

## Human rights legislation

POWA's Christine Harris says: "I don't think we should take our eye off this ball either. It's no coincidence that this is also to be repealed and "rewrapped". How many times have hunts tried to go through the HR European Court to say their minority rights are being ignored. They've never won!"

## Independent Press Standards Organisation (IPSO)

Formerly the Press Complaints Commission, we are looking into the possibility of taking a test complaint to this organisation regarding the persistent use of the term "Foxhunting" by newspapers such as the Western Morning News when reporting on a possible repeal of the Act which currently makes Hunting with Dogs illegal. A focus on foxes has been orchestrated for years by the hunting rabble because they know very well (as POWA's Alan Kirby pointed out recently) it is easier for them to demonise foxes rather than hares or deer. Newspapers have a duty to be accurate in their reporting and WMN has fallen short of this on many occasions regarding the Hunting with Dogs issue.

## Hunt Quarries

Members writing to the press or their MPs may find the following statistics useful:-

179 (fox) 17 harriers (fox + hare) 62 beagles (hares) 10 bassets (hares) 20 (mink) 3 (stag)  
Total for hares = 89 ie 30.5% of the total.

## Wildlife friendly Mary Creagh to stand for Labour leadership.

Labour's Shadow Environment Secretary, Mary Creagh, said recently: "The Government must not go soft on tackling wildlife crime now. This (the National Wildlife Crime Unit) is a unit which punches above its weight and does hugely valuable work, and its funding needs to be preserved and settled as a matter of urgency to give its officers the security they need to plan their future activities."

## St Melangell – Welsh Patron Saint of hares

Melangell was a female saint of the 7th century. According to tradition she came to Wales from Ireland and lived as a hermit in the valley. One day Brochwel, Prince of Powys, was hunting and pursued a hare which took refuge under Melangell's cloak. The Prince's hounds fled, and he was moved by her courage and sanctity. He gave her the valley as a place of sanctuary, and Melangell became Abbess of a small religious community. After her death her memory continued to be honoured, and Pennant Melangell has been a place of pilgrimage for many centuries. Melangell remains the patron saint of hares and her feast day was on May 27.

Pennant Melangell lies at the head of the Tanat Valley: it is accessible from the B4391 at Llangynog along a single-track road with occasional passing places. The road is suitable for cars but too narrow for a standard bus or coach to negotiate. St Melangell's Church is open daily: 9am !! - 6pm from Easter to October 9am - !! 4pm from November to Easter. Further details from the St Melangell Centre : Telephone 01691 860408

## From the archives

In November 2012 the Italian Association of Hunting Victims warned that 13 people had been killed and 33 injured in shooting accidents since the season opened in Italy the previous month. These are the people who come over here ostensibly to shoot our hares!

*He little knows what amiable creatures he persecutes, of what gratitude they are capable, how cheerful they are in their spirits, what enjoyment they have of life.*

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