

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2012



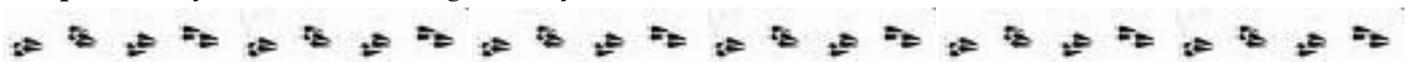
We have had a busy summer looking after the animals and trying hard to raise funds to look after them. Ozzy, our mascot barn owl, has been a star as usual and drawn crowds wherever she has appeared. We have been asked to talk to cubs, brownies, schools and the East Grinstead Rotary Club, this summer and would like to thank them all for their support as well as Merrist Wood College, Cats Protection at Chelwood Gate and Paradise Park for letting us fundraise at their open day events this summer. Since our last newsletter Rosie our fallow fawn has been joined by 3 other fallow fawns reared by Folly wildlife Rescue so we now have a nice little group.



Soon to join them hopefully, is Lexi, our latest fallow fawn, found upside down, at the bottom of a garden near Heathfield, with her hind leg caught in stock fencing. The ligature wound from the wire wasn't too bad but unfortunately with her thrashing around she had ruptured her cruciate ligament.

For this to be treated and for it to repair, would mean a long, drawn out process and with a wild animal not practical, so the only answer was amputation.

We have been fortunate enough to gain help from Forest Row Veterinary Clinic who have been amazing. Lexi, has had a few post-op problems but we now seem to be on the right side of recovery. She is getting stronger by the day and is now out with the other 4 in the paddock. They cope very well with three legs and run just as fast as the 4 legged ones, so those of you that are worried don't be. The photo below shows them all out together with some from last year who came to visit and accepted this year's babies straight away.





Lexi



Some of the patients of 2011 & 2012, can you spot which one is the amputee?

This year we have received a lot of calls about deer fawns as we seem to be the only rescue centre in Sussex currently admitting them. Some have been caught in fencing, and unfortunately have been too bad to save. We will always try to preserve life but when both legs are involved or injuries too deep, then there is usually very little to be done, they are not like pets that will accept help, they are wild animals and have to remain as such to survive. If you come across a deer trapped in fencing please do not release it (I know it is your first thought) but even if badly injured their first thought is escape and if they run off with these awful ligation wounds they will die a slow, painful death. Always back away and call a vet or rescue centre for help, making a note of exactly where they are.



Amongst the other casualties this summer two tawny owls came into our care, one having been discovered with it's wing caught in a fence and the other although the victim of an rta, was successfully released in early September.



On 21st August we had a flurry of 17 hogs and hoglets, including two mums with babies following removal of garden sheds. The same day, five hoglets were discovered wandering



in a garden with no sign of mum to be found, and being too young to be out there alone were brought to us for immediate care, feeding and rehydration. All of our summer hoglets have now been successfully reintroduced back to the wild and have since been seen to frequent the various release sites for a late night snack!!

We had an adult hog arrive late September and although a healthy weight at 775g it was severely dehydrated and thin. We had heard from other rescue centres that there is a lot of Thornyheaded worm showing in hedgehogs this autumn, so we started a programme of treatment for Thornyheaded worm on every hog that comes in and all have survived so far.

If you see a hedgehog of any size out in the day it needs help, please pick it up and put in a warm place with meaty cat food and water and call a rescue centre.

Also at this time of year when you are building bonfires please check inside the bonfire before lighting it as this is a favourite place for hedgehogs to sleep.



September also saw the arrival of more hoglets from Crawley and at the same time these two rabbit kits (pictured left). These babies were found in Colgate very wet and cold after a very wet night. Unfortunately one was not as strong as the other and died a couple of days later. But the other was later released after doing very well.

At the beginning of October we have had another influx of hoglets, two very smelly ones found in a cess pit!! They have been a bit of trial due to infection and worms but are now on the mend and ready to go off back to the wild. Two others found out in the day are also causing trouble, their weights are going up and down so are a bit of a worry. We will let you know how they do in the next newsletter.



We had two ducklings a couple of weeks old brought in and Louise took them under her wing! They came from different places found roaming on their own and soon became great friends. Both grew rapidly and have now been released on a local pond near to where they were found.

Up and coming Events: We are holding a Quiz Night at the British Wildlife Centre, Lingfield on 24th November.

We will be appearing at the **Annual Lingfield Night** on 7th December and also **Lingfield Primary School Christmas Fair** 1st December.

Ways to help:

- * **Volunteering:** We are always looking for people who would be willing to collect and deliver animals to us for care.
- * **Supplies:** Ranging from milk substitutes such as esbilac for young hedgehogs and cubs, dog or cat food, bedding materials such as straw or shavings.
- * **Events:** Ideas or help organise an event.
- * **Cuddly Toys** and items we can sell to raise funds.
- * **Animal care:** Mainly in the orphan season, training will be given but experience does help.

With Thanks!

It would have been impossible to provide treatment for our patients were it not for the dedication and expertise of the staff at **Darwin Veterinary Centre** and **Forest Row Veterinary Clinic**.

A special Thankyou to **Folly Wildlife Rescue** for assisting with our avian patients this year, along with our hog mums with babies and **Jaspers Feeds**.

We would also like to thank those of you who have provided us with safe release sites for rehabilitated patients, giving them the chance to re-adjust before continuing along the path of their life in the wild.

Finally, thanks to all of you who have contributed, your support is greatly appreciated and we would especially like to thank the hosts at venues we have attended this year to fundraise:

Paradise Park, Lingfield Marathon, Groombridge School, Merrist Wood College,
Smallfield Summer Party & Godstone Fete, Lingfield Primary School,
Groombridge Primary School, Groombridge Cubs & Scouts,
Rotherfield Cubs & Scouts, East Grinstead Rotary Club
and Mr Leach of Walton on Thames

Our good wishes for Christmas 2012 & New Year 2013
from the volunteers and patients at
Wildlife A&E



If you would like to make a donation to help us continue to assist and rehabilitate wildlife please send your donation to 'Wildlife A&E' at Unity Cottage, High Cross, Rotherfield, East Sussex. TN6 3PX.

Cheques should be made payable to **Wildlife A&E**.
Or you can pay funds directly into our account at the Co-operative Bank Account name: Wildlife A&E
Sort Code: 08-92-99 Account Number: 65447255

Alternatively you can donate by text. Just text **WLA33** and then the amount you wish to donate to **70070**



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