



The Rescuer

Registered Charity 1108880

August 2017



*Duckling Drain
Rescue Uckfield
See Page 23*



A season of Shot Birds!
See Page 12 & 13

RESCUE LINE: 07815-078234



A big thank you to the out going Mayor of Lewes and Seaford Town Councils. Dr Graham Mayhew presented WRAS with a cheque for £2366 from the Lewes Mayors Fund after raising money for three local charities during his term in office. Seaford Mayor Lindsay Freeman also presented Trevor with a Seaford Mayor's Award for his and the charities long standing help to the people of Seaford and the local wildlife.



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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:

The duckling rescued from storm drain in Uckfield, held by rescuer Kathy Martyn. Inset: X-ray of a shot gull from Eastbourne.



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.

Gorgeous Dormouse.

Rescuer Tony Needs has been over to Whatlington near Battle to collect this very gorgeous dormouse that had been brought in by a cat. Apart from a little damage to the end of her tail and swelling by her left eye, she seems unharmed.



Escape to the sunshine...

Even if it's just for a week!

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To find out more about Give as you Live and other ways you can help support WRAS please visit our website <http://wildlifeambulance.org/how-you-can-help/give-as-you-live/>



WRAS's New Ambulance hits the road!

WRAS launched its latest veterinary ambulance at Decoy Pond, Hampden Park, Eastbourne in June.

The replacement ambulance was funded thanks to donations from Eastbourne Co-ops, Atlantic Rower Daryl Farmer and Polegate lad Ben Sherlock and donation via WRAS's website and supporters.

The keys were officially handed over by Ben and Daryl to WRAS founder Trevor Weeks MBE.

The ambulance is one of five which WRAS operates around the county.

Ben Sherlock has raised almost £1000 for WRAS via various fundraising events at school and in the local community. Daryl Farmer from Forest Row spent the winter rowing across the Atlantic taking 96 days to complete the dangerous journey raising over £11,000 and Eastbourne Co-op Community Fund raised over £4,800. This funding has helped purchase the vehicle, buy new equipment and pay for fuel, insurance and road tax. Further money has been raised by WRAS's Just Giving Page and website helping to purchase replacement equipment, fund insurance, road tax and fuel.

"This vehicle will form one of our emergency response vehicles and be on call at night time too. Having this vehicle will help us continue to provide our life saving service. It is quicker and more efficient than the older small van we used and we are delighted to have received so much support in getting this vehicle on the road. Without the support of people like Ben, Daryl and companies like Co-op we would not exist" said Trevor

"I feel really inspired by Ben and Daryl they are a credit to the local community and I hope this encourages more people to help support WRAS and local charities and to see what a difference they can make" said Trevor.

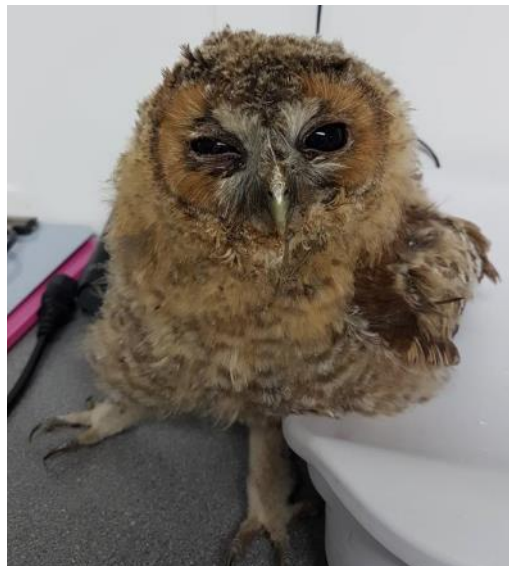




A27 Tawny Owl Rescue.

This stunning Tawny Owl was rescued just before 7am on Thursday 13th April on the verge of the busy A27 between Polegate and Berwick. Rescuer Chris was called around 6.40am and rushed to where the caller had kindly waited with the owl preventing it from going into the road. Using a net the owl was quickly caught and brought back to our hospital where first aid and fluids were given. These rescues are so much easier when callers wait and direct straight to the casualty so thank you to anyone who has kindly waited and help speed up our response by doing so. Our rescuers would have struggled to find this owl if it has not been for the callers waiting with it. THANK YOU so much to the caller for waiting, we would of had no chance finding him. This owl was successfully treated and returned back home several weeks later.

WRAS's orphan team has had this young tawny owl to rear after being found on a road near Fletching. To ensure he was not on his own WRAS has taken on two tawny owls from Folly Wildlife Rescue to keep him company.



Jim Beam the Starling Rescued from Newhaven Pub



Rescuers had to undertake a difficult rescue of a starling trapped inside the Brewers Fayre pub called "The Drove" in Newhaven on the 1st June 2017. The bird had somehow managed to get inside the pub and customers spent the evening watching the bird flying up high above the tables, flying from beam to beam and across to the windows looking for a way out. The bird was quickly named "Jim" Beam after the Bourbon drink.

"After a short fly round the starling disappeared, we couldn't understand where it had gone. Our net heads were used to try and disturb the bird if it was on top of the beams but the starling never appeared. We were scratching our heads wondering where it had gone. Ladders from WRAS's ambulance had to be used to reach up to the ceiling so Trevor could climb up and check" said Kathy Martyn Senior Rescuer.

"I couldn't see the starling anywhere, I was perplexed but then discovered a narrow gap at the top where the beams meet, which the starling had managed to get inside. The gap was very small, too small for my hand to fit inside" explained Trevor.

Rescuers started searching their equipment for a suitable tool to use to help get the starling out. Trevor laughed "after managing to lift the covering board on the beam slightly we had to deploy a very specialist and expensive piece of equipment called an ice cream spoon to stop the bird from going further down inside the hollow beam, and encourage the bird up to the entrance hole where eventually I was able to gain control of the bird. With all the equipment we carry on board our ambulances we laughed that we couldn't find anything better suited than a long handled ice cream spoon from the restaurant!"

The bird was soon secured and checked over and as light enough still outside, rescuers decided to release the bird straight away.

The bird was release by Kathy and he flew straight off across the car park and up to the top of a nearby tree.

"Some great team work from everyone tonight, we certainly have an amazing team of rescuers at WRAS" added Kathy, "we hope Jim Beam the starling doesn't go back inside look for any more spirits".



Rescuers Close Call.

On Saturday 8th April, just after midnight, on the A22 near East Hoathly rescuers came across an injured badger on their way home from another rescue.

Rescuers put the orange warning beacon lights on as well as their hazard lights and pulled over to help the injured animal.

Rescuer Chris rushed over to the barely alive badger and started to assess it.

Passing motorists failed

to pay any attention to the ambulance or its warning lights and continued to speed past. "There were bits of car everywhere across the road. The poor badger had taken quite a hit" said Chris, "whatever had hit the badger had left large bits of bumper and body work all over the road."

As motorists continued to speed past, shards of this bodywork were sent flying towards Chris, the casualty and the ambulance. "Whilst the road was quiet I moved the badger to the safety of the grass verge where I then started to examine the badger and provide first aid. As I was trying to make the badger comfortable, a large bit of plastic struck me on the back when a speeding car flew past and drove over it, the car made no attempt at slowing down" said Chris.

"Even from inside the ambulance I could hear the bits hitting the side of the vehicle" added rescuer Laura Carrick.

Both Chris and the ambulance were hit with large bits of plastic as cars sped past. Luckily neither Chris nor the ambulance were hurt or damaged.

Sadly the badger passed away shortly after at the roadside. "Knowing how busy the police are on a Saturday night I knew there was no point in calling the Police so I cleared the all of the remaining body work off the road to avoid further hazards to other motorists" added Chris.

Chris has pleaded with motorists to slow down at night and said "If you see one of our ambulances with its lights on, we are trying to protect ourselves, the casualty and other road users. Please slow down, it is scary enough approaching an injured animal in the dark, but it is even harder being showered in plastic as cars fly past at 60mph. There could be an animal in the road that could become a hazard to other road users like a mobile deer that we are shielding. Last week we helped Sussex Police with a broken down car on the A27 as there was a family of 5 sitting in their car in the fast lane. We used our warning beacons to direct traffic whilst waiting for the police.

I know it is easy to ignore flashing amber lights compared to blue lights but people like us, road recovery, council workers, road workers, bin men and many more need you to slow down and be aware that people may be in the road and help keep us safe" said Chris.

"I am relieved that my colleague Chris is ok, and I'm glad that our training helps us to stay safe" added Trevor.



Fatal Fall For St Leonards Cub.

Rescuers rushed to help a fox cub on a ledge about 20ft up a concrete embankment. It had fallen down to a narrow ledge. Sadly when rescuers arrived the cub had already fallen and received fatal internal injuries.



Busy Evening of Rescue

This spring and summer has seen Rescuers dealing with numerous busy nights out on the road responding to calls. Apart from the National RSPCA, WRAS is the only other organisation which provides a night time emergency service.

One such night was the 6th April. Volunteer rescuers Brian Russell and Jen Holloway responded to an emergency call to a catted rabbit unable to stand at Ditchling Road

Brighton. Casualty Manager Katie Nunn Nash attended to a Dunnock caught by a cat in Bexhill with breathing problems.

WRAS Founder Trevor Weeks MBE responded to an injured bat in Fletching Avenue, St Leonards. Trevor then responded to a hedgehog in Willingdon with breathing problems which turned out to micro-chipped and called "Robin"; a hedgehog which WRAS originally released about a year ago. "Robin" was very cheery and is thought to have woken up from Hibernation with a bit of a chest infection or lungworm, which then needed treatment. Whilst transporting "Robin" to WRAS's Casualty Care Centre, Trevor was then diverted to a road casualty Badger on the A22 at Hailsham, sadly the badger was already dead when he arrived.

Once the hedgehog was bedded down Trevor started heading home at gone midnight only to receive a call about a road casualty fox on the A26 at Eridge, unfortunately, this too had passed away on arrival. Trevor finally returned home about 1:30am.





Eastbourne Town Deer Rescue

On 16th June rescuers rushed to Grassington Road, not far from Eastbourne Town Hall after a male Roe Deer became trapped in a garden.

“The roe deer has been roaming this part of Eastbourne for the past few days and this area west of Eastbourne Town Hall is an area they visit from time to time” said Duty Rescue Co-ordinator Trevor Weeks of East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service (WRAS).

“Normally the advice is leave them alone and they sort themselves out, but on this occasion the deer jumped over a wall into a garden which was lower than where it jumped from, meaning it could not jump back out” said Trevor, “Roe deer can easily jump 6ft high fences but was clearly struggling with the height of these walls which were over 8ft tall in places.”

WRAS Rescuers Trevor Weeks, Chris Riddington and Kathy Martyn attended on site and a walk-to-wards net was used to catch the deer. “It took us a couple of attempt to catch the deer but it was soon secured” said rescuer Chris, “you have to be very careful dealing with them as they can cause serious injury if you do not know what you are doing, especially if they kick you or you get caught by their antlers.”

The deer was secured onto a stretcher and then loaded into the back of WRAS’s veterinary ambulance and driven a few minutes away onto a near by golf course which was the closest open space and on the route deer take to get into the housing estate from The Downs.

Rescuer Chris Riddington stayed in the back of the Ambulance with the deer.

Once at the release site the deer was unloaded and unstrapped from the stretcher and release, and straight away run off across the gold course.

“We had no choice by to release the deer here as it was the most logical place to do so in case its partner and any young were in the area still so they could be reunited” said Rescuer Kathy Martyn.

Falmer Fox Rescue.

Just before midnight on 13th April rescuers Trevor and Chris rushed to the aid of this stunning fox on the A27 near Falmer.

Luckily the callers had waited with the injured fox and protected it from passing vehicles. When they arrived on site Trevor directed the traffic whilst Chris secured and assessed the fox. It was gently lifted into a fox cage and then carried to the back of WRAS's Ambulance. The ambulance was then moved slightly further up the road out any danger to a safe location where Trevor and Chris could then assess the fox better and given emergency medication. Once back at WRAS's Casualty Centre the fox was again checked over before being bedded down for the night.

The following morning the fox was up and about and had eaten all its food. The fox was badly concussed and took quite a while to recover.

To avoid releasing the fox and it running straight across the road again, the fox was not returned till the early hours of Monday 1st May at the edge of the University.

Thank you to the members of public for waiting with the fox and keeping it safe.



Ducklings Wander Through Housing Estate.

WRAS helped escort this mum and ducklings to safety after she started wandering around a housing estate in Hailsham in June. There were several ponds she might want to walk to so rescuers stood back at first to watch and see where she might want to go. It soon became apparent that she wanted to get behind the houses but to a pond near Station Road Industrial Estate at Hailsham.

Rescuers had to guide her through a gateway into a rear garden and then help negotiate a few garden obstacles before she was out on the Cuckoo Trail.

Rescuers kept her safe till she was off the trail and into a wooded area close to the pond where she was left to finish the journey on her own.



Prosecution Warning After Spate of Summer Shootings.

Wildlife Rescuers are warning people to be on the lookout and to report to Sussex Police people shooting from bedroom windows and across gardens in residential areas.

The warning was issued in May after a spate of shooting incidents. In just over 2 months cover May and June WRAS dealt with over 19 shooting incidents.

Rescuers from East Sussex Wildlife Rescue and Ambulance Service dealt with a distressing call just before 7am on the morning of 18th May at an address in The Circus, Eastbourne.

Centre Manager and Rescuer Chris Riddington from Eastbourne said "When I took the call I spoke to a very upset lady who believed a gull had been shot on her roof and was now laying injured in her garden".

"When I saw the bird, the wounds were consistent with being shot, there was clear entry and exit hole and the feathers had been pushed into the wound" said Chris "sadly the bone was fractured quite badly and it wasn't looking good".

Chris took the injured bird to St Anne's vets in Eastbourne who agreed that the gull was in a serious condition and the kindest thing was to put the bird to sleep.

This isn't an isolated case and is the fourth gull to be shot in 4 weeks at this address. Another shot gull was rescued from the same location on Tuesday. An x-rayed revealed the wing still had a pellet lodged inside. WRAS's veterinary team are working hard to save it's life.

"Spending some time with the caller this morning, the person shooting the gull is not only committing a criminal offence shooting the birds and leaving them injured but they are causing anti-social behaviour making this lady scared and fearful to go near her windows, they are reducing her to tears. She has lived at the address four years and has never known anything like this. Not only does she have to lay there at night as birds are shot on her roof she then rushes outside to their aid and looks after then until we arrive. She has to see the wounds, the blood over her patio, the fear in the birds eyes. In many cases like this it is not just the wildlife that is suffering but the local residents too. It breaks my heart to see this. A lady who doesn't feel comfortable in her own home"

Shot Crow



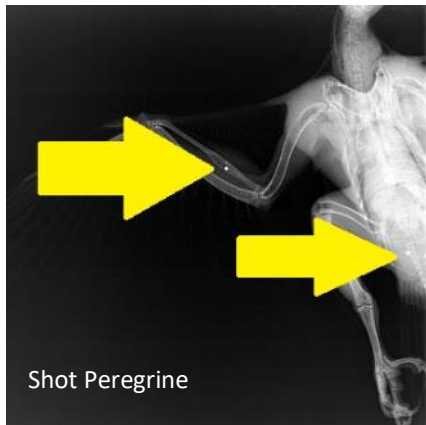
Shot Gull



Shot pigeon from Uckfield



Shot Peregrine



said Chris.

East Sussex WRAS have contacted the police who will be investigating the matter. If you have any information about who may be causing this cruelty please contact Sussex Police on 101 quoting ref 152 of 18th May 2017. East Sussex WRAS are also caring for a Peregrine Falcon with a damaged wing from Ninfield which had also been shot see page #.

St Annes Veterinary Group had to euthanasie a gull from Old Drive Polegate which had also been shot. WRAS had a spate of calls to Gournay Road area of Hailsham and a crow had to be put to sleep after being shot with an air gun.

WRAS had an injured feral pigeon delivered from a property in Uckfield after a cull of pigeons took place and three days later a grounded pigeon was found on the floor. The poor bird had a nasty infected puncture wounds and a air gun pellet lodged in its chest. For three days this bird suffered and ended up having to be put to sleep.

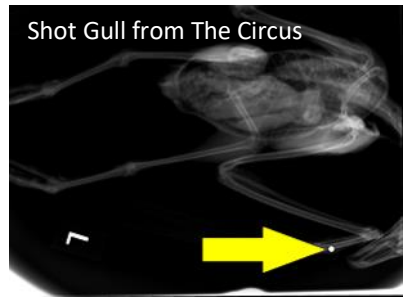
Culling any wild bird is pointless and inefficient at controlling numbers, and the General Licence which is needed to undertake a cull of bird is quite clear that alternative options must be tried first before doing so. Again this incident like the others has been reported to Sussex Police.

"It is one thing to shoot wood pigeons or rabbits for food, but to needlessly shoot wildlife because you see them as a pain or pest is a complete an utter waste of life and very short sighted. To do so at a time of year when so many birds have young is just heartless and cruel" said Trevor, "we will be passing all information to Sussex Police about all shooting incidents. If identified the culprit could face prosecution or their weapons destroyed. I personally would like to see air guns and ball-bearing guns banned except for use on licenced ranges as they cause far too much unnecessary suffering to pets and wildlife."

All birds are protected under the Wildlife & Countryside Act and cannot be disturbed whilst nesting. Although there are general licences which can be used in a limited number of circumstances these licences require alternative options to have been tried first.

We frequently get people calling us saying they have seen someone shooting out of a bedroom window. We would urge anyone who sees anyone doing so to call Sussex Police on 999 if an offence is in the process of being committed or to call 101 if after the event.

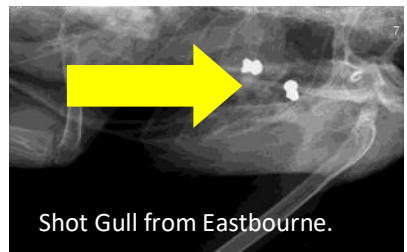
Shot Gull from The Circus



Swan shot in the neck.



Shot Gull from Eastbourne.



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

Maresfield Goose Rescue.

Animal Rescuers had to use a drysuit and nets to catch a Canadian Goose on a pond near Maresfield on Wednesday 24th May.

East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service (WRAS) were called out to the pond after a dog walker noticed the injured goose. Senior rescuer Trevor Weeks waded through the water using a Dry Suit to push the injured goose towards rescuers Kathy Martyn and Chris Riddington who were hidden at the far end of the pond behind bushes.

"The goose clearly knew he was not able to fly so tried climbing out of the pond to get away from me, however Chris and Kathy were waiting to jump out and help catch the goose" said Trevor.

As the goose tried to escape over land Chris was able to get his net over the goose as it tried to get through the brambles. "Swiftly Kathy moved in to secure the goose and lift the poor bird in to the open where we could assess its injuries better" explained Trevor.

After an assessment on site it was clear the bird had an old fractured wing, a damaged beak and was very underweight. "We have spoken to the Swan Sanctuary and they have agreed to take on the goose and treat it but sadly being a Canadian Goose it can't be released back to the wild" said Trevor. Back at WRAS's Casualty Centre at Whitesmith the goose was given medication and bedded down and was soon tucking in to its food.

The Swan Sanctuary X-rayed the Goose to find a fractured wing and air gun pellet lodged in the fracture.



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Explosion in Night Time Rescues.

WRAS's Duty Rescue Co-ordinators Trevor Weeks and Chris Riddington have been working round the clock this summer to help wildlife in need.

Trevor and Chris take turns doing two weeks on and two weeks off covering the out of hours emergencies from 10pm till 9am. "This summer has been

amazingly busy for us throughout most of May and June there was hardly a night without us being on the road till gone 1.30am. At least once a week Trevor or I were on the road till gone 4am" said Chris.

Normally night time rescues occur more frequently during the spring and autumn, but this year the level of night time calls has greatly increased with up to 7 emergency rescues occurring after 10pm at night.

"It gets very tiring and exhausting" said Trevor "On Friday 16th June I was called out to an injured collared dove at Broad Oak Brede at 11:30pm, I arrived about 12:30am, driving back I received a call about an injured hedgehog in Seaford and then a dog attacked hedgehog at Northiam. The Northiam call was only a few miles up the road from my previous call but I was already half way back so had to turn round. At 2:40am, I eventually arrived at Seaford for the hedgehog which I then drove back to our Casualty Centre. The dove and two hedgehogs were given emergency first aid and made comfortable for the rest of the night. After filling in the paperwork I eventually left the Casualty Centre just after 4am and was finally in bed about 4.30am" said Trevor.

A Beautiful Hobby was admitted after being found grounded in Barcombe. X-rays showed a nasty fracture femur. As a result a specialist operation was required so the bird was driven through the night by Chris to Vale Wildlife Rescue in Gloucestershire because of how busy WRAS has been during the day. Chris eventually got back to his home in Eastbourne just after 4.30am.



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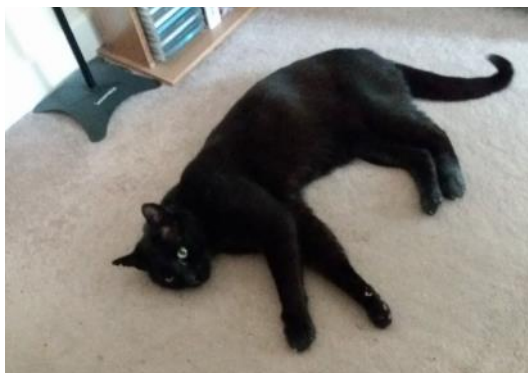
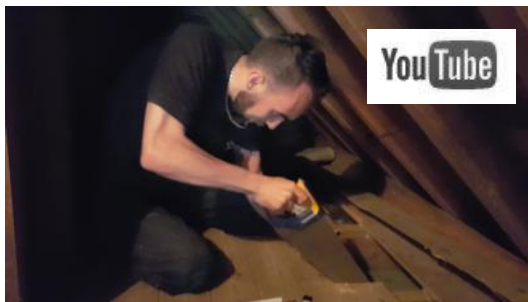
Site Survey Turns into Emergency Cat Rescue.

A resident of Snatts Lane Uckfield contacted WRAS after finding faeces in a storage room on the first floor of their house. Thinking a fox may have entered their home WRAS was called to investigate. Rescuers Trevor Weeks and Chris Riddington attended expecting a site survey and advice. However, after seeing the faeces containing poisoned rodent bait the situation suddenly turned more serious. Chris started videoing under the sloping roof and floorboards and noticed two eyes of a cat staring back in the dark. "Cage trapping would take too long. We had to get the cat out and fast to save its life" said Chris.

The carpet was removed and a saw was used to cut four floorboards making a bigger space to get equipment under to reach the cat. "Time was not on our side and we knew we had to be as quick as possible. It took us about 90 minutes to find and get to the cat" said Chris.

"Chris did most of the hard work and an amazing job and eventually managed to get a net over the cat and slowly and carefully pulled the cat towards him" said Trevor. "Once close I was able to reach under the floorboards and scruff the cat and lift out of the hole to freedom. Clearly dehydrated and frightened we moved the cat to a brighter and more airy area and started to stroke him" said Chris.

Rescuers rushed the cat to Henley House Vets in Uckfield where waiting staff were on hand to check over the cat and assess its condition and start emergency treatment for poisoning. Luckily the cat was microchipped and the vets were able to trace the owners. The cat is called "Ringo" and after an over night stay at the vets he was reunited with his family the following day. The very worried owners were pleased to see him back as he had been missing for a couple of days.



WRAS's Chris Ultra Success!

Casualty Manager Chris Riddington undertook the Race to the Kings Ultra Marathon on 24th June to raise money for WRAS.

The event which is held over 2 days covering 53 miles the equivalent of two marathons between Arundel and Winchester.

Amazingly Chris completed the route in just one day finishing about 11pm. WRAS has so far raised over £1200 for WRAS as a result.

You can still sponsor Chris at www.justgiving.com/fundraising/Chris-TEAM-WRAS



Disturbed Hedgehogs Rescued by Kathy Martyn.

Sadly we have now had our 6th litter of mum and baby hedgehogs come into care. These included two nests from Heathfield. This means that a species that had only just started to increase in this particular town, is now going to have 8 less hedgehogs in their population.

Hedgehogs are a declining species, which is very sad. These babies will eventually be soft released elsewhere using special soft release enclosures, so won't go back to Heathfield. It is additionally sad when they have come into care when it could have been prevented. It is not just spring which is the breeding season, as many birds and mammals breed right through the spring and summer. The last thing people should be doing is ripping out hedges and trees - especially without checking carefully first that they are not destroying nests. This year is worse than it has ever been and not only is it damaging the

population, but it is also costing us a lot of money in rearing and releasing them, as well as using up valuable space needed by animals who are sick or injured. PLEASE THINK TWICE before doing gardening work and check, check and triple check where you are working if it has to go ahead.

WRAS's Hedgehog Unit at Uckfield has been busy this summer as a result of these families coming into care.



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Fire Service rescue a racing pigeon on
Uckfield Library

Uckfield Pigeon Problems.

WRAS has been called out numerous times to pigeons caught in netting on buildings in Uckfield Town Centre.

WRAS has discussed ideas and suggestions with Uckfield Town Council and Uckfield Chamber of Commerce to address the issue.

WRAS rescuers have receive numerous derogatory comments from passing members of the public offering to shoot the birds as well as shop staff being rude and blaming WRAS and the Fire Service for making holes in the netting which they believe is the cause of the bird becoming stuck - despite the holes caused by weathering, rubbing and just badly installed and maintained netting.

Staff at Uckfield Fish & Grill were particular rude to WRAS volunteers after rescuing a pigeon caught in extremely badly maintained netting.

WRAS has also been accused of wasting tax payers money in working with fire service, when in reality WRAS has saved the Tax Payers money by by avoiding the Fire Service attending as well as saving landlords money by not having to call out Pest Control.

Pigeon caught above Uckfield Fish & Grill



Polegate Hedgehog Turns Out to be Pregnant.

Rescuers rushed to a hedgehog in Brookside Avenue Polegate on Saturday 27th May after a dog picked up a hedgehog in the garden.

At WRAS's Casualty Centre the 1.1kg hedgehog was checked over and found to be a female and pregnant. Trevor gently felt her

stomach and felt that she could be pregnant. We then use our Ultrasound machine to check to see if she was pregnant which was soon confirmed. The hedgehog was very advanced.

The hedgehog was in good condition and the minor wound was treated but not serious enough to stop the hedgehog from being released. The hedgehog was therefore returned back to the garden where found so she could give birth out in the wild.



Badger Rescued from Well

A badger had to be rescued from dry well in Hastings on Sunday morning. The young badger out exploring during the night had fallen about 5ft down a dry well in a back garden in Ewhurst Close, Hastings.

WRAS drove across to assess the situation and rescue the badger.

Duty Rescue Co-ordinators Trevor Weeks from Uckfield and Chris Riddington from Eastbourne, drove across and used a dog grasper to secure the badger before scruffing the badger and lifting it out of the well.

"The badger was one of this year's youngsters. They are at an age when they are started to explore and a little naïve and getting themselves into trouble. This is the fourth call-out we have had to young badgers getting themselves into trouble in Hastings this year" said Trevor. Once out of the well, the dog grasper was removed whilst Chris controlled the badger under a blanket. "As soon as I uncover the badger it shot off into the bushes suddenly released he was going in the wrong direction and turned round and run off in a hurry along a very well used badger path" said Chris "being away from busy main roads and next to the woods it was safe for us to release straight away rather than bring in to care for a night time release."

"It's a good job the well was not deeper of this rescue would have been a lot harder" said Trevor, "It looks like another badger, possibly its mum had been digging around the outside of the well trying to rescue its youngster".



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: Chris Riddington, Kathy Martyn, Katie Nunn Nash

Duty Rescue Managers: Chris Riddington, Trevor Weeks

Care Assistant & Orphan Support: Nikola Upton, Karen Francis, Hannah Stainton

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.)

Work Placements: Please see our website for more information or contact Amy or Chris on 01825-873003 or chris@eastsussexwras.org.uk.

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

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 _____.

Privacy Notice: Under the new fundraising and marketing guidelines it is considered "legitimate interest" to contact people who have made donations to our charity from time to time. You can call 01825-873003 at any time to stop future contact. Further details are on our website www.wildlifeambulance.org

Please tick if you would prefer not to be contacted by WRAS. ☐

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.

My Account No: _____ My Sort Code: ____ / ____ / ____

Please start my standing order on ____ / ____ / _____. (At Least 3 weeks away please.)

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: _____

Graphic design Illustration Web design

Aura Beckhöfer-Fialho
www.portraitsbyaura.co.uk
aurabf@gmail.com



International Animal Rescue

funds 50% of the wages for the employment (38 hours a week) of Trevor Weeks MBE to manage East Sussex WRAS on a daily basis



(earning just minimum wage). Trevor Weeks, like all WRAS 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 the many volunteers within WRAS, ensuring your donations go as far as possible.



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ASPEN
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Duckling Drain Rescue



A rescue operation was undertaken in Uckfield on the evening of Sunday 25th June after some children noticed a duckling behind a drainage grate.

East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service were called to the scene in Old Common Way on the Fernley Park Estate, but the duckling was nowhere to be seen.

“We decided to investigate further as it was obvious that the duckling would not have been able to get out” explained Trevor. WRAS rescuer Kathy Martyn from Uckfield, tried to undo the metal grill but this proved impossible, so rescuers only access was via drain covers which were in the road.

WRAS volunteer Christine Skinner from Uckfield came out with a set of ladders from home to help with the rescue. At first rescuers could not hear the duckling. “Ladders were used to climb down into the drain and nothing could be seen by torch light but then suddenly I heard the duckling cheeping. I was not sure where it was at first so it took us a while to establish that it was further along under the road” said Trevor.

A second man-hole cover had to be lifted and Trevor climbed down to find the duckling close to the chamber. “The poor little thing just sat there and let me pick him up. He was clearly very frightened, cold and alone” said Trevor.

Trevor passed the duckling up to his partner Kathy who cupped the duckling in her hands to keep the poor thing warm.

The duckling was taken back to WRAS’s Casualty Centre where he was bedded down with two other little ducklings for company.

“This poor duckling would not have survived the night if it had been left down the storm drain, it’s a good job the children spotted him”

Great Crested Grebe's Night Time Adventure.

A Great Crested Grebe was rescued on after being found wandering on a lane at Chalvington at 10:30pm.

The bird was picked up by passing motorist and WRAS called. The bird was soon being assessed by Trevor Weeks at East Sussex WRAS's Casualty Care Centre at Whitesmith.

"Apart from some minor grazes to the birds feet I couldn't find anything else wrong. The bird was very lively and feisty and I think I ended up with worse injuries to my hand as he defensively pecked at me whilst examining him" said Trevor.

"It was certainly a very strange find for 10:30 at night. Why it was on the road is also unclear, we are a bit baffled. The grazes to its feet imply the bird could have crash landed on the road" said Trevor, "He was certainly a very unusual patient and a noisy one at that. You could hear him all through the centre." After being bedded down for the night the bird was reassessed in the morning and given a clean bill of health.

The bird was taken back to Chalvington and release on a lake next to where he was found on the road close to the phone box at Chalvington village.

"The bird was so noisy as I picked him up and placed him on the water but as soon as he realised he was free and could swim off he went quiet and swam off happy to be safe and free again" said Casualty Manager Chris Riddington who released the bird.



All these rescues have been funded due to the support we receive from kind hearted members 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