



The Rescuer

Registered Charity 1108880

Summer 2016



Over 220 Casualties currently in care!

RESCUE LINE: 07815-078234



A Season of Fox Cub Rescues!

WRAS has dealt with numerous difficult fox cub rescues this spring. See pages 6, 9 and 15 for more details of cubs stuck between walls, down drains and reunited with their mums after dens have been disturbed.

YouTube



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If you see the You Tube Logo, it means there is video footage of the rescue, treatment or release of this casualty on our You Tube Channel.

www.youtube.com/user/eastsussexwras

Front Cover: Dormouse Success: See Page 18 for more details.



New Newsletter Format saves funds!

In 2013 we contacted a number of supporters about our newsletters and many mentioned they would like to see a colour newsletter. Cost has been our biggest concern, and we can't afford to print the entire newsletter in colour. Luckily we have been able to come to a compromise as we have found a new online print company which is able to offer us cheaper printing and a colour front cover, and still save WRAS over £300 per newsletter print run. This has also helped us obtain more advertising which in turn has reduced the cost of printing newsletters, so we have more money to spend on the casualties.

A busy Baby Bird Season By Orphan Team Leader Lindsay Redfern.

2016 has seen the orphan team suddenly have to 'spring' in to action, after being quickly inundated with baby birds. The season usually starts with a slow trickle of babies being admitted during April, but this year we have had far more than usual for this early on in the season.

The team are currently caring for several species, including: blackbirds, starlings, robins, dunnocks and sparrows, many of which need feeding every 20-30 minutes 7am-10pm.

The main reason for admittance for these babies has been cat attacks; sadly this is a common problem for baby birds which are extremely vulnerable to predation. We have also had some birds which have been abandoned after their nest has been disturbed, either through building or gardening works. This time of year is a popular time for gardening, but we advise the public to be extra careful and to look out for nesting birds before carrying out any work, and where possible, to delay this until later on in the year when nesting season is over.

If you find a baby bird out of the nest that is sick or injured, or you are concerned that it may have been abandoned, please call our rescue line immediately for further advice. Please DO NOT try to feed the bird anything, as feeding the bird incorrectly can be fatal. The most important thing you can do is to keep the bird warm until help arrives.

Here are just a few of the birds we have cared for so far this season ...



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Orphan Fox Cub Season by Orphan Team Leader Lindsay Redfern

We have been called out to lots of young fox cubs this season. Where possible, we have tried to reunite them with Mum, however there have been some occasions where this has not been possible and the little ones have had to come in to care.

The first two were only a few days old and had been abandoned within a few days of each other in Eastbourne. Fox cubs always do better with company, and the two quickly started to bond and snuggle up to each other under the care of Orphan Team Leader Lindsay, assisted by Katie, who were having to feed them every few hours day and night. At a couple of weeks old, our next 2 cubs joined the group, another male and our first female, both settled in to their new routine and new friends.

By 4 weeks the cubs were weaning on to solid foods and no longer required bottle feeds, it is at this point that the team reduce human contact to prevent the cubs becoming tame. A further 3 were admitted over the next couple of weeks, one of which was far too small to join our group and had to be swapped for one a similar age from another rescue.

Now at 12 weeks, the cubs have been moved to an outdoor pen to allow them to get used to new sights and sounds, and also to remove any human contact. Once bigger they will be transferred to their release pen and will be released at the natural dispersal time around August/September.





Night Vision photo of mum look for cubs



Rescuers Reunite Fox Cubs with Mum.

Rescuers managed to successfully reunite a family of fox cubs with their mum on 29th March. A resident in Langney Eastbourne accidentally disturbed the vixen, leaving behind her cubs aged about 7-10 day old, who had made their home in a disused pond under a board. The owners of the property started clearing the items only to frighten the vixen away. Concerned for the cubs, they contacted WRAS.

Rescuer Manager Chris Riddington from Eastbourne attended on site. "They were in really good condition, had recently been fed, and exceptionally healthy. So after speaking to the home owners we got permission to take them back at 7pm and try to reunite them with their mum" said Chris.

Just before dusk Trevor and Chris took up residence in the garden's summer house, and placed the three cubs in a plastic tub next to where they were originally found. They were protected from the elements using a thick towel which they had been wrapped in all day to get as much scent on as possible and had heat pads to keep them warm.

Within an hour of rescuers setting up mum appeared and over the next three hours she became more and more brave. The residents of the house had set rescuers a deadline of 10pm as there was no access to the garden other than through the house and they needed to go to bed at 10pm.

Over the next few hours rescuers watched as the vixen became more and more brave getting closer and closer each time. "It did not take her long to realise they were still there, but with the strong winds she was very spooked and hesitant. It was very close to our deadline and having to leave, so when she was frightened and disappeared for 5 minutes I phoned the owners and asked for an extra 30 minutes of time" said Chris.

"With 20 minutes of time left and a sudden disturbing noise which made mum run off, Trevor decided on one last ditch attempt to get them back to mum so he quickly moved the cubs out of the tub for her to take more easily. Within 5 minutes she was back and quickly found them and started picking them up one at a time and moving them to a new den" said Chris.

Two Deer Attached to each other at Dallington.



WRAS were called out to an unusual incident on Friday afternoon 25th March 2016. Two male fallow deer had to be rescued after being found with their antlers tied together by electric rope. Laura Gage, Penny Walker, Laura Walker and Tracy Gage were out walking their dogs in fields off Bakers Lane Dallington when they spotted the deer. "We were all surprised to see the deer and at first we were not quite sure what they were doing but as we got closer it was clear their antlers were stuck together and could not get free. One of the deer was very stressed and being pulled around by the other deer. It was quite distressing and horrible to see. We decided to back off so not to stress the deer any further. We contacted Heathfield Vets who recommended we call WRAS for help. We met them up on the main road by the Swan Pub and directed them to the site" said Dog Walker Laura Gage. East Sussex WRAS sent two ambulances and four rescuers to the scene. "When we first arrived one of the deer



was on the ground whilst the other was constantly pulling at the antlers trying to get free. At first we thought the deer on the ground was dead but all of a sudden the deer jumped up and the two started running in different directions pulling against each other" said Trevor Weeks.

Rescuers Kathy Martyn from Uckfield and Chris Riddington from Eastbourne, used a walk towards net to gain control of the deer before Trevor threw a blanket over the deer's head before pinning them to the floor. "It's hard enough trying to gain control of one deer, so trying to do so with two is so much harder and you really have to choose your moment" said Rescue Manager Chris Riddington.

The deer were exhausted so rescuers knew they had to be as quick as possible to avoid the deer having a heart attack. "It took us just under 10minutes to cut the electric rope wrapped round the antlers free, although it seemed like a lot longer at the time. Trevor and Kathy concentrated on controlling a deer each whilst rescuer Keith Reed and I cut away at the electric rope. When it is so tightly wrapped round the antlers it can be very difficult to remove" explained Chris.

Once the deer were separated from each other rescuers Chris and Keith backed off leaving Trevor and Kathy to release the deer in a carefully controlled manner to avoid injury.

"We were not too surprised when the deer did not get up straight away. They were both exhausted and needed a bit of encouragement but they were soon jumping to their feet and it was really nice to see them run off into the setting sun" said Trevor.

"We are really grateful to WRAS for coming out so quickly. We were worried about how they were going to catch the deer and really pleased when they managed to release both. WRAS do such fantastic work" said Laura Gage.



Fox Cub stuck in Pipe In Cooden Beach.

Rescuers were called out to a fox cub trapped in a pipe in Cooden Beach, Bexhill on 10th May. The cub had fallen down an uncovered drain and started wandering through the pipes about 2.5ft underground.

Rescuer Tony Neads from Polegate attended first at about 1pm, and called in help from Trevor Weeks and Chris Riddington who arrived about 2pm, and started trying to figure out which pipe the cub was in. A mobile phone was used to see down the pipes, and drainage rods and hose pipe were used to check pipes.

Eventually after 2 hours, it was determined that the cub must be in a section of pipe which rescuers could only get to from one end, meaning they couldn't push the cub out.

Rescuer decided to block the pipe to confine the cub and return a couple of hours later and hunker down for the night and take turns lying on the floor with their arm down the drain waiting for the cub to come to them.

At 6.30pm rescuers started what they thought was going to be a long night waiting for the cub, but within half an hour the cub backed up the pipe into Trevor's hand. It took three attempts to grab hold of the cub, which was then gently lifted out of the drain to safety.

The cub was very wet, cold and dirty, so was taken to WRAS's Casualty Centre to be cleaned and warmed up. Less than 90 minutes later Trevor and Chris were back at the scene with the cub trying to reunite him with his mum. Rescuers again thought they would be stuck for

the evening waiting for mum to reappear but within minutes mum arrived. "As soon as the cub saw his mum, he started wagging his tail and greeting her through the pet carrier door, delighted to see mum again," explained Trevor, "mum helped the cub climb out of the carrier and they both trotted off back home together."

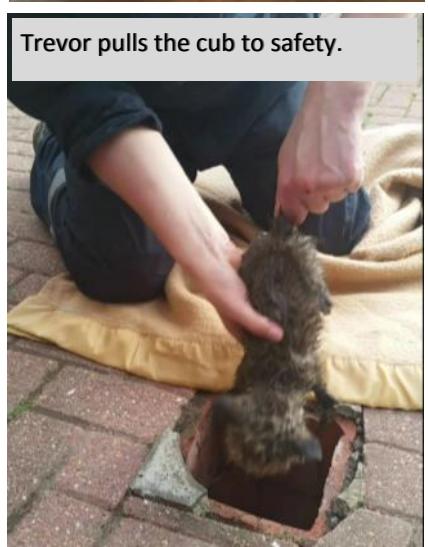
It was gone 9pm by the time rescuers returned to the Centre, yet another emotional



Chris with his arm down the drain.



The cub backs up along the pipe.



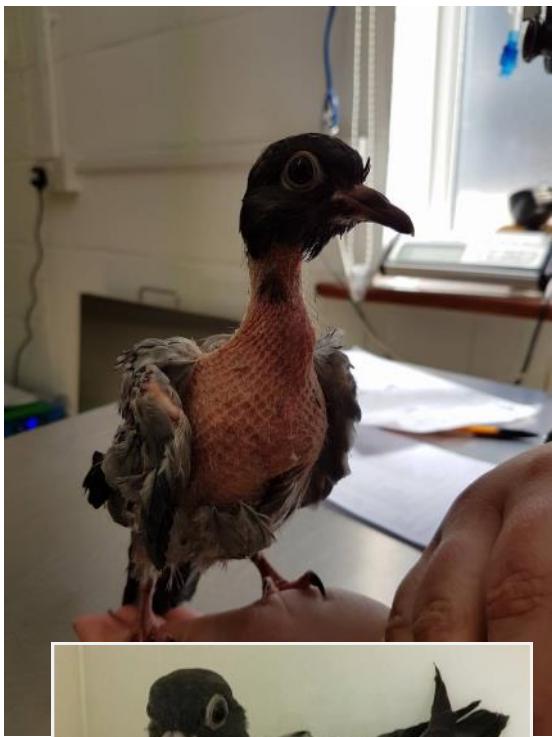
Trevor pulls the cub to safety.



The vixen collects her cub.

Pigeon Post by Kathy Martyn

Meet little Frankie who came into care early April. As you can see he rather resembled a plucked chicken and was clearly very cold. The Care Team made a little jacket for him to wear to help keep him warm whilst feather regrew. Over the next 10 days he came on leaps and bounds. His pin feathers started to come through fairly quickly. He used to try to preen his bald skin but he now has a lovely full coat of feathers. We can only think he was plucked by a predator or something, but amazingly there were no skin tears or redness. No sign of mites or infections either. He has been on supplement called Feather Up, to help his feathers growth back quickly and it seemed to work really well. As you can see from the photo below he eventually went outside for flight practice—he is the one in the middle. He now looks like a normal pigeon again and has returned to the wild to be free again. This has certainly been one of my favourite pigeon successes this season.



Roe Deer Rescued from Fence in Uckfield.

WRAS was first called to a deer running around a garden off The Glade in Uckfield. As rescuers entered the garden the deer managed to jump over a fence into neighbouring gardens. Whilst rescuers tried to assess the location and possible escape routes and how to catch the deer, it returned into the garden off The Glade, but was soon back out again into a garden off Grange Road. As they could no longer see the deer they drove round to the neighbouring road in search. The ambulance pulled off the road to some garages whilst looking around and noticed a Fire Engine with its blue lights on drive up the road. Rescuers couldn't see the deer anywhere so decided to drive down into Olives Meadows where they were quickly flagged down by some people standing next to the Fire Engine. The same deer had tried to get under a wooden fence and had become stuck. WRAS quickly took control of the situation and let the Fire Officers return to their station. It



was clear rescuers didn't have much time so gave emergency medication, lifted the deer onto a stretcher and rapidly got her into the ambulance. Rescuer Chris Riddington stayed in the back with the deer which was rapidly driven out of the estate round to Hempstead Lane where they unloaded the deer and got her released. She needed some encouragement to stand up but was quickly wandering across the field. She was clearly very stressed but her injuries were very minor. With every step she took you could see an improvement and once at the far side of the field she managed to negotiate a fence and hide in a wooded area to recover safely.

Don't forget to read Trevor's weekly column in the Sussex Express every Friday and the Eastbourne Gazette series on Tuesdays each week.

**EASTBOURNE
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Bunny Season by Orphan Rearer Nikola Upton.

Rearing wild orphan rabbits can be one of the hardest challenges a wildlife fosterer can face. I've come up against many conditions with an orphan from injury, predator attack, inbreeding /genetic deformities, neurological problems as well as many others including respiratory and weaning complication. Some conditions which cannot be obvious straight away are based on initial gut instinct from previous experience, but we work closely with our vets to ensure they get the best possible care.

On the rare occasion we will take into care a more straight forward case. For Poppy, Lilac, Lavender and Bud I was luckier. They were unfortunately dug up but in relatively good condition.

We've had a high number of young rabbits so far in this year. Age ranged from a couple of days old to older juveniles with a high percentage being rehabilitated and released back into the wild.

Making sure they receive the right balance of nutrition, heat and exercise can be tricky at the best of times, so when other factors are also thrown in, plus their intolerance to some conventional medicines it can be tricky. Saying all that with all these obstacles it is a truly satisfying experience!



Fox Hit by Train at Bishopstone.

A fox had to be rescued after being hit by a train just outside Bishopstone Railway Station. Local residents next to the station noticed the fox on the railway and called East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service (WRAS) who alerted Network Rail. WRAS sent an ambulance to the scene where rescuers Trevor Weeks MBE and Chris Riddington waited for Network Rail to arrive.

"The guy from Network Rail walked along the line and used our equipment to catch and secure the fox which didn't put up much of a fight." Said Trevor Weeks.

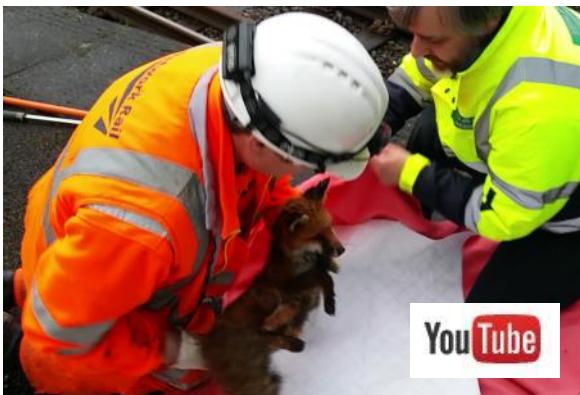
The fox was carried back to the waiting rescuers who started assessing the fox's condition. "The was a fresh wound on the foxes head, as well as older wounds on the body and damage to the tail. We later discovered damage to one of the rear legs" said rescuer Chris.

The fox was given emergency medication at the scene and transported to one of WRAS's vets for a better assessment, before being cleaned up, treated and then bedded down for the night.

"Being so close to Bishopstone Station trains were running slowly over the top of the fox which was lying between the rails in the middle of the track. At some point the fox had had a bump to the head and has had a small wounds which has needed to be sutured. The tail has been run over and damaged and will need to have the end section of tail removed and tied up, but the leg was our biggest concern" said Trevor.

The following morning the fox was sent in for X-rays and assessment at Henley House vets in Uckfield, where sadly the fox passed away whilst being treated.

"This was devastating news as everyone had worked so hard to save him. At least we made him comfortable and pain free at the end and wasn't left to be repeatedly run over and injured more" said Trevor.





Wyevale Pigeon Release:

Rescuers were called to Wyevale Garden Centre near Lewes in April after a wood pigeon became trapped inside the store. Rescuers waited for the store to become quieter, before attempting a rescue. Rescuers Chris, Trevor, Andrew and Charlotte went in with long poles and nets. Trevor and Chris worked at one end of the building whilst Andrew and Charlotte worked the other end trying. After about ten minutes Charlotte managed to pin the pigeon to the wall using her net. Working as a team the rescuers then lowered the pigeon to the floor trying to avoid it escaping. It was taken outside and checked over, before being released in the car park to fly off to the nearest tree to recover.

Sad Outcome for Stranded Porpoise at Normans Bay.

WRAS were asked to help British Divers Marine Life Rescue after a porpoise stranded alive on the beach at Norman's Bay in April. The porpoise had a concave lumber muscle showing it was in a poor condition and had been ill for some time. Medics on the beach took the porpoise out into the water to see if it would become more lively but sadly there was no reaction. WRAS's vet Mike was called out to assess the porpoise's condition with the help of BDMLR's Operations Manager Stephen Marsh and WRAS's Trevor Weeks. Sadly everyone was in agreement that the porpoise was too poorly to survive and its suffering was ended.

The body was collected by the Zoological Society of London for a Necropsy. We hope to have the result in our next newsletter.

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Fox Stuck Between Two Walls in Bexhill

WRAS rescuers were called out to rescue this 4 week old cub stuck between a garden and garage wall in Albert Road, Bexhill on 9th May.

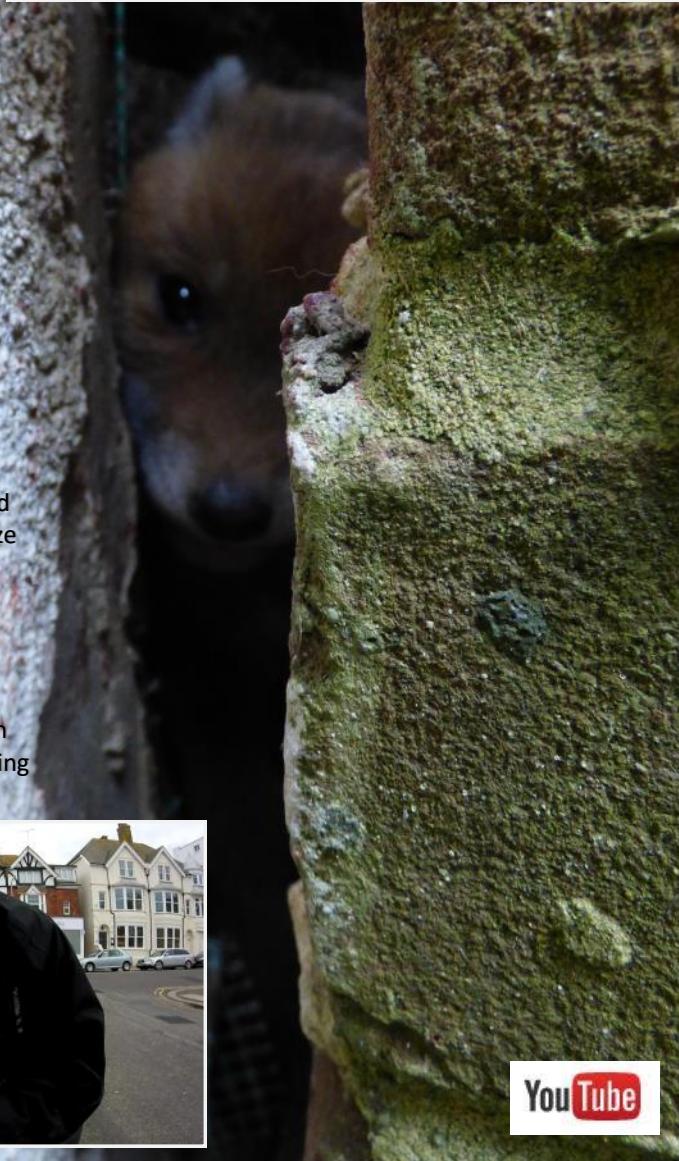
Bexhill Wildlife Rescue called out WRAS for more specialist help , so WRAS rescuers Trevor and Chris attended on site.

The gap was very narrow and rescuers struggled to use dog grapsers to secure the cub.

Eventually rescuers managed to lift the cub up by supporting it with a thick pole underneath and gently lifting the cub up. Chris was then able to squeeze his arm down the narrow gap to reach the cub and pull him to safety.

The rescue took just over an hour, as rescuers had to take it easy to avoid injuring the cub. Once free the cub was taken to WRAS's ambulance where it was treated and amazingly only suffering from a graze to one foot.

Rescuers had seen cubs playing and shoot under the neighbouring shed when they arrived so were able to release the cub back to its family. The gap between the walls was then blocked to avoid the cubs from getting stuck again.



Let your Legacy Live on by Trevor Weeks MBE

Over the past 6 years as we have established our Casualty Centre, we have grown to be three times the size we had originally expected. This has only been possible thanks to our regular donors and a few legacies.

Legacies are a major source of funding for charities in the UK. Most charities are only able to expand their services when they receive funds from a generous legacy. WRAS has only been able to complete the final phase of its Casualty Centre thanks to a legacy left to WRAS last year. We have to constantly fundraise to cover on-going vets, utilities, food, bedding, ambulance and rescue costs to name just a few. As we expand and help more animals we need more and more funds to pay the bills, meaning it becomes harder to expand and buy new equipment and facilities.

Every time we have expanded it has been thanks to a person who was generous enough to include a gift to WRAS in their will. It is very important to make sure your Will is legal. We recommend you seek help from a specialist legal advisor. A number of people have told us they are leaving us a legacy. There have been, however, a few unfortunate occasions when WRAS did not receive any funds because the Will was not legal. For example, the will had not been signed, witnessed or written correctly. Executors must be appointed who are responsible for carrying out your wishes as stated in your Will. Executors may be family members, friends, your solicitor or accountant, or even a member of your chosen charity. Please make sure your Will is signed and witnessed. If you are unsure about what to do please seek professional advice from an independent specialist legal advisor.

Please consider whether you want to leave a Pecuniary Gift (a specified sum of money), a Residuary Gift (a portion of or all of your remaining estate after all expenses have been met), or a Specific Gift (for example, a car, property, jewellery), or a combination of them.

A number of our cages have also been sponsored by families in order to remember recently departed loved ones after

collections at Funerals. This is a remarkable way of ensuring your legacy lives on and helps the animals you and we all care about so deeply. Thank you.





Please help me Row the Atlantic for WRAS!

In December 2016 Bojangles (my boat) and I are heading back out to sea again, this time we are aiming to conquer the Atlantic trade winds route, from the Canary Islands to Antigua as part of the Talisker Whisky Atlantic Challenge. This is a journey of around 3000 miles, and will see me out at sea on my own for around 2-3 months.

Having joined WRAS as a voluntary wildlife rescuer in November 2014, I have been amazed at the level of care that this centre provides to the many wildlife casualties that are sent their way. Therefore, it didn't take much persuading to add them to my chosen charities for my next row. Not only will this hopefully generate some much needed funds for the centre (which relies totally on donations to run) but it will also hopefully make me feel less guilty about missing my shifts for a few months! Please dig deep and give this little oasis a much needed financial boost, it really would make all the pain and effort worth it to come back and see that our wildlife have benefited from my stupidity! Donating through JustGiving is simple, fast and totally secure. You can do so at:

<https://www.justgiving.com/atlanticsolo2016>

Thanks so much, Daryl Farmer.



Scrap it for WRAS!

Giveacar is a social enterprise that raises money for charity by scrapping or selling old cars. If you have an unwanted car, you can give them a call and they will dispose of it free of charge and when mentioning East Sussex WRAS they will make a donation to help us help wildlife in need! Just visit... www.giveacar.co.uk/charities/east-sussex-wras or phone 020-0011-1664



International Animal Rescue funds 50% of the wages for the employment (36 hours a week) of Trevor Weeks MBE to manage East Sussex WRAS on a daily basis (earning just minimum wage). Trevor Weeks, like all its staff, regularly puts in between 70 –110 hours a week, working many hours on a voluntary basis above what he is paid for because of his commitment and dedication to giving the casualties the care that they deserve. WRAS would not be able to operate without the help and support of Trevor Weeks or International Animal Rescue, plus the staff and many other volunteers within WRAS, ensuring your donations go as far as possible.

WRAS Diary Dates:

17th & 18th June - Cider & Beer Festival at Lewes Town Hall. WRAS stand.

2nd & 3rd July - 999 Display Western Lawns, Eastbourne Seafront.

9th July: Uckfield Festival Luxford Field, Uckfield Town Centre. 10am till 5pm. WRAS stand and display.

30th July: Rushlake Green Flower Show (TN21 9QE) WRAS stand.

30th & 31st July: Lammas Festival, Western Lawns, Eastbourne Sea Front. WRAS stand and display.

2nd December: Uckfield Late Night Shopping. Find us by Paws 'n' Claws Pet Food Store in Olives Yard, High Street Uckfield. 6pm onwards.

Where possible we hope to bring out our new Educational Trailer to some of these events. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more events and details at facebook.com/wildlifeambulance.

If you would like to help at an event or would like us to come to an event with our educational trailer please get in touch with Christine on 07734654041.

Three Blind Mice!

See how they run was definitely apt when releasing these three young mice back to the wild. They came to WRAS after their nest was disturbed and their mum abandoned them. All three were hand reared and became little terrors in the mammal room trying to escape. Eventually they were old enough to be released back to the wild.

Young Badger Rescued.

WRAS was called out to a baby badger cub on 2nd April. WRAS doesn't have the facilities to deal with the rehabilitation and release of badger cubs, which are quite specialist, so passed this little one to Folly Wildlife Rescue near Tunbridge Wells for expert help. There it joined other young badgers in a social group and will eventually be released back into the wild.

Dormouse Success.

WRAS has had two special little visitors this spring. The first of two dormice was caught by a cat and handed in at the Raystede Centre near Ringmer. The mouse was passed to WRAS to provide more experienced help and support. The poor creature had a small wound on one side which needed treatment. The mouse fully recovered from its ordeal but as the exact location of his home was unknown he was passed to Wildwood in Kent for release under licence. The second one was also a victim of a cat and has an injured front paw. This fully recovered and was released back to the wild in Chiddingly.



Hedgehog Awareness Week!

Hedgehog Awareness Week ran from 1st—8th May this year, and saw WRAS pulling the stops out with 6 days worth of activities Sussex.

WRAS's new awareness trailer was taken to Bishopstone Village May Fair, followed by Jollyes in Hailsham for three days then outside Polegate Town Council offices for an evening. It was nice to meet so many people keen on hedgehogs. A series of maps on display showed people if they lived near where hedgehogs have been found.

On the Wednesday and Thursday evenings volunteers gathered to do hedgehog survey work. WRAS microchips all the hedgehogs which come into care to ensure that once grouped up they can be identified and returned to the correct address. Over two nights volunteers went to check on hedgehogs spotted in gardens to see if any of them were chipped. The numbers found were low due to a spell of freezing temperatures which occurred the nights before. However we did find "Chutney" who was rescued 18 months previous and released back home in Seaford. WRAs is going to let people borrow scanners to check hedgehogs in areas where we have released numerous chipped hedgehogs. For more information contact

trevor@eastsussexwras.org.uk



Cowbeach Badger Rescued.

Rescuers stacked out a property in Cowbeach after a badger was seen visiting with plastic wrapped round his body. Rescuers Chris and Katie sat in the conservatory whilst Trevor and Kathy sat in the ambulance parked in the field. Once in the garden the badger was cornered and caught using nets is a great piece of team work. The plastic seal from a food storage or freezer bag was cut from round the body, but because the badger was underweight and limping rescuers admitted him to the Hospital for assessment by WRAS's vet and to build him up prior to release.



Information:

East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service.

Reg Charity 1108880

Postal Address: PO Box 2148, Seaford, East Sussex, BN25 9DE.

Casualty Centre Address: Unit 8, The Shaw Barn, Whitesmith, East Sussex, BN8 6JD.

Registered Address: 8 Stour Close, Stone Cross, Pevensey, East Sussex, BN24 5QU.

(Please DO NOT deliver casualties to ANY of these addresses as none of them are constantly staffed, please call the rescue line first for advice and assistance.)

Directors: Murrae Hume, Kathy Martyn, Brian Russell

Patrons: Sarah Jane Honeywell, Chris Packham

Casualty Care Centre Management Team:

Operations Director: Trevor Weeks MBE

Casualty Managers: Lindsay Redfern BSc (Hons) & Kathy Martyn

Rescue & Weekend Casualty Manager: Chris Riddington

Assistant Casualty Manager: Katie Nunn Nash

Vets: Simon Harris BVSc Cert VR, MRCVS.

Dr Chris Hall BVSc, MRCVS & Mike Symons BVSc MRCVS

All WRAS's Managers have or are currently studying Diplomas in Wildlife First Aid and Rehabilitation or a similar qualification in Animal Care, have completed the British Hedgehog Preservation Society & Vale Wildlife Rescue's Hedgehog Basic First Aid, Care & Rehabilitation Course, BDMLR's Marine Mammal Medic Course, training with the Sussex Bat Hospital and undertake regular training with WRAS's vets and other organisations.

Phone Numbers:

Rescue Line: 07815-078234

(Please DO NOT ring any other WRAS numbers concerning rescuing casualties)

Office / Non-Casualty Calls: 01825-873003

Treasurers: Murrae Hume 07815-070432

(PO Box / Postal Donations) Julia 07732-575989

Volunteering: Kathy 07931-519646

kathy@eastsussexwras.org.uk

Sales: Chris 01825-873003

chris@eastsussexwras.org.uk

To Book a Talk:

trevor@eastsussexwras.org.uk or call 01825-873003

(Please be aware we are unable to book talks for May, June, July and August.)

General E-mail:

trevor@eastsussexwras.org.uk

Events:

Please call the office on 01825-873003 or e-mail christine@eastsussexwras.org.uk

Veterinary Premises:

The Casualty Care Centre at Whitesmith is registered with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons as a Veterinary premise, No. 6548374.

Members of:

British Hedgehog Preservation Society
British Wildlife Rehabilitation Council

Social Media:

www.facebook.com/wildlifeambulance
www.youtube.com/user/eastsussexwras

Website: www.wildlifeambulance.org

School Visits & Work Placements: Please see our website for more information or contact Lindsay on 01825-873003 or lindsay@eastsussexwras.org.uk.

Donation Form: - Please Photocopy if you wish.

I enclose a cheque/postal order for: £10 £20 £50 £100 Other £

Made payable to "East Sussex WRAS" or please debit my:

Visa Master Card Switch Other:

Card Number:

Start Date: / Expiry Date: /

Issue Number (Switch) Last 3 digits of Security Code

Card Holders Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / ____.

Name: _____

Address:

Town: _____ Postcode: _____

Phone Number: _____. Date of Birth _____.

Do you require an acknowledgement of your donation? Yes / No (Please delete as appropriate).

Standing Order Form:

If you wish to make a standing order to WRAS please fill in your name and address above and complete your bank details then send this form to: East Sussex WRAS, Po Box 2148, Seaford, East Sussex, BN25 9DE.

Yes, I would like to help East Sussex WRAS by donating £ ____ on a regular monthly standing order until further notice.

Please start my standing order on

____ / ____ / _____. _____

(Please make this date at least 3 weeks away.)

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Bank Name: _____

Bank Address: _____

Bank Postcode: _____

Bank Instructions: Please pay to Lloyds TSB Plc, (30-92-86), 104 Terminus Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex, BN21 3AH, for the credit of "East Sussex WRAS", A/c 02529656.

Gift Aid Declaration: Yes, I am a UK taxpayer. I confirm that I have paid or will pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities that I donate to will reclaim on my gifts for that tax year. I understand that other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify. I understand the charity will reclaim 28p of tax on every £1 that I gave up to 5th April 2008 and will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I gave on or after 6th April 2008.

Signed _____ Date: _____



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Hampden Park Cygnets Capture, Treat and Release.

A team of seven WRAS rescuers had an early start on 17th May in order to catch, treat and release eight 2 week old cygnets at Hampden Park lake in Eastbourne after the previous three broods of cygnets had developed life threatening parasite problems.

WRAS sought advice from the Swan Sanctuary at Shepperton and contacted Natural England. "We are not aware of anyone having done this before, and we don't know how effective it will be either. Normally you would give three doses a week apart but it is not feasible to be catching the cygnets three times and probably too stressful too" said Trevor.

At 6am rescuers Amy Sandiford and Dave Earl in boats, Trevor Weeks and Chris Riddington in dry suits, and Kathy Martyn plus Katie Nunn Nash on the bank with nets, managed to encourage the family of swans into a narrow channel of water behind one of the islands at the lake. Wading from either end of the channel Trevor and Chris managed to corner the cygnets and catch them all swiftly using nets and passed them to Kathy on the bank. "Mum followed us away from the water not wanting to leave her babies, so we caught her and secured her with her young. Dad on the other hand was keeping his distance but several times tried to challenge us. They are very good and dedicated parents which makes us even more keen to help the cygnets stay healthy so we don't have to rescue them later on" explained rescuer Kathy Martyn.

Each cygnet was weighed, checked over and WRAS's Vet Mike Symons injected each one with a wormer. "The cygnets were in good condition for their age, and didn't seem bothered by all the fuss. It was a really good team effort, and went better and more smoothly than we hoped. We appreciate Eastbourne Borough Council allowing us to undertake this mission as we know that they have been very worried about the swans over the past few years. We plan to now monitor the situation and we will be undertaking faecal analysis at the park to see how the parasites are affecting the cygnets" said Trevor.

Once treated the cygnets and mum were returned to the water's edge and released to swim off and hopefully stay as a family this year.



Tawny Owl Young.

This Tawny Owl came into care after being found on the doorstep of International Animal Rescue in Uckfield. Staff were surprised to find the little chap left on their door and rushed him down to WRAS to go with another youngster already in care. Read more about our orphan birds on page 4.



Please don't forget to make a donation!

All these rescues have been funded due to the support we receive from kind hearted member of the public like you. Without your support WRAS would not be where it is today. Please help support us to look after our local wildlife. To make a donation please call 01825-873003 or visit www.wildlifeambulance.org