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Animal Concern is a pressure group registered as a non-profit making Limited Company (Co. No. SC109126) established in 1988 as Animal Concern (Scotland) Ltd. It incorporates the Scottish Anti-Vivisection Society which was founded in 1876.

Hello again,

My brain cell forgot to include the link below in the e-mail I sent you this morning. It's a Greenpeace petition so don't add your phone number unless you really, really want the privately owned professional fundraising companies phoning you during the soaps later this week.

This issue is close to my heart. One of my first active campaigns was in 1979 or 1980 when Greenpeace and Glasgow Friends of the Earth tried to stop a tanker load of whale oil docking on the Clyde for processing in Paisley. Greenpeace had several small boats hidden at launch points on the river to intercept the tanker (Torrey Lupez I think) and we had lookouts at vantage points along the Clyde ready to run to the nearest phone box (a Moby was still a big white whale in those days) and phone our make-shift HQ to let us know when the tanker was spotted. A convoy of cars would then alert the boats which would intercept the tanker.

Once the tanker was spotted at the Tail o' the Bank we sprang into action in a valiant effort to turn the tanker back. In reality it was more of a Mack Sennett movie with Keystone Kops in patrol cars and patrol boats chasing us up and down the Clyde. At one point I was navigating in the lead car and sent the driver about a mile along a deserted wharf only to have to do a U-turn and head back the way we came – followed by four police cars, two television news crews, the new-fangled Radio Clyde news car and various journalists in private hire taxis.

At least one of the Greenpeace boats was captured by the Glasgow Polis and the crew arrested under an archaic Clyde Navigation law. The tanker docked and off-loaded its cargo but we gained loads of publicity for the cause and a few days later Arthur Scargill persuaded the union representing road tanker drivers to never again sanction the transfer of whale oil from docks to refineries. That was the last ever delivery of whale oil into the UK and not long afterwards the Westminster Government banned the import of all whale products.

It makes me very sad that nearly 40 years on the International Whaling Commission has still not brought about a global ban on killing whales.

If you've not already done so please sign this tonight.

<https://secure.greenpeace.org.uk/whales-iwc>

Cheers 4 now,

John

PS Two days after my Keystone Kops quayside caper I was sacked after my boss spotted me being interviewed on BBC TV when I was off due to 24 hour 'flu!

PPS While writing this I've had a call from a disabled supporter from Glasgow who cannot make the Onekind anti-snaring demo in Edinburgh on November 17th. However he would like to pay the bus fares from Glasgow to Edinburgh (return fares so don't worry about being stranded) for two supporters who are fit and want to go but short of cash. If you would like to take up that offer drop me an e-mail.