

Over the course of the 2023-24 hunting season, AAF collected evidence showing the often brutal lives, and deaths, of dogs used in hunting. We used this evidence to produce a full '23-'24 season report:

<https://www.actionagainstfoxhunting.org/the-lives-and-deaths-of-dogs-used-in-hunting-2/>

As season 2024-25 is now beginning, we will be collating evidence for this coming season, too.

However, between seasons, the neglect, mistreatment, cruelty, dangers, injuries, and deaths these dogs are subjected to does not stop. Below are examples of each of these, in incidents we have collected during this interim. As per our previous report, we would impress on any reader that what we have collated here will be the merest scrap of what actually happens. Hunts far outnumber the volunteer groups who monitor and record hunt activities, and hunts are very secretive.

It is very rare that a veil is lifted and a hunt is 'found out':

<https://www.wildlifeguardian.co.uk/news/hunting/foxhunt-facing-hound-cruelty-claim-disbands/>

The number of captured incidents increased as August, September and October progressed. This is because August - October is what hunts have come to euphemistically call 'Autumn Season'. It's more commonly, and more historically, known as 'cubbing season' or 'cubbing'. This is the time when the year's young dogs are trained to hunt. The year's fox cubs are their quarry. These young dogs are often chained in pairs at the neck, a pup to a more experienced dog. This is known as 'coupling'. The video here shows a coupled pair who had got lost from the pack, clearly in some distress:

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1612914305644389?multi_permaLinks=3846908515578279&hoisted_section_header_type=recently_seen (Heythrop Hunt -30/08/24)

Those pups who do not show the desired aptitude are disposed of.

It is, of course, not only so-called 'hounds' who suffer. Hunts' use of terriers can be particularly cruel. These dogs are sent underground where they might encounter badgers or foxes, and the injuries they can sustain to their faces are horrific. The video here shows just such a dig-out:

Axe Vale: treatment of terriers (12/09/24)

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=1509880992979990&rdid=43Hj8oam7Q8OVZ03>

The terrierman is seen to hide the terrier's face afterwards, but the amount of blood on his jacket and hands suggests the injury to its face was serious.

The following post also shows the cruelty and disposability with which dogs associated with hunts live and die. It's hard to imagine this to be anything other than hunt-related.

Young foxes and terrier puppies found, believed drowned, in a pond - (12/06/24) Surrey:

<https://www.facebook.com/UKAnimalCrueltyFiles/posts/pfbid05sTpBxVnXraHzcCgtRZp88ALVZ>

[eiY4dVvjSryeEbXSo1QbYCvKxL2yjrJNmnrQ71I](#)

A reminder from our previous report that the lives, and deaths, of these dogs happen in a regulatory vacuum: they are not pets, and they are not livestock. As a result, their diets often contain matter which would not be allowed for dogs in any other walk of life. Whether poorly-fed or underfed, some dogs are worryingly thin. There are no independent checks on their welfare and treatment, nor their veterinary needs. They are taken out loose and in large numbers, often poorly controlled, and allowed, sometimes encouraged, into situations risking injury or death.

NEGLECT (HOUSING/ FEEDING)

Quorn Hunt, being fed old pork pies (post 07/04/24)

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0qZyS2n6UFZs11M1scdkLTnxAQLi8gAyHDeR9y3Vayc68xgpt7nueS9aj3pTiE16ul&id=100000385728067

Oakley kennels - multiple food breaches (16/05/24)

<https://www.facebook.com/Bedsandbuckssabs/posts/pfbid024Rnsq2SdkJvEreYYNifNzH5sMm8pAF52uua9PjaZmaHWN3hLJJbuWp4Lii8VnH6BI>

South Dorset Hunt - dogs appeared to monitors to be: "incredibly skinny and especially timid".
- (06/09/24)

<https://www.facebook.com/greattorringtonevents/posts/pfbid02GcZA6EZYqh6GUSKcnCKZGqYqQ6y7SYRHcd1T8dFFMcjXqcUNAhPn28aPbHM2CSLI>

South Dorset dog, skinny (01/10/24)

<https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=965806968918461&set=a.556847196481109>



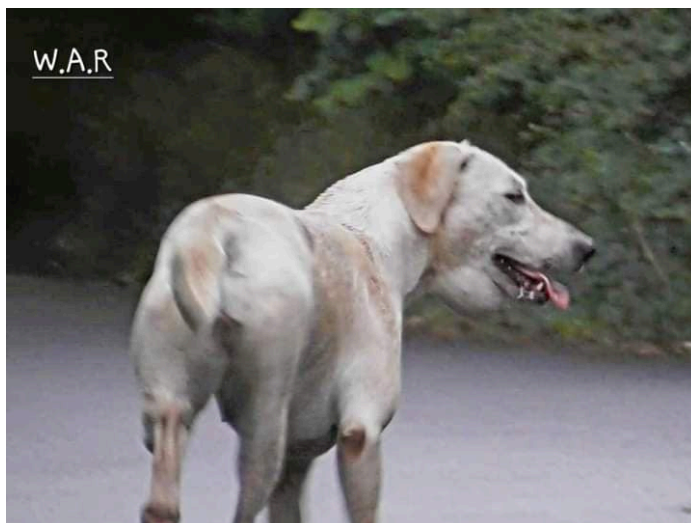
NEGLECT - UNTREATED MEDICAL NEEDS

South Dorset Hunt - large tumour under chin (03/09/24) (W.A.R = Weymouth Animal Rights)

The Huntmaster told monitors that this dog was not in need of veterinary care (see 2nd link).

<https://www.facebook.com/WeymouthAnimalRights/posts/pfbid02iQx2fn6tKmuWenvfqaDqVbQp6gJedGCxBADNHpH4ZneX5JqTqoZe1Gh8YbRGvGEJI>

<https://www.facebook.com/greattorringtonevents/posts/pfbid02GcZA6EZYqh6GUSKcnCKZGqYqQ6y7SYRHcd1T8dFFMcCjXqcUNAhPn28aPbHM2CSLI>



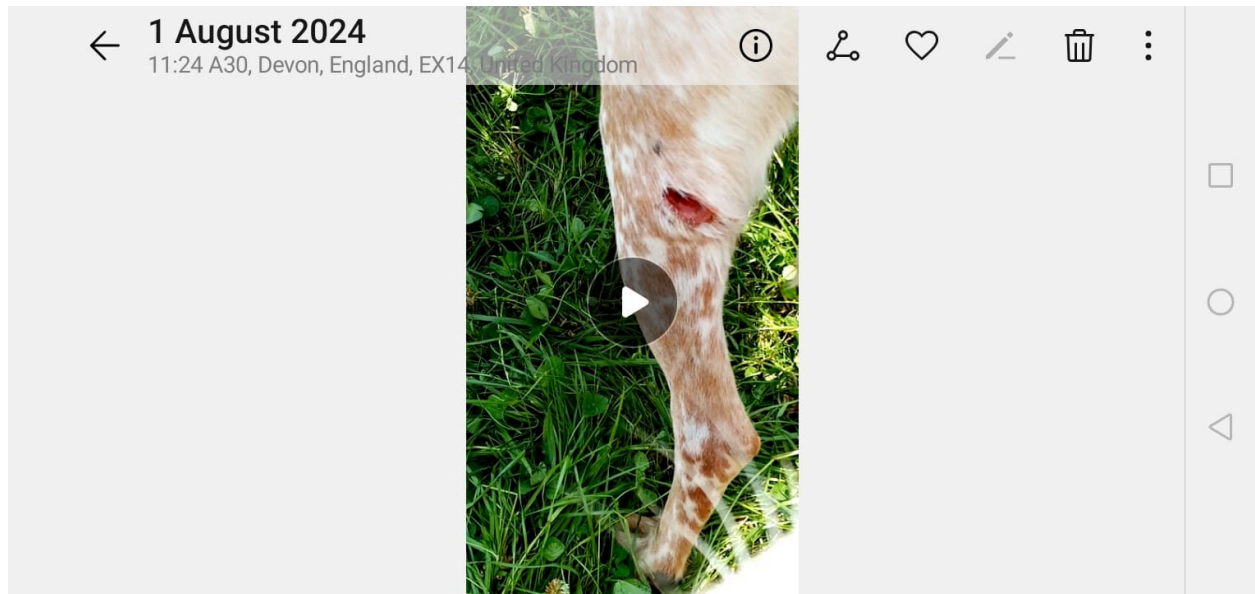
Derwent Hunt - abscess on back (14/09/24')

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0y6aRLhNzwCrXvgUMhXyNv82dwW3MgBwnLs9rHBbPLvVJpZBeJkKK9m4MV7fqeDa3l&id=100066598060986

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0iFnN5GZPXX9avYc7wbWD6QA7cGVYxpsUCDzt6NtWVpEx67h4XqXTFXDHB4tX9jTxl&id=100083074050754



Staghound's leg with open wound at the West of England Hound Show. Members of AAF visited this Show and were told by the huntsman that he had earlier stapled the wound, but that the staples had been knocked out en route in the hound van. Photo taken by an AAF member (01/08/24).



NEGLECT- CRUELTY (BEATINGS/ WHIPPINGS/ SHOOTING)

June post, referencing 2021 shooting dogs

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0koiNB5JXkriD3SwjuJRpW4Rd855bdxW7ZL44dHVQm32BX6x7Mk8bZWBDtmkPj2cdl&id=100066598060986

August 13th article - fate of 'hounds'

<https://www.wildlifeguardian.co.uk/blog/fate-foxhounds-british-hound-sports-association/>

Seavington Hunt - whipping dogs (date not verified)

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1859648481440925>

Portman Hunt - loses dogs; mishandles one which was found (09/10/24)

<https://x.com/NDHuntSabs/status/1844004137744347386>



South Dorset Hunt - Master carrying dog horribly (13/10/24)

(Note W.A.R on the photo stands for Weymouth Animal Rights.)

The fact that this rough handling was explained as “because he’s been a bad dog” is very worrying. They do not like to call these dogs anything other than ‘hounds’.

https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=552357573834935&set=a.215950047475691&type=3&mibextid=WC7FNe&rdid=CwdfxKgm0V3Qybk2&share_url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.facebook.com%2Fshare%2FbfB4buk973S7zmCq%2F%3Fmibextid%3DWC7FNe
https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0pBvKq8tpvaEaPoT7AHFG02aRXPrf61fS8CQqHK6g9t3hCLXNUtwRD3CyE6h2jgfWI&id=100066598060986



NEGLECT - LOST/ ABANDONED DOGS

Dog wandering alone, hunt unknown (13/08/24)

<https://www.facebook.com/greattorringtonevents/posts/pfbid029e8oLXPahevCFzGeEJM8bHbWouQPbN2UGG5JyNSYjBXM6Pf5RTW2GhLzSBo55CJ4I>

Video Heythrop Hunt - Chained together and left behind (30/08/24)

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1612914305644389?multi_permaLinks=3846908515578279&hoisted_section_header_type=recently_seen

Wynnstay Hunt - dog, lost, crying, and with a sliced ear (08/10/24)

<https://www.facebook.com/ManchesterHuntSabs/videos/3740609556206328>

Lost hound reported on a Dartmoor FB page- comments say this dog had been there 'for weeks' (13/10/24)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/370152633365720/posts/2251395268574771/>

Gill Pearce

Its been loose a few weeks now. Maybe lost by a hunt, so viewed expendable if they get lost.



ENDANGERED/ PUT AT RISK ON ROADS/ RAIL/ AIRFIELDS

Wilton Hunt - 'numerous' out of control, escaped dogs (28/07/24)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/WiltonChat/posts/7864417583623505>

South Dorset Hunt - almost hit by bin lorry (03/09/24)

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0FwEm95vF2AqdHiT3TpyWCJPBJA64d7LqEBT3Dj4RD2hXiK4K51vUwuiTQVBVKsTAI&id=100066598060986

<https://www.facebook.com/WeymouthAnimalRights/posts/pfbid02iQx2fn6tKmuWenvfqaDqVbQp6gJedGCxBADNHpH4ZneX5JqTqoZe1Gh8YbRGvGEJI>

Lost near A road (Hereford Sabs - unknown which hunt) (05/09/24)

<https://www.facebook.com/HerefordshireHuntSabs/posts/pfbid026Tuo2uyua3n5qpm4WtTBe13Eo4namwNFADwQDkKBc5XJyLipVNBaJ6Sjj4tFLcDTI>

Taunton Vale Harriers - dogs reported loose and hit by cars (07/10/24)

<https://www.facebook.com/greattorringtonevents/posts/pfbid044gohwKQnzVbPzKmWkBbQ4o5NLwgds9UsSdVbUNGzwW45EKAH937w1pDsTtBqNgZI>

<https://www.facebook.com/oakeparishcouncil/posts/pfbid02E7SQiPCUFmf2c9SRc7LAJo8RAixT9DdETPmNx5FnMyEXyQAUPgXFR2aMkcFQMNWyl>

<https://www.thecanary.co/uk/news/2024/10/22/fox-hunt-somerset-oake/>

‘Rachael Pearson, a former veterinary nurse, saw some of the hounds limping and being loaded up into a car after the incident, and filmed a passenger punching one of the dogs. She said: “As someone who works with animals, I found the treatment of the hounds absolutely disgusting” ‘

Ledbury Hunt - taking hounds into road (05/10/24)

<https://www.facebook.com/watch?v=589148926794876>

Flint & Denbigh - dogs all over the road, in danger of being hit (08/10/24)

<https://www.facebook.com/Nwalessabs/videos/424858457290385>

Cottesmore Hunt - dogs on 50mph road (05/10/24)

<https://x.com/NhantsHuntsabs/status/1844773794017140913>

Cury Hunt - dog lost, on roads (14/10/24)

https://www.facebook.com/groups/1313716989034707?multi_permaLinks=1805914679814933&hoisted_section_header_type=recently_seen

Blackmore and Sparkford Vale- dogs all over the road (19/10/24)

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?mibextid=WC7FNe&v=1564735367457209&rdid=oU1LzSd3gwiN6c4n>

Heythrop Hunt - loose in residential area: dog caught on, & hanging, over fencing - video from resident's CCTV (08/10/24)

<https://www.facebook.com/3CHuntSabs/videos/892564149488727>

Oakley Beagles- loose on airfield. Plane prevented from landing. (23/10/24)

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0C8mhQypn6c5SGHtGHn4xnfSWRBGoVmkFaqPPDdDddt9BEw99rFKnRDjnu2ayhpSel&id=100079460187016

INJURIES AND DEATHS WHILST HUNTING

Sennybridge Farmers Hunt - barbed wire & bramble injuries, bloodied (19/10/2024)

<https://www.facebook.com/southwaleshuntsabs/posts/pfbid02KdXrqw3hdRadVdWfVw55wNRfHy2uZcmC2qqjrTSAvWs4R1fzxpFsbuT7riChFazKI>



Wynnstay dog - (lost, abandoned) - later reported killed (see comments) on Dartmoor road (from

last season 19/03/24)

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0EAVkbFTFxfJzSJwgPzxsy4Lk6QYW4K4Uxgr4dU7ZhmgQdR9fhN8a8aUW6agebrw5l&id=100087081292820

Suffolk Action for Wildlife having to free dog from wire fence (16/05/24)

<https://twitter.com/SuffolkAFW/status/1791181690133676132>

Flint & Denbigh - open wound on dog's back - (09/24)

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid023i3BvKgUGNn6ePdYaKYgZdeEjdS8UDwHTarHsAGD5or518vQE4p4o5PmVMBLN916l&id=100066598060986



Ledbury Hunt - dogs in road; one struck by van (05/10/24)

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid02XcDDuLgVYyCHR5Jsa3f2ybz2sy7zXGdmayzn3ErA7tzEueDZwnpFyzBG386BFoAhl&id=100066598060986

<https://www.facebook.com/HerefordshireHuntSabs/posts/pfbid025PuTiEXiqF58L8kJcN3SuLCPsBQ15hA8XYcfhqM7pawzv2VjK9Y9EW5rrxBWeWNkl>



South Devon Hunt - missing dog: the comments include one reporting one implaled (07/10/24)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/30041113857172/posts/1651260865438850/>

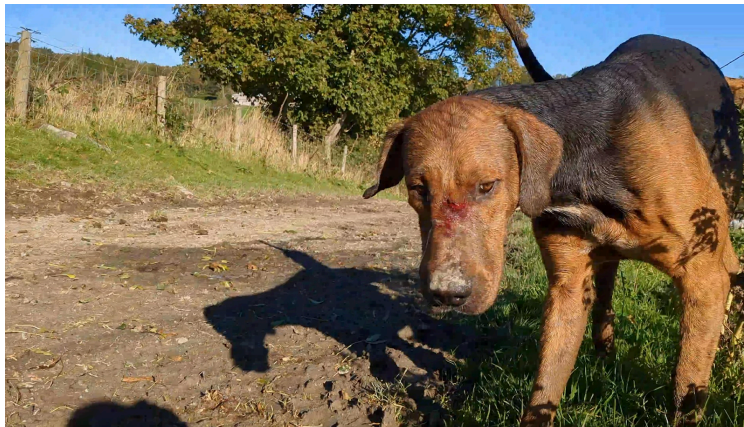
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/30041113857172/posts/1651226342108969/>

Brewer Sarha

Peter F Mason just seen that, unfortunately one was impaled on a metal gate at the end of the lane, still have two cats missing 😞

Flint & Denbigh - injured dogs sent through thicket (12/10/24)

https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=868914198662880&id=100066329242101&mibextid=WC7FNe&rdid=MHKxYxGgyMzvUPwe



West Norfolk - dog falling from a height off railway bridge onto its face.

This dog is unlikely to have survived such a catastrophic fall, or any 'after treatment'. (16/10/24)

https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=949939880493193&id=100064315704556&rdid=BLyJggHDDNZinIW2



Mendip Farmers Hunt - dogs hit on busy A39 road. (19/10/24)

One was manhandled onto an overcrowded (and, thus, illegally driven) quadbike.

The boxes very likely contained terriers.

<https://www.facebook.com/mendiphuntsabs/posts/pfbid02zrNxfWBBZkeB2WEAMbgCB85axV4bckgwVBUwJgPQ184afFsV7X2x3W8T4TwSmHdLI>



Throughout the coming season proper, AAF will continue to collect evidence showing the brutality of the lives, and deaths, of these dogs. Their existence differs so much from dogs kept as companion animals - but they are, no less, dogs.

One added tragedy in all of this is that it doesn't have to be this way. These dogs are trained into this form of hunting. Dogs with Drag- and Clean Boot hunts are spared so much of this brutal

existence. Dogs with these hunts look happier, healthier, relaxed, and, in our own experience, behave impeccably well.

https://www.facebook.com/permalink.php?story_fbid=pfbid0Nyi452ax2C2zy55GDBDKchTbth4XBRDQ3QKkWykEhLxaYFH4Gdx19vRbFVhaqTNql&id=61551071406569

All hunts could have turned to either of these sports, rather than inventing trail hunting, as a response to the 2004 Hunting Act.

Clean Boot hunting uses human runners.

Drag hunting does not use an animal-based scent.

Trail hunting uses the scent of the very quarry they have been banned from hunting.