

The Self Help Group for Farmers, Pet Owners and Others experiencing difficulties
with the RSPCA (The SHG)

Press Release

For Immediate Release

12th February 2008

Bad Karma for Gangotri's Killers?

ON WEDNESDAY, 13 FEBRUARY, 2008 THE KILLING OF GANGOTRI WILL BE REACTED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF 29 HINDU TEMPLES AT PARLIAMENT AND HER ASHES WILL BE SPRINKLED ON THE GANGES

THE SHG STRONGLY SUPPORTS THE HINDU STRUGGLE TO PROTECT ALL BRITAIN'S SICK ANIMALS FROM THE RSPCA'S "NEEDLES OF DEATH"

On 13 December 2007, an RSPCA team which included a vet chose to enter the Hindu Temple at Bhaktivedanta Manor. Its purpose was a premeditated mission of death – and the team successfully killed Gangotri, a sacred cow, in the middle of the Temple without the knowledge of consent of the monks, or their vets.

Just hours before, the RSPCA had asked to enter the Temple. They and their vets had been invited in as guests, and they had been taken to see Gangotri. The monks say that they were assured by the RSPCA that no immediate action would be taken. Gangotri had been injured by a bull, but was being nursed back to health by possibly the most intensive, caring and informed regime of monks and specialist vets that any organisation could assemble. Gangotri was not sick and had never, for example, tested positive for any disease or even TB antibodies.

The monks' gentle vegetarian lifestyle, and their respect for all animals, demanded that Gangotri be given a truly admirable routine of intensive care and that she be treated with respect. Instead Gangotri got the usual "needle of death" treatment, which the RSPCA calls "euthanasia". The RSPCA's actions have provoked an international outrage – and not just among Hindus. The sacrilege in the Hindus' Temple will, the SHG believes, come to be regarded as one of the most grotesque acts of unlawful madness - and there are many - committed by the RSPCA's animal rights activists in recent times.

The killing of Gangotri has launched many thousands of comments and articles in the media. This is because many farmers, pet owners and others have suffered similar experiences with the RSPCA. Many people who are not Hindus have contacted the national and local media to demonstrate their support. We believe that many of them will be at Parliament on 13 February 2008 to show their support for the brave Hindus campaign against the RSPCA's actions.

In response to the international incident which they have created, one of the RSPCA's most senior PR gurus, Sophie Wilkinson, has claimed that her employers "were not deceitful" and that the police "were not duped" by the RSPCA. It seems, from what Ms Wilkinson says, that the RSPCA is claiming to have obtained a valid search warrant, despite the fact that the RSPCA knew all about the animal. This is not exactly "positive spin". Ms Wilkinson's handlers know that they have not just desecrated a

temple – they have revealed that, whatever other people think, and no matter what their vets say, the RSPCA always knows better. In short, the RSPCA evinces an astonishing arrogance.

It is not at this time known whether the misguided Magistrate (who is claimed to have issued the warrant) or the police were actually told by the RSPCA that members of its own “Inspectorate” and vets had been invited in as guests and had been allowed to see, and examine, Gangotri just a few hours earlier! Why a warrant came to be issued - and perhaps more importantly what was said to get it - is a complete mystery to the SHG.

Also, why the RSPCA bothered to obtain a warrant at all (if it did) is another mystery, as the RSPCA and their “Special Operations Units”, in particular, regularly trespass on land and take away and kill farm animals and pets without having any powers to do so. The RSPCA also admits, in relation to just dogs, that its employees and vets killed well over 1,000 in England and Wales in 2006 alone. The figures for horses, cats, cattle and other types of pet and farm animals are not released – the RSPCA is a private organisation, albeit still a charity.

Anne Kasica of the SHG comments: *“What was Gangotri to the RSPCA? She was originally just another fund-raising opportunity for a charity that regards every non-perfect animal as a chance for a cruelty conviction, a press release or a big donation. What is she now? Her ashes will be sprinkled on the Ganges and she now represents one of the biggest PR disasters that animal rights activists in the RSPCA have ever committed. The RSPCA’s terrible act of sacrilege is, at least, sure to cost the RSPCA millions of pounds in lost revenue.*

“The overwhelming majority of people, including me, support the animal welfare ethos behind the RSPCA’s original foundation. However, the RSPCA is now a very different proposition – it’s a full-blown animal rights machine and its lawyers have a huge appetite for cash. The RSPCA’s infamous ‘Special Operations Units’ are under pressure to deliver and regularly badly misfire. The real difference here from a typical RSPCA scenario is that Gangotri was a sacred cow in a Hindu Temple, rather than a farmer’s free-range cow in a field. The RSPCA routinely kills thousands of animals – and not just cats, dogs, horses and farm animals - every year in the name of ‘welfare’.”

“Farmers who farm on a free-range basis are particularly at risk. They look to reduce their exposure to the RSPCA and many have resorted to keeping their animals inside to protect them from the RSPCA and its unlawful snooping. The fact that even the Hindu community and their monks - who are vegetarian animal lovers – have now had to resort to building a “Cow Protection Unit” at Bhaktivedanta Manor reflects the impact which the RSPCA’s trespassing has had on the way that animals are kept in this country and on proper farming techniques.”

Ernest Vine, also from the SHG, comments: *“What is sad about this case is that the Hindu monks were treated no differently from other people who have their paths crossed by the RSPCA – that is, of course, arrogantly, cunningly and reprehensibly. For recent examples, you need look no further than the outrageous cases brought by the RSPCA against Gina and Martin Griffin, decided two weeks ago, or the shameful case of Annette Nally, which was decided only last week. Look at what Judge Philip Browning and Judge David Chinnery have had to say about the RSPCA’s actions in those cases. If you are not convinced by them, then read what District Judge Gray and the Portsmouth Magistrates said in the two infamous cases before Christmas involving a primary school teacher and a kennel maid which have been so well covered in Private Eye.*

“We have, of course, been helping people with their difficulties with the RSPCA for nearly 20 years - just after the RSPCA was originally convicted of perverting the course of justice. It’s fair to say that we think that most of the RSPCA’s killing is actually done for cost reasons. In this country, if you work for the RSPCA, you can kill a lot of other people’s animals using animal rights as an excuse. Sensible people believe in animal welfare and doing their best to care for animals. The RSPCA’s ‘euthanasia’ has become its weapon of first resort. Whether you are a farmer, or a pet owner or a vegetarian monk, who has sworn an oath to protect all animals from suffering, it matters not – your animals, if they are sick, are at risk of being put to death or taken away so that you never see them again.

“After their vets’ needles, the RSPCA’s next preferred weapons are, of course, their £300-an-hour lawyers. It seems from what the papers say that the Hindus are going to provide Sally Case, and her ill-advised colleagues in the RSPCA’s Legal Department, with plenty of opportunities to examine their lawyers’ charge-out rates. Unlike the sheep farmer, or pet-owning pensioner, the RSPCA will not be able to get their Legal Aid discharged – they won’t need any! ‘Act in haste and repent at leisure’, is one of my favourite maxims. The RSPCA have certainly acted hastily – indeed, when they think they see a weak target, they almost invariably do so. I can only think that someone made a huge tactical error here and confused the poverty of the monks themselves with financial weakness on the part of the Temple.”

Notes to Editors: -

References

[JUDGE CRITICAL OF RSPCA IN CASE OF INNOCENT COUPLE](#)

The court heard that Mrs Griffin bought Florry as a three-year-old, but because of ... Mrs Griffin claimed the RSPCA inspector had an "aggressive attitude". ...
www.horseandhound.co.uk/news/397/178608.html

[RSPCA HEAVILY CRITICISED AS CRUELTY CASE COLLAPSES](#)

In this case, the RSPCA’s vet had made two similar reports – which is David Tyne: I guess that’s what Annette Nally thought, poor innocent that she is. ...
www.dogmagazine.net/archives/284/rspca-heavily-criticised-as-cruelty-case-collapses/ -

[RSPCA CAUGHT YET AGAIN - TWICE](#)

This was a private prosecution brought by the RSPCA against a lady Press Release from Nigel Weller solicitors YOUNG KENNEL MAID ACQUITTED - RSPCA ...
myreader.co.uk/msg/129330786.aspx

ATTORNEY GENERAL V RSPCA (RSPCA PERVERTING COURSE OF JUSTICE)

<http://cheetah.webtribe.net/~animadversion/The%20Attorney%20General%20v%20The%20Rspca.htm>

JUSTICE FOR GANGOTRI – CAMPAIGN CENTRAL

<http://www.justiceforgangotri.org/>

[RSPCA “WAS NOT DECEITFUL” – RSPCA PR SOPHIE WILKINSON](#)

www.borehamwoodtimes.co.uk/news/letters/display.var.2028413.0.rspca_was_not_deceitful.php

[HINDU FURY OVER COW KILLED AT TEMPLE | METRO.CO.UK](#)

www.metro.co.uk/news/article.html?in_article_id=79699&in_page_id=34

[BRITISH HINDUS FLAY UK GOVT ON COW SAFETY ISSUE](#)

Times of India, India - 5 Feb 2008

http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/Indians_Abroad/British_Hindus_flay_UK_govt_on_cow_safety_issue/articleshow/2759619.cms

[BRITAIN'S "QUIETIST" HINDUS SAY IT'S TIME TO SPEAK OUT](#)

Independent, UK - 5 Feb 2008

<http://blogs.independent.co.uk/independent/2008/02/britains-quieti.html>

[WORK STARTS ON HINDU COW CENTRE](#)

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/beds/bucks/herts/7225016.stm

The unit at the Bhaktivedanta Manor temple near Watford will be dedicated to **Gangotri**, a 13-year-old cow put down by lethal injection by **RSPCA** officers. ...

For further comment please contact Anne Kasica on 01559 371031 or Ernest Vine on 01559 370566. Mobile 07719 367148. e-mail: shg@the-shg.org

The SHG was officially formed in June 1990 and has been helping people to defend themselves and their animals from the RSPCA ever since. The national help line number is **08700 72 66 89**

A copy of this and previous press releases from The SHG are online at

<http://www.the-shg.org/SHGPressReleases.htm>

Background information on the Self Help Group for Farmers Pet Owners and Other Experiencing Difficulties with the RSPCA can be found at <http://www.the-shg.org>

Details of further criticisms of the RSPCA can be found at the RSPCA-Animadversion website:

<http://cheetah.webtribe.net/~animadversion>

ENDS