



PO Box 129, Banbury, Oxon OX17 2HX

Telefax: 01295 712719

Website: www.ucsw.org Email: office@ucsw.org

A round up of News and Events – January 2006

1. New UCSW Website
2. Legal Challenge Updates
3. Fighting Fund
4. Permission Cards
5. UCSW Merchandise

1. NEW UCSW WEBSITE

The UCSW has revamped its website which can be found at: www.ucsw.org

The new website is far more ‘user friendly’ and more informative than the old one and hopefully it will continue to improve. As we are the only trade union representing those employed in field sports we feel it is important that our members can make use of the website whether they want to find out information or have their own input into their organisation.

2. LEGAL CHALLENGES – PARLIAMENT ACT CHALLENGE, HUNTING ACT 2004 & WILD MAMMALS (SCOTLAND) PROTECTION ACT 2002

Parliament Act Challenge: Sadly the House of Lords unanimously rejected the Parliament Act Challenge, 13 October, 2005. Not unexpected. The Human Rights case will continue next Spring.

Hunting Act Challenge 2004: Having had their application in the High Court in London for a judicial review refused last July, Brian Friend and Hugh Thomas lodged an application for leave to appeal Lord Justice May and Mr. Justice Moses decision on 14/9/05. Brian assures all UCSW members that he will continue the fight: "There is a long way to go, but soon these judges are actually going to have to answer the questions I put to them". The application for leave to appeal will be heard on 13 March 2006.

Wild Mammals (Scotland) Protection Act 2002: At last, 368 days after his hearing, UCSW member Brian Friend has a judgement from the Court of Session in Edinburgh. The Inner House of the Court of Session (the Court of Appeal in Scotland) dismissed Brian's appeal. He says that there is an automatic right of appeal from Scotland to the House of Lords and that is where he has gone lodging a petition of appeal in the House of Lords Judicial Office on 4 January 2006.

Anyone who wishes to speak to speak with Brian Friend can call him on 01404 881357 or contact him by email: bkldfc@aol.com

3. FIGHTING FUND

The Union has set up a “Fighting Fund” which, amongst other things, will help support Brian Friend and Hugh Thomas with expenses such as travel, court fees, research and photocopying for these challenges - **no lawyer or advocate fees are involved in these cases**. If you would like to contribute to the fund, please send your donation, payable to the “UCSW Fighting Fund” to: UCSW, PO Box 129, Banbury, OX17 2HX.

4. PERMISSION CARDS

We have had a number of enquiries for multiple copies of the “Permission to Control Foxes and other Wild Mammals” card which was distributed with the summer issue of *'Livin' Country'* following the introduction of the Hunting Act 2004. If you require more copies please contact us with your email address and we can either send you a few or let you have a pdf file to enable you to print off your own copies to comply with this legislation.

5. UCSW MERCHANDISE

Just a reminder that you can buy UCSW merchandise from the office: UCSW enamel badges £2, UCSW ties £8, navy baseball caps £7, sweatshirts £17, polo shirts £13.50 all with Union logo. All merchandise can be viewed on our new website: www.ucsw.org

We also have B*ll*ck's to Blair car stickers available from the office at £2 each. The following new products are also available with the wording:

- a) “A Hunting We will Go!” (White wording on green background) – badge & car sticker £1 each
- b) “Full Cry for Hunting – Fighting the Ban” (White wording maroon background) badge £1 each

Please send your cheque, made payable to “UCSW”, with a note of which item/s you require, to the UCSW office including a donation for p&p or enclosing a stamped addressed envelope for all orders.

We would like to wish all our members a very Happy New Year