

# ARKANGEL



NUMBER 21

£2

# Welcome to Arkangel Twenty-One!

Ten years ago, Ronnie Lee and Vivian Smith (we wish you well Viv, wherever you may be) founded Arkangel. Over the past ten years, the magazine has witnessed some highs and lows and we would like to thank our supporters who have kept us going and our voluntary helpers who have given both their time and their commitment so that we may carry on. Arkangel often relies upon the honesty of those who order it and we have several shops who carry it. Our thanks go out to **Active Distribution** who act as our main distributors abroad and to our regular subscribers. However, it saddens me to have to report that there are some dishonest people who are quite happy to rip us off. A radical bookshop in Manchester, **Frontline Books**, is a perfect example. Fortunately, these people are few and far between.

A new magazine is now available.

**Biteback** carries on where **Turning Point** left off and we encourage people to obtain a copy. The magazine is designed to appeal to the general public and to inform them of the horrors of animal abuse.

We would like to ask our readers to take out a subscription for **Arkangel Magazine**. This will help us financially and will guarantee that you receive a copy through the post. The magazine subscription costs just £10 for 4 issues (UK), £6 (unwaged) or £15 (outside of UK). The cover price has only risen by £1 in the past ten years!

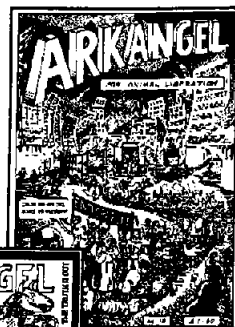
We encourage everyone to write to animal liberation prisoners (even just a few words) who have given their liberty to help protect animals and ask you to support the **Animal Liberation Front (Supporters Group)** and the **Vegan Prisoners Support Group**.

Lastly, animal abuse exists in many forms and allows certain industries to reap vast amounts of money literally off the backs of innocent creatures. Whether you hold street stalls, give out information leaflets, attend demonstrations, complete petitions, carry out direct action, take in animals or just encourage others to adopt a vegan lifestyle, every single action will help to bring animal liberation a step closer.

*A nostalgic reminder of the cover of the very first Arkangel!*



## Arkangel Back Issues & Cards



### Arkangel Back Issues:

Numbers 2, 4, 17, 18 & 20 are still available and are **FREE** of charge!

*(But please send 50p per copy to cover the postage - £1 outside of the UK).*

### Cards:

Three cards featuring cats and one card featuring the 'The Rats Revenge' are available.

Each card costs just 10p *(please send SAE).*

100+ cards cost 5p each *(postage free)*



# VEGAN VILLAGE



Since the last issue of Arkangel the vegan village has been on a bit of a roll. 35 new vegan run companies and groups have been added to the listings, which have been extended to include a 'vegan entertainers' section.

In January, Ethical Ware's vegan village website was listed in a '10 places to shop online' article in The Guardian newspaper, and then in February the vegan village itself was the BBC Vegetarian Good Food Magazine's website of the month. This extra coverage has attracted even more visitors to the website, which has a knock-on effect for the vegan companies and groups which are listed. One of the groups, Animal Action in Middlesborough, has received around 150 email enquiries as a direct result of being featured on the website.

There have been some new additions in terms of people taking their own websites within the vegan village. Alison Coe's new website includes pictures of her beautiful handmade greeting cards, plus her intricate woven pieces, which feature animal designs. Swamp Circus's website has a section advertising their performance arts workshops to be held in Cornwall to coincide with the Eclipse. The very latest website is for Veg Chinese in Knightsbridge which is an amazing vegan restaurant. And, of course, the vegan village is hosting the website for the Second National Vegan Festival which takes place in London on Sunday 15 August 1999.

If you would like to see some of the websites mentioned above, you can find them all on the vegan village at [www.veganvillage.co.uk](http://www.veganvillage.co.uk). You will also find links to hundreds of other vegan websites, in the UK and abroad, plus an online noticeboard and a newstand. Happy surfing!

## The Second National Vegan Festival

The second National Vegan Festival will take place on Sunday 15th August 1999 at the Camden Centre, Bidborough Street, London WC1, which is directly opposite St. Pancras Station and just minutes from Kings Cross and Euston underground / mainline stations. The Camden Centre is on the Euston Road and is easily accessible by bus. There will be some parking space in the area.

The Camden Centre is a very large, spacious building which has excellent facilities. The Festival will be open from 10am - 7pm and entry is just £1.

The sponsors of the Festival - Vegan Village, Ethical Wares, Plamil Foods and Festival organisers, CALF - welcome vegans, vegetarians, non-vegetarians and children to spend the day eating, drinking and generally being merry.

Festivities will include informal entertainment and discussions. You can browse at the information/commercial stalls, buy tasty snacks, or simply relax in a friendly atmosphere. Food provided by Leaves of Life, Veggies and VegVeg will be available in the dining area and snacks will be available in the main hall. The bar will be run by The Beer Shop / Pitfield Brewery who will be selling vegan /organic beer, cider and wine.

*Stall holders include:*

**Animal Aid,  
Viva!,  
Farm Animal Rescue,  
Vegan Society,  
Miso,  
Ambrosian Foods,  
ALF Press Office,  
Daydream Cosmetics,  
Plamil Foods,  
Veganline,  
London Animal Action,  
Ethical Wares,  
CALF,  
Arkangel,  
Vegan Village,  
Afifah's Natural Remedies,  
Vegan Christians,  
Plants for a future,  
Uncaged Campaigns,  
Coalition To Abolish the Fur Trade,  
Hunt Saboteurs Association,  
Campaign Against Angling,  
Conscience Cosmetics,  
Vegan Prisoners Support Group,  
Vegan Views,  
Order of the Cross,  
ALF Supporters Group,  
Vegan Clothing and  
Jamie & Kasher's Macrobiotic Snacks.**



During the day there will be talks on: Animal Liberation, Genetic Engineering, Vivisection and Herbalism.

### WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

For further details please contact:

**CALF : BM 8889, LONDON WC1N 3XX Tel. 0181 670 9585  
e-mail: CALF@alrob.freeseve.co.uk**

**VEGAN VILLAGE  
website: [www.veganvillage.co.uk](http://www.veganvillage.co.uk)**

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# FEMINISTS FOR ANIMAL RIGHTS

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Feminists for Animal Rights is dedicated to ending all forms of abuse against women and animals. Because exploitation of women and animals derives from the same patriarchal mentality, FAR attempts to expose the connection between sexism and speciesism whenever and wherever they can. FAR feel that the common denominator in the lives of women and animals is violence - either real or threatened - and the group work in non-violent ways to change that.

FAR attempts to raise the consciousness of the feminist community, the animal rights community and the general public about the connections between the objectification, exploitation and abuse of women and animals in patriarchal society.

As ecofeminists, the group are concerned about cultural and racial injustice and the devaluation and destruction of nature and the earth. They view patriarchy as a system of hierarchical domination, a system which works for the powerful and willing against the powerless and unwilling.

FAR is dedicated to the promotion of vegetarianism because they believe the feminist precept that the personal is political. As Carol Adams states, not eating the flesh of dead animals is one way of "putting feminism into action".

FAR are vegan in their orientation because it is desirable to work towards the elimination of all products derived from or tested on animals - in food, clothing, household products, and so on.

## Animal Liberation is a Feminist Issue

In patriarchal society women and animals are:

- beaten, raped, hated, enslaved as pets, exploited as wives, sold for money, used for entertainment, cheap labour, sex, experiments...

In patriarchal society women and animals are considered:

- inferior, "cute", childish, uncontrollable, emotional, impulsive, instinctive, irrational, evil, property, objects...

In patriarchal society women and animals are referred to as:

- chicks, bitches, pussies, foxes, dogs, cows, beavers, birds, bunnies, kittens, sows, lambs, hens, shrews, geese, fillies, bats, crows, heifers, vixens....

## What Feminists for Animal Rights Do

The group are based in the USA and publish a newsletter and have regional chapters in almost a dozen cities across the United States and Canada. FAR volunteers are engaged in a number of ongoing projects. FAR volunteers have co-ordinated, in a number of locations, foster care programs for the companion animals of women in battered women's shelters. Companion Animal Rescue Effort (CARE) has been initiated in an effort to address the rampant violence against women and animals in our society. Those familiar with domestic violence know

that, frequently, animals are victims of violence, and that often violence against them is used as a weapon against women and other family members.

Safehouses provide the companion animals of battered women with the security they need while the women are looking to make their own lives more secure. FAR provide foster care, veterinary care, lots of tender loving care for animals who may be traumatised, and respectful assistance for women who need support. FAR also provides speakers for school, activist, professional, community and religious groups. The most popular programme is the slide presentation "Animal Liberation Through an Ecofeminist Lens" created by FAR co-founder Marti Kheel. The show provides a history of the portrayal of women's relationship to other-than-human animals before and after patriarchy in art, religion, and mythology. It goes on to explore the connections between the objectification, exploitation, and abuse of women and animals in contemporary society, from pornography to the vivisection lab to the slaughterhouse.

**Feminists for Animal Rights**  
**PO Box 8869**  
**Tucson**  
**AZ 85739**  
**USA**  
**e-mail:**  
**mstaylor@u.arizona.edu**  
**web: [www.enviroweb.org/far/info.html](http://www.enviroweb.org/far/info.html)**

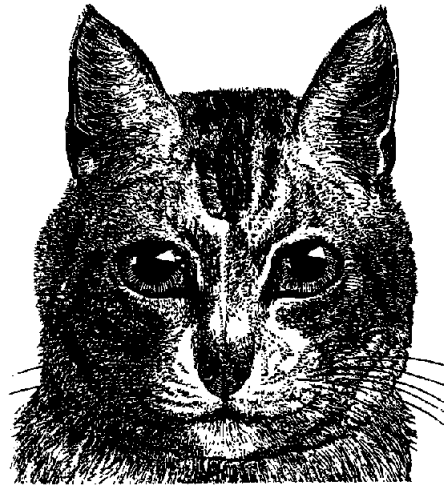
# The Far Reach of the Barbaric Fur Trade

News that coats and other products made of dog and cat fur are being sold around the world has shocked consumers in the UK and elsewhere. The revelations, announced on December 15, 1998, are the result of an 18 month undercover investigation conducted by the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) / Humane Society International (HSI) and independent German journalist Manfred Karremann. A team of six investigators estimate that more than 2 million dogs and cats are killed for the fur trade each year.

Much of the enormous media attention focused on the discovery of parkas with dog fur trim being sold by Burlington Coat Factory stores in the USA. At one such outlet in New Jersey, HSUS investigators found jackets trimmed with what the label described as "Mongolia dog fur", which DNA testing confirmed to be canine. When presented with that information, Burlington Coat Factory Warehouse Corporation expressed its dismay and ordered all the coats to be removed from its stores.

Here in the UK, following the Newsnight programme recently horrific footage revealed cats and dogs skinned alive after having their jaws wired shut. The programme showed a puppy watching its friends being killed, the fear evident in its eyes knowing that it would be next. The previously secret trade of dog and cat fur imported into this country from China has prompted protest in North London, where Alaska Brokerage, Bellside House, Elthorne Road, Archway, are situated. Their registered address is 145-157, St. John's Street, London EC1V 4PY. Designers Dolce & Gabbana have been named as one of the companies importing this type of fur (they regularly use fur in their collections).

In the US, chief HSUS investigator Rick Swain gained access to fur facilities in China, making four trips to that country over a year and a half. Rick said that at the beginning he expected to uncover a small, black-market trade in cat and dog skins abroad. But what the investigative group found is a multimillion-dollar international industry. He witnessed hundreds of thousands of dog pelts in one warehouse. Dogs and cats are plentiful, profitable and available in China. Some of these animals are bred on farms where anywhere from five to 300 dogs, or up to 70 cats, might be kept as breeding stock. Other animals may have been strays. In Harbin, north of Beijing, investigators witnessed dogs shivering in a dark, unheated building in the midst of winter, tethered by wire nooses, without food or water. This particular place, investigators were told, generally killed 10-12 dogs a day, selling their flesh and fur. The investigator reports that he saw dogs being butchered who were still conscious as the skinning began. Undercover videotape shows a German shepherd blinking his eye as he was being skinned. Cats suffer similarly awful fates. Investigators were told by people working at one Chinese fur market that the common method of killing is by hanging, sometimes with water hoses running into the cats' throats to drown them. Then a slit is made in the cat's



stomach, the skin is opened, and the fur is pulled over the cat's head. The furriers say the cats may still be alive while they are being skinned.

In the course of the investigation, it became clear that dog and cat fur is inextricably linked to the international fur industry as a whole, and that companies dealing in dog and cat fur also deal in the pelts of other species. In a showroom in China, for example, investigators saw full-length dog and cat fur coats hanging next to coats made of mink and fox. At an auction house in Germany, 10,000 dressed dog furs from Korea were sold alongside those of foxes, mink, muskrats, bobcats, badgers and nutrias.

Anyone who thinks the way to avoid buying dog or cat fur products is to simply read the label is in for another shock. Complicating the whole labelling issue is the fact that many companies and individuals involved in the trade of dog and cat fur use pseudonyms and mislabelling to disguise the true identity of their products. For example, "gae wolf" is a popular fur in the lower-end German fur market. But even many German consumers don't know that "gae wolf" is one of the fur industry's pseudonyms for domestic dog, usually German shepherd. It was found that companies were willing to put any label in a garment that the customer wanted, effectively disguising the country of origin and the type of animal used. It is unlikely that many consumers or even fashion industry workers could recognise dog or cat fur if they saw it.

For further information please contact the following:

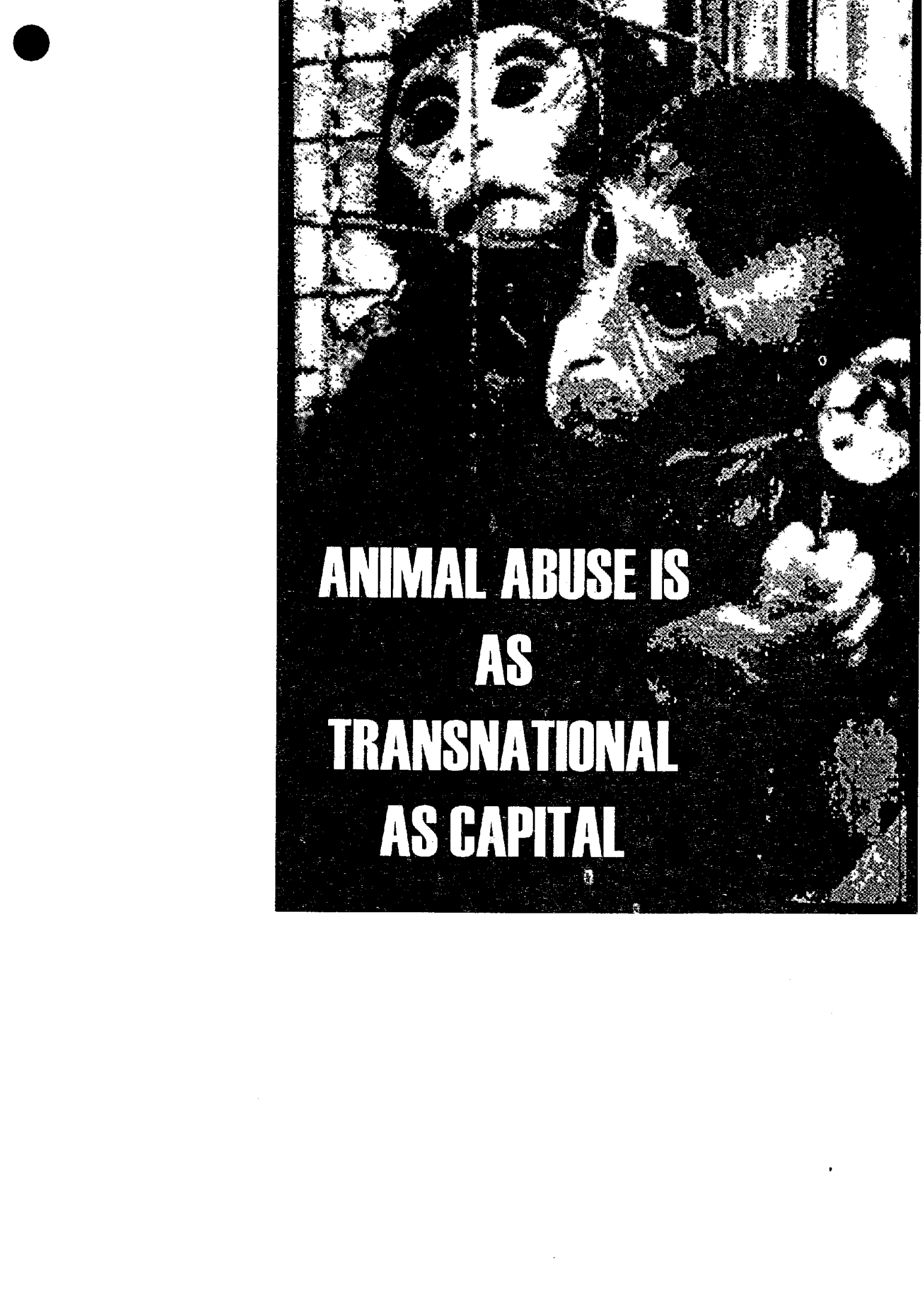
**Fur Free London Campaign**  
BM 2248, London WC1N 3XX  
0171 278 3068

e-mail: [furfree@londonaa.demon.co.uk](mailto:furfree@londonaa.demon.co.uk)

**Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade (CAFT)**  
PO Box 38, Manchester M60 1NX  
0171 278 3068

e-mail: [caft@londonaa.demon.co.uk](mailto:caft@londonaa.demon.co.uk)

**Humane Society of the United States (HSUS)**  
web: [www.hsus.org](http://www.hsus.org)  
e-mail: [FurFree@ix.netcom.com](mailto:FurFree@ix.netcom.com)



**ANIMAL ABUSE IS  
AS  
TRANSNATIONAL  
AS CAPITAL**

**O**n June 18th 1999 leaders of the Group of 7 (G7) leading capitalist states will meet in Köln. As ever they will be making decisions to ensure that a minority of the population continue to make profits at the expense of the rest of the world.

On this day thousands of people will come to protest in London and other financial districts across the globe against a system that puts profits before animals, people and the planet.

**W**hy should the Animal Liberation Movement be involved?

The global capitalist system is at the root of animal abuse and must be destroyed if we are to achieve animal liberation. All over the world animals are being imprisoned, tortured and killed in pursuit of profits. The meat industry, fur trade and vivisection cause misery and suffering not only to millions of animals, but also to humans and the planet to make money for a few. Banks and other financial institutions support this animal abuse.

For example Natwest gave Huntingdon Life Sciences (one of the biggest vivisectioners in Europe) a loan to bail them out when they were in financial trouble following the exposure of extreme cruelty by laboratory staff, whilst Hillgrove Farm, breeders of kittens and cats for vivisection is being propped up by £750,000 a police bill - state sponsored private security against a public outrage.

**W**e can't rely on governments to end the suffering of animals. Although governments may pay lip service to animal welfare, their main concern is protecting free trade and the real power lies with financial institutions and multi-nationals, which benefit from animal abuse.

**I**ncreasing globalisation of the economy is having a detrimental effect on animals, making even the smallest reforms impossible. For example, the GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) makes any ban on imports and exports illegal which means that although a country can ban a cruel practice it can't stop products that are being reared in a cruel way from being sold there. This means that

Two of the key animal rights achievements of the 90's - the banning of fur caught in the leghold trap and the ban on importing cosmetics tested on animals have not been upheld by the EU.

The EU has refused the ban on battery cages India's restrictions on the import and export of raw hides and furs is illegal

Meanwhile the pursuit of profit for interest payments to investment institutions and for shareholder's dividends, leads to a 'free market' where the very genetic make-up of life itself is being patented, and animals are mutated or cloned to make the future of animal abuse more cost effective.

**A** global movement of resistance is rising - people are reclaiming control of their lives. Across the world social and ecological movements are coming together, talking, taking direct action and enacting radical alternatives to 'globalisation'. Groups are organising for actions to happen simultaneously on Friday June 18th in the financial districts of the world. The June 18th action gives us the opportunity to protest against and transform those institutions that are at the root of animal abuse. It will also enable us to make links with other movements to build a better world for all.

**Meet 10.30am June 18th 1999 Farringdon Tube to demonstrate against Smithfields Meat Market and other animal abusers in the city.**

For details contact London Animal Action, BM 2248, WC1N 3XX. Tel: 0171-278 3068. email: [laa@londonaa.demon.co.uk](mailto:laa@londonaa.demon.co.uk). Meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of every month at: 1a Community Centre, 1a Rosebery Avenue, EC1. Tube: Chancery Lane.

**11am Anti - McDonalds March - Meet at Liverpool Street McDonalds**

**4pm A further anti - McDonalds Action - details to be announced - contact London Greenpeace on 0171 713 1269**

**12 noon Carnival Against Capital - Meet Liverpool Street Station**

**Or organise your own protest, picket, demo, occupation...**

For further info on June 18th visit: <http://www.gn.apc.org/june18> or contact

June 18th, PO BOX 9656, London N4 4JY

# HELP ARKANGEL HELP THE MOVEMENT HELP THE ANIMALS

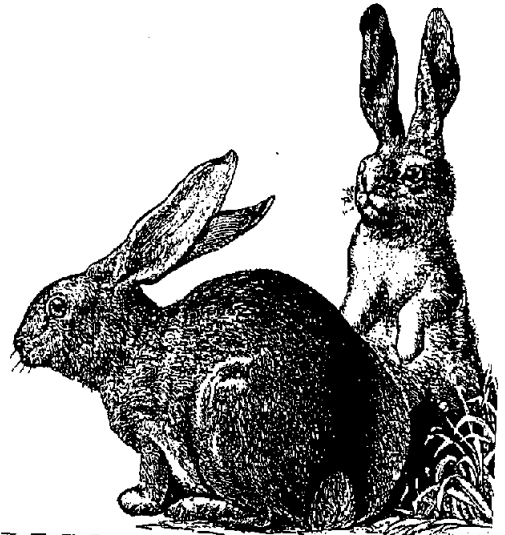
## How Arkangel Helps

The aim of Arkangel is to help the animal liberation movement. In furtherance of this aim Arkangel produces an informative magazine and has set up various projects to help local groups and animal rights campaigners both in this country and abroad. These projects include the supplying of information about animal abuse and animal abusers, publishing material useful to animal rights campaigners and helping to set up networks of groups in foreign countries.

## How You Can Help Arkangel

All Arkangel workers are unpaid, but all these projects need money in order to function effectively. Therefore, one way in which you can help is to donate money or, better still, by doing regular fundraising for Arkangel. You can also become a local Arkangel contact, so that as well as organizing fundraising, you could help distribute the magazine, report on local group activities, or assist the Arkangel Information Project.

If you are able to help in any way, please complete the relevant part(s) of this form and return it to Arkangel, BCM 9240, London WC1N 3XX. Thanks.



1. I enclose a donation of £ .....
2. I wish to donate to Arkangel by Standing Order

3. I would like to become a Local Contact for Arkangel

Name: .....

Address: .....

Phone: .....

4. I would like to leave a legacy to Arkangel:

In order to do this, you should include the following paragraph in your will:

*"I bequeath to Arkangel, presently at BCM 9240, London WC1N 3XX, the sum of £.... and declare that the receipt of the Treasurer or other authorized officer of Arkangel shall be good and sufficient discharge of such legacy."*

If you wish to leave land, property or other valuable items to Arkangel please write to us.

## Banker's Standing Order

Name of your Bank: .....

Address of your Bank: .....

Your Account Number: .....

Please pay to the Co-op Bank PLC, City Office, 78/80 Cornhill, London EC3V 3NJ, (sort code 08-02-28T) on behalf of Arkangel, Account No. 506 733 51 the sum of £ . . . . on the . . . day of . . . . 199 . . and a like amount on the same date in each succeeding month/year\* until further notice.  
(\*delete whichever not applicable)

Name: .....

Signature: .....

Address: .....

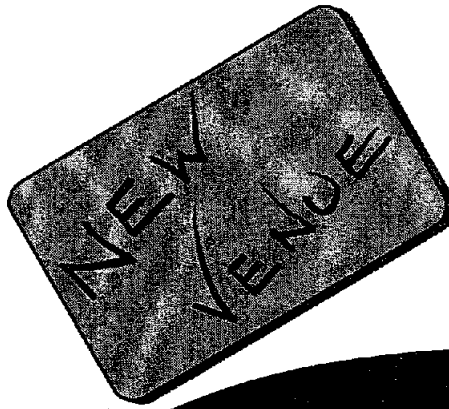
Post Code: .....

(Please return to Arkangel, BCM 9240, London WC1N 3XX)

All individuals and groups who make a donation to Arkangel will receive a mention in the next magazine. Those who donate £20 or more, or make out a standing order for £1 or more per month will receive a special mention!

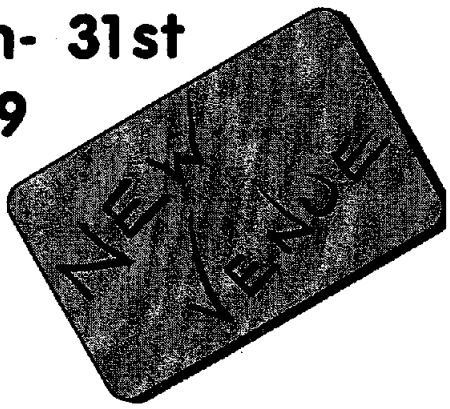


# ANIMAL FREEDOM GATHERING



**At The Miners Welfare  
Recreational Ground, Moira,  
Nr Ashby de la Zouch,  
Leicestershire.**

**MAY 28th- 31st  
1999**

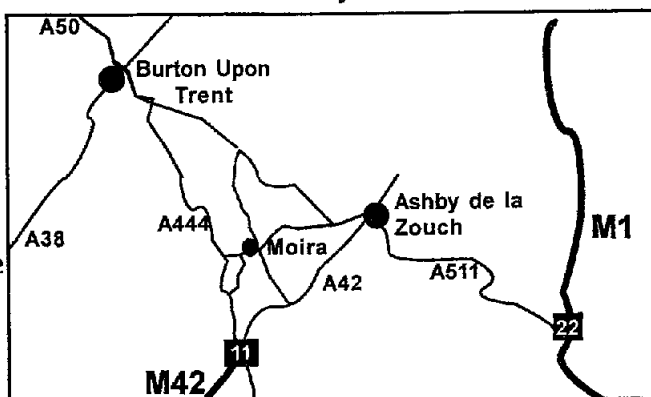


## What is the Animal Freedom Gathering?

It's a chance for like-minded people to get together, exchange ideas and information and co-operate to speed up animal liberation.

The gathering will be held at the Miners Welfare Recreation ground, Moira, Leicestershire, Nr Ashby De la Zouch

Vegan food will be provided at reasonable prices from Friday tea-time until Monday lunchtime.



Various workshops will be running throughout the weekend including:

Sabbing skills  
Map reading  
Successful campaigning  
Vegan nutrition

Dealing with the media  
Fund-raising  
Dealing with the police  
Research

Transport is available from Burton Upon Trent and Tamworth train and coach stations on Fri night and Sat morning. To make arrangements ring 0171 278 3068 in advance or 0961 988 575 on the day.

There will be vegan catering and the Miners club bar will be open over the weekend.

A creche will be running and help with this would be appreciated.

A national Animal Rights Coalition (ARC) meeting will be held on the Monday (31st) at 11am

Bring your own tent. It will cost £5 per person for camping.  
Please try not to bring dogs along but if you have no choice they will be welcome

# ANATOMY OF A HEALTH DISASTER

The Workers Inquiry into the BSE/CJD crisis held in Sheffield on May 17th, 1997 was a unique event. Convened by the Socialist Equality Party, it was the first independent investigation into this public health disaster. The outcome of a 12 month campaign, the Workers Inquiry was the only forum which brought together all aspects of the crisis. It heard testimony from scientific experts, health and environmental professionals as well as the relatives of new variant CJD victims.

Its great strength was not only the new information it uncovered but the way it critically illuminated the inner workings of the present social order. The BSE/nvCJD crisis did not simply result from the corruption and hypocrisy of a few government ministers and civil servants. Their actions and inactions were determined by their defence of an economic system which subordinates every aspect of human and animal life to the drive for profits. The cover-up begun by the Tory government, and Labour's collusion with it, reveal how Parliament and the establishment parties are the political means through which this economic set-up is preserved.

The findings of the Workers Inquiry have been confirmed by subsequent scientific research. After years of denial, scientific evidence leaves only one conclusion: that nvCJD is BSE in human form and its source is infected beef and its derivatives. The human consequences of this crisis are being tragically confirmed in the rising number of deaths from nvCJD. It is only now, over 10 years since BSE was first recognised that consideration was given to convene a "non-accusatory" judicial inquiry into BSE/nvCJD. Ultimately, any such measure will be of a purely cosmetic character. As long as food production - and indeed all other basic requirements of life - remains privately controlled and geared towards profit, public health disasters such as nvCJD are inevitable. Subsequent outbreaks of E-coli poisoning from cooked meats, listeria in dairy products and the pollution of drinking water confirm this warning.

**"A devastating indictment of a food industry run to satisfy big business's hunger for profit,"** says Dr. Jean Shaoul, lecturer at the Department of Accounting and Finance, Manchester University.

**"Human BSE - Anatomy of a Health Crisis"**  
costs **£5.99** (add **£1 p&p**) from:  
**Mehring Books,**  
**PO Box 1306, Sheffield S9 3UW**  
**0114 2438117**  
e-mail: **sep@dial.pipex.com**  
web: **www.mehring.com**

*Please make cheques/PO's payable to:*  
**International Worker**

# World Animal Net

## Introduction

World Animal Net (WAN) is a global information network for animal protection organisations. Free trade, through the growing influence of the World Trade Organisation and GATT, the evolution of the European Union, and the opening up of Eastern European and Asian regions have given animal advocacy an increasingly global perspective. The World Animal Net network gives animal protection groups world-wide the opportunity to work in a genuine spirit of collaboration, sharing knowledge, expertise, professionalism, and campaign and lobbying resources. World Animal Net is the world's largest animal advocacy network with over 1,000 affiliated societies.

## Policy

The only policy of World Animal Net is: "to improve the status and welfare of animals".

## Structure

World Animal Net's activities are co-ordinated from offices in the UK and the USA. Their work is primarily conducted by experts and consultants from around the globe who donate their time and expertise, thereby ensuring low overhead, including minimal staff and office costs. In order to avoid excessive fund-raising costs and competition with affiliate societies, WAN does not seek individual memberships. Funding is largely provided by project grants from foundations and societies.

## Services

### World Animal Net Directory:

The WAN directory is the world's largest collection of animal protection contacts, with more than 8,000 organisations in 130 countries. The Directory is available in book form and can be viewed on the website (see below) which provides links to more than 1,800 websites of animal protection organisations.

### E-mail Newsgroups:

Animal protection societies who have Internet access and want to stay informed about the latest developments can subscribe to WAN's e-mail lists free of charge. There are subject specific lists on:

- ◆ Anti-Fur
- ◆ Experimentation
- ◆ Farm Animals
- ◆ Animals in Entertainment

Contact for further information:

**World Animal Net**  
**24 Barleyfields, Didcot, Oxon. OX11 0BJ, UK**  
**Tel/Fax: 01235 210775**

**World Animal Net**  
**19 Chestnut Square, Boston, MA 02130, USA**  
**Tel: +1 (617) 524 3670/Fax: +1 (617) 524 1815**

E-mail for both addresses:  
**worldanimalnet@yahoo.com**  
web: **www.worldanimal.net**

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# NEWS AND VIEWS *from the* ANIMAL LIBERATION FRONT PRESS OFFICE

## 'ARKANGEL' COMES OF AGE ...

Congratulations to Arkangel magazine on reaching issue number 21; this year is a double celebration as we also see its tenth anniversary! All this despite Animal Aid's Mark Gold describing it as "a nasty little magazine". You, the readers, have made your choice so "well done" to Arkangel.

## HUNGER STRIKE III - THE BACKLASH

Barry Horne's third hunger strike - highlighting this Labour government's broken promises and pressing for action against the holocaust of vivisection - showed the depths to which the State and Establishment will sink when protecting vested interests. The longer Barry starved the greater the efforts to discredit him became.

Emphasise his conviction for arson - don't mention his voluntary work in animal sanctuaries. Claim he had no thought for how his family felt - ignore his deep concern for the lives of all individuals. Assert that some (including me!) considered him more use to the movement dead than alive - an allegation not worthy of a response. Barry, already weakened by hunger strikes lasting 35 and 46 days, spent 67 days taking nothing but water except for one weekend when fruit juice and similar liquids were available to help him concentrate on Home Office documents. The media, unable to believe that someone would hold out for so long in pursuit of a selfless cause, claimed he was secretly taking food and vitamins. The closer the time came to what appeared to be his imminent death the greater the media hysteria increased.

Make no mistake, Barry would not have been a martyr. He would have been a casualty. Yet another casualty of the corrupt, evil system that robs the life from countless millions of our brothers and sisters whose only 'crime' was to be born non-human - and too often also claims the lives of our fellow campaigners.

The final push in the attempts to discredit Barry and the animal liberation movement must surely have been the broadcast of 'Dispatches' ...

## DIRTY TRICKS UNLIMITED

At 9.00 pm on Thursday 10th December last year Barry Horne was taken from York District Hospital on the short journey back to Full Sutton prison's medical wing,

ostensibly to eke out his last few days of life. At the same moment Channel 4 television began screening 'Dispatches'. Of course, there is no suggestion of a conspiracy. The oddly dovetailed timings were pure chance, weren't they?

The programme tried to portray the animal liberation movement as a shadowy world inhabited by a mixture of social inadequates and dangerous, committed terrorists. I'll leave you to decide who was meant to fall into which category. Being a documentary it would have shown the truth, with a brave, crusading undercover reporter risking life and limb to reveal the hidden agenda of those who use animal welfare as a cover for their war against society. Strange that a Teletext poll not too long afterwards showed that 94% of respondents did not believe what they saw in TV documentaries ...

Graham Hall, the intrepid undercover investigator, has been found to have a history of portraying lies as truth, and imagination as fact. Although he has, in the past, investigated badger digging and dog fighting there are widespread allegations that he has been responsible for setting up scenes of animal cruelty. Perhaps he would like to counter these claims? For example, is it true that he orchestrated the television news item last year that showed a mink killing a kitten in someone's garden? Certainly it's true that he conned a respected animal rescue charity out of £10,000 ... and the charity hasn't even been able to persuade him to repay part of it from his ill-gotten gains courtesy 'Dispatches'.

This piece of television fantasy was broadcast at a time when Barry was thought to be entering his final hours. If the intention had just been to discredit the ALF press office, why wait so long? The most recent scenes from Hall's hidden camera that featured me were filmed more than ten months before Barry even began his third hunger strike. This programme was intended to discredit Barry, to discredit me, to discredit our compassionate movement and to turn public opinion against what everyone thought would culminate in the ultimate sacrifice by an animal liberation prisoner of conscience.

As Channel 4 haven't heard the last of this disgusting example of gutter journalism I won't offer a detailed explanation here. Suffice it to say that the programme tapes were requested by none other than the Hampshire Loonies (... sorry, police!). Do you really think I'd still be free to write this article, more than three months later, if what

'Dispatches' claimed to show was true? And mentioning the Hampshire Loonies leads me neatly to ...

## **AN END TO THE LUNACY AT LAST?**

Yes, alright, I know you must all be completely fed up with Gandalf, Operation Washington, the Hampshire Loonies or whatever you want to call it. I know that I started writing about this when the Hampshire police first raided my home in August 1994 (the night before a rally in London by the National Anti-Hunt Campaign of which I was a part). I know it was later revealed in court that the Hampshire Loonies had been investigating me since 1992. But ... it just may be that the threat to freedom of speech and animal liberation is finally at an end ... or is that wishful thinking?

The trial commenced - yet again - on Monday 2nd November at Portsmouth Crown Court. Paul Rogers, general editor of Green Anarchist, and myself were supposed to have conspired over a 5-year period on the strength of three short telephone calls during 1994 relating to an event at which I was due to speak. Even more bizarre was the Prosecution's insistence that the three Green Anarchists who had been acquitted on appeal should be listed on our indictment as co-conspirators.

Why? Well, briefly, the Prosecution claimed that the Appeal Court had declared the original Gandalf trial null and void. Therefore, the trial had never - in law - taken place so there were no convictions to be quashed. As no court had ever declared the three "not guilty" then they could be named as allegedly conspiring with Paul and I. This contention was not supported by the Appeal Court's ruling lodged with Portsmouth Crown Court but the Prosecution argued, in effect, that "the wording of the ruling does not mean what the Appeal Court intended it to mean". Isn't it comforting to know that the Crown Prosecution Service doesn't believe the Appeal Court competent to explain itself clearly?

Adjourning for one week to obtain clarification of what the Appeal Court HAD meant to say we were then told it couldn't just tell us ... that would have been too simple. The matter would have to be decided at a reconvened hearing of the Appeal Court at the Royal Courts of Justice in London. So, yet another adjournment. With the Prosecution being responsible for so many delays and so much confusion over the years don't you think they would have made every effort to get it right this time? Read on ... dream on ...

The Appeal Court in its wisdom decreed on Thursday 19th November that the indictment at the original Gandalf trial had been faulty so the whole proceedings were therefore null and void. No one had been tried. No one had been convicted. No one had been acquitted. The 3-month trial was to be erased from memory.

When the Crown Court reconvened in Portsmouth the following Wednesday it looked game, set and match to the Prosecution. The three 'acquitted' Green Anarchists could be listed as co-conspirators, as I had been at their trial, without appearing in the dock. And then ... the Defence pointed out what neither the Appeal Court, nor the Judge, and certainly not the Prosecution, had thought of ... what had seemed to be the Prosecution's (sorry, Prosecution's) success became its downfall. The indictment at trial had been faulty so the same charges at committal were similarly faulty. If the Crown Court trial was null and void then the committal hearings were similarly null and void. Legally, none of us should be in court number one at Portsmouth Crown!

The judge agreed and at last brought the whole sorry mess to a conclusion. Did I miss out the phrase "final conclusion"? I'm afraid so ...

December came and we heard that the Prosecution had applied to the High Court for an obscure 'voluntary bill of indictment'. If granted, such a move would bypass arrest, bypass charging, bypass committal for trial and place us straight back in ... Portsmouth Crown Court. The irony of it all was that, as Paul and I were no longer facing charges, neither we nor our lawyers had any legal right to be heard. Our Defence teams could make written submissions to the court, the judges could then read what we had to say - if they felt like it - but they could then totally ignore it! Just think, our legal system is supposed to be the best in the world! At last, in mid-January, a ray of sanity ... the High Court threw out the Prosecution's application, effectively telling them "On yer bike!".

Hopefully, that will be an end to the Hampshire Lunacy once and for all. I've now had charges on the same evidence thrown out against me a record four times. British justice has triumphed at long last. Or has it? Watch this space ...

## **ARE WE SUPPOSED TO TAKE THEM SERIOUSLY?**

Sow stalls have now been banned by law in the UK. Great ...excuse me if I seem to lack the expected burst of enthusiasm. Veal crates were banned in the UK some years ago. How many farms in Britain still used that system at the time? Was it four? Not enough for the government to worry about losing the farming vote but think how many animal welfare votes they hoped to gain by saying "After all your years of campaigning we have bowed to your demands. We have taken notice of you. Trust us. Vote for us."

In the wake of veal crates being banned more than one thousand calves every day were exported in terrible conditions. To endure a short, nightmare life in the very systems our wonderful government had outlawed. The same

is now happening to our porcine cousins. Animal welfare laws are all too often callous, cruel and electioneering confidence tricks. Since the very first, in 1822, there has not been a single piece of legislation passed that had as its primary intention the wellbeing of individual animals.

The anti-vivisectionists call, quite rightly, for total abolition. The same must be true for those in farms, in circuses, in whaling ... for those oppressed anywhere by whatever means. Slavery is morally wrong. Had welfare been the driving force, we would still have slavery today, albeit perhaps a 'kinder' version. Abolition was the only answer to slavery. Abolition can be the only answer to animal abuse.

And then there are those being taught to help those of other species. What outlook do they have? How are their attitudes being formed? Recent instructions by Congregation Regent House at the University of Cambridge reveals the following code of attire for those following a veterinary career: "Academic Dress - Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine: similar to the hood for Bachelor of Medicine, but with more fur" ... next time you see your doctor, ask them if they wore bits of human skin draped around their heads when they graduated. As the old question goes .... "How many doctors do you know who eat their patients?"

## **DIRTY TRICKS - PART II**

The very same day that Barry Horne was moved from York District Hospital to Full Sutton prison and Channel 4 screened 'Dispatches' there was a 2-page spread in the Daily Express featuring David Hammond's claims that I tried to involve him with sawn-off shotguns. Hammond will, no doubt, be familiar to most of you as the person who condemned the ALF and promoted his version of non-violent veganism while having as his mentor a meat-eating

paid police informer ... also as the nasty piece of work who conned the Justice for Keith Mann Campaign out of thousands of pounds. By the way, Keith ... great news that you're out at last, shame it took so long!

The problem with Mr Hammond is that it's all in his imagination. The sad thing is that trying to set me up with people like Hammond seems all part of an ARNI campaign to discredit me ... or is that paranoia?

## **AND SO WE CONTINUE ...**

The press office carries on despite the dirty tricks and police harassment, in fact the workload is growing to an international level. Sweden, Belgium, Canada, Finland, France and the USA are just some of the countries who have contacted this office for information. We even get requests - more often than you'd think! - on how to contact national organisations.

But, we can't do that without your help. Money is a dirty word but we can't function without it. The press office, to protect the ALF Supporters Group, is completely independent and doesn't get funding from anywhere except YOU! If you believe that a radical voice for animal liberation - and for those who risk their freedom - is important then please help us continue.

Meanwhile, the animals need to be free. It doesn't matter if you leaflet, lobby or liberate ... let's all work that little bit harder for our goal and all work together for their freedom. There's only one enemy and it's not each other, it's animal abuse. You want liberation. I want liberation. Most importantly, our brothers and sisters want liberation. Come on, don't just work for it ... let's achieve it.

*Robin Webb*

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## ***Keeping Death off the Streets***

At the beginning of March, activists from London Animal Action took to the streets of London and targeted fur wearers. About 15 protesters, followed by police officers, made their way around the West End and approached anyone wearing either fur coats, jackets, hats or trim. On several occasions, fur wearers had to be escorted by police to avoid being harangued. It became increasingly obvious as the day wore on that the tactic was a great success and that fur wearers were getting the message. On several occasions they actually turned around and walked in the opposite direction rather than face up to the truth that fur is not only unfashionable but a disgrace.

LAA would like to emphasise the importance of approaching fur wearers wherever they may be because by shaming them, they are less likely to wear fur garments. It is handy to carry anti-fur trade leaflets for those who prefer to avoid direct confrontation.

Fur-Free London Campaign plan to hold several more forays in London in the near future and anyone interested should contact them. For further information, leaflets, etc, please contact:

**London Animal Action**  
BM 2248, London WC1N 3XX  
0171 278 3068  
e-mail: laa@londonaa.demon.co.uk

**Fur-Free London Campaign**  
BM 2248, London WC1N 3XX  
0171 278 3068  
e-mail: furree@londonaa.demon.co.uk

**Campaign Against Leather & Fur (CALF)**  
BM 8889, London WC1N 3XX  
e-mail: CALF@alrob.freeseve.co.uk  
"CALF NEWS" available for 31p SAE

# News from Stop Quintiles' Animal Tests - SQAT

Campaigning for an end to animal experiments at Quintiles vivisection lab in Ledbury

## Weekly Pickets

Pickets of the Ledbury laboratory continue to take place every Monday and Thursday from 4pm - 5:30pm to "greet" the lab workers as they leave for home. SQAT campaigners have now adopted the tactic of videoing the lab staff and their vehicles, much to the consternation of the lab workers and security guards, who have now begun to make their own videos of the protesters (for what little good that will do them). Despite the police presence, protesters are often able to surround vehicles leaving the lab and vociferously tell the occupants what they think of them, to such an extent that on March 22nd a van full of lab staff would not leave until the police arrived to escort it. The farmer who owns the fields surrounding the lab doesn't want to get involved in taking action against protesters who cross his land, which means that demonstrators are able to get right round the back of the laboratory and harangue those working inside, who frequently cower away from the verbal onslaught.

## Global Week of Action

A Global Week of Action Against Quintiles' Animal Tests is to take place from June 21st - 26th. It is hoped that protests will be held during this week at many of the Quintiles offices and laboratories throughout the world. SQAT is in the process of contacting foreign animal rights activists to tell them about the week of action and give them details of Quintiles premises in their own countries.

Actions in this country will include the following:

### Monday, June 21st :

Picket of Quintiles lab, Ledbury, 4pm -5:30pm.

### Tuesday, June 22nd :

Phone and fax blockade of Ledbury lab (phone 01531 634121, fax 01531 634753 and 01531 631554).

### Wednesday, June 23rd :

Demo at Quintiles UK HQ, Bracknell, 1pm - 4pm (two locations - Station House (right next to Bracknell railway station) and Ringside, 79 High Street, Bracknell).

### Thursday, June 24th :

Picket of Quintiles lab, Ledbury, 4pm - 5:30pm.

### Friday, June 25th :

Phone and fax blockade of DHL couriers, to ask that they cease transporting materials to and from Quintiles lab (phone 0345 100300, fax 01332 816339).

## Home Office Demo

On Thursday, July 15th SQAT is organising a demo outside the Home Office, 50 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1 (just outside St. James's Park tube station), from 12 noon onwards. The demo will be demanding that Quintiles' licence to do animal experiments be withdrawn, but we would like all those involved in campaigns against other labs and breeding centres to come along with banners, placards, posters etc. to make it a large and visual protest against vivisection as a whole.

Stop Quintiles' Animal Tests, P.O. Box 127, Kidderminster, Worcs., DY10 3UZ  
Tel: 01562 745778 or 700086 E-mail: [sqat@messages.to](mailto:sqat@messages.to)

For those who can't make the above demos or who would like to do a little extra, details of other Quintiles premises in the UK are as follows:

**GDRU, 6 Newcomen Street, London SE1 1YR**

Tel: 0171 378 1772. Fax: 0171 403 4409

**Mallard Court, Market Square, Staines, Middlesex TW18 4RH**

Tel: 01784 461661. Fax: 01784 461610

**Quintiles UK, Ringside, 79 High Street, Bracknell, Berks., RG12 1DZ**

Tel: 01344 708200. Fax: 01344 708300

**Glengorse, Battle, East Sussex, TN33 0TX**

Tel: 01424 776200. Fax: 01424 772625

**Research Avenue South, Heriot-Watt University, Research Park, Riccarton, Edinburgh, EH14 4AP**

Tel: 0131 451 5511. Fax: 0131 451 2062

**Esher House, Esher Green, Esher Surrey, KT10 8BT**

Tel: 01372 461000. Fax: 01372 461078



*As far as we are aware, animal experiments do not take place at the above locations, but the idea is to put pressure on all Quintiles premises to persuade the company to cease animal testing at Ledbury.*



# INTERNATIONAL NEWS

## AUSTRALIA

Face branding of cattle has been outlawed in Queensland, Australia, following a two-year campaign by Animal liberation Queensland, the World League for the Protection of Animals, and other members of the Animals Australia coalition. Even the government's beef advisory council and the Australian Association of Cattle Veterinarians agreed the practice, which is done to preserve the value of the animal's hide, was inhumane. The win follows a similar 1997 victory in New South Wales.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

Students at Murdoch University in Perth have been granted the right to use humane alternatives in classes where animals are seriously harmed or killed.

*(Animal Liberation Newsletter, Nov/Dec '98)*

On 25 May 1998, at Cairns Airport, 10 live, juvenile Green Tree Pythons were found concealed under the clothing of a passenger on a flight from Singapore. At Cairns Magistrates' Court the following day, two male Singapore nationals were charged with importation without a permit or authority in contravention of the Wildlife Protection (Regulation of Exports and Imports) Act and one was charged with animal cruelty. Chee Meng Chong and Sheu Yang Yap were later sentenced to three months' imprisonment.

*(TRAFFIC Bulletin, Jan '98)*

The creation of Jabiluka uranium mine, which will devastate the Kakadu National Park, has been delayed by a year, following determined resistance by activists across Australia.

*(Earth First! Action Update, Jan/Feb '99)*

## BELGIUM

According to an opinion poll commissioned by the Royal Belgian League for the Protection of Birds, 69% of Belgians are opposed to the killing of animals for fun, 76% are opposed to the breeding of animals for hunting, and 89% are opposed to the shooting of migratory birds.

*(MINKLIB, 25/10/98)*

## CAMBODIA

Cambodia's outgoing minister of agriculture has called for a halt to illegal logging and ordered forestry officials to get tough in cracking down on increasingly uncontrolled exploitation of forests. Tao Seng Hour said increasing amounts of illegally felled timber were being brought out of the country's dwindling forests and it had to be stopped. Last year the International Monetary Fund indefinitely suspended support programs to Cambodia, largely because of wasteful logging practices. Environmentalists and some politicians say powerful military and business figures are behind the uncontrolled logging.

*(Infobeat, 13/10/98)*

## CANADA

Classroom dissections are no longer mandatory for high school students in part of Nova Scotia. The Southwest Regional School Board, which governs 35 schools, adopted a 'Student Choice' policy after three years of lobbying by Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

Two more Canadian towns have given circuses the cold shoulder after enacting bans on performances using exotic animals. In Shelburne, efforts by the High School Environmental Group paid off, while in Bridgewater, Students for the Ethical Treatment of Animals and the Nova Scotia Humane Society met with success, raising the total number of Nova Scotia municipalities that bar exotic animal acts to five.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

A restaurateur in Nova Scotia decided to set free a 16.5 pound lobster. The shellfish, dubbed Shacky, was about three feet long with a huge claw and was estimated to be between 100 and 120 years old.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

Two orphaned bear cubs are to be taken to a wildlife rehabilitation centre and ultimately released rather than spend the rest of their lives in captivity at Canada's Marineland, as originally planned. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources authorised the move after Animal Alliance Canada, the Bear Alliance, and Zoocheck Canada





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threatened to intervene legally to prevent the cubs from remaining at the amusement park, whose housing of the animals did not meet the standards required by the Came and Fish Act. Deemed a 'nuisance,' the mother of the 8-month-old bears was shot while feeding at a trailer park.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

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In order to help save cats from being killed for lack of homes, two cities in British Columbia - Surrey and Coquitlam - recently enacted mandatory spay/neuter legislation for felines older than six months (unless a breeding permit is obtained), the first such laws in Canada.

*(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb '99)*

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## CHINA

Two poachers have been jailed for 6 and 7 years for killing hundreds of Tibetan antelopes (of which there are only about 75,000 left) for their skins.

*(Ceefax, 1/1/99)*

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## EUROPE

The European Union has agreed to implement a ban on fishing with drift nets in Atlantic and Mediterranean waters. The Regulation will take effect on 1 January 2002 and affect five Member States: Spain, France, Ireland, Italy and under the agreement there also had to be a 40% cut in the number of boats licensed to use drift nets by the end of 1998.

*(TRAFFIC Bulletin, Jan '99)*

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## FINLAND

The owner of a fur farm announced he would quit the business following a raid on his farm by AR activists.

*(No Compromise, Winter '98/99)*

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## FRANCE

A 20-year-old man who tortured a dog to death has been sent to prison for 6 months, the maximum term for cruelty to an animal.

*(Eric Moreau, 29/10/98)*

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A November crackdown by Paris police on "pet" shops that display animals in cages along the sidewalk means that the hens, ducks, rabbits, cats, dogs, and other animals will no longer have to endure being kept outside with no protection from the elements. Animal protectionists had long charged that these shops, located in the city's well-known open-air market, are inhumane. Since there is little room to move the cages inside their small stores, shopkeepers claimed the restriction would probably force them to give up selling some kinds of creatures altogether. This may force them to lay off staff, even to close.

*(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb '99)*

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## HOLLAND

In 1982 there were 127 fur shops in Holland. 15 years later the number had been cut to 22.

*(No Compromise, Winter '98/99)*

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## INDIA

The Village of Udbur near Mysore has agreed to completely end animal sacrifice in the local temple following a campaign by Beauty Without Cruelty.

*(Compassionate Friend, Summer '98)*

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A plan to set up an ostrich farm at Andalgaon in Shirur District has been abandoned following a campaign by Beauty Without Cruelty and two local SPCAs.

*(Compassionate Friend, Monsoon '98)*

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The Director General of Foreign Trade has prohibited the export of articles manufactured from the shed antlers of deer. The export of shavings from such antlers has also been prohibited. This will go some way to preventing the slaughter of deer for their antlers.

*(Compassionate Friend, Monsoon '98)*

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## IRELAND

Work on a by-pass at one of Ireland's worst traffic bottlenecks has been halted to avoid harming the salmon spawning cycle in the river below. Building started last month on a temporary bridge at Kinnegad, Co Westmeath, where two main roads meet but Westmeath County Council agreed to shelve the project until the spring after the Inland Fisheries Board objected.

*(Express & Star, 19/11/98)*

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## ITALY

In the districts of San Giuliano Milanese, Melegnano and San Donato Milanese animal protectionists have successfully campaigned for regulations which forbid the use of animals as prizes in competitions and their display in shows and circuses.

*(La Voce Dei Senza Voce, Summer/Autumn '98)*

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## MEXICO

A public opinion poll has revealed that 87 percent of Mexican citizens are opposed to bullfighting. Commissioned by the World Society for the Protection of Animals, Humane Society International, and the National Green Party, the poll queried 50,000 people in 12 of the country's 32 states about the pain experienced by the bull, the effect of the violent spectacle on children, and the morality of torturing animals for sport.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*



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## RUSSIA

The Cold War is over for Moscow's street 9 dogs now that sterilisation has replaced euthanasia as the method for controlling strays. Mayor Yuri Luzhkov instituted the new policy in response to Brigitte Bardot's condemnation of the city's plan to kill 25,000 homeless dogs. Instead, stray dogs will be spayed or neutered, fitted with microchips, and then released. A city official said the programme should reduce the number of stray dogs by 50 percent within three to four years and cost less to implement than killing the animals. 'No Brigitte Bardot's going to call Moscow's Mayor Luzhkov the dog-knacker any more,' read one newspaper. 'The era of the extermination of strays is over.'

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

Between 1997 and 1998 the number of animals killed on Russian fur farms dropped by 25%. In 1992 there were 127 Russian fur farms, today there are 90.

*(Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade (USA), 21/10/99)*

## SOUTH AFRICA

40 white rabbits being used for microbiology tests at the University of Cape Town are to be handed over to Beauty Without Cruelty to be found good homes instead of being killed.

*(Animal Voice of South Africa, July/Oct '98)*

In a major victory against the live animal trade, a South African judge issued an order permitting the National Council of Societies for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (NSPCA) to seize 30 baby elephants who were taken from their herds in Botswana and exported to South Africa by animal dealer Riccardo Ghiazza. Ghiazza reportedly planned to sell the elephants for \$25,000 each to parks and zoos in Germany, China, Switzerland, and possibly the United States. Instead, the NSPCA will transport them to a park or ranch outside Pretoria for holding and veterinary care until an attempt can be made to reunite them with their families.

*(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec '98)*

## SPAIN

The Mayor of Coslada has declared that bullfighting is to be no longer allowed in the town's stadium, making Coslada the first town in Catalonia to ban the bullfight.

*(La Voce Dei Senza Voce, Summer/Autumn '98)*

## SWEDEN

Following a raid by militant AR activists, a school in Umea has ended a project in which rabbits were bred for fur and meat and is offering the rabbits free to good homes. The activists coloured the furs of all the rabbits (more than 60

in total) with harmless henna dye, as an act of economic sabotage.

*(Communiqué from Swedish ALF, 4/11/98)*

The editor of the Swedish fur trade magazine is quitting and the magazine is expected to go out of business. The Swedish fur trade association is likely to close with its membership merging with the Danish fur breeders group.

*(No Compromise, Winter '98/99)*

## TAHITI

Life's no longer a beach for a colony of cats living on a tiny, deserted island near a Club Med resort in Tahiti. While on vacation, Mary Hackshaw of New Zealand discovered the emaciated, sickly cats whom Club Med employees had been dumping there without food or water. Hackshaw started a letter-writing campaign to the resort chain's headquarters, which ultimately led to the company enlisting the help of the World Society for the Protection of Animals, Fenua Animalia (a Tahitian group), local veterinarians, and even 'other hotels and the Tahitian government,' according to a Club Med spokesperson. The cats will be removed from the island and spayed or neutered.

*(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec '98)*

## TAIWAN

For the first time in its history, Taiwan adopted its first-ever animal protection bill on October 13. The country had already promised to improve the treatment of stray dogs following international protests held earlier this year over its treatment of animals.

*(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec '98)*

## UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

The hunting of wild birds and rabbits was recently outlawed in Ras al-Khaimah, part of the United Arab Emirates. After learning that some bird and rabbit hunters, while pursuing their quarry, were also threatening other wildlife, Sheikh Saqr bin Mohammed al-Qassimi, ruler of the 656 square-mile emirate, declared the ban. The penalty for first-time offenders is two days in jail and impoundment of their vehicles, while repeat violators face one month in prison and a fine of about £1,000.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

## USA

Stanford University in California has developed a computer programme which allows students to dissect "virtual" animals instead of real ones.

*(La Voce Dei Senza Voce, Summer/Autumn '98)*



Barton Springs in Austin, Texas, home to the endangered Barton Springs salamander, have been saved after the state's Supreme Court rejected a final appeal by the Freeport McMoran Corporation, who wanted to develop 4,000 acres upstream.

*(Earth First!, Aug/Sept '98)*

A US District Judge has ordered an immediate halt to all logging in Kentucky's Daniel Boone National Forest until the US Forest Service protects several resident species of endangered animals and plants.

*(Earth First!, Aug/Sept '98)*

A US federal judge has issued a ruling halting the construction of 10,000 houses and 5 million square feet of industrial/commercial buildings on the Ballona Wetlands, Los Angeles County, following a court case brought by several environment protection groups.

*(Earth First!, Aug/Sept '98)*

Bert and Ernie, two pigs used in non-invasive studies at Penn State University, have been retired to PIGS, a sanctuary in West Virginia. As a way to study the intelligence of pigs, the animals - made famous by high-profile news stories - learned to play computer games (by using a joystick) and even how to adjust the thermostat in their room. PIGS director Dale Riffle praised the university's 'humane gesture' and felt the move set a precedent for other animals used in research, which he hoped would be retired to appropriate and qualified sanctuaries instead of being sent to slaughter and/or destroyed.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

Acknowledging the link between animal cruelty and human violence, a judge in Cameron County, Texas, handed down an unprecedented sentence for three men convicted of stoning a stray dog to death. Adrian Adame, 17, Juan Garcia, 21, and Geraldo Zamora, 20, were each given 30 days in jail, followed by six months in a "recovery centre". The sentence also included two years probation, 100 hours of community service, mandatory counselling and other stipulations. Denise Porter, an animal activist involved in mobilising others to call for the stiffest penalty possible, called the sentence "much more than has ever been seen before in south Texas."

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

A New Jersey furrier agreed to quit selling furs after being the target of a week-long protest organised by the Animal Defense League (ADL) earlier this summer. Steven Muszka, owner of Marianne Furs, even signed a contract drawn up by ADL stating he would never sell furs again.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

Attempts to legalise dove hunting in Iowa and Minnesota by an outside interest group were shot down by animal advocates in both states. In an ill-conceived effort to promote the hunting of mourning doves around the country, the Ohio-based Wildlife Legislative Fund of America managed

to get bills introduced in both state legislatures. But local activists along with the Iowa Federation of Humane Societies, Friends of Animals and Their Environment (in Minnesota), the Fund for Animals, and the Humane Society of the United States made sure the bills were killed.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

A restaurant in Coconut Grove, Florida, has been persuaded to do away with the Lobster Zone, a game in which patrons used a toy crane to grasp their dinner entree from a tank-a-lobster destined for the boiling pot. The Animal Rights Foundation of Florida wrote to the establishment in protest, to which the manager responded, "When you are right, you're right... We have removed the machine Lobster Zone from the premises."

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

A woman afflicted with vitiligo, a rare skin disorder that results in white patches due to loss of pigment, is speaking out against the National Vitiligo Foundation because it does not oppose animal research. Stelia Pavlides of Clearwater, Florida, has started her own organisation, the American Vitiligo Association, to sponsor only non-animal based studies of the condition. Yahoo News reported in August that her group had raised \$10,000 so far.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

The curtain fell on Bobby Berosini's orang-utan act at the Tropicana Hotel in Las Vegas after People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) alerted the hotel's management about the entertainer's history of animal abuse. Berosini, who had been caught on videotape in 1989 beating orang-utans in his care, had recently started using the endangered primates in photo sessions in the Tropicana's lobby. The group had planned to picket the hotel but cancelled the protest once the Tropicana announced the immediate cancellation of Berosini's act. PETA has filed for custody of the orang-utans with the Nevada State Supreme Court.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

Illinois Animal Action succeeded in convincing the organisers of the Taste of Glen Ellyn that including elephant rides in the town event was in poor taste. The rides were cancelled after the group fired off protest letters to the organisers, informed the police about the dangers to the public, garnered local headlines, and marshalled elephant advocates via action alerts.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

Fast-food chain McDonald's started offering meatless burgers last summer at outlets in New York City, and according to Farm Sanctuary, the vegetarian option is being met with 'rave reviews.'

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

In Massachusetts, animal advocates are cheering the passage of a new law that makes highways less hazardous for animals by requiring that they be safely restrained in



order to travel in the back of a pickup truck. Because the law primarily targets drivers who allow their dogs to ride loose in the bed of the truck, more canines are sure to be seen riding shotgun now.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

Prairie dogs in much of South Dakota's Buffalo Gap National Grasslands are no longer under siege from "varmint" hunters since the U.S. Forest Service, which manages the area, issued a cease-fire. The agency's decision followed a public outcry over the slaughter of thousands of prairie dogs on lands that are also home to the black-footed ferret and burrowing owl—both federally protected species. Although not every area is closed to prairie dog killing, most of the colonies are located in the regions where hunting was stopped. Meanwhile, the Forest Service continues to monitor the effects of shooting to determine if it should be banned throughout the park.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

No longer will the circus be coming to town in Azusa, California, after the city council voted to drop a Circus Vargus performance as its annual fundraising event. The decision to go with non-animal acts in the future marked the culmination of three years of opposition spearheaded by local activist Lucy Shelton. In Agawam, Massachusetts, New England Animal Action (NEAA) also met with success in making sure the Classic Circus Review would not be asked back for a repeat performance at the Riverside Theme Park. While the group protested outside the venue, NEAA President Peter Teraspulsy met with Riverside's marketing director, who assured him the park would not host the circus again. And in Wallkill, New York, animal acts suffered a near-fatal blow with the passage of a town ordinance banning physical contact between the public and large, exotic cats and bears. Yet the ban left out contact with elephants, a provision that Recognition of Animal Rights had pushed for, but the town board indicated it would consider adding other animals in the future.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

A former veterinarian with the Salk Institute won a \$4.7 million lawsuit after claiming she was fired for reporting animal abuse. Teresa Sylvina was hired by the research laboratory in 1990 to correct deficiencies in animal care. She claims she was fired in 1996 after exposing continued problems, and also reported sexual harassment and defamation. The Salk Institute denies the charges and is appealing the ruling, but is reportedly under investigation by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the National Institutes of Health.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus will pay \$20,000 to support elephant disease research and an elephant sanctuary as part of a "consent decision" with the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). The agency had

investigated Ringling Bros. for violations of the Animal Welfare Act after the death of a baby elephant in January last year. Although the circus neither admits nor denies any wrongdoing, the incident marks the first time that Ringling Bros. has paid a financial settlement related to violations of the Act.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

The sheriff of Guilford County, North Carolina, earned nationwide attention for unwanted animals when he televised the killing of a dog on his local "Sheriff's Beat" programme. After learning that 10,000 of the 13,000 animals brought to the county shelter were euthanized last year, Sheriff BJ Barnes chose this method of public education "out of frustration. The only thing I wanted to do was let people in Guilford County know they've got to do better." The former Marine devotes his weekly television show to a different topic each month, and chose August to promote spaying and neutering. His approach seems to have hit a nerve; as the morning after the first part of the programme was broadcast, people lined up at the shelter before it opened, and adoptions increased 300 percent.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

A New York man filed a \$30 million lawsuit against Wendy's for not disclosing that the dressing used in its vegetable pita sandwiches contained gelatine. Patrick Fish says the company engaged in false advertising and infringed on his religious civil rights as an ethical vegetarian when a Wendy's employee erroneously told him that his sandwich did not contain animal products. Wendy's spokesman Denny Lynch had no comment on the lawsuit, but claimed that because of complaints from vegetarians, the sauce is no longer made with gelatine.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

A poll taken by Vermonters For Banning Leghold Traps showed that 82.7% of Vermont people think the leghold trap was inhumane and 72.9% want it banned.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

Royal Palm Plaza, a shopping centre in Boca Raton, Florida, and the site of several demonstrations by the Animal Rights Foundation of Florida, no longer offers horse-drawn carriage rides and several cities across Florida, including Pompano Beach, Deerfield Beech, Treasure Island, Kenneth City and Panama City Beach, have either banned or severely restricted carriage horse operations.

*(Animals' Agenda, Sept/Oct '98)*

The US game show Jeopardy! Has stopped prize trips to the gruelling Iditarod sled-dog race (where dogs have died and collapsed from injuries and fatigue) and the producer has stated "We will continue to make every effort to be conscientious of animal rights in our future prize promotions.

*(Animal Times, Autumn '98)*



Strange Brew restaurant in Springfield, Ohio has banned fur coats.

*(Animal Times, Autumn '98)*

US Fur Apparel Imports declined 8.9% from 1996 to 1997. About 1350 retail furriers remain in business in the US, down from 2,400 in the mid eighties.

*(Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade (USA), 14/10/98)*

A major Chicago retailer has been dealt a blow by the Canadian government. Evans Furs, recognised as North America's largest fur company, has lost its insurability under Canada's Export Development Program. This means that fur wholesalers will not be insured against losses that could arise if Evans were to declare bankruptcy. The weak retail fur market caused the Canadian government to lose confidence in Evans Furs. This news came just as Evans was announcing a loss of nearly \$3 million dollars for the second quarter of their fiscal year. Earlier last year Andriana Furs, another prominent Chicago retailer, filed for bankruptcy protection. Andriana had to close 2 of their 3 Chicago area stores and has yet to emerge from financial turmoil.

*(Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade (USA), 14/10/98)*

Vice President Al Gore has announced a \$7.8 million plan to rebuild fresh water supplies in southern Florida and help restore the state's fragile Everglades ecosystem. The Florida Everglades, one of the nation's best-known wetlands, has been contaminated and threatened by decades of land development. The draft plan, developed by the Army Corps of Engineers, includes 60 steps to restore the Everglades.

*(Infobeat, 14/10/98)*

Fifty-six Boston Market chicken restaurants in Washington, Oregon and Idaho have had to close because the franchise owner could not obtain financing. The company said about 900 employees were laid off. Boston Chicken Inc. told the franchise owner, B-C Northwest L-P, it was no longer able to provide financial assistance. B-C Northwest said it sought other financing, but could find none.

*(XCTRX, 15/10/98)*

FMC Corp. has agreed to pay more than \$170 million, including a record penalty, to settle charges it repeatedly violated the hazardous waste law at its phosphorus production facility in Pocatello, Idaho. The U.S. Justice Department and the Environmental Protection Agency said the settlement included an \$11.8 million civil penalty, the largest under the federal resource conservation and recovery law. The government charged FMC, which makes chemicals and machinery, with placing hazardous phosphorus wastes in ponds, posing a potential threat to human life and the environment.

*(Infobeat, 19/10/98)*

The federal government is to join forces with Oregon in a new \$250 million project to protect state streams that are home to endangered species of salmon and trout. U.S.

Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman and Oregon Gov. John Kitzhaber have announced an agreement to restore as many as 100,000 acres of environmentally sensitive land along 4,000 miles of the state's streams. The agreement creates the Oregon Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, which will pay farmers an annual rental to take crop land along stream and river banks out of production and plant it with trees and grasses to reduce runoff.

*(Infobeat, 19/10/98)*

The federal government is also to protect streams in Washington state that are home to endangered species of salmon under the same project. As many as 100,000 acres of environmentally sensitive land along 3,000 miles of Washington's streams will be protected under the new programme. The government will pay for about 80% of the \$250 million cost of the programme over the next 15 years. The state and private landowners will pay the rest. The agreement creates the Washington Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, which gives farmers an annual rent to take crop land out of production and plant it with trees and grasses to reduce runoff.

*(Infobeat, 20/10/98)*

The US fur industry publication known as "Fur World" is in decline. Readership has fallen from 911 paid subscribers in 1997 to 785 today, according to a document the magazine was required to file with the US Post Office. Two years ago the publication came out weekly. Now it comes out only twice a month. Fur World had to merge with another magazine to save on overheads and then lost the editor who had been with it since its inception.

*(Coalition to Abolish the Fur Trade (USA), 30/10/98)*

California has moved to cancel the logging license for Pacific Lumber, the company at the centre of a battle over the future of the state's dwindling ancient redwood groves. The state Department of Forestry and Fire Protection said Pacific Lumber must halt all logging activities covered by its licence because of "continued violations of the state's forest practice rules." The termination order followed a series of fresh charges against Pacific Lumber, which won a conditional licence last year to log its 200,000 acres of forest after officials promised to stop practices that led to several environmental violations.

*(Infobeat, 11/11/98)*

On October 30th, North Carolina Governor James Hunt signed into law a new animal cruelty bill which prohibits live pigeon shooting contests.

*(Fund for Animals, 11/11/98)*

In Oregon, the Junction City Council has replaced a year-old ban on feeding feral cats with a more humane programme of spaying and neutering. The ban, imposed after business leaders complained about the exploding cat population, had gone mostly unnoticed until 65-year-old Juliana Keiser deliberately defied the law by feeding cats



in a downtown alley. After animal protection campaigners packed the courtroom and picketed City Hall, council members lifted the ban and authorised a group of them to trap the cats and have them inoculated, spayed or neutered, and then released. Under the new programme, the cats will be fed regularly.

*(Associated Press, 12/11/98)*

In October, New York's Court of Appeals overturned a lower court's decision by ruling that the State University of New York (SUNY) cannot withhold information about its source of dogs and cats used in experiments. SUNY officials fought against releasing the records in order to keep the identities of animal researchers secret from animal rights groups. Citizens for Alternatives to Animal Labs (CAAL) had sued the SUNY Health Science Centre in Brooklyn after several companion animals in the area were reported to have disappeared. Although there has been no evidence that SUNY obtained stolen 'pets,' CAAL intends to be sure by accessing the university's records. 'If there is pet theft, we're going to find out about it,' said CAAL's attorney, Elinor Molbegott.

*(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec '98)*

The number of deer hunters in Maine 25 has dropped to 150,000 - the lowest in 25 years - following a peak of 224,308 hunters in 1981. In Minnesota a poll conducted in October shows hunting and fishing are on the decline, largely due to busy lifestyles and shifting demographics. 'Animal rights activists are getting to urban kids more effectively than supporters of hunting are,' said a spokesperson for the National Shooting Sports Foundation.

*(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec '98)*

A Dallas gun club has been barred from holding pigeon shoots as a result of legal action taken by animal activists. In October, State District Judge John Marshall made permanent a temporary restraining order that was filed by the Flower Mound Humane Society and the Carrollton Nature Coalition to stop the club's shoot in August. Judge Marshall cited the club's violations of state anti-cruelty statutes, such as small cages, feed contaminated with droppings, and the way wounded birds were killed by having their heads torn off as the basis for the permanent injunction. Commenting on how the birds were kept, the judge said, 'if it were humans, it would be outrageous. It's no less outrageous for animals.' Although the club (which has held such shoots for decades) may appeal the decision, the ruling has already prevented thousands of pigeons from being killed. This is the first time that a permanent injunction has been implemented for the sake of pigeons that we know of," stated Lydia Nichols of Animal liberation of Texas.

*(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec '98)*

A student at Lawrence North High School in Indiana succeeded in getting several vegan items added to the lunch

menu earlier this year. Neil Ragsdale collected signatures from nearly 30 students willing to buy vegan meals in order to convince the town's director of food services that it was feasible to offer such options. In a letter to the group Vegan Outreach, Ragsdale wrote, 'Many more students and faculty members purchased the vegan lunch than the initial 30 who signed the petition.

*(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec '98)*

Nevada's Board of Wildlife Commissioners voted on September 26th to reject a hunter-backed proposal to create a hunting season for the state's 200-300 bears. Activists Linda Faso, Don Molde of the Nevada Humane Society, and others caught wind of the deadly plan just in time to ensure it was shot down.

*(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec '98)*

In September, housing officials in Westhaven, Connecticut, promised to stop the trapping of skunks near an apartment complex, following an outcry from animal advocates over a skunk caught in a box trap who was burned to death. An investigation, which offered a \$4,000 reward, led to the arrest of six people suspected of pouring lighter fluid on the skunk and setting the animal ablaze. 'I'm very pleased that they seemed willing not to do this (trapping) anymore,' said Laura Simon, urban wildlife director for the Fund for Animals.

*(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec '98)*

Fed up with tenants who left their animals behind after moving out, Dallas-based landlord Tawana Jurek amended the lease terms to better protect nonhuman residents. Now, renters at the more than 100 properties she oversees must agree to have their animals spayed or neutered and provide at least minimal standards of care, such as shelter and water-or face eviction. "Jurek Properties will not tolerate irresponsible pet ownership at [its] properties," states the lease. In a letter to The Animals' Agenda Jurek wrote, "if we can do this, so can other companies and leasing agencies."

*(Animals' Agenda, Nov/Dec '98)*

A new US law prohibits the sale, importation and exportation of products containing or purporting to contain tiger or rhino derivatives.

*(Care for the Wild News, Winter '98)*

Southwest Airlines have refused to transport animals in the cargo holds of its planes because it is "not... in the best interest of the animal." Animals flown in aeroplane cargo holds are often exposed to extreme weather conditions and painful jet noises.

*(Animal Times, Winter '98)*

Belks has closed the fur dept. in one of its North Carolina department stores following a campaign by Direct Action for Animals.

*(No Compromise, Winter '98/99)*



Revillon, the international fur chain, has closed its Beverley Hills location and Evans Furs has closed four of its fur depts. in several different department store chains.

*(No Compromise, Winter '98/99)*

Woodstream, the largest manufacturer of leghold and body gripping traps in the world, has stopped making fur traps after the Coalition to Abolish the fur trade called for a consumer boycott of houseware products made by Ekco, Woodstream's parent company.

*(No Compromise, Winter '98/99)*

A fox farm in Belle Plain, Iowa and a mink farm in Downers Grove, Illinois have both closed, the latter following an attack by the ALF.

*(No Compromise, Winter '98/99)*

Procter & Gamble cancelled a recruiting session at Cornell University, New York after AR activists stated they would be willing to risk arrest to drive the corporation from the campus. In previous weeks, activists had stormed a similar recruiting session and confronted P & G representatives at their table at the university's Corporate Career Fair.

*(No Compromise, Winter '98/99)*

Bans on fur trapping and the horse meat industry have been passed in California and cock fighting has been banned in Arizona and Missouri.

*(No Compromise, Winter '98/99)*

The number of people paying to get into the National Trappers Association's annual convention declined from 6,000 in 1997 to 4,400 in 1998, a loss of more than 25%.

*(No Compromise, Winter '98/99)*

A survey commissioned by Campaign for the Abolition of the Fur Trade (USA) has revealed that the majority of US consumers are concerned about fur production methods. 86% of those surveyed said they were "bothered" by the way animals are killed for their fur, and 59% said they would consider not shopping at department stores that sold fur. 59% also said they would not buy fur.

*(Anti-Fur News, Winter '98/99)*

The Burlington Coat Factory pulled hundreds of parkas from its stores after finding out they were trimmed with dog fur. The Humane Society of the United States objected after a report that there was an extensive international trade in pelts of domestic dogs. The supplier admitted the coats included fur from dogs in China.

*(Times, 12/12/98)*

Albany County, New York, has passed a resolution banning the use of leghold and body-gripping traps designed to restrain and kill raccoons, skunks, opossums and other wild animals on county property. Following the death of Valentine, a family's dog whose head got caught in a Conibear trap, the Fund for Animals, the Trail Users Group, the New York State Humane Association, and others pushed for the measure, which was introduced by county legislator

Paulette M. Barlette. Calling Valentine's death an unnecessary tragedy, Barlette also noted that it "brought about public awareness and instigated action."

*(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb '99)*

Kentucky's Morehead State University terminated plans to perform terminal surgeries on 18 dogs in a canine arthritis study under the school's veterinary technological programme. After the Humane Society of the United States' complaint to school officials garnered local media attention, a public outcry ensued.

*(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb '99)*

The Physicians Committee for Responsible Medicine (PCRM) recently announced victory in its campaign to end experiments on dog at the University of Miami School of Medicine. Responding to an ad placed by the group in the school's newspaper in early 1998 promoting non-animal methods, two medical students obtained PCRM's literature and video to persuade the physiology department faculty to forego using animal teaching models. Several months later, the institution joined the ranks of other enlightened medical schools (including Yale, Stanford, and Columbia) in opting for humane, high-tech alternatives to live animal tests.

*(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb '99)*

In keeping with the "season of goodwill," the Hillcrest Baptist Church in Chicago decided against including live animals in its nativity scene display this past Christmas. When church officials rented sheep, goats, a donkey, and a camel from a Wisconsin-based company for the biblical scene two Decembers ago (for the second year in a row), Illinois Animal Action began a successful letter-writing campaign to dissuade them from doing so again.

*(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb '99)*

In one fell legal swoop, North Carolina outlawed both pigeon shooting contests and greyhound racing, and upgraded animal cruelty to a felony offence. Working with state legislators, the Humane Society of the United States, North Carolina Network for Animals, the Fund for Animals, and local activists amended the state's existing cruelty statute to include pigeons and to deem "malicious" animal abuse a felony (making it the twenty-second state with felony cruelty laws). The law also pre-emptively bans live dog races and live broadcasts of such races from occurring in the state, which the racing industry had long set its sights on.

*(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb '99)*

Plans for a bison hunt in Wyoming were shot down when a federal judge sided with the Fund for Animals in its lawsuit to stop the killing. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Park Service, and U.S. Forest Service supported the state-sponsored hunt, claiming it was needed to thin the swelling herd and reduce the chance of bison spreading brucellosis to cattle. U.S. District Judge Ricardo Urbina ruled that the government agencies must first assess the



environmental impact before considering such a hunt, a decision that will likely delay the kill indefinitely.

*(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb '99)*

The American Fund for Alternatives to Animal Research is celebrating a breakthrough in eliminating use of the notorious LD-50 (Lethal Dose 50 Percent) test, which involves administering a substance to a group of animals until half of them die. A battery of in vitro tests are now available that have proven to be more accurate in predicting human lethal doses than their animal-based counterparts. This development marks, in part, the culmination of seven years of work by the Sweden-based Multicentre Evaluation of In Vitro Cytotoxicity Tests in evaluating hundreds of non-animal safety tests.

*(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb '99)*

U.S. government researchers have endorsed a new skin sensitivity test that involves fewer animals and less time and a life-size, computerised patient simulator is being used to study human drug reactions in place of animals at Penn State University's College of Medicine and elsewhere.

*(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb '99)*

The Council for Agricultural Science and Technology has determined that there is a growing concern in the United States about the welfare of animals raised for food. In its report "The Well-Being of Agricultural Animals," the council (an association of animal agriculture scientists and professionals) pointed to pro-animal developments in farming practices in the United Kingdom and the European Union as a sign that ethics will increasingly influence animal agriculture production methods in the United States.

*(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb '99)*

Last November California voters approved Proposition 4, which banned many forms of commercial, recreational, and regulatory trapping and poisoning, with a 57% majority.

*(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb '99)*

After a showdown between animal rights supporters and members of the pork industry, 167 abandoned pigs have found permanent sanctuary from slaughter. The pigs were being transported from a factory farm in North Carolina to a Pennsylvania slaughterhouse when the driver abandoned the trailer on a Washington, D.C., street, leaving the animals in the hot sun without water or basic care. Local residents notified the police and the Washington Humane Society, which seized the trailer. The pigs were towed to the Poplar Spring Animal Sanctuary in Maryland, where animal activists worked tirelessly throughout the night to remove the terrified animals from the trailer. The next day, agents from the Hanor pork company and their legal counsel arrived at Poplar Springs with local police to retrieve the pigs. Hanor's representatives were asked to provide a cash payment of more than \$10,000 to cover the costs associated with caring for the animals and in lieu of making the payment Hanor agreed to sign the pigs over to the sanctuary.

Authorities have decided not to bring criminal charges against the Hanor Company for abandoning the pigs, although the truck driver may face animal cruelty charges. Hanor's biggest penalty was the loss of the approximately \$14,000 market value of the pigs.

*(Animals' Agenda, Jan/Feb '99)*

Tandy Corp. has been forced to close all 120 of their Tandy Leather stores. In addition to a declining market for leather crafts, there has been a considerable amount of direct action taken against the stores by AR activists.

*(London AR News, Jan/Feb '98)*

## Special Appeal

The Animal Liberation Front Press Office would appreciate any spare change that you may have as they are short of funds. The purpose of the Press Office is to explain to the media why some people are prepared to break the law to help animals. Being independently run, donations are essential so that this important work may continue.

Please send cheques/POs made payable to 'ALF (Press Office)' to:

**Animal Liberation Front (Press Office)**  
BM 4400, London WC1N 3XX  
Tel: 01954 230 542

## Shock Dog Collars Banned

On the 13th March it was reported in the Daily Mirror that a police force had banned to the use of electrical collars to train dogs. After the paper revealed that animal welfare experts had condemned the Home Office-approved collars that give dogs a small shock, Humberside Police said it was suspending their use. A survey revealed that eleven forces use either the electrical collars or ones that force steel barbs into dogs' necks. Home Secretary Jack Straw is under pressure to outlaw both.

Humberside assistant Chief Constable Gordon Clark said: "In the light of public concern over the training of dogs, Humberside Police has decided to conduct a review." A police insider welcomed the news. He said, "I have seen shocks from these collars lift the dog upright onto its back feet." The National Canine Defence League praised the decision. It said: "Training should be based on praise and reward."





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# THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE TO CHILDREN AND ANIMALS & THE CYCLE OF ABUSE

Compiled by Robin Lane

## THE CYCLE OF VIOLENCE

Children learn from adult role models and the society they live in. A home of violence, abuse, or neglect produces children who may pass these behaviours on to the next generation, and so on.

Animals, especially pets, get caught up in this cycle of family violence:

- ◆ Women and children are sometimes intimidated into silence about sexual or other abuses through threats made toward a favourite pet
- ◆ Pets are sometimes hurt or killed to punish children for something they have done
- ◆ Abused children may act out aggression and frustration on a pet they perceive as even more vulnerable than themselves
- ◆ Physically or sexually abused children may kill their pets rather than have them hurt by the adult abuser in the home

In most cases, the animal is the last victim in a chain of abuse that filters down from the strongest family member to the weakest.

## **HOW DOES ANIMAL ABUSE AFFECT YOU?**

Violence towards animals springs from the same causes as violence towards humans. No longer can cruelty to animals be passed off as just a phase in childhood.

Research indicates:

- ◆ Young people who are cruel to animals are more likely to become aggressive toward humans as they develop
- ◆ Violent, imprisoned offenders have usually abused animals during their childhood
- ◆ Children raised with intense coercion may imitate this behaviour with animals and people
- ◆ Children learn cruel behaviours from adults and may re-enact them on animals.
- ◆ Children abuse animals to release the aggression they feel toward abusive adults or because of psychological trauma.

## **DOES CRUELTY TO ANIMALS LEAD TO CRUELTY TO PEOPLE?**

Research shows a strong correlation between substantial animal abuse in childhood and later personal violence to humans. This research should alert parents, social leaders, lawyers, and judges to the importance of animal cruelty as a potential indicator of disturbed family relationships and future aggressive behaviour towards humans.

- ◆ In a study of 57 families being treated for incidents of child abuse, 88% also abused animals. In two-thirds of the cases, it was the abusive parent who had killed or injured animals to control a child. In one-third, the children had abused the animals, using them as scapegoats for their anger.
- ◆ In a study of imprisoned sexual-murderers (all men), researchers found that 36% had abused animals in their childhood and 46% in adolescence.
- ◆ In a study using a sample of 64 men, 48% of convicted rapists and 30% of convicted child molesters admitted to cruelty to animals during their childhood or adolescence.

Dogs are the most common target of abuse, and when combined with cats, these domestic animals composed the vast majority of victims. Almost all of these animals are owned and females are the majority of complainants. Those suspected of abusing animals are almost always young males, and most of the time they allegedly shot, beat, stabbed, or threw their victims. Reportedly, adults were more likely than children to abuse dogs, and to abuse them alone rather than within a group. Young offenders were more likely to abuse cats, and to beat them while an adult is present.

## **WHAT CAN WE DO?**

We can report animal and child abuse whenever we become aware of it.

We can also encourage others to become familiar with the link between cruelty to animals and family violence and to support organisations that protect animals and children such as the **American Humane Association**.

## **THE CYCLE OF ABUSE**

Humans objectify animals due to their different body forms and different abilities (thus equating them to the body) and label them as "others". Since they lie in the "others" category, people feel they can use them instrumentally as beauty possessions (fur coats, leather belts, cosmetic products), forms of entertainment (carnivals, rodeos, horse racing, zoos, hunting, and tools of education (victims of dissection and vivisection research). To continue the cycle, they are fragmented: called spare ribs, pork chops, breasts, wings and then end the cycle by literally consuming them.

Thought provoking statistics were published in an "Animal People" newsletter. A study was carried out in Toledo, Ohio, which found that the number of hunters in a country more accurately predicts the level of abuses of physical violence, neglect, sexual and child abuse than either the population density or median income. One possible explanation for this association is offered: that hunting or learning to hunt may somehow produce abusive personalities. Dominionism is the common link between hunting and child/women abuse. Thus, the incidents of these forms of abuse are found to increase with the percentage of dominionistic men (in the hunting population).

Such a clear connection may unfortunately not be this simple. Nevertheless, a link exists between the treatment of women/minorities and the treatment of non-human animals. The mind which tends to objectify "others" (whether a person of different colour, different sex, different sexual orientation or different species) is one step closer to fragmenting these populations in order to "use" them for personal benefit or to ultimately consume them.

*Sources: Christina M. Kennedy / Robin Lane / Feminists for Animal Rights / Psychologists for The Ethical Treatment of Animals / American Humane Association*

## **Buddhism and Animals** A New Book

The first book of its kind, **Buddhism and Animals** is a profound and stimulating exploration of the congruence between the teachings of the Buddha (in both the Pali and Mahayana Scriptures) and the tenets of Animal Rights.

Readable, informative and thoroughly referenced, **Buddhism and Animals** presents a compelling Buddhist vision of the sacredness of all life and the consequent need for a lifestyle embracing veganism and one opposed to hunting and vivisection.

Serious Buddhist scholars have praised the author Dr. Tony Page's analysis of a highly topical subject. With the recent steady growth of both the Buddhist and the Animal Rights Movements, Dr. Page's book is timely and well worth

## **SEXCRIME**

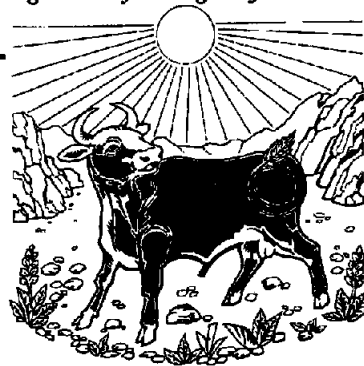
### **THE LINK BETWEEN THE EXPLOITATION OF WOMEN AND THE EXPLOITATION OF ANIMALS**

The connection between the treatment of women and the treatment of animals is evident in pornography. For example, it is often the case for batterers/rapists to force sex between animals and their female victim. Often men who have been prosecuted for sex crimes will have started their abuse in acts of torturing animals. In pornography, women will be depicted in animalistic/submissive positions (doggy style), having chains, collars, whips, cattle prods, hooks, etc. used on them. They may be held by a leash and raped from behind.

### **BESTIALITY**

A similar connection is seen with the male fascination with bestiality. An underworld exists within the sex industry where animals are forced to have sex with women and where men have sex with animals. A world where women are raped by animals and animals are raped by men. The animals used in this way are usually dogs, horses and sheep but almost all animals are abused including snakes, pigs, hens and even fish.

Our culture is intrigued with domination and control as seen through our high incidence of animal exploitation, rape, child abuse and murder.



supporting. It is vital that Buddhists be encouraged to support the Animal Rights philosophy of their Founder and thus add their voice to the growing number of compassionate people who wish to see an end to all animal exploitation and abuse.

To order a copy of the book you should send a cheque for £7.00 (payable to "UKAVIS") to:

**Distribution Co-ordinator  
UKAVIS, PO Box 4746,  
London SE11 4XF**



## News from India

Beauty Without Cruelty (India), was established in Pune on 12th September 1974. BWC Centres now operate in Bangalore, Calcutta, Mumbai, New Delhi and Varanasi.

With specific goals in mind BWC has sincerely carried out its work while keeping a low profile. Most tasks undertaken have been difficult, often seemingly impossible to achieve but frustration has never made them give up. Sticking to facts, a persistent follow-up and constantly looking for new ways to achieve their aims have led to success in many instances. The organisation produce a very informative magazine "The Compassionate Friend" which highlights the cruelty against animals and how people can help to stop it. A 20 minute film has been produced on 35mm, 16mm and video so that people can be made aware of the suffering and death inflicted upon animals for the luxury trades in India. The video cassette is available in both Hindi and English and contains two other films entitled "What price beauty" and "Ivory Poachers".

### Some Successes

- In spite of legislation against the use of live bait, BWC found that the Government was using live bait as prey for carnivorous animals. On several occasions a strong protest was lodged, resulting in an assurance given that the practice of using live bait would be discontinued.
- BWC persuaded the Government to ban the use of live hare coursing in Punjab.
- A persistent follow-up by BWC resulted in revealing the illegality of the Elephant Show (a circus within a sanctuary) at Mudumalai, and in 1998 the Government ordered it to be immediately stopped.
- BWC was one of the first organisations which during the 1980s seriously took up the issue of dissection in educational institutions. Finally, in response to a petition supported by BWC and other organisations, a Delhi High Court judgement received in May 1997 ruled that school students have a right of choice whether or not to dissect living creatures.
- For the first time ever in order to bring down the demand for animal products and not put seized wildlife

items back into circulation, BWC in collaboration with the Chief Wildlife Warden, Delhi and the Government of India organised a bonfire in 1991 when goods worth Rs. 7,000,000/- were destroyed.

● In 1994, BWC convinced the Central Board of Film Certification to censor certain parts of the film Betaaj Badshah in which the mouth of a leopard had been stitched up for a performance.

● BWC has, at present, 6,500 members and would like to hear from anyone who would like to join in their campaign. They provide their magazine free of charge but would appreciate donations to cover postal costs (particularly from outside of India).

**Beauty Without Cruelty  
(BWC)  
4 Prince of Wales' Drive,  
Wanowire, Pune 411 040,  
India.**

**Tel: +91.20.840321**

**Fax: +91.20.840312**

**e-mail:**

**bwcindia@giaspn01.vsnl.net.in**

**web: http://**

**members.tripod.com/**

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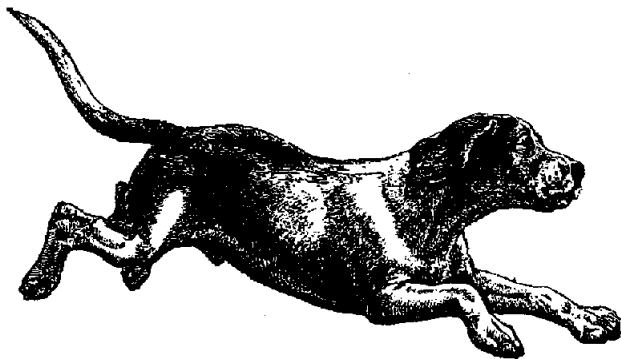
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or e-mail us on: [ethicalwares@veganvillage.co.uk](mailto:ethicalwares@veganvillage.co.uk)



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## A Brief History

In 1835, the British Parliament outlawed bull baiting, a sadistic gambling game in which bulldogs were used to attack and harass bulls brought to market with the dubious intention of tenderising the flesh. The dog would assault the bull, avoid the stomping hooves and slashing horns, grab a tender nose or ear, and hang on until the bull collapsed. The public and royalty alike attended these bloody spectacles until an outcry forced Parliament to take a stand.

Once bull baiting was banned, dogs were bred especially for fighting. Dog breeders began with the bulldog, mixed in some terrier blood and produced the Bull and Terrier, a dog that met all of their expectations; the Bull and Terrier was bred for aggression to other dogs.

## What is Dog Fighting?

Dogfighting is a sadistic 'contest' in which two dogs, specifically bred and trained to fight, are placed in a pit (generally an area enclosed by plywood walls) for the purpose of attacking and mauling each other to earn money for their owners and entertain spectators. Fights average nearly an hour in length and often last more than two hours. Dogfights end when one of the dogs is no longer able or willing to continue.

The injuries inflicted and sustained by dogs in dogfights are frequently severe, even fatal. The American pit bull terriers, commonly used for fighting, have extremely powerful jaw muscles and are able to take hold with their front teeth while chewing away with their rear teeth. This produces severe bruising, deep puncture wounds, and broken bones. Dogs who survive a fight often die of blood loss, shock, dehydration, exhaustion or infection hours or even days after the fight.

Other animals are often sacrificed as well. Owners often train their dogs for fights using smaller animals such as cats, rabbits, or small dogs. These 'bait' animals are often stolen pets or animals obtained through 'free to good home' advertisements.

# Dog Fighting

## Other Concerns

The numerous raids carried out against dogfighting have unearthed many disturbing facets of this illegal 'sport'. Young children are often allowed or forced to watch, which promotes an insensitivity to animal cruelty, and an enthusiasm for violence. In the US, firearms and other weapons are quite common at dogfights because of the large amounts of money present. The fact that the dogs used have been bred for many generations to be dangerously aggressive causes concern for the safety of children and companion animals.

## Help Prevent Dogfighting

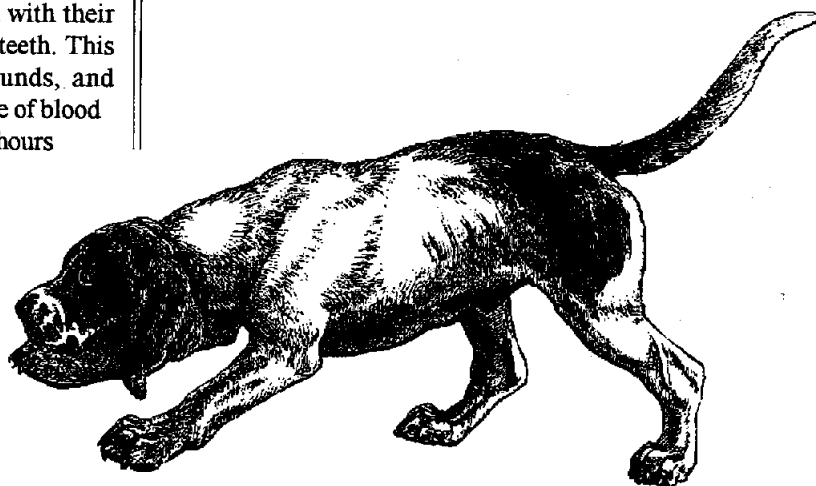
In the USA, The HSUS are encouraging the Government and law enforcers around the country to make both dogfighting and spectating an illegal act. Since 1975 forty-three states have made dogfighting a felony offence. Whilst dogfighting is illegal in the UK it still takes place. If you know of dogfighting taking place then report it immediately.

The Humane Society of the United States can be contacted at:

2100 L St. N, Washington, DC 20037, USA  
web: <http://www.hsus.org>

Other information concerning dogfighting and how to prevent it can be obtained on the website:

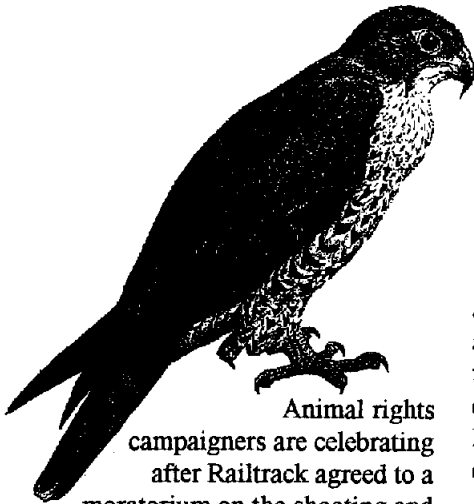
<http://ps.ucdavis.edu/grads/mji/emmal/violence.html>



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# PIGEONS SAVED IN CULL MORATORIUM

The National Anti-Hunt Campaign



Animal rights campaigners are celebrating after Railtrack agreed to a moratorium on the shooting and poisoning of pigeons at 14 main-line London train stations.

The National Anti-Hunt Campaign and the Pigeon Control Advisory Service (PICAS) have been jointly lobbying the company after the NAHC received a tip off about alleged imminent plans to shoot pigeons at London's Victoria Station.

Culling, in the form of poisoning and, most recently shooting, has taken place every six to twelve months at the station, according to Railtrack spokesman Kevin Grobes, although he later claimed at a meeting with a PICAS representative that the last shoot was three years ago. Campaigners argued that the fact that Railtrack still considered pigeon numbers to be a problem after years of lethal culling - Railtrack claims it receives ten complaints a week from customers - illustrates the abject failure of such techniques.

"We have tried other techniques including netting and wooden owls, but they have not been effective", claimed Mr Grobes, but NAHC spokesman Peter Ward believes that such alternatives represent just a tiny proportion of the "vast and flexible" range of humane measures now available. "Scientific studies have proved lethal culling does not provide a long-term reduction in bird numbers and indeed may, by rejuvenating the flock, even lead to an increase in numbers. Numerous local authorities

and other bodies have recently abandoned the use of lethal culling techniques after considering this evidence and the range of more humane control techniques which now exist."

The NAHC alerted Britain's leading specialist in the field of pigeon control, Guy Merchant of PICAS, who held a lengthy meeting with Railtrack representatives and outlined alternatives available to them. The most suitable technique in this situation, he suggests, is to fly a specially trained bird of prey in the station to deter pigeons from the area. "We are not talking about falconry here", emphasises Mr Merchant. "Falconry is a despicable bloodsport and neither we nor the NAHC would ever condone its use. The companies we recommend use birds which have been carefully trained not to attack the pigeons." The pigeons, of course, don't know this and soon learn that there are far safer places to roost and feed.

Railtrack bosses, say Mr Merchant, were impressed. "Pigeons can be a pain and it is understandable that they want to minimise inconvenience to the public," he acknowledged. "The trouble is that many people assume the only way to reduce numbers is to kill them. This argument may sound logical but it is in fact simplistic and scientific evidence has demonstrated that it is entirely false. Many companies and councils have culled for years and found that numbers have not decreased but have then solved the problem by switching to alternative methods."

Two weeks after the NAHC had first become aware of plans to cull, Railtrack's Marketing Manager Craig

Donohue announced to Guy Merchant that the company would try humane alternatives. "I would be willing to commit that no culling of pigeons would take place whilst we are working to provide suitable alternatives", he pledged, adding that "subject to tolerable levels of nuisance being achieved, we would accept as policy within Railtrack Major Stations that we will only use humane methods." Such a policy would be recommended "as best policy throughout Railtrack."

Mr Ward said that both organisations were delighted with the outcome and were confident that, once Railtrack had tried alternative methods, they would never need to cull again. "Rail stations are the biggest killers of pigeons in Britain," he said, "so the significance of this decision should not be underestimated. We congratulate Railtrack on its compassionate stance and call on other private and public bodies to follow suit."

For further information please contact:

**Peter Ward on  
01 442 240246  
Guy Merchant on  
01234 340514**



# McLIBEL APPEAL - MORE McAGONY

Further defendants' victories on McDonald's nutrition and employment practices

## FOR THE FAST FOOD GIANT

The verdict for the McLibel Appeal was handed down on Wednesday 31st March, in Court 1 at the Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand. There was a lively celebration picket by supporters outside the Court.

In their verdict, Lord Justices Pill, May and Keane added to the damning findings of fact made by the original trial judge, Mr Justice Bell, against McDonald's core business practices. They ruled that: it was fair comment to say that McDonald's employees worldwide **'do badly in terms of pay and conditions'** [Appeal Judgment p247], and true that **'if one eats enough McDonald's food, one's diet may well become high in fat, etc., with the very real risk of heart disease.'** The Lord Justices went on to state that this last finding **'must have a serious effect on their trading reputation since it goes to the very business in which they are engaged. In our judgment, it must have a greater impact on the respondents' [McDonald's] reputation than any other of the charges that the trial judge had found to be true'**. [Judgment p264]

On June 19th 1997, after a 314-day trial - the longest in English history - in which the defendants had been denied Legal Aid and their right to a jury trial - Mr Justice Bell had ruled that **"various of McDonald's advertisements, promotions and booklets have pretended to have a positive nutritional benefit which their food (high in fat & salt etc) did not match"**; that McDonald's **"exploit children"** with their advertising strategy, are **"culpably responsible for animal cruelty"** and **"pay low wages, helping to depress wages in the catering trade."** Significantly McDonald's did not appeal over these damning rulings against them, stating that the Judge was **'correct in his conclusions'** [McDonald's written submissions 5.1.99].

The Appeal Court also stated that it had **'considerable sympathy'** with the defendants' submissions that the leaflet meant **'that there is a respectable (not cranky) body of medical opinion which links a junk food diet with a risk of cancer and heart disease'**, that **'this link was accepted both in literature published by McDonald's themselves and by one or more of McDonald's own experts and in medical publications of high repute'**, and that therefore **'that should have been an end of this part of the case'** [p169]. However they ruled that their hands were tied by a procedural technicality so the appeal didn't succeed regarding the **'cancer' issue**. [p170-2].

As a result of their further findings against the Corporation, the three Lord Justices reduced Mr Justice Bell's award of

£60,000 damages to McDonald's (who'd spent an estimated £10m on the case) by £20,000. However, it is an outrage that McDonald's has been awarded any damages at all in the light of all the serious findings made against the company. No sanctions have been taken against the company, despite these findings.

Despite strong arguments by the Defendants, the Court of Appeal has failed to provide any real protection for the public's right to scrutinise and criticise companies whose business practices may affect people's lives, health and environment. The court ruled out the submission by the McLibel 2 that multinational corporations should no longer be able to sue for libel over public interest issues, stating that although **'that may be seen as an argument of some substance'** they rejected it [p287]. Their view was that it was a matter for parliament, and **'a course which is not open to us'** [p23]. Helen and Dave intend to appeal over these and other points to the House of Lords, and then take the UK Government to the European Court of Human Rights if necessary.

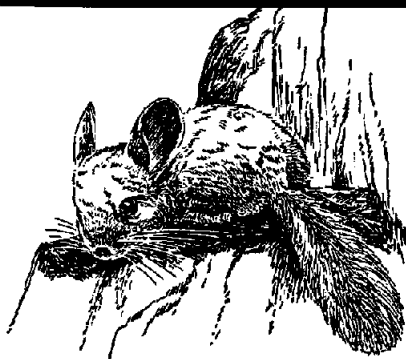
The Appeal began on 12th January 1999 and lasted 23 days in court, ending on 26th February. Helen Steel (33) and Dave Morris (45), representing themselves, challenged the use of libel laws as a form of mass censorship, and argued for the overturning of the parts of the original verdict which went against them in the controversial case brought by the McDonald's Corporation.

Channel 4 news said at the end of the original trial that the case would go down as **'the biggest Corporate PR disaster in history'**. McDonald's aim of suppressing the **'What's Wrong With McDonald's?'** leaflets has spectacularly backfired, with over 3 million handed out in the UK alone since the writs were served, 400,000 in the weekend after the verdict - and they are now being distributed worldwide. The **'McSpotlight'** website containing over 20,000 files about McDonald's & McLibel has been accessed over 65 million times.

Note: Background information on the case, verdict and appeal is available from the McLibel Support Campaign, or by visiting the McSpotlight website.

McLibel Support Campaign  
5 Caledonian Road, London, N1 9DX, UK  
Tel. / Fax 0171 713 1269  
e-mail: [mclibel@globalnet.co.uk](mailto:mclibel@globalnet.co.uk)  
web: [www.mcspotlight.org](http://www.mcspotlight.org)

# The Plight of the Chinchilla



Chinchillas, which are from South America, look like a rabbit/squirrel cross with deep fur and a long tail. Native to the rocky Andes, they were mass slaughtered for fur in the 1800s and then domesticated and farmed in the 1900s. Today in the wild they are on the brink of extinction. Chinchillas are now farmed intensively for both fur and pet trades. At present there are no appropriate laws to protect them. British units hold up to 400 animals, producing 600 offspring yearly. It takes 150 Chinchillas to make one full length coat.

Commercially, deprived of nest boxes, gnawing material and exercise, females are kept in rows of barren metal cells 1 foot square, stacked up to 3 cages high. Prevented from leaving by permanent neck collars, breeding stock can spend 15 years or more incarcerated in these tiny spaces (only a couple of times their own length), until, when finally worn out from numerous pregnancies, their necks will be broken and their place taken by the next victim in this miserable mass production system. Most males, and surplus females, will be killed for fur at about eight months old. Inferior animals are sold to pet shops who, knowing little about their very specialised needs, pass them on to equally ignorant owners. Poor breeding practices have also contributed to a now widespread malocclusion problem, which is when grotesquely overgrown teeth piece eye sockets, cheeks and jaws. Sadly there is unheeded suffering in all directions for the little publicised Chinchilla.

## Chin Up Sanctuary

Lee Campbell, who runs Chin Up Sanctuary, started out as an ordinary pet owner. Innocently searching for information on her Chinchilla, she found herself suddenly in touch with the money motivated world of polygamous breeding units. Totally horrified by what she saw and unable to turn away she vowed to campaign for public awareness of the Chinchillas plight. In 1991, Chin Up was founded. The sanctuary takes in sick, abused or unwanted Chinchillas, plus legally rescued animals from the polygamous units Lee would like to see outlawed. It also campaigns through the media, welfare groups and leaflets, on behalf of the animals it can't personally help.

## How you can help

To care for present and future rescues, and to achieve its aims, Chin Up desperately needs your help. Donations are needed for feeding, housing and veterinary care and are always very gratefully received.

Another way that you can help is by writing to your MP and newspapers decrying the Chinchillas' plight and to send for a petition form against polygamous breeding.

**Chin Up Sanctuary**  
Gwernallt Bungalow, Llanarmon, Chwilog,  
Pwllheli, Gwynedd, Wales LL53 6SW  
01766 810799  
(8pm-10pm only)

## Horse & Pony Sanctuary

We have for some time been working to improve the lot of some forgotten working animals in Britain. We thought we were slowly moving along with our campaign. However, we seem to have hit a brick wall. The last few remaining Pit Ponies still toil daily in Wales with no sign of ever stopping. In fact recently a new owner of an old colliery workings with a long history of working horses, who wants to open new workings into large coal reserves, told me of his plans to start to use two Pit Ponies underground in his expanding colliery. It will be the new century shortly and yet ponies are still working in coal mines. We recently handed in a petition to 10 Downing Street with 44,000 signatures calling for an end to this practice. The Government's response has not been encouraging.

Please help us to outlaw the use of Pit Ponies by writing to the Home Office and the media. If you need further information, feel free to contact us.

Our sanctuary provides tender loving care to needy horses and ponies. To raise much needed funds we have merchandise available and welcome donations of used stamps (picture and foreign stamps in particular), ink jet cartridges, spare change, and bric a brac (especially ornaments, china, etc): Voluntary help is greatly appreciated.

We are open to visitors:

**Sunday: 10am-4pm**

**Weekdays: 10am-2pm**

*(Closed Saturdays)*

**Adults £2.00**

**OAP/Children £1.00**

**or £5 per full car**

*(please phone before you visit)*

We can be contacted at:

**Fforest Uchaf Farm,**  
Penycoedcae, Pontypridd, Mid  
Glamorgan, Wales CF37 1PS  
Tel: 01443 480327

e-mail: [ponies@demon.co.uk](mailto:ponies@demon.co.uk)  
web: [www.ponies.demon.co.uk](http://www.ponies.demon.co.uk)



# YOU BET THEY DIE

*Support the campaign against greyhound racing!*

Every year in Britain and Ireland 30,000 greyhounds enter racing and 30,000 others end their racing lives.

The 30,000 greyhounds that are surplus to the racing industry are more likely to end their days, not in front of a warm fire, but drowned, poisoned, beaten to death, starved, dumped on the streets or impounded and destroyed.

Greyhound puppies are killed if they fail to reach racing standard. Around two thirds are deemed fit, while the other third will put to death before they reach a year old.

10,000 of the 20,000 Irish greyhounds who make the grade each year are exported to race on British tracks, where Irish bred greyhounds make up 75% of the total greyhound population.

Substantial numbers of greyhounds are exported to Spain for exhibition racing. Conditions in some Spanish kennels are appalling and many greyhounds are locked up 23 hours a day.

In the Spanish region of Andalusia many greyhounds from Britain and Ireland end up being used by local people for hunting and coursing. A considerable number of these greyhounds do not have the stamina for this and many are killed by being hanged by the neck in trees as a cheap method of disposal. Some have also been found burned and skinned.

The natural life-span of a greyhound is about 14 years, but the lives of most of those in racing end at 2 years old. Most greyhound owners and trainers, who are in the business to make a profit, are not prepared to pay the costs of allowing greyhounds to live out their natural lives. Many are not even

prepared to pay the price of having the dogs humanely put to sleep by a vet.

Ex-racing greyhounds are used in cruel experiments, both in this country and abroad. In 1994 there were 12 painful experiments using greyhounds in British laboratories.

## **GREYHOUND ACTION**

Greyhound Action was formed in 1997 with the ultimate aim of putting an end to greyhound racing. There are several other groups which are dedicated to finding homes for ex-racing greyhounds, but in practical terms it is only possible to re-home a very small percentage of the vast number of greyhounds disposed of every year by the greyhound racing industry. Therefore the total abolition of greyhound racing is the only real solution.

Greyhound Action is seeking to educate the public about the dark side of greyhound racing, so that support for this so-called "sport" withers away. We are also attempting to put pressure on the government to ban greyhound racing altogether. We know it will take a long battle to achieve such a ban, but it is not an impossible aim, as greyhound racing has been abolished in 6 states in the USA since 1993. As part of our campaign a petition calling for a ban on greyhound racing has been produced, as well as leaflets, factsheets, posters, badges and stickers.

## **GREYHOUND AWARENESS WEEK**

From the 22nd to 29th of May, Greyhound Action will be staging another Greyhound Awareness

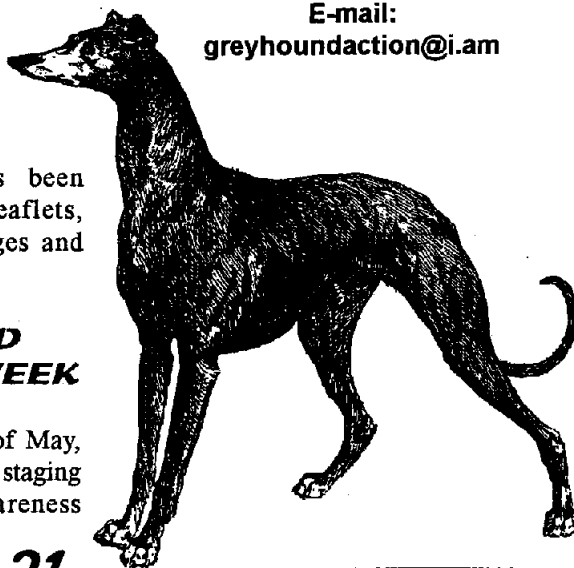
Week with the aim of educating the public not to support greyhound racing. Many local animal protection groups and concerned individuals will be taking part in this by doing street stalls, writing letters to newspapers and doing interviews in the local media. Leaflets will also be distributed to those attending greyhound races and betting shops.

Our first Greyhound Awareness Week, last May, was very successful with at least 20 local animal protection groups taking part in different areas of the country. This year we intend to make it an international event, with groups from other European countries, the USA etc. also getting involved.

If you would like to take part in Greyhound Awareness Week or to help the campaign against greyhound racing in any way, please contact us as soon as possible at the address below.

**Greyhound Action**  
P.O. Box 127  
Kidderminster  
Worcs. DY10 3UZ  
England

**Tel: 01562 745778**  
**E-mail:**  
[greyhoundaction@i.am](mailto:greyhoundaction@i.am)



**Arkangel 21**



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# A NEW WORLD ORDER

**T**he present money dominated, profit motivated, competitive civilisation spreading fast throughout the world is not sustainable; it is disrupting the life support systems of the planet. It is damaging the soil and jeopardising water supplies. It is polluting the air, the water, the soil. It is causing global warming that could have a variety of disastrous effects. It is causing holes in the stratospheric ozone layer that protects life forms from excessive ultraviolet rays. It is wasting non-renewable resources at a terrific rate.

The system is arousing a revolution in expectations that cannot possibly be satisfied. It is increasing the gap between the rich and the poor within and between nations. As the poverty becomes unbearable, as competition for resources grows ever more fierce, widespread social unrest, violence and war will become inevitable.

The cause of the mess we are in is human ignorance and lack of moral and spiritual development. Most people are ignorant of the way in which their physical needs can be met, sustainably and in harmony with the natural order. Increasingly people are being misled by the false doctrine that "a person's good consists of the number of things they possess", which is being spewed out continually by the mass media. They spend their energies trying to get more and

more money to get more possessions. They exert pressure on their children to compete in the money dominated system. Most of the more spiritually aware have succumbed to false narrow dogmas and the more concerned with their personal salvation than working for freedom, justice and equity for all.

## THE SOLUTION

The way out of our troubles lies in spreading Truth; spreading knowledge of human bodily needs based on sound research and experience, not on animal experimentation, knowledge of the essential nature of humankind. This will lead to the vegan diet, to vegan organic food production, reforestation and a world order based on compassion, co-operation and mutual service.

### 'A New World Order of Self Reliant, Tree Based, Autonomous, Vegan Villages'

is available price £1 (plus sae) from:  
**Movement for Compassionate Living**  
47 Highlands Road, Leatherhead,  
Surrey  
KT22 8NQ

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## 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. Arkangel Magazine is produced less frequently than the ALFSG information and could be out of date by the time you read it. Please write to any or all of the following people as news and contact with those on the outside is of great importance to those on the inside. Remember, all mail can be read by prison staff so don't write anything that may incriminate yourself or other people.

### UK

Sue Amoss, Mel Arnold, Liza Benzing,  
Robert Byott, Gamel Eboe, Paul Holliday,  
Barry Horne, Tony Humphries,  
David Lakeman, Peter Merson-Davies,  
Thomas Monaghan, Gillian Peachey,  
Lucy Richards, Karen Rodgers, Tim Senior and  
Geoff Sheppard.

### CANADA

Hilma Ruby and Pat Dodson.

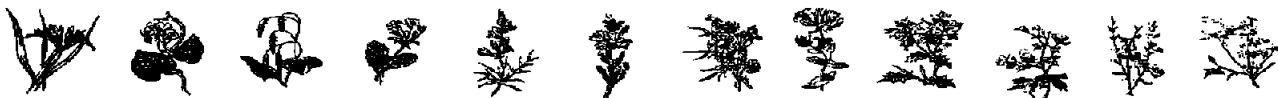
### US

Rod Coronado, Jacob Kennison,  
Brian Ozzie Knecht and Adam Troy Peace.

Up-to-date information on prisoners and ALF actions  
worldwide is available on:  
web: <http://www.animal-liberation.net/>

Further information regarding animal liberation,  
prisoners, etc. is available from:  
ALF SG, BCM 1160, London WC1N 3XX  
e-mail: [100302.1616@compuserve.com](mailto:100302.1616@compuserve.com)

Further information regarding vegan prisoner support:  
VPSG, PO Box 194, Enfield, Middlesex EN1 3HD  
0181 292 8325  
e-mail: [vpsg@cares.demon.co.uk](mailto:vpsg@cares.demon.co.uk)



# Vegan Families - Lesley's Story

Having my first child, Jonathan, was a big change in my life, in more ways than I expected. What I could not have predicted was the way I was suddenly cut off from all my like-minded friends in the local vegan group and animal rights movement. I was so used to regular contact with other vegans, until my son was born, and never could imagine not feeling part of a sort of community.

Few people really can know how miserable and depressed I felt because I was so alone with my experiences and the difficulties of coping with a crying baby and not much sleep. I was not suffering classic post-natal depression, it was simply that I am not good at coping with being cut off from everything that means so much to me. My expectation had been that we would have this huge substitute family, and therefore at least one regular willing babysitter, made up of the vegan friends we had already known for several years. Our real families live far away and are mostly meateaters.

In fact, we found ourselves no longer welcome, with a not always quiet small child, at the vegan group. It was just not a child-friendly group, and we found our long-standing friends unwilling or unable to change to accommodate us. Those I hoped might babysit, never did, and did not visit us either. I suspect none of them had a clue how trapped and lonely I was feeling. Other families we know have also found this group to be not very family-friendly. I do not feel that my old vegan friends are bad people, but they are possibly lacking in awareness of the needs of families.

I must add that my husband has been supportive, but he was always better than me at adjusting to parenthood, and we both agree that if I had his

earning power I would have been the one to be the family breadwinner.

Once family commitments cause you to drop out of animal rights, it is a fact that everyone forgets you, thinks you don't care any more, and no longer tries to involve you. However, I have not forgotten about animal rights, and try to be active in my own small way. It is easier to be an activist without children, with like-minded company, than having to explain to the headmistress and Parents' Association, why you object to a recent Pringles (made by vivisectors Procter and Gamble) promotional pack that was sent home with your child. I am always having to explain my veganism to the people around me, I rarely find any other parents living nearby who think the way I do. Despite this, I remain quite outspoken, because these other parents must be encouraged to think about the plight of animals. I intend to become more active in the movement as my two children get older.

A long time ago, I started thinking that many other vegan parents must feel the same isolation that I was experiencing. We had joined the Vegan Families Contact List, run by the Vegan Society. This is a list of vegan families willing to be contacted for mutual support, but it was only there on paper and nobody had started any groups, as far as I knew. There were quite a number in the London area on the list so I invited everyone to meet for a picnic in Hyde Park in Spring 1995. This was the start of the Vegan Families Group, which now runs regular children's picnics and parties for vegan families in London.

The Vegan Society helped to fund a party in January 1996 at Conway Hall and since then we have had picnics at

Highgate and Clapham Common, and parties mostly at Coram Fields. This is an excellent venue with a large outdoor playground. In September 1998 we took part in the National Vegan Festival and this party was in great demand.

The group has gone from strength to strength due to the commitment of a small number of vegan parents. The children have fun and we can all find friends and mutual support. Some families come occasionally from Wales and the Midlands, and children's ages range from babies to almost teens. Last Summer we held a vegan mums' meal out at the Windmill, in Fulham. They saved it from being a disaster when Gardners closed unexpectedly.

I really hope that more vegan families groups will start in other areas. There seem to be enough on the Vegan Families Contact List in Manchester to form a group, for instance.

I do still hear from vegan parents in more remote areas, experiencing real isolation, especially those living in farming communities, or those experiencing pressure from their doctors.

We would love to hear from any more vegan families who may like to meet others. Even if you live too far from London, send an SAE to the Vegan Society for their list of families and if you wish to be included on the list, send details such as names and dates of birth of children.

*Please contact me (Lesley Dove)  
at:*

**4, Wooster Mews,  
Harrow, HA2 6QS**  
*or phone 0181-861 1233  
if you would like to go on our  
children's party invitations list.*

## Vegan Families ~ Useful addresses:

**Vegan Society**  
7 Battle Road  
St Leonards-on-Sea  
East Sussex  
TN37 7AA  
01424 427393  
email: [info@vegansociety.com](mailto:info@vegansociety.com)  
web: [www.vegansociety.com](http://www.vegansociety.com)

**Campaign on Milk Tokens**  
71 Melrose Road  
Liverpool L4 1RP  
0151 476 1734  
Campaigning for the right to use  
milk tokens for vegan alternatives to  
dairy.

**The Informed Parent Group**  
PO Box 870  
Harrow HA3 7UW  
0181 861 1022  
web: [www.creation.1way.co.uk/](http://www.creation.1way.co.uk/)  
The Informed Parent  
support group for informed choice in  
vaccination.

**Vaccination Awareness  
Network**  
178 Mansfield Road  
Nottingham NG1 3HW  
0115 948 0829  
email:  
[info@vanuk.force9.co.uk](mailto:info@vanuk.force9.co.uk)  
web: [www.vanuk.force9.co.uk](http://www.vanuk.force9.co.uk)

**La Leche League (GB)**  
BM3424, London  
0171 242 1278  
web: [www.stargate.co.uk/lllgb/](http://www.stargate.co.uk/lllgb/)  
Breastfeeding mothers group.

**Natural Parent**  
4 Wallace Road  
London N1 2PG  
0171 354 4592  
Covers various health issues.

**Viva!**  
12 Queens Square  
Brighton BN1 3FD  
01273 777688  
email: [enquiries@viva.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@viva.org.uk)  
web: [www.viva.org.uk](http://www.viva.org.uk)  
Campaigning and youth education  
for animals and the environment.  
Promotes veggie/vegan lifestyle.

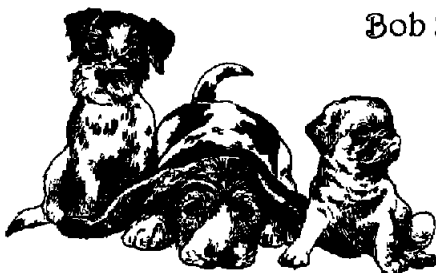


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We are extremely grateful to the following people  
who have made a donation of £4 or more to help us produce and distribute this magazine:

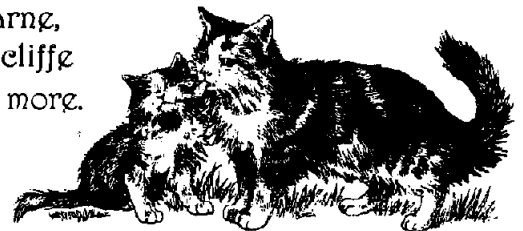
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who are all donating on a monthly basis by standing order.

## Mill Hill Anti-Vivisection Action

Mill Hill AVA is a new group that has been formed to campaign against experiments on animals undertaken at the National Institute of Medical Research (NIMR) in Northwest London. NIMR is the home of the Medical Research Council and is the most prestigious governmental laboratory in the UK. Over 200 scientists work there with a total budget of over £25 million per annum. The NIMR is notorious for the undercover investigation that took place there in 1989-90, which centred around 89 year old Professor William Feldberg's experiments on rabbits and cats.

Melody Macdonald and Mike Huskisson of the Animal Cruelty Investigation Unit succeeded in uncovering damning evidence of the most shocking cruelty on live, anaesthetised animals. Videotapes were made and when these were shown a huge public outcry ensued. Feldberg lost his licence. He had boasted on one of the tapes: "Look here, either I go on legally, if I am allowed, otherwise I go on illegally if I am not allowed, but go on I will." In fact he died an embittered man in December 1993 at the age of 93.

As a result of the expose a campaign was launched which resulted in many demos against the Institute, but in the early 1990s this lost momentum. Now Mill Hill AVA intends to step up the pressure again. We have held day, evening and all night vigils and the workers have been very defensive. Most walk or drive out without stopping, appearing ashamed and embarrassed. They are clearly under orders not to speak to us.

The demonstrations will continue and we are in the process of producing a special leaflet on this animal concentration camp, which will make everyone aware of what really goes on there - cruelty paid for out of taxpayer's money.

For more information contact:  
**Mill Hill Anti-Vivisection  
Action,**  
c/o LAA, BCM 2248,  
London WC1N 3XX  
Tel: 0181-203 2325  
e-mail:  
paul@londonaa.demon.co.uk

## Animal Cruelty Investigation Group

There are two broad categories of assistance that individuals can provide to the likes of the ACIG. These are fieldwork and support work, both are equally important.

### Fieldwork

This encompasses all work that is done out in the field where the cruelty occurs. The work can be divided into three broad categories: full undercover infiltration, semi-undercover infiltration and open observation. Individuals may specialise and choose to operate within one category only or they may switch categories from day to day, or even practice all three on a single day.

### Support

The ACIG needs continued financial backing from its many supporters if it is to continue working in the field and particularly for the group to extend and expand its work. Funds can be contributed directly by individuals, can be raised by sponsored events or can be raised by jumble sales, etc. The ACIG also benefits from donations of mint, unused, postage stamps, petrol coupons and store saving stamps, etc. Any unwanted items such as binoculars, cameras, computer equipment, landrovers etc are invaluable. Donations of professional expertise from electronic engineers, motor engineers, computer experts, builders or anyone else with a trade that they think may be of assistance will be most welcome. To expand the ACIG need to recruit new supporters as they are entirely dependent on your efforts to spread the word.

The ACIG produce informative guides that expose the horrors of bloodsports, vivisection, factory farming, zoos, circuses, the fur trade etc. Leaflets are also available. If you can help the ACIG expose animal cruelty in any way then please get in touch.

**Mike Huskisson,**  
**Animal Cruelty Investigation  
Group,**  
PO Box 8, Halesworth,  
Suffolk IP19 0JL  
01986 782280  
fax: 01986 782551

## Reply to Rabbix

by Edward Edwards A.D.

*In Arkangel 19, we published an article by Rabbix, entitled 'Violence is Wrong'. Rabbix criticised Edward Edwards A.D. for his views on violence. These are some of the points Edward raised in his response...*

A person going under the name of Rabbix has stated that all animal activists should be moving away from violence. There are two forms of aggression: Violence: the simple, instant action, the involuntary reflex movement where someone hits out in a burst of anger and there is the other form of aggression: VILENce: which is of a far more vicious nature. This form is planned in advance, in which every known weapon can be used and can subsequently lead to the murder of millions on the orders of others who give the signal to attack *en masse* or in groups with the intention of destroying the enemy. Of these two forms of violence, which is Rabbix referring to? One form of violence is carried out with a specific intention every now and again and the other is where millions are mass murdered legally. To work entirely within the law will not eliminate the second form of violence because it is carried out by a select grouping where only dedicated mass-murderers are allowed to join. These people are sponsored by Big Business and are given a permit to kill.

What cannot be condoned by any rational person / law is the VILENce carried out against others, which is quite different to the other form of violence. So that to work entirely within the law should be the aim of all those who oppose VILENce. However, you are not allowed to work 'entirely within the law'. This is because it is a select group who practice, and commit, the most hideous malevolent, vile aggression known which they incite others to attack. The important thing is to be fully aware of the laws and to understand them entirely. 99% of people have never seen the laws of which we are led to believe actually exist. In a democratic society it is our right to know.

# What the Papers Say

A Selection of Press Cuttings from the Past Few Months

## Extremist threat to royal fur shoppers as client list is stolen

THE CLIENT list of London's leading furriers has been stolen by animal rights extremists, raising fears for the safety of hundreds of customers, many of them rich and famous.

Names, home addresses and telephone numbers of fur customers are now in the hands of groups who have threatened them with a campaign of harassment.

Senior staff at Calman Links of Knightsbridge, who hold Royal warrants for the Queen and the Queen Mother, were in a crisis meeting with police today to decide on what action to take and what security advice they should give. The activists have already used the list to send a hoax bankruptcy notice to customers to cause maximum damage to the company.

In the hoax letter Calman Links appears to make a grovelling apology and ask customers to collect their coats by tomorrow when they are due to cease trading.

It reads: "We regret to inform you that our entire client list has been obtained by animal rights extremists. This was as a result of total neglect and incompetence on our part for which we humbly

by PATRICK MCGOWAN

apologise." At the shop today a senior manager said: "We are not closing down, definitely not. You can have that in black and white. We have a crisis on at the moment and we are trying to sort it out with police and our customers."

The animal rights group Fur-Free London claimed today the client list had been obtained "by an internal source". The group issued a statement saying: "Full details of the fur owners, including information about the furs they own, have already been circulated around the radical animal rights movement, and they can expect letters and calls of protest to arrive before too long."

Customers of Calman Links fear they may have to put up with more than just threatening phone calls. As the Fur-Free statement makes clear the list has been widely circulated throughout the movement. While the vast majority of protesters use peaceful means, the movement has at its fringes extremists who would not be out of place in a terrorist organisation.

In the past shops have been fire-

bombed and bombs have been placed under cars. Even firms operating milk tankers have been targeted.

Calman Links customers were horrified to learn their names had been leaked. One woman from south-west London said: "I feel completely helpless. I have just one coat which the company has had in cold storage for me for about 10 years. I never wear it anyway because of the looks I get."

A Home Counties businesswoman said: "These people really are pathetic. I bet nearly all of them walk round in leather shoes."

"But they have shown that they can do awful things. It is awful not knowing if my home, my business or my car is going to be targeted."

Today a procession of women in fur-trimmed coats arrived at Calman Links. Manager John Gratter said: "The letter is a complete hoax. I think it is a very small number of customers who have been contacted, about 70 to 80."

Jan Brown, a spokesperson for the British Fur Council, said: "There is a fundamental principle here that everybody has the right to go about their business free from intimidation and harassment."

## RSPCA fights motorbikes for hamsters

By Tarquin Cooper

A HAMSTER-powered toy motorbike, which allows the rodents to climb inside the front wheel and travel at speeds of 60 inches a second, has been criticised by the RSPCA.

The organisation has described the toy as unsuitable because it causes injuries. But Peter Doldings, who sells them in his pet shop Doolittles in Kent, said: "They love getting the exercise."

Jacky Laurie, regional manager of the RSPCA's south-east division, said the devices were inappropriate for small animals. "There has been lots of publicity about hamsters breaking their legs on wheels."

She added: "I personally don't like wheels in cages either because my feelings are they are totally inappropriate to buy as presents for small animals and far from their natural habitat."

Mr Doldings said: "It's an American product which has just been bought into the country. They're retailing at about £13. You put a wheel in the cage and two hamsters will squabble over it."

"We recommend they should only be allowed to use the bikes for up to 10 minutes at a time to prevent them becoming disorientated."

"We would make sure the people who bought them were responsible people. We wouldn't sell them to children who came in on their own."

Mrs Laurie suggested to anyone wishing to see their hamster on a spinning wheel, that it was far better and safer to compromise and use either "foo rolls or tubes".

evening standard 16.11.98

## Trainer videotaped 'abusing animals'

CIRCUS trainer Mary Chipperfield was accused of taking part in a catalogue of neglect and abuse against the animals in her care when she appeared in court yesterday.

The 61-year-old, along with her husband Roger Cawley, 64, deny cruelty charges relating to the care of animals at their winter training quarters near Andover, Hampshire.

The court heard how two members of the charity Animal Defenders secretly filmed the alleged abuse at Mary Chipperfield Promotions Ltd between October 1997 and January last year.

Charles Gabb, prosecuting at Andover magistrates court, outlined a catalogue of "neglect and gratuitous violence" said to have been carried out by the couple and one

by GRAEME PATERSON

of their employees. Video footage played in court included scenes of Chipperfield, who gave her name in court as Mary Cawley, beating an 18-month-old chimpanzee called Trudy with a riding crop.

For several minutes, the animal appeared to scream in distress as she tried to coax it into its cage. In another shot, she was seen to kick the chimpanzee.

Mr Gabb told the hearing how the chimpanzee was left alone to sleep in a dog box in a dark barn with no toys. He also said that elephants at the farm, in Middle Wallop, Hampshire, were never bathed or taken outside.

The trial was adjourned to today.

East Anglian Daily Times 20.1.99

# Terror law to curb the animal fanatics

ANIMAL rights extremists, Islamic fundamentalists and even hardline anti-abortion campaigners face curbs on their activities under proposed new anti-terrorism laws.

Home Secretary Jack Straw wants current provisions extended to include any fanatics using serious violence to further their aims.

Membership of such groups could become illegal, in the same way that the IRA and its splinter groups are currently proscribed organisations under the Prevention of Terrorism Act, he revealed yesterday.

The definition of terrorism is to be widened to include any serious violence, including acts of disruption, 'in order to promote political, religious or ideological ends'. Currently only violence for political ends is defined as terrorism - effectively limiting it to

By SONIA PURNELL  
Whitehall Editor

Irish paramilitaries. Under Mr Straw's proposals, perpetrators will be subject to the full powers of arrest, detention, surveillance and sentencing deployed against paramilitaries.

'Our counter-terrorist provisions would for the first time apply to what we call domestic terrorism as well as Irish and international terrorism,' said the Home Secretary.

He is proposing a permanent law, unlike the Prevention of Terrorism Act, which needs to be renewed annually by Parliament.

But some of the most controversial existing measures, such as exclusion orders which can be used to prevent suspected terrorists travelling between Britain and Ireland, would go.

Mr Shaw's plans were unveiled in a consultation paper which specifically refers to animal

rights militants and even Scottish and Welsh nationalist extremists.

Animal rights activists, for instance, were behind more than 800 attacks on chemists, doctors, furriers and others last year, causing injury and millions of pounds' damage.

Scots nationalist extremists have been responsible for 40 incidents in the past five years

## 'Only the violent will be targeted'

including letter bombs and bomb hoaxes.

Mr Straw also warned anti-abortion extremists that if they import the violent practices of militants in America - who have murdered doctors and bombed clinics - they will be treated as terrorists.

He pointed to the rise religious

fanaticism, such as Islamic extremism and the release of deadly nerve gas on the Tokyo underground in 1995 by the Aum Shinrikyo cult, as another specific concern - particularly as the threat of Irish terrorism begins to recede.

'For the victims in particular, the origins of terrorism or the ideology supposedly behind it are probably not relevant when the violence has caused loss of life or destruction of a business,' he said.

'But clearly it will be only the most extreme and violent action which will come within this ambit. We are certainly not saying that all animal rights activists are terrorists.'

The Home Secretary is seeking comments on his proposals, which also target the funds of terrorist organisations by making the seizure of their assets easier even if they have not been convicted of any crime but are merely under strong suspicion.

Daily mail 18-12-98

## Battery pig ban

Marks & Spencer will this week become the first retailer to ban all battery-farmed pork products. The chain is refusing to stock any meat from pigs reared in stalls and tethers, a method that provides bigger litters but entails pregnant sows being kept chained to a slatted concrete floor in a narrow metal pen.

The Times 30-12-98

## Man gets hook in throat

A lifeboat crew went to the aid of a fisherman off the Suffolk coast yesterday after he got a large hook through his throat.

The Aldeburgh lifeboat was launched after a call that a crew member on board the fishing vessel Silver Harvest was in trouble. The man was hauling in cod nets when the three-inch baited hook became embedded in his throat.

The vessel was five miles off Orford Ness and the Aldeburgh crew went to the scene at about 8.45am.

They took him back to Aldeburgh where he was picked up by an ambulance and taken to hospital.

East Anglian Daily Times 23-1-99

## WEIRD

A HOPELESS hunter, who accidentally shot himself in the leg in Tempe, Arizona, decided to fire off another round to attract attention - and hit himself in the other leg.

## WORLD

News of the world 10-10-98

# Camera that can spot a crime being committed

A REVOLUTIONARY closed-circuit TV system that "recognises" criminal behaviour is being tested by Scotland Yard.

The remarkable technology will enable surveillance cameras to identify potentially violent behaviour and could be operational early in the 21st century.

The system works by recognising certain pre-programmed "criminal" actions such as a man persistently kicking with his leg, or raising his arm. The cameras sound an alarm when they pick up a suspect action and enable the operator to focus in.

However, police accept the technology has drawbacks. One police source said: "The problem is a man stabbing someone could also be a man hailing a taxi, or a man kicking someone could equally be a man trying to get something off his shoe. What this system enables us to do is to zoom in

by JUSTIN DAVENPORT  
Crime Correspondent

on what is happening so we can check if a criminal act is taking place. The system has huge potential but you need to keep the human element."

The project uses the latest "pattern recognition" technology which has been developed in America for space and defence programmes. Ultimately, scientists believe it could be possible to police entire areas using CCTV systems that automatically alert authorities to criminal activity.

The research into the system is being carried out by scientists working for Scotland Yard's Technology Department. Dr Mike Taylor, the Yard's technology director, said the main barrier to the system's devel-

opment was the quality of images produced by existing CCTV equipment. He said: "It is perfectly feasible to develop software which can distinguish certain actions but the quality of image means it is often difficult to see exactly what is going on."

So far, the project is not being used at any trial sites in London. But Scotland Yard is already pioneering CCTV technology which can recognise the faces of known criminals.

The six-month pilot project with the local authority in Newham works by scanning the faces of people caught on CCTV and comparing them with images on a database. However, the police admit it only has an 80 per cent detection rate and the City of London police abandoned a trial into a similar system. In one case the cameras failed to recognise a "suspect" wearing a false beard.

Evening Standard 11-12-98

## A charter for chimps

CHIMPS are set to gain legal rights in a development which will transform views of animal abuse.

New Zealand is expected to pass the Animal Welfare Bill in the next few weeks, giving chimps and other apes the right to life and protection from cruel or degrading treatment. A spokesman for the World Society for the Protection of Animals said: "Apes are 97 per cent identical to humans."

Daily Express 11-2-99

## Group Claims Responsibility For Blazes At Vail Resort

By JAMES BROOKE

DENVER, Oct. 21 — The Earth Liberation Front, a shadowy group that has taken responsibility for a series arson fires in the Northwest, declared in an E-mail communiqué today that the fires atop Vail mountain on Monday were carried out "on behalf of the lynx."

"Putting profits ahead of Colorado's wildlife will not be tolerated," read the brief statement, which was sent electronically to several Colorado news organizations. "We will be back if this greedy corporation continues to trespass into wild and unroaded areas."

The seven fires caused about \$12 million worth of damage to buildings and chair lifts along a 11,200-foot-high ridge that overlooks a National Forest area where Vail started clearing trees on Friday as part of a controversial expansion. Earlier this year, environmentalists, back country skiers, and many residents of Eagle County had spoken out at public meetings to block Vail's plan to expand into an area seen as potential habitat for the reintroduction of the lynx in the Colorado Rockies.

Vail, which plans to open for skiing on Nov. 6, is the nation's busiest ski area, selling 1.6 million lift tickets last winter.

Addressing the nation's skiers, the communiqué warned: "For your safety and convenience, we strongly advise skiers to choose other destinations until Vail cancels its inexcusable plans for expansion."

This evening in Vail, the Eagle County Sheriff's office, said after receiving the two paragraph statement by fax: "Currently investigators are reviewing the origin and the content for credibility and will continue its investigation using this communiqué as a source for information."

### ACTIVISTS TAKE GM FOOD

The "genetiX snowball" movement, which practises direct action, removed genetically modified food from the shelves of supermarkets in Street, Somerset, and Brighton as part of a protest against GM products.

Independent on Sunday 18.4.99

## Campaigners fight to stop trial duck cull

ANIMAL rights campaigners have been picketing the RSPB's "flagship" Minsmere nature reserve in a protest over the society's support for a shooting programme aimed at an "alien" species of duck.

The society is backing a Government decision to go ahead with a trial cull to establish whether it is feasible to substantially reduce numbers of the ruddy duck, imported into this country from North America in the 1940s and now widespread.

Other European countries are pressing Britain to kill the bird because of fears it will continue to cross-breed with the endangered white-headed duck, the global population of which is now thought to be less than 10,000.

Ruddy ducks are said to be already mating with white-headed ducks in Spain, which has Europe's only surviving colony, and there are fears the latter breed will die out.

Campaigners from Animal Aid arrived at Minsmere on Saturday to lobby visitors and ask them to withdraw membership and other financial support from the RSPB.

Hundreds of members nationally have already resigned over the controversy.

Some of the campaigners were dressed in duck costumes and one was in the guise of an upper-class shooter.

Ipswich Evening Star 29.3.99

U.S. Daily Star 23.10.98

## Blackbird in aerial horror

THE RSPCA is appealing for witnesses to come forwards after a sickening attack which left a blackbird impaled on a car aerial for 12 hours.

A shocked officer found the bird, which was barely alive in Beck Row, a village near Mildenhall, after receiving an anonymous tip-off from a member of the public.

He had thought the bird, which had been forced to the bottom of the one and a half metre high aerial, was dead when he discovered it in St John's Street on Friday, March 12. But it later had to be put to sleep by a vet to stop it suffering.

Anyone with any information about this incident is asked to call the RSPCA's 24-hour hotline on 08705 555999.

Ipswich Evening Star 26.3.99

## Arson attack

Animal rights activists are thought to be behind an arson attack on a meat market in Brighton. Four lorries were damaged, but no one was hurt. The Animal Liberation Front said its members were "almost certainly" responsible.

The Times 9.11.98

## Bugging hits a new record

BRITAIN is more heavily bugged by the security and intelligence services than at any time in history. Home Secretary Jack Straw yesterday reported 1,763 phone and mail intercepts in 1998 - a rise of almost three per cent on 1997's previous record. In 1962, at the height of the cold war, there were only 338 taps.

The Daily Express 20.3.99

## The wrong bottle

A hunt official who drank sheep dip instead of whisky after a shepherd confused the bottles was recovering in intensive care. Raymond Shiels swallowed a mouthful of the brown liquid proffered as Jed Forest Hunt passed through the Borders town of Jedburgh.

The Times 8.12.98

## Elephant threat as ivory ban is lifted

BY JOHN INGHAM ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

ELEPHANTS are facing a "bloodbath" after the ivory trade was reopened yesterday, wildlife campaigners warned. Namibia, Botswana and Zimbabwe will be allowed to sell ivory from their stockpiles to Japan, ending the worldwide ban set up nine years ago.

Although no other countries were granted permission to sell ivory, environmental groups fear poaching will take off across Africa and Asia because there is no way of telling where a particular tusk comes from.

The standing committee of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species agreed to a strictly limited trial to see if it can be managed without threatening the elephant's future. But Care for the Wild director Chris Jordan said: "This decision will cause a bloodbath and a free-for-all for poachers."

The Express 11.2.99

## New code limits police bugging operations to serious crime

Alan Travis  
Home Affairs Editor

**R**OAD protesters and other civil disobedience campaigners will not be the target of police undercover bugging and bugging operations under a revised Home Office code of practice published last night.

"Intrusive surveillance" operations will also be banned in churches and temples where a minister of religion is giving spiritual counselling such as absolution.

This concession brings other churches and faiths

into line with the Roman Catholic Church whose sacramental confessional was regarded as confidential and sensitive in the original guidelines. It follows concerns expressed by the Church of England.

The police will now have to get express permission from the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Chief Rabbi or the head of the appropriate religion before bugging such conversations between a minister and parishioner.

The revised code of practice follows a parliamentary battle over the new statutory

powers for police to mount such intrusive surveillance operations.

The Home Secretary, Jack Straw, last night said there were now specific references to the confidential and sensitive nature of information which passed between doctors and their patients, lawyers and their clients, and spiritual counselling.

The new guidance also makes clear that in all but exceptional cases the police will have to get prior permission from a "surveillance commissioner" — a former judge — before they can mount such

an operation. They are allowed to ask for permission after the event in urgent cases but this must not be done routinely.

When they come into force early next year, the powers will put police bugging operations on to a statutory footing for the first time. There are about 2,550 intrusive surveillance operations each year, mostly involving placing tracking devices on cars or lorries.

The guidelines emphasise that the powers must only be used in serious crime cases, such as drug trafficking.

The Guardian 19.11.98

Daily Express 16.4.99

## Cocoa condoms for vegans

A NEW range of condoms could mean guilt-free sex for vegans. Britain's first condoms made without animal ingredients went on sale yesterday.

Traditionally the processing of latex, used to make the contraceptive sheaths, has relied on casein — a milk protein — which vegans object to because it comes from calves destined for the meat indus-

try. But the new range from German firm Condomi uses cocoa powder instead. Richard Fairhall, Vegan Society general manager, said: "There has been something of an ethical dilemma, but no longer will vegans have to suppress their natural instinct to make love not war." The Family Planning Association said it was expecting "heavy" demand.

## Fur flies as farms give in to new law

BRITAIN'S fur farmers have decided not to oppose a ban on their industry, sparking a battle within the trade.

The decision is likely to ensure that a Bill outlawing fur farming, to be published on Tuesday, is almost certain to become law.

Len Kelsall, chairman of the Fur Breeders' Association, which represents the farmers, said: "We've got to be realistic. We don't stand a chance of defeating this Bill. The British Fur Trade Association want us to fight, fight, fight for ever more.

BY DANNY PENMAN

We're pragmatic farmers and we want a deal, but the deal has to be a fair compensation for our livelihoods."

The wider fur trade, including traders and manufacturers, are said to be furious about the farmers' apparent change of heart.

Jan Brown, of the British Fur Trade Association, said: "The only outcome of this Bill will be to destroy farmers' livelihoods and reduce much-needed income into rural communities."

Sunday Express 21.2.99

Daily Express 10.2.99

## Fur loses its cover

BY STEVE LODGE

SUPERMODELS infamously started wearing them again — and they remain perennially fashionable among Italians. But one travel insurer is refusing to cover fur coats.

The new exclusion, which extends to other animal-fur items such as hats and gloves, is being written into its policies by Kent-based Worldwide Travel Insurance. The insurer will no longer pay out for lost or damaged fur, although artificial fur items continue to be covered.

Worldwide director Sasha Bonner-Williams denies the exclusion is aimed at cutting underwriting costs or because the insurer has had large numbers of claims for fur coats.

"It's just something we don't want to encourage," she says. "If we paid out we would be encouraging the purchase of a new fur coat — which would only cause further suffering for animals."

Bonner-Williams says she knows of no other insurer with an outright ban, although in practice some would not cover the whole cost of a coat because it would breach the limit for valuable individual items. A new fur coat might cost £2,000 or more.

Worldwide sells annual travel insurance at £75 for a single person, while cover for a two-week winter sports holiday is £29.90.

## Animal rights group poisons cake

TWO BRANDS of a traditional Italian Christmas cake known as panettone were being withdrawn from stores after the Animal Liberation Front injected them with rat poison. The protest was aimed against distributor Nestlé's use of genetic engineering to develop its products.

The Independent 12.12.98

## World's oldest primate fossil

FRENCH RESEARCHERS, led by Jean Jacques Jaeger from Montpellier University, confirmed that the fossilised remains of a primate found last month in central Burma are about 40 million years old which, they say, makes them the oldest in the world.

The Independent 8.12.98



# Scandal of British dogs sold for food in back streets of Asia

BY JOHN INGHAM  
ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH pedigree dogs are being sold as meat in the Far East, it was claimed yesterday.

Thousands of dogs are exported to Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Thailand and China where they are used as "breeding machines" at puppy farms, says the World Society for the Protection of Animals.

Once their breeding days are over, many are sent to be butchered. The animals' pups are often abandoned, only to end up starving on the streets, being put down or sold for meat, according to a year-long investigation.

WSPA officials were repeatedly told dogs in the street markets were British. Pedigrees fetch a higher price because traders sell them as "luxury health food".

They saw live dogs crammed into cages next to skinned dogs. Trucks arrived with animals so tightly packed their limbs were "intertwined".

The terrified dogs were then taken to be slaughtered and their howls filled the market as they were hanged.

WSPA spokesman Jonathan Owen said: "There is no doubt British dogs are ending up on the table."

Daily Express 11-3-99

Blair rejects Tory call for three-year moratorium

# MP links genetic food to 37 deaths

David Hencke  
Westminster Correspondent

**A**N OUTBREAK of a fatal disease that infected 5,000 people, killing 37 and leaving 1,500 permanently ill, was linked to genetically modified food, a Labour MP claimed in a Commons debate yesterday.

The allegation came as Tony Blair came under fire for rejecting demands for a three-year moratorium on GM foods. The Tory leader, William Hague, accused the Prime Minister of ignoring his own advisers in refusing to implement a ban on GM crops until there has been more research.

Earlier Joan Walley, MP for Stoke-on-Trent North, called for an immediate ban on commercial use of GM food. She said: "Despite reassurances that these products are rigorously tested and safe, there have been unexpected incidents and illnesses apparently caused by them. In the worst case, I understand a US epidemic of a disease known as EMS, affected apparently some 5,000 people. An estimated 37 died, and 1,500 have been left permanently disabled with sickness."

She understood that the outbreak "was traced to a batch of food supplement produced by genetically engineered bacteria". Mrs Walley based her claim on a scientific article by Dr Michael Antoniou, a senior lecturer in molecular pathology at a London teaching hospital.



Joan Walley... cited US outbreak of killer disease

Dr Antoniou quoted a case involving a Japanese company that produced a food supplement, vitamin B2, adding that "whether the presence of the toxin was a direct result of the genetic engineering or was due to sloppy manufacturing procedures is still under debate". But he pointed out that under British government rules the product would not need to be labelled or be given marketing approval.

Mr Hague demanded at Prime Minister's question time: "Why hasn't the Government accepted the advice of English Nature, which is

by law the Government's advisers on these matters, by delaying for at least three years the commercial release of these crops until more research is done?"

Mr Blair countered: "There is a committee in the Government looking at this on the basis of scientific evidence — I think that is the best way to proceed. The worst way is to raise fears in the public mind before the evidence is put before them."

In the earlier Commons debate Mrs Walley won cross-party support from Labour backbenchers Barry Sheerman and Joan Ruddock, former Tory minister Alan Clark, and Lib Dem MP Norman Baker.

Jeff Rooker, the deputy agriculture minister, said the Government had not authorised the growing of genetically modified food for commercial use in Britain. There is "none planned and when it does happen it will be a controlled introduction, it will not be a free-for-all", he said.

Last night Friends of the Earth food campaigner, Peter Riley, claimed licences had already been granted for the commercial planting of oil seed rape, fodder beet and maize for seed production. "The first commercially grown GM crops could be planted in our fields in the next few months unless the Government takes steps to stop them."

The Guardian 4-2-99

# Kangaroo meat sale stopped

ANIMAL rights campaigners yesterday declared victory over Sainsbury's after the supermarket chain decided to withdraw kangaroo meat from its shelves.

But Sainsbury's denied that the campaign by vegetarian charity Viva had prompted its actions, instead blaming low customer demand for the meat.

Viva was planning its second

national day of action against Sainsbury's with demonstrations outside stores next month. The group claimed that millions of baby kangaroos, left to fend for themselves when their parents were killed, were the innocent by-product of the trade in kangaroo meat. Viva director Juliet Gellatley said: "Supermarkets wield such enormous power that they often seem invulnerable, but they aren't."

East Anglian Daily Times 28-1-99

Western Morning News 18-11-98

# Election called over fur tag

COUNCILLORS in Beverly Hills, Los Angeles, have voted 3-1 for a special election on May 11 to decide on whether to have a "consumer notice" tag in fur coats. A typical tag may read: "This product is made with fur from animals that may have been killed by electrocution, gassing, neck-breaking, poisoning, clubbing, stomping, or drowning, and may have been trapped in steel-jaw, leg-hold traps." — Christopher Reed, LA.

The Guardian 4-2-99

# We stop the hunting of the bunting

The Sunday Express has scored a victory in its campaign to save a tiny bird from the clutches of French hunters and gourmets.

Last week the French government granted full protection to the ortolan bunting which means that the sparrow-sized bird, regarded as a delicacy, can no longer be hunted. The move will spare 50,000 ortolans from being trapped this autumn.

Sunday Express 14-3-99

# Seagull rescued

FIREMEN rescued a baby seagull yesterday after it became caught in wire on a roof. The bird was freed from a rooftop at Westbrook Avenue,

Teignmouth, Devon, yesterday morning by fire officers using a triple extension ladder and a roof ladder.

Western Morning News 20-11-98

# Wildlife fears

Ministers are to push for tough new laws to protect wildlife sites after claims that increasing amounts of land are being developed or damaged. Environmental pressure groups said that the Government had failed to implement any measures to protect wildlife since it took office.

The Times 22-12-98

# Hunter killed

AN American hunter in camouflage gear died after being shot by a 13-year-old boy who mistook his head for a squirrel, officials said.

# Cool kitten

A kitten trapped in a four-inch-wide pipe for two days was kept alive with ice cubes while rescuers dug down to the foundations of a house in Portchester, Hants. Water would have flowed away but it could lick the ice, said an RSPCA officer.

Daily Telegraph 2-12-98

# ITEMS of INTEREST

Compiled by Martin Masterman Lister

A project to tempt otters back to the Thames has been launched near Maidenhead in Berkshire. It is hoped that by improving riverside habitat and water quality, the three-year, £170,000 scheme will encourage the return of the mammals. Wild otters were last resident in the Thames in the 1970's, before intensive agricultural pesticides and habitat damage led to their decline. The otter was brought to the edge of extinction by hunting, pollution and encroachment on their environment by expanding towns. Contamination by agricultural pesticides and fertilisers caused fish numbers to drop and starved the otters. Present numbers for otters are about 3,000. The Government has pledged to reintroduce the otter to all its pre-1960 habitats by 2010. The scheme is part of the National Otter Biodiversity Action Plan, which was launched last summer. (Independent 24.3.99)

A national police unit is being set up to track green activists and public demonstrations amid fears that eco-warriors are becoming increasingly disruptive and violent. The intelligence squad will use information from Special Branch and MI5 to compile profiles, and will target road protesters, live animal exports, industrial disputes, hunt saboteurs and far-right groups and head off potential disorder. The new unit will be called the National Public Order Intelligence Unit and will be based at New Scotland Yard. The new unit will include three units presently monitoring New Age Travellers, hunt saboteurs and animal rights protesters. The Animal Rights National Index will be part of the new unit with contributions of information from MI5 and Special Branch. (Independent 7.11.98)

Animal rights activists threatened a campaign of harassment against fur-

wearing members of the aristocracy following the apparent theft of the royal furrier's client database. Calman links, which supplies the Queen and Queen Mother, have already been targeted by activists. The list has been circulated by Fur-Free London. Activists have used the list to send a hoax bankruptcy notice to at least 50 customers, which Calman Links has apologised for. Two police officers stood guard outside the Knightsbridge store yesterday. (Guardian 17.11.98)

Sales of organic food in Britain are likely to triple in the next four years to more than £1bn a year, with leading supermarkets agreeing with the Soil Association, but saying they saw the figures as conservative. Figures have quadrupled since 1993. Consumer alarm over food safety is thought to be the reason. Growth of 40% a year until 2002 is expected, taking more than 7% of the UK market for foodstuffs. Demand is already at 20% of the market, despite higher prices. At the moment, 70% of organic food sold in Britain is imported. Sainsbury's is currently selling £1m of organic produce a week. One in ten British babies is already fed on organic food, said Lizzie Vann, founder of Organix, a company which makes organic baby food, and the figure is likely to double in the next few years. Currently there are about 1,000 organic farmers in Britain. (Independent 7.11.98)

Four more scientists at Oxford University have suffered attacks by animal rights activists. The new cases emerged after The Independent highlighted an assault on Professor Colin Blakemore, whose car was vandalised at his home on Saturday, claimed by the ALF. (Independent 20.8.97)

Animal rights groups and tourists in Paris have complained about the birds

and animals at the open-air market at the Quai de la Megisserie, one of Paris's best loved sights. Paris police have decided the cages must be moved indoors, or taken away. Hens, ducks, pheasants, turkeys, pigeons, goats, rabbits, dogs and cats wait in rows. The outdoor cages are a disgrace, say critics, claiming the animals are squashed in and exposed to rain, wind and excessive heat. The shops owning the out-door cages are mostly small, so the ban will probably force them to give up selling some kinds of creatures or close altogether. (Independent 18.11.98)

Angry baboons took revenge when an animal inspector accidentally killed one of their own with a tranquilliser dart. The monkeys of Cape Town Peninsula's baboon colonies decided to visit Shaun Bodington, even though he lived 12 miles away from the scene of the killing. As Mr. Bodington sat in his lounge, the 35-strong troupe poured into his garden and pulled up his plants. Earlier this year there were reports of chimps declaring war on a village in Cameroon which "kidnapped" a baby chimp, only leaving after the baby was released. (Express 30.10.98)

Malaysia is considering gassing pigs en masse because troops sent in to prevent the spread of a deadly virus cannot shoot them quickly enough. Authorities admitted yesterday they know almost nothing about a second virus that might have caused many of the 62 human deaths blamed on the outbreak of Japanese encephalitis. Some 1,000 soldiers have killed more than 70,000 pigs in the worst-hit state in the past week. Authorities had planned to shoot more than 350,000 pigs over 10 days, but because this took too long, were planning to gas 280,000 remaining animals in the main pig-

breeding areas. The encephalitis is carried by mosquitoes and harboured in pigs. Little is known about the second virus except that it may be related to a fruit bat virus discovered in Australia in 1994. (Independent 27.3.99)

A drug used to treat Parkinson's disease sufferers, Tasmart, was withdrawn by its manufacturers, Roche, after the deaths of three patients, at the request of the European Commission. Tasmart was launched last November and is taken by 100,000 people in 38 countries. (Independent 18.11.98)

For the third time in five years, scientists have discovered a hitherto unknown mammal lurking in the Vu Quang forest of Vietnam. The dwarf muntjac deer weighs 35 lbs., half the size of the common muntjac. The midget muntjac brings the total of "new" mammals discovered worldwide in the past 60 years to about 17. But almost everywhere, wild animals are in retreat, biologists estimating three species are being extinguished every hour. (Guardian 23.8.97)

The suicide of a squirrel is just one of the examples of the "new art" to be featured at the Tate Gallery in London. The cutting edge of contemporary art around the world includes a stuffed squirrel lying prone across a table with a shotgun by its side. The Tate will create a kitchen around the squirrel when it mounts the show next summer. (Independent 20.11.98)

For purposes of blackmail or revenge, pets are being forced into microwave ovens before the eyes of their frightened owners. If the ovens are switched on the animals are cooked from the inside by short electromagnetic waves. The RSPCA said it was appalled that people would torture pets, and would be seeking prison sentences for those found culpable. Police are seeking a gang after they threatened to cook a couple's cat before making off with £18,500. The cat was unharmed. However, 24 year old Brendan Blennerhassett was jailed for six months in County Durham after being found guilty of killing a 12

week-old kitten after being spurned by the cats owner. The RSPCA has reported the case of a 13 year-old boy that killed the family whippet for "fun" after putting it in a microwave. (Independent 23.8.97)

Almost four million tons of imported soya and maize feed purchased by livestock farmers in 1997 and 1998 would have been derived from GM crops, Agriculture minister Jeff Rooker said. (Independent 19.3.99)

A fresh row is brewing between the US and Europe over GM products prompted by the biotechnology giant Monsanto, this time over milk. New scientific studies suggest that an artificial hormone, called Posilac by Monsanto, used in the US to make cattle produce more milk could raise the risk of breast and prostate cancer in humans. The US government is now pushing Europe to end a moratorium on the use of animal growth hormones, imposed in 1989 on the grounds that Europe already overproduced milk and beef, which was extended in 1996 and 1997. The US says the ban infringes free trade rules, and the ability of Monsanto to trade in its patented hormone. Since the ban on BST came into force in 1997, new scientific evidence has found giving excessive levels of the hormone to cattle can cause a fivefold rise in the levels of a protein called IGF-1 (immune growth factor) in the milk, studies of which, published in the Lancet and Science, showed an increased level of prostate cancer in men and breast cancer in women. Senior vets have called for the EC to continue the ban. (Independent 22.3.99)

A medical journal has forecast a "grim outlook" following an unexpected increase in deaths from nv-CJD. Since it first emerged in 1996, it has claimed an average of two or three lives every three months. But in the final quarter of last year nine deaths were recorded. In an editorial, the Lancet said "The outlook, from many aspects, is grim. In the UK, the BSE inquiry will almost certainly publish an anodyne report and conclude that no one is to blame". (Independent 19.3.99)

Genetically engineered crops altered to be resistant to common plant viruses, risk creating new mutant strains of "super-viruses" which could wipe out entire farms, a damning research report commissioned by the Government has warned. It found that plants engineered to be resistant to common viruses could be in fact lead to the creation of more virulent strains which could spread throughout the British countryside. The scientists warn that genetic engineering will make viruses more prevalent in the countryside, with the likelihood of plants being exposed to a virus is a billion times more likely. (Independent on Sunday 21.3.99)

Farmer Brian Warren, 86, was gored to death by a bull near Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. Emergency services could not reach him until in time. (Independent on Sunday 21.3.99)

A Dutch biologist working in the Brazilian Amazonian rainforest says he has found a new species of monkey. There are about 240 species of primate in the world and less than a handful have been discovered in the past decade. It is related to the marmoset family and is about the size of a mouse. (Guardian 11.8.97)

The magazine, "What doctors don't tell you", launched in 1989, is selling 25,000 copies a month. An Oxford University professor has called for it to be burned. (Independent on Sunday 15.11.98)

Former US President Richard Nixon declared "War on Cancer" in 1971. No cancer incurable then is curable today. Chemotherapy's modest successes are almost identical to what they were then. Since then, all the billions of dollars of research thrown at cancer have not influenced survival one little bit. For most of today's common solid cancers, the ones that cause 90% of the cancer deaths every year..... chemotherapy has never been proven to do any good at all. (Independent on Sunday 15.11.98)

More than one million animals have been genetically modified for use in

British laboratory experiments in the past four years, the bulk involving mice and rats. Scientists have also started creating GM animals which could be farmed for food. Pigs, cattle, sheep, chickens and fish are being altered so they grow faster, and bigger and produce more young. 353,000 GM animals were used in experiments in 1997, a 17% increase on 1996 and more that 60% up on 1995. Figures for 1998, released in July, are expected to show numbers close to 400,000. Many involve transgenic techniques, genetic material from one species transplanted into another species. British scientists working at Harvard University have produced the first three-legged chicken. In the U.S., pigs, chickens and fish are all being produced with genes that speed growth. Transgenic salmon which have a flounder gene speeds their growth rates by up to 400%. Researchers in Israel are working on featherless chickens, whilst scientists at Newcastle upon Tyne are attempting to create grass eating breeds of pigs and hens. Researchers in Australia injected sheep with a genetically-engineered hormone so the fleece fell off without shearing. The animal suffered severe sunburn and heat stress and increased chance of miscarriage. (Daily Mail 16.3.99)

The Government's most senior medical officer at the height of the BSE epidemic, Sir Donald Acheson, claimed that he was forced to make statements about the safety of British beef, including that beef could be eaten safely by everyone. He criticised the MAFF for delaying the publication of evidence linking BSE to infected cattle feed, and the practice of continuing to sell the cattle feed abroad after it was banned in Britain. (Independent 30.10.99)

A former Kennel Club judge has been convicted of causing unnecessary suffering to dogs for the second time in 18 months. Jennifer Bosson, 51, of South Hanningfield, Essex, was jailed for four months and disqualified from keeping dogs for life after being convicted of 10 charges last year. (Guardian 4.11.98)

British shops have been attacked for their involvement in a thriving illegal trade which is destroying the habitat of already endangered species. Environment campaigners have named Argos, Cargo Homeshop and Robert Dyas as selling goods which, unknown to them, are often made with illegally-sourced Cambodian timber. (Express 30.3.99)

The father of American heiress Elizabeth Iorio, has just been fined

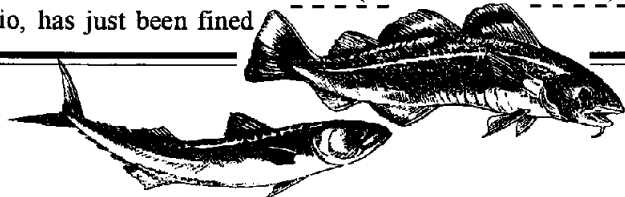
\$10m. Copley Pharmaceuticals is blamed for the deaths of 280 people linked to the use of albuterol, used for asthma. (Independent 24.11.98)

French animal lovers including Brigitte Bardot have joined a fight to save a Scottish dog condemned to death because it barked at a postman. (Independent 19.11.98)

PPL Therapeutics, the company that created Dolly the cloned sheep, said it was working on the technology needed to clone cows and certain human proteins. PPL also said it was capable of producing milk containing human genes and AAT, a protein used in the treatment of cystic fibrosis. An American facility in Virginia was working to produce cloned cows. One aim was to produce milk with human proteins, preventing young children from being allergic to it. (Guardian 3.9.97)

Michael Gills, 65, was found guilty of 11 charges of cruelty to animals. He was sentenced to four months imprisonment and disqualified from keeping animals for 5 years. A Chipperfield circus worker, he'd previously served 15 years for manslaughter. He was found guilty of attacking three elephants at Croft farm. (Meridian TV 19.11.98)

## Sea Shepherd



The Sea Shepherd Conservation Society is a non-profit non-governmental organisation (NGO) involved with the investigation and documentation of violations of international laws, regulations and treaties protecting marine wildlife species. The Society is also involved with the enforcement of international laws, regulations and treaties when there is no enforcement by national governments or international regulatory organisations due to absence of jurisdiction or lack of political will. The Society will investigate, document and enforce any high seas drift net operation that is in violation of the United Nations resolution outlawing drift nets and will uphold and defend all principles established by international conventions to protect and conserve marine species and ecosystems.

The Society is committed to the goal of "being in business for the purpose of putting ourselves out of business", but unfortunately, illegal operations (especially whaling) have not only continued but have escalated in recent months. Sea Shepherd will remain devoted to protecting the citizens of the oceans as long as is necessary and needs your help to do so. Supporting members of Sea Shepherd receive a quarterly newsletter which contains educational information, updates on current laws and legislation, addresses for writing protest letters and news of SSCS activities.

**Sea Shepherd Conservation Society (UK)**  
(mailing address only):

**35 Vicarage Grove, London SE5 7LY**

**Sea Shepherd Conservation Society (USA)**  
**PO Box 628, Venice, California 90294, USA**

The ban on British beef exports will not be lifted until well into next year and Britain will have to initiate a final cull of another 4,000 cattle. (Independent 21.11.98)

Police in the area around Cardiff are giving badgers a bar code to foil baiters who hunt with dogs. The badgers and their setts are being sprayed with Smartwater, a "liquid DNA" product designed to protect property. The invisible substance carries a bar code which can be detected and rubs off easily on to baiters, their spades and any terriers used to interfere with badgers. Police had evidence that a hard core of baiters were persecuting the protected species. (Guardian 24.11.98)

Police dog-handlers in Essex had been taught to kick and hit aggressive animals since at least the late 1970's, a court at Chelmsford was told. (Independent 27.10.98)

One of Europe's most spectacular woodland birds, the black woodpecker, is heading towards Britain. As big as a crow and twice the size of its nearest British relative, it is traditionally a bird of Central European forests. The birds are jet black except for an ivory-coloured bill and a scarlet crown. Their population expansion is linked to deciduous woodland maturing across Europe - they particularly like tall beach trees- and also the growth of Norway spruce plantations. (Independent)

Ministers are preparing to ban a clutch of antibiotics used routinely by farmers to make animals grow quicker, which they fear are leading to the creation of deadly drug-resistant superbugs. Ministers have been told by advisers that they should be phased out for fears that they could create superbugs and another BSE-style health scare. (Independent on Sunday 29.11.98)

Test results released yesterday confirmed 13 residents at Erskine Hospital, where two men died at the weekend from suspected salmonella poisoning, have also been hit by infection. (Independent 3.11.98)

The European Beaver is set to return

to Britain after an absence of 400 years. Scottish National Heritage is advising the Scottish Office to launch a pilot scheme to study how beavers would cope. If successful, up to 1,000 could be introduced. Beavers will be brought from Norway, and after a quarantine period, will be released into designated areas, and by 2001, other areas. (Guardian 4.11.98)

Genetically modified crops are to be banned for three years under a landmark deal being secretly negotiated between the Government and biotechnology companies. Seed companies will agree to a voluntary freeze on growing GM crops in Britain until at least the year 2020. It is expected to be announced within three weeks, and will be a moral victory for campaigners. (Independent on Sunday 14.3.99)

Tony McCoy was suspended for 18 days by the Jockey Club's disciplinary committee yesterday after being found guilty of a fifth whip offence this year. Stewards found that he had used his whip with excessive frequency. The ban will lead to the loss of income of around £10,000. (Guardian 17.11.98)

The Moray Firth dolphins, one of only two resident populations in Britain, are suffering from severe skin disease, a world-wide study has found. Some of the animals have two-thirds of the visible parts of their bodies covered in lesions, while in others the normally dark smooth skin has turned orange or is pitted. Nearly all 130 in the colony are suffering. No link has been found between the skin disease and pollution, but there may be a link with water temperature and salinity. The Moray Firth dolphins are the most northerly residents in the world and live in colder less saline water than any other. Bottleneck colonies have been studied around the world and all were found to have some skin disease. (Independent 15.3.99)

After an arson attack laid waste a branch of McDonald's in Antwerp recently, Belgian animal rights activists put out a statement ending with the following threat: "We don't

sit still, actions speak louder than words!!" Last week the group struck again, marking an escalation in a campaign of economic sabotage which one campaigner said is intended to drive the Belgian hamburger industry out of business. No other country has suffered such a sustained bout of eco-terrorism against burger bars - 10 this year. Other parts of the meat industry have been attacked, including meat trucks and cold storage units, mostly by arson attacks, but the main targets have been McDonald's and Quick, a home-based burger outfit with the largest number of outlets in Belgium. (Independent on Sunday 15.11.98)

One of China's leading wildlife conservationists has been shot dead, apparently by hunters angered by his protection of the endangered Tibetan antelope, the China Youth Daily reported. The dead man's predecessor was killed by poachers four years ago. The Tibetan antelope, also called the Chiru, is prized for the wool around its throat

Trade in it has been illegal since 1976 but shawls woven in Kashmir sell for more than £9,000 in Europe. Conservationists estimate that there are 75,000 to 100,000 Tibetan antelopes left in the wild, but that 20,000 are killed each year by gangs killing 500 at a time and smuggling the wool to India. Last month China's news agency reported that 14 Tibetan poachers had been jailed for up to 13 years for killing 500 antelope and buying 212 hides last winter in Tibet. (Guardian 17.11.98)

Council workers in Cranbrook, West Kent, had pig entrails thrown around their offices earlier this week. The pail of intestines were hurled, along with four dead piglets, by a protester, believed to be a disgruntled pig farmer complaining about the refusal for planning permission to build a home on his farm. (Guardian 5.11.98)

Huge numbers of grunting cod have been blamed by Norwegian scientists for posing an unexpected security risk to the Scandinavian country's military security. Millions of tiny grunting

sounds emitted by the cod during the mating season can create a background noise loud enough to blot out sounds of suspicious maritime activity. (Independent 16.11.98)

The black rat, which brought the Black Death to Britain, is now rarer than otters or dormice with half the population confined to an uninhabited Outer Hebridean island. (Guardian 17.11.98)

There are six McDonald's restaurants opening around the world every day. (Independent on Sunday 8.11.98)

A West Yorkshire council is to hire thousands of worms to eat their way through tonnes of industrial waste. In two weeks' time the first worms will be unleashed at the first council-run industrial wormery near Huddersfield where they will be fed tonnes of cardboard packaging collected from factories, supermarkets and businesses. (Independent 14.11.98)

From today, nuts join red wine as they have been found to significantly reduce the risk of heart disease. The research by nutritionists at Harvard University school of health, focused on the diets of 86,000 female nurses aged 34-59 over 14 years, and found those who ate five or more portions of nuts a week were a third less likely to be at risk of a coronary than those who ate none. Indeed, those who ate two to four of the one-ounce portions a week were also less at risk than those who ate just one. Nut-eaters were more likely to be leaner, smoke and drink less, exercise more and take multi-vitamins. But even after those factors were eliminated, they still cut their risk of heart disease by 35%. (Guardian 13.11.98)

In the Palmers Green area of London, animals have been found mutilated. In this area for several months, the carcasses of pet cats and rabbits have been found mutilated, their remains left in owners' gardens. The RSPCA has six inspectors and meeting with police officers to pool their knowledge on what has become known as the Cat Ripper who began in February. The killings have spread from the Barnet

area to Surrey and Kent. (Independent 27.11.98)

The chances of an inhabitant in the USA getting cancer in 1900 was 1 in 27. The chances now are 1 in 3. (Independent on Sunday 14.3.99)

A worker bee has to travel 46,000 miles to make one pound of honey. (Independent 14.3.99)

Wildlife campaigners will accuse the Government of breaching an international wildlife treaty by culling 20,000 badgers. The National Federation of Badger Groups is to challenge the legitimacy of the experiment to examine the link between badgers and TB. (Independent 2.12.98)

Non-medical use of antibiotics should be banned and vets should receive less income from selling drugs to farmers, says the Soil Association in a new report. In its attack on the use of drugs in agriculture, it points out that many cattle are fed antibiotics throughout their lives, and the use of tetracycline and penicillin has increased by 1,500% and 600% in the past 30 years, even though it was supposed to fall. (Independent 7.12.98)

Up to 10% of species could disappear in the next 25 years because of human activity, but millions have yet to be named and described. Naturalists

about to publish a new survey of the nation's knowledge of wildlife have announced an unexpected appendix - a British fern new to science. In the past six years researchers have identified more than 70 species of lichen and more than 100 kinds of parasitic wasp hitherto unknown in Britain - and confirmed that world-wide the extinction of plants and animals may have accelerated 1,000-fold or even 10,000-fold since the beginning of the industrial revolution. There could be 13 million species on the planet, according to a document, The Web of Life, published today. Only about 1.7 million have been described, but because there is no single international library of creation, many of these may have been discovered more than once. Britain has already produced a plan to conserve 172 of its threatened species, such as the bittern and the skylark, in 25 habitats. (Guardian 30.11.98)

China and the UN are to sign an agreement to turn the country's Lop Nor nuclear test site into a sanctuary for the rare Bactrian camel. The new nature reserve, a barren and unexplored tract the size of Germany, will protect 400 wild Bactrian camels, which have survived 45 overhead nuclear explosions only to be threatened by hunters. (Independent 8.11.98)

Injections given to as many as 230,000 people in Britain each year carry the risk of BSE, microbiologist Stephen Dealler said. New mothers account for 80,000 of those in danger. (The Express 12.11.98)

Abattoir inspectors often face threats and violence from abattoir workers and managers. Inspectors have been physically attacked, threatened with knives and guns and subjected to tirades of obscenity, and are often too intimidated to do their job properly. (Independent 30.11.98)

Underneath a former stately home in North Wales, long-since abandoned boiler rooms have become the home for no fewer than 579 lesser horseshoe bats during autumn and winter. Hundreds of them, all black, with their

## New Animal Rights Group

A new group, Axe Animal Action, has been formed in East Devon/West Dorset to campaign against all areas of animal abuse: including meat, dairy, vivisection, bloodsports, fur...

Active members and donations are needed to help with campaigns.

Please contact:

**Axe Animal Action**  
c/o PO Box 1119  
Dorchester  
Dorset

wings folded, were hanging from the roof. In the UK, lesser horseshoe bats are confined to south-west England and Wales. There are thought to be 14,000 left in Britain, and about 230 summer roosts and 480 winter hibernation roosts are known. They were discovered there in 1962 when there were perhaps 200 of them. (Independent 31.10.98)

One of Britain's leading health charities, the British Heart Foundation, which has spent years campaigning to help people give up smoking, is investing in tobacco shares, although its research link smoking and heart attacks. It has placed £6m in companies such as BAT, Gallaher and Imperial Tobacco. (Independent on Sunday 6.12.98)

Farmers are shearing their sheep at the onset of winter to encourage them to put on weight and to attract higher prices at auction, leaving them to shiver or remain in barns to keep warm. It follows the discovery that sheep compensate for wool loss by eating more and putting on weight when shorn. (Sunday Times 6.12.98)

An oil slick off Germany's coast has killed hundreds of birds and endangered thousands more. Environmentalists have called for the army to clean up the oil off one of the north islands in the Wattenmeer National Park. (Express 12.11.98)

Ozone-layer thinning could lead to fish suffering sunburn symptoms. Light-coloured and flat fish were likely to have flaky skin and be more disease-prone. (Independent 13.3.99)

A hunt official who drank sheep dip instead of whisky after a friend confused the bottles was recovering in intensive care yesterday. Raymond Shiels, a farmer and former national hunt trainer, swallowed a mouthful before having a series of violent convulsions and falling from his horse. At the hospital, his heart, lungs, liver and kidneys stopped working and he was put on a life-support machine. Sheep dip is a chemical form of organophosphate derived from nerve gas, which attacks the central nervous system. (Times 8.12.98)

The ALF in Italy has claimed responsibility for poisoning Italy's supply of traditional cakes. The ALF accuses the Swiss multinational Nestle of genetically manipulating the ingredients used in Italy's favourite Christmas dessert, in particular soya. The action cost Nestle a huge financial loss. (Independent 14.12.98)

Injured or weak hedgehogs released into the wild after convalescing in captivity stand an excellent chance of survival. Many perform heroic feats of long-distance travel after being released: one covered more than three miles: two others swam across the River Stour in Devon. Hedgehogs make up 20% of the wildlife casualties treated by the RSPCA. Thousands of others are taken in by individual carers. Research by a senior zoology lecturer at Royal Holloway College shows that rehabilitating hedgehogs is a very worthwhile exercise. (Times 8.12.98)

A thief who stole a chicken in the central African state of Cameroon died after an enraged mob forced him to eat the entire bird, including the feathers, bones and beak. The man collapsed and died. (Independent 3.12.98)

Chemicals found in pesticides may increase the risk of breast cancer when women are exposed to high doses, says a report in the Lancet. (Independent 4.12.98)

A woman, Veronica Minor, who says she bit into a condom inside a McDonald's chicken sandwich in Wisconsin has filed a lawsuit. She was physically sick. A manager at the McDonald's called police to escort her from the restaurant. (Independent 10.12.98)

A man who buried his pet alive was jailed for six months yesterday. Runcorn magistrates heard that Mark Anthony Quinn, 31, from Widnes, had pleaded not guilty. (Independent 5.12.98)

Farmers in India have destroyed a plot of genetically engineered cotton by uprooting and burning it. The cotton was in one of 40 locations around India where it is being tested to check for

escape of pollen. The farmers said it was "a message to all those who have invested in Monsanto to take their money and get out". (Independent 4.11.98)

A man has admitted possessing more than 300 wild birds' eggs. Philip Adrian Beard, 39, of Cheylesmore, Coventry, pleaded guilty at the city's magistrates court to four charges of possessing 328 eggs from kestrels, choughs, Arctic terns and other species. (Guardian 4.12.98)

Ants can carry up to 50 times their own body weight on their backs, and their pincers can grip something 1,400 times their weight. The smallest bird is the bee hummingbird, measuring about 57mm and weighing only 1.6 grams. (Independent 4.12.98)

Too much sex is driving a rare robin-like bird to the brink of extinction, researchers warned. The aggressive mating behaviour of New Zealand's Hihi bird makes it vulnerable to a fungal disease. (Express 8.12.98)

Conservationists are mourning the death of a leading British environmentalist who died in the plane crash in southern Thailand last week. Mark Graham was regarded as a tireless crusader in the battle to save Thailand's rapidly shrinking tiger population. (Independent 14.12.98)

Two giant pandas touched down in Hong Kong from mainland China to be housed in a specially built £6.5m panda habitat with separate bedrooms, lush vegetation and a sliding roof for when the weather becomes temperate. Garry Marvin, author of the book "Zoo Culture" has described the lavish panda home as "the architecture of guilt". (Independent 12.3.99)

The daughter of Lady Bute, left pet dogs, a Rottweiler and a Spitz, to cook to death in the back of a Volvo estate car on a hot summer's day. They were left in 50c heat for three hours during a visit to the Royal Horticultural Show. Miss Percy, 33, admitted causing unnecessary suffering to the dogs but claimed she had never heard of dogs suffering from heat exhaustion in cars. The magistrate adjourned the case for reports. (Daily Mail 17.12.98)

Animal rights fanatics are to be included in sweeping new anti-terrorist powers announced yesterday. Jack Straw unveiled a raft of measures to extend Northern Ireland's tough security laws to cover domestic and international terrorism, replacing the temporary powers of the Prevention of Terrorism Act with permanent legislation. The new measures will allow for the proscription of any organisation that used serious violence within the UK for political, religious or ideological ends. (Independent 18.12.98)

The urban common toad in our gardens, parks and cemeteries are becoming dangerously isolated: the rural toad, with its broad acres is less threatened. Toads can survive for at least eight years in the wild and remain fairly faithful to their breeding sites. Adult females spawn once a year. After spawning they can roam up to 3K from their home pond but usually stay within 400 to 1,500 metres. They need a moist microclimate, cover from predators and a food supply. These conditions are increasingly limited in urban environments criss-crossed with roads and other barriers. (Guardian 17.12.98)

A mink farmer whose animals were released by anti-fur activists was yesterday fined after admitting a string of cruelty charges and breaches of welfare regulations. Terence Smith, who trades under the name of TT Smith (Mink) Ltd, was fined £5,000 and ordered to pay costs of £15,000 by magistrates at Lyndhurst, Hampshire. (Independent 12.3.99)

South African researchers unveiled a 260 million-year-old fossil they say bolsters the theory that South Africa was the place where scaly, cold-blooded reptiles evolved into the ancestors of furry, warm blooded mammals. (Independent 12.3.99)

Two employees of Boots the Chemist have been charged with manslaughter after the death of a three-week-old boy, police have confirmed. Matthew Young died after taking peppermint water prescribed to treat wind, dispensed at the Boots store in Runcorn, Cheshire. (Guardian 18.12.98)

The Arctic circle 90 million years ago was a landscape of steaming swamp and fetid forest. It sweltered in the summer and even at its coldest hardly ever froze. Ecologists have suspected

this for years, but the discovery of a fossilised femur from a large crocodile-like reptile 700 miles from the pole has proved tremendously important. Its nearest relatives live only in the tropics and subtropics. (Guardian 18.12.98)

Turtle doves and partridges are in severe decline in the English countryside. The population of the grey, or English, partridge has fallen by 78% in 25 years. The turtle dove is down to just 50,000 pairs, a decline of 85% over the same period. A study into the reason for the loss has been launched. (Daily Mail 16.12.98)

Europe's only permanent population of sperm whales faces extinction because they are going deaf, it is claimed. Marine biologists have found that the estimated 400 whales living around the Canary Islands are being deafened by intense traffic on the busy shipping route. Damage to the ultrasound system they use to communicate and navigate means they cannot find mates, or are killed in collisions with ships. (Daily Mail 16.12.98)

Orang-utans will disappear from the wild very shortly unless Indonesia takes action to prevent forest fires and

## International Otter Survival Fund

The IOSF is the only organisation in the world dedicated to the conservation of all 13 species of otter. The organisation is working with people world-wide identifying threats to otters, and taking steps to overcome these, and thus preserving some of the world's great habitats not just for otters but for all wildlife living there.

IOSF supports the following work:

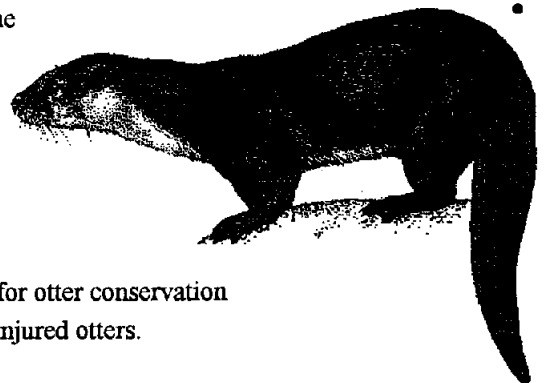
- Funds otter conservation programmes world-wide
- Supports where possible the prohibition of hunting
- Organises public education programmes to develop support for otter conservation
- Supports otter rehabilitation facilities for orphaned, sick or injured otters.

The IOSF has a visitor centre in Broadford, Isle of Skye, where you can learn more about their work. The organisation also takes in orphaned and injured otters (and other wildlife) and can offer advice should you find any casualty.

**International Otter Survival Fund:**

**Skye Environmental Centre, Broadford, Isle of Skye, IV49 9AQ**

**Tel/Fax: 01471 822 487 e-mail: [iosf@otter.org](mailto:iosf@otter.org) web: <http://www.otter.org>**





continues with the unsustainable management of its forests, the World-wide Fund for Nature warned. (Guardian 18.12.98)

Britain wants the UN to save the world's coral reefs which are under severe threat from rising sea temperatures and pollution, John Prescott has announced. The UK will press to bring all scientific work on all coral and other ocean problems under one powerful UN body. 10% of the world's coral reefs may already be degraded beyond recovery, and 60% may now face a medium to high threat of destruction. (Independent 10.12.98)

Baby foods and other products containing pesticides are to be banned from British shelves, under a new European law. The move comes after tests found pesticide residues, including the toxic pesticide lindane in several brands of baby food and powdered milk sold to UK mothers. (Independent on Sunday 20.12.98)

The world's last 25 Northern White Rhinos are threatened with extinction in Congo, the WWF said yesterday. Patrols have been cut back because of fighting in Congo, making the rhino more vulnerable to poachers. (Guardian 18.12.98)

The soothing hum of the bumble bee could soon be a thing of the past. Ten out of the 16 species found in Britain have disappeared since the 1960's and of the remaining six, one is already presumed extinct, and the rest are in grave danger, according to the WWF. At present, three species are becoming extinct every two years in the UK. The short-haired bumble bee brings the number of species extinct in Britain to 154. (Daily Mail 14.12.98)

A lone abalone fisherman, Doug Chester of Port Lincoln, Australia, has been killed by a shark. (Independent 19.12.98)

The bird that most people expect to see over Christmas is a blackbird, replacing the sparrow as the most commonly seen species in British gardens. Sparrows have dropped to sixth place and starlings to ninth after a nation-wide slump in their numbers.

The house sparrow has been afforded "high alert" status by the British Trust for Ornithology because numbers have plunged by two-thirds since 1973. In 1997 the mix of birds included blackbirds, blue tit, robin, great tit, chaffinch, house sparrow, collared dove, dunnock, starling and greenfinch. The magpie and coal tit were also common visitors. The reason for the change in birds visiting gardens is that many more people feed them and there is a wider choice of food. Feeding birds is fine providing the food is not salty as inland birds are poisoned by salt. (Guardian 23.12.98)

Pregnant deer and their calves are being killed and mutilated in a little known sport of hind hunting. Hundreds of female deer, or hinds, are chased for miles by hunters and packs of hounds. The ancient sport is now practised only in Devon and Somerset. The National Trust and the Forestry Commission have already banned hind hunting on their land, along with stag hunting. Before the last election the Labour party promised to ban the sport along with other forms of hunting with hounds. Hind hunts begin when about 40 hounds are set on a herd of pregnant deer. They pick out one hind and her calf and chase them for up to four hours. After a few miles the young calf becomes exhausted and is forced to hide while its mother tries to draw off the pursuing hounds. After another five or six miles, the pregnant deer is cornered until a huntsman arrives and shoots her with a shotgun. She is then disembowelled and her feet taken as souvenirs. (Express 29.12.98)

Nuts left out for red squirrels could give them brittle bone disease, experts say. People should give them a mixed diet. (Independent 29.12.98)

An increase in the number of people suspected of suffering from CJD is straining the National CJD Surveillance Unit. It has asked for more resources. The unit was designed to cope with 150 referrals a year, but the unit will have to deal with 200 referrals in 1999. (Independent 31.12.98)

Up to 20,000 fresh turkeys were recalled because of concern over hygiene. The turkeys were bearing the Church Farm label. (Independent 24.12.98)

British seabirds may live up to 100 years. Recoveries of ringed birds indicate greater longevity in species such as fulmar, gannet, Manx shearwater and storm petrel. All these birds are slow breeders, not laying until they are seven or eight years old, and then only a single egg. (Independent 30.12.98)

A drug used to prevent tissue rejection after a transplant may be the reason why those patients are more likely to develop potentially fatal cancers. Cyclosporin, a drug used to suppress the immune system also inhibits the body's natural mechanism for tissue rejection, directly alters cancer cells to make them highly dangerous. Cyclosporin is given to most of the 2,500 patients who undergo organ transplants each year in Britain. (Independent 11.2.99)

Two Portsmouth brothers were fined a record £90,000 each after admitting taking and possessing rare birds eggs in the Orkney Islands. Jamie MacLaren and Lee McLaren face up to two years in jail if they are unable to pay the fines. Hampshire police revealed that they had seized about 285 eggs from the brothers' home. They admitted 70 charges under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act. (The News 28.5.98)

The authorities in Nevada are investigating the shooting to death of 25 wild horses, the worst slaughter of free roaming horses in the south-western state for 10 years. (Guardian 30.12.98)

Police say they had arrested a leading member of a gang that kidnapped prize racing pigeons and collected ransoms totalling more than US\$1.5m from the owners. (Guardian 22.12.98)

An international showjumper was killed by a falling tree as he drove to a beauty spot to propose to his girlfriend during a violent storm. (Independent 31.12.98)

A rare species of curlew is in grave danger of becoming the first European bird to die out since the great auk more than 150 years ago. Only nine slender-billed curlews were seen throughout the world last year. It is expected to become extinct within the next decade. At least 17 were known to have been killed by hunters over the past 20 years. (Independent 10.2.99)

Rare white elephants are revered in Thailand, and a group of Thai scientists are trying to clone the real thing. They are automatically the property of King Bhumibol, who owns eleven, housed in their own gilded halls in Bangkok. Deforestation and poaching have reduced the numbers of wild elephants to about 2,600. Researchers at Mahidol University in the capital want to clone a dead white elephant that lived in the last century and whose body has been preserved, and believe it will take 10 years to complete. (Sunday Times 3.1.99)

A 16-year-old youth yesterday appeared before a special sitting of Wantage magistrates' court in

Oxfordshire after farmers allegedly found him naked in a field among a flock of sheep. The youth was charged with a serious sexual offence and breach of the peace. (Guardian 29.12.98)

The UN has lifted its 10-year ivory trading ban. Namibia and Zimbabwe were authorised to send 34 tons of elephant ivory to Japan to help raise money for conservation projects. (Guardian 13.2.99)

McDonald's plans 20 restaurants in Bosnia. Representatives met the Bosnian Prime Minister to finalise plans. (Independent 26.2.99)

Bottles of a popular prescription medicine for children were recalled last night amid concern that they contain high levels of paracetamol. Pharmaceutical giant Warner Lambert ordered the withdrawal. (Guardian 11.2.99)

Woburn Safari Park plans to destroy two lions it no longer wants. It has already killed 30 monkeys to keep down numbers. (Daily Star 26.2.99)

Police have made their 15th arrest in an on-going inquiry into race-fixing and doping. Those arrested include jockeys and trainers. (Independent 14.1.99)

Human prejudices will determine the fate of Europe's large carnivores, its bears, lynxes and wolves, through the coming century, the WWF has said. People's views of them are often negative because of children's stories and exaggerated fears. The charity has launched an appeal to save them. The Iberian lynx is the world's most endangered cat with fewer than 800 left; its relative, the Eurasian lynx is down to 7,000 while the wolverine, a large relative of the weasel is down to 500 in Europe and 1500 in Russia. The brown bear and the grey wolf are also on the WWF's list. The campaign also highlights the still fragile recovery of Britain's two biggest carnivores, the otter and the polecat. (Independent 24.2.99)

France has banned the hunting or sale of the ortolan songbird. (Independent 9.3.99)

Monsanto has been condemned for making 'wrong, unproven, misleading and confusing' claims in a £1m advertising campaign the ASA has ruled, in a humiliating blow to the company following 30 complaints. (Observer 28.2.99)

The Chinese appetite for European eels is threatening the eels with extinction. Catches of juvenile ones, known as glass eels, are said to be 60% lower than in 1997, and there are demands for a review of the industry. The eels are packed in ice and flown from Europe to Hong Kong, but more than 550 million, die between Hong Kong and mainland China. 25% of eels caught in European waters are consumed within Europe. (Independent on Sunday 28.2.99)

Plans to outlaw fur farming in Britain moved closer yesterday when MPs agreed to end such barbaric practice as long as farmers were compensated. The Fur Farming (Prohibition) Private Member's Bill, introduced by Maria Eagle, Labour MP, would mean an end

## TAFF - Vegan & Vegetarian Cafe

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opposite the Duck and Drake pub)

for Britain's 13 remaining mink farms by January 2002 after a phasing out period. (Independent 6.3.99)

Common toads hit the headlines this week when their annual migration forced the closure of the village street at Oxtou, in Nottingham. Since they cannot hop like frogs but only hop or walk, they may take 10 minutes to cross a road. The charity Froglife has built them 15 underpasses at various danger points. (Independent 6.3.99)

Up to 60,000 illegally-caught British songbirds have been exported to Malta by one man. So many greenfinches, chaffinches, bullfinches, goldfinches, bramblings and siskins have been removed from Britain by the 26 year-old Maltese man that the RSPCA fear he may have started to affect the wild bird population. With a high demand for British cage birds, he has been able to sell wild-caught British greenfinches for up to £40 each. The man was arrested in a disused pet shop in Kent preparing more than 500 wild-caught finches. The man is now back in Malta having jumped bail. (Independent 23.2.99)

The ceremonial slaughter of a bull to improve the fortunes of a football club was called off after animal rights groups succeeded in getting an injunction on the event in a Brazilian town. Police ordered a priest to call off the ritual, which also involved killing four goats and eight cocks. (Guardian 1.3.99)

Michael Meacher has ordered a review of new data suggesting that bees or the wind could carry pollen from trials of GM crops to fertilise standard varieties. (Independent 3.3.99)

The Welsh company Niopharm supplies 20,000 leeches to hospitals around the world each year. (Independent on Sunday 21.2.99)

Scientists working for the European Commission have approved three new tests for cosmetics which will provide an alternative to animal tests for the first time. (Guardian 26.2.99)

A farmer has been fined £6,000 for flouting BSE regulations. Harold Gray, 56, of Upper Austby Farm, Langbar,

near Ilkley, buried the remains of cattle, sheep and goats after slaughtering them on his farm. (Independent on Sunday 21.2.99)

A mallard duck spends 85% of the time whilst asleep with one eye open and one half of its brain awake, when predators are nearby. (Independent on Sunday 21.2.99)

A substance added to flour to improve the quality of bread poses a "considerable" asthma risk to people working in bakeries and mills, researchers said yesterday. Alpha amylase, derived from the fungus *aspergillus oryzae*, is added to flour to speed up the baking process. (Independent 23.2.99)

Three horses were killed at Sedgefield yesterday after a pile-up involving nine of the 15 runners. The Jockey Club said it was an horrific and freak accident. (Independent 17.2.99)

A cockroach can run in the dark at a metre a second, and twist and turn up to 25 times a second to avoid obstacles, making it the nimblest creature on Earth. Using a high speed camera, researchers have found that the cockroach uses the tips of its antennae to maintain a constant distance from an object like a wall, even if it is uneven or zig-zags. (Guardian 19.2.99)

A fox cub, exhausted and injured, sought refuge in a rabbit hole as the frenzied pack of hounds moved in for the kill, as hunt saboteurs attempted to block their path. A policeman put his helmet to shield the hole, thus saving the animal's life. A saboteur managed to wrap the bleeding and bite marked cub in a coat and took it away for safety. (Daily Mail 16.2.99)

Monsanto will this week plead guilty to criminal charges of flouting rules over the planting of GM crops. In the first case of its kind in Britain the company will admit breaking the regulations at a test site in Lincolnshire. The company were supposed to leave a six-metre wide "pollen barrier" around the crop to stop cross-fertilisation. The barrier was found to be only two metres wide on

one side of the test site. (Independent on Sunday 14.2.99)

A total of 3,500 people called ambulances in Bucharest after stomach illnesses set in, the result of the annual feasting upon sarmales - spicy minced pork and pickled cabbage - washed down with prune alcohol and vodka. (Independent 2.1.99)

Police in the Philippines seized 1,320lb of dog meat, believed to be an aphrodisiac, in Manila. (Independent 26.2.99)

The red-eyed Vireo, which weighs less than an ounce, has been recorded far more often than any other Canadian or American-nesting bird in Britain and Ireland since the mid 1960's. (Independent 16.2.99)

A cyanide-based chemical used by drug traffickers may be what killed seven grey whales off the Pacific coast of Mexico, environmentalists have said. Natural Killer 19, or NK19 is used to mark drop zones in the sea at night for aircraft carrying cocaine. (Times 23.2.99)

Some of Britain's most popular animal charities are under investigation by the Charity Commission for needlessly stockpiling money while still making appeals for more funds. One rest home for horses in Buckinghamshire has a stock market portfolio of £14m, while a hamster and pet refuge has funds of nearly £10m. The RSPCA and the Guide Dogs for the Blind have built up more than £230m in investments, while Battersea dog's home has in some years been spending only half of its income and has total funds of more than £36m. Another rest home for horses, in Lincolnshire, has £3.6m while the Raystede Centre for Animal Welfare in East Sussex has funds of £10m. (Sunday Times 3.1.99)

Roads around a dairy farm in a village in France are sinking under liquid cow manure from the farm. (Independent 8.1.99)

A hunter in France was killed by a deer yesterday, 50 miles south of Paris. The 68-year-old pensioner was charged by a stag and gored in the chest. He died instantly. (Times 15.2.99)

Humans probably caused the extinction of more than 85% of Australia's large animals 50,000 years ago by burning vegetation, scientists said. (Independent 8.1.99)

The decline of barn owls has been halted, according to a report by the British Trust for Ornithology and the Hawk and Owl Trust. A survey by volunteers found 4,000 breeding pairs in Britain, almost the same as a 1985 census. (Guardian 5.1.99)

Pate de foie gras is being threatened with a EU ban, after scientists recommended that the techniques used to produce it are detrimental to the welfare of the birds, and must be outlawed, which it is in Britain. (Independent on Sunday 10.1.99)

Councillors in Beverly Hills, Los Angeles, have voted 3-1 for a special election on May 11 to decide on whether to have a consumer notice tag in fur coats pointing out the cruelty involved. (Guardian 4.2.99)

## Underground Magazine

'Underground' is a highly recommended animal liberation magazine produced in Canada by the NA-ALFSG. It contains articles on all animal liberation issues, letters, news reports, prisoner support, a comprehensive list of direct action from around the world and more.

Suggested costs for a membership to the North American ALFSG (including a year's subscription to 'Underground') are on a \$20-\$30 sliding scale. Those outside of Canada should send US or local currency.

Write for a catalogue of NA-ALFSG merchandise or for further information to:

**NA-ALFSG**  
**Box 69597**  
**5845 Yonge Street**  
**Willowdale, Ontario**  
**Canada M2M 4K3**  
e-mail:  
**naalfsg@envirolink.org**

A Manchester slaughterman was yesterday fined £500 for assaulting a female Meat Hygiene Service veterinarian. (Independent 3.2.99)

A tropical seabird is being nursed after crash-landing in British waters in December. The frigatebird, with an 8ft wingspan, was picked up exhausted and close to death on the Isle of Man by a wildlife enthusiast who has been looking after it since. (Independent 3.2.99)

Farmers should be paid £200 per hectare to create and look after habitats that encourage the return of wild birds, animals and insects to the countryside, the Wildlife Trusts say in a plan to switch £1.6bn in agricultural subsidies to an environmental fund. (Independent 2.2.99)

Ruddy ducks, introduced to Britain 50 years ago, are to be shot as their sex drive is threatening a much rarer species, the white-headed duck, with hybridisation, the Environment Minister Michael Meacher has said.

The white-headed duck is one of Europe's rarest birds and is globally endangered, with a population of no more than 16,000. In the 1970's numbers were down to 22, but conservation work has raised this to 1,000. The shooting of some of Britain's 4,000 ruddy ducks will start in the spring at breeding sites in the West Midlands, Anglesey and Fife and will continue for three years. (Independent 2.2.99)

A landlord has been told he cannot clear a blocked drain that causes his pub to flood because a nearby colony of glow-worms needs to breed. He has been forced to close his pub when it rains. (Independent 30.1.99)

There are 40,000 muscles in an elephant's trunk. (Independent on Sunday 31.1.99)

Ruth Hamilton, an animal loving author, is writing to Jack Straw, demanding it to be made compulsory for dogs in cars to wear seat belts. (Independent 4.1.99)

Twenty-eight U.S. states permit humans having sex with animals (Observer 7.2.99)

The owner of a meat distribution company in Johannesburg and five of his staff were found dead, locked in their refrigerated truck. Police believe the men had been robbed and locked in the truck, where they froze to death. (Independent 5.2.99)

Huntsmen trampled over Winston Churchill's grave at Bladon, Oxford. (Independent on Sunday 7.2.99)

Research scientists imported 2,362 primates from around the world into Britain last year. Of those were 2,196 crab-eating macaques from Mauritius, Philippines and Israel. Some 160 rhesus macaques were imported from China, while six squirrel monkeys were imported from the US. (Independent 5.2.99)

A farmer who triumphed in sheep dog trials across Britain and took the top prize on BBC TV's "One Man and his Dog" was fined £2,000 after being found guilty of five charges of causing unnecessary suffering to five collies.

## The Vegan Project Network

The aims of the project are to:

- create a definitive register of vegan projects
- give provide information to people interested in becoming involved in vegan projects
- publicise what the Vegan Project Network has done, is doing, and hopes to do in the future.

A quarterly newsletter is available, but the Project needs reports, articles and finances (!) to help cover costs.

Please write for details or send reports of vegan projects/articles to:

**The Vegan Project Network**  
**The Essence of Sanctuary**  
**7A, Heath Close,**  
**New England Road,**  
**Haywards Heath, West**  
**Sussex, RH16 3JW**  
**01444 412835**

Gwyn Jones, 52, of Penmachno, near Betws-y-coed in Snowdonia, was said to have shown "wicked disregard" for the welfare of his dogs. The magistrate ordered him to pay £1,750 in costs to the RSPCA. Two collies will stay with the RSPCA whilst three collies had to be put down. (Guardian 30.5.97)

Obesity is a serious problem in America. Half of all adult Americans are overweight and more than a third are defined as obese. About 300,000 Americans die every year from diseases relating to obesity, and the nation spends \$100bn treating illnesses arising from overeating. (Independent 4.1.99)

Opposition from residents in the Isle of Lewis in the Outer Hebrides has killed plans to set up a farm producing 30,000 mice a month as food for exotic animals. (Guardian 13.1.99)

Deep in the Tanjung Puting National Park in Borneo, there is a clinic providing essential care for sick and traumatised orang-utans. The Orang-utan Foundation and Discovery Initiatives (0171 724 2912) has organised a two-week trip in August. (Guardian 16.1.99)

Water voles are on the verge of extinction in West Sussex, the Environment Agency has warned. They were once a common sight throughout the south of England. (News 16.1.99)

Two men from Farmington Hills, Michigan, have been jailed for 30 days and ordered to serve two months in a boot camp for beheading a duck with a golf club. News 16.1.99)

The poison used to kill British squirrels may be banned or restricted after proposals from the EC. (Independent 27.1.99)



Two men who chased a polar bear with snowmobiles to take photographs were fined thousands of dollars, the heaviest fine to be imposed by Norway, for disturbing the protected species. (Independent 28.1.99)

A farmer who shot a man illegally hare-coursing escaped a fine after the judge said his victim was a menace to society. (Sun 27.1.99)

More damning research was carried out in 1994 and 1996 in Finland and the US into the anti-oxidant supplement beta carotene, widely claimed to fight the free radicals that roam the body and can cause cancerous cells to develop. It has been discovered that beta carotene actually accelerates, rather than hinders, the growth of tumours in people who smoke, after they had been administered high doses. (Independent on Sunday 31.1.99)

Battery hen cages could be abolished throughout Europe after the European Parliament voted to ban their use by Jan 1, 2009. (Times 29.1.99)

A farmer's wife died when she was knocked from her motorbike over the edge of a cliff by a flock of stampeding sheep. She had stopped to give hay to the animals near a quarry. (Mirror 28.1.99)

A total of 1,600 mice have been gathered by the University of Adelaide, half genetically modified to make them more susceptible to tumours, to see what effects using cellphones for an hour a day, five days a week, for two years will have on them. (Independent 23.1.99)

Animal feed for cows, pigs and chickens containing GM crops is about to go to market, although Government officials, scientists and environmental groups believe the GM DNA from the animal feed could pass on to humans, with unknown effects. (Independent on Sunday 24.1.99)

Ministers will not attempt to force through Parliament a ban on fox hunting because they are convinced the

peers would reject it. (Independent 27.11.98)

The Government is to start charging for enforcing anti-BSE controls on slaughterhouses, the Agriculture Minister, has announced. (Independent 15.1.99)

What was believed to be Britain's sole surviving pool frog has died, only a few years after zoologists discovered it was still living in Britain. (Independent 14.1.99)

Animal rights activists are being blamed for a firebomb attack on a meat supply company in Sussex. RP Meats of Brighton had four lorries destroyed worth £150,000, the second attack in 10 years. (Meridian TV 9.11.98)

190 jobs have been lost at Webb's Poultry in Winchester. (Meridian TV. 10.1.998)

A hunt enthusiast from Cheshire has recently been sentenced to 15 months in jail for an attack on the director of the League Against Cruel Sports. His conviction brings to 12 the number of hunt supporters this year convicted of violent offences against those opposed to hunting. (Independent 16.11.98)

Live goats are being crushed to death in secret military experiments, it has emerged. They are being shot out of mocked-up submarines to study the effects of decompression on sailors who use escape hatches. Use of the animals in more than 700 experiments over the past five years has led to the deaths of more than sixteen goats. (The Express 30.3.99)

Hunt members and angry parents clashed yesterday after a stag was chased into a school playground as pupils were leaving for the day. The panicking animal tried desperately to get inside the school building after being cornered by hounds. The incident happened at Parracombe primary school, north Devon. The stag finally bolted from the playground, on the edge of Exmoor, followed by members of the hunt. The stag was later shot. (The Express 31.3.1999)