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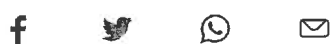
## The Jockey Club granted High Court injunction against Animal Rising protesters ahead of Epsom Derby

The injunction has been granted against Animal Rising protestors by The Jockey Club following disruption to the Grand National at Aintree in April; that led to over 100 arrests, with the race delayed by over 10 minutes

🕒 Friday 26 May 2023 16:44, UK



A protestor, wearing a pink T-shirt of the Animal Rising group, is stopped by police at Aintree



The Jockey Club has been granted a High Court injunction against Animal Rising protesters who plan to disrupt the Betfred Derby at Epsom next weekend.

The application was lodged by the Jockey Club, who own Epsom Downs alongside many other high-profile tracks, as it felt the organisation had made it "explicitly clear" that they intended to breach security at the Surrey racecourse to stage a disruptive protest.

Word of their plans came after [disruption to the Grand National at Aintree in April](#), when the race was delayed by just over 10 minutes after demonstrators made their way onto the track and had to be removed by police.

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Police officers respond to Animal Rising activists attempting to invade the racecourse ahead of the Randox Grand National at Ascot

[Officials at the Jockey Club feared the Epsom protest would endanger participants, racegoers and horses](#) - although they state they do not dismiss the right to peaceful protest and have offered Animal Rising an area near the entrance of the racecourse specifically for this purpose on Derby day, June 3.

The injunction granted by High Court judge Sir Anthony Mann prohibits individuals from entering onto the racetrack and carrying out other acts with the intention and/or effect of disrupting the races.

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Such acts include intentionally causing objects to enter the racetrack, entering the parade ring, entering and/or remaining on the horses' route to the parade ring and to the racetrack without authorisation, and intentionally endangering any person at Epsom Downs racecourse during the two-day Derby Festival.

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Individuals acting in breach of the court order could be subject to proceedings for contempt of court, which may lead to a fine and/or imprisonment.

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The Jockey Club's chief executive Nevin Truesdale said: "Our number one priority will always be to ensure that the safety of all our equine and human participants and racegoers, officials and our own employees is not compromised.

"Animal Rising have repeatedly made it explicitly clear that they intend to break the law and disrupt The Derby Festival and that left us with no choice but to seek this injunction, having consulted with a number of stakeholders including Surrey Police.



Protestors on the track at Ayr ahead of the Scottish Grand National

"We will never tolerate a repeat of the illegal disruption we saw at Aintree on Grand National day and we welcome today's High Court ruling, which provides us with an additional layer of security to combat the threat of such dangerous and reckless behaviour.

"We believe everyone should have the right to peaceful protest and have offered Animal Rising an area near the entrance of Epsom Downs racecourse to express their views in a law-abiding way.



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"However, anyone who attempts to disrupt the race or compromise the safety of horses or humans will be dealt with robustly by our security teams and the police.

"As such I now urge Animal Rising to abandon any plans to breach security at The Derby Festival and respect the legitimate right of the thousands of people who will join us at Epsom Downs and the millions of people watching at home and around the world to enjoy the sport they love uninterrupted."



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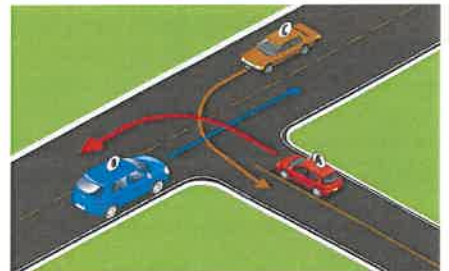
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## Animal Rising 'hanging themselves in public', says Jockey Club chief after 'bad day for protesters'

Organisers had taken out a High Court injunction to protect the racecourse and believe that there is now a clear route to civil prosecution

By Jeremy Wilson, CHIEF SPORTS REPORTER

4 June 2023 • 7:35pm



The Jockey Club will launch civil proceedings against the protester who attempted to derail the Epsom Derby and have accused Animal Rising activists of drastic self-sabotage over the past 48 hours.

“It was a very bad day for Animal Rising,” said Nevin Truesdale, the chief executive of The Jockey Club, who own the Epsom Downs course.

“There is a degree to which this could make them more determined but I actually think we should stop talking about them now. We should give them the chance to effectively hang themselves in public which is what they’ve been doing in the days leading up to it and what they did on Saturday.”

Truesdale specifically referenced Animal Rising’s claim that the activist who broke onto the course — whose name was confirmed by the group as Ben Newman — had entered the racetrack after The Derby had started. Surrey Police and ITV, who screened the event live, as well as numerous witnesses, were adamant that he entered the finishing straight shortly after the race started, an act described by The Jockey Club as “deplorable”.

Organisers had taken out a High Court injunction to protect the racecourse and, as well as what might follow from Surrey Police’s 31 arrests, they believe that there is now a clear route to civil prosecution, fines and potentially even the threat of prison for contempt of court.

A willingness to now act on that court order was reiterated on Sunday. “We were always very clear that having been granted the High Court injunction we would not hesitate to enforce it should Animal Rising or anyone breach the court order,” said a spokesperson for The Jockey Club.

“Following their reckless and illegal actions we have been in touch with our lawyers about the next steps.”



Truesdale believes horseracing must now deal with what he called their “new normal” in dealing with the threat of animal rights campaigners and there have already been talks with organisers of Royal Ascot, which will be staged later this month.

The use of intelligence and a preemptive strike by Surrey Police that involved 19 arrests on the morning of Saturday afternoon’s race formed a notable part of a security operation that cost The Jockey Club an additional £150,000.

“We had significantly more security,” Truesdale told Racing TV. “We’ve learnt a lot about how to police future events. We shouldn’t underestimate the impact of really strong intelligence-led policing. Protesters were followed home from Epsom having done reconnaissance on Friday evening, and then more vehicles were stopped on the way to Epsom, and I think the big win there was just taking out individuals and man power from them ... the removal of infrastructure like locking devices, burner phones. The removal of those I suspect probably helped stop their operation from going well.”

Animal Rising told The Telegraph they would continue their dialogue with the horseracing industry and they intended to make an announcement about any upcoming plans early this week.

They believe it was still a hugely successful event for their cause, citing not just how the protester ran on to the course but the “conversation” that has taken place about animal welfare in horseracing.

They also said that protesters had been attempting to get onto the course just before the race started and criticised organisers for not then suspending the race.

“We had repeatedly called on The Jockey Club to put safety first and cancel the race ahead of time,” said a statement. “It is public knowledge that there was immense pressure to run the race before ITV1 coverage switched to the FA Cup Final. In an industry where a horse dies every other day, it is unsurprising that the need to run the race was put above care for animals.

“These ‘equine athletes’ did not get a choice in this matter, they never signed up for this or were informed of the risks.”

Surrey Police said on Sunday that Newman, of Hackney, had been charged with causing public nuisance and has been remanded ahead of an appearance at Guildford Magistrates’ Court on Monday.

Police also said that two women who were “quickly detained moments before they were able to get onto the track”.

“We absolutely support people’s rights to peacefully protest, but we differentiate between this and unacceptable criminal behaviour,” said chief supt Clive Davies, who was in charge of the policing operation for the Epsom Derby.

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# Animal Rising eco-mob plot to sabotage Saturday's Epsom Derby exposed

EXCLUSIVE: The Express can reveal more than 70 activists are plotting to cause so much disruption the famous race may have to be called off.



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Animal Rising activists plan to sabotage this weekend's Epsom Derby (Image: GETTY)



Fanatics plan to sabotage this weekend's Epsom Derby with a reckless plot to invade the track, the Daily Express can reveal today.

Animal Rising activists plan to mingle with racegoers before swarming over the barriers onto Surrey's famous Epsom Downs Racecourse.

Race organisers have warned previously that protests against the "cruel and outdated" treatment of horses can endanger the animals.

The Jockey Club has also obtained a High Court injunction which threatens jail for demonstrators who spoil the fun for up to 80,000 spectators.



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There have been fears that hundreds of people from climate and animal rights group Animal Rising will try to stop The Derby on Saturday.

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And our investigation reveals how the militant group is determined to repeat their attempt to halt this year's Grand National.

Police arrested 118 protestors at Aintree after they managed to delay the race by nearly 15 minutes when they stormed the security fences.

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Fanatics will try to stop The Derby on Saturday. (Image: GETTY)

Animal Rising organiser Beau King Houston boasted to our undercover reporter that they will:

- Travel en masse to Surrey from all over the country and stay in "safe houses" on Friday night ahead of the race.
- Be ferried to and from the course in mini-buses and brought back from the police station if they are arrested.
- Adopt a "normal dress code" to avoid being spotted by police and communicate with pay-as-you-go "burner phones".
- Be organised into different activist "pods" made up of individual "peas" run
- Laugh off arrest because they can get anything from a cup of tea to fresh

Our reporter  
in Haggerstc

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Police arrested 118 protestors at Aintree (Image: GETTY)

Nevin Truesdale, the Club's Chief Executive, said: "Our number one priority will always be to ensure that the safety of all our equine and human participants and racegoers, officials and our own employees is not compromised.

"Everyone should have the right to peaceful protest and we have offered Animal Rising an area near the entrance of Epsom Downs Racecourse to express their views in a law-abiding way.

"However, they have repeatedly made it explicitly clear that they intend to break the law and disrupt The Derby Festival, leaving us with no choice but to seek a High Court injunction."

Conservative MP Jonathan Gullis added: "More woke warriors just trying to spoil people having fun in the sun.

"Do people not get that people have a right to choose what they want to eat, or are they just desperate to get their face on telly as a 'victim of society'?

"These bedwetters just need to shut up and keep themselves to themselves."



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King Houston, a serial protestor who admits to multiple arrests, outlined the group's intent to disrupt the 243-year-old race at a briefing this week.

At the final "non-violent training session" in east London, he told would-be recruits they would "bond together" at "safe houses" near Epsom.

"Peas" [the term the group uses to describe its protesters] would be bussed with other "pod" members to the track, where they have been told to expect to be arrested for "public nuisance" or "conspiracy to commit public nuisance".

As well as drivers, back-up teams will be on hand to cook and clean for the frontliners, while others will wait outside police stations.

As well as spelling out what to wear, they were told they can have "anything you want" on their untraceable phones - "except your drug dealer's number".

During the training session, activists simulated evading police and were taught how to frustrate officers by going "floppy" to become a "dead weight".

They were also coached on how to block supermarket aisles and stage restaurant sit-ins for other forthcoming demos.

King Houston insisted he "never had a bad experience" once arrested, adding: "Honestly being in a cell is like being in a really s\*\*\* hotel room.

"There's a button in the cell to press, which is basically what I call room service.

"You can ask to just be let out if you're feeling a bit claustrophobic and they can sometimes let you have a walk-around.

"And you can get as much coffee and tea and water as you want. You just press the bell.

"I even had it once when I came out of the shower and I was like 'do you have any moisturiser?' and the guy said 'I've got some, you can borrow some of mine'.

"They'll take your clothes sometimes and give you a lovely grey tracksuit - custody sweats - which everybody wants to get, like you want to have the custody sweats...

"You want to have that grey tracksuit that says you're in the gang, it's so stupid. Now it sounds like a cult, I'm joking."

## TRENDING

The Barnet-based fanatic claimed officers in Scotland were "the nicest police ever" and sang "happy birthday" to him when he was held at the Scottish Grand National in April. ⊗

He told followers he is a former actor who once performed as a "drag version" and "danced" at her birthday party.

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"I go into school  
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"You have to be DBS-checked every year and I had one two months ago and I already had like seven arrests at that point and it didn't even show up on the DBS check.

"I've had a clearance for actually three years now, so I can do that for three years."

In preparation for the Epsom Derby disruption, activists have been told to write the number of the solicitors firms that represent the group on their bodies, so that they can contact them when they're arrested.

Mr King Houston told the meeting that "Birds", "Hodge Jones and Allen" and "Commons" all represent Animal Rising when they are being held.

During the session two of the activists, one from Poland and the other from Canada, expressed concerns about being "deported" from the UK.

The young Polish activist, Doris, asked Mr King Houston "how many times" she can be arrested before being booted out of the country.

Moustachioed Mr King Houston, who was wearing sparkly fake leather tracksuit bottoms, allayed the concerns of the young protester by telling her that the "head of actions" at Animal Rising, Rue, is from the Netherlands and "has been arrested maybe 12 times and there has never been any question" of deportation.

He said: "You have to be convicted. It doesn't matter if you get charged, you can be arrested and charged and that doesn't even come up on the DBS check."

The vegan activists were told they mustn't "laugh" at the angry general public despite it being "hard" not to.

Two of the activists in the session were arrested during a police raid on the Haggerston training location. One of these activists, Kylie a "dog healer" from Essex in her mid-forties, told the training session she was willing to be one of the drivers for the Epsom demonstration.

The mother-of-two said both her children did not eat meat and that they would be a force to be reckoned with they grew up.

After the chaos at the Grand National two months ago, Animal Rising - an offshoot of militant eco-group Extinction - threatened a summer of action.

Last week's injunction, granted by Sir Anthony Mann "prohibits acts intended to disrupt The Derby Festival at Epsom Downs Racecourse on June 2 and 3, 2023."

It warns that anyone in breach of the order or anyone helping them could be "held to be in contempt of court and may be imprisoned, fined, have your assets seized".

Mr Truesdale added: "Judge Sir Anthony Mann's decision to grant us that injunction last week means that anyone who chooses to breach security will not only be dealt with robustly by our security teams and the police but could also now be subject to contempt of court proceedings which may result in a fine and imprisonment. ⊗

"As such I now urge Animal Rising to abandon any plans to breach security at right of the thousands of people who will join us at Epsom Downs and the millic world to enjoy **BREAKING NEWS**

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A Surrey Police spokesperson said: "The Epsom Derby is one of the largest events we police in Surrey, and thorough planning takes place to ensure we are able to keep the public safe."

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COMMENTS

"The guiding principles of policing protests are the safety of protesters, the public and police officers involved, preventing criminal behaviour or disorder and deescalating tensions.

"Our officers are well-trained in responding to protests and will be on hand throughout the day to police the event.

"Where lawful, we will seek to facilitate peaceful protests. Any criminal activity or risk to public safety will not be tolerated, and we will take robust action in response to this."

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## Militant animal rights activists plotting to sabotage the Epsom Derby could be jailed for contempt of court under High Court injunction as world-famous racecourse takes legal action against Animal Rising, which disrupted the Grand National last month

- Racecourse is taking legal action after the group disrupted the Grand National
- [READ MORE: Animal Rising to send 'one thousand' protesters to Epsom Derby](#)

By [ANDREW LEVY](#) and [SABRINA MILLER](#)

**PUBLISHED:** 01:00, 23 May 2023 | **UPDATED:** 01:00, 23 May 2023

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Militant animal rights activists plotting to sabotage the Epsom Derby could be jailed for contempt of court after the Jockey Club announced it is applying for a High Court injunction.

The owner of the world-famous racecourse is taking legal action after Animal Rising - who disrupted the [Grand National](#) last month - [warned they would disrupt the Surrey meeting on June 3](#).

The application in [London](#) on Friday will seek to prohibit individuals from blocking the racetrack, entering the parade ring or any other acts that could d proceedings.

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Animal Rising has boasted Epsom is 'almost unpoliceable' because sections of the course are open and accessible to the public.

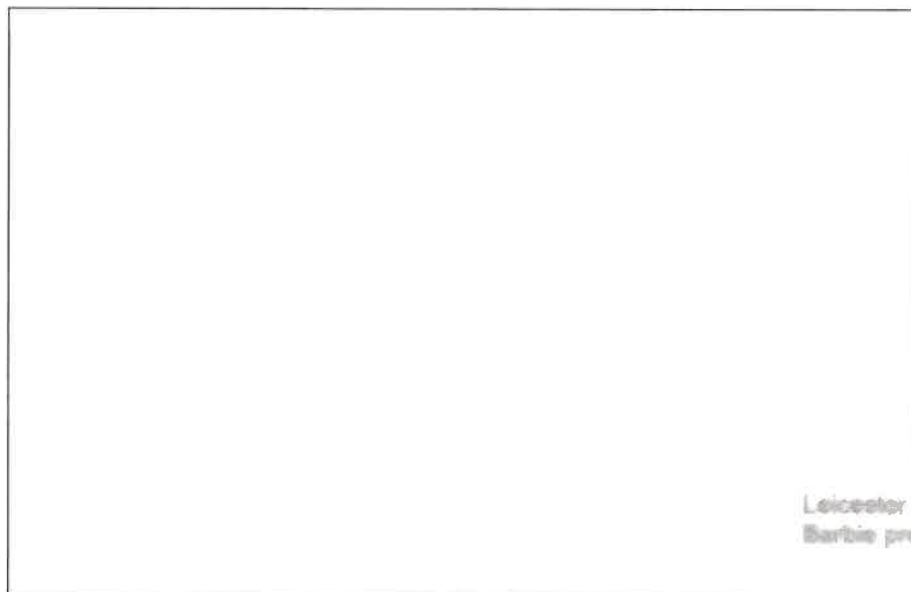
Members are planning to use glue and lock-on devices to secure themselves at different locations.



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The owner of the world-famous racecourse is taking legal action after Animal Rising - who disrupted the Grand National last month (pictured here) - warned they would disrupt the Surrey meeting on June 3



Animal Rising has boasted Epsom is 'almost unpoliceable' because sections of the course are open and accessible to the public (pictured: Animal Rising activists attempting to breach the fence at Epsom racecourse ahead of the Randox Grand National Handicap Chase)

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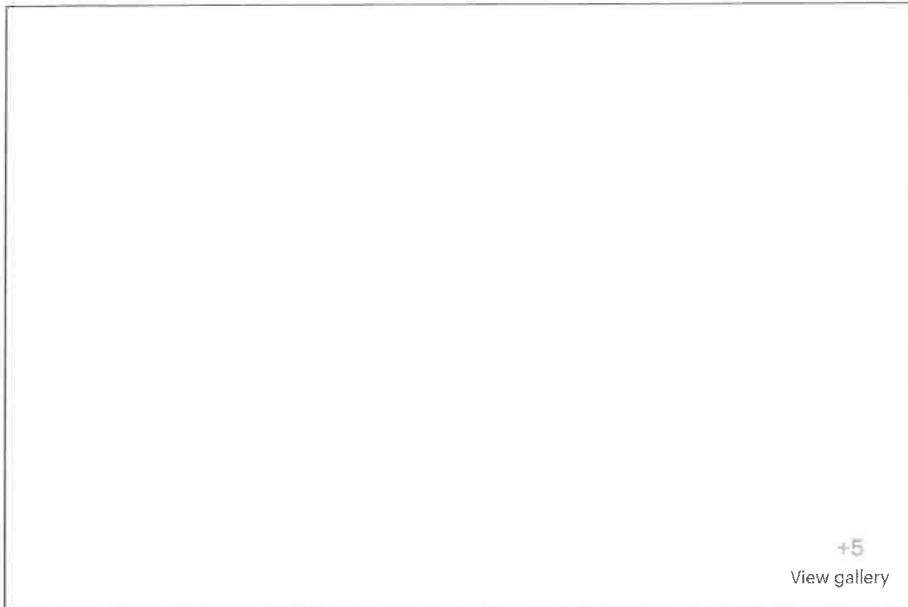


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Members are planning to use glue and lock-on devices to secure themselves at different locations (pictured: Animal rights protesters are apprehended by police officers ahead of the Grand National Handicap Steeple Chase)

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Jockey Club chief executive Nevin Truesdale said: 'We respect everyone's right to peaceful and lawful protest and, with that in mind, have offered Animal Rising a space for this purpose directly outside the racecourse during the Derby Festival.

'However, Animal Rising have made it explicitly clear that they intend to breach security and access the track itself in an attempt to stop racing taking place and it is our duty and obligation to do everything we can to protect everyone's safety and prevent a repeat of the illegal and reckless protests we saw at Aintree in April.'

Mo Metcalf-Fisher, from The Countryside Alliance, added Animal Rising - an offshoot of Extinction Rebellion - 'routinely cross the line between what any rational person would consider to be legitimate protest and dangerous stunts'.

He said: 'When the lives of horses, riders and spectators are even remotely put at risk by their selfish behaviour, it is no longer a protest, but an act of disorder.'

The fall and death of Hill Sixteen at the Grand National was blamed on the 14-minute delay caused by the animal rights zealots. Horses were left agitated in a hold-up.

A total of 118 people were arrested at Aintree after the **Mail on Sunday plot to wreck the race**.

Up to 1,000 protesters from the extremist vegan group are feared to ruin the Derby to publicise their cause, despite the risk of up to two years heavy fines if the injunction is granted.

Animal Rising spokesman Nathan McGovern warned it would not protest as the 'issues that we are facing are too big to be ignored'.

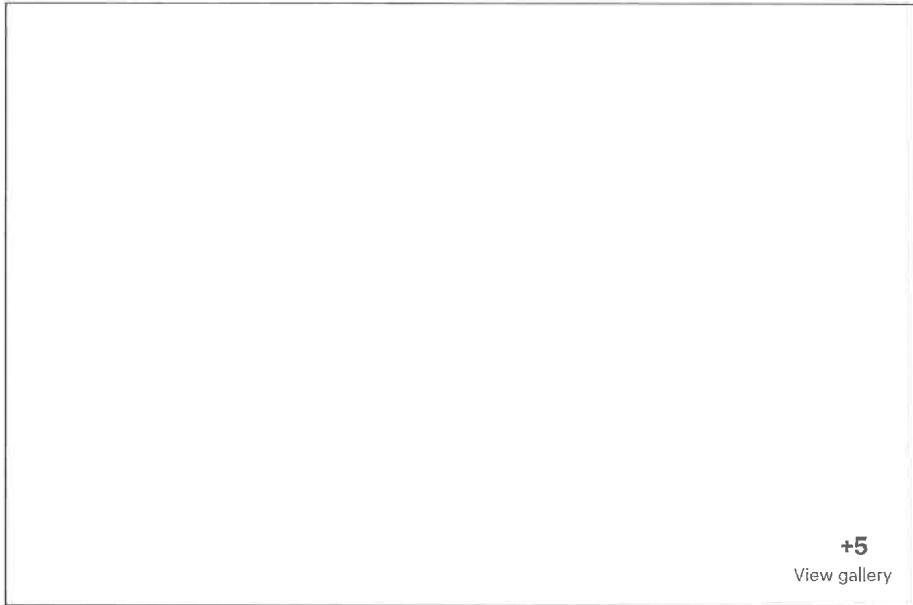
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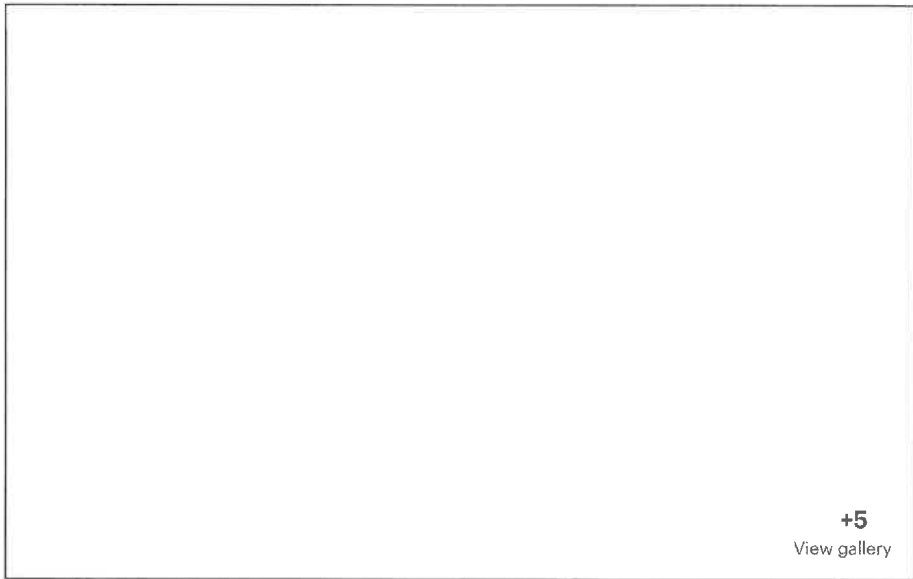


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**Mo Metcalf-Fisher, from The Countryside Alliance, added Animal Rising - an offshoot of Extinction Rebellion - 'routinely cross the line between what any rational person would consider to be legitimate protest and dangerous stunts' (pictured: activists at the Grand National)**



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**A total of 118 people were arrested at Aintree after the Mail on Sunday exposed the plot to wreck the race**

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Transcript – BBC Radio Surrey, Interview with Ben Newman, 2 June 2023

- Speaker 1** Thanks to Ben Newman from the Animal Rising group. First of all, Ben, good morning. Thank you for joining us.
- Ben Newman** Good morning. Thanks for having me.
- Speaker 1** Erm, there's an injunction to prevent a repeat of what happened at the Grand National, so um are your plans still gonna go ahead?
- Ben Newman** Yes. So after the Gr- yes so after the Grand National um people left crying er and the whole country was shocked. And really, they lost the argument, and now they have brought out er some private laws, which are quite concerning, the use of injunctions. Erm but yes, the protest will still be going ahead, yes.
- Speaker 1** Erm you mentioned you you're planning disruption between races. So tell us about that?
- Ben Newman** Erm so I mean it's much the sum... there is two things going on there, there's one there protest erm family fun family friendly protest out the front, er which invites anyone to go down to, and also some people will be er putting their bodies ... get-getting on the tracks er and er disrupting the race, and you know maybe delaying it for a bit, but I don't think it is the erm... yep
- Speaker 1** So sorry, can I just clarify the the second part you talked about, is that going to happen between races or during races?
- Ben Newman** Oh, no one is going to be running in front of horses for the running, no
- Speaker 1** You said it would be up to the race organisers to decide whether a race is actually safe to run, er however. So, so what does that mean?
- Ben Newman** Erm so if the if the h-... if the w- the, the... Epsom Derby decide when to run the race ... and erm sorry, I didn't say that, but I mean they they can decide to run the race. If the race seems unsafe, erm... they certainly shouldn't run the race, no.
- Speaker 1** Erm so.. so fr- from your point of view, what what actually declares as a race safe to run then, if if you are going to be protesting at the same time?
- Ben Newman** Where we have the the ... after the ... if the horses are, if the horses are skittish or anything like that, but I mean, I, I do not actually host. I do not actually host horse races, but I would say all horse races all horse races are not safe for horses, and that is the whole point of this of this protest, it or at least part of the point is is that a- you may have seen at the Grand National, a horse went over the first jump, died and broke their neck on the spot. So horse racing is not safe to horses at all, and and that is the point, that we are treating them like property and and making them run. So I would ... so our position is that it is not safe for horses to run the race at all, hence why we are trying to stop it.
- Speaker 1** Erm how er confident are you that your actions won't put the horses in danger as well?
- Ben Newman** Well, we are doing it for two reasons, and one is to to stop the horses running. So in the case of the Grand National, for example, that that is the most recent example. Three horses died that that erm that weekend and the first horse went over and died as soon as as soon as the race started, a horse died. It is shocking, erm but we are also doing it to create erm a massive erm conversation and and we did create that. So for example,

the British Veterinary Association said they are considering changing their position on horse racing after what erm we brought attention to. So... erm...

**Speaker 1** Yes can I, sorry, sorry, Ben, I am going to press you on this. Can I just ask you again, how confident are you that your actions tomorrow aren't going to put horses in danger?

**Ben Newman** It's not our actions putting; what is putting horses in danger, is the is the running, that horse are being made to run er a race with a jockey on their back and being whipped and being dragged around by a metal bit in their mouth. That, that is what puts horses in danger. Erm... pe-... we, so ... and and the precaution ... I suppose in answ- in direct answer to your question is people aren't going to be running out, directly in front of horses running it, yeah.

**Speaker 1** OK. For the moment, thank you very much indeed. That is er Ben Newman from Animal Rising group. So the er Derby ... taking place, the oaks is taking place today, of course actually and the Derby takes place tomorrow. Let us go live ...

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Sport

# Police arrest 19 animal rights activists ahead of Epsom Derby

The group Animal Rising accused Surrey Police of 'abusing' their powers

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The arrests come after activist group Animal Rising vowed to “cancel or severely delay” the race – despite a High Court injunction banning them from doing so. Photograph: Victoria Jones/PA

Sat Jun 3 2023 - 11:51



Nineteen activists have been arrested ahead of plans to disrupt the Epsom Derby on Saturday, police said.

The group Animal Rising accused Surrey Police of “abusing” their powers after the activists were arrested on Saturday morning based on intelligence received by officers.

A spokesman for the force said 11 people were arrested at addresses in Mitcham and Byfleet in the early hours and a further eight people were arrested after their vehicle was stopped on Canons Lane in Burgh Heath at around 10.20am.

It comes after activist group vowed to “cancel or severely delay” the race – despite a High Court injunction banning them from doing so.

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Last week, the Jockey Club, which owns Epsom Downs, was granted the injunction against the group, claiming it had made “explicitly clear” it intended to breach security at the Surrey racecourse.

And on Friday, Surrey Police warned they “will not tolerate” risks to public safety after an Animal Rising member told Sky News she would do “what’s necessary”, including breaking the law, to protect the animals.

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There was disruption at the Grand National at Aintree in April when the race was delayed by just over 10 minutes after demonstrators made their way on to the track and had to be removed by police.

In a defiant announcement following the arrests, Animal Rising said police would not stop them from disrupting the Derby.

They said: “Earlier this morning, at least 10 arrests were made by Surrey Police, allegedly in connection with the Epsom Derby.

“This comes after reports of facial recognition camera around Epsom Downs Racecourse.

“Police heavy-handedness and intimidation tactics will not prevent a national conversation about our animals and the natural world

“It restates its commitment to protect horses and disrupt the Derby.”

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Superintendent Michael Hodder of Surrey Police said: “We have been clear in our approach that criminal activity will not be tolerated at the Epsom Derby Festival.

“As a result of intelligence, we have arrested 19 people who we believe were intent on illegally disrupting today’s events.

“Our officers will be at the event throughout the day to continue in keeping the public safe and preventing criminality.”

Jockey Club officials fear the protest will endanger participants, racegoers and horses, although they said they do not dismiss the right to peaceful protest and have offered Animal Rising an area near the racecourse’s entrance to demonstrate.

The injunction granted by High Court judge Sir Anthony Mann bans people from going on to the racetrack and carrying out other acts with the intention and/or effect of disrupting the races.

Those breaching the court order may be subject to contempt of court proceedings and fined or jailed.

Surrey Police have been approached for comment.

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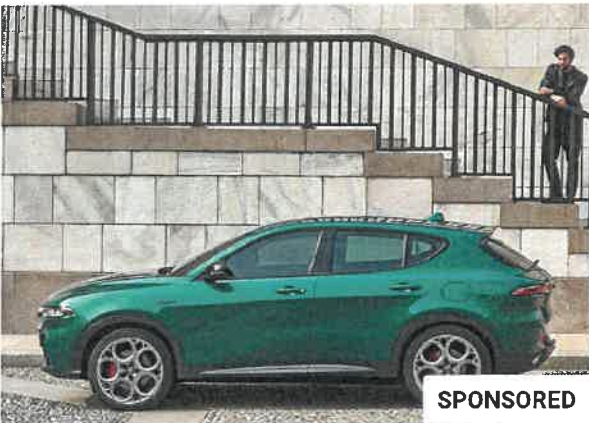
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The Grand National is the country's most watched horse race

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## Grand National 2023: 'Animal Rising' plead for people to join protest amid plan to sabotage race

Animal Rising plan to protest ahead of this Saturday's Grand National at Aintree as they call for more numbers to join their group ahead of the country's most watched horserace

By Samuel Meade, Sports Brand Writer

13:47, 11 Apr 2023

| 8 | [BOOKMARK](#)

The protest group Animal Rising have called on animal lovers to join them this Saturday as they bid to sabotage the Grand National.

The steeplechase over more than four miles is the race that captures the imagination of the country more than any other. Punters flock to betting shops around the nation before the Aintree showpiece, with thousands more in attendance at the racecourse.



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As a result it has been the platform for protests in the past as animal rights activists take issue with the treatment of horses. This year is no different and on Saturday Animal Rising, who've had their plans exposed by the national press, are looking to make a point at Aintree and want to further increase their numbers.

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**Grand National 2023: Which horses are still on course for Saturday's £1 million Aintree showpiece?**



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Volunteer Orla Coghlan appeared on **GMB** and spoke about their motivations: "We're trying to do two main things by disrupting this race. We care very much about animals and we're trying to protect those horses by being there on the tracks. Secondly we want to have this public conversation - I'm sure million families are having these conversations around breakfast - so I think it is quite an effective way to protest."

**Mirror**

She went on to say: "We know every other day a horse dies in horse racing in the UK. Also since, in the year 2000, 50 horses have died at Aintree alone." Orla questioned why, given the obvious affection the public has for horses, why they have to be enjoyed in an arena where they face harm.

Animal Rising spokesman Ben Newman told **GB News**: "Yes, so horse racing is wrong and we can do much better than using animals for food or fun and we just don't need to. We're inviting everyone to

PRIVACY I am on the 15th to Aintree racecourse and hope to stop the race.

"Come on down if you'd like to know more. Protest is a fairly common thing in a democracy and there's nothing new about it. We'll be using our bodies and that's all there is to it really."



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The famous steeplechase has been the scene of several horse fatalities

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Orla admitted that, beyond their intention to disrupt, no exact plans had been made as she was questioned on whether the group would invade the track. "We're going to be turning up outside the gates at Aintree at 9.30am on Saturday and we'd encourage any other animal lovers to be there with us," she added.

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**BREAKING 19 people arrested in connection with plans to disrupt Epsom Derby**

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ence. In 2021 the Long Mile died whilst in 2012 the much-loved synchronised, ridden by Tony McCoy, was a fatality just weeks after claiming the Cheltenham Gold Cup.

The three-day festival at Aintree begins on Thursday and features several Grade 1 races including the Aintree Bowl and the Melling Chase. Last year's Grand National winner Noble Yeats is aiming to emulate the likes of Red Rum and Tiger Roll as a multiple winner, but Corach Rambler currently heads the betting.

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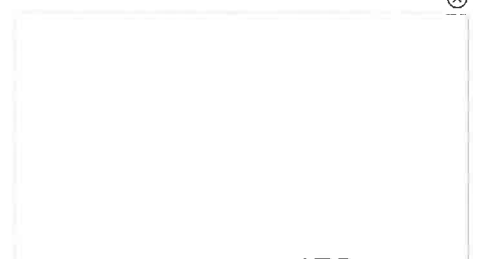
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MG11(P)

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<b>WITNESS STATEMENT</b>			
(Criminal Procedure Rules R16.2, Criminal Justice Act 1967 S9)			
		URN	05B20042123
Statement of	SALISBURY, LEWYS H		
Age if under 18	Over 18 (if over 18 insert 'over 18')	Occupation	Police service
This statement (consisting of 3 page(s)) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it, anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.			
Signature 	#055389 SALISBURY, L.	Date	16/04/2023 09:09
Name / Rank / No	Constable 055389 L H SALISBURY		

I am Police Constable 5389 SALISBURY currently based at the Operational Command Centre in Speke as of part of Matrix Disruption in the role as Operational Specialist. I am trained in Police search techniques.

I was deployed to Aintree Racecourse from April 11<sup>th</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup> 2023 as part of the callsign XU91. This callsign was a dedicated protestor removal capability for the Aintree Racecourse footprint. Over the 3 days of racing, it attracts over 100,000 members of public to the racecourse, with the majority of public attending on the final day, The Grand National.

On the day of The Grand National, April 15<sup>th</sup> 2023, I was in company with PC PARRY and SGT REILY as the only protestor removal capability on the steeple chase side of the Racecourse. Our task was monitoring the jumps and outer fences near to the Liverpool Leeds Canal. This side of the race course is out of bounds to members of public whilst the race day has begun. Only members of public that have valid tickets and who have parked vehicles / or their coaches are parked there, have a valid reason to attend this side of the course. Whilst the racing is on, this area is locked down. Members of public must be in possession of a valid ticket / pass to be able to attend the race course.

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**MG11(P)**

At around 16.45 hours large numbers of people were sighted in the woods near to jump 8 and 7. I sighted multiple people wearing pink T shirts and holding extendable ladders, attempt to scale the outer and inner fences of the racecourse. I could hear screaming and shouting coming from all directions as Private Security staff and members of public confronted them. Private Security and members of public were taking the ladders off the people and throwing the ladders onto the racecourse in an attempt to slow down and disrupt them. Additional Police Officers attended my location both inside and outside of the racecourse to assist however there were too many people running from all directions, and all climbing the fences.

I believed that these people were attempting to gain entry to the race course to conduct a protest in order to disrupt or delay the Grand National Race, which was in fact the next race due to be started at 17.15 hours.

I sighted a male wearing a pink t shirt scale the green inner fence at incredible speed. I was at least the width of the race track away from him as I was close to the road that runs alongside the race track. I crossed the race track towards him and as he negotiated the top of the fence, he rips the front of his t shirt, lands on the floor and runs away from me to my left, towards jump 8 "CANAL TURN". I attempted to trip him but just missed his left ankle. I continued to chase the male and I saw him reach into his pocket and pour something into his hands and he dropped a white lid in the process.

I believed that he had super glue and was going to attempt to glue himself onto or around the CANAL TURN jump. If successful, this could have caused significant disruption to the race event and the tens of thousands of public in attendance, as the Grand National Race could possibly be delayed or even cancelled.

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**MG11(P)**

As he stopped next to the right hand side of the jump, he placed his hands together with his arms around the fence structure. This allowed me to catch the male and I wrapped my arms around him and pulled him off fencing. We both fell onto the grass floor and I was quickly surrounded by racecourse staff and official photographers who assisted me control the male whilst we both caught our breath.

I pointed out the offences of aggravated trespass and causing a public nuisance. At 17.00 hours I cautioned the male. He made no reply and I informed him that I was placing him under arrest. I told the male that his arrest was necessary to verify his name and address, prevent damage to property and to prevent harm to himself.

I handcuffed the male to the rear and double locked them for safety. I searched the male and found only a phone and a bank card under the name Benjamin NEWMAN. The male refused to confirm his name and date of birth. The male did not have a valid ticket or pass for the days racing.

The male had a ripped pink t shirt on with Animal Rising in white writing. He had dark hair with light highlights. He had blue jeans and light suede trainers on.

I remained with the male until 2 Special Constables took over in order to transport the male to a Custody Suite on my behalf at around 18.45 hours. I did not see the male again and I had no further dealings with him. I was deployed to another area within the race course in order to deal with further protesters.

These are my original notes.



Crime

## Six arrested after animal rights protesters blockade McDonald's depot in Hemel Hempstead

They are demanding the fast food chain commits to becoming fully plant-based

By Holly Patel

Published 24th May 2021, 14:37 BST - 1 min read

Updated 24th May 2021, 14:44 BST



Six people have been arrested following an animal rights protest outside a McDonald's depot in Hemel Hempstead at the weekend.

Animal Rebellion activists staged a 24-hour protest outside the distribution centre in Hemel Hempstead as part of their demands for the fast food giant to become fully plant-based by 2025.

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Protesters were also outside the depots in Basingstoke, Coventry and Heywood, Greater Manchester.



Police

Hertfordshire Police confirmed that six people have each been charged with:

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**BREAKING** British girl, 3 among those stabbed in knife attack in Annecy, France



- Use violence or intimidation on person, family or property to compel activity or abstinence from lawful activity - Contrary to section 241(1)(a) and (2) of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

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- Obstruct / disrupt person engaged in a lawful activity - Contrary to section 68(1) and (3) of the Criminal Justice and Public Order Act 1994.

Those charged are:

- > A 17-year- old boy from Denham
- > Rachel Graham, 31, of Bushell Close, Leighton Buzzard
- > Michelle MacDonagh, 33, of Hazel Way, Surrey
- > Benjamin Newman, 30, of Kyverdale Road, Hackney
- > Annabel Bewick, 19, of no fixed abode
- > A 17-year-old person from Oxford.

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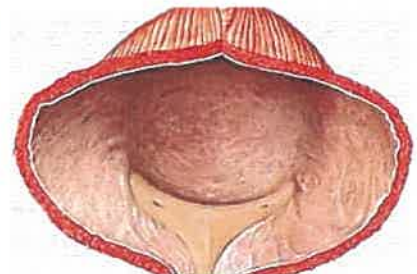
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A spokesperson for Hertfordshire Police said: "All have been given strict bail conditions and will appear at St Albans Magistrates' Court on Friday 2 July."



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## Animal protestors occupy Dorset Dairy Farm

The group that previously disrupted the Grand National demonstrated at a farm in Dorset.



Animal Rising

**Author: George Sharpe**

Published 20th May 2023

Animal activists have descended on a dairy farm in Dorset protesting conditions.

Animal Rising was responsible for disruptions at the Grand National.

Around 30 demonstrators occupied the farm and comforted calves kept in pens there. They also demanded the release of one calf as a good will offering.

They claim calves should not be kept in pens separate from their families.



No arrests were made and everyone left safely after discussions with farm managers.

The group says it is trying to start a conversation with the farming industry.

Ben Newman, one of those taking action said:

“Just like every other animal in farms across the UK, the baby cows here just want to be free and live without the threat of being slaughtered for food or

"Exploiting these animals for our own purposes is hurting us, it's hurting our environment, destroying our rivers, and it's killing billions of innocent individuals each year. We need a safe and secure food system and that can only come once we all truly consider how to mend our shattered connection with all animals and create a world that is kinder to us all."

But, a spokesperson for farm owners JF Cobb and Sons said:

"I don't need to tell you how disappointing this is for all of us. As a family farming business, we care passionately about our livestock and all our energy is focused on keeping our cattle comfortable and healthy. We work closely with vets and industry welfare experts to establish the best approach to looking after our animals and our health and welfare performance is industry-leading. Our animals are under close veterinary supervision and there is no suggestion that the health and welfare of our animals has been compromised.

"We have been in liaison with Marks & Spencer and our milk buyer over this matter and last week spot audits were undertaken, including from Trading Standards. All of these audits were passed successfully, with no concerns over animal welfare."

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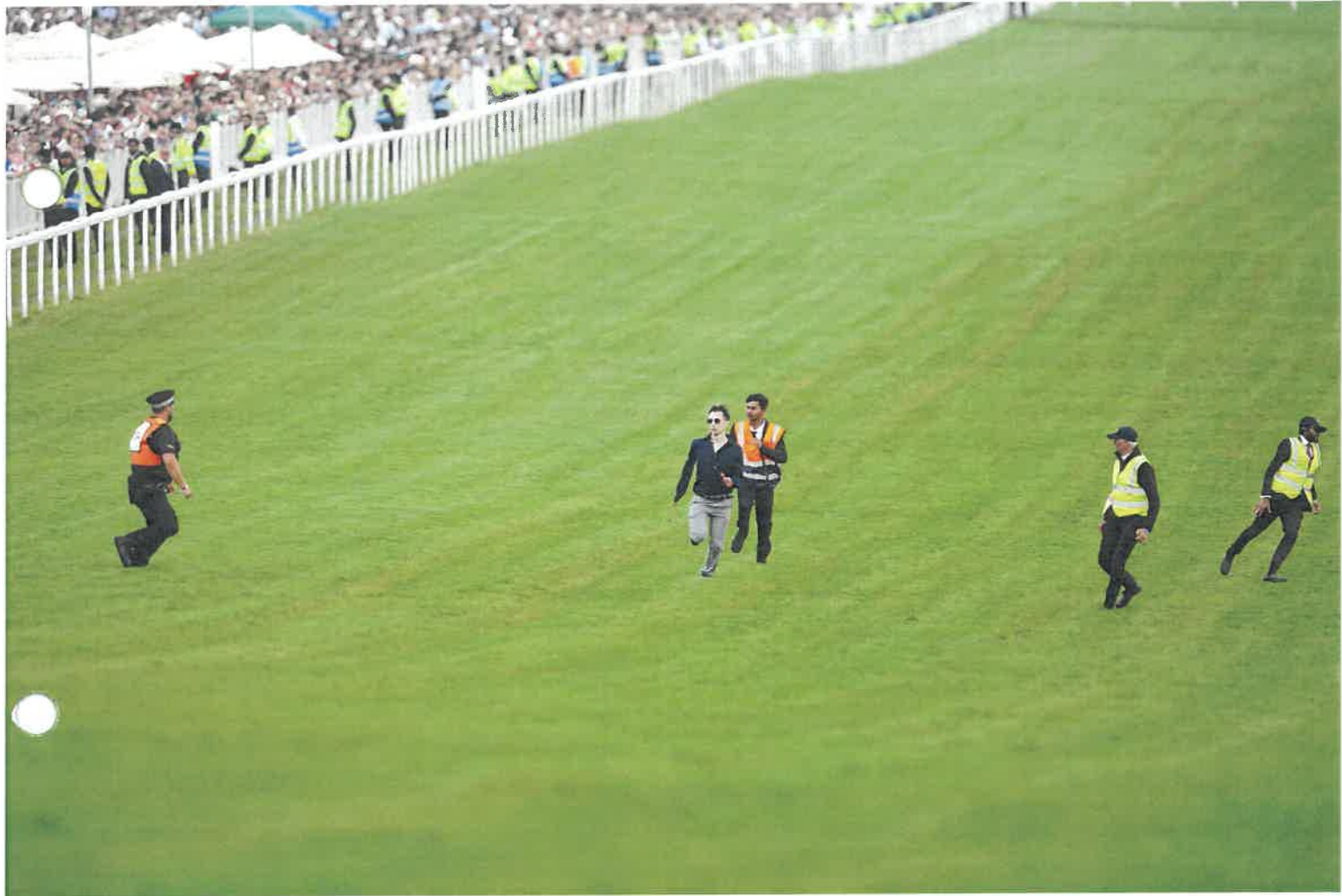














**WITNESS STATEMENT**

Criminal Procedure Rules, r 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s.9

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Occurrence Number: 45230060343

Statement of: KATHERINE STEVENS

Age if under 18: Over 18 *(if over 18 insert 'over 18')* Occupation: POLICE CONSTABLE

This statement (consisting of THREE page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature:  #P4541191 STEVENS, K.

Date: 07/06/2023 14:12

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded 

This statement is made in relation to assistance I have provided during my deployment EPSOM DERBY, EPSOM RACECOURSE on SATURDAY 3RD JUNE 2023. I was deployed as a forwards intelligence officer under call sign INDIA 1 with PC 41540 KING, and we were tasked with watching members of the public in case any protest was to take place. I was in full uniform and wearing police issued PPE.

Within this statement I will discuss attempting to intervene when a male who I now know to be a Ben NEWMAN who trespassed onto a live track at EPSOM DOWNS. I was part of a team managing the LONSDALE ENCLOSURE which was situated opposite the Grandstand and had a large number of members of public in it with coaches parked inside the enclosure. This enclosure was directly opposite the Grandstand and I was tasked with observing this area for the day. From my viewpoint observing the LONSDALE ENCLOSURE I was stood between the public barrier which I would describe as a full white fence with no open points of get through, and the race lining barrier which I would describe as a single white length of plastic. This meant I had easy access onto the race course if needed.

At approximately 1333 HRS I have been stood between the main public barrier and the track lining barrier. The horses had all made their way to the start of the Derby Main race and regular updates were given over loud speakers that the horses were being loaded into the starting stalls. There was a general buzz as everyone in the LONSDALE Enclosure was excited for the main race of the day. This was visible over in the Grandstand area as well. Members of public began approaching the public barrier so they could get a better view of the race track. The loud speaker has then announced that the main race has started. I was not aware of the exact timing that the race had started but the cheering of the public had started and the race was being shown on large screens in the LONSDALE Enclosure so it was clear that the race had started. I have kept constant observations on the crowd as I was concerned that public may attempt to access the track due to the briefing we had received at the start of our shift regarding potential track incursions. I was closely watching

members of public and facing away from the race track in order to get the best view of persons attempting to climb over the barrier. I have then heard shouting of "ON TRACK". As I have turned round I have seen a male I now know to be a Ben NEWMAN [REDACTED] running from the Grandstand side of the race track into the middle of the live racing track. I was incredibly concerned as the main Derby race had started and horses would be coming towards NEWMAN at high speeds. I was aware that the main Derby race is a longer race so I knew that I had enough time to get onto the track and attempt to get NEWMAN off the track for his safety. He seemed to be smiling as he ran and I do not believe he had any care for his own safety, the horses who would be coming towards him or the jockeys riding the horses. I have seen that he has attempted to dodge a steward and has successfully done this and kept running. It was clear that NEWMAN was not aware of his own personal safety and the risk he was putting on those trying to get him off the course. Due to a concern for his safety I have run onto the main track during the live track. I have seen my colleague PC 40632 HODGKINS standing in the middle of the track and have seen him manage to rugby tackle NEWMAN to the ground where a race course steward has joined him. This was during the live race and I believe it was near the 1/2 furlong marker. I have immediately run towards my colleagues PC 40632 HODGKINS, the steward and NEWMAN who was detained on the floor. I have started shouting "GET HIM OFF THE TRACK. HORSES ARE COMING" as I could hear my colleague PC 40632 HODGKINS stating he was going to handcuff NEWMAN. I had real concerns for the safety of everyone dealing with NEWMAN and the risk he had put on himself, my colleagues and the racecourse steward. I have then assisted with carrying NEWMAN off towards the LONSDALE Enclosure side as I knew that prisoner transport vans had been sat up on standby at the entrance to the enclosure. I have turned my body worn video on at this point as I had previously forgotten to do this when running onto the track. I exhibit the body worn video KS/BWV/01 "Body Worn Video Footage from Epsom Derby". I have been holding NEWMAN's leg as he had refused to walk off the track by himself. He was a heavy weight and had gone all floppy. We have carried NEWMAN towards a gate exit through the public into the LONSDALE Enclosure. Members of the public were shouting and swearing at NEWMAN and we managed to clear a way through to keep NEWMAN safe from the public. The stewards attempted to help us with this. I have been saying "GET BACK GET BACK" to the public who have been booing. During this I have heard the racehorses come galloping past and they were clearly at maximum speed due to being near the finish line. We have walked NEWMAN towards the prisoner transport unit and stood him next to the van in a sterile area. NEWMAN has tried to get onto the van and I have asked him to stay outside until we had searched him. I had concerns that he may have items on him which may be used for locking on or glue items for sticking himself to the van. NEWMAN has given me his details and also to PC 2511 AINSWORTH. I have asked my male colleagues to search NEWMAN as per force policy to ensure that a same gender search was conducted. My colleague PC 41190 BALFOUR has searched NEWMAN. PC 40632 HODGKINS has asked whether NEWMAN had taken anything and he said he hadn't. I have then been handed four receipts by my colleagues PC 41529

COLESHILL which were four £60 transactions for the day. I was not sure whether these were betting slips or tickets. They have shown differing transactions for £60. I have handed these back to officers transporting NEWMAN and they have put these into NEWMAN's property. I have remained with NEWMAN until his search was complete whereby I have returned to track side in case.

I would describe NEWMAN as an IC1 male of around 30 years of age. He was of small stature and had skinny legs. He had a gaunt appearance to his face and had blonde highlighted streaks through darker hair. His hair was longer on the top and gelled to the left whilst the sides were shorter. He had the appearance of a race goer and was dressed in a dark long sleeved shirt with grey smart trousers and black trainers. I had observations of NEWMAN for around ten minutes in total and during the majority of this time I had no obstructions to my view and was looking at him directly. The closest I have got to NEWMAN was very close as I have been carrying him and the furthest was when I have seen him first running on the track. The weather was bright and sunny with good lighting. NEWMAN had distinctive blonde highlights and this would mean I would be able to easily identify him again. It has been four days since the incident when I have written this statement. I had not seen NEWMAN prior to this incident.



**WITNESS STATEMENT**

Criminal Procedure Rules, r 16.2; Criminal Justice Act 1967, s.9


URN 

Occurrence Number: 45230060343

Statement of: Mark Hodgkins

Age if under 18: Over 18 *(if over 18 insert 'over 18')* Occupation: Police Constable 40632

This statement (consisting of 3 page(s) each signed by me) is true to the best of my knowledge and belief and I make it knowing that, if it is tendered in evidence, I shall be liable to prosecution if I have wilfully stated in it anything which I know to be false, or do not believe to be true.

Signature:  #P4540632 Hodgkins, M.

Date: 03/06/2023 21:13

Tick if witness evidence is visually recorded 

On Saturday 3rd June, 2023 I was on duty in full police uniform paired with PS 4871 BAKER. We were deployed as an Evidence Gather Team under the call sign 'EG4' to the annual Epsom Derby (horse racing) event in Surrey.

Following information that a group called 'ANIMAL RISING' were planning to disrupt and cause issues during the races were situated ourselves on the 'GRANDSTAND' side of the racetrack. Our role was to look out for any suspicious activity, prevent persons from entering the track and to capture evidence of any offences.

At approximately 13:35 hours the main derby race (THE BETFRED DERBY) started and the horses began racing down the back end of the track. I knew this due to the big screen opposite the GRANDSTAND showing the race live and the crowd noise from people cheering.

A short while into the race I could hear a lot of the crowd shouting and booing. I looked down the track towards 'TATTENHAM CORNER' (last corner before the home straight to the finish line) and could see a male (NEWMAN) in the middle of the track running down towards the finish line being chased by a steward.

I now know this male to be BEN NEWMAN [REDACTED] (32). I would describe NEWMAN as a white male, slim build with medium length brown with some blond highlights hair and was clean shaven. He was wearing a navy shirt, grey trousers with a black belt, black shoes, and black sunglasses.

NEWMAN was running away from stewards down the track towards the finish line in front of the main 'GRANTSTAND' and the 'TATTEHAM MQ' area

Due to the race being on and the risk of horses coming down the home straight at any moment I decided to enter the race track to remove NEWMAN. I ran towards NEWMAN who was still running away from stewards and I tackled him to the floor to prevent his escape.

At 13:36 hours I said to NEWMAN 'YOU ARE UNDER ARREST ON SUSPICION OF CAUSING A PUBLIC NUISANCE'.

A colleague has then joined and shouted 'QUICK WE NEED TO GET OFF THE TRACK THE HORSES ARE COMING'. Along with other police colleagues we have dragged NEWMAN off of the track. Whilst at the side of the track NEWMAN was restrained on the floor. I have then applied handcuffs to him in the rear stack position, double locking and checking for tightness.

I have then said to NEWMAN 'INCASE YOU DIDN'T HEAR, YOU ARE UNDER ARREST ON SUSPICION OF CAUSING A PUBLIC NUISANCE FOR RUNNING INTO THE TRACK LIKE THAT'

I cautioned NEWMAN fully to which he made no reply.

I then said 'YOUR ARREST IS NECESSARY SO WE CAN INTERVIEW YOU AND PREVENT FURTHER HARM'

We kept NEWMAN restrained at the side of the race track on the grass till all of the horses raced passed us towards the finish line. Along with other policing colleagues we have carried NEWMAN down the race track to an exit gate to a prisoner transport unit.

NEWMAN was then searched under Section 32 PACE, only thing of note was that he had a ticker that was 1 of 6 booked together.

At 13:42 hours I further arrested NEWMAN on conspiracy to cause public nuisance. I cautioned him to which he gave no



reply.

NEWMAN was then transported to a custody centre by PC 41263 and I had no further dealings.

It was evident to me that NEWMAN's actions created a serious risk to the horses, the jockeys, myself and other colleagues working at the event who had to enter the live race track. NEWMAN's actions also caused significant distress and annoyance to the thousands of members of the public in attendance at the event.

When I had tackled NEWMAN to the floor and my female colleague shouted at me that the horses were travelling down the home straight we were on I suddenly realised the severity of the situation. I was in genuine fear for my safety at the thought of 10+ horses travelling directly towards us (near the finish line) at around 40 mph. I was really scared that I was going to be seriously injured by the on coming horse, I extremely grateful that other officers arrived so we were able to get NEWMAN off of the track before the horses came racing down.



**OFFICIAL (when complete)**

MG04 – No Bail

<b>Case Classification:</b>		Public order			
Surname: NEWMAN		Custody Number:		CR4523012868	
Forename(s): BEN		<b>URN:</b>		45EP0609823	
[REDACTED]		First Arrest Date:		03/06/2023 13:39	
		A/S No.:		23/0000/00/638378N	
Gender: Male		Date of birth:		[REDACTED]	
Contact Tel No:		Ethnicity Code: PNC:		1	
		16-point (self-determined) system:		W01	
		Interpreter: language/dialect:			
		Name of interpreter:			
YO	<input type="checkbox"/>	DYO	NO	PPO	NO

You are charged with the offence(s) shown below. You do not have to say anything. But it may harm your defence if you do not mention now, something which you later rely on in court. Anything you do say may be given in evidence.

**If you are a personal licence holder with any local authority in the UK, authorising you to sell alcohol you must produce your personal licence at court. You commit a further offence if you fail to do so.**

**If you have been charged with any offence(s) under the Road Traffic Act, you MUST take your driving licence to court**

<b>Charge(s)</b>
(1) Intentionally / recklessly cause a public nuisance 2023/06/03 -- on 03/06/2023 at Epsom in the county of surrey, without reasonable excuse, did an act, namely entered a horse racing track intending to cause disruption to the racing programme, and that created a risk or caused serious harm by serious annoyance to the public or a section of the public intending or being reckless that it would have such a consequence.
'Contrary to section 78(1) and (4) of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022.'

Reply (if any): (1)
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Signed (person charged):		Signed (appropriate adult):			
Officer charging Surname:	ANDERSON	Rank:	Constable	No.	P4540497
Station: SYP WEST CA TEAM					
Officer in case Surname:	GRAY	Rank:	Detective Sergeant	No.	CG452
Station: SXP SCC SOCU					
Charge accepted Surname:	GARDINER	Rank:	Sergeant	No.	P453357
				Date/Time:	04/06/2023 06:34

**COURT APPEARANCE DETAIL**

SYP GUILDFORD REMAND COURT					
at (full address) GUILDFORD MAGISTRATES COURT, MARY ROAD, GUILDFORD, SURREY UK GU1 4PS (THE LAW COURTS)					
on (date)	05/06/2023	at (time)	10:00	Room	2

**OFFICIAL (when complete)**

Date signed:	04/06/2023 06:41	Name of HUB:	SYP TWIF PRE-CHARGE
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File copy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Court copy	<input type="checkbox"/>	Custody record	<input type="checkbox"/>	Person charged	<input type="checkbox"/>
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