countryside Movement.

(Guardian 22.1.1998)

A health food chain has removed own brand cod liver oil off its shelves amid fears the supplement contains industrial toxins.

(Independent 24.1.1998)

Nycomed Amersham, the British healthcare giant, is considering legal action after being accused of exposing hospital patients to CJD. Traces of possible contamination were found in the fluid given to 100 patients undergoing scans and gastric tests for heart and lung diseases, seven of whom have since died.

(Independent 24.1.1998)

4 ants preserved in amber for 92 million years have been found in New Jersey in the US. They are 50 million years older than any found before.

(Independent 29.1.1998)

Militant Welsh farmers were nursing aching heads and sore eyes after facing police baton charges and CS spray during their dispute over falling incomes and beef imports. Violence left 19 officers injured.

(Guardian 29.1.1998)

Vitamin pills increase the risk of lung cancer among smokers, according to a report published by the World Health Organisation. Tablets which contain beta carotene, a form of vitamin A, given to regular smokers, increase the risk of lung cancer and mortality from cardiovascular disease. WHO says fresh fruit and vegetables remain the first line of defence against the disease, and the advantage of eating minerals and vitamins from natural fare is that it is impossible to overdose on them. The best message is to eat five helpings of fresh fruit and veg a day.

(Observer 1.2.1998)

Four-inch worms have been discovered in temperatures almost hot enough to boil water. They live around volcanic vents a mile and a half deep on the floor of the Pacific. They live in tubes attached to vents which reach 80 degrees C at the bottom ends and 20 degrees C at the top.

(Independent 5.2.1998)

Four police officers are to appear in court in connection with the death of an Alsatian dog during a week long training course. Essex police said that the four had been accused of offences under the Protection of Animals Act.

(Times 13.2.1998)

Folic acid will be added to the nation's bread and cakes if government experts give the expected go-ahead, aimed at cutting the number of babies born with spina bifida and cutting deaths from heart disease.

(Observer 15.2.1998)

Tens of thousands of French hunters marched through Paris yesterday to protest against EU rules cutting back the season for shooting migratory birds.

(Independent 15.2.1998)

The Government has issued an unprecedented ban on handling or eating pigeons found within ten miles of the Sellafield nuclear reprocessing plant because of fears they are radioactive.

(Independent 18.2.1998)

A pathologist's report into the death of a goose has fuelled speculation that big cats are roaming the countryside. Sightings of big cats in the wild in Britain date back to 1983.

(Independent 19.2.1998)

The official BSE inquiry is to consider claims that 5 of the 23 cases of human BSE in the UK could have been caused by material from infected cattle leaking into the water supplies.

(Independent 21.2.1998)

Only 12% of British egg production is free-range, yet 30% of eggs sold are marketed as free-range.

(BBC Radio 2. 22.2.1998)

People who regularly go on long walks are less likely to develop diabetes and heart disease. Researchers have discovered that the exercise helps the body to make better use of naturally produced insulin. The research found that exercise stimulates the pancreas to produce insulin and help the body use the hormone more effectively.

(Times 4.3.1998)

Manufacturers of one of the most effective drugs for severe acne introduced in the past two decades have added a new warning that it may increase the risk of suicide and depression. The warning comes after reports in the US linking the drug Isotretinoin with suicide. However, Roche, which makes the drug says labelling will be changed only in America.

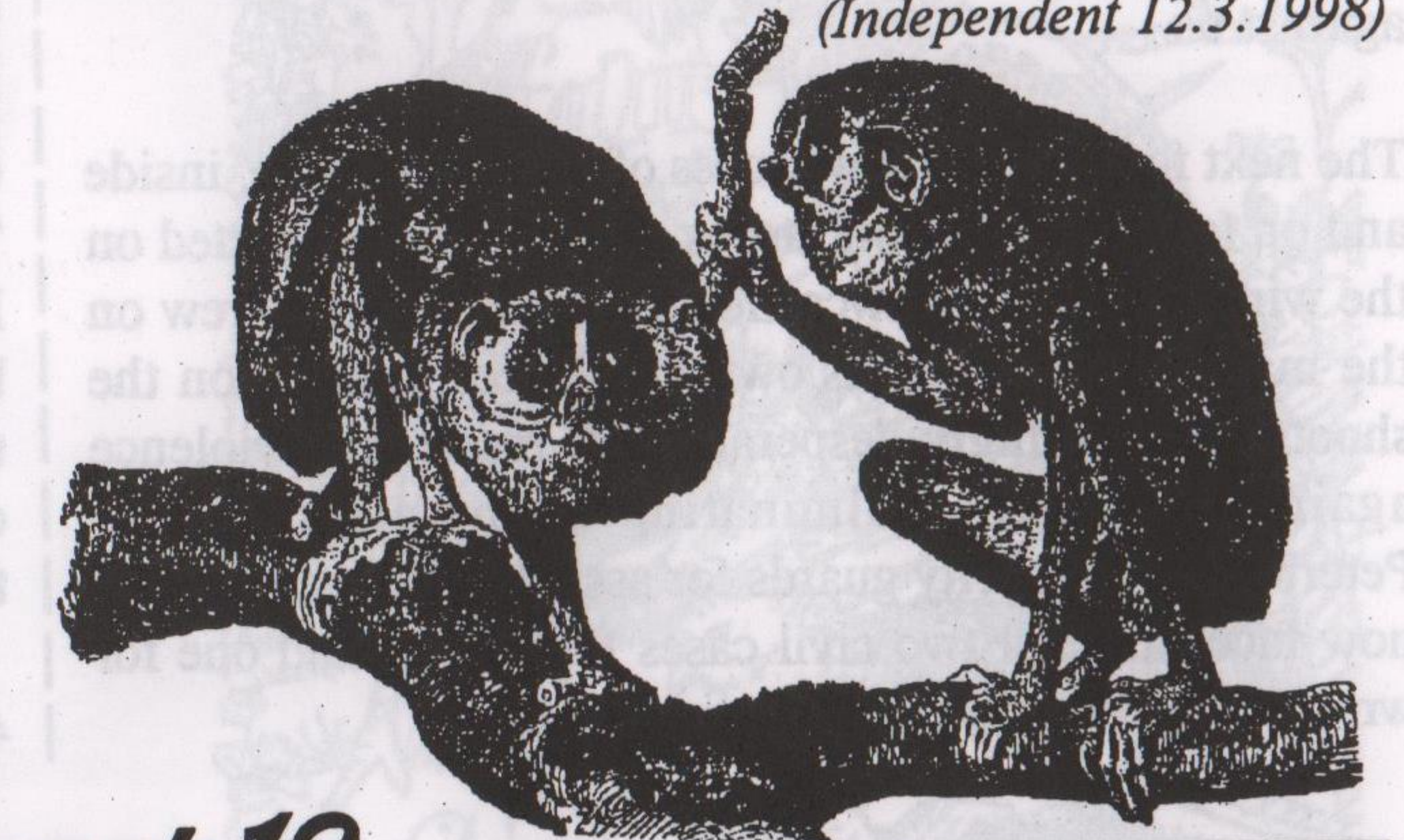
(Independent 9.3.1998)

Many European countries are on track to having half their farmland run organically.

(Jimmy Young programme 11.3.1998)

An independent team investigating 'mad cow disease' was "horrified" to discover in 1998 that the Ministry of Agriculture was allowing blatantly diseased animals to be used to make human and animal food.

(Independent 12.3.1998)





The Campaign Against John Lewis Partnership

For anyone who is not familiar with the NAHC's campaign against the John Lewis Partnership, let me explain how it came about and how it has unfolded into what must be the biggest headache in the Partnership's history!

Back in the summer of 1996, an employee at John Lewis's Leckford Abbas Estate in Stockbridge, Hampshire, contacted the NAHC and told us about shoots organised for the entertainment of John Lewis staff. The shoots, which take place up to three times a week, claim the lives of some 8,000 birds including pheasants, partridge and ducks. The shooters, often quite drunk, also blast away at pigeons, squirrels and, in the words of our informant, "anything else that moves."

After some months of discussions between NAHC and JLP, aimed at given them the opportunity to stop the shoots before we organised a campaign against them, it became clear that they had no intention of taking that easy way out, so the campaign began.

The launch was spectacular, with journalists brought along to witness some 30 activists descend on Leckford with the intention of using non-violent methods to prevent that afternoon's shoot from taking place. In the event, we managed to blockade the convoy of shooter's vehicles en route to the killing field, and prevented them from moving until it was too late for them to shoot.

A series of protests then began outside John Lewis stores (which includes Waitrose) up and down the country. The JLP panicked and made their first big mistake. They issued a writ for libel against the NAHC. The NAHC teamed up with the McLibel Two, the McLibel Support Campaign, McSpotlight and London Greenpeace, who issued a joint leaflet defending the right to free speech and pledging to fight the case. Nation-wide publicity followed and, fearing a McLibel trial Mark 2, within six weeks the Partnership had dropped the case and an application for an injunction against us.

The next few months saw scores of protests outside, inside and on top of John Lewis stores. Slogans were painted on the windows of the Newcastle store and pressure grew on the management from its own employees to abandon the shoots. Increasingly desperate staff resorted to violence against protesters, culminating in the arrest of two Peterborough security guards for assault. The partnership now faces at least two civil cases for assault and one for wrongful arrest and false imprisonment.

On January 28, 1997, 45 campaigners once again arrived at Leckford Abbas. This time the meeting was planned for early morning in the hope that we might be able to prevent both the morning and afternoon shoots from taking place. The plans had been kept quiet, nothing arranged over the phone or through the post. Didn't want the police to turn out and protect the shooters.

We arrived early to give us time to find the place. It was easy enough to find. In fact it stood out like a sore thumb. It was that place underneath the police spotter plane, next to the police riot vans, the police cars, the police motorbikes and the dozens of police officers manning the road blocks and searching everyone in sight.

Not the best of starts, perhaps, but things soon looked up. John Lewis abandoned the morning shoot. We came back after lunch. The shooters didn't bother; the afternoon shoot was cancelled too. Two private shoots on nearby farms hadn't taken the hint and were killing, but soon packed up after the arrival of protesters.

With the time having arrived for John Lewis to decide whether or not to breed pheasants for another season's shooting, the campaign was stepped up with two Weeks of Action during February. The first Week of Action started positively, when the ALF broke into the main John Lewis distribution depot in Stevenage and caused an estimated £20,000 damage to 12 vehicles and offices, smashing windows, applying paint stripper and painting not-very-subtle slogans.

Just days later the NAHC office was raided along with the home of an NAHC member who was arrested but released later without charge. Huge quantities of files, computers, a phone and other equipment were seized and have not yet been returned, despite no charges being brought - blatant harassment.

Numerous protests were held during this first week, including several up to 20 strong against their flagship Oxford Street store and daily protests at the Newcastle store. Three demos took place outside the London homes of John Lewis directors and neighbours were leafleted. Demos have been held outside their London headquarters - during one, two protesters were searched "on suspicion of possession of acid-filled eggs!" Readers may not be surprised to hear than no acid-filled eggs were found.

A statement was issued by a group of 15 activists who visited

the home of the chairman, Stuart Hampson, in Chinnor, Bucks. According to the statement, they chanted, blew whistles, banged on his door and then removed his front window. They would be back, they said, to "trash" the house if the shoots weren't stopped soon.

The NAHC is sure that it is pure coincidence that its office was burgled days later and £1000 worth of merchandise stolen. This despite the fact that all the neighbouring offices had equipment of much higher value and of much more use to your average burglar. Fortunately, the burglars were disturbed and were forced to abandon another £1000 worth which they were trying to load into their car. This burglary has hit the NAHC hard as we have to replace stocks at a time when we really can't afford to do so, so any donations would be hugely appreciated!

Meanwhile, the Leckford Abbas estate was one of 20 targets for the new 'Provisional Animal Liberation Front' who sent them a hoax bomb. At least two department stores and their Head Office have fallen victim to hoax bombers, while the Waitrose store in Holloway seems to be keeping the local glazier in business single handed!

Other anti-JLP actions during and since the Weeks of Action would be too numerous to list comprehensively, but highlights include a 'protest picnic' in Cambridge, utilising the display tables and chairs in the furniture department, which was broken up by 19 cops. A 'sleep-in' at the Newcastle store followed, during which 10 or so protesters, too lazy to do a conventional sit-in, arrived in their night-clothes with teddies and hot water bottles and made themselves at home in the display beds. They livened up the next week and occupied the keep-fit section with an 'exercise your right to protest' demo.

Hundreds of John Lewis shareholders have been sent NAHC information packs coupled with a request for them to exercise any influence they can to ensure the shoots are stopped.

In March, an inspection of the shooting estate was carried out and it was discovered that breeding for another season's shooting has started. As the campaigners were walking through woodland surrounding the pheasants, one of them realised that, try as he might, he couldn't move his foot. It was trapped in a snare. Of course, this serves as a reminder that birds are not the only ones to suffer on shooting estates such as this. A gamekeeper will ruthlessly massacre any creature which he perceives as a threat to 'his' birds. John Lewis had denied using snares, so the media were called in, as were the police, who are investigating the legality of the snare.

Just as JLP were recovering from this embarrassment, Newcastle started again. At 8.30 in the morning of March 27, a car pulled up outside the John Lewis lorry park - right across the one and only entrance! Bemused staff could

only watch as campaigners clambered on top of the car with an anti-shoot banner, while the two occupants D-locked themselves, by the neck, to the steering unit and to the rear of the car.

The media were called and in next to no time events were being recorded by BBC and Tyne Tees TV film crews plus the Press Association, not to mention the campaigners and JLP themselves, and photographed by the local papers. Radio and TV news bulletins reported the protests throughout the day and huge features appeared in the press. It took the police a full six and a half hours to arrest the two locked-on women, plus a nearby banner waver, for obstruction. The locks were so good that cops (who took the whole demo in good humour, unlike JLP) had to resort to sawing off the steering unit and take one protestor to the station still with the steering wheel around her neck!

The effect was incredible. Shoppers didn't get their deliveries and stocks ran low. Staff had to be paid overtime when the protest ended to clear the backlog of work. Queues of JLP lorries had been held up for hours, and contractors had been turned away. Local groups should note that most, if not all, John Lewis department stores will have lorry parks ... !

This campaign is important and this campaign is winnable. It might be just one of thousands of organised shoots across the country, but nevertheless 8,000 lives each year are at stake. A successful campaign against the JLP shoot will also discourage other companies offering bloodsports-based corporate entertainment.

Please support this campaign in whatever way you feel appropriate. Sources within the company inform us that the two things they hate most are acts of civil disobedience and publicity ... !

The NAHC has produced a new 'John Lewis Boycott Pledge' for use on stalls or demos, in addition to leaflets, postcards, stickers and posters.

Please call: 01442 240246, or write to:
PO Box 66, Stevenage SG1 2TR to place an order.



GREEK ANIMAL RESCUE



WHEN AND WHY GREEK ANIMAL RESCUE WAS FOUNDED...

It all began with a holiday in Greece in 1987; the first proper holiday in 15 years for my husband Paul and myself and one we both very much looked forward to. Alas, before long our dream holiday turned into a nightmare.

We drove to Greece and intended travelling around for one month before returning home, but as we crossed the border, we encountered the first stray, not realising at the time that he was just one of the many we were to see during our so called holiday.

We spent ten days of our holiday on Crete and that's where we witnessed the most appalling neglect of animals. We saw dozens of hungry strays dogs and cats, not to mention numerous dead ones, lying by the roadside. Many dogs which appeared to belong to someone, were kept chained, their home often just a rusty tin drum. We also saw donkeys and mules left tied in barren fields, with no food or water in sight and many were hobbled, which is a very cruel practice.

We were horrified by all the terrible sights, but what was worse, we were unable to help the poor animals, or at least we didn't know how we could help them - nobody seemed interested in our complaints and we were even laughed at.

The last few days of our holiday found us helping at an animal shelter near Athens and it was there we met Niko Leventakis, who subsequently took me see the Markopoulo shelter, which was at the time struggling to keep going. I was nevertheless impressed at how well the animals looked (mainly dogs) and that most of the females had been spayed which, I later learned, was not the practice at every animal shelter in Greece. That was something I could never understand - what was the point of bringing into this world even more unwanted dogs and cats, when most would either die in the first few months of their life from the various diseases which can afflict them (Parvovirus and Distemper in dogs and cat flu in cats are rife in Greece) and if they were lucky enough not to contract them, their chances of ever being rehoused were very slim. The shelters should be there to help and to provide a sanctuary for the neediest cases - the starved, sick and injured animals, but unfortunately they also become a dumping ground for unwanted litters of puppies and kittens and for older dogs, who have been replaced by their younger counterparts.

Greece is a beautiful country and there is no doubt many of the islands are unique in their structure like, for example, Santorini, but when I visited the island in 1989 (to rescue an abandoned mule), the picturesque scenery is the last thing I noticed. As soon as I got off the ferry, I saw the first of many beasts of burden ... donkeys and mules, struggling up 230 steep winding steps, with tourists and their luggage on their backs. Some were frothing at the mouth, clearly exhausted ... how pitiful they looked!

Although we have been raising funds to help animals in Greece since returning from that fateful holiday in 1987, it was not until October 1989 that GAR obtained charity status.

The sights I witness during my annual visits to Greece are far removed from the pictures portrayed in the holiday brochures and an increasing number of tourists vow never to return, precisely because of the Greek people's indifference to the animals' plight. Every year we receive dozens of letters and phone calls from people who have returned from their holiday in Greece, distressed and unable to erase the tragic memories of hungry and sick strays, often deliberately abused and neglected ... they were doomed from the moment they were born!

Greece's reputation of having the worst animal welfare record in EU is nothing to be proud of and the Greek authorities are as much to blame for this as the general public. Whilst cruelty to animals is a punishable offence, prosecutions are rare and usually unsuccessful. It is against the law to deliberately poison animals, yet thousands of stray dogs and cats (and some belonging to people) die an



Arkangel 19

agonising death from a concoction of farm pesticides, against which there is no antidote. The poisoning is often carried out by municipal workers, on orders given by the local authorities.

How many more tourists will spend their holiday in tears next year, whilst they feed and nurse stray dogs and cats, only to leave them to their hopeless fate at the end of two weeks - for them, Greece will lose its appeal and the memories they will come home with won't be those of the sun, sea and beautiful scenery ...

The number of animals on the streets can only be reduced by spaying and neutering as many as possible, but as the strays don't belong to anybody, nobody wants to take responsibility for their welfare. But how do stray dogs and cats become strays in the first place? They say that a dog is man's best friend ... if only it could be the other way around!

I hope to see the day when animals in Greece are treated with the respect they deserve, when poisoning, shooting and drowning of strays will no longer be an everyday practice, when the children will be taught to love animals, who have so much to offer, not least their loyal friendship and trust.

HOW GAR HELPS ANIMALS IN GREECE...

■ GAR almost entirely funds a rescue shelter in Markopoulo (near Athens), which cares for over two hundred animals, mainly dogs and cats. Several donkeys and mules have also been given refuge in the past and even a monkey.

- Supports animal shelters on Kos and Crete (Chania).
- Promotes and undertakes neutering of dogs and cats, to alleviate the misery of thousands of unwanted litters.
- Actively campaigns against all animal abuse; eg. in zoos, pet shops, circuses, and abattoirs.
- Educates by example, where ignorance is often the cause of needless suffering.

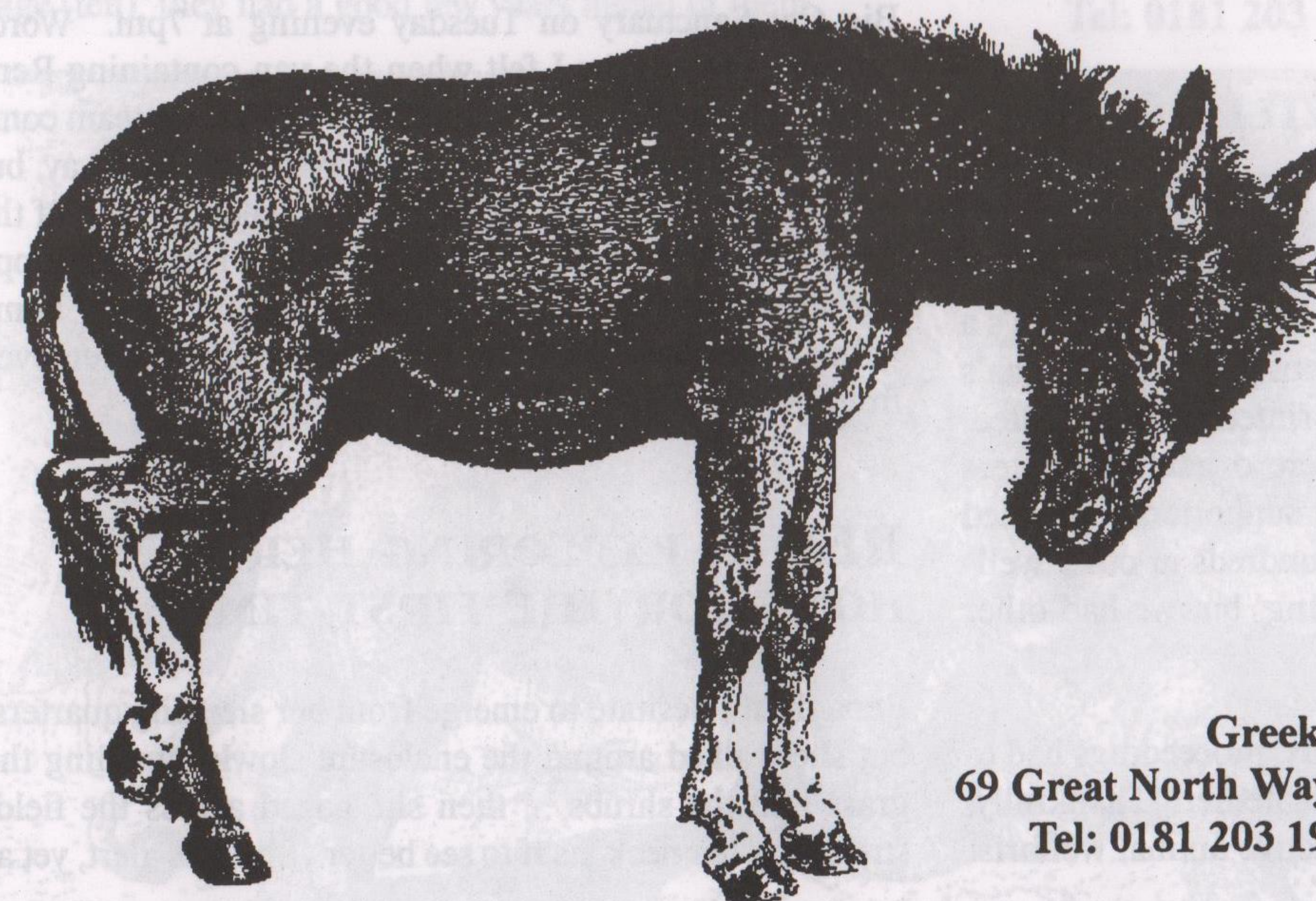
**No call for help is ever refused.
The shelter is often the last hope for an injured,
abandoned or ill-treated animal.**

GAR's aims for the future are manifold, but rescue work will always remain a priority. However, whilst compassion is not lacking, funds are.

GAR aims to: help more shelters >>> spay and neuter more animals >>> rehome more animals >>> continue its active campaign against all animal abuse.

HOW YOU CAN HELP GAR TO HELP ANIMALS IN GREECE...

- By becoming a member (£10 per year)
- By giving a donation
- By donating goods for our fund raising events
- By organising your own events: coffee mornings, sponsored dog walks, car boot sales, raffles, etc.
- By telling your friends and by writing to your local newspaper about GAR's work.



Greek Animal Rescue
69 Great North Way, Hendon, London NW4 JPT
Tel: 0181 203 1956 - Fax: 0181- 202 8809

Arkangel 19

RENA...

Greek Animal Rescue was founded primarily to help injured and abandoned stray dogs and cats in Greece, but when we heard about Rena's plight we felt that we couldn't turn our back on her. They say, "Where there's a will, there's a way", ... we proved this slogan true and not only rescued Rena, but also Duke, whose three years of misery in an Athens zoo came to an end on 16th January 1997.

BACKGROUND STORY, IN BRIEF...

Rena is now about ten years old and she had been kept in appalling conditions on a farm on the Greek island of Kos since she was a cub. Her so-called owner bought her illegally from a gypsies' travelling circus and he already had a collection of other wild animals at his farm, many of which subsequently died from neglect.

Having met Rena in July 1995 during my yearly visit to Greece, my heart went out to her. There was no water or food in sight. Her right paw looked raw, in fact both her front paws appeared badly deformed, causing her to limp and she also had many ticks on her ears.

Upon returning home, I phoned Malcolm Dudding, owner of the Big Cat Sanctuary in Kent, who had already agreed to accept Rena providing we could raise the funds needed for the building of her enclosure - a staggering £30,000 (including the cost of transporting Rena from Greece to UK). Each lion enclosure at the sanctuary measures 71' x 71', which is approximately 650 square metres. In comparison, Rena's cage on the farm measured just 20 square metres, enabling her to take only two steps in any direction and there were no trees or grass - just concrete and metal bars.

WHERE THERE'S A WILL, THERE'S A WAY...

Since we are only a small charity, raising such a huge amount of money was a daunting task, but where there's a will there's a way and so we set about publicising Rena's plight. Five thousand leaflets were printed and distributed, fund-raising events and raffles were organised, letters written to the press, and so on. GAR supporters responded generously to the appeal, as have hundreds of other well-wishers, which was most encouraging, but we had other problems besides financial.

Because Rena was being kept illegally, proceedings had to be taken against the owner to confiscate her. Thankfully, Athens-based Angela Fleming, an active animal welfarist

and campaigner has agreed to deal with these matters on our behalf. We needed to obtain a Court Injunction to confiscate Rena before she could be transported to the UK. This was finally achieved early in March 1997, after a 14 month battle with legal proceedings, endless bureaucratic red tape, etc. Alas, as it turned out, the battle to rescue Rena was far from over, because her so-called owner and his mob of supporters decided to take the law into their own hands.

When we arrived at the farm on 19th March, with the court injunction to confiscate Rena (but inadequate police protection), we were attacked by a screaming mob of around hundred people, who attempted to overturn our car and generally behaved in a very threatening manner. We were lucky to escape unhurt, but sadly we had to leave Rena behind.

FAILED MISSION & RENEWED HOPE...

Having been forced to return from Kos without Rena, we pondered what course of action to take next. The Court Injunction to confiscate her was not worth the paper it was written on if the authorities were not prepared to uphold law and order. Without their co-operation the rescue could not be finalised.

It was to take another five months before Rena was finally rescued ... five frustrating months of letter writing, faxes and phone calls, appeals to British MPs and MEPs to support our campaign, etc. At long last we succeeded.

THE DAY WE HAD BEEN WAITING FOR FINALLY ARRIVED ... Our lengthy campaign to rescue Rena came to an end on 18th August, when she was removed from the farm on Kos. After a 12 hour ferry crossing to Piraeus, she was flown to Heathrow the following day, arriving at the Big Cat Sanctuary on Tuesday evening at 7pm. Words cannot express how I felt when the van containing Rena pulled into the drive at the sanctuary! It was a dream come true! A dream which at one point was slipping away, but we just couldn't accept that we had reached the end of the road. Our efforts finally paid off and Rena is today a happy and contented lioness, enjoying her spacious new home with Duke ... the first lion she saw since she was removed from her mother as a cub.

RENA, EXPLORING HER NEW HOME FOR THE FIRST TIME...

Rena didn't hesitate to emerge from her sleeping quarters, but she walked around the enclosure slowly, smelling the grass and the shrubs ... then she gazed across the field, stretching her neck, as if to see better. She was alert, yet at

the same time quite relaxed and looking very much at home. Alas, she was limping and periodically she would lie down and rest, but then curiosity would spur her to get up again and explore more of her new home. At one point, as she was lying down with her front legs stretched out, her stumpy paws gently started to knead the grass. Tears welled up in my eyes, it was so moving to watch her.

The battle to rescue Rena has been long and hard, fraught with difficulties and endless red tape, not to mention frustrations, but finally we saw a light at the end of the long tunnel. It wasn't the stubbornness which kept us going, but the knowledge that should we have failed in our mission to rescue Rena, she would have been doomed to spend the rest of her life in that miserable cage, her deformed paws would never have received treatment ... she would have died not even knowing what it felt like to walk on soft grass.

By rescuing Duke and Rena, we have also undertaken the responsibility to provide them with the best possible care for the rest of their lives, but raising £5,000 per year (not including veterinary expenses) for their keep will not be an easy task for our small charity. However, we hope this money can be raised with sponsorships and special fund-raising events.

DUKE, NO LONGER A SAD LION...

But for Rena, Duke would not be here, because the enclosure was originally built for her, but when we heard about his plight, we didn't hesitate to adopt him. Of course we were aware that taking care of two lions would mean twice the expense, but we were prepared to undertake this responsibility. Besides, it would be good for Duke and Rena to have each other for company, and being roughly the same age (ten), they had a good few years ahead of them.

When I first saw Duke in 1994, he was sharing an enclosure with another male lion, who was in a dreadful state; mercifully he was put to sleep five months later, following a damning article in the Daily Mail.

I saw Duke again in August 1995 - he looked miserable and lethargic.

At the time of launching our campaign to rescue Rena in January 1996, we had no idea that we would adopt Duke. However, by the time we were approached by the Mayor of Nea Philadelphia early in November (1996), we had already discussed this possibility. In view of the fact that all enclosures at the Kent Sanctuary are built to accommodate two big cats, we didn't take long to decide and besides, we thought that it would be nice for Rena to have company in the years to come.

Watching Duke now, strutting around the enclosure at the sanctuary, head held high and all his senses alive, is a sight to behold. He looks truly magnificent! His coat is shiny, his mane immaculate, the pockmarks on his back and sides have completely disappeared, but the most noticeable change is the contented look in his eyes! Not so long ago those eyes were dead, expressionless, filled with boredom, loneliness... His days in the zoo cage were spent mostly sleeping, because there was nothing for him to do or look at ... he was a very sad lion indeed!

By sponsoring Duke and Rena for £5 per month, you will help provide for their present and future needs. In return, you will receive enlarged photographs and regular updates through GAR newsletters. The sponsorship may be paid either in a lump sum (i.e., £60 in total), by monthly cheques/postal orders, or through a bank via monthly standing order, ensuring a regular income for the care of our big cats.

Sponsorship forms are available from: **GAR**
69 Great North Way, Hendon, London NW4 JPT
Tel: 0181 203 1956 - Fax: 0181- 202 8809



The Southern Anti-Blood Sports Campaign -

Support the Portsmouth Three



The Hursley Hambledon Hunt is a vicious hunt notorious for violence against sabs. Because of this it is unsafe for a small group of sabs to attend this hunt. However hunt saboteurs are not prepared to allow hunts to terrorise them into not sabbing and so, every so often, a mass hit is organised against the Hursley Hambledon to both save the lives of innocent animals and to show the hunt their terror tactics won't work. Experience has shown that there is safety in numbers.

Just recently there has been a lot of extreme violence shown towards hunt saboteurs across Britain. This has included sab vans being rammed and windows broken and sabs being hospitalised after assaults by hunt members. Sabs have been threatened with guns and in one incident, the home of a leading Dorset hunt sab, who has been issued with death threats warning him not to sab, was visited by a gang of hunt supporters who were wielding machete type blades.

It is in recognition of the fact that no hunt must be allowed to terrorise sabs away from attending it, but with acknowledgement of a very real threat of violence from the Hursley Hambledon hunt thugs that a mass hunt sab was organised - this hunt sab was very well publicised. People openly discussed this sab over a month before it actually happened.

On the day of the hit (Saturday, 13th December 1997) it was decided that everyone would meet up at a common meeting point and go in convoy to the Meet. This was because it was feared if lone vans were spotted by the hunt they would be vulnerable to attack. To show how well publicised this hunt sab was, at the meeting point there were between 9 to 14 sab vans, a police Range Rover and a police spotter plane in the sky above. Most of the vans contained sabs from the South Coast, groups from Dorset to Sussex. However a few of them were from outside of the region and were people unknown to the South Coast sabs.

Having all met up at the prearranged point the vans set off in convoy, followed by the police Range Rover with the spotter plane flying overhead. For some unknown reason, just before getting to the hunt Meet, the police vehicle turned off and went down a side road. There was not a single police officer present at the hunt when the sabs arrived!

At the Hunt Meet, having parked their vans, all the sabs got out of their vehicles and headed towards the hunters.

According to a sab who wishes to remain anonymous; "We all started walking towards the hunt when suddenly we heard a fracas going on behind us. We turned around and saw people smashing up the hunt vehicles."

Although most of the vans were those of hunt sabs intent on lawful hunt sabotage, some of the vans which came from outside of the region were full of Hunt Retribution Squad activists. The HRS jumped out of their vehicles and headed straight for the hunters' vehicles which they proceeded to smash up. The intention of the HRS appears to be mainly criminal damage with no premeditation to injure or harm the hunt and their supporters. Where 'assaults' took place, it was the fox hunters trying to stop their vehicles being attacked and they were forcefully pushed aside. The HRS activists did not stop until every hunt vehicle had its windows and lights smashed, they then jumped back into their vans and fled. The hunt sabs, realising that the Hursley Hambledon hunt was likely to take revenge on any sabs in the area decided that this was also an ideal time for them to leave.

The Hunt Retribution Squad action was obviously well planned and professionally executed. The HRS activists have obviously never revealed their identity, but they clearly had an escape route organised and were able to leave the county as planned before the police were able to react to what had happened. Sadly, as the South Coast hunt sabs had not been priviledge to any knowledge about what was going to happen they did not have any 'escape routes' planned out.

The police set up a number of road blocks which failed to capture any of the HRS activists but instead caught the innocent hunt sabs who were travelling across Hampshire to return to their respective homes.

The police road blocks caught a total of five of the sab vehicles. All of the vehicles they caught were South Coast hunt sabs, from Dorchester, Southampton, Portsmouth and Dover, none of whom had taken part in the HRS action. In total the police arrested forty two people. All 42 were taken to police cells, subjected to strip searches and had their clothes confiscated. They were held for 36 hours, had their homes raided and vehicles impounded. The police even decided to raid the homes of some people who weren't even on the hit!

Having been held for 36 hours all the sabs were eventually released on police bail to return in February 1998 where they were told they could face charges of 'Conspiracy to commit criminal damage, ABH and violent disorder'.

In the middle of February 1998 the hunt sabs surrendered themselves into police custody. When they did so they found that the police intended to single out three long-standing members of the Portsmouth sab group who they accuse of 'masterminding' the sab. Out of a total of 42 sabs arrested these three individuals are the only ones facing charges, they are being made scapegoats by the police for everything that happened on the day. They have all been charged with 'conspiracy to commit violent disorder'.

As a result of the police laying charges against the three defendants a Support Campaign has been set up to help them. This campaign is made up of friends and supporters of those arrested. We ask for as many people as possible to join the campaign and show your support with the defendants by:

- Sabbing the hunts. All those arrested are dedicated hunt sabs who are committed to defending wildlife. Carrying out hunt sabotage on a regular basis will both directly help to save animal lives and show the police and hunts that we will not be intimidated by their tactics.
- If you are unable to sab, then another way to show your support for both the defendants and the animals is to do everything possible to help make sure the Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill becomes law.
- Waiting for trial can be a traumatic time. Send letters of support to the defendants c/o:

The Defence Campaign Portsmouth HSA

Box H, 167 Fawcett Road, Southsea, Hants PO4

- Let people know the facts, not the fiction, by showing them this article.
- Send a donation to the Support Campaign.

For further information contact:
The Support Campaign
South Dorset Anti-Blood Sports
PO Box 119, Dorchester, Dorset



THE FOX PROJECT

By December 31st, The Fox Project had, throughout the year, received 385 foxes - so they need all the support they can get, and they will certainly need all the help they can get now that they've entered the 1998 cub season.

There are lots of ways that you can help The Fox Project. These include; practical help i.e. carpentry or cement laying. Can you make up cages or transport boxes? Do you have any experience with electrical work or plumbing? Please let The Fox Project know if you have any skills or materials that might help reduce their costs and make the funds go further.

If you aren't particularly DIY minded, you might consider signing up as a 'cabbie'. This is a job somewhere between that of a fosterer and a rescuer, where you might be asked to transport an already boxed-up animal from A to B in order to take some of the pressure off ambulance drivers - and it is a vital job. The Project's existing cabbies have saved many lives just by being available at the right time to pull an animal in for urgent treatment. The Fox Project will give anyone interested in the above all the help they can.

Those who are unable to give practical help could help financially. As you can imagine, equipment is very expensive. An average single, successful rescue costs around £30 in fuel, food and vet fees. Each cub raised from infancy to rehabilitation costs over £100. You can imagine just how much it costs dealing with over 300 foxes!

For details of subscriptions to the Fox Project newsletter, enquiries about merchandise or offers of help, please contact The Fox Project at:

The Fox Project
The Old Chapel, Bradford Street
Tonbridge, Kent TN9 1AW

Urban Fox Deterrence Advice Line: 01732 365340
Rescue, Merchandise & General: 01732 367397
Web: <http://www.innotts.co.uk/~robmel/foxproject.html>
E-mail: AP.Wilson@BTInternet.com

The Gandalf Trial

by Noel Molland



In the first few minutes of January 17th 1996, just after midnight, I found myself sitting in a stranger's house, talking to two people (Robin Webb and Saxon Wood) who I had only just met, but we had all been charged with being involved in a Conspiracy together. Our host had just gone out to pick up three other men. The other three (Simon Russell, Paul Rogers and Stephen Booth) again, were people who I did not know. Once again, they were also people that I was accused of conspiring with. As Robin, Sax and I sat there talking, the door opened and in walked Simon Russell. Upon seeing Robin he said, "You bastard. If you'd been found guilty, none of us would be here!" This was said in jest. However, it turned out to be the truth.

Back in the early 1990s an aspiring CID officer, Desmond Thomas, found himself the senior officer in charge of an animal rights investigation concerning an arson attack that had taken place in Hampshire. He had been involved in animal rights investigations before, but this was the very first time that he was the officer in charge of the case. Being keen on promotion, Thomas was enthusiastic about impressing his superiors and catching the activists involved. However, that was not to be the case. The only thing that Thomas was able to find out about the activists was that they were part of a 'group' calling itself the Animal Liberation Front. He discovered this when Robin Webb, the ALF Press Officer, claimed the action to be the work of the ALF.

Over the next few years, Thomas was to be the senior officer in charge of a number of animal rights investigations. Each time he failed to discover who was responsible for the actions. The only lead Thomas ever had was that the actions were always claimed by Robin Webb on behalf of one group or another, be it the ALF or whoever.

This led Thomas to become convinced that Robin Webb was somehow connected with the actions and so he started to investigate Robin Webb personally, trying to find anything to link Robin with any criminal offence. What Thomas was to regard as the breakthrough came when Robin was sent a Press Release by the Poultry Liberation Organisation (PLO) claiming responsibility for an egg contamination in Tesco's supermarket. In his role as ALF Press Officer, Robin passed this Press Release on to the media. Under some obscure law it is illegal to tell the media that food has been contaminated, even if you are merely doing so out of concern for public safety.

In August 1994, the police visited Robin at his home to interview him about the claim and he gave them the phone number of his solicitor and told them to go away. Later that evening the police returned with a search warrant and turned the place over. At that time they told Robin that they would interview him even if they had to arrest him. However, he was not arrested on that occasion.

In November 1994, Robin was arrested at Cambridge police station by Hampshire police when he went in to sign on for bail for other reasons. Robin made no reply to police questions and was released on bail. As well as arresting Robin for the PLO claim, Thomas also arrested two other people who he believed had produced the Press Release. They were Gillian Peachey and Jeanette McClunan. Over time the case against both Jeanette and later Gillian was dropped leaving the police with Robin.

When Robin replied to bail in January 1995 the police arrested him again and searched his house and then took him off to Winchester where he was charged and remanded to prison. During the weekend at the police station it was DS Betts who told Robin that "We are going to lock you up to shut you up".

On Robin's first couple of appearances at the magistrates court DC Thomas ignored the actual charges and invoked "arson, incitement, conspiracy and parcel bombs", linked him with the IRA and described Robin as the "Gerry Adams of the animal liberation movement". Robin was to spend nearly seven months in custody. The reason Thomas gave the court for not allowing Robin bail was that, should he be released he would incite people to commit criminal damage and conspire with others to commit criminal damage.

After almost seven months of bail applications being turned down on these grounds, Robin's legal team told the police they should either charge him with Incitement/Conspiracy to Incite or let him go. It was the Crown Prosecutor who told a High Court judge he would not be charging Robin with Incitement/Conspiracy to Incite with the evidence he had and so Robin was released on bail. At the contamination

trial, just a few days before it began, the original Crown Court judge was replaced for unspecified "security reasons". At the end of the prosecution case, but following a submission from his barrister, the judge instructed the jury to find Robin not guilty.

The fact that Robin had been cleared of the PLO claim led DC Thomas to develop an almost fanatical hatred of Robin Webb and was determined not to be beaten. In the run up to the PLO egg contamination claim trial, Thomas had launched a major investigation to find evidence that Robin Webb had incited people to commit criminal damage and had conspired with others to incite criminal damage. Once again, Thomas regarded what he saw as a breakthrough the discovery of a magazine called 'Green Anarchist' which was reporting a regular Diary of Animal Liberation actions. These diaries contained long listings of ALF and similar groups actions from around the world. Green Anarchist magazine was also, through its mail order department, openly selling copies of publications such as 'Into the 1990s with the Animal Liberation Front', 'Interviews with ALF activists', 'Going Underground for Animal Liberation', etc., etc. Thomas realised that here was a magazine that he could possibly prosecute for Conspiracy to Incite Persons Unknown to Commit Criminal Damage. All he needed to do was find a way to link Robin Webb with the magazine and he could have his arch-nemesis jailed. And so started what turned out to be nearly a year-long investigation with fifty-five raids against various addresses, property seized, etc. Things didn't look promising.

I do not wish to talk about the others, but in my own case Thomas discovered that I was the person who compiled the Diary of Animal Liberation. I had a number of international animal rights contacts, some of whom I was supplying Black Widow slingshots to where such items are banned in their own countries. There was also evidence to show that I was very involved with the animal liberation movement and I supplied animal liberation information to a large number of magazines across the world. The police also had a theory that I was actively engaged in both Animal Liberation Front and Earth Liberation Front activity and were subsequently investigating me for, amongst other things, an attempted arson in Cornwall, a bomb hoax in Plymouth, involvement with tree-spiking and a plan to scuttle live animal export ferries Sea Shepherd style, etc.

However, despite all these investigations (and despite arresting me for an alleged bomb hoax and despite telling the media they had foiled an attempt to scuttle ferries by "animal rights extremists") they could not find any firm evidence of illegal activity. The police also passed on the names and addresses of my overseas contacts to the police forces in those other countries. I don't know how much info was exchanged but certainly by the time a friend in New Zealand, Mark Eden, was arrested for Animal Liberation Front activity, a New Zealand newspaper

reported that the NZ and UK police were exchanging a fair amount of information.

There is one thing to note about international policing operations. Whilst Hampshire CID were investigating and trying to stop the reporting of Animal Liberation activity in this country, so similar events were taking place across Europe and Scandinavia. A German animal liberation magazine was raided after it reported the events around two high profile animal liberation arsons. A Dutch magazine was raided after it published a press release by the Earth Liberation Front claiming responsibility for a bomb exploding inside an empty building owned by a company involved with the dumping of toxic waste. The Finnish Animal Liberation Front Supporters Group was actually forced to close down for a while after the Finnish police used two high profile EVR (Finnish ALF) arsons as their excuse to harass known animal liberation activists. There does seem to be evidence to suggest that the criminalising of the reporting of Animal/Earth liberation direct action was not just limited to Britain and may have been part of a wider European policing operation. Whilst on that subject, Hampshire police actually took a publicly-funded trip to Italy just to speak to someone who wrote Robin Webb a letter!

Despite everything, the police could not prove their was any agreement to incite persons unknown to commit criminal damage. There wasn't even any evidence to suggest the people involved with Green Anarchist actually ever met others involved with the magazine. For example, in my own case, I was only concerned with the Animal Liberation news, the prisoner news and later on the EcoDefence news. I would compile all of the information together, relating to those issues and every three months or so I would post it off to a Box address in Oxford. Before the arrest I never met anyone else connected to Green Anarchist magazine. Therefore, because links were so vague, the police decided they would leave Green Anarchist and see what was going to happen with the PLO trial.

Three days after the PLO trial was thrown out of court, Hampshire police decided they would prosecute Robin Webb, Simon Russell and four other people identified as being linked with Green Anarchist. On the 16th January 1996 the police launched a series of dawn raids which resulted in the people who would later be known as the Gandalf Six being arrested. The reasons why we were each selected became clear as the case went ahead. Robin Webb was the main target of the police and the one they most wanted to jail. I compiled the Diary of Animal Liberation. The police hoped that through the Diary they would be able to link Robin Webb to Green Anarchist magazine. Paul Rogers is the Editor of Green Anarchist and therefore, under the law, he is ultimately responsible for everything it publishes and advertises. Saxon Wood ran the Green Anarchist mail order and distributed copies of 'Into the

1990s', etc. Stephen Booth was in charge of the accounts for Green Anarchist. He also organised subscriptions, etc. Simon Russell had links with Robin Webb, but they knew each other several years before this case was brought. As Editor of the ALFSG Newsletter, Simon was in contact with Robin Webb with regards to the ALF Press Office. I, on the other hand, was writing a book about the animal liberation movement and I had been in contact with Simon regarding its possible publication. The only contact I had with Robin was that I had written a few letters of support to him while he was in prison. Robin had also provided Green Anarchist with a listing of Justice Department actions after I had requested them but that was all. The police hoped that Simon would act as a bridge between Robin Webb and myself.

A major setback for the police occurred in December 1996, when at the committal hearing, the defence mentioned the fact that Thomas had said that, with the evidence he had on Robin, he would not charge him with either incitement or conspiracy to incite. The defence was able to show that the police really didn't have any substantial new evidence and so the case against Robin was thrown out. Sadly, the rest of us were committed for trial.

Whilst the committal was taking place, Hampshire CID were raiding and arresting more people. There is evidence to suggest that had the Gandalf case been thrown out at committal the police were all prepared to have yet another go at prosecuting Robin Webb and others.

However, rather than the whole case being thrown out, just the case against Robin was thrown out because the police had abused the process of law by bringing about this prosecution. This left the Prosecution without their star defendant. So, rather than accepting the legal ruling that just prosecuting Robin Webb on the whim of one senior police officer was an abuse of the legal system, the Prosecution instantly announced it would appeal the Magistrates ruling. The rest of us prepared for trial.

And so, on the 26th August 1997, the trial started. On the very first day of the trial, the Judge and the Prosecution had a meeting behind closed doors to discuss Public Interest Immunity certificates, i.e. what evidence should not be made available to the defence. Also within a few weeks Paul Rogers had a disagreement with his barrister which finally resulted in the barrister being forced to resign as Paul refused to talk to him. Paul was subsequently severed from the trial to enable him to find new legal representation to stand trial at a later date.

Without going into all the details (it did last 12 weeks after all) the trial was a farce; aspects of the trial including the Judge (Judge Selwood) very quickly making his own bias known by helping the police when they were being cross-examined and correcting them when they contradicted

themselves. Selwood failed to exclude a juror who admitted he knew an animal abuser who had been the target of an ALF arson attack and the details of which were in the evidence. At the start of the trial the Defence asked that jurors be excluded if they had links with the military. Not only did Selwood fail to do this, he himself had held the rank of Major General and had spent all but five years of his career officiating over military courts with NATO. Selwood also disallowed the Defence to ask all their questions and one barrister was forced to threaten to resign before he was allowed to continue with his line of questioning. Selwood disallowed certain evidence (e.g. the stuff relating to my slingshot exports) only to try and reverse his decision later on, after the defence campaign was all worked out.

During the summing up Selwood was clearly drunk on one occasion and he muddled up the defendants' names. And in both the cross-examination of defendants and his summing up, Selwood acted as second prosecutor, raising the attention of the jury to matters not picked up on by the Prosecution. The police were no better. During the trial they tried to claim that Simon had incited people to carry out ALF activity by offering to support prisoners financially through the ALF Supporters Group (something that Selwood did reject!).

A senior police officer also, whilst on oath, when referring to a piece of Arkangel headed notepaper that had been signed Robin, deliberately tried to mislead the court into thinking the Robin was in fact Robin Webb. This was despite the fact the police were well aware of who the other Robin is and the fact the two Robins' handwriting are totally different. The only excuse the officer could give for his mistake was the way the name Robin was spelt, which in both cases was the same! And just to add an international political basis to the trial, one of the main pieces of evidence relied upon by the police against Simon Russell was a list of Justice Department actions that appeared on the Internet. This list of actions was actually put on the Internet by former Canadian ALF activist, Darren Thurston. Darren agreed to fly to the UK to testify to this effect. However, on arrival at Heathrow, Darren was immediately deported as an undesirable alien, on advice received from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. This was despite the fact Immigration knew Darren was to appear as a Defence witness in what was turning out to be quite a complicated trial. The person who went to meet Darren at the airport was Simon Russell. Simon was greeted by Immigration and Special Branch officers who detained him all day asking him various questions about Darren.

As for the arguments of the case. The police tried very hard to create a smokescreen with regards to the distribution of copies of 'Into the 1990s with the ALF'. However, their real objection was the reporting of Animal Liberation Front actions. At a previous trial in Cardiff in 1988, two

defendants, Sally Carr and Robin Lane, were prosecuted for Conspiracy to Incite Others to Commit Criminal Damage and were sentenced to 18 months imprisonment with nine months suspended. It was clear that throughout the Cardiff proceedings, the main objection was that of reporting ALF actions by way of the 'Diary of Actions' and the 'Action Reports'.

To state the arguments that the police used against me; because I support the ALF, I, therefore wish for ALF actions to occur. I, then, regard lists of ALF actions to be "good news" (this was an expression frequently used by the prosecution). Therefore, because I want ALF actions to occur and because I regard lists of ALF actions to be "good news", if I compile any lists of actions it is to incite further actions. Or to put it another way, because I support the ALF it is illegal for me to report their actions.

However, the police still had one point to try and prove an actual Conspiracy to Incite. Here the Prosecution had to admit there was no such formal agreement to incite persons unknown to commit criminal damage. However, they said that the word Conspiracy did not automatically mean an actual firm agreement. You could have an implied conspiracy, where although there wasn't any firm agreement, people just knew they were agreeing with others to do something illegal. Again using myself as an example (because I refuse to claim to speak on behalf of others) I compile lists of ALF actions. This the police say can only be to incite others. I also know that other people are doing things the police claim incite ALF actions. Therefore because I am doing something the police say is illegal and because I know that other people are doing something that the police say is also illegal and because the 'illegal' actions are similar, I must therefore be involved in a Conspiracy with these other people. It is an 'implied conspiracy'. The Prosecution was most clear that you do not need to ever have met or communicated with the other people you are in an implied conspiracy with. All you need to do is know that someone, somewhere, is doing similar things to yourself.

The end result of this playing with words, was that Simon Russell was found Not Guilty. Sax, Steve and I were all found Guilty of being involved in a Conspiracy to Incite

Persons Unknown to Commit Criminal Damage (along with Robin Webb who wasn't even on trial). This was despite the fact that we have nothing in common and prior to our arrests we did not even know each other. I am a vegan Animal Liberation activist who has become inspired by Deep Ecology. Saxon is a vegan 'Straightedge' environmental anarchist activist whose main interest is punk music. Steve is a meat-eating anarchist who is neither into Animal Liberation nor environmentalism and whose priorities lay squarely with human liberation. We have nothing in common and share no common agenda, yet we were found guilty of being in an implied conspiracy together.

After we were found Guilty, initially the Judge said he wanted to give us four years imprisonment. However, after hearing submissions from our barristers about what nice people we all are, the Judge decided to 'only' give us three years each. But don't think this is the end of the Gandalf Trial. As a result of a Judicial Review in the High Court (incidentally, one of the presiding Judges was the one who gave Keith Mann his original 14 years imprisonment!) Robin Webb will, along with Paul Rogers, stand trial for Conspiracy to Incite Persons Unknown to Commit Criminal Damage, sometime during 1998.

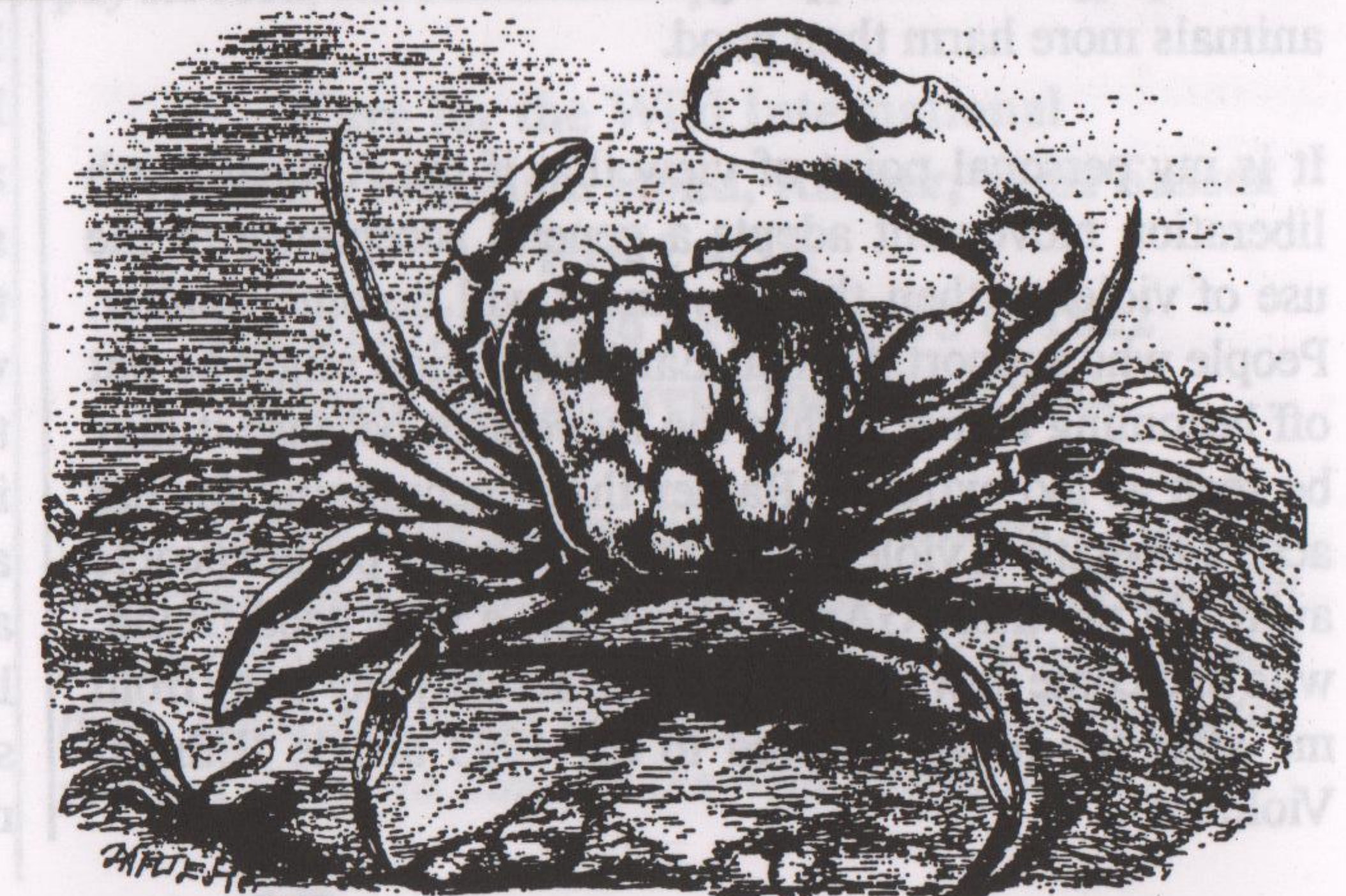
A great deal of publicity has been given to this trial, mainly due to the excellent hard work of the Gandalf Defendants' Campaign (or Neil Hansen as he is otherwise known). People are saying that the result of this trial is terrible. Well yes, it is bad that the Animal Liberation movement is being told that we can't disseminate our own information. But what is worse is the abuse of animals. As a prisoner I will not be cut open, electrocuted, crushed, radiated, poisoned, chased to exhaustion, ripped apart by dogs. I will not be hooked, beaten, kept cramped up in the dark unable to move. I will not be tortured, etc., etc. - unlike all the millions of animals that are being subjected to such horrors as you read this article.

The best support anyone can give is not to sit around saying "shame" but to get up and get active. Redouble your efforts to end the horrors that animal abuse entails. The animals are dying now.

The Shellfish Network

A group which does not turn a blind eye to the other creatures of the oceans. They campaign for the liberation of lobsters, crabs, limpets, oysters, mussels and all other shellfish! The network produces an informative newsletter which is available upon request (please send an SAE).

The Shellfish Network
Springside, Forest Road, East Horsley,
Leatherhead, Surrey KT24 5AZ
Tel / Fax: 01483 282995



Violence is Wrong!

by Rabbix

The quote below comes from a little known Animal Liberation book 'The Cement Cross' by Edward Edwards A.D. I think the final part of the citation really sums up the problem with advocating violent direct action:

"Just imagine if Animal Liberation emulated the Irish Republican Army, the Palestine Liberation Organisation and all the other well known factions who turned to the bomb to push their cause, when all other methods failed. And realise what it would mean. It would be no good the media, newspapers, radio, TV stations, spouting one-sided terrorists, as Big Business / Government sponsored media would do. Because very few people could be classified as innocent"

The last line suggests that any action can be justified on the grounds of Animal / Earth liberation. This view of everyone being guilty of animal abuse is reflected in the publication 'A Declaration of War' by Screaming Wolf. According to Screaming Wolf everyone is guilty of animal murder. The Animal Liberation Front activist is covered in less blood than the hunt scum, but their 'original sin' of being born human is still there. Both 'A declaration of War' and 'Cement Cross' glory violent direct action, which is something I find abhorrent.

Because I find the idea of violent direct action wrong, I had published in *Arkangel 17* an article entitled 'A Question of Violence'. In *Arkangel 18*, Barry Horne responded with another article entitled 'Another Question of Violence'. In his article Barry raised a number of points. The first point made was: being an Animal Liberation activist means putting the needs of the animals first. I totally agree with this but I do not agree that the needs of the animals are served by adopting the use of violence. In fact I would argue that adopting the use of violence does the animals more harm than good.

It is my personal point of view that if the Animal/Earth liberation movement adopts a general acceptance of the use of violence then the movement will become smaller. People who support Animal/Earth liberation might be put off becoming active within the movement because it may be seen as too extreme. Rather than encouraging further acts of liberation, violent direct action merely pushes people away. At my trial (GAndALF), I saw a very good friend, who had come down to support me, actually shy away from me after the judge referred to my 1993 article 'Ethical Violence'.

Violent direct action, in my mind, does not encourage people to become involved with Animal/Earth liberation activity. Instead, it scares people away. It will not help the animals if the very people trying to help the animals are putting other people off fighting for Animal/Earth liberation.

The second point made in Barry's article is that to condemn violence is speciesist. I once used that argument myself in 'Ethical Violence'. The contention that condemning violent direct action is speciesist goes along these lines:

If (for example) Joe Bloggs witnessed Sid Smith just about to shoot dead a large group of children but Joe Bloggs was able to kill Sid Smith first then no one would criticise Joe for the murder of Sid. By carrying out his act of violence, Joe prevented a greater act of violence (or to put it another way, it is considered ethical to kill one person if it saves the lives of hundreds). The person who is in favour of violent direct action then goes on to point out that animals are being killed every day by animal abusers and therefore, by killing one animal abuser to save the lives of hundreds of animals is also ethical. To say otherwise is speciesist. And of course there is little argument against this analysis.

However, to adopt such an analysis is to accept the use of violence. It says that violence is okay. As Animal/Earth liberation activists we should be moving away from violence. We should be saying that violence is wrong. We should be showing the world how to work and react without resorting to violence and the deliberate creation of suffering is part of the problem, not the solution. Rather than killing the vivisector people should be trying to rescue the animals. If a vivisector dies then another one will merely take over where the other one left off. Of course I would have absolutely no problem with the lab being destroyed and all the animals rescued.

The third point that Barry made is really more of a question. I am asked, have I ever considered the fact that the Justice Department letter-bombs are specifically designed so they are unable to kill? The simple answer is yes! Having been subjected by Hampshire Police, at my Committal hearing, to long detailed descriptions of exactly how JD letter-bombs work, I am fully aware of both how they are made, how they work and how they are incapable of causing death to individuals. They can, however, still result in physical injury and cause psychological trauma. As I said in my original article, I am against the creation of suffering be it in non-human or human animals. I want to help create a new system, free from human created suffering. I do not wish to merely replicate the violence of the old system.

The fourth point that Barry made in his article is that I am criticised for being critical of an action carried out to commemorate the murder of hunt sab, Mike Hill. The action in question being a Hunt Retribution Squad assault on a blood-junkie. Now, don't get me wrong, I totally respect the motives of the activists who carried out their anger at the Cheshire Beagles. But I have one question. What good did their action (the whipping of a lone hunt scum) do? Did the assault prevent animal suffering? No. Has it educated the public to the cruelty created by the hunting of animals with hounds? No. So what good did the action do?

I, of course, recognise the activists who carried out the assault to be good, caring, well-meaning people. However, I argue that their time and effort could have been put to better use. As I see it, an attack on a lone blood-junkie will not stop a hunt. Economic sabotage could, in my opinion, do so!

Barry's fifth and final point is that I should look at the motives behind the use of violent direct action, rather than just look at the action itself. Throughout this article, my previous article and other articles I have written I have consistently said that I do not criticise the motives behind any genuine Animal/Earth liberation inspired actions. However, just because I do not question the activists' motives does not mean I will not be critical of a particular action.

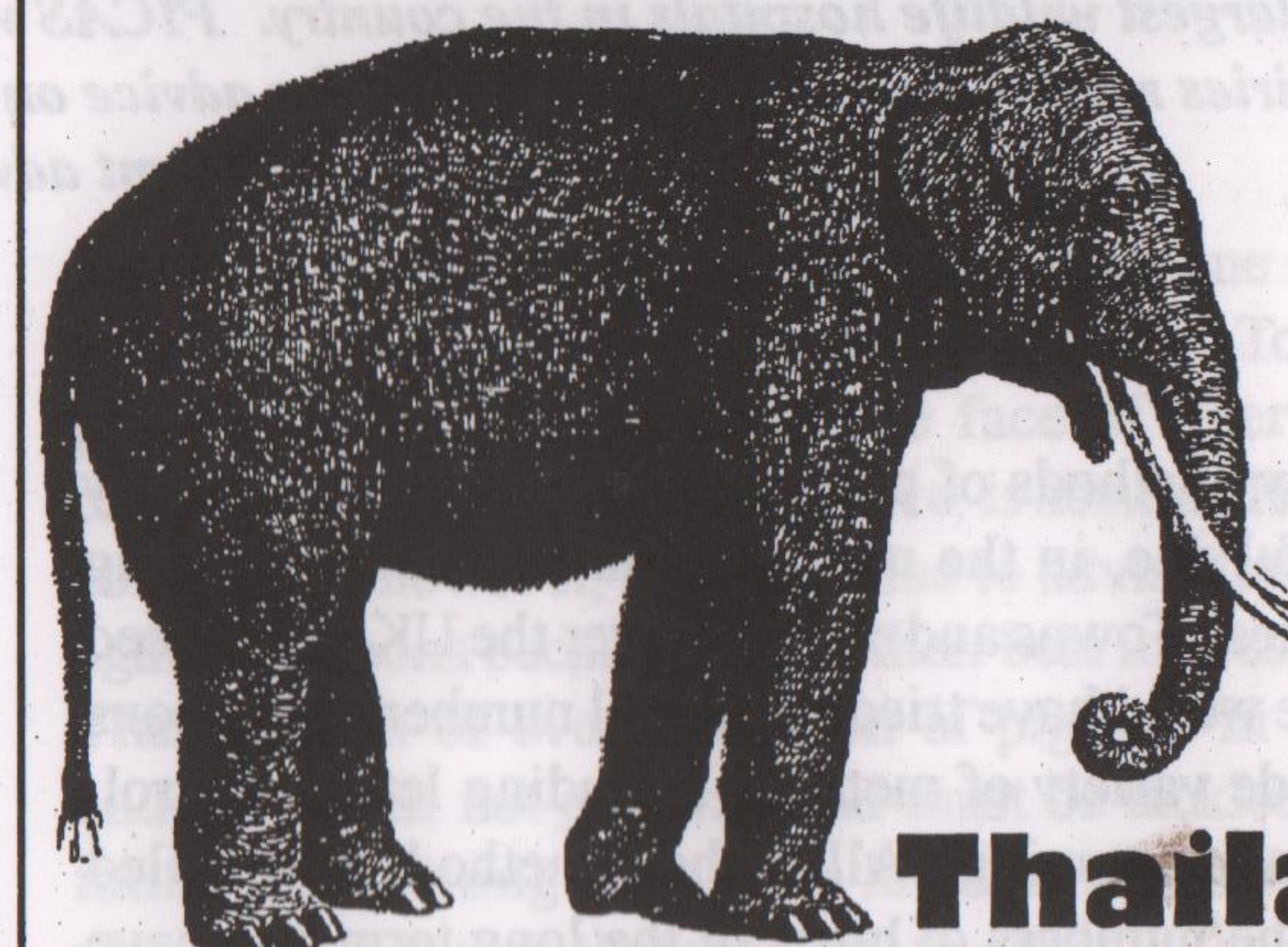
In early 1995, when two anti-live exports activists (Barb Trenholm and Justin Wright) were first arrested for an arson attack on a pub frequented by animal abusers I was critical of their action. But, despite my criticism, I also strongly argued that they should be supported by the ALF Supporters Group and the Earth Liberation Prisoners Journal. Even if people did not agree with the action itself, Barbara and Justin should still be supported because of their motives - which were to help animals and to reduce their suffering. Although I personally do not feel that an arson attack on a pub full of animal abusers will achieve Animal/Earth liberation, Barbara and Justine clearly did. They believed that the attack would help bring about the abolition of the trade in live animal exports and as such should be supported whilst in prison. I have always held that point of view, as I am sure Barb will vouch.

If an Animal/Earth liberation activist ends up in prison for Animal/Earth liberation reasons they should be supported, regardless of their action, because they carried it out in the belief it would help the animals. However, just because someone agrees with an activist's motives does not mean they should shy away from a critical analysis of the action if they feel strongly that the action is not helping to advance the cause of Animal/Earth liberation.

I do not feel that violent direct action will help advance the cause of Animal/Earth liberation. Of course, in general I

support the motives of the people who carry out violent direct action but I do not support their actions. Premeditated violence, in my view, is wrong, be it against non-human animals or human animals. And if you believe something is wrong you should speak out against it. To be silent and say nothing is to condone. You must stand up for what you believe in. If you don't then why stand up at all?

Elephant Hospital



in
Thailand


There is an elephant hospital which lies 650km north of Bangkok, in the region where elephants have traditionally been used in logging operations - dragging timber out of the forests to the roads. The hospital is a refuge for injured and sick elephants.

Established in 1994 by Ms Soraida Salwala, the hospital consists of open-sided buildings that provide shelter from the sun and allow cooling breezes to blow through, and over 100 elephants have been treated there. Ms Salwala was determined to relieve the suffering of elephants ever since she saw one badly injured and dying on the roadside. Baby elephants are also taken in by the hospital. Baby elephants are traded to be trained either to work in the forests or in circuses. Many are smuggled in from Burma. They suffer from stress that affects them physically and emotionally and many die as a result. Some are fortunate enough to be brought to the hospital.


The hospital urgently needs medicines and surgical and other equipment. The hospital raises money in Thailand to pay for food, etc. but needs help to buy essential equipment.

Care for the Wild International
1 Ashfolds, Horsham Road, Rusper, West Sussex
RH12 4QX
Tel: 01293 871596 / Fax: 01293 871022
E-mail: info@careforthewild.org.uk

(Care for the Wild International are holding a raffle to help raise funds for the Elephant Hospital. Should you wish to buy tickets or sell tickets on their behalf, please contact them. If you would like to make a donation to the hospital, you can do so via Care for the Wild International.)



PICAS



(Pigeon Control Advisory Service)

PICAS was formed in January 1998 as a non-profit making consultative body advising on all aspects of pigeon control. Guy Merchant, who founded the organisation, has studied pigeons and the effects of control on the species for many years. He is also Projects Manager for CARES Wildlife Hospital in Cambridgeshire which is one of the largest wildlife hospitals in the country. PICAS was formed to deal with an ever increasing number of enquiries received at the hospital asking for advice on humane and effective alternatives to lethal control. PICAS aims to provide independent advice based on research and not profit.

Pigeon Control

Historically, methods of pigeon control have been largely unsuccessful due, in the main, to a lack of understanding of the species. Towns and cities all over the UK and indeed all over the world have tried to control numbers of pigeons using a wide variety of methods including lethal control, deterrents and trapping. All of these methods have failed to reduce the numbers of birds in the long term and have involved considerable financial outlay, to say nothing of the humanitarian implications.

Control Methods Commonly Used

Methods of control used by pest control companies include putting down poisoned or narcotic bait, shooting birds in their roosting sites and trapping operations.

Poisoning

The use of poisons and narcotics as a method of control is less common but still used by pest control companies. Poisons ensure that the birds taking the bait die a slow and agonising death. The purpose of narcotic bait is to induce stupor in the bird so that it is easily caught and despatched. Many birds, however, are not caught by the pest control operatives and are killed by motorists on the roads or by cats and other predators. The danger with the use of poisons and narcotics is that the affected birds become a lethal part of the food chain.

Shooting

Shooting as a method of control is widely used by pest control companies and birds are usually shot at night whilst roosting. Air rifles are generally used to shoot the birds and the operatives carrying out the task are often inexperienced and untrained. As it is almost impossible to kill a bird of this size with an air rifle a majority of the birds are wounded and then left to die. Wildlife hospitals treat large numbers of pigeons that have been shot and wounded as a part of a pest control operation.

*Acknowledgement: Daniel Haag-Wackernagel, June 1992

Trapping

Trapping as a means of control is widespread. This method involves encouraging the birds into baited traps, normally placed in their roosting or feeding area. Once a certain number of birds are trapped they are removed and their necks will be broken. The traps will then be re-set. Alternatively the birds may be trapped and removed for release elsewhere, but this is less common. Although there is a legal requirement for anyone setting traps to inspect their traps every 24 hours, not all pest control companies comply with this legislation and the birds are often left to starve or die of exposure.

Deterrents

Anti-perching devices are used extensively to deter pigeons from roosting on a specific site. These devices can be extremely effective and are ideal for a property owner or leaseholder who sees roosting pigeons on his/her property as a problem. Inevitably, however, it will only move the pigeons onto a neighbouring building to become someone else's problem. It must also be pointed out that some of the recognised anti-perching devices can be harmful and indeed lethal to pigeons. Where netting is used birds often become entangled and die of starvation. Where nylon line is used it often breaks and becomes wrapped around the legs of the bird, hobbling it. Many birds are admitted to wildlife hospitals in a distressed state having come into contact with the anti-perching jelly used on roosting sites.

In short, anti-perching devices are a good method of deterring pigeons from roosting or perching on a specific building as long as an appropriate deterrent is chosen. Ideally, advice should be sought from an independent source, not a pest control company who will have a vested interest in selling a product irrespective of its implication for the welfare of the birds. As with all accepted control methods, deterrents are a 'quick fix' and do not tackle the problem at source.

Why Commonly Used Methods Fail

Scientific research* has proved conclusively that all these methods of control are totally ineffective in the long term

reduction of pigeon numbers. In areas where any of these control operations have been put into place there will be seen to be an initial short-term reduction in numbers. Within 1-3 months, however, pigeon numbers will have increased to the pre-cull figure and possibly will have exceeded it. This is because killing adult pigeons in a feeding flock favours the younger birds that would otherwise have no chance of survival. Many older non-breeding birds are removed during these operations and the younger healthy breeding stock remain.

Pigeons control their own numbers very effectively according to the food source available to them. An adult pair of pigeons can breed up to 6 times a year producing 2 young each time if the conditions are good and the food supply plentiful. If, however, the food supply is dramatically reduced and there is only enough food to support the existing flock, adult birds may not breed at all. It can be deduced from this that a problem with over-population of pigeons is more of a people problem than a pigeon problem. If the public could be educated to cease or cut down on their pigeon feeding habits, this measure alone would see a dramatic decrease in pigeon numbers in any given area.

Alternative Control Measures

In 1988 and 1990 the City of Basel introduced a massive public information campaign to educate the public about pigeons and the relationship between feeding and the resultant over-population. Alongside the education campaign the government asked the University of Basel to carry out a scientific study to find a solution to the problem of overpopulation of pigeons in the city. The city had a population of approximately 20,000 pigeons and had tried everything to reduce the population, including killing over 100,000 birds in the preceding 24 years, only to find that they still had a population of 20,000 birds.

This research, carried out between 1988 and 1992, concluded that killing pigeons as a method of long-term control had no effect on the pigeon population. Basel provided 9 designated feeding areas where the public could legitimately feed the pigeons. Adjacent to these areas they built well-kept and controlled pigeon lofts where the local pigeon population were encouraged to nest and roost. These lofts were visited every day and cleaned and any eggs that had been laid were removed. During the 4 year research period over 1200 eggs each year were removed. Over a 50 month period this had the effect of reducing the pigeon population in these test sites by a staggering 50%. Not only were pigeon numbers halved but large quantities of pigeon droppings were removed from the lofts that would otherwise have been spread around the city.

In 1997, a similar scheme was introduced in the town of Bedford by the Borough Council, this being the first scheme of its kind in the UK. Bedford is unusual in that the Borough

Council has had a 'no-cull' policy since 1987 and any pigeon control procedure introduced had to be humane and non-lethal. Acting on advice from Guy Merchant (Project Manager for CARES Wildlife Hospital in Cambridgeshire) the Borough Council put a 'Nest-Box' scheme into place in July 1987. This scheme was based on research carried out by Guy Merchant in the 1980s and also loosely based on the research carried out in Basel. The scheme has also been implemented at Ely Cathedral in Cambridgeshire, also acting on advice from CARES.

Summary

There is no doubt that the 'Nest Box' scheme is the way forward for pigeon control in the 1990s. To continue practising lethal control in the face of overwhelming evidence that it is totally ineffective, is absurd. Pest Control companies, however, will continue to advise lethal control against pigeons because it is in their best interests to do so. The problem of overpopulation of pigeons in our towns and cities will not go away and must be tackled at source rather than putting short-term lethal control operations in place. This means that we have to educate the public and ideally provide areas where people can legitimately feed pigeons. We need to provide artificial nesting sites that can be easily cleaned and accessed to remove eggs. These two measures alone will solve many of the problems normally associated with pigeons. They are extremely inexpensive to put into place and totally in tune with our environment. Nest Boxes are cheap and easy to produce and can be sited on or near existing roosting places, i.e. the roofs of buildings, where they will be out of sight of the general public. Education campaigns cost very little to put into place and by involving the media can get extremely wide coverage at no cost at all.

For practical help and advice on deterrents and humane, elective alternatives to lethal control please contact:

Guy Merchant
(Project Manager, CARES Wildlife Hospital)

Pigeon Control Advisory Service
50B Roff Avenue, Bedford, MK41 7TE
Web: <http://members/aol.com/picadvise>
E-mail: picadvise@aol.com
Tel / Fax: 01234 340514



Justice for Keith Mann Campaign

A Statement by Keith Mann

It's with much regret that I'm having to write this as I'm not big on negativity, but it's a fact of life that we have and will always have negative elements in our ranks with the intention of dragging the rest of us down with their personal agendas and egos. Another has just laid his cards on the table. I was quite happy to defend this individual until very recently, but that's all changed now and it's only proper I share my experience.

Sussex-based Dave Hammond began the Justice For Keith Mann Campaign (JFKMC) shortly after I was sentenced in December 1994. And what a good job he did alongside a few others in promoting the campaign. Despite warnings that his motives may not be totally based on getting justice for me, I remained impressed with his determination to help. But lately, as some had predicted, things have turned sour. Hammond decided to use the JFKMC as a vehicle for his own New Vegan Liberation (NVL) "bandwagon" as he described it. The NVL leaflet was a rambling, disjointed rant, ranging across subjects such as the amount of violence in the movement, police informers, agent provocateurs, people who spread misinformation and disharmony in the movement and how it is time we rid ourselves of such people. Knowing what I now know about him, I can't help wondering if he was taking the piss.

The Campaign, including me, decided against paying to send out this leaflet because we weren't happy with the content. Although we should expose infiltrators and informers wherever we find them, as I see it, the more we achieve, the harder they'll work to infiltrate us and we should view it positively as a success.

And there's the old chestnut about the violence. What violence? We suffer plenty, but our hit list of murdered and maimed animal abusers is incredibly puny, non-existent in fact. It's such a non-issue it's not worth going on about.

I wrote to Dave Hammond asking him to clarify certain points. He didn't reply. I phoned him and he said he was actually in the middle of replying and it would be in the post the following day. I've still had no reply two months after writing.

On September 1st he wrote to the Campaign and stated that the solution to the problem was simple: "I (Hammond) send my leaflet to all the Campaign supporters, and it pays for the equivalent postage and stationery needed, once you have supplied me with the complete, up-to-date JFKMC

mailing list. Only then will I continue to work with the Campaign, and with you only. Any cost incurred by myself will be paid for by the Campaign. This is my ultimatum and I will not compromise on it. PS. Should you not agree to my terms the Campaign will need a new PO box and I will close the account".

What do you think the response to that was? Immediately a new PO box was sought and bank account opened. Categorically not prepared to be blackmailed. Two days later he sent another stating that he had decided to continue with the Campaign but was prepared to deal with just one named person. After his previous letter it was rather presumptuous that anyone would want to continue working with him. He told me over the phone that he had apologised for his first letter in this one and that this was clearly being hidden from me. I had the letter and still have, and nowhere was there an apology. In one he sent to my mum 3 weeks later he added a PS: "Any excuse I might need for my apparent odd behaviour is I'm only human."

I eventually told him that for the sake of the campaign it would be best if he close the account and forward on the mail. He said he still wanted to help so I suggested he could do so on a one-to-one basis. He agreed.

Soon after, a cheque for £314 was sent to my mum. Hammond wrote that he would forward £1,414 in shares, from when the Alliance and Leicester became a bank, if we decided to cash them in. If we didn't they would have to remain under his control because he claimed they weren't transferable. No need to ponder this one for too long. She told him to cash them in and send the cheque.

She waited, but then got a letter from him in which he explained he'd decided to keep the money for himself. He reasoned that he hadn't understood the details of the share issue at the time. He now reasons that because he is the named account holder, and he holds other accounts with the same bank (all from other campaigns he has failed to see through) he personally owns the shares. This despite numerous references by Hammond over months to the JFKMC shares. And the fact that the campaign ensured the necessary £100 was in the account at the time the shares were issued. His other accounts were never an issue, they contained insignificant amounts and their existence was insignificant. Indeed he'd told me he was keen that if possible, rather than use the money on the campaign, it be saved for me for my release. The long and short of it is the

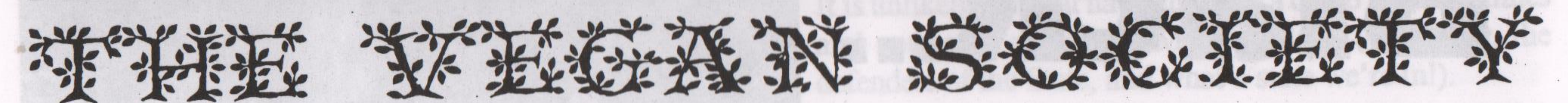
shares were issued because the JFKMC supporters had provided the £100 needed to qualify for the shares. Now Dave Hammond has decided it's his money.

Weigh it up for yourself. Copies of all the letters I've mentioned are in the possession of the SG. The JKFM Campaign has a new PO box where future correspondence should be sent. My mum looks after the campaign account and she can be trusted.

If you want to discuss how he can steal money from a prisoner or anything else you may be concerned about, he still runs the PO Box 1135, Downs View Rd, Hassocks, West Sussex, BN6 8AA - the old campaign address.

Incidentally he has failed, despite requests, to forward proof that the old account has been closed down, nor proof of exactly what was in there when the cheque was sent.

JFKMC, PO Box 3690, Bracknell, Berkshire, RG12 8NW



Brief History

The Vegan Society was formed in 1944 by a group of vegetarians who had recognised the ethical compromise implicit in lacto (i.e.; dairy-dependent) vegetarianism. Today, the Society continues to highlight the breaking of the strong maternal bond between the cow and its newborn calf within just four days; the dairy cow's proneness to lameness and mastitis; her subjection to an intensive cycle of pregnancy and lactation; people's unnatural and unhealthy taste for cow's milk; and the de-oxygenation of river water through contamination with cattle slurry.

Vegan Society Catalogue

The Vegan Society catalogue is now available and contains numerous items including books, leaflets, T-shirts, stickers etc. A list appears below:

The 4th Edition of the Animal Free Shopper is an invaluable guide to what's vegan in the shops and supermarkets. It is available for only £4.95 (inc. p&p)

Books include:

Why Vegan by Kath Clements. A simple and straightforward exposition of the case for veganism. £6.99.
The Dreaded Comparison by Marjorie Spiegel. A penetrating study loaded with shocking comparisons of human and animal slavery, of racism and speciesism. £3.95.
Pregnancy, Children and The Vegan Diet by Michael Klaper MD. A practical guide to ensuring health and balance throughout pregnancy and to raising healthy children on a 100% animal-free diet. £7.95.
Vegan Nutrition by Michael Klaper MD. A practical guide showing how sound vegan diets can satisfy all the body's needs and play a major role in the prevention and treatment of many degenerative diseases. £7.95.
The Vegan Cookbook by Alan Wakeman & Gordon Baskerville. 200 richly varied and carefully graded recipes, ranging from the quick and simple through to the unashamedly gourmet. £7.99.

Leaflets:

Poor cow/calf; Are your meals costing the Earth?; Leather - the Facts; Join the human race (Health): 100 - £1.75; 500 - £5.95; 1000 - £10.50; 2000 - £19.25.

Stickers, badge, and nutrition chart:

'Vegans Welcome' window sticker £1.25; Enamel badge £1.45; Vegan Nutrition Chart; £2.50.

Video:

The Vegan Society VHS video (PAL), 22 minutes. An upbeat, informal introduction to the vegan diet - the thinking behind it and health and environmental benefits. Presented by Benjamin Zephaniah and featuring a host of celebrities. £8.95.

Vegecat & Vegekit:

Supplement which is added to recipes (supplied) to provide complete meals for vegan cats. 6 week supply. £8.25. Vegekit; As for Vegecat but for kittens up to 12 months and lactating queens. 6 weeks supply. £8.25.

Postage & Packing for books, etc.:

Less than £5; 95p; £5-£9.99; £1.50; £10-£19.99; £2.50; £20-£29.99; £3.25; £30+; £4.50 (free in UK). (Overseas: Europe - multiply rates by 2; Other - multiply rates by 4).

Membership Rates:

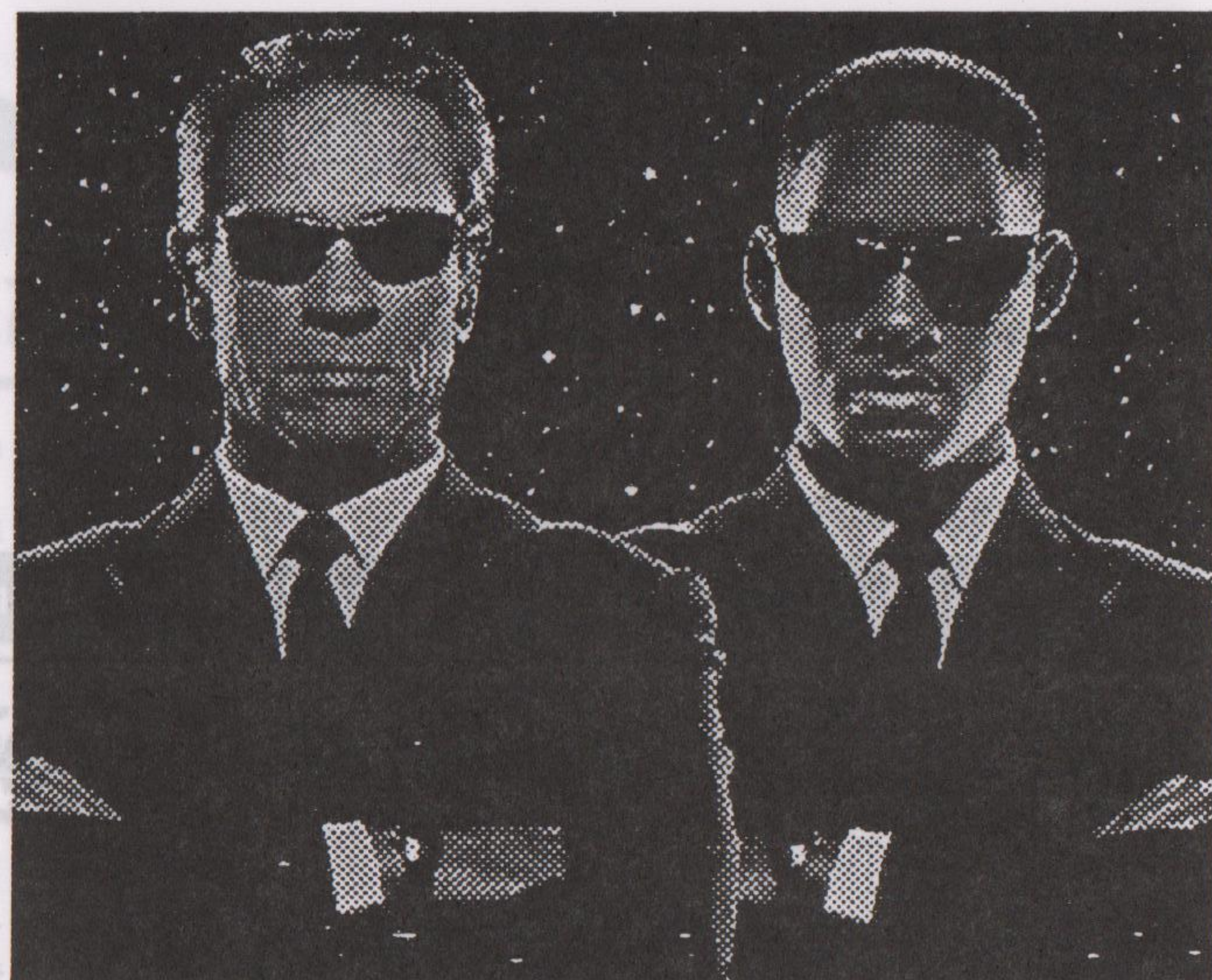
Individual: £17, Unwaged Individual £11, Junior (under 18) £9, Family/Joint (living at the same address) £23, Unwaged family/joint (living at the same address) £15, Life £275. Eire & overseas: all applicants must add £5.00. Subscribers receive an informative quarterly magazine.

The Vegan Society
Donald Watson House,
7 Battle Road,
St. Leonards-on-Sea,
East Sussex TN37 7AA

Tel: 01424 427393 / Fax: 01424 717064

Good Guys Dress in Black...

by Anon.



I would like to propose a 'dress code' for demonstrations. Already several hunt sab groups are using this tactic and adopting a policy of all wearing the same clothing. This has been shown to be a highly effective and useful thing to do.

The main reason is that it makes it difficult for activists to be identified individually, either by the police or by animal abusers. This doesn't necessarily mean that someone will have done something illegal; even if they have just irritated the police, or are known to be an 'organiser' they can be arrested. We all know how the police are expert at stitching people up.

Many of us will have had experience of someone being picked out for arrest or harassment because they were wearing a red top, had a purple mohican, or some other obvious means of identification. With videos being increasingly commonplace on demonstrations, used by the police, activists and animal abusers, anyone can be caught on camera and then picked up hours or even several months later by a police snatch squad. This tactic was used by the West Mercia police at the Consort Beagle demos, and has also been used at Hillgrove Cat Farm.

With videos present, it is obviously more important to mask up as well as wear identical clothing.

I would like to suggest specifically that people wear all-black clothing on demonstrations. There are a number of reasons why black is a better choice than others. Some sab groups for example, all wear blue boiler suits or all wear camouflage gear.

Black clothes are easy to come by, most people already have them lying around. It is also very difficult to distinguish black clothes from each other. Combat gear can vary a lot from person to person; different shades of green, some

people wear all green, others camouflage style. If you have ever been sabbing, you can easily recognise sabs who are masked up, from what combat gear they are wearing or what shade of green their trousers are. On the other hand, sabs dressed head to toe in black are virtually impossible to identify when masked up. It has even been known for police to identify activists on video by the colour of their socks!

For new activists, they probably won't have any combat clothes or won't feel comfortable wearing them, as they can seem macho and militaristic. They will probably feel all right in black and it could be promoted as wearing black 'in memory of the animals that have died', etc.

Some people might feel that their individuality is being taken away by wearing a kind of 'uniform'. This is just a tactic, however; the time to express your individuality is not on demonstrations where people can be (and often are) arrested and sent to jail.

Others may reason that as they are not going to do anything that could be construed as unlawful, they don't need to wear black. This is definitely not the case. If the only people to wear black were those intending to 'kick ass', the police would obviously just target those individuals. In this scenario, wearing black would become a liability, not a protection. So the tactic of wearing black depends on the majority of the demonstrators present adhering to it. Often on demos, following an 'incident', the police will be trying to identify those responsible. If the crowd is all in black, anyone worried about being arrested can easily merge in with them.

Some sabs may also argue that camouflage gear enables them to remain unseen in wooded areas. This may be so, but black is also very good for merging into the background, especially when it gets dark, and can be used in urban as well as wooded environments.

Who will protect the Earth from the scum of the Universe?

Arkangel 19

A suggested black dress code for sabs and demos is:

- Black zip-up hooded top (with NO logos on it). These are good for hiding hair styles which are another easily identifiable characteristic.
- Plain black hat (often sold in army surplus shops).
- Black combat trousers (the extra pockets can be useful for sabbing) or black jeans
- or black jogging bottoms (although these three can obviously be distinguished between from videos).
- Black boots or all-black trainers (with no logos, trims, etc).
- Black socks (possibly going too far but better safe than sorry!).

Also avoid long colourful clothes worn underneath outer black clothing that will peek out and identify you.

For masking up:

A black balaclava is often used, especially by sabs, which can be rolled up into a hat when not in use. This can be good when the idea is to look menacing and threatening, although some activists are moving away from balaclavas for various reasons. If you get arrested, having a balaclava in your possession, although not illegal, can look bad for you in court. Others feel that when the media is present, they can focus on this and ignore the animal abuse. (Although promoting an aggressive image to the press can be a useful tactic on occasions.)

One alternative, which can be just as effective, is to use a plain black scarf tied around the lower half of the face. This can be worn in the usual manner when not in use.

Another useful idea is to cut the sleeves off an old black T-shirt. These are usually just the right size to wear as a mask to cover the nose and mouth. It has the added benefits of being easier to breathe through than a scarf and of staying in place more easily. (scarves have a tendency to slip down at inopportune moments!) When not in use it can be worn around the neck as a 'light scarf'.

Remember when wearing masks that they are useless if you put them on or take them off whilst being videoed.

A tactic that can be used if you suspect the police are looking for you is to remove masks, hats, etc (out of police view) and put on a brightly coloured jumper. The police will then be looking for someone dressed in black and hopefully won't hassle you. Swapping clothes can also be used to good effect.

Remember how similar the police all look when they are in riot gear. They know that by all dressing the same and removing ID numbers they can beat us around and get away with it. We can learn from their tactics.

...or do they?

The Men in Black

by Pooh Bear

It is unlikely that you have attended a demo in recent times and not come across the Men in Black (you know, the defenders of the State, and what a state we're in!).

They are easily identifiable. They wear black baseball caps, black combat jackets, black combat trousers tucked into black combat boots. Other accessories include video cameras, madonna-style microphones and cameras with very long lenses. Whether you are in a group of two or a crowd of two thousand they are there clicking and filming away; "who is talking to who", "just because they are wearing scarves and hoods doesn't mean we don't recognise their eyes", etc, etc.

Well, I'm sure that it has occurred to most animal liberation campaigners that they must be doing something with all these hundreds of hours of mostly tedious footage but exactly what? Just think, your average animal liberation campaigner, who attends almost all national and local demos must have been filmed countless number of times and all these images are being stored away somewhere. Unlike some road-speed cameras, I am sure that the cameras used by the Men in Black do actually contain film. What is also a bit odd about these defenders of the Universe against 'anarchist scum' is the fact that they also film people's dogs! Oh well, whatever turns them on.

Arkangel Back Issues & Cards

Arkangel Back Issues: Numbers 2 & 4 are still available and are FREE of charge! (But please send 50p per magazine to cover the postage - £1.00 outside of the UK).

Cards: A set of three postcards featuring cats are available. Prices are as follows: 10p each, 15 for £1, 100+ cards 5p each.

Order from: Arkangel, BCM 9240,
London WC1N 3XX.

Please make cheques payable to
'Arkangel'

Arkangel 19

The NIGHTMARE for McDONALDS Continues...



The McLibel case was described by Mike Mansfield QC as "the trial of the century as it concerns the most important issues that any of us have to face living our ordinary lives." And according to Channel Four News "It will go down in history as the most expensive and disastrous public relations exercise ever mounted by a multinational company." It was a victory for campaigners as the judge slammed McDonald's core business practices, evidence in the trial backed up all the criticisms made of the company, and the campaign became unstoppable. And it's not over yet. Appeals are in progress, and the McLibel Campaign is calling for a Day of Action on the anniversary of the judge's verdict (see below).

The Judge found as a fact that McDonald's "exploit children" through their advertising, that they are "culpably responsible" for cruelty to animals, and that the company is anti-Union and pays such low wages that it helps to depress the already low wages in the catering industry even further. The Judge also found that McDonald's food is not nutritious and that they are therefore deceiving the public when they promote it as such, and that they are risking the health of their long-term regular customers.

UK LIBEL LAWS TO BE CHALLENGED IN EUROPE

The McLibel Defendants (Helen Steel & Dave Morris) are appealing in the British courts against the parts of the Judge's verdict which went against them and over some of the disturbing legal aspects of the case - it is scheduled to be heard in December 1998 or later. Helen & Dave intend to take the British government to the European Court of Human Rights to overturn the UK's unfair and oppressive libel laws - challenging the denial of Legal Aid and the right to a jury trial, and laws stacked in favour of Plaintiffs. They will argue that multinational corporations should no longer be allowed to sue for libel.

BOOK

Updated editions of the book "McLibel: Burger Culture on Trial" written by John Vidal (with the help of the Defendants) are now available in paperback in the UK,

hardback in the USA, and in some other countries. The paperback is also available by mail order at the special rate of £5 (including postage) from the McLibel Campaign.

CD-ROM

The McSpotlight Internet website (www.mcspotlight.org) was set up to provide comprehensive information worldwide at a push of a button about McDonald's, the trial and the campaign. It has been accessed nearly 30 million times since its launch in February 1996. A CD-ROM of the website (containing over 20,000 pages of information) is now available. It includes all the official court transcripts (313 days), witness statements from both sides, the full judgement, in-depth interviews with key characters and witnesses, over 500 press articles, and resources for campaigners including of course the "What's Wrong With McDonald's?" leaflets, now translated into more than a dozen languages and ready to be printed off. Other attractions include a guided tour (with audio from the McLibel Defendants), photo album, quiz, animation, video clips, stuff for sale, cartoons, pages for kids, two full-length plays, suppressed material from McDonald's previous legal actions, and 28 other companies in the McSpotlight. To order a copy of the McSpotlight CD, please send a donation of £7 to BM McSpotlight, London WC1N 3XX (cheques payable to "McLibel Support Campaign").

DOCUMENTARY ON VIDEO

The hour-long exclusive documentary "McLibel: Two Worlds Collide" is now available on video. Filmed over three years, with courtroom reconstructions directed by Ken Loach, it tells the inside story of Helen and Dave's epic battle, examining the main issues in the trial (nutrition, advertising, employment, animals, environment) as well as the implications for freedom of speech. Watch it on the internet at: www.spanner.org/mclicel or order a copy from One-Off Productions: £12.99 (waged) or £9.99 (unwaged) plus £2 postage to BM Oops, London WC1N 3XX (cheques payable to 'One-Off Productions'). Tel. 0171 247 8881. "A very brave film. The characters of Helen Steel and Dave Morris emerge triumphantly. No wonder the main TV channels dare not show it." - Ken Loach

**McLIBEL ANNIVERSARY DAY OF
ACTION - 19th JUNE 1998**
One Year After The Verdict, and the Two Worlds
Continue To Collide...
A day for local leafleting and protests, and
showings (and burials!) of the 'McLibel'
documentary.

McDonald's continues to expand. The campaign against them continues to grow. And the 'McLibel' Trial, the longest and one of the most controversial in English history, still shines as an example of how the business practices of a huge multinational can be exposed to public view, despite oppressive and unfair censorship laws. The hour-long documentary 'McLibel: Two Worlds Collide' tells the inside story of the case. Filmed over three years, with courtroom reconstructions directed by Ken Loach and exclusive access to the defendants' lives, it would clearly make a very popular peak-time documentary. But two proposed UK transmissions were blocked by lawyers at the BBC and Channel 4 and the film is currently available only on video and on the internet. Broadcasts in other countries are currently being negotiated.

As Appeals to the UK courts and the European Court are being prepared, the McLibel Support Campaign calls for international leafleting protests, and local showings of the documentary around Friday June 19th 1998 (one year since the trial verdict was delivered and our Victory Day of Action was celebrated by the distribution of half a million leaflets in about 20 countries). To protest at UK media censorship and burial of the documentary, we call on activists to organise local burials (at appropriate key sites) of the tape

as a time capsule to ensure that generations to come will have a chance to know some of what happened during this historic battle.

ADOPT-A-STORE

The 'Adopt-a-Store' network in the UK is continuing - you can adopt your local UK McDonald's store(s) pledging to leaflet outside on the McLibel Anniversary Day Of Action (taking place this year) and on 16th October every year (World Anti-McDonald's Day). In this way, we will ensure that as many stores are covered as possible. Over 500 of McDonald's 750 UK stores were leafleted on the 'Victory Day of Action' (21st June 1997). People can adopt stores or can be put in touch with campaigners in their area, and can order leaflets in bulk, by contacting Veggies in Nottingham (Tel 0115 958 5666) or the McLibel Campaign (Tel 0171 713 1269).

Please send donations
and/or requests for information to:

McLibel Support Campaign
5 Caledonian Road
London N1 9DX, UK
Tel/Fax 0171 713 1269
E-mail: mclicel@globalnet.co.uk
(weekly meetings every Thursday from 7pm)

Internet info on McLibel, McDonald's
and multinationals at:
<http://www.mcspotlight.org/>

Val Waters

Val Waters, a dedicated campaigner for animal protection and one of the first animal rights prisoners, died earlier this year at the age of 65.

In the 70s Val was a prominent anti-bloodsports campaigner and it was in connection with this that she was sent to prison in 1977.

As a member of the Hunt Saboteurs Association, Val was trying to stop the Atherstone Hunt from killing foxes when she was violently attacked and her car damaged by hunt thugs. The thugs were later taken to court and bound over to keep the peace, but the magistrates decided to bind Val over too, even though she hadn't broken the law.

As a matter of principle Val refused to accept the binding over order and was eventually sentenced to 28 days imprisonment for her refusal. Her case received some very positive national publicity and the sentence didn't deter her in any way from taking action against hunting.

As well as her anti-bloodsports activities, Val gave a great deal of help and support to ALF activists in the Birmingham area and campaigned on a wide range of animal rights issues.

Towards the end of last year Val was diagnosed as having cancer. She had been a vegetarian for many years, but was unfortunately never able to give up smoking, a factor which contributed significantly towards her illness. Although Val realised this

herself, she remained philosophical about her situation and refused to get downhearted.

Val continued to fight against animal abuse and to take part in protests (especially against live exports) for as long as she could, but eventually she became too ill to attend demonstrations and turned, instead, to letter-writing.

Sadly Val's illness became progressively worse and on the 24th of February she bravely and sensibly took her own life rather than endure the suffering and indignity of cancer's final stages.

She will be remembered with fondness and admiration by many in the animal rights movement.

Ronnie Lee

R i t u a l an appeal from VIVA! Slaughter

The greatest source of animal abuse is farming and slaughter, with more than 750 million animals killed every year in the UK alone, most of them factory farmed. VIVA! has amassed a body of evidence which shatters the deceit that somehow the slaughter of animals is clean, pain-free, compassionate and acceptable.

Ritual religious slaughter is the worst of all - both unjustified and indefensible. VIVA! has produced a detailed report on the subject - VIVA! Report on the Religious (Ritual) Slaughter of Animals. It will be followed by an equally damning report on mainstream slaughter.

Religions can and do change - the introduction of Shechita and Halal methods centuries ago is proof of that. Religious slaughter has been bolstered with myths. One is that the animals die instantly. Calves struggle to get up for over six minutes and continue breathing for nearly 12 minutes. Lambs can gasp for four minutes - seven in the case of bulls. Any animals struggling for life for this length of time with its throat cut feels terror and pain. The claim that stunning will prevent blood from draining out is also untrue. It makes no difference to the amount lost.

Religious slaughter has become big business. Thousands of animals are killed for export and for the general home market and a considerable amount of flesh is sold to the general public. Whether it be as a result of Halal or Shechita slaughter, it is not labelled as having been ritually killed.

For further information concerning Ritual slaughter and/or VIVA!'s campaigns against the meat trade in general you can contact them by writing to:

VIVA!
12 Queen Square, Brighton
East Sussex BN1 3FD
Tel: 01273 777688 / Fax: 01273 776755

A plea from the editors...

Arkangel Magazine relies on its readers to contribute news, artwork and articles for publication. If possible, please send your contributions on disk together with a printout. Also, we can scan text from good quality printed or typed pages into our computer. But of course, handwritten material is also acceptable!

An Animal and Ecological Disaster

by Emilie E:son (Press Officer for the DBF)

A nameless, unknown group or individual released 8000 mink from two fur farms in Svenljunga, Boras in Southern Sweden late last year.

Mink are not natural Swedish animals and to release 8000 is nothing short of animal abuse and an ecological disaster.

Already many of the mink have been run over and killed by cars and as a result of their release subsequently cannot find any food. Local wildlife is seriously threatened when a large number of carnivorous animals are suddenly released into their environment.

According to the DBF's (the equivalent of the ALF) guidelines, "Activists must take all necessary precautions against harming any animal, human or otherwise."

The people/person responsible for the release of the mink cannot be serious animal-rights activists, but people who do not care for animals and who stand to damage the animal rights movement. The DBF strongly condemns these kinds of actions.



Demo at Wickham Laboratories

On the 20th September 97 about 300 protesters gathered in Wickham to join the annual demonstration against Wickham Research Laboratories. These are contract testing laboratories similar to the ones at Huntingdon, but smaller. Nevertheless, thousands of animals are used there every year, the lab doing the dirty work for the multi-nationals who would prefer that their clients did not know that their products were tested on animals. The demonstration was organised with the help of the newly-formed Southern Animal Rights Coalition (SARC), and was in support of Barry Horne's hunger strike and the campaign against vivisection.

For once, demonstrators outnumbered the police, and were able to march through the village and up along the main road. People then gathered in the square to listen to some excellent speakers.

Pauline Dibley, Chairperson for Southampton Animal Concern, warned of the horrors yet to come in the world of medical science, as bit by bit our rights to decide what treatment we receive on the NHS will be eroded and our bodies will become the property of the medical profession.

Chris Isles, a former student at Portsmouth Polytechnic, described his experience working as an animal technician at Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School and the Institute of Neurology, and pointed out that all the "Codes of Practice" so widely publicised by the Home Office as providing protection for the animals were widely ignored.

John Curtin spoke of the camp which had been set up at Huntingdon Research Centre and the effect that it had on the workers there.

Robin Webb, ALF Press Officer, a brave man for returning to Hampshire after all the hassle he has had to endure by the "Hampshire Loonies" (as he describes them), was videoed by these same "loonies" throughout his entire speech. Robin suggested that, should his arch-oppressor Desmond Thomas go through with medical treatment for his ulcers, he may well suffer serious side-effects!

Dr Tony Page once again impressed upon the crowd the need to learn the facts about vivisection and to be aware of the uselessness of animal experiments from a scientific point of view. His own feeling that it is morally wrong to use animals for vivisection is as strong as ever, and his admiration for those who rescued animals was echoed by cheers and handclapping by all those present (bar the "loonies").

After the speeches, wreathes and flowers were laid at the fencing surrounding the laboratories, and a minute's silence was observed in memory of all the animals who have suffered and died there in cruel experiments.

When protesters returned to their vehicles some of them decided to end the day by paying a visit to three well known places of animal-abuse which come under the auspices of the Director of Wickham Laboratories, William Cartmell. His chicken sheds at Torbay Farm just a few miles up the road house hundreds of hens kept in sterile buildings where 'Pathogen Free' eggs are produced to be used for testing vaccines. Winchester Council have now granted Mr. Cartmell permission to use some of the buildings for an extension of the work carried out at Wickham Laboratories. A large number of protesters drove to this site, closely followed by 4 police vans and numerous outriders, who formed a cordon around the area. As there was not much doing there, the protesters decided to visit Garetmar Kennels nearby, where pedigree puppies are bred in 'puppy farm' conditions - Cartmell is their vet. This place was protected by a handful of police, so the next stop was 'Binghams', Cartmell's large red brick mansion of tasteless proportions, surrounded by open fields. There were no police this time but Cartmell and family were away anyhow - oh well.

The day was deemed a success by all those who attended and many thanks go out to SARC for helping to make the day such a success.

ARKANGEL POSTCARDS



The design, which depicts large, armed rats freeing their fellows from a vivisection laboratory (!), is taken from Arkangel 8.

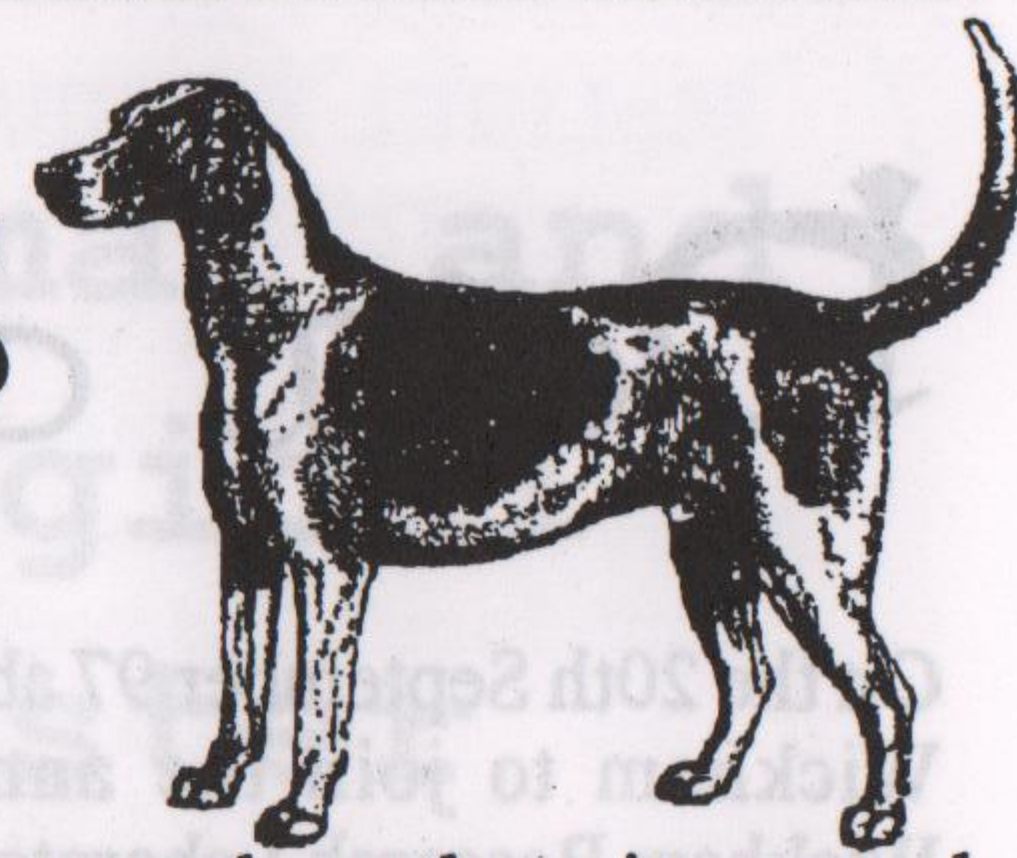
The postcards cost 30p each, or 20p each for 10-50, or 10p each for 51+.

Please make cheques payable to 'ARKANGEL'.



Consort Beagles

by Pat Brookes



Should I feel a little uneasy about vast amounts of animal welfare money being paid out for the 'saving' of the Consort beagles? Surely not. If we follow our hearts and our compassionate instincts, yes of course there is no doubt these innocent animals' safety must be secured. As individuals, doesn't each of those dogs have a right to be saved from torture by any means available? It makes no difference to an abused animal whether its rescue has cost money or not, it simply needs help.

Comforting, lump in the throat stuff seeing all those lovely dogs exit Consort, destined for lives as loved pets. Seems pretty clear cut that the right thing was done wasn't it? So why can't I feel soothed and content instead of feeling a disturbing niggly working away inside me?

What if emotions are put on hold, and the situation looked at in greater depth? It's time that some of the money was only made available to welfare especially because of those beagles - but a huge amount more has been used from general 'animal owned' funds, much of it borrowed and costing interest.

I understand the argument that we can't save everything, and the plight of these particular animals was put in front of us (us meaning the A/R welfare movement), so we did what was necessary to help them instead of others, a sort of first-come first-served basis, it sounds fair.

Agreed, the Consort breeders were closing down, so they weren't being paid welfare money just to directly replace 'bought out' animals, but those beagles were bred because there was a market for them in vivisection labs. That market need didn't disappear just because those particular beagles were bought out of danger. Those labs that Consort would have ultimately supplied will now turn to other vivisection breeders who will have to supply the immediate Consort shortfall. Even more bitches will have to go through the breeding mill to give birth to doomed pups, who in their turn will have to spend their puppyhood in barren, sterile, loveless confinement before their real torture even begins.

In short, the rescued dogs had already suffered that part of their sentence but their release means another batch of dogs has to go through the process from scratch. You may not have been able to look a Consort dog in the eye and say, "Sorry, you'll have to be sold on to suffer or be put down, I can't rescue you because overall it's not cost effective", but can you look one of the specially bred replacement dogs in another breeders kennels in the eye and say, "Sorry about this, I've made it necessary for you to supply a laboratory's shortfall, but don't worry we saved the dog who would have gone in your place, and it only cost us a few hundred pounds of money given for animal welfare, to put you here instead."?

(Ed's note: As Arkangel magazine is produced infrequently,

anyone wishing to comment on Pat's article should write to us and we will be happy to pass on your letters.)

What I'm getting at, is in cases where there is a moral dilemma and whichever way we jump only makes a difference to which animals suffer, not to how many, don't we have an obligation as guardians of the animals' purse strings, to spend their money in a way which helps as many of them as possible yet benefits the abusers the least?

When Consort went under, as with any failed business, the receivers job was to make Consort claw back as much money as possible to pay the company's creditors - that is, all those firms who have supplied Consort with the goods they needed to exist in their dirty business.

Of course they (Consort) wanted the dogs to be bought by animal welfare. That way they could demand full market value of £250 per dog instead of either having to accept knockdown prices from other firms, or pay out thousands to get all the animals euthanized and cremated, leaving even less money to be paid out to creditors. Did we really have to help Consort sort out its financial obligations to its equally guilty suppliers? They must have been laughing at us all the way to the bank. Although adoption money will probably cover further neutering costs and vaccination costs, I doubt other donations will begin to cover the basic £28,000 outlay, enough incidentally to neuter 560 strays or feed 186 for a whole year.

It isn't just the money, how about from a sanctuary angle? Doesn't the taking in of all these pedigree dogs mean that each one will take the home that an existing less attractive stray could have had? Won't other re-homing everywhere be on hold, leaving present strays in kennels for much longer, and won't sanctuaries be unable to take in as many other desperate cases in the meanwhile because of lack of space and funds? Won't destruction policy-run rescues be forced to kill more dogs because of the gridlock.

Could it be that at the end of the day we have spent vast amounts of animals' money in a way that has yes, definitely comforted a bit of the pain of our compassion (who didn't feel a satisfying glow when the dogs first walked out?) but has also helped Consort and their cronies out of a hole, has involved substituting one animal's suffering for another's, and has had unwelcome side-effects on other rescue work? Might not it be that we've simply been manipulated by a vivisection company in a jam?

I hasten to say I'm criticising no one in A/R's motives, I know the rescuing has come about through the purest love for animals. Neither am I saying my views are necessarily right, it's just that usually I can see and, more importantly, justify both sides of an issue, this time I need help so that maybe I can bury my niggling doubts. Any offers?

SPANNA PROTECTING ANIMALS ABROAD

The Society for the Protection of Animals Abroad (SPANNA)'s action is twofold: immediate treatment for wounds, crippled feet and under-nourishment; and education for animal owners and children - which we strongly believe is the only hope for the future.

There is no fixed membership fee to SPANNA and any regular donation will ensure you receive their magazine and bulletin four times a year.

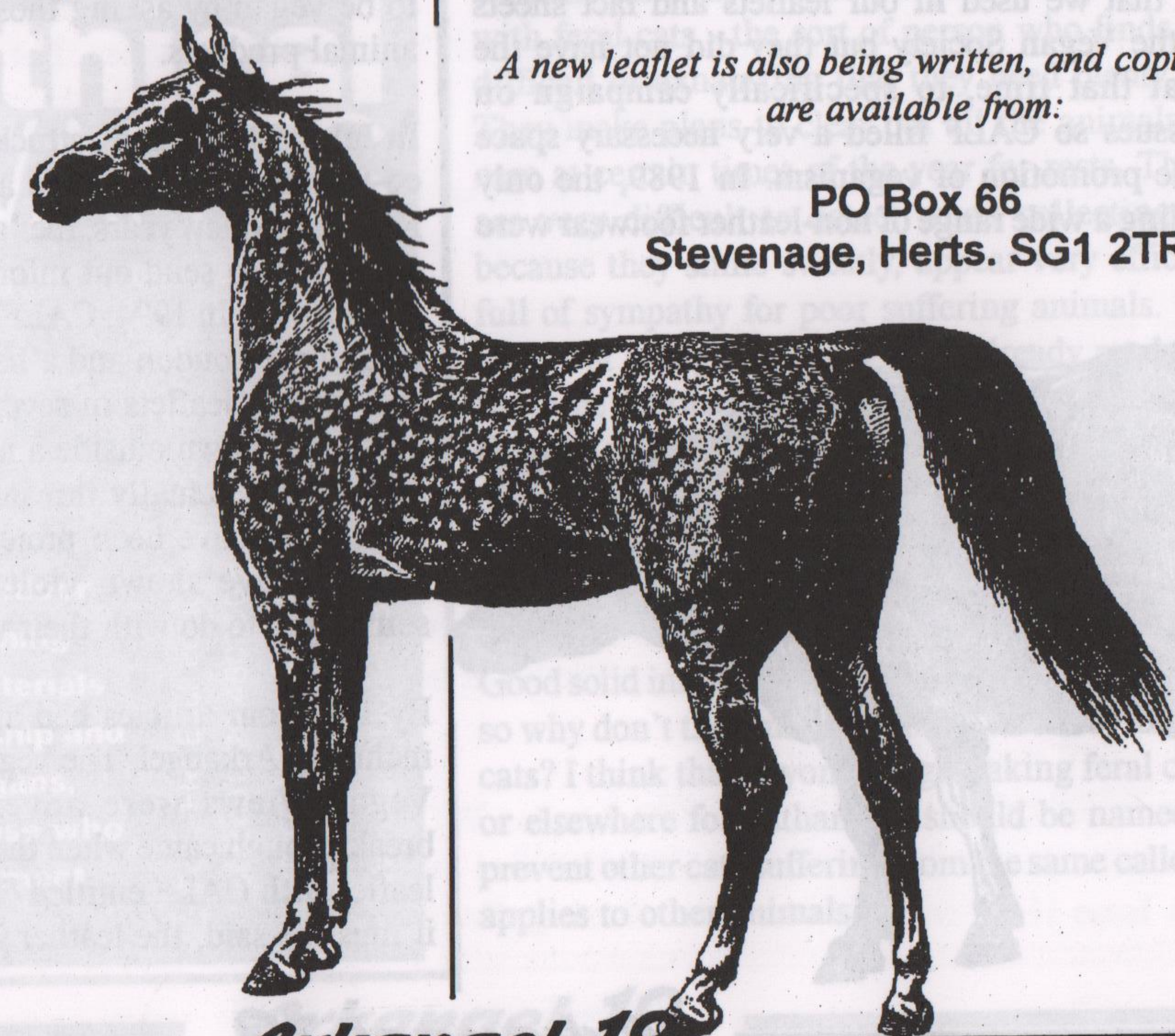
There are some 38 million working donkeys, mules and horses in North Africa alone. Their lives are hard, toiling long hours in scorching sun, ploughing, carrying their owners, drawing water and carrying the burden of man's ignorance, often callousness. SPANNA's role is also important in teaching the owners of animals the mutual benefits of taking care of their animals and relieving those animals by offering rest, aid and recovery from sickness and injury.

SPANNA have been helping animals abroad for the past 75 years and are extremely grateful for the voluntary help they have received during the course of this time - needless to say that they are always in need of help. Some 300,000 animals a year are given treatment, rest and refuge by SPANNA.

To find out more about the organisation and how you can help please write to:

SPANNA

15 Buckingham Gate
London SW1E 6LB
Tel: 0171 828 0997



NATIONAL ANTI-HUNT CAMPAIGN

The NAHC will be continuing its campaigns against bloodsports, despite the decision not to give Mike Foster's Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill the parliamentary time it needs to become law.

On March 13, the day that the bill finally ran out of time, several members were forcibly escorted (one being slightly injured in the process) from the House of Commons after they read, from the public gallery, from a letter in which Blair made his specific promise to give time to an anti-hunting bill should that be the wish of most MPs.

Recent NAHC planning meetings have resulted in a slight change of direction in NAHC campaigning, with increased emphasis in future being placed on non-violent civil disobedience as a campaign strategy. Several new campaigns are being planned, as is a march for later in the year. Anyone wanting be kept informed should ask to be included on the group's mailing list; a donation would be appreciated towards the costs of mailouts.

The National Anti-Hunt Petition continues, and has been slightly amended to take account of the failure of Mike Foster's bill.

A new leaflet is also being written, and copies of both are available from:

PO Box 66
Stevenage, Herts. SG1 2TR

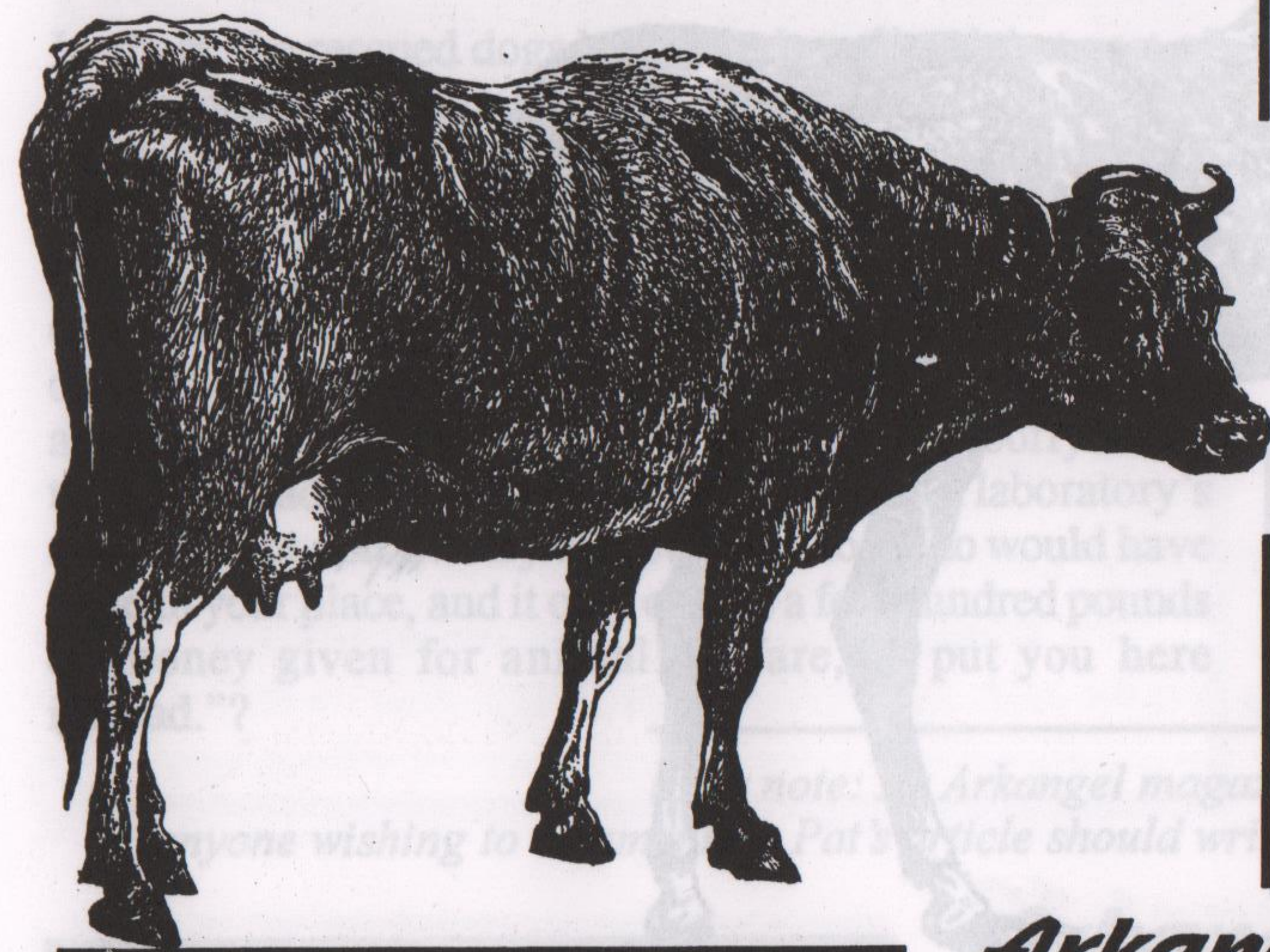
C.A.L.F.

by Robin Lane

The Campaign Against Leather & Fur (CALF) was formed in 1989 with the primary intention of drawing people's attention to the fact that leather and fur are basically the same thing - the skin of murdered animals. Consequently, we believed that if people were not prepared to wear fur then they should not be prepared to wear leather either. Up until this point the animal rights movement (except for some direct action groups), had largely turned a blind eye to the issue of leather, writing it off as "just a by-product of the meat industry". CALF set about putting the record straight by pointing out that the leather trade is, by all accounts, a massive multi-million pound industry. After all, the meat and leather industries stand hand-in-hand with one another and both deserve equal attention.

At first, we found it difficult convincing people that it was a worthy cause but the group were determined to spread the message far and wide and set about producing leaflets, posters (courtesy of Veggies), cards, stickers, T-shirts and fact sheets. As only two people were running the group it seemed like an uphill struggle, especially as some animal rights organisations and individuals were actually derisive regarding the campaign. Then interest came from some unlikely quarters; Ms. London magazine produced an article about CALF and Radio Kent featured the group on one of their broadcasts. We started being invited to give talks at various animal rights groups meetings around the country and at last people were showing interest in the campaign.

In 1990, CALF extended its campaign to cover the abuse involved in the production of wool and silk. Most of the information that we used in our leaflets and fact sheets came from the Vegan Society but they did not have the resources, at that time, to specifically campaign on individual issues so CALF filled a very necessary space regarding the promotion of veganism. In 1989, the only company selling a wide range of non-leather footwear were



Arkangel 19

Heartland Products in the USA but shortly after CALF was set up, Mocotan started their business in the UK and discovered that people were waiting for a company to supply them with non-leather products. Hot on the heels of Mocotan came several more companies - Ethical Wares being the one to bridge the gap between running a business and campaigning against the leather trade at the same time.

In 1991, CALF designed a T-shirt featuring the names of numerous animal rights organisations and groups under the heading of 'Animal Liberation - A Common Cause'. As it was just about to be printed, the anti-fur group LYNX got wind of the fact that their name was to appear on the same T-shirt as the ALF! Horror of horrors!!

After threatening CALF with legal action should they proceed, we altered the design and only featured genuine animal liberation groups instead. The shirt proved very popular.

It has always been a misconception that CALF is a single issue group. In fact, ever since 1989 we have included leaflets about hunting, vivisection, the meat industry, circuses, angling and numerous other issues in our information packs. The vast majority of those writing in to us for information are young people and we find this very encouraging.

During the first couple of years, CALF organised a number of protests outside leather retailers in Central London, including the World of Leather, and were planning to organise a march to show the general public how easy it is to be vegan by asking those attending to only wear non-animal products.

In July 1991, tragedy struck CALF to the core. Ros Dadej, co-founder, was killed in a road accident whilst cycling. For the next few years, the 'group' consisting of one person, continued to send out information packs and kept things ticking over. In 1994, CALF organised another day of action in Central London and a handful of protesters distributed anti-leather leaflets in several shoe shops and made their presence known outside a number of leather retailers, the staff of one actually threatening physical violence. Each time there have been protests outside leather stores, the owners have shown violent tendencies. It must have something to do with their working environment!

By 1995, our articles had appeared in various magazines including Arkangel, The Vegan, Greenscene and Greenline. Vegan Views were advertising the group and the breakthrough came when the Vegan Society co-produced a leaflet with CALF entitled 'The Leather Issue'. Although, it must be said, the leather issue still hadn't attracted the

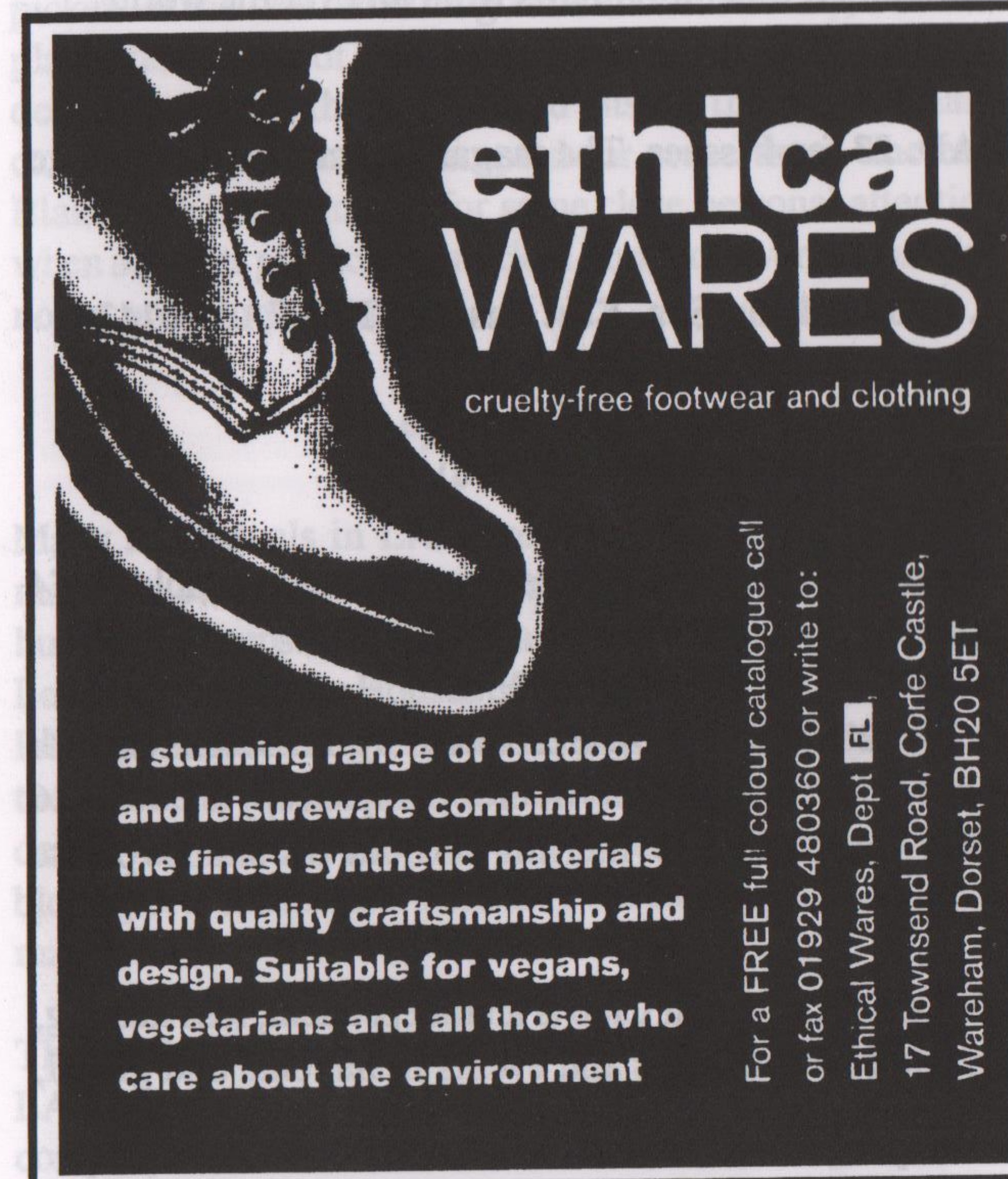
animal rights movement to any great extent, the opportunity for people to obtain information about the leather trade is increasing. It is understandable that people find campaigning against the leather trade a daunting task! After all, practically everyone wears or uses leather products. Soon after CALF was formed we found comfort with other 'fringe' groups such as The Campaign Against Angling, who at that time were also considered 'a bit extreme'. Well, when the fur trade bites the dust once and for all, the next obvious target is the leather trade. At least the ground will have been laid so that the campaigning tools are in place.

CALF NEWS

CALF has recently produced its own 'CALF NEWS' which contains fact sheets covering issues where the information is difficult to come by. These include wool, silk, eggs, tanneries and the leather trade, honey, shellac, pate de foie gras, ostrich farming, a list of groups campaigning against the fur trade and a comprehensive list of non-leather retailers. CALF News is available on receipt of a 31p stamp.

Footnote: As previously stated, the campaign against the leather trade has been a mixture of frustration, personal loss and, for the first few years, an uphill struggle. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the people who have helped CALF over the years: **Dave** for the articles, **Lyn** and **Maggie** for the illustrations, **Mark** for the free photocopying, **Veggies** and **London Vegans** for their generous support, **Alison** for answering all the letters and **Ros**, for having the vision in the first place.

The Campaign Against Leather & Fur
(CALF)
BM 8889, London WC1N 3XX



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17 Townsend Road, Corfe Castle,
Wareham, Dorset, BH20 5ET

Feral Cats



by Elizabeth Shaw

I was appalled to read in a recent issue of ARCNEWS that feral cats are being destroyed if homes cannot be found for them. Surely A/R campaigners should not be killing any animal unless it has met with a near fatal accident or is suffering great pain due to illness? To simply discard feral cats due to lack of homes means that the rescuers involved have, to my mind, sunk to RSPCA and CPL methods of control no matter what their policies say.

Recently, I too have heard one or two rumours within the movement that it is better to put unwanted animals down rather than let them rot in a cage. What nonsense! Really good rescue centres exercise their dogs daily and let cats wander at will during the day before putting them back into properly equipped safe cages at night. Rescued feral cats too need only stay in small pens until they respond to humans, or start to walk forward to greet the carer. With regular food and kindness this need not take very long - in some cases just a matter of days.

During the past 20 years I have met many very successful feral cat rescuers but just now and again, however willing, a misfit turns up. These people cannot or will not cope with feral cats - the sort of person who finds the work so difficult or exhausting that they need plenty of holidays. They make plans to clear out all the animals under their care at certain times of the year for rests. These rescuers are very difficult to detect when collecting up animals because they smile sweetly, appear very efficient and are full of sympathy for poor suffering animals. It very often turns out though that they have already worked for one of the large nationals and have become accustomed to 'sorting' cats for euthanasia. I say this because had they first taken advice from Cat Action Trust 1977 (PO Box 1639, London W8 4RY) they would never have thought of destruction in the first place.

Good solid information is available on feral cat care/homing so why don't they make use of it? Are they killing neutered cats? I think that anyone caught taking feral cats to the vet or elsewhere for euthanasia should be named in order to prevent other cats suffering from the same callous fate. That applies to other animals.

Arkangel 19

Some Recommended Reading...

- ARC News:** PO Box 339, Wolverhampton WV10 7BZ (01902 711935). Available for subscription of £7 (12 issues). Contains reports of local and national group activities, international news as well as an up-to-date list of forthcoming events.
- ALF Supporters Group Newsletter:** BCM 1160, London WC1N 3XX. £1.50. Contains information concerning A/R prisoners and defence funds, direct action news, articles and more. Quarterly.
- Animals Contact Directory:** Veggies, 180 Mansfield Road, Nottingham NG1 3HW. £4 (£3 unwaged). This booklet provides a co-ordinated means by which groups can contact one another with details of their work, news of campaigns and requests for support. The booklet also contains lists of animal rights groups in Britain and abroad, animal sanctuaries, etc. and is an invaluable source of information.
- Green Anarchist:** BCM 1175, London WC1N 3XX. £1. Contains news, views and reports of direct action.
- Howl:** £1.50. An excellent magazine containing information about all you need to know regarding hunt sabotage. Highly recommended.
- London Animal Rights News:** £5 (£3 unwaged) for 12 issues. Contains news of London events as well as those in other parts of the country/world.
- Squall:** PO Box 8959, London N19 5HW. £1.50 (+ 80p p&p). A year's subscription (4 issues) costs £10. Covers issues such as Earth/Animal liberation and more.
- Spirit of Freedom:** BM Heal, London WC1N 3XX. Free with 31p SAE. Produced by the Earth Liberation Prisoners Support Network. Contains info regarding Animal/Earth/Eco prisoners.
- Underground:** NA-ALFSG, Box 69597, 5845 Yonge Street, Willowdale, Ontario, Canada M2M 4K3. \$20 outside of Canada. A highly recommended paper which contains Animal Liberation news from all over the world including a comprehensive ALF/direct action hit-list.
- Vegan Views:** 6 Hayes Avenue, Bournemouth BH7 7AD. £3 for 4 issues. The magazine acts as an exchange of all things vegan between its readers.
- The Vegan:** Donald Watson House, 7 Battle Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex TN37 7AA (01424 427393). £1.95. Quarterly. A must for those already vegan or those seeking a vegan lifestyle.
- Green World:** 49 York Road, Aldershot, Hants GU11 3JQ (Tel/Fax: 01252 330506).

Magazine of the Green Party: A highly informative magazine concerning all Green issues and available for £4 for one year's subscription (90p a copy).

- Interbeing:** 91 Clarendon Road, Leeds LS2 9LY (0113 2444289). A magazine produced by the Leeds Network of Engaged Buddhists. Contains articles, poems, stories and reviews for all beings everywhere! Sample copy £1.80 or £6 for 3 issues (UK only), £4.50 low income. Europe/World surface £8. World Air: £10. Sterling cheques/UK stamps please to 'LNEB'.
- The Terra Firm:** Mundi Club, BM 4609, London WC1N 3XX. The Mundi Club is an independent, loss making, trans-species collective which publishes 'Terra', a satirical magazine covering news and events in national and global, green politics. Issue 11 covers items such; Fox Hunting, Grouse Shooting, Fur and the Royal Family! Check it out!!

LONDON ANIMAL ACTION NEWS

LAA have continued to be very active since the last issue - involved in a wide range of campaigns in London and around the country.

FUR TRADE

Fur Free London continues to be the focus of regular activity for LAA, with London's remaining fur shops being picketed 3 or 4 times a week and home visits to directors and employees. Recent successes include the closure of one of only two fur shops that opened on Saturdays following sustained close attention from LAA over the years. Zwirns left its prime site in Mayfair for an office with no shop front; this leaves only Philip Hockley on Conduit Street to fly the flag for the fur trade on Saturdays. A secondhand clothes shop in Chelsea, Steinberg & Tolkein, had been selling fur coats until LAA carried out a few demonstrations. They very quickly caved in and, in fact, handed over the remaining fur coats to the activists to dispose of. LAA members have also supported anti-fur demos at mink farms around the country.

VIVISECTION INDUSTRY

Events in London have included home visits to some of the directors and employees of Huntingdon Life Sciences who live in the city, and regular leafleting of Co-op banks. Individuals in LAA also played an active role in supporting Camp Rena at HLS last year. LAA members have also helped the Hillgrove campaign by participating in weekday pickets of the few remaining workers. In January, London played host to one of Prof. Colin Blakemore's lectures. LAA demonstrated both outside and inside the lecture hall, causing the talk to be disrupted for some time. The evil Blakemore later came in for some close personal attention when activists physically attacked him, however, he decided not to press any charges.

ACTIONS

Many individuals in LAA are active hunt saboteurs who maintain close links between animal rights and London's hunt sab groups. LAA held a series of demos in central London, outside the Houses of Parliament where MPs were lobbied, at Downing Street and the Labour Party HQ, in the run up to the second reading of the Foster Bill. Also, a demo was held at the meeting point in London for the bloodsports enthusiasts attending the Countryside Alliance march.

The week of action against John Lewis in February saw LAA members participate in home visits to three of the company directors who reside in London. The flagship store

on Oxford Street was picketed as was the John Lewis Company HQ in Central London.

MEAT TRADE

LAA have been involved in a campaign to prevent the opening of a chicken slaughterhouse in Peckham, South London. A series of demos at council meetings and a sustained campaign by local activists has increased the pressure on the council who now look likely not to grant planning permission after all. Other members continue to dedicate much of their time to the live export issue and demonstrations have continued outside MAFF HQ in Whitehall. LAA members have also attended live export demos in Dover and at the farm of haulier Stephen Woods.

OFFICE / STALLS

LAA have had their own office since Jan 97 which is staffed on a daily basis by volunteers. The group holds regular stalls around London which educate the public and encourages people to get actively involved in the struggle for animal liberation. LAA produce the increasingly popular London Animal Rights News (LARN) with a growing international readership! They hold an open meeting on the second Tuesday of the month at the 1a Community Centre, 1a Rosebery Avenue, London EC1. Subscription to LARN costs £5 per year (conc. £3).

LAA

BM Box 2248, London WC1N 3XX

Tel/Fax: 0171 278 3068

Email: laa@londonaa.demon.co.uk

ARCNEWS - Now available on subscription

The newsletter produced by the Animal Rights Coalition (ARC) is now available on subscription. The newsletter contains information and news from around the world, future events and reports of past events, local and national campaign reports, veggy and vegan news and general news. It spotlights a different aspect of animal abuse each month. ARCNEWS also contains the famous national animal rights calendar of events which is produced by Veggies.

All of this is available for only £7.00 per year.

Please send cheques/POs to:

ARCNEWS, PO Box 339

Wolverhampton WV10 7BZ

Please write your name and address on the back of cheques/POs

Some More Recommended Reading!

Doctors and Lawyers for Responsible Medicine (formerly Doctors in Britain Against Animal Experiments) have the following books available:

1,000 Doctors against Vivisection Compiled by Hans Ruesch. Price £11.

This book provides an excellent illustration of why an ever increasing number of doctors and medical scientists worldwide are speaking out against vivisection. The book consists of quotations against animal experiments from over 1,000 doctors throughout this century.

Animal Experimentation: Use or Abuse of Science? Price £4.

DBAE's First International Scientific Congress, London 1991. International panel of doctors present the scientific case against vivisection.

The Pharmaceutical Drug Racket Price £3.

Published in 1993 by Campaign Against Fraudulent Medical Research, Australia. Exposes the massive fraud in drug testing that ensures the survival and proliferation of this very dangerous but profitable industry. (40 page booklet).

Animal Experimentation: A Harvest of Shame Dr Moneim Fadali MD. Price £15.

This is an extremely powerful book. It is a strong statement, not only on the question of animal experimentation, but also on our attitudes and treatment of others on this planet. The author is highly qualified to speak on animal experimentation and gives a wealth of examples demonstrating its uselessness and harm to humans, as well as the resulting loss of valuable cures.

Vivisection Unveiled Tony Page Dlit. Price £6.99.

This is a thoroughly researched book, assiduously presenting scientific evidence that animal experimentation is not only of no value to medicine but that it is also actually dangerous (much of the evidence from the mouths of the vivisectionists themselves). His book is most informative and well-referenced and is suitable for both the lay person and those with a scientific background.

To order one or more of these books, please send your cheques/ PO to:

DLRM, PO Box 302, London N8 9HD

(All orders include p&p.

However, for those living outside the UK please add: Europe 20%. Outside Europe 35%).

Viva!'s

Recommended Books:

Rose Elliot's Mother, Baby and Toddler Book Rose Elliot. Hardback Price £9.95 plus £1.50 p&p

An updated and revised version of this bestseller is now available. It is an invaluable guide to raising a baby on a vegetarian or vegan diet providing all the necessary information on nutrition before conception, during pregnancy and after the birth. Includes a comprehensive and well-balanced range of recipes for you and your baby up to the age of two, plus practical advice on every aspect of motherhood and baby care.

Pregnancy, Children and the Vegan Diet Dr. Michael Klaper. Paperback Price £7.95 plus £1.50 p&p

This reference book will tell the mother-to-be or any parent everything they need to know about vegan nutrition, what to eat, and answers many questions about raising babies and children on a vegan diet.

Vival
12 Queen Square,
Brighton BN1 3FD

THE ANIMAL FREE SHOPPER

...is a handy shopping guide for those wishing to buy products which are free of animal ingredients and animal testing.

Available from:
The Vegan Society.
Price £5.90 inc. p&p

After Noah - Animals and the Liberation of Theology

a new book

by Andrew Linzey & Dan Cohn-Sherbock

Are animals there to be cuddled and protected? Slaughtered and eaten? Sacrificed to the Gods? The way we treat animals is one of the most pressing moral issues of our time. The authors of this book claim that it is - and always has been a theological and spiritual issue as well.

And yet the idea that animals are here for human use is firmly entrenched in Western thinking. It is part of a whole anthropocentric world-view which relates to a creator-God whose prime concern is the welfare and interests of the human species. As a result, the Judaeo-Christian tradition is often blamed for justifying the abuse of animals.

This fine and detailed work is the first comprehensive study of Jewish and Christian teaching about animals. In 'After Noah', Dan Cohn-Sherbock and Andrew Linzey show how Jews and Christians have often failed to take account of the power of their traditions to promote a more compassionate and sensitive regard for animals. It argues that the way we treat animals is a benchmark of the kind of society we are, and that in recognising the intrinsic value of animals, we can liberate ourselves from the idolatry which is to be found at the heart of much contemporary spirituality.

Reverend Professor Andrew Linzey holds the world's first post in theology and animal welfare - the IFAW Senior Research Fellowship at Mansfield College, Oxford.

Rabbi Professor Dan Cohn-Sherbok is Professor of Judaism at the University of Wales in Lampeter.

*The book is available in paperback
(ISBN 0-264-67450-2) for £12.99.*

For more information contact:

**Jon Horne, Mowbray - an imprint of
Cassell plc,
Wellington House, 125 Strand,
London WC2R 0BB
Tel: 0171 420 5560 / Fax: 0171 240 8531**

THE L-PLATE VEGAN

a new guide from VIVA!

In today's climate of ethical thinking and health awareness, veganism is flourishing amongst all age groups. No longer seen as lentil-munching weirdoes, vegans enjoy a healthy, cruelty-free and ethical lifestyle, with not even a hint of martyrdom!

VIVA! has produced a new booklet entitled "The L-Plate Vegan". It's not a vegan cook-book but a simple, everyday guide to rustling up vegan fare from mainstream shops and supermarkets. With not a sign of denial or deprivation, "The L-Plate Vegan" takes a hedonistic, stomach-rumbling, mouth-watering journey through fantastic foods all readily available in High Street or even the corner shop.

The L-Plate Vegan sets the taste-buds tingling with smashing sausages and super soya products, it pauses to peruse pies and pasta, races around rice dishes, gets saucy with soups and salads before tackling tasty treats and diving into divine desserts. If all this sounds too hectic, you can just relax at the ready-made meal section or take hints on how to find fab food while you're out and about.

With sections on nutrition and health, toiletries and cosmetics as well as drinks, shoes and clothes, this is a great guide for those taking their first faltering vegan steps.

The L-Plate Vegan costs just £1 (inc. p&p) and is available from:

VIVA!

12 Queen Square, Brighton BN1 1FD
Tel: 01273 777688

Huntingdon Death Sciences Campaign PO Box 325, Cambridge CB1 2UF Tel: 0589 026435

HDSC produces an informative newsletter which contains all the news concerning the Huntingdon laboratory. The campaign needs financial assistance so that they can buy office equipment and cover printing, postage and phone costs. If you have a secondhand fax machine, answering machine, photocopier, computer or office equipment, please get in touch. Huntingdon Life Sciences are one of the largest contract testing laboratories in the world. Write for further details.

Donations to Arkangel

We are extremely grateful to the following people who have made a donation of £4 or more to help us produce and distribute this magazine:

Kevin Ardley, Nicolas Atwood, Oliver Bussell, Ann Barratt, Beryl Clifton, Pauline Croxford, Kathleen Elliot, Jo Eagle, Mark French, GMC, Lee Hall, J Ivin, Rod Lovig, Sonaid Melnnes, Christina Maier, North Kent Animal Welfare, Jill Russell, J Shinger, Jean B Slzath, Jacopo Volpe, Vezan Village & David Whitfield.

Extra thanks go to M Britton, PR Fenn, LM & S Smith, and L & M Thomas who have donated £20 or more.

We are eternally grateful to the generosity of the late William Purves for remembering us in a time of need.

Finally, we wish to thank:

Anne Bartlett, M Cooper, Dorothy Doré, Monica Harvey, A Hogan, C Humphries, Jenny Kietly, Michal Maas, Mary McShane, Pat Murgatroid, Mark Organ, Ann Page, Doreen Pain, Sheila Sheppard, Monserrat Thompson, Diane Westwood, Dave Wetton, and especially P & J Zehler,

who are all donating on a monthly basis by standing order.

ANIMAL LIBERATION PRISONERS

Arkangel gives its full support to animal liberation prisoners. We list only the names of prisoners and ask people to contact the ALFSG for up-to-date information, prison numbers and addresses. This is because Arkangel Magazine is produced less frequently than the ALFSG information and could be out of date by the time you read it.

ALF SG, BCM 1160, London WC1N 3XX

Prisoners at the time of writing:

U.K.

Kevin Hickey, Barry Horne,
Keith Mann, Gillian Peachey,
Geoff Sheppard, Barbara Trenholm,
Justin Wright

U.S.

Rod Coronado, Ryan Z Durfee,
Colby Ellerman, Steve Hindi,
Mark S Kline, Jacob Tenyson,
Trev Poulson, Jason D Troff

Uncaged: Campaigns Update...

Day of Action against Proctor & Gamble

On Saturday 28th March there was a national day of action against the multinational company Proctor & Gamble. Each year, Proctor & Gamble are responsible for the torture and death of thousands of animals in painful and unnecessary product testing - the true figure, of course, is a well-kept secret. Demonstrations all over the country took place outside supermarkets and shops which sell Proctor & Gamble products. Campaigners collected signatures on the boycott pledges and gave out information about other products which people could buy that don't involve tests on animals.

Proctor & Gamble produce the following products (for a full list contact Uncaged):

Daz, Bounce, Pampers, Fairy Liquid, Sinex, Crest toothpaste, Oil of Ulay and Bold.

You can get in touch with Proctor & Gamble to let them know why you won't be purchasing their products at the following address:

*RW Johnson, (Director of Corporate Affairs),
Proctor & Gamble Ltd., St. Nicholas Avenue, Gosforth,
Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Tyne and Wear NE99 1EE.*

The Manifesto for Life: Animal Experiments, Medicine & Society

The Manifesto for Life is a 16 page pamphlet which offers a wide-ranging and incisive critique of animal experimentation. By placing animal experimentation in an historical, social and economic context, it is possible to discern its fatal scientific and ethical limitations. Thus we can also see the function that animal experiments fulfil in modern society. This is a function that has little to do with promoting health, and much to do with enhancing the power and profits of corporations, and the medical establishments which effectively act on their behalf.

The Manifesto for Life is a unique publication - a watershed in the progress of the animal rights and anti-vivisection movements - clearly demonstrating that respecting the non-human world is not only compatible with human flourishing, but fundamental to it. The pamphlet is available from Uncaged Campaigns for £2.00.

To find out more about Uncaged Campaigns and to obtain their excellent campaigning magazine contact:

*Uncaged,
14 Ridgeway Road, Sheffield S12 2SS
Tel: 0114 253 0020 / Fax: 0114 265 4070
E-mail: uncaged.anti-viv@dial.pipex.com
Website: <http://www.uncaged.co.uk>*

The Road to Victory

Compiled by Martin Masterman-Lister

After two years of campaigning, Brigitte Bardot has secured a ban on the annual rooster-slaughtering ritual in the Hungarian hamlet of Csurgonagyamaraton. (Times 2.9.1997)

The Guardian recently reported that "we share 98% of our genetic make-up" with pygmy chimpanzees. (Guardian 3.9.1997)

One of China's endangered pandas has given birth to healthy twins after a rare pregnancy in captivity. The twins were born last weekend at the Giant Panda Protection Research Centre in the Wolong Reserve in South Western Sichuan Province. (Independent 3.9.1997)

A breeding programme for the majestic red kite is much further advanced in Wales. Over the past eight years 269 birds have been released, the first breeding in 1992, 4 pairs raising 10 young. This year, 48 pairs raised 105 young in England and 19 pairs raised 38 young in Scotland. Poison and traps are used by ill-informed farmers and gamekeepers. An Oxfordshire farmer was fined £14,000 in May for his activities. (Guardian 3.9.1997)

Vultures were wiped out in the Alps in 1927, but incredibly, a new generation is on the way. Prince Sadruddin-aga-Khan has been working on a project for 10 years to bring them back from European zoos. A total of 72 vultures have been released into the Alps. (Guardian 3.9.1997)

Hillsdown Holdings, one of Britain's biggest food companies is to withdraw from producing red meat. (Times 5.9.1997)

After turning a blind eye, park rangers and police are finally pouncing on Italian parties who travel to neighbouring countries to shoot birds, often protected species, in their thousands. Police have begun raiding

hunting parties and in a fortnight had caught three groups who preyed upon strictly protected birds. A study has found that the number of Italian men who admit to hunting has dropped from 2.8m to 800,000 in the last 20 years. It also found that Italian women do not find hunters attractive. (Guardian 12.9.1997)

Tesco's have agreed to make it clear which of its eggs come from battery hens. (Independent 16.9.1997)

For millions of overweight Americans the so-called 'Fen-Phen' drug cocktail had seemed like a silver bullet to get rid of their flab. Now, suddenly, they are being told that the drugs are life threatening. People are turning to the courts to sue the drug companies. (Independent 17.9.1997)

Government scientists are urging caution about the use of anti-malarial drug, Lariam, which has been linked with mental symptoms such as hallucinations. (Independent 19.9.1997)

A cow who survived 150ft fall off a cliff in North Wales and 24 hours in the Irish sea has been rescued by a life boat and a fishing vessel. (Guardian 20.9.1997)

The bird population in Britain has boomed over the past two years, according to a survey. Between 1994, when the breeding bird survey was established, and 1996, 36 of the more common species increased, 48 were stable and 15 declined in number. (Breeding bird survey £5 (01842 750050). (Independent 20.9.1997)

Conservationists yesterday claimed victory in the battle to save one of Britain's most important sites for toads and newts from being ploughed up. It is understood English Nature, which controls Sites of Special Scientific Interest is to draw up a new agreement with Justin Harmer, the farmer who owns Offham marshes, near Lewes, East Sussex. (Independent 20.9.1997)

Hopes for an easing of the EU's ban on British beef suffered a fresh setback yesterday after the EC said it had evidence that smuggled beef from the UK was getting into Germany. Brussels has asked the German authorities to order the closure of at least one meat plant. (Independent 24.9.1997)

A new government report states that meat eaters who eat more than 3 ounces of red meat a day, should cut down their consumption. (BBC 25.9.1997)

Sellafield has been fined for a chemical leak that killed 15,000 salmon, trout and eels and faces a fine and costs of £60,000. (Virgin Radio 26.9.1997)

Scientists at the CJD Surveillance Unit in Edinburgh have determined that 'new-variant' CJD, which has so far killed 20 young Britons, is caused by a 'single strain of infectious agent'. (Independent 26.9.1997)

A British animal rights campaigner who runs Fight Against Animal Cruelty in Europe, Vicky Moore, who was tossed and gored by a bull in Spain two years ago, has flown to protest against a series of bull fights in the Portuguese colony of Macao. In 1987, Mrs. Moore

rescued Blackie the donkey from certain death in another Spanish street festival. (Independent on Sunday 28.9.1997)

Eradicating the food poisoning bug E.coli 0157 may take hundreds of years, Britain's leading expert in the field, Professor Hugh Pennington said yesterday. (Independent on Sunday 28.9.1997)

A pharmaceutical research group, American Pharmaceutical Research, whose clients included Bayer, Glaxo, Pfizer, Rhone-Poulenc Rorer, SmithKline Beecham and others, has admitted falsifying clinical data in trials of several drugs seeking US approval. An FDA spokesman said it was unlikely that the drugs now on the market would be recalled. (Observer 28.9.1997)

Ostriches held their heads higher when Tesco announced it was discontinuing sales of meat from exotic farm animals. (Observer 28.9.1997)

The scientist Hugh Pennington who investigated the deadly E.coli outbreak caused by contaminated meat in Scotland said yesterday that at least a third of uncooked chickens on sale were infected by campylobacter. This organism triggers gastroenteritis and can cause complications including paralysis. (Times 29.9.1997)

Matador Jose Antonio Iniesta was gored by a bull in Madrid's Las Ventas arena. The hospital reports him as being in a serious condition with a severe loss of blood. (Ipswich Evening Star 30.9.1997)

A woman animal rights protester was continuing to defy bailiffs attempts to remove her after spending her second night shut in a steel safe underground. The 24 year old woman, 'Greta', is the last of 20 demonstrators who occupied a camp in a small wood outside the gates of Huntingdon Life Sciences Chemical Research Centre, near Huntingdon, Cambs. (Independent 3.10.1997)

Tony Blair is being urged by two cabinet colleagues to set up an all-powerful judicial enquiry to pin the blame for new-variant CJD, the human BSE. They decided that the Government had a duty to track down those guilty of allowing BSE to be introduced into the human food chain, and subsequently covering up the evidence. (Independent 3.10.1997)

Australians have been warned against eating undercooked game meat, including kangaroo and wallaby, after doctors discovered what could be a new parasite spread to humans. (Independent 3.10.1997)

An air and sea search for four fisherman missing in the north sea was abandoned yesterday. (Independent 3.10.1997)

Soya products, fruit, vegetables and flax seed may ward off breast cancer, according to research. It is a diet that may turn out to be the strongest protective factor yet discovered against the disease. (Independent 3.10.1997)

The mistress of the late Paolo Gucci, grandson of the founder of the fashion empire, was banned yesterday from keeping horses for 5 years after admitting 11

charges of causing unnecessary suffering. Penny Armstrong, 28, the mother of two of Mr. Gucci's children, was ordered to pay costs of £5,640 and compensation totalling £15,570 to the RSPCA. (Independent 7.10.1997)

Former film star Olive McFarland, is today facing possible prosecution after RSPCA officers and police raided her farm at Fen Lane, Creeting St. Mary, after an anonymous tip-off. One foal was destroyed and at least 8 horses taken away from the farm which was used as a horse breeding and training centre. The horses were taken to the International League for the Protection of Horses Centre at Snetterton. (Evening Star 10.10.1997)

Five animal activists stormed into a top London restaurant to protest at an exhibition which included two skinned bulls heads by controversial artist, Damien Hirst, a court was told. Customers at Quo Vadis in Soho, run by Marco Pierre White, were sitting down to dinner when it was claimed 'mayhem' broke out. A painting was kicked, a vase broken and bin liners full of rubbish emptied across the floor. Niel Hansen, 30, Robin Lane, 42, and Brendan McNally, 35, were fined £200 with £200 costs over the incident last January. Melanie Gatty, 28, and Paul Gravett, 35, were bound over to keep the peace. (Independent 14.10.1997)

Five pairs of little egrets have become what are believed to be the first of their species to nest in Britain. (Times 17.10.1997)

Gary Shaw, Gary Pettepierre, Michael Holland and David Wragg were found guilty at Bakewell Magistrates Court, Derbyshire, of offences under the 1992 Protection of Badgers Act, which included digging out a badger and killing it. They were jailed yesterday for 5 months in the RSPCA's first badger case using DNA which showed blood stains on the men's clothing and a knife had come from the animal. Wragg and Holland were active members of field sports societies. The court ordered that dogs belonging to all the men be forfeited. Since 1986 there have been 271 convictions of badger offences by the RSPCA. (Independent 18.10.1997)

Billy Smart's big top provides the excitement of a traditional circus but is refreshingly free of animal acts. (For details: 0171 738 2488). (Guardian 21.10.1997)

The host of an 18th birthday party told a court yesterday how he used himself as a guinea pig to save the guests from eating meat infected with the deadly E.coli bacterium. He sampled meat from John Barr's butcher's shop in Wishaw, Lanarkshire, after hearing reports that it had been linked to what turned out to be Scotland's worst food-poisoning outbreak in which 20 people died. After several hours he was fine and so the party went ahead. A family relation also rang Mr. Barr and was told that by the butcher that only corned beef and chopped ham were affected. After the party many of the 106 guests fell ill. Mr. Barr, 52, is charged with "culpably, wilfully and recklessly" supplying meat, despite being warned by

health officials not to sell any cooked meats. (Independent 22.10.1997)

Agribusiness is far more of a threat to wildlife than the fox, according to a new academic study at the University of Bristol. Their report says far that from being a threat, foxes can prove beneficial to some sectors of agriculture. They found that 70% of sheep farmers believed they lost no lambs to foxes, and 80% had no evidence of fox predation. (Independent on Sunday 26.10.1997)

The new anti-stalking law, frequently used against animal rights activists since its enactment in June this year, could for the first time be used by an animal welfare worker against a firm of livestock auctioneers. Georgina Kennedy of the welfare monitoring group Marketwatch, has been filming at an animal market in Bury St. Edmonds, Suffolk. She claims she was stalked by Alex Botting, a market employee, who retaliated to her filming by holding a video recorder inches from her face, tailing her around shops and even into a public lavatory. The Crown Prosecution Service is considering a criminal prosecution against Mr. Botting under the new stalking laws, and against Lacy Scott, the auctioneers, for aiding and abetting the offence. (Observer 26.10.1997)

A marshland that is home to England's only regular wintering flock of bean geese, as well as many rare insects and animals, was yesterday given special protection by English Nature. The Mid Yare reserve, five miles east of Norwich, is a haven for the beautiful swallowtail butterfly, the Norfolk hawk dragonfly and the otter. The 800-hectare site straddles both sides of the River Yare near Strumpshaw, Rockland, Buckenham and Cantley. Managed by the RSPB, the reserve's outstanding wildflower meadows, reedbeds, marshes, fens and woodlands are vital habitats for breeding birds, including the marsh harrier, kingfisher, barn owl and snipe. Thousands of geese, ducks and wading birds - including up to 7,000 widgeons winter on Buckenham Marshes. (Independent 28.10.1997)

After thousands of dolphins have been killed by drift nets, Britain has taken the initiative to outlaw their use by fishermen in a move that couldn't fail to be popular in the EU. (Independent 31.10.1997)

An opinion poll in rural areas has blown apart claims that banning hunting is an issue that rigidly divides the city from the country. The results of a MORI poll, which reveals that voters in the countryside would back a ban by a margin of two to one, will put the Government under pressure to support moves to ban fox hunting. The poll, based on a sample of 1,500 people in rural areas, found support of 57%. Two thirds of those polled also said they lived in areas where hunts took place. (Observer 2.11.1997)

800,000 signatures have been collected by CIWF on a petition calling a ban on live exports which will be delivered to Elliot Morley, animal welfare minister. (Independent 3.11.1997)

Doctors and diabetes sufferers are being warned that a drug that went on the market in Britain last month can cause liver damage in a small number of patients. Glaxo Wellcome, which markets the drug as Romozin, has advised doctors to test patients for adverse reactions. (Times 4.11.1997)

Hunt saboteurs threatened a big increase in their activities after the Government announced that it would not find time for a Private Member's Bill to stop fox hunting. Paul Gammon, spokesman for the hunt saboteurs said the decision would provide even more justification for disrupting fox hunts. (Times 4.11.1997)

The Indian Government is showing signs of bowing to the concerns of animal rights activists, in a country where large parts of the economy depend on overworked beasts of burden. The Government is tackling one of the most familiar and disturbing images of India: caged and often dying birds being carried around on the backs of bicycles by hawkers. India has reinforced a ban on bird trapping to save hundreds of exotic species. The Indian Wildlife Protection Act of 1972 was reinforced in 1990 to control the export of wild birds and has been recently extended to local trading of live birds. (Times 5.11.1997)

Welsh Secretary Ron Davies has given the go-ahead for a 1,000 acre wetland bird reserve on the Gwent levels near Newport. It will involve the creation of wet grasslands, saline lagoons and reedbeds. (Independent on Sunday 16.11.1997)

Eating nuts regularly may help you to prolong life. (Times 18.11.1997)

A retired vet, Warwick Seymour Hamilton, 58, has been found guilty of inflicting unnecessary suffering on his 118 pet rats. He was fined £300 for the offence and £150 for keeping illegal traps and ordered to pay costs of £1,922. (Orpington & Chiselhurst News Shopper 19.11.1997)

Nine animal rights activists who poured bleach onto meat in Sainsbury's in Fareham were arrested. The demonstrators claimed they were protesting against the importation of exotic meat, such as ostrich, crocodile and kangaroo. As well as contaminating the meat, activists pushed children's lollipops into packs of beef and lamb. A spokesperson for Fareham animal rights group said, Asda, the Co-Op and Safeway's agreed with us from the start and Tesco's are coming round to our way of thinking, but Sainsbury's said that so long as there was customer demand, they would carry on selling it. (The News 21.11.1997)

Slow worms, a protected species, have held up a housing development near Chichester. They will be moved to safety. (Observer 23.11.1997)

Compassion in World Farming is pioneering a change in the law which would ban the cruel mutilation of animals. CIWF is working closely with Labour MP Chris Mullin to introduce the Bill to ban the practice of

cutting off pigs tails - often with pliers or hot irons. The new Bill would strengthen the regulations and allow proper enforcement. (The News 24.11.1997)

EU veterinary inspectors have raised obstacles to an early ending of the ban on British beef, including doubts about the safety of controls in Northern Ireland. (Independent 25.11.1997)

Hunts have been banned from 'digging out' foxes on Ministry of Defence land, the Government announced last night. The MoD owns 600,000 acres. (Times 25.11.1997)

More than two thirds of the public back the Bill to ban hunting with dogs, according to a MORI poll for the Times. (Times 27.11.1997)

In a historic decision that has cheered environmentalists across the nation, the US government has refused the licence of a 900ft long, 160 year old large river dam in Maine and ordered it to be destroyed to make way for spawning fish. It marks the first time in US history that federal authorities have opted to dismantle a functioning hydro-electric dam in favour of returning rivers to species of fish. (Independent 27.11.1997)

Radical proposals for deep cutbacks in beef production, including a voluntary decommissioning scheme to take farmers off the land is in the pipeline. Retirement packages for beef farmers will be part-funded by the EU. The beef industry will cost £1.5 billion this year alone. (Guardian 28.11.1997)

The Campaign for the Protection of Hunted Animals trumpeted the results of a new MORI poll showing 54% of adults in Henley-on-Thames wanted their local MP, Michael Heseltine to support Michael Foster's Bill. 64% of the 500 adults surveyed said they did not believe that fox hunting was an important part of the British way of life, and 76% thought hunters should take part in drag hunting. (Independent 28.11.1997)

Anti-vivisection group, the BUAV, won a test case to prevent an animal laboratory firm, Huntingdon Life Sciences, using anti-stalking legislation to curb its protests. The BUAV has asked the High Court in London to remove its name from a restraining injunction served on it by HLS. (Independent 29.11.1997)

Britain's flax processing industry is taking action to prevent farmers ploughing up areas of scientific interest. The action will help close the so-called 'flax loophole', under which the EC has been paying farmers tens of thousands of pounds to plough up ancient grasslands and wildflower meadows in order to plant flax. (Independent 29.11.1997)

Prince Charles was last night said to be giving up riding to hounds in the wake of Friday's enormous anti-hunting vote in the House of Commons. MPs voted by 411 to 151 in support of the second reading of Mike Foster's Bill. (The Express 30.11.1997)

Suffolk factory, Barber Richmore, closed today with the loss of 100 jobs. The owners of the Lowestoft-based meat processing factory, Chivers Hartley, blamed the BSE scare for the fall off in business. (Evening Star 4.12.1997)

The traditional roast rib of beef, T-bone steak and even Oxo gravy are set to disappear from British dining tables after the Government's surprise decision yesterday to ban the sale of beef on the bone because of a 'very small' risk that it could cause CJD. (Times 4.12.1997)

Britain keeps introducing new measures against BSE - but the focus should really be on the continent, where a growing number of countries are reporting cases of the disease. Scientists fear that worse is to come. (Independent 5.12.1997)

Will gelatine be the next beef-derived ingredient we worry about, as it comes from bones? Europe produces about 97,000 tonnes annually from boiled animal bones including cattle bones. (Independent 5.12.1997)

Animal welfare campaigners in India want to banish performing animals in the streets, but they say it will be a long time before the country accepts western standards of animal rights. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is campaigning to outlaw the barbaric treatment of animals. (Independent 6.12.1997)

Public confidence in lamb as well as beef took a hammering yesterday after EU scientists recommended a Europe-wide ban on some lamb on the bone. (Independent 9.12.1997)

M. Moullec, 35, a meteorologist living in Aurillac, south of Clermont-Ferrand, took his passion for conservation one step further with an experiment that cast man in the role of mother goose. For 400 miles from the southern edge of the Massif Central to their winter sanctuary in the Grande-Briere area of Brittany, the 12 barnacle geese accompanied Christian Moullec at an average speed of 35 mph on his delta-wing ultra light aircraft. The principal purpose of the journey across France was to steer the geese away from flightpaths where they were likely to encounter hunters. M. Moullec also fed the geese, swam with them, slept with them and even helped teach them to fly. "Abuses by French hunters are a scandal," he said. (Daily Telegraph 8.12.1997)

America has banned the import of all European cattle, sheep and related products amid fears of mad cow disease. (Times 15.12.1997)

The Government is soon to ban feeding pigs and chickens with waste from their own species, turning them into cannibals, because of the threat of BSE. The fact that this happens at all may shock anyone unused to modern factory farming. (Independent 18.12.1997)

An unemployed man was yesterday fined £600 after being convicted of damaging the habitat of a rare newt when he used a digger to scrape out a pond. The case before magistrates in Lowestoft is thought to be the first

under European law protecting the newts. (Independent 18.12.1997)

Hunting of great white sharks has been banned in Australia. (Times 19.12.1997)

Huntsmen and their supporters are bracing themselves for clashes at 300 meetings across the country on their busiest day. Anti-bloodsport campaigners said up to 1,000 saboteurs will take to the field intent on disruption while another 5,000 demonstrators will hand out leaflets against fox hunting. (Daily Mail 26.12.1997)

A two-inch moth, the Sedina Buetineri, or Blair's Wainscot, thought to have been extinct for 50 years has reappeared, sighted in Dorset by Butterfly Conservation. (Independent 27.12.1997)

Wildlife experts have won a £10,000 grant to lure the otter back to the Yorkshire Dales. (Times 30.12.1997)

A haven for rare wild flowers and insects has been saved. The land, 46 acres of centuries old meadow land at Joan's Hill Farm in Chetley, near Hereford, has never been treated with pesticides or artificial fertilisers, allowing a huge variety of plants, endangered butterflies and moths to flourish. (Guardian 3.1.1998)

A pioneering wildlife park recreating arctic tundra, New Zealand waterfalls and jungle reedbeds is being landscaped out of 4 disused water-treatment plants bordering the River Thames. (Guardian 3.1.1998)

A previously unpublished has highlighted the use of BSE infected tissue in food. Millions may have eaten pure cattle brain, tongue and had food fertilised by beef blood. (Observer 4.1.1998)

After spending 10,000 hours trying to compile an inventory of living things in African forests, scientists admit that the task has overwhelmed them. Only 1.75m species have been described to date. In total there could be 10m or more, hidden undiscovered in tropical rainforests, coral reefs and mangrove swamps. (Independent 5.1.1998)

An anti-whaling group, Sea Shepherd, named the son of Norway's leading whaler 'crewman of the year' for accidentally sinking his family's boat. Sea Shepherd which has claimed responsibility for several attacks on whaling boats said that, by virtue of the accident the son of Steinar Bastesen had "made a strong contribution" to protecting whales. (Guardian 7.1.1998)

Circus trainer, Richard Chipperfield, 24, lost a part of his brain the size of a cricket ball when he was attacked by a tiger, and will probably be paralysed on his right side if he ever regains consciousness. (Mail on Sunday 11.1.1998)

The BMA has said that all raw meat should be assumed to be contaminated. (BBC Radio 2; 12.1.1998)

Kenny Cypress, an alligator wrestler in Florida has recently enhanced his act by inserting his head in the alligator's mouth at the end of the show. He told local

television reporters from his hospital bed that he expects to be released soon when the bites have healed. (Independent 12.1.1998)

In the last 20 years, one food scare has followed another. Eggs infected with salmonella in December 1988, ready cooked poultry and soft cheeses with listeria in 1989, the same year as botulism in hazel nut yoghurt was found. (Independent 15.1.1998)

The Pytchley Hunt might be prosecuted by the RSPCA after some of its hounds killed a five-year-old cat, Missy, while the animal's owner watched, in a residential area at Old, Northamptonshire. (Independent 15.1.1998)

Two ginger Tamworth boars are still on the run six days after escaping in transit to the slaughterhouse. Animal sanctuaries across the country offered to put up the surviving five-month old boars. (Independent 15.1.1998)

Colin Blakemore, Waynflete Professor of Physiology at Oxford, was describing experiments on rat brains during a memorial lecture in London last night when a bottle was thrown and two women protesters jumped onto the stage. (Times 16.1.1998)

A New Zealand southern right whale thought to have been hunted to extinction has been seen off the Auckland Islands. Scientists said there were likely to be 100-150 living off a remote sub-Antarctic island. (Guardian 16.1.1998)

The Government announced changes to licences for tuna drift nets fishing. Elliot Morley, the Fisheries Minister, said it was to first step towards ending the unacceptable toll of dolphins in drift nets. (Independent 17.1.1998)

Detectives were yesterday examining incendiary devices thought to belong to animal rights activists. The devices and associated materials were seized from a car stopped by police in Northampton. Two men in their thirties are being questioned. (Independent 19.1.1998)

A campaign to improve information on food labels was launched yesterday by the food commission, to highlight the hidden ingredients and unwanted extras in food, and give details of genetically modified soya or other organisms. (Independent 19.1.1998)

The butcher's business John Barr & Son, implicated in the world's worst E.coli 0157 outbreak, in which 20 people died, was fined a total of £2,250 for food hygiene and safety breaches. (Independent 21.1.1998)

Police were today looking for animal rights protesters who destroyed meat worth £500 at a Farlington, Portsmouth supermarket. Five men and two women entered the store and began haranguing staff and customers about the sale of meats such as alligator and kangaroo. After the group were thrown out, meat was found around the store in trolleys and baskets with its wrapping torn and cat litter strewn over it. (The News 21.1.1998)

A penguin is on the run from a zoo in Northern Germany. Jorg Adler, the zoo director said that several sightings of the penguin had been reported. "Every time we get there all we find is a duck," he said. (Times 22.1.1998)

The Prince of Wales has broken a rib after falling from his horse while hunting. (Times 23.1.1998)

A wallaby thought to be extinct for nearly a century is alive and well on a New Zealand island. (Times 23.1.1998)

The bat population of Surrey has landed a lottery windfall. Today's handout of £42.5m by the Heritage Lottery Fund includes a record £6.2m to wildlife trusts. A second world war pillbox is to be extended for use as a bats breeding loft. Other projects include providing homes for birds such as nightjar and protecting coppiced trees, needed by dormice. (Independent 28.1.1998)

We are informed from Bristol that, on the 25th of last month, one Bodridge, a blacksmith of Bridgewater, in contempt of that day went out shooting. On Pallet Hill he espied a large flight of old ravens, fired and killed two, which so exasperated the rest, that they immediately descended upon him, and plied their bills and claws so dextrously upon his head and face that notwithstanding all possible care was taken of him, he died last Monday. This may appear strange, but our correspondent assures us it is absolute fact. (Adams Weekly Courant 20.1.1767)

The WSPA has called on hotels and airlines to help end the cruel spectacle of India's 'dancing' bears, which they say has led to the decline of the endangered Sloth bear, of which only 8,000 are left, 1,000 of which are in captivity to earn money for gypsies. (Observer 1.2.1998)

Customers in supermarkets could soon use hand-held scanners to check information on items as they shop, for allergies, such as peanuts, or foods high in fats. (Independent 2.2.1998)

Anti-hunt campaigners were yesterday given a boost by a MORI poll showing 73% of anglers and 68% of riders back Michael Foster's anti-hunting Bill. (Independent 2.2.1998)

Today is World Wetland Day, and the government will announce new grants aimed at conserving boglands in six of the Ministry of Agriculture's 43 environmentally sensitive areas. 9,000 farmers will be paid compensation for looking after their fields in a way that conserves landscapes and wildlife-rich habitats. There are payments for keeping ditches and dykes to keep water levels higher for not using artificial fertiliser and for curbing weedkiller use. (Independent 2.2.1998)

Part of the Avon Valley in Hampshire and Dorset was

listed yesterday as a wetlands site of international importance, protecting 1,300 hectares for the Buick swans and kingfishers there. Two other areas, the Caithness lochs in Scotland and Anglesey and Llyn fens in Wales were also listed. (Times 3.2.1998)

Firebombers struck at two McDonald's restaurants in a northern suburb of the Greek capital. Both branches suffered damages but nobody was injured as they were closed. (Times 4.2.1998)

The Government is considering banning a controversial pigment, canthaxanthin, already outlawed for direct human consumption, used to turn egg yolks yellow and salmon and trout pink, because of its effects on children's sight. (Observer 8.2.1998)

The Government has effectively halted the planting of the first genetically modified crops in Britain, oil seed rape, but Plant Genetic Systems, a subsidiary of the chemical firm Hoechst, following protests. (Guardian 10.2.1998)

Butchers selling beef on the bone were warned by the Agriculture Minister, Jeff Rooker, that they could face 6 months imprisonment and up to a £5,000 fine following the Government's ban. The CJD agent was so powerful that the surgical instruments on CJD victims have to be destroyed; they cannot be sterilised. (Independent 11.2.1998)

Landowners have been stopped from harming wildlife-rich habitat with Britain's first ever Special Nature Conservation Order. (Independent 11.2.1998)

A vegetarian camera, the Ricoh RDC 300, has received a Vegetarian Society 'V' symbol, guaranteeing that it is entirely free of animal ingredients. Many people aren't aware that gelatine is used in traditional photographic film as a fixing agent. (Guardian 11.2.1998)

Jim Sutherland, owner of The Lodge, Carfraemill, near Edinburgh, has become the first person in Britain to be prosecuted for breaching the Government's beef on the bone ban imposed two months ago. (Times 13.2.1998)

A rooftop naked protest took place on the roof of Bartle Bogle & Hegarty advertising agency in protest against its involvement with Monsanto. (Independent 13.2.1998)

The Government will use its presidency of the EU to tighten up procedures for approving genetically modified food. (Independent 13.2.1998)

Undercover animal welfare investigators posed as buyers to trap a gang trying to sell £2.8m worth of rhinoceros horn, a court was told today. (Independent 18.2.1998)

The Local Government Association and the Local Authorities' Co-ordinating Body on Food and Trading Standards have called on the Government to consider a ban on the use of raw eggs. (Guardian 18.2.1998)

Two animal rights activists, Gaynor Ford and Sandra

White, arrested in Fareham for allegedly carrying 2 home-made bombs have been cleared of conspiracy charges at Portsmouth Crown Court. (The News 18.2.1998)

An Australian, Ricky Hall, 35, has been charged with being drunk in charge of pair of camels which were pulling a cart carrying 12 tourists. (Guardian 22.2.1998)

The Government has withdrawn more than 30 human blood products from use to reduce the risks of CJD being passed on. (Radio 2, 26.2.1998)

For the first time in more than a decade, both the resident pairs of golden eagles on Egg, in the Inner Hebrides, have successfully reared chicks. The double success comes in the first year of the island's Heritage Trust. (Times 26.2.1998)

The Chipperfield Circus family was last night said to be heartbroken after a keeper had his hand bitten off by a tiger at Chipperfield's Farm, Chipping Norton, Oxfordshire. (Independent 26.2.1998)

Police in China's central Hunan Province have arrested five men suspected of killing two rare giant pandas. They found and confiscated the panda skins and five pelts of the endangered golden monkey. Killers of pandas and golden monkeys face the death penalty. (Guardian 27.2.1998)

Five weeks after it began, the Oprah Winfrey mad cow trial ended in Armarillo yesterday with the jury of 12 coming down squarely on the side of Oprah against a group of local cattle men who accused her of sending the beef market into a spin two years ago. A guest, Howard Lyman, a rancher turned vegetarian, said while there had been no documented cases of BSE in the US herd, it was bound to strike if not already. Mr. Lyman concurred that an outbreak of BSE in the US would make AIDS look like the common cold. Ms. Winfrey responded that Mr. Lyman had just "stopped me cold from eating another burger". (Independent 27.2.1998)

New labelling guidelines to help consumers work out the fat and calorie content of food were being published today. (Independent 28.2.1998)

Farm incomes have been slashed, according to Government figures. Provisional figures show that dairy farmers' net incomes for 1997-8 are likely to be about £19,100 compared to £30,300 for the previous year, a fall of £215 a week or 36.9%. (Independent 3.3.1998)

Four masked men slipped past customers and stole a Ronald McDonald statue from a French McDonald's, police said yesterday. They wrote an anti-McDonald's message on the terrace of the restaurant near the southern city of Montpellier. (Guardian 4.3.1998)

A study of Sunday's countryside march in London has concluded that 142,259 people took part, half that claimed by the organisers. Researchers from Napia University in Edinburgh set a monitoring station along side the march route and used video equipment to count marchers. (Independent 4.3.1998)