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Original audio

animal.rising Hear from Animal Rising co-founder Dan Kidby about his actions on the track at Aintree. He extends an invitation to Sandy Thomson - the trainer of horse Hill Sixteen, who tragically died on the first hurdle during the Grand National - for an open and honest conversation about Saturday's events. It's time we reach common ground on our love for other animals, so that we can repair the broken relationship we currently have with animals and the natural world.

Help us to continue to take action to protect animals by donating to support the Summer of Animal Rising.

Sign and share our petition to make sure no more horses are killed on the

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By Sabrina Miller

MILITANT animal rights activists who tried to halt the Grand National are now planning to sabotage the Epsom Derby, The Mail on Sunday can reveal.

Campaigners from Animal Rising boasted that they are planning to use glue and 'lock-on devices' to secure themselves to the perimeter fencing at the famous racecourse on June 3.

The organisers said they have already conducted secret reconnaissance missions of the track to pinpoint security weaknesses. They boasted that Epsom is 'almost unpoliceable' because some sections of the course are freely open and accessible to members of the general public.

Like at Aintree, some campaigners will attend a legal demonstration outside the venue, while a smaller group will try to break on to the track in an attempt to 'delay or cancel' the race.

Animal Rising spokesman Nathan McGovern said: 'We are just over two weeks away from the Epsom Derby and we have already made it very public that we intend to cause disruption. Epsom racetrack is very vast – I think it is the biggest perimeter that they

'Their actions could threaten the lives of the horses'

have – and there is a non-ticketed public access area, too.

'Police and The Jockey Club are very worried about their ability to secure the course and prevent disruption from happening. You could say they have almost admitted that the racetrack is unpoliceable.'

The group is encouraging people to sign up for non-violent direct action training days around the country ahead of the spectacle, one of the biggest race days of the year, which will be watched by thousands.

Six female Animal Rising protesters, donning sashes with the words 'Animal Justice', were arrested after they clambered on to the Epsom Derby racetrack last year.

But Animal Rising predicts that 'up to 1,000' protesters will attend the race this year and said: 'We'll be disrupting the Epsom Derby to continue the conversation we started at the Grand National.'

The vegan group advertised the protest as a 'day of family fun, free from animal exploitation' and are organising activities including an eggless spoon race.

This latest stunt comes after Animal Rising's plot to wreck the Grand National was sensationally foiled by an undercover reporter at The Mail on Sunday.

Police arrested 118 protesters after dozens of activists tried to storm the security fences and stop the world-famous event from taking place.

Remarkably, the race was delayed by just 14 minutes after security guards, who had been forewarned by this newspaper, acted swiftly to



HAULED AWAY: Police drag protesters from the racecourse at last year's Epsom Derby, after they clambered on to the track. Six women were arrested

After failed bid to ruin Grand National... Animal rights mob boasts: We have got hundreds ready to sabotage the Derby



FANS: Mike and Zara Tindal at Epsom last year. Right: Our story last month

remove protesters from the track. Animal Rising has warned it plans to disrupt horse races throughout the summer, which could include targeting the first Royal Ascot of King Charles's reign.

Tim Bonner, chief executive of the Countryside Alliance, said: 'Animal Rising are desperate attention-seekers whose actions could threaten the welfare of horses.'

'Now that Surrey Police are aware



of their dangerous plans, it is vital they police this event robustly.'

A police spokesman said: 'The Epsom Derby is one of the largest events we police in Surrey and thorough planning takes place to ensure we keep the public safe.'

'The guiding principles of policing protests are the safety of protesters, the public and police officers involved, preventing crim-

inal behaviour or disorder and de-escalating tensions. We will seek to facilitate peaceful protests but any criminal activity or risk to public safety will not be tolerated.'

Nevin Truesdale, chief executive of The Jockey Club, which runs Epsom Downs Racecourse, said: 'We have been working with Surrey Police to ensure we have robust security measures in place.'

'While we respect anyone's right to peaceful and lawful protest, we would condemn illegal and reckless plans to breach security in an effort to disrupt action on the track and endanger the safety of the participants in the strongest possible terms.'

Animal Rising, founded in 2019, is an offshoot of the militant eco-group Extinction Rebellion. Earlier this month, five activists from the group also disrupted races at Doncaster by climbing over the fences.

Builders' radio demolishes the competition!

A BUILDERS' radio station launched by a graduate has become the fastest-growing radio station in the UK.

Fix Radio, which entertains tradespeople, grew by nearly 250 per cent since its national launch in May last year, reaching just under 300,000 listeners.

The station's popular segments include The Bald Builders Breakfast, The Plastering Show and What's In Your Skip?, where callers

By Natasha Livingstone

ring in about the strangest items dumped onsite. Its success bucks a wider trend, with audiences for BBC network radio shrinking by four per cent in the same period.

Last week, industry figures revealed that Radio 4 has suffered its lowest listening figures in 16 years, while Radio 2 has shed 121,000 weekly listeners. Fix Radio

was built by Leeds University graduate Louis Timpany, 30.

When he was doing some construction work he noticed that his fellow workers listened to the radio from dawn to dusk but were infuriated by repetitive music. Within six months, the idea for Fix Radio was born – and in 2016 the station launched in London by delivering 30,000 bacon butties to builders.

'We visited several thousand construction sites, giving out bacon

sandwiches and swapping their radios,' said Mr Timpany.

The station kept growing and last year crowd-funded £1 million to launch nationally.

A year on, Fix Radio's average listener tunes in for 23 hours per week. Audiences for BBC radio listen for just 13.9 hours and commercial radio 9.8 hours per week. The station is also a commercial success.

Broadcasting from Vauxhall in

South London, Fix Radio focuses on providing upbeat, varied music that builders can sing along to.

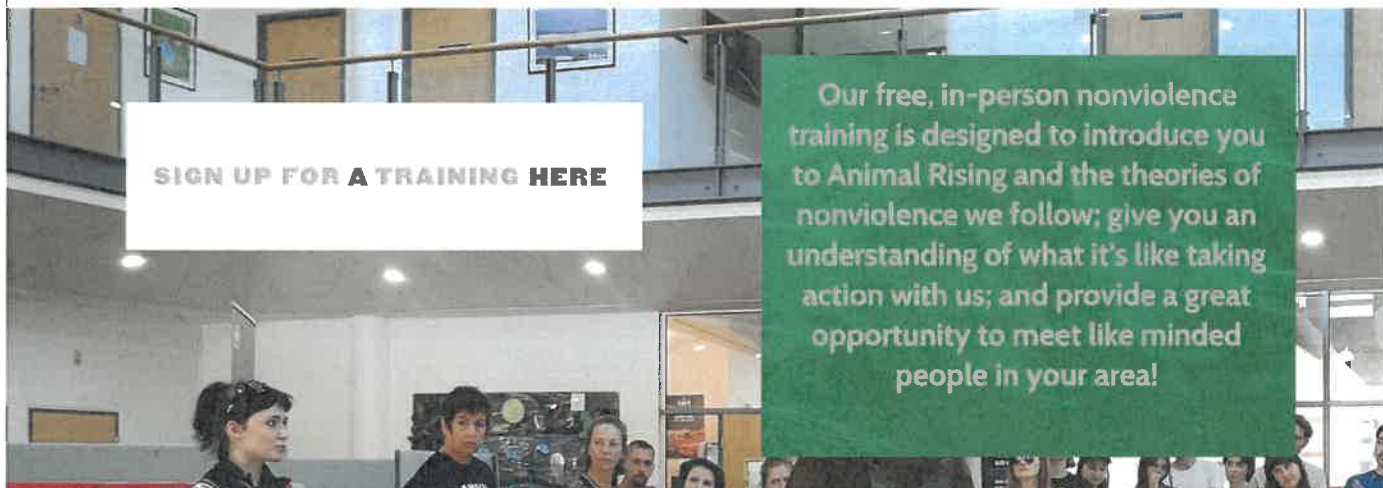
Its most popular songs include Sex On Fire by Kings Of Leon, Modjo's Lady (Hear Me Tonight) and Coldplay's Viva La Vida.

The station covers topics from tool theft to mental health, with its shows fronted by tradesmen turned radio presenters who were hand-picked and trained by the radio station.

TAKE ACTION FOR ALL LIFE: DISRUPT THE EPSOM DERBY JOIN US ON THE TRACKS



2. COME TO A TRAINING



3. TAKE ACTION

Animal Rising is nationwide and regionally organised. Sign up now to be put in contact with a local organiser and join the community!

Take Action with Animal Rising

SIGN UP NOW

ADD YOUR NAME

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Last Name *

Opt in to email updates from Animal Ri

PREFERRED PRONOUNS *

IF YOU SELECTED OTHER, SPECIFY HERE

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Email *

REGION *

e.g., accessibility needs, interpreters, any skills you'd like to offer?

CHECKBOXES

- I would like to join my nearest Animal Rising group
- I would like to disrupt the races at Epsom Derby (03/06)
- I am at university

Not from the UK?
 Let us know on the sign-up form and we will reach out to you. Animal Rising won't have international chapters but we will get in touch to discuss other ways we can collaborate.

[Get in touch](#)

SUPPORT US BY DONATING

In Animal Rising, we all give monthly to create a movement owned by us all.

We're asking people to donate 1 hour's wage once a month to support our work for animals.

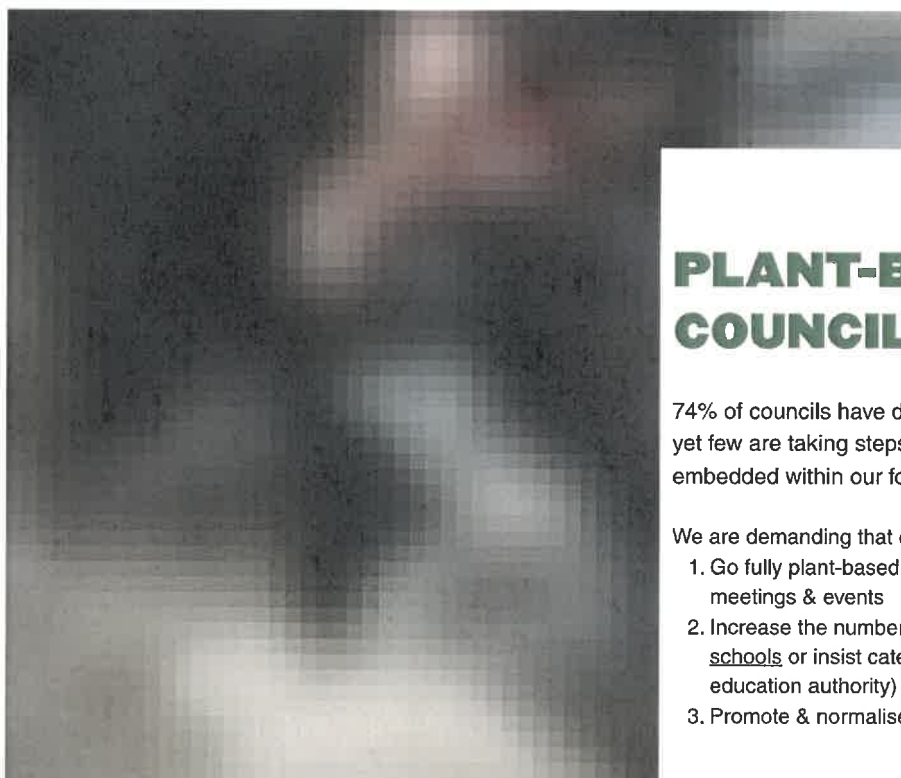
This allows us to rescue more animals, take high profile actions, and create a national conversation about our relationship with the natural world.

DONATE

Thank you so much.

We couldn't do this without people like you supporting us with regular donations. Your money goes a long way - it is spent on supporting our activists, getting the materials we need to make an action a success, and ensuring the welfare of all rescued animals both in our care and beyond.

OUR OTHER CAMPAIGNS



PLANT-BASED COUNCILS

74% of councils have declared a climate emergency, yet few are taking steps to reduce emissions embedded within our food system.

We are demanding that councils:

1. Go fully plant-based in any future catering for meetings & events
2. Increase the number of [plant-based meal options in schools](#) or insist catering suppliers do so (if an education authority)
3. Promote & normalise plant-based eating to residents

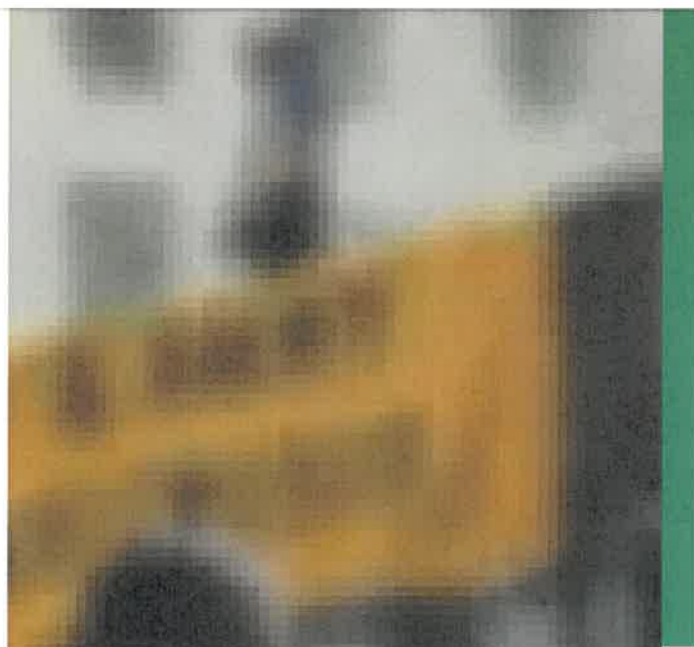
[READ MORE](#)

PLANT-BASED UNIVERSITIES

A student-led campaign for all university catering facilities to end the sale of animal products and make 100% of their menus plant-based.

Universities must reduce their contribution to the climate and ecological emergency and shift public opinion in favour of a plant-based food system. This campaign is supported by Animal Rising.

[READ MORE](#)



2023

- 21 May 10:00 - 17:00 Nonviolence training day (Lincoln)
- 24 May 19:00 - 20:15 **Summer of Animal Rising - introduction zoom call** 📅
- 19:00 - 20:00 Midlands Meeting (weekly zoom) 📅
- 7 May 10:00 - 17:00 **Nonviolence training day (London)**
- 10:00 - 17:00 Nonviolence Training (Leicester)
- 10:00 - 17:00 Nonviolence training day (Brighton)
- 29 May 10:00 - 17:00 **Nonviolence training day (London)**
- 10:00 - 17:00 Nonviolence Training (Birmingham)
- 10:00 - 17:00 Nonviolence training day (Durham)
- 12:00 - 15:00 **October Books Social** 📅
- 19:00 - 20:00 Midlands Meeting (weekly zoom) 📅
- 30 May 18:30 - 19:30 Northern Hub Meeting (Fortnightly Zoom) 📅
- 31 May 19:00 - 20:15 **Summer of Animal Rising - introduction zoom call** 📅

2023

- 4 Jun **Contact us - info@animalrising.org**
- 7 Jun **Join our mailing list**
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Join us on the tracks of the Epsom Derby!

We'll be disrupting the Epsom Derby to continue the conversation we started at the Grand National.

Be one of those to make history and achieve meaningful change for all life, join us on the tracks.

After signing up you'll be contacted by a volunteer and we'll get you ready for action.

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I have attended a nonviolence training *

Yes

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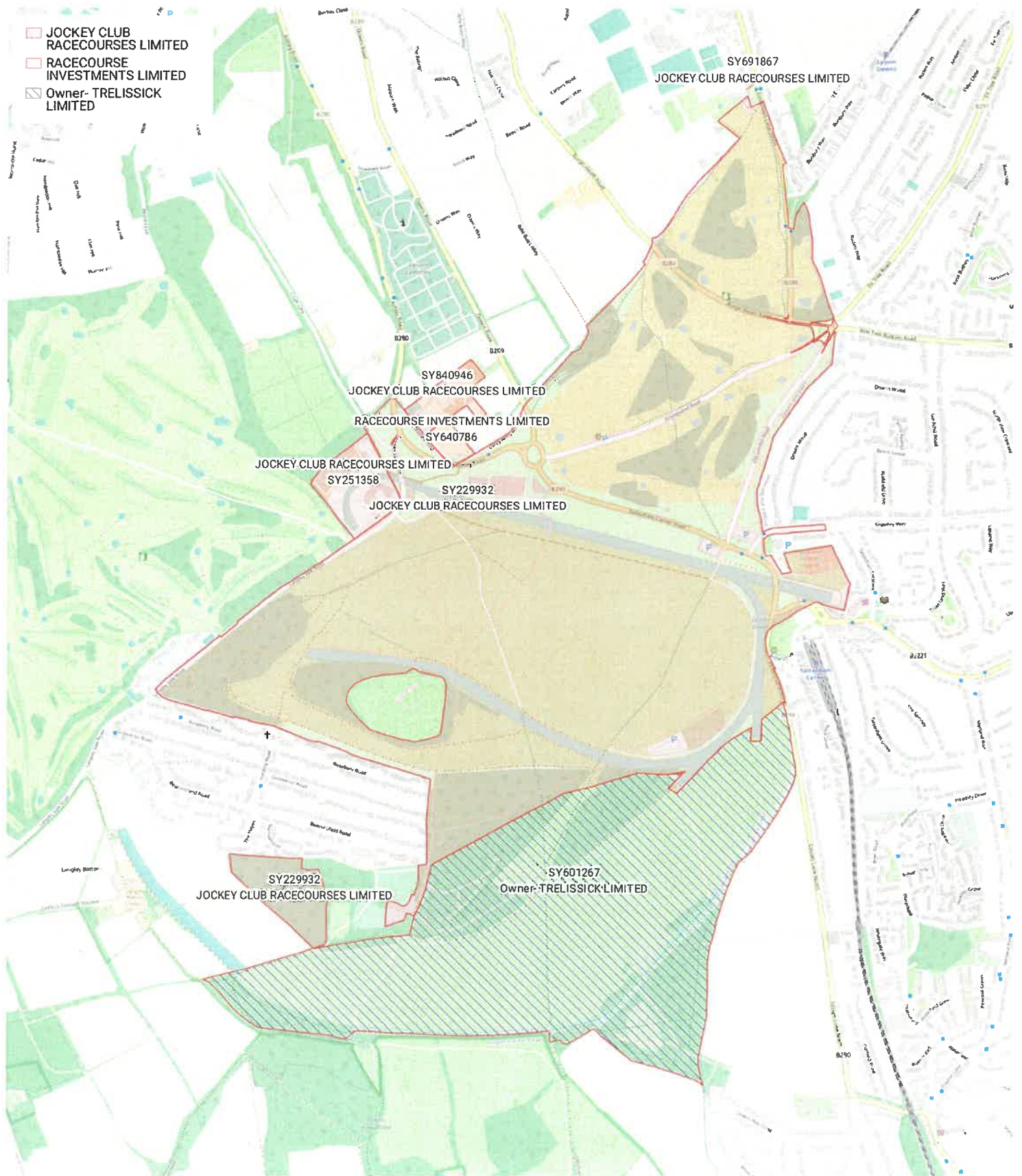
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NT1 Epsom Racecourse

a Stables

b Parade Ring

c Horse & Jockey
Entrance to
Race Track

d Derby Start

e Race Finish

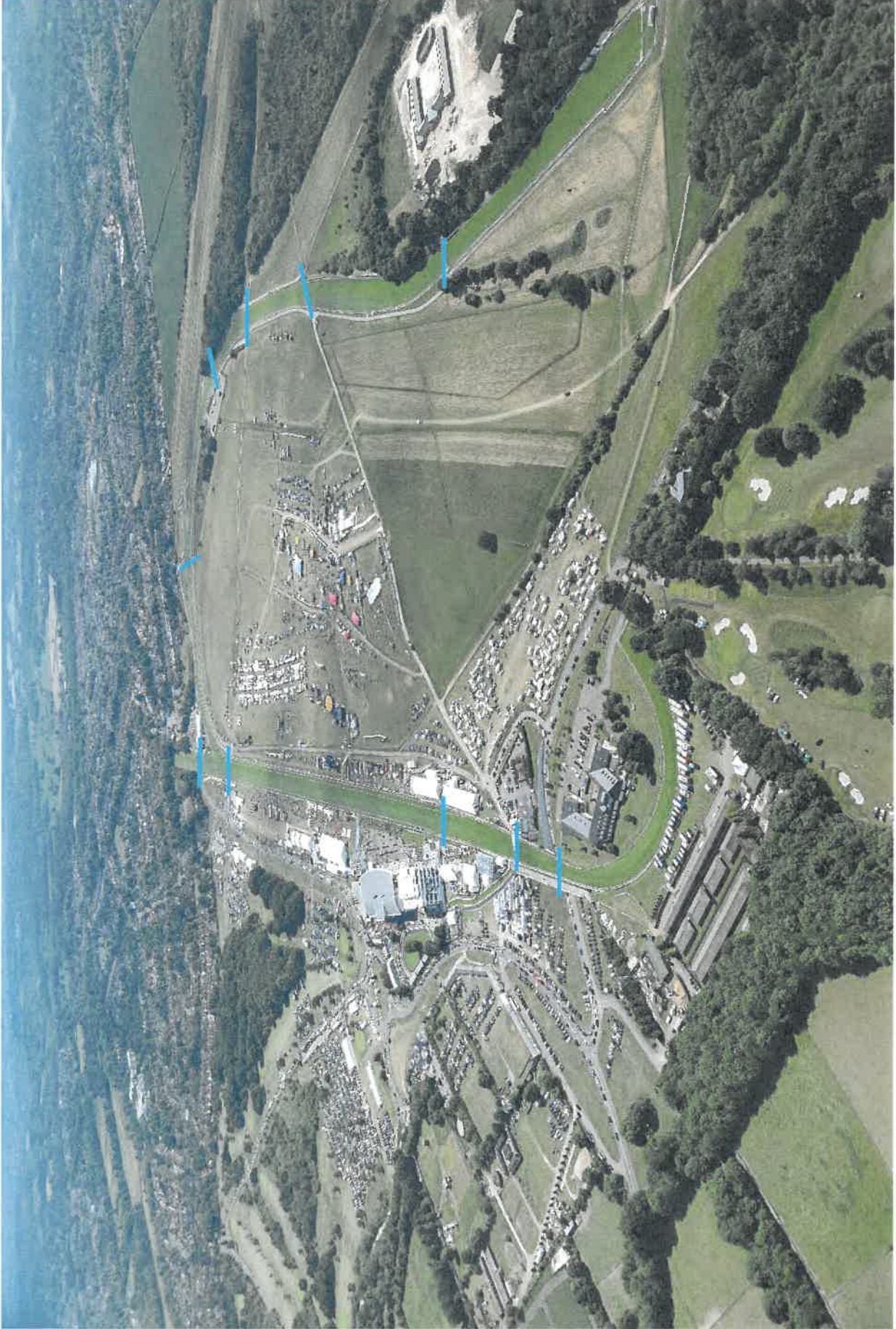
Horses will leave the stables (a) and make their way to the Parade Ring (b).

Jockeys will mount their horses in the Parade Ring (b) and walk their horse to the Race Track (c).

Jockeys will canter their horse to the Derby Start (d) where they will enter the starting stalls and the race will commence.



NT1
Crossing Points
on the Race
Track



NT1
Access to
Parade Ring
from Stables

a Stables

b Parade Ring



NT1
When the horses parade out, rope is held up by stewards to close off the areas of the Horses' Routes to the Parade Ring and to the Race Start which are not fenced off, so as to separate horses from spectators.



NT1
Access from
Parade Ring to
Race Track

- b** Parade Ring
- Horse & Jockey
- c** Entrance to Race Track

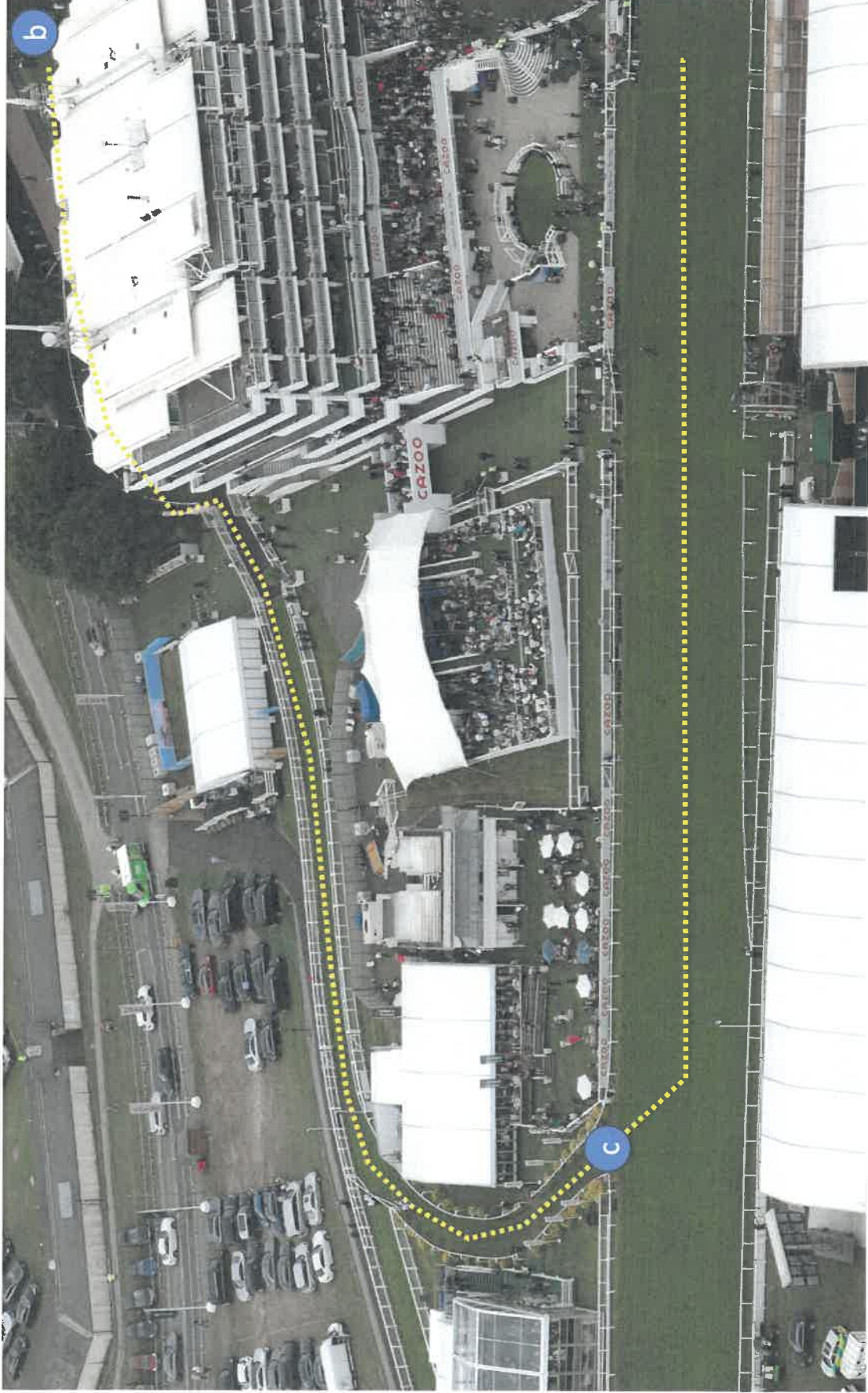


NT1
Access from
Parade Ring to
Race Track

b Parade Ring

Horse & Jockey
Entrance to
Race Track

c





Animal welfare

● This article is more than **11 months old**

Animal Rebellion protesters run on to track before Epsom Derby

Dozens of police officers remove six female campaigners wearing sashes reading 'Animal Justice'

PA Media

Sat 4 Jun 2022 18.37 BST

Six female protesters from the Animal Rebellion campaign group ran on to the track before [the Epsom Derby on Saturday](#) afternoon and were removed by police.

Dozens of police officers could be seen working to remove the protesters, who were wearing sashes reading "Animal Justice".

The protest came on the 109th anniversary of the suffragette Emily Wilding Davison throwing herself in front of a horse at the same course.

Some spectators cheered as the protesters were taken away, with a voice on a loudspeaker apologising to spectators.

On Thursday, other members of Animal Rebellion were arrested after they [entered the ceremonial route](#) on the Mall before trooping the colour.

The group said the protest was aimed at making "a definitive statement, and act, against the cruelty and harm the horseracing industry represents".

It describes itself as a "mass movement using nonviolent civil disobedience to call for a just, sustainable plant-based food system".



▶ An animal rebellion activist is arrested after running on to the racecourse on day two of the Epsom Derby. Photograph: Leon Neal/Getty Images

The group is demanding “an end to horse racing, all forms of animal exploitation, and instead a transition towards a plant-based food system and animal justice”.

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Orla Coghlan, one of those at Epsom, said: “Horse racing took the lives of 220 animals on racecourses in the UK last year, and this is just the tip of the iceberg.

“In this country over a billion land animals are killed for food each year. Exploitation of, and violence against, animals is fuelling the climate emergency and suffering across the globe.

“It is obvious we must choose life over death and stop animal exploitation.”

The Queen’s daughter Anne was there at Epsom alongside husband Vice Admiral Sir Tim Laurence and children Peter Phillips and Zara Tindall, who was with husband and former rugby player Mike.



Protestors Disrupt Epsom Derby In A Call For An End To Animal Exploitation

[Home](#) > [Press](#) > [Protestors Disrupt Epsom Derby In A Call For An End To Animal Exploitation](#)



2 Comments Posted in [Press](#) By [Press & SM](#) Posted on 4th June 2022

Tagged [Animal Justice](#), [Animal Rebellion](#), [Animals](#), [Plant-based](#)

- At approximately 4:25 pm 6 women, protestors from the group Animal Rebellion, entered the course at Epsom with sashes reading "Animal Justice".
- They do so on the 109th anniversary of the suffragette Emily Wilding Davison throwing herself in front of a horse at the same course.
- Animal Rebellion is demanding an end to horse racing, all forms of animal exploitation, and instead a transition towards a plant-based food system and animal justice.

Protestors from Animal Rebellion stormed the Epsom Derby to disrupt the race and urge for an end to animal abuse and, instead, a transition to a fair and compassionate plant-based future. This comes just 2 days after the group disrupted the Platinum Jubilee in an effort for Royal land to move to plant-based production and rewilding. [1]

Orla Coghlan, one of those at Epsom today, said "Horse racing took the lives of 220 animals on racecourses in the UK last year, and this is just the tip of the iceberg. In this country over a billion land animals are killed for food each year. Exploitation of, and violence against, animals is fuelling the climate emergency and suffering across the globe. It is obvious we must choose life over death and stop animal exploitation." [2]
[3]

Today's disruption is a definitive statement, and act, against the cruelty and harm the horse-racing industry represents. Riding horses damages their skeleton, spinal nerves and skin. Whilst horses used in races commonly suffer from heart failure, bleeding lungs and gastric ulcers. Most people recognise the cruelty of bullfighting in Spain [4] and, therefore, should also stand against other forms of animal exploitation.

Currently in The UK around 1.9 million dairy cows [5] are in a constant cycle of artificial insemination, pregnancy, birth, their baby calves being taken and killed, and being repeatedly milked beyond their natural capacity due to selective breeding and artificial hormones. All this whilst industries like meat, fish, and dairy directly contribute to climate breakdown and loss of nature [6].

Emma De Saram, spokesperson for Animal Rebellion, said "Whether it's horse racing, dairy, or the meat industry, animal exploitation has no part in our world. By moving beyond this and into a plant-based future we can ensure happiness and justice for all life. Transition into a plant-based future would offset 68% of carbon emissions this century, whilst also putting an end to the horrendous suffering animals face right now." [7]

Moving to a plant-based food system would free valuable land that could, instead, be rewilded. This would bring forests, woodlands, nature, and life back to land across the UK. Rewilding has the potential to absorb

massive amounts of carbon from the Earth's atmosphere and form a key solution to the climate and ecological emergency. [8]

The action today comes as part of Animal Rebellion's demands for a plant-based future, which were announced on Monday 23rd of May. [8] The group is urging for wholesale governmental support for a transition to a plant-based food system and programme of rewilding that will secure a future for generations to come.

Animal Rebellion is a mass movement using nonviolent civil disobedience to call for a just, sustainable plant-based food system.

ENDS

High-quality pictures and videos: <http://show.pics.io/epsom-04-06-22>

Featured image from Press Associated

For interviews or further comment please contact:

Oliver (Press Back Office): 07706 066859

press@animalrebellion.org

[1] <https://animalrebellion.org/animal-rebellion-disrupts-platinum-jubilee-to-demand-a-plant-based-future-and-rewilding-of-royal-land/>

[2] <https://www.animalaid.org.uk/record-numbers-of-race-horses-killed-in-britain-in-2021/>

[3] <https://viva.org.uk/animals/number-animals-killed/>

[4] <https://www.ipsos.com/en-uk/bullfighting-spain>

[5] <https://viva.org.uk/animals/cows/dairy-cows/>

[6] Jia, G, Shevliakova, E et al, "Chapter 2: Land-Climate Interactions" in UN Special Report: Climate Change and Land (2019.) <https://www.ipcc.ch/srccl/>

[7] <https://journals.plos.org/climate/article?id=10.1371%2Fjournal.pclm.0000010>

[8] <https://www.nature.com/articles/s43016-021-00431-5>

[9] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qOq2Jqqga9E&t=5s>

< [Animal Rebellion Disrupts Platinum Jubilee To Demand A Plant-Based Future And Rewilding Of Royal Land](#) [Animal Rebellion plans to cause "Large scale material disruption to the supply of dairy"](#) >

2 thoughts on "Protestors Disrupt Epsom Derby In A Call For An End To Animal Exploitation"

Pingback: [Animal Rebellion claim they're going to cause "Large scale material disruption to the supply of dairy" - Animal Rebellion](#)

Pingback: [Animal Rebellion Occupies RSPCA HQ - Animal Rebellion](#)

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ACTIVISM

OTHER NEWS

Animal Rebellion Moves Away From Extinction Rebellion With New Rebrand

Animal Rebellion will now be known as Animal Rising

BY POLLY FOREMAN 11TH APRIL 2023 © 2 MINUTES READ

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Animal Rising will focus more on animal rights - Media Credit: William Barton / Alamy Stock Photo

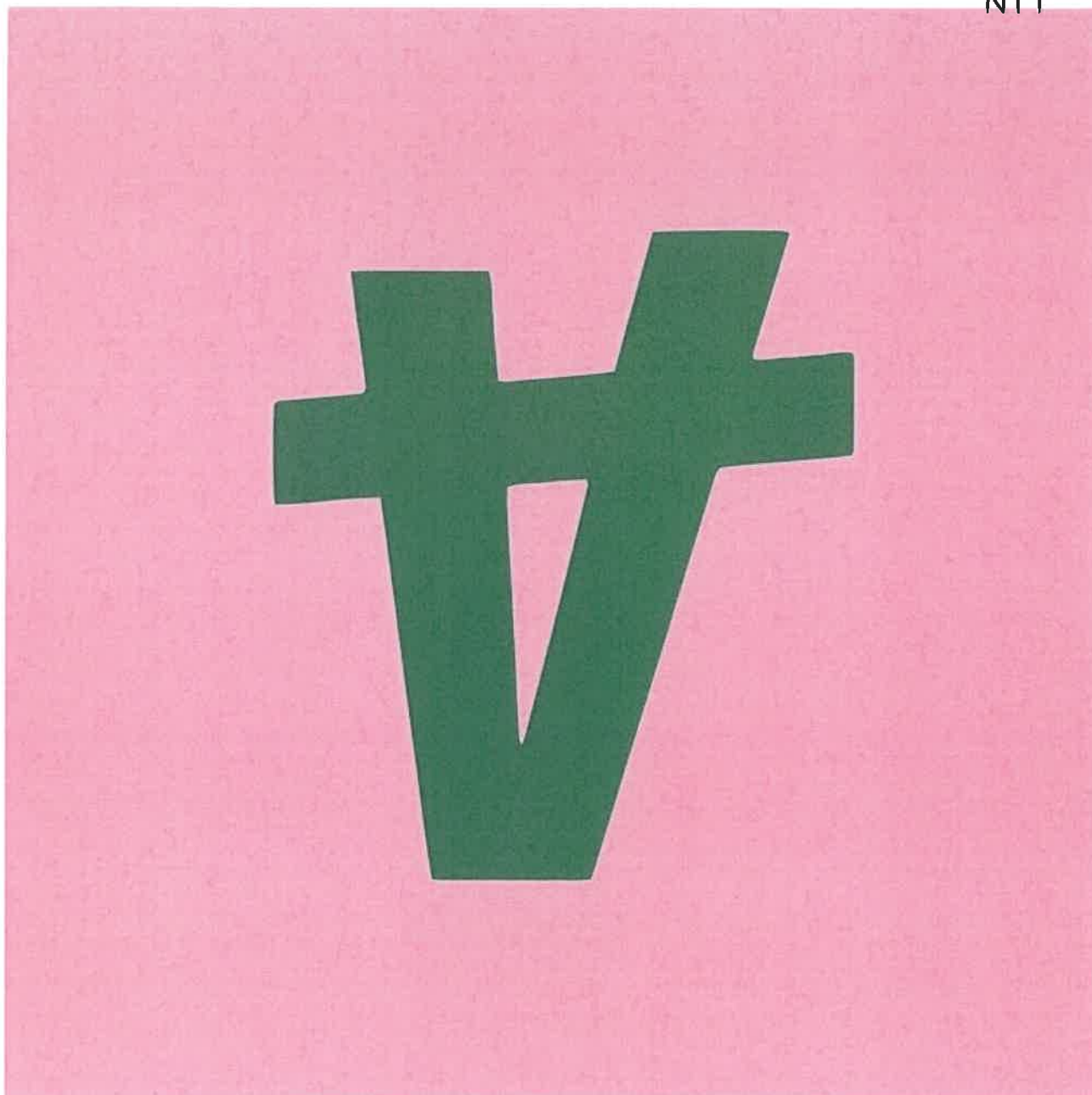
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Animal Rebellion has officially relaunched with a new name in a “firm” step away from the Extinction Rebellion umbrella.

The group is now known as Animal Rising. It has described its rebrand as a “new era of action for animals,” and comes just days before their planned disruption of the Grand National horse race in Aintree, Liverpool, on Saturday, April 15.

While Animal Rebellion traditionally focused more on the environmental impact of animal farming, Animal Rising will put animal rights front and center.



Animal Rebellion has rebranded

Animal Rising

The group will lead what it says will be “the biggest campaign of animal-focussed actions the UK has seen in decades” this summer. This will be made up, organizers say, of open rescues and high-profile public-facing actions.

Animal Rising prioritizes animal rights

“Over the past four years Animal Rebellion has made untold difference to the environmental movement and raised the issue of animal farming and fishing into the public consciousness,” Animal Rising spokesperson Nathan McCovern told *Plant Based News*. “However 2023 will see a shift in our actions and message in order to spotlight animals more than ever.”

Last year, Animal Rebellion made headlines after rescuing 18 beagles puppies from an animal testing breeding facility in Cambridgeshire in the UK. This, the group says, is the sort of action Animal Rising will prioritize in the coming months.



Animal Rising

Animal Rising activists put up posters on betting shops ahead of the Grand National

“Our action this year will be firmly centred around animals in a way they perhaps haven’t been previously,” McGovern said. “We’ll be rescuing them from factory farms whilst also occupying these facilities too. We’ll also be disrupting events that use animals for ‘sport’ to put our bodies between them and harm.”

Over the bank holiday weekend, supporters of Animal Rising spray painted the group’s logo (A) across a number of locations in London and Manchester. They also put up posters advertising their Grand National action on betting shop windows.

TAGGED Activism, Animal Rebellion, Animal Rights, Animal Rising, Extinction Rebellion

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OPEN



Militant animal rights activists storm the Grand National: 'Animal Rising' protesters masquerading as fans are tackled by hero race staff and police who arrest 118 in chaos - after warning from Mail about planned sabotage

- Dozens of activists tried to disrupt the race, leading to a 12 minute delay to the start of the Grand National
- Several horses fell during the race, with Hill Sixteen becoming the third to die this meet after a broken neck
- Police arrested 118 people on suspicion of criminal damage and public nuisance offences on Saturday

By [ELIZABETH HAIGH](#) and [MATT POWELL](#)

PUBLISHED: 17:03, 15 April 2023 | UPDATED: 01:54, 16 April 2023

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Animal rights activists stormed the Grand National on Saturday after posing as racegoers, delaying the race as they were tackled by officials and officers - despite the Mail On Sunday warning police weeks ago of the plan to disrupt the event.

Animal Rising protesters, an environmental and animal rights group, were seen attempting to climb over fences to gain access to the grounds, as well as breaking onto the grass ahead of the race - only for them to be carted off to the delight of spectators. Merseyside police confirmed that 118 people have been arrested.

It came after the alleged ringleader of the protest Rose Patterson, 33, was arrested in Greater Manchester by [Merseyside Police](#) this morning following an investigation by the Mail On Sunday into the plot. A 25-year-old woman from [London](#) and a man were also arrested outside the racecourse on suspicion of conspiracy to cause public nuisance.





while others tried to g
to grab the protesters

ushing to the scene

The race did finally ge : the first hurdle, as
did a second at the second fence. Hill Sixteen, who was running at 66-1, took a fatal fall and sadly is confirmed to
have become the third horse to have died at Aintree this weekend after breaking his neck.



© REUTERS

+43
View gallery

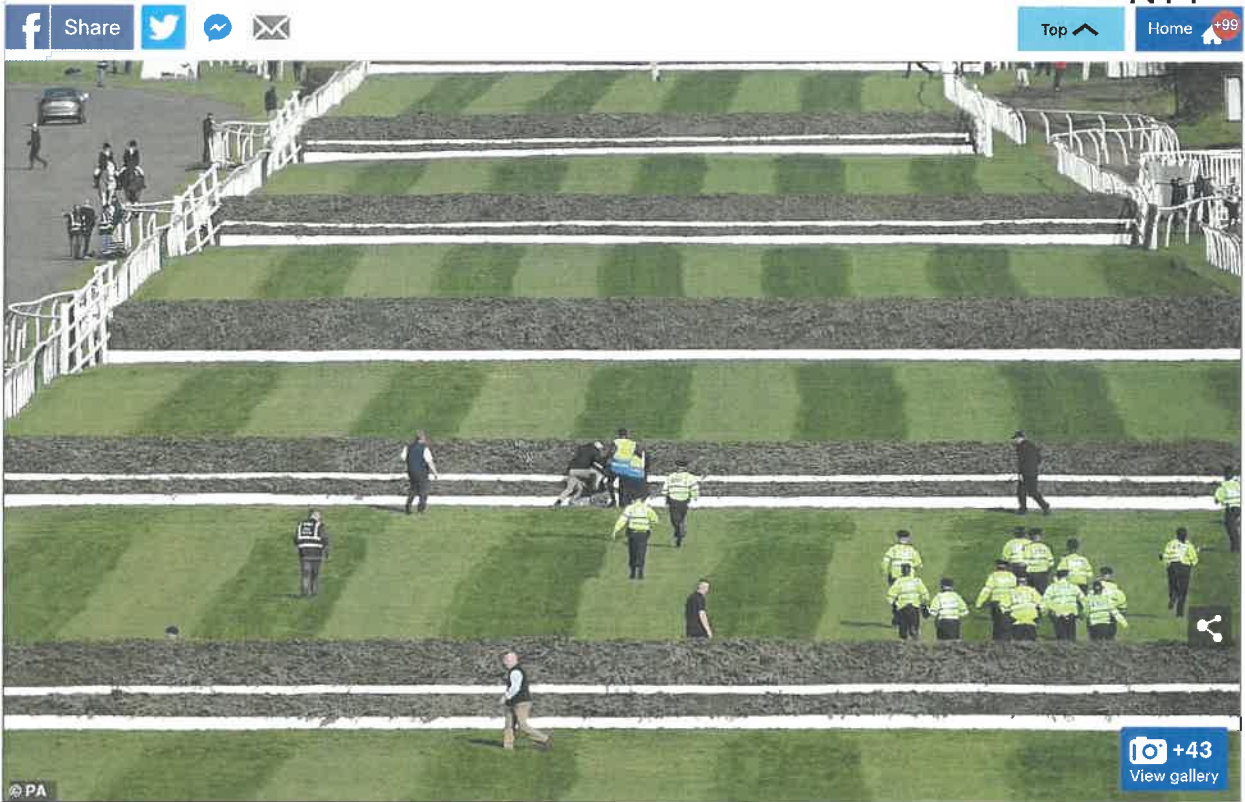
At least two activists made it onto the racecourse and attempted to glue themselves to the second jump



© REUTERS

+43
View gallery

Police rushed to the site and carried the two protesters from the jump, reportedly removing a small part of it in order to do so



A massive police response was triggered after two protesters made it onto the course



Police escort an animal rights activist from the scene of the racecourse after several attempted to glue themselves to a jump

TRENDING





neighbourhood

Distressing footage of Hill Sixteen's fall was shared by animal rights activists online, before a Jockey Club spokesperson confirmed the death.

Animal rights groups including PETA were quick to share the news on social media.

Several other jockeys also tumbled at the early stages but their horses continued. Two then left the main track but continued to run alongside the other steeds.

As the race went on, more horses fell to the ground. Two other horses have been rushed away in horse ambulances with life-threatening injuries.

The winner of the Grand National was Corach Rambler, at odds of 8-1.

After the conclusion of the race, Animal Rising posted a video of one of the jumps on social media which showed a horse crashing into the ground at high speed, before lying there unmoving. This is believed to be of Hill Sixteen. Two jockeys were also unseated in the video, but appeared to be unhurt.

The organisation said: 'THIS IS WHAT WE WERE TRYING TO STOP FROM HAPPENING. Several horses fell during this race - how many will be killed due to their injuries? Absolutely heartbreaking chaos for horses that never got a choice in the matter. MAKE SURE THE GRAND NATIONAL NEVER HAPPENS AGAIN.'

Activists are protesting against horseracing over animal welfare concerns, as multiple horses often die at major meets such as Aintree each year.

Three horses have **so far been put down following injuries at the course this weekend**. Horse Dark Raven died after racing on Saturday, the second death at the three-day festival after Envoye Special fell on Thursday.

The League Against Cruel Sports described the death toll at the Grand National Festival as 'bleak' following the deaths.

Emma Judd, head of campaigns and communications at the charity, said: 'The tragic death of Dark Raven at the Randox Grand National Festival on Saturday - the second death in only three days - shows entertainment and gambling taking precedence over animal welfare and the lives of these horses.'

The League said the death toll at the Aintree Festival was now 61 horses since 2000 - with 15 killed in the Grand National, including two last year.

At the National a fire engine was briefly spotted at the scene before the race got underway, but exited the course after police were able to secure the area. Before police reached the protesters, several members of the public appeared to try and remove the activists from the track themselves.

The other activists, most of whom wore pink T-shirts emblazoned with slogans, seemed to have been prevented from getting into Aintree after attempting to use ladders and their hands to climb barriers.

But many of the racegoers didn't notice the disruption. Christine Maybin, 29, from Antrim, Northern Ireland, at the races with Dwayne McGurk, 31, said: 'We noticed the delay but we didn't know it was because of protesters, we thought they were fixing the fences. We only noticed the protesters when we were coming in from the train.'

Mr McGurk said: 'The delay didn't affect us, we just got another drink in. We've had an unbelievable day here.'

Others in attendance expressed anger at the delay.

Ex-Tory MP Matt Hancock, who was not at Aintree, tweeted after watching the race: 'What a race! Glad the attention-seeking protestors trying to ruin the #GrandNational completely failed.'

Now militant animal rights activists close the M57 motorway near Aintree by gluing themselves to road after 'Animal Rising' protesters masquerading as fans stormed the Grand National





In a statement Merseyside Police said: 'Just after 5pm, a large number of protesters attempted to gain entry on to the course. The majority were prevented from breaching the boundary fencing, but the nine individuals who managed to enter the course were later arrested by officers.'

Merseyside Police Assistant Chief Constable Paul White said a total of 118 people have been arrested on suspicion of criminal damage and public nuisance offences.



He said: 'Today [Saturday], as you've seen, there's been a significant protest in relation to the running of the Grand National.'

'This began earlier this morning, there's been a number of protests outside and then that resulted earlier on today at about 5pm with numerous people trying to incur onto the course, which we, in partnership with the event organisers, and members of the public as well, have managed in the main to stop and and ultimately the event took place - albeit with a slight delay.'

He said protesters tried to access the course from a number of points at the far side of the track.

He continued: 'There were significant numbers. What I can tell you is 118 people have been arrested today in relation to both criminal damage and public nuisance offences - and obviously we'll process them.'

He said the number included pre-emptive arrests before the race and arrests relating to the protest on the M57, **where activists glued themselves to the carriageway.**

Shortly after the scheduled race time of 5.15pm, the jockeys walked out into the paddock, where the horses were walked around for public display.

By 5.25pm, the horses headed out to the gates with their jockeys ahead of the start of the race. Commentators announced plans to cut the usual parade and national anthem in order to begin as soon as possible.



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 **PETA UK**
@PETAUK

BREAKING ⚠️





Hill Sixteen is the third horse to die at [#GrandNational2023](#)


[#GrandNationalDisgrace](#)
[#YouBetTheyDie](#) 🐎





**HILL SIXTEEN HAS DIED
FOLLOWING AN INJURY AT
THE GRAND NATIONAL.**

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Matt Hancock
 @MattHancock

What a race!
 Glad the attention-seeking protestors trying to ruin the [#GrandNational](#) completely failed
 Thanks to Merseyside Police and the Jockey Club for keeping people safe. A great result for wonderful British racing 🌞


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Two activists are arrested by police outside Aintree's grounds

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Police officers were on high alert for any sign of protesters before the beginning of the race



Members of the public attempt to pull protesters from the second fence



Members of the public applauded police officers from inside the course as they disrupted the protest



Members of the police detain protester as activists tried to block the start of the Grand National



A woman who attempted to prevent the start of the race is arrested by police



Roi Mage ridden by Felix de Giles, Corach Rambler ridden by Derek Fox and Our Power ridden by Sam Twiston-Davies in action



A man dressed in a suit is arrested after attempting to storm the Grand National



Handcuffed activists are guarded by police officers during the Grand National at Aintree



Corach Rambler ridden by Derek Fox wins the Randox Grand National on April 15, 2023



Animal Rising
@AnimalRising

...

THIS IS WHAT WE WERE TRYING TO STOP FROM HAPPENING.

Several horses fell during this race - how many will be killed due to their injuries?

Absolutely heartbreaking chaos for horses that never got a choice in the matter.

MAKE SURE THE GRAND NATIONAL NEVER HAPPENS AGAIN.
Sign our petition - this absolute disgrace of a "sport" should never, ever be allowed to continue.

actionnetwork.org/petitions/canc...



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Animal Rising said dozens of supporters had climbed fences at Aintree, with at least two affixing themselves to a jump.

Sarah McCaffrey, a shopworker and student - and one of those disrupting the track, said: 'Whether it's for food or for fun, our use of animals and nature is symbolic of a relationship beyond broken.'

'We're a nation of animal lovers, but the pain these beautiful creatures experience daily does not do that label justice. We need to find ways of loving animals that don't hurt them.'

Read more: Undercover investigation exposes plan by up to 100 Animal Rebellion activists to storm the event and glue themselves to the course



view the races today would say they love the horses; however, the suffering experienced by them should shock us all. That's why I've decided to put my body between those horses and death on the racecourse, rather than gamble with their lives.

'An alternative to the way we stand in relation to non-human animals exists. We can all build a world and society that we are proud to be part of, rather than one plagued by suffering and hurt. An end to horse racing is a clear part of this kinder future.'

Dickon White, who runs Aintree Racecourse as North-West Regional Director for Jockey Club Racecourses, said:

'There was a short delay to the start time for the Grand National, due to the reckless actions of a small number of individuals.

'The Police and our security teams, who form part of a strong visible presence on course, dealt with the incident swiftly and decisively. The pre-race parade was cancelled as a result of the short delay.

'The Randox Grand National Festival sees thousands of people come to enjoy racing and a great atmosphere, with millions following on television, radio and online.

'While the actions of a small number of individuals were intended to disrupt the event, the safety and security of everyone on course will always be our number one priority.'

Aintree Racecourse confirmed that while racing in the sixth race, Hill Sixteen was immediately attended by expert veterinary professionals.

White said: 'Hill Sixteen was immediately attended by expert veterinary professionals during the Grand National, but sadly sustained a fatal injury. Our heartfelt condolences are with his connections.'

'Recite a Prayer and Cape Gentleman were assessed on course by veterinary teams in race six. Both horses walked onto the horse ambulance for further assessment in the stables. Further updates will be provided in due course.'

At the same time as disrupting the racetrack, activists from Animal Rising also stopped traffic on nearby motorway the M57 in protest against the use of animals for sport.

North West Motorway Police said on Twitter: 'We have a number of people sat on the M57 at junction 2 northbound - motorway is closed.'

National Highways said traffic was stopped in both directions on the motorway - between junctions one and two - shortly before 5.15pm, but by 6pm the southbound carriageway was reopened and northbound traffic was being diverted via a slip road.

There were delays of more than an hour on the road, which runs from the M62 to Aintree. Pictures showed protesters wearing pink T-shirts on the carriageway.

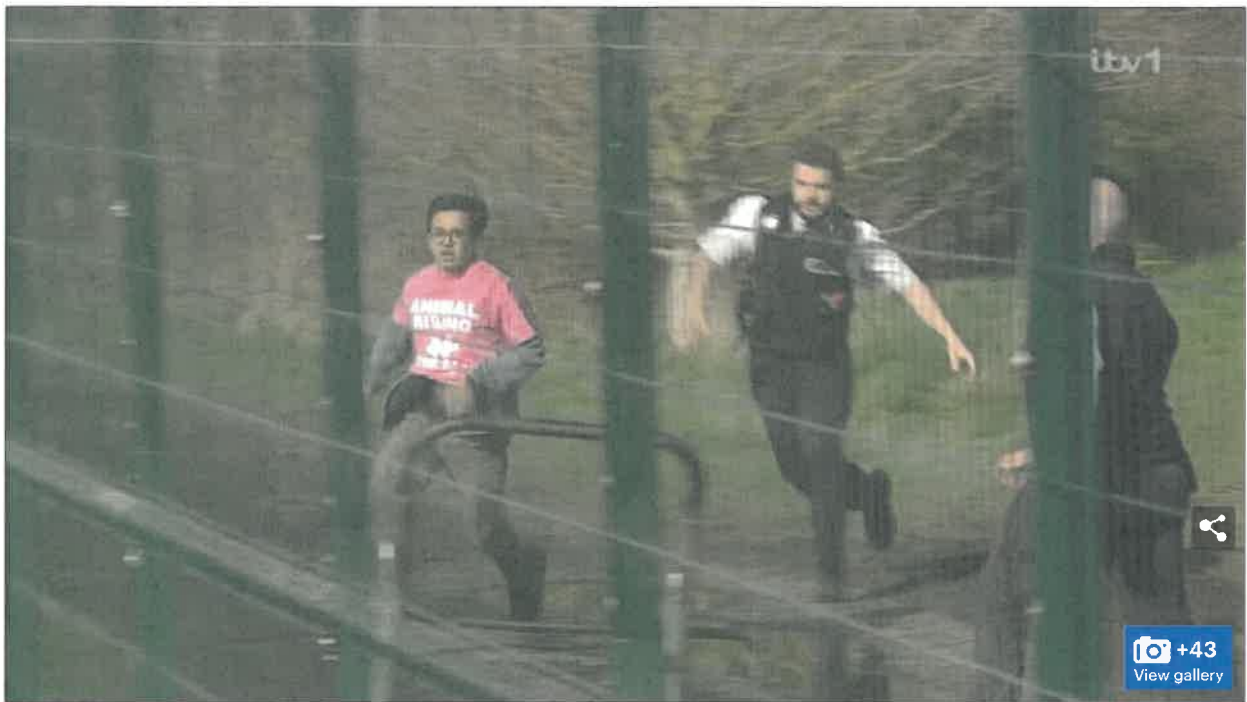
Their bold protests come just two weeks after [The Mail On Sunday](#) uncovered their grand conspiracy that was plotted in a secret meeting.

The three arrests by police this morning in connection with the plan are thought to have been a result of the Mail's dossier of information which they handed over to Merseyside Police. But despite officers being tipped off as to the nature of the plans, activists still succeeded in causing disruption.

Former jockey Peter Scudamore said: 'Racing should be grateful that the Mail On Sunday's excellent journalism alerted us of the plans to disrupt the race.'



care and attention we lavish on our horses.'



A protester runs towards the exterior fence to break into the course



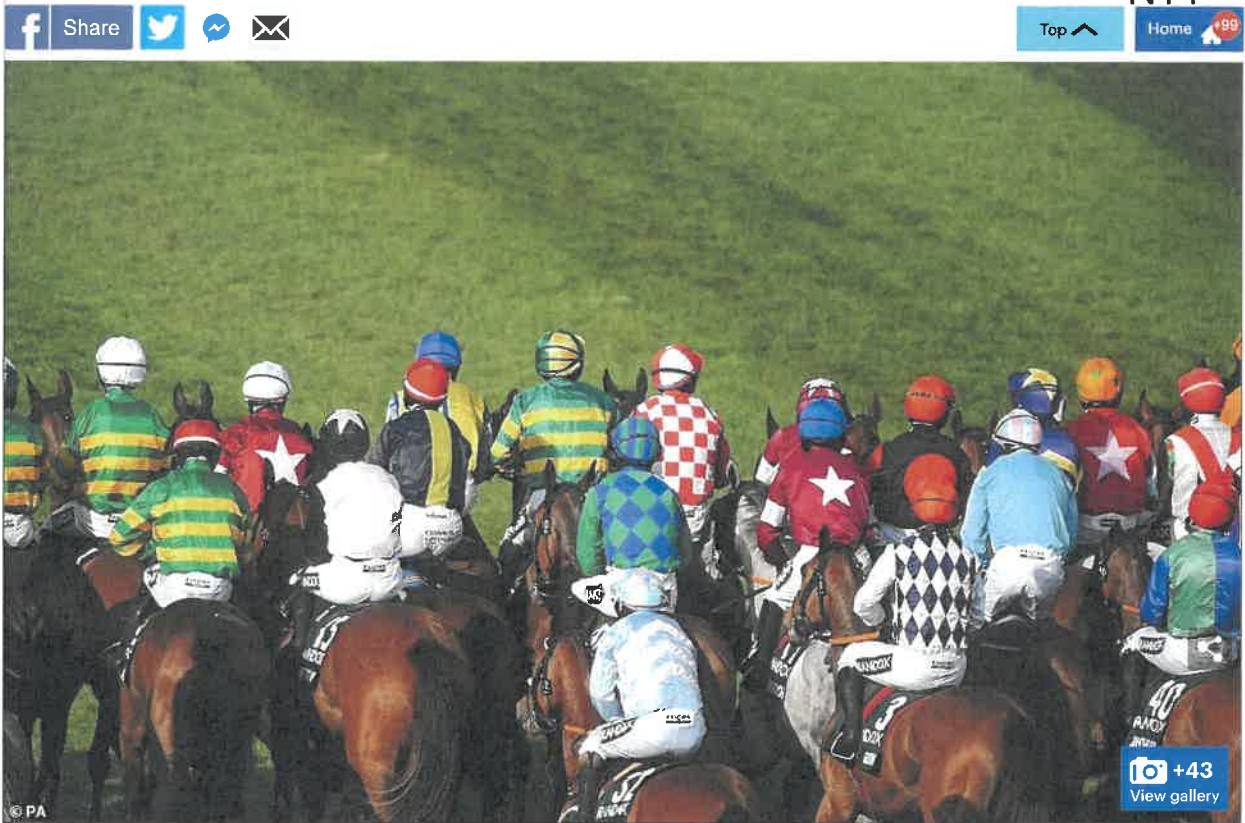
Police officers restrain several protesters who were foiled in their plan to enter Aintree



Police and race officials confiscate ladders which protesters attempted to use to get inside Aintree on Saturday



Protesters are detained outside the racecourse by police, wearing Animal Rising t-shirts



The entrants prepare to begin racing at Aintree after a 12-minute delay to their scheduled race time



Derek Fox poses with the trophy after winning the Randox Grand National Handicap Chase on Corach Rambler



Trainer of winner Corach Rambler Lucinda Russell also took victory in 2017 with her horse One For Arthur.

Corach Rambler cost only £17,000, chicken feed in racing terms, and Russell admits she only agreed to buy him to 'indulge' her partner and assistant trainer Peter Scudamore, who had taken a shine to him at the sales.

Still, the successful purchase nearly never happened. Russell and Scudamore had to leave the sale and the bidding was left to Scudamore's youngest son, Michael.

He forgot and, having gone for a cup of coffee, needed to make a mad dash back to the auction ring after taking a call from his motorway-bound father asking if he had secured Corach Rambler.

Luckily, Michael got there in time to lodge the successful bid, but Russell admits thoughts of Aintree and Cheltenham had never crossed her mind for the gelding.

She hoped he might win a few small chases at the northern tracks.

What Corach Rambler has achieved for the seven-strong syndicate — including a 21-year-old Edinburgh University student — who paid £3,000 each has far exceeded expectations.

The MoS revealed two weeks ago how militant vegans and animal rights campaigners planned to storm security fences before the race at Aintree, then glue themselves together as a human barricade and sit across the course.

Previously the police announced they would 'robustly' defend the races and its main event, which should have started at 5:15pm, from the militant vegans and animal rights campaigners.

A MoS undercover journalist secretly filmed as Patterson, 33, allegedly boasted that the stunt by the Animal Rising campaign group, which was previously known as Animal Rebellion, would have a worldwide impact.

'We have 600million people viewing this horse race worldwide, we've got £300million of bets on the horse race, and we're just going to ruin it,' she said.

The MoS understands that Patterson was arrested on suspicion of conspiracy to cause public nuisance as she and other activists made their way to Aintree on Merseyside.

Sources at Animal Rising believe her arrest was linked to the MoS handing over a dossier of evidence to Merseyside Police.

Crowds turned out to enjoy a day at the races despite fears of disruption. Racegoers made their way into Aintree Racecourse past about 50 protesters, holding Animal Rising banners and flags.



At around 2:35pm a group of Animal Rising supporters started slowly marching on the roads around Aintree Racecourse to disrupt access to the venue.

Animal Rising spokesperson Claudia Penna Rojas was pictured being carried away by four policemen outside Aintree Racecourse.

A video shows her talking to an officer and then sitting down and shaking her head.

The video then cuts to the activist refusing to stand up and walk, instead going limp so that several officers have to carry her away.

The surrounding activists cheer and clap as she is carried away.

Earlier she told Sky News: 'At some point we will peacefully and non-violently try to make our way to the track.'



Rose Patterson, 33, was arrested at the Grand National on Saturday after she was identified in a Mail on Sunday undercover exposé



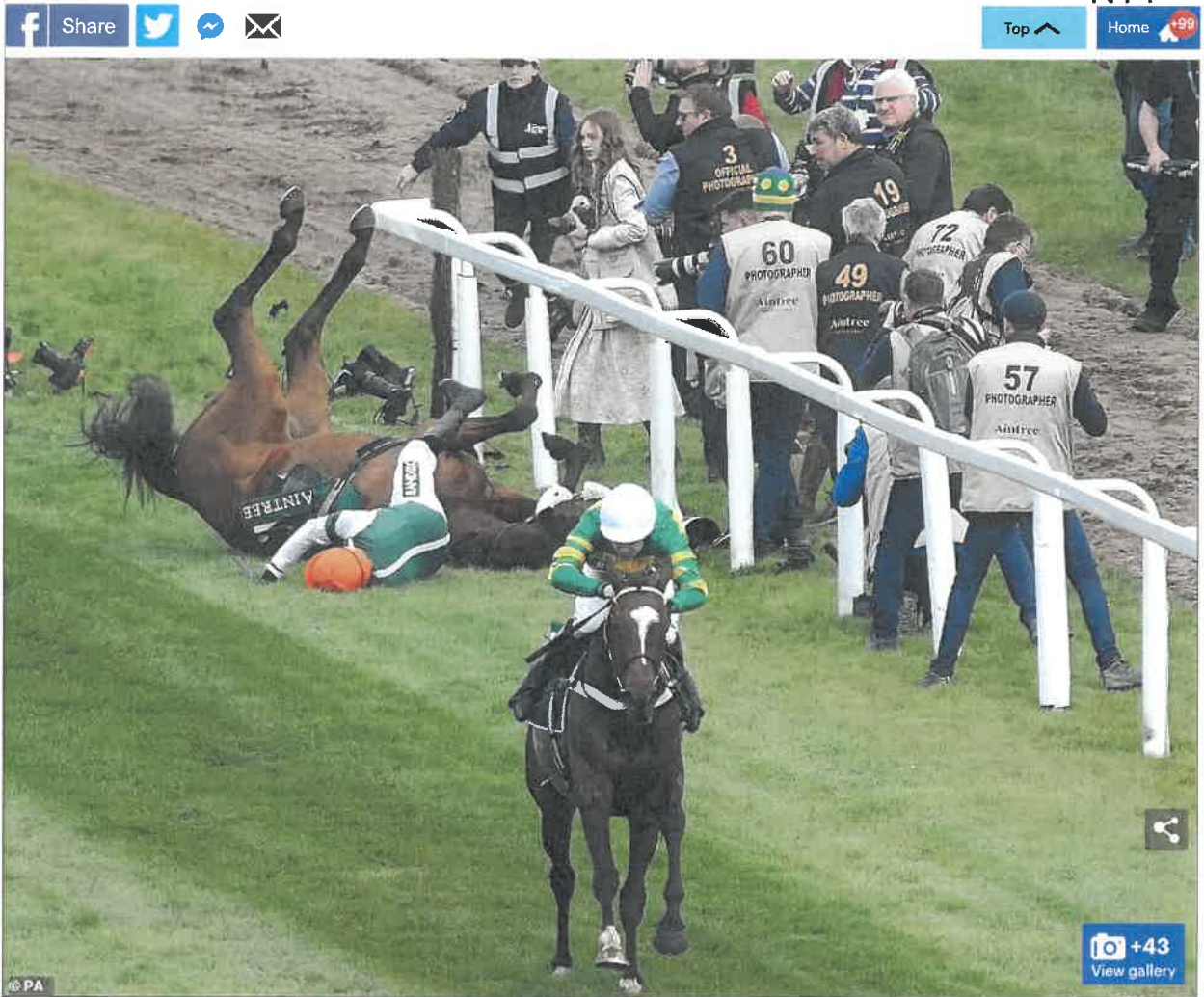
© Animal Rising
Animal Rising spokesperson Claudia Penna Rojas was arrested by several officers outside Aintree Racecourse



© EPA
Animal Rising protestors have brought banners outside of Aintree Racecourse



Claudia Penna Rojas can be seen standing and speaking to police (left), before she employs the commonly used tactic going limp - requiring several officers to carry her away



Harry Skelton fell from Calico during a race, both the rider and horse were back up shortly after



There is a large police presence down by the racetrack at Aintree, in case of any disruption from activists



While the cancellation of races is an extremely rare occurrence, some have been known to be postponed since the Grand National first began in 1839.

The First World War:

During the First World War period, Aintree Racecourse was utilised by the War Office - meaning that the races did not go ahead as usual.

Instead, the event was moved to Gatwick Racecourse - now known as Gatwick Airport - during the years 1916, 1917 and 1918.

These races were known by different names, the first one was the Racecourse Association Steeplechase, whilst the latter two were given the title of the War National Steeplechase.

The Second World War:

Again, Aintree was commandeered during the Second World War.

However, this time the races were not hosted anywhere else like during the First World War and they were cancelled between 1941 and 1945.

The IRA bomb scare:

While thousands travelled to Aintree for the big event in 1997, Merseyside Police received a phone call at 2.52pm from the Provisional Irish Republican Army (IRA) informing them that a bomb had been planted at the Racecourse.

The call came three minutes after a call had been made informing police of another bomb in place at Aintree University Hospital in the Fazakerley district of the city.

More than 60,000 people were made to leave as police evacuated the area.

The event eventually took place two days later on April 7.

The 1993 Race That Never Was:

This is another example of a Grand National that was not technically cancelled but also did not take place on its scheduled date.

It took place on the 3rd of April in 1993 and was intended to be the 147th running of the race.

However, it was not able to count as an official running because a false start was declared, only for 30 of the 39 horses taking part to not realise and continued racing.

The reason it makes the list here is that the Jockey Club decided not to re-run the race at a later date, meaning that no race result is noted for the year 1993.

Source: Grand National Betting



A press release from Animal Rising said that just 100 supporters gathered outside the racecourse, though they expect more to arrive later.

Miss Penna Rojas said: 'This summer Animal Rising will be taking action to protect animals from harm by openly rescuing them from factory farms and putting ourselves between these beautiful creatures and harm.'