

SEAR ACTION

South East Animal Rights - June 2007 Newsletter 29

www.se-ar.org.uk info@se-ar.org.uk 07810 024098
additional new contact number - 07948036746

Please come to our next meeting
Tuesday 3rd July

Ruskin House, Croydon
23 Coombe Road, CR0 1BD

7.30pm

Guest Speaker **Keith Mann** activist/author

Get Motivated, be Inspired, **TAKE ACTION**

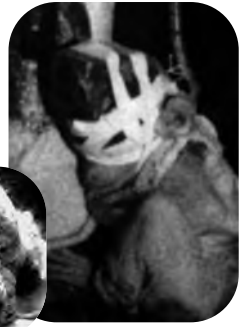
Be inspired by Keith Mann, our guest speaker, who has spent 7 and a half years in prison for his role in ALF operations, and has now published a book - 'From Dusk 'til Dawn' which offers the personal perspective of this former ALF activist, on the direct action wing of the Animal Liberation Movement, from its early history, through its rapid growth in the 1960's,

to the present day. The book takes the reader on tour with the ALF as activists carry out raids, and uncovers the thinking and motivation of some of the people who work within ALF cells or alone - those who go out of their way and are ready to break the law of the land to help stop the suffering of animals. The Animal Liberation Front has targeted hundreds of research laboratories, farms and individuals associated with the abuse of animals.

We will be showing previously unseen footage of 'Britches' (shown right) an icon of animal liberation and other uplifting footage from European activists.

Keith will be signing copies of his book with lots of other goodies to buy. www.fromdusktildawn.org.uk

COME & MAKE UP YOUR OWN MIND ABOUT SO CALLED 'ANIMAL RIGHTS TERRORISTS'



please accept our apologies for the lack of 'SEAR ACTION' last month, as we are all volunteers, our lives sometimes get the better of us!! don't forget our new address BM SEAR London WC1N 3XX

Stag hunters found guilty



Two officials from the Quantock Staghounds have been found guilty of breaching the Hunting Act by chasing a deer with hounds on 16th February 2007.

Richard Down and Adrian Pillivant found guilty of breaching sec 1 of the Hunting Act by chasing deer with hounds. League Against Cruel Sports (LACS) who brought the private prosecution, Chief Exec Douglas Batchelor said, "We are delighted but not surprised by the result. Justice has prevailed today in what was a clear cut case of blatant law breaking by hunters who believe themselves to be above the law. Today's result will send out a stark message to those extremists who insist on flouting the law that their behaviour will not be tolerated. The hunting fraternity must grasp what the British public have understood since the ban was introduced - chasing and slaughtering stags for pleasure is totally unacceptable in civilised society."

This is the 2nd successful private prosecution under the Hunting Act 2004 for LACS. 4th August 2006, Tony Wright became the first huntsman to be found guilty under the new law. Mr Wright has appealed the ruling and his appeal trial will be week commencing 9th July 07. Today's verdict makes it eleven successful prosecutions in total since the Hunting Act came into force. Richard Down and Adrian Pillivant have been fined £500 each plus costs of £1000. With regards to the Hunting Act, the judge said "The Act is clear."

JOIN US FOR THE SAB SEASON THIS YEAR - save wildlife

www.huntsabs.org.uk

Veggies are Smarter it's official

Many people deride vegetarians for their eating choices, but now it seems we may have the last laugh, with research showing vegetarians are more intelligent than our meat-eating friends.

A study of thousands of men and women revealed that those who stick to a vegetarian diet have IQs that are around five points higher than those who regularly eat meat.

Writing in British Medical Journal, the researchers say it isn't clear why veggies are brainier - but admit the fruit and veg-rich vegetarian diet could somehow boost brain power. The researchers tracked the fortunes of more than 8,000 volunteers for 20 years. At the age of ten, the boys and girls sat a series of tests to determine their IQ.

When they reached the age of 30, they were asked whether they were vegetarian and their answers compared to their childhood IQ score. Around four and a half per cent of the adults were vegetarian - a figure that is broadly in line with that found in the general population. The typical adult veggie had a childhood IQ of around 105 - around five points higher than those who continued to eat meat as they grew up. The vegetarians were also more likely to have gained degrees and hold down high-powered jobs.



Save the planet, animals and yourself - go veg!
Visit Animal Aid for more info or join us and we will help you.

www.animalaid.org.uk

PETSVILLE DEMO - SAT July 7th, MEET 12noon BOTTOM SUTTON HIGH ST

disclaimer - SEAR's aim is to bring an end to all forms of animal abuse and cruelty by all legitimate forms of protest. Nothing contained in this newsletter or in any SEAR publication is intended to encourage or incite illegal acts. SEAR does not encourage or incite any illegal activities, it does not encourage or incite threatening or abusive communications with the perpetrators of any such animal abuse or cruelty, be this by telephone call, fax, email or letter. Any press articles published in this newsletter relating to any illegal activities are for the sole reason of publishing news and are not intended to incite or encourage similar acts. The comments expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of SEAR or the editors or producers.

SPEAK Defendants Acquitted

All 14 SPEAK Supporters who charged with public order offences have been acquitted by Justice Wright at Bicester Magistrates Court.

They were barred for an entire year from entering a city in their own country as they waited for the case against them to move to trial. The charges against the 14 SPEAK supporters arose from a legal demo held at the Oxford University Encaenia ceremony on June 21st 2006 which saw five SPEAK supporters arrested on the day, a further eleven arrested at home addresses in the following weeks.

This case has taken almost one year to come to court during which time the defendants have been subject to police bail conditions which have barred them from entering Oxford City. Charges originally laid by the police included breach of sec 12&14 of the Public Order Act, inciting others to breach sec 12&14, obstruction of the highway, obstructing a police officer and assaulting a police officer.

The 4 week trial began on 30th April has highlighted a deliberate and sinister policy by Thames Valley Police (TVP) to intimidate and harass legal campaigners who support SPEAK. It has also exposed a close relationship between TVP and Oxford University.

During the trial a transcript of a Dictaphone tape which was recorded by a serving Thames Valley Police officer acting as a tactical advisor on the day of the demo was presented as evidence by the defence to support their case that police had deliberately provoked and engineered a situation that would allow them to arrest peaceful campaigners.

The recording device was accidentally re-activated after the arrests and the days demo had been stopped, and recorded officers (inc senior officers) of TVP revealing how they really felt about animal rights campaigners, the relationship between TVP and Oxford University and their clear intention to engage in a campaign of harassment and persecution against legal campaigners supporting SPEAK.

Obscene language used to describe campaigners and members of the public. Talk of "waging a dirty war" was excused in the witness box as "tongue in cheek" or "banter between officers".

More disturbing is clear evidence that arrests were pre-planned, as described in comments like "we knew we were going to take bodies today" and "just heard from the university, they are very impressed". One officer is also clearly heard saying to Bronze commander on the day (Inspector Sharp) "The university's got Masons, it's got you". TVP have played an active part in trying to create the conditions in which a draconian High Court injunction can be implemented against SPEAK.

Robert Cogswell from SPEAK "of course we are all very happy that justice has prevailed but can we really call it justice when the 14 defendants should never have been on trial in the first place. 5 people were arrested on the day, the remaining were rounded up in a 'Stasi' like operation at their homes. It is a sad day when a public body like TVP are clearly doing the bidding of private institutions like Oxford University. At SPEAK we will be insisting on high level talks with Police Officers in order to make sure this sort of political and clearly biased policing is a thing of the past."

Mr. Cogswell goes on to say that "Its disgraceful that peaceful protesters have been targeted in this so called 'dirty war' when the real crime is taking place day in and day out behind the closed doors of Oxford Universities laboratories. Primates who have the capacity to feel pain and suffer when deprived of their natural environments and most basic instincts are forced to endure painful invasive procedures.

SPEAK are a legal campaign that works within legal framework and the sooner Thames Valley Police realise this and the sooner Oxford University stop peddling their lies about us the sooner we can stop wasting the taxpayers money on needless trials. Its about time the police put a stop to real crime that blights our society today and at SPEAK we will be insisting they do just that".

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE - IF NOT YOU, THEN WHO?

www.speakcampaigns.org



liberated monkeys, thanks to activists just like you

Please make sure we have your contact details, email address, mobile number so we can add you to our text email alert list, animals are counting on you - don't miss out!

DIARY

FOR FULL NATIONWIDE LISTINGS
VISIT WWW.VEGGIES.ORG.UK

June

Sat 30th

Viva!'s Incredible Veggie Roadshow - London 10:00 to 17:30 100 stalls · food samples · wines · competitions · celebrity auction · books · health advice · campaign news · veggie products · beauty products · kids' play area · Vegan café £3 . Under 16s FREE - The Royal Horticultural Halls - Lawrence Hall & Conference Centre, Greycoat Street, London SW1P 2QD, Victoria or Pimlico or St James's Park.

July Tues 1st

SEAR Meeting - 7.30pm, Ruskin House, 23 Coombe Road, Croydon
guest speaker Keith Mann - former ALF activists - Videos and inspiration!!

Sat 7th

Petsville Demo, Meet 12noon bottom of Sutton High St.

SAT 14th-15th

SEAR STALL AT Croydon Festival, Lloyd park - volunteers needed for both days. 07948036746

Sat 14th

National Day of Action Against Tesco's Trade in Live Turtles - Turtles desperately need you! You can help them by joining in Viva!'s National Day of Action. Ph: Justin Kerswell: 0117 944 1000 . justin@viva.org.uk

Sat 21st

Hunt Saboteurs Association AGM - Conway Hall, Red Lion Square, London WC1 13:00 to 17:00

Sat 4th August

SPEAK - Felix Solidarity Day - details at www.speakcampaigns.org

Pigeon Action Group: afternoon rota feeding, campaigning and rescue: 07810 024098

Dover Demos every Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday nights from 10pm onwards - 07968 134489 or 07775 682420

Regular Canadian Fur demos in London - contact 07092 033024 for details

Fur campaigns: London: Pickets every week at London fur shops. 07951 274371 / 07796 774200 / 0845 845 4775

Every Thursday, outside the proposed Oxford University animal torture centre, South Parks Road, Oxford.

Transport from London - to book reply to info@speakcampaigns.org or contact 07899 775493.

your ongoing support is greatly appreciated - please make cheques payable to

'SEAR' NEW ADDRESS - BM SEAR, London, WC1N 3XX and a big thank you to all those who have donated!