

Thousands of exotic birds will be torn from the wild and put on sale at Britain's largest wild bird market . . .



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- >> **GUILTY** : IPC Media Ltd for organising it
- >> **GUILTY** : Royal Agricultural Society for hosting it
- >> **GUILTY** : Warwick District Council for allowing it

Ban the Bird Fair!



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A giant wild bird market - the biggest event on the UK bird-dealing calendar - is due to take place in December 2004 at Stoneleigh Park in Warwickshire. Up to 100,000 exotic birds will be on sale at the National Cage & Aviary Birds Exhibition, organised by IPC Media Ltd.

At last year's event, our expert estimated that half of the birds offered for sale were wild-caught. Evidence indicates that for every bird that reached the event, up to three others would have died during the capture, storage and transportation process.

>> Torn from a life of freedom, all that faces these birds is a lifetime in captivity.

Investigators at last year's event (and others like it) found birds crammed into tiny cages. They lacked adequate perch space and shelter from the gazing public and were unable to flee from aggressive cage-mates. Some could not even stretch their wings. Many could be seen huddled at the bottom of their cage, heads dropped in fear. Others fluttered around their enclosure, desperately trying to escape.

>> Not only is this event cruel, it is also against the law.

Itinerant pet sales, such as markets and fairs, are illegal in Britain due to the enormous suffering and trauma inherent in their makeshift nature.

Warwick District Council has admitted that the upcoming bird market does not comply with the Pet Animals Act, 1951, but is refusing to take action to stop it.

The Royal Agricultural Society of England, owner of Stoneleigh Park, has also been told that it is hosting an illegal bird fair on its premises.

>> It's not too late to stop this event from going ahead. Please write and complain to:

Janie Barrett, Chief Executive, Warwick District Council, Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Royal Leamington Spa, CV32 5HZ

Mike Calvert, Chief Executive, Royal Agricultural Society of England, Stoneleigh Park, Warwickshire, CV8 2LZ

With your help, we can halt this event, deal a blow to the wildlife trappers and spare hundreds of thousands of birds the misery and death caused by the exotic pet trade!



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