

*Fully
Updated & Revised*

HOW TO KEEP HUNTING
HUNTING
HANDBOOK
2005 - 2006

Published by the Countryside Alliance and Council of Hunting Associations

Contents

Introduction by Simon Hart and Stephen Lambert	5
What has been done to maintain the infrastructure of hunts and clubs so as to enable hunting to continue	6
Farmers and Landowners	8
The Police	9
General advice for everyone involved in hunting	10
Trail Hunting, Flushing and Hound Exercising	13
How to hunt legally with Foxhounds	14
How to hunt legally with Harriers, Beagles and Bassets	15
How to hunt legally with Minkhounds	16
How to hunt deer legally	17
How to undertake hunting with Terriers legally	18
How to undertake legal hunting activities with greyhounds, lurchers and other gaze hounds	20
How to use dogs legally in the shooting of game	21
What can the police do?	24
What should you do if you are arrested upon suspicion of alleged illegal hunting?	26
Saboteurs and Infiltration	28
Public Opinion and hunting's role in the local community	30
Working with the media – Information for Hunts and Clubs	31
Key messages to use when dealing with the media	32
How will this law be repealed or amended?	35
Appendices	
Appendix 1: Template letter from hunts and clubs to landowners	36
Appendix 2: Template permission form for terrier work	37
Appendix 3: Template permission letter for hunting with greyhounds, lurchers and other gaze hounds	38
Appendix 4: Convictions for Illegal Hunting	39
Appendix 5: Useful contact numbers	40

Notice

Please note that all references to the term hunting in this handbook refer to legal hunting activities.

Disclaimer

This manual provides advice which has been checked by a team of lawyers working for the Countryside Alliance. However, we are swimming in uncharted waters and it is for the courts to decide whether people have broken the law. The outcome of any individual prosecution will always depend upon the facts of each case. We will publish updates as necessary once we have seen how the Courts are dealing with the legal issues the Act raises. Neither the Countryside Alliance nor the Council of Hunting Associations can accept any liability for loss or damage of any kind resulting from your following the guidance in this Handbook.

Dear Supporter

Since the Hunting Bill was enacted there has been a roller coaster of emotions and activity. Many people have had hunting written off and media commentators were talking of the 'last season' but now a mood of resolution, spurred by anger, is apparent throughout the hunting communities as they prepare to make the most of various temporary forms of "new" hunting.

Whilst support for hunting has remained firm, sympathy for it has undoubtedly increased as people actively demonstrate their rejection of the nanny state – people are fed up with being told how to live their lives. Supporting hunting is one way that they can show their displeasure at what has happened.

This fully updated and revised edition of the Hunting Handbook explains what is legal under the Hunting Act and will ensure that everyone involved in hunting can continue legal hunting activities for the duration of the 'temporary' ban.

The public image and the credibility of hunting remains as important as ever. The Countryside Alliance and Council of Hunting Associations (CHA) are working together to ensure that hunting maintains its infrastructure and jointly they will introduce measures to attract newcomers and young people to hunting, so as to ensure that hunting is embraced by future generations and subsequently protected long term.

The Countryside Alliance and the Council of Hunting Associations will continue to campaign to restore hunting to its accepted and valued place in the countryside – that is our primary and fundamental objective.



Simon Hart
Chief Executive, Countryside Alliance



Stephen Lambert
Chairman, Council of Hunting Associations

What has been done to maintain the infrastructure of hunts and clubs so as to enable hunting to continue

The CHA has advised hunts and clubs on the necessity of maintaining the infrastructure of hunting in retaining kennel establishments, the hounds and horses and sufficient staff. Without the infrastructure the future of wide scale hunting would be bleak.

The CHA will continue with regional meetings for the key people within hunts and clubs to:

- Maintain confidence that the Hunting Act will be repealed or amended
- Encourage supporters to participate in their hunt's legal activities and thus safeguard hunt finances
- Promote the continuance of the full range of social and other events within hunts, and consider new ones
- Identify problems before they occur

Constitutions

Hunts and clubs have amended their Constitutions so that the Objects or Aims of the hunt or club cover legal activities.

This is essential so that:

- Officials (or committee members or company officers if the hunt or club is a limited company) are not liable for irrelevant prosecutions for conspiring to hunt illegally
- Farmers have confidence to give permission for access to their land for legal activities
- Hunts and clubs can be insured for both Public Liability and Legal Fees
- There is evidence of the intention to operate within the law

Further advice on amending Constitutions is available from the Hunting Office or from each of the Hunting Associations, contact details for which are available in Appendix 5.

Contracts of Employment

Employment contracts have similarly been amended so as to ensure that the terms of employment reflect the amended Constitutions.

What has been done to maintain the infrastructure of hunts and clubs so as to enable hunting to continue

Insurance

The Insurance Brokers and Underwriters for the MFHA Block Public Liability and Legal Fees Schemes (which is open to all Associations, not just the MFHA) have confirmed that cover will continue provided that the hunt has changed its Constitution so that it remains a legal entity and that it does not have objects that are unlawful. Hunts will still be covered provided that any breach of the law is inadvertent and unintentional.

This means, for example, that if a hunt was intentionally carrying out a legal activity, and caused a road accident, it would be insured. If, however, it was carrying out an illegal activity, it would not be insured and could face claims for damages and compensation.

Countryside Alliance Membership Insurance

Countryside Alliance members are insured to take part in country sports as one of their membership benefits and they will therefore be insured as long as they are taking part in a legal activity. You cannot be insured for an illegal activity.

Permission for legal activities

All forms of hunting with dogs remain dependent on farmers' and/or landowners' permission, or on licences giving permission to enter Government or institutional land.

Farmers need to be reassured that giving permission for legal hunting does not put them at risk of prosecution. Furthermore, that Single Farm Payments will not be withheld if they have given this permission.

Single Farm Payments are regulated by EU law and both the NFU and CLA confirm that payments will not be affected should the Hunting Act be breached. Further advice on this, and reassurance for landowners, is available from the Hunting Office.

Farmers should be aware that DEFRA has stated on their website that it is necessary for there to be a deliberate intention to hunt a wild mammal before an offence is committed:

"The provisions of the Bill are clear and easily understood – innocent bystanders who witness an illegal hunt, farmers whose land is used against their will, or people, including those engaged in drag hunting, whose dogs chase and kill a fox against their wishes will not be guilty of a crime. This is because people will be only hunting when they themselves intend to pursue the quarry animal."

The Crown Prosecution Service (responsible for bringing prosecutions on behalf of the State) has further clarified the matter on their website by saying: "Hunting is an intentional activity and there can be no such thing as unintentional hunting."

Appendices 1-3 contain template letters for hunts, clubs and individuals to send to farmers and landowners. Proper records should be kept.

Licences to Hunt

The National Trust has agreed licences for hunts to undertake legal activities on their land. It is also possible to obtain licences for fox control to be undertaken within the terms of the Hunting Act.

The Hunting Office has signed Agreements with both the Forestry Commission and the MoD that will enable hunts to obtain Recreation Licences for trail hunting and other legal activities. Permission for legal fox control may be granted (without a licence) by local Forestry District Managers or by either Military Commandants or MoD land agents where there is a demonstrable need identified by adjoining farmers.

Permission for hound exercising should be by arrangement with Forestry District Managers or Commandants as relevant.

Detailed information and further advice is available from the Hunting Office.

Taking a friendly and co-operative attitude towards the police has thus far proven to be the most effective way of retaining good relations with them.

The police should be informed of hunt fixtures so that they are able to respond to allegations made by anti hunting organisations and/or the public. Your local police force may be grateful to know when and where legal hunting is taking place, because if they then receive a telephone call from a member of the public reporting any hunting activity they are in a position to respond by saying they are already aware, rather than having to send out officers unnecessarily to investigate.

Hunts and clubs may find it helpful to show the police their amended Constitutions and, if they think fit, any written messages to subscribers and foot followers.

Keeping a proper record of your discussions with the police is strongly advised.

It is essential that details of all police action, any arrests and information about policing tactics are immediately forwarded to the Hunting Office.

Everyone should be aware that it is the responsibility of the police to implement the law whatever their opinion of the law may be.

General advice for everyone involved in hunting

Everyone should be confident about taking part in legal hunting activity, as they would be in any other legal activity.

The definition of illegal hunting

A person commits an offence with a maximum penalty of a fine of £5,000 if he hunts a wild mammal with a dog unless his hunting is exempt or he reasonably believes that his hunting was exempt.

Information on the implications of a conviction under the Hunting Act can be found in Appendix 4.

Intent

DEFRA has stated on their website that it is necessary for there to be a deliberate intention to hunt a wild mammal before an offence is committed:

“The provisions of the Bill are clear and easily understood – innocent bystanders who witness an illegal hunt, farmers whose land is used against their will, or people, including those engaged in drag hunting, whose dogs chase and kill a fox against their wishes will not be guilty of a crime. This is because people will be only hunting when they themselves intend to pursue the quarry animal.”

Whilst this guidance is from a Government Department, it is not definitive legal advice and magistrates may take a different view.

This should be understood in light of the further clarification by the Crown Prosecution Service (responsible for bringing prosecutions on behalf of the State) which has said on its website: “Hunting is an *intentional* activity and there can be no such thing as unintentional hunting.”

Legal Hunting Activities

Hunting activity under the Hunting Act might include:

- Trail hunting
- Hound exercise
- Using no more than 2 dogs to flush to a gun(s)
- Rabbit hunting
- Rat hunting

General advice for everyone involved in hunting

- Hunting hares which have been shot
- Flushing to birds of prey
- Rescue of a wild mammal
- Research and observation of the various quarry species

The only animals which can be hunted exactly as before are rabbits and rats. Hunting all other mammals (including squirrels, mice and so on) is illegal unless it is exempt.

Many hunts may use a combination of activities during a day's hunting to simulate traditional hunting practices. Anyone following a hunt may well be unsure as to the exact nature of the hunting activity. If this is the case and the person is questioned by the police, the media or members of the public, then the person is perfectly justified in saying simply that there is legal hunting activity taking place. A copy of this handbook may help as further explanation of the different forms of legal hunting. If necessary the questions can be referred to the Master or other official.

Exempt Hunting

Exempt hunting activity under the Hunting Act might include:

- a. The use of 2 dogs to flush a wild mammal to be shot by a competent person if the purpose is to protect livestock or its food, game birds, crops, growing timber, fisheries, the biological diversity of an area or obtaining meat to be used for human or animal consumption.
- b. The use of 1 dog below ground to prevent damage to game birds that are being preserved for shooting. The wild mammal should be bolted and shot by a competent person. DEFRA has intimated that the wild mammal may be bolted into a net, or may be shot in the hole provided that the terrier has first been removed – however a Court's interpretation of the Hunting Act may differ.
- c. The hunting of rats and rabbits.
- d. The hunting of a hare that has been shot. There is no limit on the number of dogs or guidance on either how shot the hare has to be or what it has been shot with.
- e. The use of an unlimited number of dogs to flush a wild mammal so as to enable a bird of prey to hunt it. There is no need for the wild mammal to be killed and no guidance on the type of bird of prey necessary per species.
- f. The rescue of a wild mammal which the hunter reasonably believes is or may be injured.
- g. The use of 2 dogs to hunt a wild mammal for the purposes of observation and study.

For each of the exemptions the landowner's permission is required and in the case of terrier work the terrier man must carry written permission.

Muzzling

The very act of pursuing an animal (except rabbits and rats) is illegal whether or not you have an intention of killing it. Therefore hunting with muzzled hounds is illegal because the dogs are still engaged in the pursuit of the animal.

Trespass

Trespass remains a civil offence. All hunting activity must take place on land which either belongs to those hunting or with the permission of the landowner. Anyone working a dog underground (see pages 18-19) must carry written evidence with him that this is the case and be able to produce it immediately when requested by a police officer.

Note that the exemption for trespass under the 1831 Game Act (which meant that people hunting could not be prosecuted for trespass if they or their hounds strayed onto land which they didn't have permission to be on) no longer applies. This will mean that if you or your hounds or dog go on land where you don't have permission to be, you can now be prosecuted for trespass. This will need to be factored in when trails are laid or hound exercise rides planned.

Ensure you cannot be prosecuted for any other offences

If the police suspect you of breaking the hunting law and investigate you, for example by searching you or your property, check that you cannot be prosecuted for other breaches of law. For more advice see Appendix 4.

Trail hunting

Any form of trail, simulated, or mock hunting should be promoted and seen as a measure to provide activity for hounds and their followers during the 'temporary' ban. The term drag hunting is to remain the property of the Masters of Drag and Bloodhounds Association. Our activities should not be confused with theirs. Hunts should liaise with their local drag hunt and not try to rival it.

Trail hunting is the hunting of a scent laid by man in such a way best to simulate traditional hunting activity. Advice on introducing hounds to trail hunting and the preparation of suitable scents and methods of laying the scent is available from the Hunting Office.

The less that the followers, or even the huntsman, know of the route of the trail, the more the hunting will mimic its traditional and challenging form.

Trail hunting and Public Relations

- Trail hunting has no utilitarian value to farmers, nor does it contribute towards wildlife management or habitat conservation.
- It is an interim measure forced upon us by the Hunting Act that is necessary to maintain the infrastructure of hunting.
- It ensures that hound packs can survive in the medium term by keeping them exercised and content.
- The hounds will continue to hunt the scent of their normal quarry during the temporary ban so that they remain focused on their normal quarry.

Flushing

Two hounds can be used to flush quarry from covert (such as undergrowth, open land or woodland). The quarry must then be shot dead as soon as possible by a "competent person". The Hunting Act doesn't specify what a competent person is but it is likely a court would expect him to (a) have an appropriately licensed weapon and (b) be able to prove that he has competently shot and killed the quarry species in the past.

The Hunting Act permits the use of hounds to flush a wild mammal to enable a bird of prey to hunt it. The CHA strongly advises that this method should not be used unless advice has been taken from the relevant governing body.

Hound Exercising

The Hunting Act does not affect hound exercising and any number of hounds can be exercised at the same time but landowners must give permission for this to take place. Hunt staff will be carrying hunting equipment such as hunting horns and whips as an aid to enable them to control the hounds.

How to hunt legally with Foxhounds

Legal hunting with Foxhounds (MFHA, Federation of Welsh Packs and Central Committee of Fell Packs) is likely to involve the options listed below, but reference to all the exemptions under General Advice on page 11 should be made:

1. Trail hunting
2. Flushing using two dogs
3. Hound exercise rides or walks across country
4. Flushing to a bird of prey
5. Rabbit hunting

Packs of hounds cannot be just left in kennels without any meaningful purpose to their lives and key to maintaining the infrastructure of hunts is retaining the support and involvement of hunt members. So trail hunting is likely to be the most used option for the duration of the temporary ban.

It remains legal for there to be separate groups of people, each group with two dogs and for them to flush foxes to a gun(s). These separate small groups can take place in close proximity provided that the two hounds do not join with other hounds nearby in pursuit of a single fox. If this occurs, albeit unintentionally, then every effort should be made to stop the hounds as soon as is possible.

It should be understood that the Act states that when flushing, hounds must be under sufficiently close control to ensure that they don't obstruct the shooting dead of the quarry animal as soon as possible after it is found or flushed. Hunts may use this option in response to farmers' requests for fox control.

Hounds need to be exercised each day. Exercise will involve walking out (daily), longer exercise with hunt staff on bicycles or horses in the summer months and then the Autumn and Winter hunting seasons. During the temporary ban hound exercise rides across open country are likely to be developed to attract mounted followers.

Flushing to a bird of prey should only take place as per the advice on page 13.

There are no new restrictions on the hunting of rabbits.

A combination of the options can be used within a day's hunting.

How to hunt legally with Harriers, Beagles and Bassets

Legal hunting with Harriers, Beagles and Bassets will operate along similar lines to that with Foxhounds whereby hunting can involve trail hunting, flushing to a gun(s) with two hounds, hound exercising and rabbit hunting.

Although there are no new restrictions on anybody hunting rabbits, it is an option most likely to be taken up by those hunts and clubs who have traditionally hunted hares. It remains legal to dig out rabbits and to stop their burrows.

The hunting of a hare, with any number of hounds, which has been shot is exempt. Where hare shoots take place hunts can liaise with shoot organisers and after the shoot use hounds to hunt and retrieve any hares which have been shot.

Hare hunts may also hunt hares with two dogs for the purpose of research and observation in order to continue their role of monitoring the size and health of hare populations; albeit this cannot be as effective as in the past due to restricting the number of dogs to just two.

Flushing to a bird of prey should only take place as per the advice on page 13.

A combination of the options can be used within a day's hunting.

Note: Anyone killing a hare by flushing to a gun(s) with two dogs must be in possession of a Game Licence – these are available from Post Offices at a cost of £6.00.

How to hunt legally with Minkhounds

The advice for mink hunts for legal hunting is very similar to the other forms of hunting. Activities might include hound exercise, trail hunting and flushing the mink to a gun(s) using just two hounds.

Mink are an alien species and every effort should be made to eradicate them or, at least, to reduce population levels as far as is possible. To assist in population reduction mink hunts can flush to a gun(s) using two dogs or use terriers below ground where mink are threatening game birds being preserved to be shot. However, the same terriers cannot be used for the purpose of protecting farm livestock or other wildlife.

No more than two minkhounds can be used for the purpose of research and observation of mink. The hunt can then inform water bailiffs and gamekeepers of their presence so as to advise trappers of relevant locations.

Likewise, groups of people each with two hounds can “draw” waterways and confirm them clear of mink. Any mink flushed must be shot.

Flushing to a bird of prey should only take place as per the advice on page 13.

It is also legal for minkhounds to hunt rats and rabbits.

How to hunt deer legally

Legal deer hunting, similar to the other forms of hunting, may involve the three key constituents of trail hunting, flushing using two dogs and hunting with two dogs for the purpose of research and observation as previously described.

These elements can be combined within the day. It remains legal for there to be separate groups of people, each group with two dogs and for them to flush deer to a gun(s) or to hunt for research and study. These separate small groups can take place in the same area provided that the two hounds do not join with other hounds nearby in pursuit of a single deer. If this occurs, albeit unintentionally, then every effort should be made to stop the hounds as soon as is possible.

The Hunting Act says that when flushing, hounds must be under sufficiently close control to ensure that they don't obstruct the shooting dead of the quarry animal as soon as possible after it is found or flushed.

Deer may be actually hunted using two hounds for the purposes of observation and study and this will assist hunts to identify those deer that require culling for management or welfare reasons.

The hunts will continue their 24 hour ‘call out’ service to locate and rescue a deer which is or may be injured using two hounds, but unfortunately this vital welfare role is adversely affected by the limitation of just two hounds. In the past many of these injured deer were encountered during a hunting day and dispatched. Unfortunately, with two dogs only, some of these deer will not be located.

The use of terriers below ground for flushing wild mammals

The use of a terrier below ground to flush a wild mammal is only permitted providing all of the following conditions are met:

- Only a single dog is used below ground at any one time
- The purpose is to flush out wild mammals solely for the purpose of preventing or reducing serious damage to game birds or wild birds being kept or preserved to be shot
- The person must carry with them written permission from the land owner or occupier which you must be able to immediately show to the police on demand*
- They must intend to shoot the wild mammal as soon as possible after it is flushed
- All reasonable steps must be taken to prevent risk or injury to the dog

The manner in which the dog is used must also comply with the following code:

- The terrier's role is to locate and flush the animal, not to fight with it
- Only 'soft' terriers which stand back and bark are to be used
- Care must be taken to ensure the safety of those involved and to minimise the risk of injury to either the terrier or the wild mammal
- The terrier's time below ground must be kept as short as possible
- The terrier must always be fitted with an electronic locator
- Once it is determined the terrier is trapped, assistance must be given to release it immediately

Notes: Nothing other than nets may be placed over entrance/exit holes during the flushing.

DEFRA has stated in a written reply that once a terrier has exited the earth the gamekeeper (or presumably terrierman) may dig down to the quarry.

*Written Permission – a legal permission form for terrier work can be found on page 37 in Appendix 2. This can be photocopied as required.

Rats and rabbits can be hunted above and below ground as before providing you have permission from the landowner.

The hunting of all other animals (including mice, stoats, weasels, squirrels, mink and foxes) is illegal unless carried out as described below.

The use of terriers above ground for flushing wild mammals to a gun(s)

Providing you have permission from the landowner, up to two terriers can be used to flush your quarry from cover above ground (which could be undergrowth, woodland etc.). The quarry must then be shot dead as soon as possible by a "competent person". The Hunting Act doesn't specify what a competent person is but it is likely a court would expect them to (a) have an appropriate licensed weapon and (b) be able to prove that they have competently shot and killed the quarry species in the past. **This advice is applicable to the use of all dogs, not just terriers.**

How to undertake legal hunting activities with greyhounds, lurchers and other gaze hounds

It is illegal to participate in, attend, facilitate or permit land to be used for a competitive hare coursing event – which is defined as a competition in which dogs are, by the use of live hares, assessed as to skill in hunting hares. Coursing as a form of hunting, i.e. lurcher coursing is also banned unless it is exempt. Coursing is also explicitly forbidden under the general exemption for field trials of dogs involved in shooting.

However, much traditional lurcher work will remain unchanged, providing the quarry is a rabbit or rat, and flushing a hare with two dogs before it is shot will still remain legal. You can still go lamping, ferreting or bushing for rabbits. However if your dog inadvertently starts chasing a hare you must make every effort to stop the pursuit immediately.

People who want to work their dogs to hare can use them to flush the quarry out of covert on the condition that it is then shot as soon as possible by a competent person rather than killed by the dogs.

Rabbits can be hunted or coursed in any fashion and rabbit burrows can be legally stopped.

Anyone working lurchers should have the written permission from the landowner to hunt legal quarry, (i.e. rabbits and rats) and carry it with them when out hunting. An example of a letter of permission can be found on page 38 in Appendix 3. The landowner should also keep a copy of this permission. Proof of Insurance, i.e. Countryside Alliance membership, should also be carried. A good relationship with landowners, farmers and gamekeepers must be maintained at all times. Note too that the police have wide-ranging powers to confiscate vehicles, dogs and other property if they suspect you are, or have been, illegally hunting.

Anyone killing a hare by flushing to a gun(s) with two dogs must be in possession of a Game Licence – these are available from Post Offices at a cost of £6.00.

How to use dogs legally in the shooting of game

Game Shooting is still legal. However, the Hunting Act means that some gamekeeping practices and the use of the dogs for beating and flushing are affected by the legislation.

To avoid malicious prosecutions you must be aware of the ambiguities in the legislation.

Driven and rough game shooting

For driven shooting it is unlikely that a prosecution would succeed as it would be clear that your intention was not to hunt wild mammals. For rough shooting the situation may be more problematic as it may be difficult to prove your intention was not to hunt a wild mammal. Either way if the activity is reported to the police, the gun will need to explain why an offence has not been committed – such as the flushing was of wild birds, and if also of wild mammals then adherence to the requirements of the Hunting Act had been complied with.

For a prosecution to succeed under the Hunting Act the court must not only have evidence that the criminal act has occurred but also that the person responsible for that criminal act intended to commit that offence. Thus while a criminal act may occur during shooting (e.g. three dogs pursuing a hare or deer), as long as you can demonstrate that your intention was not to hunt a wild mammal the prosecution is unlikely to succeed.

Rough shooting for vermin control and ground game

The rough shooting of wild mammals, for example hare or fox, may involve the use of a dog to flush or stalk a wild mammal. If the use of a dog is involved it counts as hunting not shooting and is therefore covered under the Hunting Act.

While rough shooting the danger of prosecution arises when you are in breach of the above conditions for example:

- You use more than two dogs, or
- If you are shooting with others and more than two dogs come together and they go on to flush a hare or deer. If prosecuted you would have to show that this was not your intention and every reasonable action was taken to demonstrate that this was not your intent, and that you undertook every reasonable step from preventing it from occurring, for example separating and calling back your dogs.

When shooting a wild mammal remember that:

1. Stalking or flushing can only be carried out for the purpose of preventing or reducing serious damage which the wild mammal would otherwise cause to:

- Livestock
- Game birds or wild birds
- Food for livestock
- Crops (including vegetables and fruit)
- Growing timber
- Fisheries
- Other property
- The biological diversity of an area

Or for the purpose of:

- Obtaining meat for human or animal consumption
- Participation in a field trial

2. The person hunting must own the land or have the permission of the owner or occupier of the land
3. No more than two dogs can be used
4. No dog is used below ground
5. Reasonable steps must be taken to ensure that as soon as possible after being found or flushed the wild mammal is shot dead by a competent person
6. Furthermore the dogs must be under sufficiently close control so as not to obstruct the shooting

Mammals exempt from the Act

- Any number of dogs may be used (with permission of the landowner or occupier) to hunt a hare that has been shot.
- Rats and rabbits are exempt from the Hunting Act. However permission of the landowner or occupier is required to hunt them.

- Up to two dogs may be used to hunt a wild mammal that the hunter reasonably believes may be injured. Such hunting must be done with permission of the landowner or occupier, must not extend below ground and must end with appropriate action being taken to relieve the animal's suffering. The mammal must not be injured for the purpose of allowing such hunting.

Gamekeeping practices

You would break the law if:

- You use a dog below ground to 'stalk or flush' a wild mammal except for the purposes of preventing or reducing serious damage to game or wild birds that are being kept or preserved for the purpose of being shot where one dog below ground is allowed
- You did not use reasonable steps to ensure that as soon as possible after being flushed out from below ground the wild mammal is shot dead by a competent person
- Your dog was not controlled and killed the wild mammal
- You used a dog below ground for the purpose of preventing or reducing damage to livestock or wild birds that were not being kept or preserved for the purpose of being shot
- You used more than 2 dogs to find and kill stoats and weasels. You may use two dogs and a gun(s) under the conditions set out as above (in Section 1 Rough Shooting for vermin control and ground game)
- You used any dog to find and/or kill orphaned fox cubs for welfare reasons and not for the purposes of preventing damage to game birds or wild birds that are being kept or preserved for the purpose of being shot

What can the Police do?

Whilst remaining friendly and polite with the police you are not obliged to do anything which will assist the police in prosecuting you. If you are accused of illegal hunting by a police officer it is recommended that you simply state the lawful activity that you have been carrying out.

Arrest

The powers given to the police under the Hunting Act mean that people can be arrested if a police officer "*reasonably suspects*" that they have taken part, are taking part or are about to take part in illegal hunting.

Search and Seizure

The Hunting Act says that if a constable has a reasonable suspicion that a person has committed or is committing an offence under the Act he may, if he reasonably believes that evidence of the offence is likely to be found on that person, or in a vehicle, animal or other thing which the person appears to be in possession or control of, stop and search that person, vehicle, animal or other thing. The constable **may** seize and detain that vehicle, animal or other thing if he reasonably believes it **may** be used in evidence or may ultimately be the subject of a forfeiture or destruction order. Whatever is seized may be detained by the police until trial (which could take several months) at the owner's cost.

Surveillance by the police

The police are not allowed to come onto private land uninvited for a general "fishing expedition" in the hope of getting evidence of an illegal act.

A policeman is a trespasser on private land unless he has express or implied permission to be there (just like anyone else) or unless he enters under a legal power entitling him to be present on private land, i.e. to arrest someone he thinks is about to break, is breaking or has broken the Hunting Act or is about to commit, is committing or has committed some other offence.

Therefore at a hunt meet where members of the public are able to come and join the hunt supporters the police could be said to have an implied licence to be on that land unless they have had a direct refusal from the owner of the land – they are just like other members of the public attending the meet and not individually invited on to the land by the owner. This would not be the case where a meet is for hunt supporters only and very clearly on private land. In this situation there would be no such implied licence to the police.

What can the Police do?

However, if the police video hunt members present at a "public" meet where they have no reasonable suspicion of a crime having been, being or about to be committed or have no other legal justification for doing so, the police will have gone beyond the extent of that implied licence/consent – as well as their legal powers.

The videoing of people engages the Data Protection Act 1998, which sets down conditions for gathering and storing personal data (e.g. on videos). The police are exempt from certain of those conditions when videoing people for the purpose of "the prevention or detection of crime". However, this is not just a justification for a police fishing expedition: the police must be able to justify that they were processing data genuinely for these reasons in the specific circumstances. Copies of any videos taken may be requested from the police under the various applicable statutes.

What should you do if you are arrested upon suspicion of alleged illegal hunting?

Upon arrest or if questioned informally by police in the field

- Do not say ANYTHING until your solicitor is present. Remember anything you say to the police or officious busybodies (for example hunt saboteurs) may be used against you in court.
- Carry one of the legal advice cards that have been produced either by the Alliance or the Hunting Office with you and store the Countryside Alliance Legal Helpline number (0871 919 3505) in your mobile telephone.
- If you are arrested remain co-operative and polite or you could face other allegations such as offences under the Public Order Act.

At the police station

- When you arrive at the police station a Custody Sergeant will book you in and ask if you require a solicitor and who that solicitor is.
- Have the Countryside Alliance Legal Helpline number (0871 919 3505) on you as the police will not have it. The Helpline will be able to arrange legal representation for you.
- If you wish to use your own solicitor have that number on you as the police cannot be expected to go through telephone directories to find a telephone number. Only solicitors who have Criminal Defence Services Contracts can work for you for free at the police station (this will include all Duty Solicitors). Other solicitors may have to charge you so please check with your solicitor if they have a contract.
- If you are unable to get through to the Countryside Alliance Legal Helpline and no other solicitor is available you should use the Duty Solicitor, they may not be familiar with the ins and outs of hunting but they will be able to assist you in relation to the Hunting Act at the police station. **DO NOT GO INTO INTERVIEW WITHOUT A SOLICITOR UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES.**
- There will be a lot of waiting at the police station and part of that will be police tactics to put pressure upon you. Despite this **DO NOT BE INTERVIEWED WITHOUT A SOLICITOR** even if you are desperate to be released.
- If you are kept for a long time at the police station you will be entitled to refreshments. Make sure that you get food and drink if you are hungry or thirsty.
- You may request a break in an interview at any stage. You should exercise this right if you feel under pressure, threatened or you feel uneasy. Whilst it is extremely unlikely that the police will intimidate or threaten you, you must report any pressure, threats, intimidation or inducements made by the police to your solicitor at the time.

What should you do if you are arrested upon suspicion of alleged illegal hunting?

The first few court cases for alleged illegal hunting will help to establish how the law will be enforced and the hunting community cannot afford well intentioned individuals to compromise the wider campaign.

The Custody Sergeant will point out the following continuing rights which may be exercised at any stage during the period in custody:

- the right to have someone informed of their arrest
- the right to consult privately with a solicitor and that free independent legal advice is available
- the right to consult the codes of practice to the police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984

You will therefore have the opportunity to make a personal phone call in addition to your phone call to the Alliance's legal helpline. If arrested on a horse or in charge of hounds you may use this telephone call to ensure that your animals are safe, housed and fed. The police are only obliged to secure property and they will not know how to feed or care for animals.

Payment of fees or fines

Please note that neither the Countryside Alliance nor the Council of Hunting Associations have the funds to pay legal fees or fines (the Act says up to £5,000) and therefore if you are arrested you will be liable for your own legal fees and any fine after conviction. Solicitors who have Criminal Defence Service Contracts will be able to apply for Legal Aid to represent you. This is not means tested at present and will be assessed on the legal merits of the case. As the Hunting Act is new and untested law it is likely those legal merits will be made out. Those solicitors without a Criminal Defence Service Contract will not be able to get you Legal Aid at the Magistrates Court and you may have to find the funds to pay them, therefore if you are arrested you will be liable for your own fees and any fine after conviction.

The fines can be deducted from your wages or, in default of payment, you can be sent to prison.

Cautions, Fixed Penalty Tickets, Reprimands and Warnings

As a general rule do not accept any of the above from the police. This is an admission of guilt and usually only offered by the police when they either do not have the evidence or resources to charge you. All of the above, like a criminal record, will be kept on file and could count against you when applying for a shotgun licence, certain jobs and so on. Each situation is likely to be different so if offered one of these options you should take advice from your solicitor.

Saboteurs and Animal Rights Vigilantes

There have been a few instances since the Hunting Act came into force where saboteurs and animal rights vigilantes, either by simple witness statements or video or photographic evidence, have tried to claim that illegal hunting has taken place. There is a risk of such people or organisations bringing malicious prosecutions independently of the police.

Saboteurs and other Animal Rights Vigilantes will remain unwelcome intruders at hunt fixtures. Remember that, whatever they may claim, they are acting as private citizens and the laws of trespass and so on apply to them exactly as before the Hunting Act.

The police are required to deal with them appropriately if, as has happened, they break the law by disrupting legal hunting activities.

Aggravated Trespass

The laws of aggravated trespass are set out in the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.

Section 68

Creates the offence of aggravated trespass. A person will commit the offence if he trespasses on land in the open air and does there anything with the intention of disrupting, or obstructing a lawful activity, or of intimidating another person so as to deter him from engaging in a lawful activity.

Section 69

Empowers the police to direct aggravated trespassers (or people they believe are going to commit the offence) to leave the land. Failure to comply with direction will be a criminal offence. The purpose of this provision is to give the police the ability to take pre-emptive action against saboteurs. It also allows a single direction to be given to a large number of saboteurs if they have the common purpose of disrupting a lawful activity.

Points to Note

The landowner or occupier does NOT have to be present for the offence to be committed or for the police to take action.

- Aggravated trespass can be committed on towpaths, footpaths, bridleways or by-ways but NOT on public roads. It cannot be committed in buildings.
- Section 68 does not refer to the simple act of trespass. An offence is only committed if a person does anything that is intended by him to disrupt, obstruct or intimidate etc; that is, there must be an action involved.

- Section 69 empowers the police to direct persons to leave the land if they (specifically the senior police officer present) believe that the persons are committing, have committed or intend to commit aggravated trespass (i.e. intend to do something amounting to an offence under section 68). The lawful activity does not actually have to have been disrupted. It is sufficient that the saboteurs intend to disrupt. The carrying of horns, whips and sprays for example would be good evidence of intent.
- Only a police officer in uniform can arrest suspects under these provisions and only the police can direct aggravated trespassers to leave the land BUT the police do NOT have to be present for aggravated trespass, under Section 68, to be committed. If good evidence is collected, prosecution can still follow whether or not the police were present.
- The penalties for committing the offence are a maximum fine of £2,500 and/or up to three months imprisonment.
- Remember that in addition to these offences the usual offences against property and the person apply.

Saboteurs wearing balaclavas and other clothing to conceal their identities

Under the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994 as amended by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 any uniformed police constable has the power to:

‘...require any person to remove any item which the constable reasonably believes that person is wearing wholly or mainly for the purpose of concealing his identity..’

However, in the context of the 1994 Act as amended, before this power may be exercised, prior written authorisation by a police officer of the rank of inspector or above must be obtained designating a given locality and only for a period not exceeding 24 hours.

The inspector or other officer giving the permission must reasonably believe that –

‘...incidents involving serious violence may take place in any locality in his area and it is expedient to do so to prevent their occurrence...’

The media and further advice

If there is an incident which might involve media interest, it is important that you inform your Countryside Alliance Regional Director and the Hunting Office.

Advice on saboteur and vigilante activity is always available, including at weekends, from the Hunting Office.

Public Opinion and hunting's role in the local community

Over the past 10 years the Countryside Alliance and others have helped the hunting community to evangelise and celebrate its activities, promoting hunting in its natural home – the heart of the local community.

As we move towards the repeal of the Hunting Act, it is vital that hunts and clubs continue to build on the massive gains made with the public and the media, especially through the Hunting and the Community scheme.

Public support for hunting remains essential to our long-term goal. If we lose the public's hard won support and understanding there will be no reason for a sympathetic Government to repeal the ban. We must generate the atmosphere and demand for repeal.

Existing PR opportunities

Make the most of your hunt events and functions, use them as an opportunity to reach out to the local community and local opinion formers. Hunting has a vital and cohesive role to play in the local community and this must be nurtured and maintained.

- Point to Points – hounds should be paraded
- Kennel Open Days – maintain your profile throughout the summer
- Newcomer's Days – still essential
- Pony Club / Younger Generation Days – the future of our activities
- Opening Meets and Boxing Day – advertise your meets to ensure maximum support

The Countryside Alliance will continue to provide PR advice and backup and will advance the levels of training and education within hunts and clubs, ensuring that they have all the tools and support they need to promote their activities to the maximum.

For further information and advice please contact your Countryside Alliance Regional Director or the Press Office.

Pony Club and the younger generation

The younger generation are the future of our activities – the repeal of this temporary ban will be in vain if there aren't any youngsters interested in going hunting.

Ensure that your hunt works closely with the Pony Club, which should retain the hunt name and continue to hold special Pony Club meets and events.

Working with the media – Information for Hunts and Clubs

We live in a nation dominated by the media and during the 'interim' period of this ban it is vitally important that we maintain our good relationship with them, co-operating wherever possible and using the media to our best advantage.

We must ensure hunting remains on the agenda – we cannot let the injustice that we have suffered simply slip away unnoticed. We must continue to strive to generate positive press coverage for hunting and ensure that the issues surrounding the ban remain in the public domain.

Remember that video or photographs taken by journalists out hunting with you could be seized by the police in an attempt to prove that you were breaking the law.

Hunts and clubs must remain welcoming of the media but must contact the Countryside Alliance's Press Office for detailed advice before any journalist comes out hunting. The Press Office can be contacted on 020 7840 9220 or out of office hours on 07775 938 792.

This is because past experience has shown that even legitimate hunting activity can be totally misinterpreted as illegal activity.

The views and feelings of farmers and landowners are paramount and must be taken into consideration when granting media access.

1. All journalists, camera men or photographers must be escorted by a firm and reliable person at all times.
2. Always confirm the identity of journalists prior to agreeing to co-operate – obtain a landline telephone number.
3. Farmers' and landowners' permission must be sought prior to agreeing media access.
4. Remember that journalists are your guests and that you are in charge. However it can be argued that journalists have the right to pursue a story if they believe it to be in the 'public interest' and thus may consider that they have to access private land in order to obtain their facts.

Repeal/ amendment of the Hunting Act is necessary because:

- Hunting is humane and natural
- Hunting makes a significant contribution to wildlife management and the biodiversity of the countryside
- Public Opinion does not favour a ban
- The Hunting Act discriminates against a minority of ordinary people
- If they can do it to us they can do it to you. The Hunting Act sets a dangerous precedent for future legislation – who/ what next?

Questions and Answers

Below is a list of questions that you might be asked by journalists, accompanied by some suggested answers.

1. What kind of hunting activity are you carrying out?

We are hunting legally within the law as per the guidance in the Hunting Handbook. *(You do not need to get drawn into discussions or speculation on specific hunting activity.)*

2. What options are available to hunts?

Trailhunting, hound exercise, rides or walks and flushing to a gun(s) using two dogs. We can also undertake terrierwork to protect gamebirds. We are carrying out a variety of these options to 'simulate' a days hunting and to test the law. *(Rabbit hunting and rat hunting are also legal.)*

3. You always said you couldn't go drag hunting – but that's exactly what you are doing?

We are using a variety of legal hunting activities to simulate hunting. We are determined to retain our infrastructure throughout this temporary ban and trailhunting provides a temporary solution. Trailhunting enables us to retain access to our "hunt country" (the area registered to the hunt), it helps to generate income and most importantly, it provides the hounds with a purpose. We are also still able to legally manage the fox population – the killing of foxes by hunts has not been banned. *(Always refer to activity by the correct term of trailhunting rather than draghunting.)*

4. Why can't you just accept the will of the majority/ accept the democratic process?

There is nothing democratic about an obsessed majority of MPs imposing their prejudiced views on a minority. The very existence of the Hunting Act is a threat to democracy itself.

5. What happened to the "hunting declaration" – are you going to break the law?

No, we don't need to – the law is so bad. We are going to test the law, push it to its limits and subject it to constant ridicule. We will hunt within the law for as long as it takes to get the Hunting Act repealed or replaced. We are determined that hunting will survive.

6. Has support for hunting fallen since the ban?

No. Hunting is accessible to all and hunting's profile is continually rising – more people now realise they can come out hunting and they will be made welcome.

Ironically, support for hunting has remained firm while sympathy for it has increased since the ban. We believe this is part of a rejection of the 'nanny state' – people are fed up of being told how to live their lives and actively supporting hunting is one way that they can show their displeasure at what this Government is doing.

7. Why should the ban be repealed/ replaced – you seem to be coping OK?

The law was passed in an unjust way. It was not based on evidence or principle, it was based purely on prejudice and a hatred of people. This law has no place in a modern society and it is the duty of us all to fight for repeal. The ban is having a negative impact on the management and welfare of the quarry species. Jobs are threatened and, in some cases, have been lost – associated trades such as farriers and saddlers have suffered as some people have inevitably given up hunting. Some hunts have had to cut back on their staff too – don't forget we're not just talking about individual jobs either – some hunt staff have the threat of losing their homes as a result too.

8. If the legal challenges fail, what will you do now?

We will continue to engage in the democratic process and look towards a more tolerant Government at the next General Election. We will collect evidence and data to prove that the ban has had a negative impact on animal welfare and we will submit this to the political parties and continue to lobby for the law to be replaced or repealed. The Government can throw whatever they like at us – we will keep hunting and keep fighting.

9. You said a ban would devastate the countryside/ rural economy/ put down hounds etc – none of this has happened, why?

Hunts up and down the country are committed to maintaining their infrastructure throughout this temporary ban. Many jobs are threatened, or have been lost, and associated trades have been adversely affected. However, we are determined not to let the Government devastate the countryside and our way of life – we are determined to keep hunting within the law. We owe it to our hounds and we owe it to people whose livelihoods depend on hunting.

10. How are you getting on with retraining your hounds for trail hunting?

Hounds can be trained to hunt a quarry based scent but hunting is an art, not a science. Weather conditions can have a dramatic influence on the way hounds hunt an artificial scent in the same way they effect the scent of live quarry. Hounds have hunted an artificial scent successfully on occasions but as with all hunting results vary.

The Hunting Act will be repealed or amended by either legal or political action. There are ongoing legal challenges to the validity of the Hunting Act on the grounds that it was wrongly forced through Parliament using the Parliament Act and also on the grounds that it infringes several Human Rights.

Up to date information on the progress of these legal challenges can be found on the Countryside Alliance website at www.countryside-alliance.org

Regardless of the legal challenges, we will continue to engage in the democratic process and look towards a more tolerant House of Commons at the next General Election. We will collect evidence and data to prove that the ban has had a negative impact on animal welfare and we will submit this to the political parties and continue to lobby for a change in the law. The Government can throw whatever they like at us – we will keep hunting and we will keep fighting.

Help the fight by joining the Countryside Alliance or making a donation. Please call our Membership Department on 0871 919 9170 or visit our website.

Appendix 1: Template letter from hunts and clubs to landowners

To: Farmers and Landowners

From: The Joint-Masters

Dear

You will no doubt be aware that the Hunting Act banned hunting a wild mammal with a dog, unless the hunting is exempt, from 18th February 2005.

The Countryside Alliance and the Council of Hunting Associations have a clear strategy to repeal the Act through legal challenges and demonstrating that the Act is flawed, ineffective and unworkable.

Presently it is difficult to forecast how long the challenges will take, but in the meantime we are looking to continue legal activities for our hounds and followers which, as you will be well aware, are entirely dependent on access to farm land.

The purpose of this letter is to ask for your agreement for us to continue legal activities on your land. These might include permission to exercise hounds, hold cross country rides and forms of trail, simulated or mock hunting.

I want to emphasize the term “legal activity” because the Act reads “A person commits an offence if he knowingly permits land that belongs to him to be entered or used in the course of the commission of an offence under section 1” (Section 1 is the offence of hunting a wild mammal with a dog). It will not be an offence for hunts to gather and meet for hound exercise or “trail” hunting, so I stress that we are only asking for permission for legal activities that will not make you liable for prosecution.

Our hunt does plan to have an open meeting(s) for the farmers in our hunt country to discuss these matters and respond to any of your concerns. We will contact you in the normal manner in advance of any “activity” day.

*We also intend to continue both our fallen stock service and be available to respond to fox predation problems through a call-out service, legally using 2 hounds backed by a gun.

We face a very challenging period that will require your understanding and support to enable us to see off this unjust law.

Please do contact me if you would like to discuss this request of continued access to your land for legal hound activity.

Yours sincerely

* Delete as appropriate.

Appendix 2: Template permission form for terrier work

Name (applicant):

I (owner/occupier):

Address:

.....

.....

Tel:

authorise the above to control foxes and other wild mammals in accordance with Schedule 1, Paragraph 2 of the Hunting Act 2004, which is summarised below.

Signed: Dated:

This permits the use of a single dog below ground to flush out wild mammals solely for the purpose of preventing or reducing serious damage to game birds or wild birds being kept or preserved to be shot. The person must carry with them written permission and intend to shoot the wild mammal as soon as possible after it is flushed. All reasonable steps must be taken to prevent risk or injury to the dog and manner in which the dog is used must comply with the following code:

- The terrier’s role is to locate and flush the animal, not to fight with it
- Only ‘soft’ terriers which stand back and bark are to be used
- Care must be taken to ensure the safety of those involved and to minimise the risk of injury to either the terrier or the wild mammal
- The terrier’s time below ground must be kept as short as possible
- The terrier must always be fitted with an electronic locator
- Once it is determined the terrier is trapped, assistance must be given to release it immediately

Notes: Nothing other than nets may be placed over entrance / exit holes during the flushing. It is not permitted to use a terrier to locate, dig down to and locate the quarry. But if the dog is removed, relocated, secured and not used again, then the quarry may be dug down to and dispatched. The hunting of rabbits and rats is exempt from the above, but does require the landowner or occupier’s permission.

(This form may be photocopied free of charge as required)

Appendix 3: Template permission letter for hunting with greyhounds, lurchers and other gazehounds

Letter of permission

(For pest control and legal activities under the Hunting Act 2004)

To whom it may concern,
As the landowner/Farmer / Manager of land situated at:

.....
.....

I give (.....) permission to hunt rabbits and rats and undertake other legal activities (under the meaning of the Hunting Act 2004) on the above land / farm. This permission only applies to pre-arranged dates and Includes / does not include (please delete as appropriate) the use of a fully licensed gun.

The permission holder agrees to carry a copy of this letter of permission and also proof of insurance (Countryside Alliance membership card) at anytime he/she is on the permitted land. Accredited members of the association of lurcher clubs must also carry their membership cards.

The permission holder may / may not (Delete as appropriate) be accompanied. The names of people accompanying the permission holder must be given to the landowner prior to attending.

It is emphasized that this permission applies only for legal activities and should the permission holder commit any illegal act on the above land the permission will be rescinded.

Dates on which the permission applies:

.....
.....

Signed by Land-owner
(as defined in the Hunting Act)

Agreed by permission holder

.....

.....

Date:

Company Stamp (Optional)

One copy for the landowner. One copy for permission holder.

(This form may be photocopied free of charge as required)

Appendix 4: Convictions for Illegal Hunting

If a person is convicted of illegal hunting, the court can order the forfeiture (i.e. confiscation) of any vehicle or hunting article (i.e. anything designed or adapted for use in connection with hunting a wild mammal or hare coursing) that was used in the commission of the offence, or which was simply in the possession of the person convicted at the time of his arrest. In other words, it is possible that a horse box driven to a meet could be confiscated even though it was not itself used in any illegal hunting. A forfeiture order may include provisions about the treatment of a dog, vehicle or article forfeited including an order for their destruction. If the thing seized by the police is owned by someone other than the person who is using it (and who is therefore in possession or control of it) the true owner may make an application to the Court to have a forfeiture or destruction order varied. The powers are draconian and their effect should not be underestimated.

Over-zealous police officers may hassle hunting people so it is worthwhile to make sure that you cannot be prosecuted for any minor offences. For example:

- Double check tax, insurance and roadworthiness on hunt vehicles and encourage supporters to do likewise
- Land, vehicles, buildings (other than homes) as well as people and animals can all be searched without a warrant if the police believe doing so will produce evidence of illegal hunting. Such searches will be very thorough and all members of the hunting community would be advised to ensure that they have nothing in their possession which could lead to a prosecution for something unrelated to hunting.

Those who wish to video or photograph hunting during the temporary ban should be aware that police may seize videos and photographs and try and use them as evidence of illegal hunting.

Other implications of a conviction for illegal hunting

If convicted of illegal hunting, in addition to any fine, you will have a criminal record which may compromise your ability to have firearms, act as a company director, travel to certain countries and work in certain professions.

As with any criminal conviction or caution, a conviction or caution for illegal hunting would certainly be a factor that the police would consider in deciding whether to grant or renew an application for a firearm or shotgun certificate and it could lead to an application being refused.

Appendix 5: Useful Contact Numbers

Countryside Alliance Legal Helpline	0871 919 3505
Countryside Alliance info@countryside-alliance.org	020 7840 9200
Countryside Alliance Press Office press-office@countryside-alliance.org Urgent out of office hours enquiries only	020 7840 9220 07775 938 792
Countryside Alliance Membership Department enquiriesformembership@countryside-alliance.org	0871 919 9170
Council of Hunting Associations - Hunting Office admin@huntingoffice.org.uk	01285 831 470

Appendix 5: Useful Contact Numbers

Countryside Alliance Regional Directors	
North Richard Dodd richard-dodd@countryside-alliance.org	01661 881 800 07767 825 450
North West Tom Fell (Part-time – if unavailable contact Richard Dodd) tom-fell@countryside-alliance.org	01539 533 520 07771 682 382
Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire John Haigh john-haigh@countryside-alliance.org	01845 522 237 07860 202 153
North Wales and Cheshire Barry Henderson barry-henderson@countryside-alliance.org	01824 704 047 07733 018 073
Eastern Liz Mort liz-mort@countryside-alliance.org	01787 211 555 07976 767 088
Midlands Clare Rowson clare-rowson@countryside-alliance.org	01905 827 333 07900 820 819
South and Mid Wales Adrian Simpson adrian-simpson@countryside-alliance.org	01267 238 901 07785 975 773
South East Peter Setterfield peter-setterfield@countryside-alliance.org	01798 344 720 07796 155 223
Southern Sara Rutherford sara-rutherford@countryside-alliance.org	023 8073 9910 07974 141 933
Wessex Delly Everard delly-t-everard@countryside-alliance.org	01672 871 819 07970 229 507
South West Alison Hawes alison-hawes@countryside-alliance.org	01548 831 489 07710 836 806

Appendix 5: Useful Contact Numbers

Hunting Associations

Association of Lurcher Clubs
alan@lurcher.fsnet.co.uk

Alan Tyer
0161 764 0958

Association of Masters of Harriers & Beagles
amhb@newbury.net

Chris Austin
01635 41320

Central Committee of Fell Packs
linda@birker.fsnet.co.uk

Edmund Porter
01946 723 295

Federation of Welsh Packs
david.tyddu@btconnect.com

David Thomas
01597 851 884

Masters of Basset Hounds Association
smhuband@aol.com

Suzanne Huband
07889 437 960

Masters of Deerhounds Association
g@cpte.co.uk

Tom Yandle
01398 323 361

Masters of Draghounds & Bloodhounds Association
philandwendy@templefarm.wanadoo.co.uk

Phil Broughton
01400 261 779

Masters of Foxhounds Association
office@mfha.co.uk

Alastair Jackson
01285 831 470

Masters of Minkhounds Association
p.wild@valkenburg.fsnet.co.uk

Patrick Wild
01635 44754

National Coursing Club
enquiries@nationalcoursingclub.org

Charles Blanning
01638 667 381

National Working Terrier Federation
wdbrr@aol.com

Barrie Wade
07767 777 835

Whippet, Saluki & Deerhound Coursing Association
rosielewis@countryside-inter.net

Rosie Lewis
01270 811 070

The Hawk Board
mike.clowes@wanadoo.fr

Mike Clowes
00 33 5 49 91 79 30

(Details correct at time of going to press)



Countryside Alliance
The Old Town Hall
367 Kennington Road
London SE11 4PT

Tel: 020 7840 9200
Fax: 020 7793 8484

Countryside Alliance Legal Helpline Tel: 0871 919 3505

Email: info@countryside-alliance.org
Website: www.countryside-alliance.org