

What YOU Can do....

If you know of any setts locally, keep an eye on them to make sure that no-one is behaving suspiciously near them.

If you see anything suspicious, report it to the police straight away, and let us know so that we can provide expert advice as soon as possible—or at the scene.

If you know of anyone who does this so called sport for fun—you can contact us or the police—our group is offering a substantial reward for information that leads to the conviction of badger diggers.

Join our group, and help make a difference either just financially through our small membership fee, or on the ground—we need volunteers to survey, monitor and protect setts, and their badgers.



Badger Baiting is a cruel 'sport', in which both the badger and dogs involved sustain terrible injuries, for the amusement of individuals who are often involved in other criminal activities including drug crime.

The badger cannot win. It will inevitably die in agony, after a terrifying ordeal. We need your help to stop, and convict the people who do this for fun. We need information and we need volunteers. Contact us.

What about TB?

We do not have any recorded incidences of TB in badgers in Lancashire—although there has been some in cattle. For more information on why we believe that TB is NOT a reason to kill badgers, see our website for details and links to scientific research.

LANCASHIRE BADGER GROUP

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**NOT
EVERY
THING
IN LIFE IS
BLACK
AND
WHITE..**



...BUT THIS IS

It is estimated that as many as 10,000 badgers each year are killed by badger baiting.



Badger diggers send specially trained terriers into the network of tunnels that make

A badger being attacked by dogs.

up a sett to locate badgers in their bed chambers. Using special electronic equipment including a locator collar they then dig through the tunnel roof to expose the animals. They may watch the fight between terrier and badger, force it to fight other dogs including lurchers, or take it away to watch it fight for it's life against bigger, stronger dogs and perhaps place bets with their friends. This is no dead sport, it is very much alive and well, and happening every week in Lancashire.

The badgers strength and resilience ensures a long battle in which both the badger *and* the dogs may suffer terrible injuries. It is this cruel, long drawn out, and terrifying combat which the badger diggers find entertaining, but there can be no victory for the badger.

About the badger....

Living in social groups, badgers make their homes in a series of tunnels and chambers known as setts. Their diet consist mainly of

earthworms, but they are omnivorous and will also eat small mammals, berries, fruit, and carrion. Badgers are nocturnal, and very shy animals, only feeding at night.

Badgers are rarely aggressive except to protect their territory, or when threatened and unable to escape. They are extremely timid, and prefer to escape danger by bolting for their sett. However they are very tough and strong, and have no natural enemies—except man.

Badgers are some of Britain's best loved, most mysterious yet iconic country inhabitants—often only seen at the roadside, dead. They have been part of our heritage for so long that their traditional name 'Brock' is known in every county in the UK.

In spite of this, badgers are still in danger.



Dead badger, showing wounds inflicted

The Law ...

Under the Protection of Badgers Act (1992) it is an offence to kill, injure, take or attempt to kill, injure or take a badger or;

- possess or offer for sale a dead badger or any part of a badger;
- Disturb, cruelly ill-treat; dig for, kill or injure a badger.

- use badger tongs in the course of killing, taking or attempting to kill a badger
- Destroy, obstruct access to or enter a dog into a sett

Badgers are also listed in Schedule 6 of the **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981** and section 11 of this Act prohibits the use of certain methods of taking or killing a wild animal, including illuminating devices and some snares.

Other legislation relevant to badgers (and to dogs used in badger offences) includes the **Protection of Animals Act 1911** and the **Abandonment of Animals Act 1960**. These include causing unnecessary suffering, or abandoning in circumstances likely to result in such suffering, and fighting or baiting animals.



Injured terrier used and then discarded or abandoned by baiters.

Sentencing can be a fine of £5000, or up to 3 years in prison. All equipment (spades, tongs etc) and 'trophyes' can be forfeited and destroyed, including the dogs used, and a ban imposed on those convicted to prevent them from owning another dog.



Baiter showing off his dead badger 'trophyes'.

Please, help us to stop them....