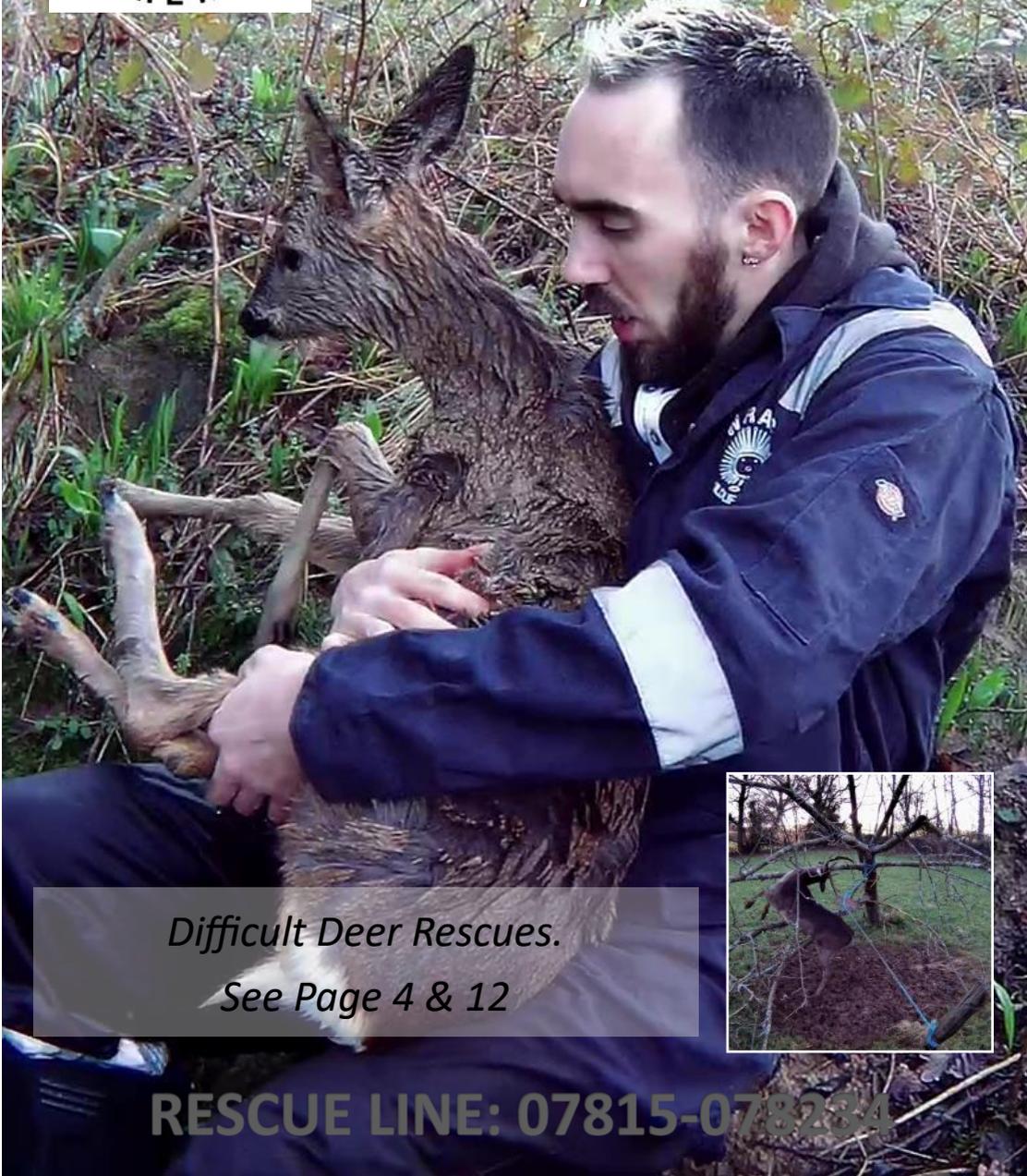




# *The Rescuer*

Registered Charity 1108880

May/June 2018



*Difficult Deer Rescues.*

*See Page 4 & 12*

**RESCUE LINE: 07815-078234**



## ***Baby Bunnies!***

These gorgeous baby bunnies came into care in late February very cold and lethargic. They were taken on by our baby rabbit expert Nikola Upton and they have all done really well. They are all fully grown now and been released back to the wild.



## ***Ebony's Bike Ride for WRAS***

Big Thank you to Ebony who has cycled from Eastbourne Pier all of the 12 miles along the coast to the De La Warr Pavilion in Bexhill in the cold but sunny weather. She has raised £305 so far but there is still time to sponsor her! <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/ebony-alooof>

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## Newsletter Advertising.

If you would like to advertise in our newsletter please contact [trevor@eastsussexwras.org.uk](mailto:trevor@eastsussexwras.org.uk) or call 01825-873003.

A number of people have asked us why we have not produced colour newsletters before. This was primarily because of the cost. Due to advertising we can now afford to do so, ensuring as much money as possible goes direct to helping the casualties.

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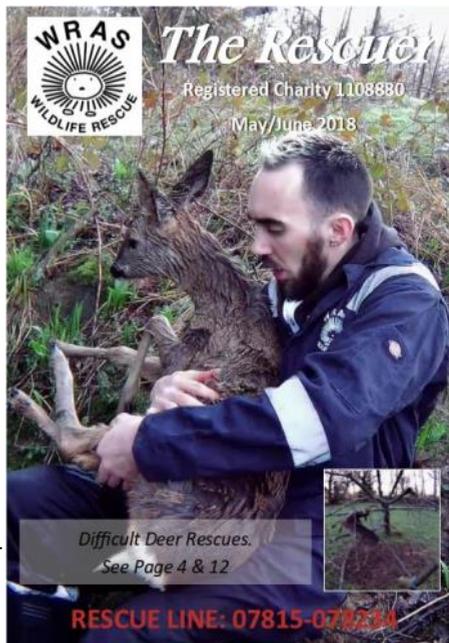
If you see the You Tube Logo, it means there is video footage of the rescue, treatment or release of this casualty on our You Tube Channel. [www.youtube.com/user/eastsussexwras](http://www.youtube.com/user/eastsussexwras)



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## Front Cover:

A very wet and cold Chris and young Roe Deer from Uckfield. See Page 4.





## ***Roe Deer Rescued from Freezing Tributary of the River Uck.***

Rescuers Trevor Weeks and Chris Riddington were called out to a tributary of the River Uck by Fernley Park, Uckfield, by local resident Zoe Warren after she spotted the deer whilst out walking her dogs. "I tried to encourage the deer to a point in the stream where it might be able to climb out but the stream was quite steep sided. In the end I called WRAS for help" said Zoe.



WRAS's ambulance was on site within 20 minutes. Rescuers walked across to the stream under the impression the deer was trapped in a ditch, and were quite surprised when the ditch turned into a rather deep, fast flowing stream. After a short search of the area the deer was spotted in the freezing fast flowing water struggling to get out.

"Chris and I took one look at the deer and knew we had to act quickly. There was no time to stop and change into dry suits or waders, every second counted on getting the deer out and starting the warm up process, although we had water gear in the ambulance, we didn't want to waste time going back and getting it" said Trevor.

Rescuers had to slide down the steep bank of the stream into the water either side of the deer. "I can't believe how cold the water was" said Chris, "Trevor had to climb through brambles to get to one side of the deer as I approached from the other. The poor Roe Deer was very cold and wet and had a leg caught in a tree root. Trevor pushed her up and forward to get





her out of the water and I climbed up onto the bank to help lift her completely out of the stream.”

Rescuers then carried the deer in their arms back to the waiting ambulance and where both Chris and the deer were wrapped in blankets to soak up as much water as possible and help warm them up. The deer was then taken to WRAS’s Casualty Care Centre at Whitesmith where emergency treatment was given and the warm up process continued. The Roe was bedded down in one of WRAS’s indoor pens with a deep litter of straw and several heat pads to keep the deer warm.

Deer specialist Chris and Sylvia Collinson visited WRAS to help assess the deer’s condition. They took her back to their facilities, and were surprised when they discovered a completely different deer the following morning.

“We are amazed at how well she has recovered overnight and decided that it would be best to get her out for release as deer can get easily stressed in captivity. She transported really well in the back of the ambulance” said Trevor.

Trevor and Chris accompanied by fellow rescuers Laura Carrick and Kathy Martyn took the deer out to a section of woodland next to where she was found.

In a quiet wooded area she was released back to the wild. “It was so nice to see her run off in such a fit and healthy state after being in such a critical condition yesterday. It makes getting so cold and wet so well worth the effort to save her life, we are delighted and pleased she is back where she belongs” said Chris.



## WRAS Joins Amazon Smile!

Many people buy from Amazon. There is now a way to continue doing so but at the same time raise money for your favourite charity at no additional cost to you.

All you need to do is shop at <https://smile.amazon.co.uk> and log in as normal to your existing amazon account. You will need to select "East Sussex WRAS" as your chosen charity and Amazon Smile does all the rest and quarterly we will receive a donation from Amazon. Don't forget to save Amazon Smile to you Desktop or Book mark list to avoid missing out on free donations to WRAS.

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## Buzzard hit by Train Released.

On 7th March WRAS received a call from Network Rail after a member of staff carrying out a line inspection found a buzzard which they believed may have struck a train.

WRAS meet Network Rail at Buxted Railway Station where they were provided with equipment to rescue the bird from the line just south of Buxted.

The Buzzard was loaded into WRAS's Ambulance and driven back to the Casualty Centre at Whitesmith, where the bird was seen by vet Chris Hall. "The bird was found to have a bloody eye, concussion, a weakness in one shoulder and quite disorientated" said Trevor.

The bird was medicated and placed into a hospital cage for recovery and monitoring. After several days he started to feel better and needed more space so moved into one of WRAS's indoor enclosures. "We were concerned at first about the shoulder but just over a week after admission the Buzzard was able to fly up onto high perches and regained full use of the wing. When reassessed with our vets we were really pleased the bird had recovered so well" said Trevor.

On the 23rd March, after just over 2 weeks of care, the Buzzard was taken back and released next to Buxted Recreation Ground as close to where it was found as possible and released. "It is amazing to see them go back to the wild where they belong in their home range, a big thank you to Network Rail for rescuing him" said Trevor.



YouTube

## **Pigeon Post** by Kathy Martyn.

This year has started off as the last year ended – with Collared Dovelets. I reared around 85 last year and didn't have a month without any at home, even in December. January continued in the same vein and since the beginning of the year I have had 25 dovelets at home, with 22 surviving, sadly the other 3 had severe limb deformities due to hatching so early in the year. We have already released 12 of these youngsters from one of our soft release pens during good weather at the end of March and beginning of April. In December I also had a tiny hatchling woodpigeon – Harold, who has also just been released and a little feral pigeon Peewee. In January I started trialling some new pigeon rearing food, which has a much higher fat content, closer to that of pigeon crop milk – 40% fat, compared to 8-9 % fat in most rearing mixes. Feral pigeon youngsters Chalk and Cheese were the first to be reared on the new mix, who came to me as week old nestlings from Pevensey collapsed in the cold. They were followed by friends Blizzard and another white youngster Snow, from Brownbread Horse Rescue. It is always risky trying out new things, as why change what appears to have been working so far, but the youngsters seemed to thrive and their feathers came through beautifully. The biggest test was with my next 2 youngsters who were 3 day old wood pigeons, delivered to the centre collapsed and gasping. Their growth on the new food has been remarkable, as you can see from the photographs, taken just 2 weeks apart, I have never seen anything like it. They are now fit and healthy cheeky monsters who will soon be big enough to leave me and go to the casualty centre. I am looking forward to carrying on with the new food during the rest of the year and it will be interesting to see how everyone does on it, especially with the tiny babies, who it is of most benefit to.



## **Hedgehog Awareness Week. 6th to 12th May 2018.**

Trevor will be running the Barcombe 10K to raise money for WRAS on the 7th May Bank Holiday Monday, to help treat hedgehogs which are the most common wild mammal casualty WRAS deals with. Please support Trevor by making a donation on his justgiving page at: <https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/hedgehogawareness>

### **Rat Traps & Hedgehogs.**

On 4th April WRAS was called to a hedgehog in Rye Close Polegate which had been caught in a rodent trap. The poor creature was dragging the trap around a garden and clearly in discomfort and pain. We have published a You Tube Video of the trap and how violent it is at <https://youtu.be/WqavIkTY6o>. Sadly due to its injuries the hedgehog had to be put to sleep.

DEFRA has recently approved the use of the A24 trap in England and the British Hedgehog Preservation Society are very concerned about it. In New Zealand the traps are sold to kill hedgehogs as they are non-native and considered a 'pest' species.

Hedgehogs are a protected species through being listed on Schedule 6 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act. Explicitly they may not be trapped without a licence. This means that if a trap is set, albeit intended for something else, and it catches a hedgehog, then the person who set the trap can be prosecuted. Anyone setting traps for 'vermin' or non-protected species is obliged to take all reasonable precautions to avoid catching a protected species, since there are no 'reasonable precautions' to avoid catching hedgehogs, using this trap or any similar one, whoever sets them is at risk of prosecution if a hedgehog is caught. It is no defence in law to say that the catch was unintentional.

The BHPS are extremely disappointed with the Government's response saying that they do not think they need to reconsider their approval because the trap is only licensed for use on rats and not hedgehogs. A condition of the license for UK sale is that the trap should be set so as not to trap hedgehogs. However, anyone can buy the trap, it is unregulated and



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unchecked and will of course be used where hedgehogs can access it. Sadly people ignore advice, don't read the instructions and may not even know they have other species visiting which could be killed. It's a case of out of sight out of mind. Its impossible to police.

Although there is a hedgehog excluder tunnel available for the A24 trap at extra cost, they are not safe. The tunnel is made from wire, which will itself trap hedgehogs. Once they stick their heads in they won't be able to get reverse due its spins.

In November 2017 BHPS wrote to the UK distributors of the trap (GoodNature UK) and offered to help develop a more effective tunnel and suggested that once a suitable tunnel had been designed it should be fitted as standard to ensure hedgehogs are not under threat from it. To date BHPS have received no reply.

### **What can you do?**

If you would like to make your voice heard, alongside ours, please contact the minister responsible directly by post: Dr Thérèse Coffey, Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, London, SW1P 3JR or send an email to [defra.helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:defra.helpline@defra.gsi.gov.uk).

As well as this, try contacting your local MP (even if you doubt their support).

If BHPS can reach 100,000 signatures there is a good chance we can get this debated in parliament and DEFRA could reconsider. Please help by signing and sharing the petition BHPS's petition which can be found at:

<https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/206274>

Please remember to share it too!



# **HEDGEHOGS NEED YOUR HELP!**

**Call on DEFRA to withdraw UK approval of A24 trap used in New Zealand to kill hedgehogs.**

**Please sign the British Hedgehog Preservation Society petition at [www.petition.parliament.uk](http://www.petition.parliament.uk) or visit [www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk](http://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk) for more information.**



### **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](http://www.giveacar.co.uk/charities/east-sussex-wras) or phone 020-0011-1664



## ***Badgers Trapped after falling into Hastings Garden.***

Two juvenile badgers exploring around a new housing development in Hastings found themselves trapped after falling down a 7ft drop into a garden below.

Unable to get back out the new home owners, in Woodlands Way Hastings, discovered them curled up in between plants at the back of their garden on Saturday morning.

A veterinary ambulance from East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service (WRAS) attended and the situation assessed.

"It was unclear where the sett was and whether they would need to cross any main roads getting home so catching and releasing them above the garden was out of the question. Rescuer Karen and I caught them and loaded them into the ambulance and took them back

to WRAS's Casualty Centre" said Duty Rescue Co-ordinator Chris Riddington from Eastbourne.

Back at the Casualty Centre the badgers were checked over and one of them had an injury to its ear which WRAS's Vet Sophie Common cleaned and treated.

"Luckily the wounds were minor and wouldn't stop us releasing them so we bedded them down in one of our indoor enclosures for the day with a couple of bowls of food" explained Chris.

At about 1am on Sunday morning, Chris and his partner Laura Carrick collected the badgers and drove them back to Hastings for release. Rescuers waited until 2am before releasing them due to the nearby busy main road.

"The badgers was clearly glad to be back home and desperate to go, and as soon as we opened the cage doors they shot off like rockets" said Chris "makes loosing sleep so worth while, and a great end to a very busy day."





## ***Badger Surprise for Uckfield Family.***

A family living on the busy Framfield Road Uckfield, very close to the Town Centre, had a surprise when they found a badger curled up in a narrow passageway next to their house. They were concerned as the badger was shaking, so the residents called WRAS. A veterinary ambulance attended within 20 minutes and experienced rescuer Trevor Weeks assessed the badger. "I could see the badger curled up at the end of the passageway. I couldn't see any sign of injury and the shaking was just fright" said Trevor, "however I was concerned how close to the busy main road the badger was and how easily it could be disturbed and end up running out into the road, so we decided to catch the badger and bring in to safety."

A strong wire cage was placed on the ground in front of the badger and slowly pushed closer and closer and the badger encouraged to run inside. "Badgers are very strong animals and they are almost impossible to scruff, they are not always easy to get dog graspers on as they have a habit of tucking their heads between their front legs when frightened. If you can encourage them into a cage, cover with a blanket so they think its somewhere to hide, you can often catch them without the need for stressing them out using a dog grasper" explained Trevor to new rescuers Ellie and Victoria.

The badger was carried back to WRAS's ambulance and driven back to their veterinary hospital where he was bedded down for the rest of the day.

It was decided it would be safest to release the badger in the early hours of the morning. So rescuers Trevor, Ellie and Victoria all met at 1am and drove the 15 minutes journey to Uckfield for the release. "Badgers are very territorial so we can't just move them into the countryside and release them. Doing so could cause the local territory of badgers to seriously injure or kill the stranger. Releasing where found is always best" said Trevor.

The badger was placed at the side of the road and given a few minutes to get its bearings before being released.

"He shot off like a rocket, clearly knew where he was and we were pleased he didn't run off along the main road. We hope he stays safe" said Trevor.

## ***Difficult Deer Rescue at Hadlow Down***

Rescuers were called out to a Fallow Buck with an antler entangled in rope in February. Although the rescuers have dealt with these types of rescues before, this one was more challenging due to the vegetation and branches surrounding the deer, making the approach and its capture much more difficult and dangerous.

A specialist net called a “walk-towards” net was erected around one side to try and restrict the deer’s movement but rescuers were not sure the net was going to be much use on this occasion. These nets are normally used to entangle and gain better control over the deer during capture.

“We thought we might have to do a ‘leg-grab’ to pull the deer to the floor in order to gain control, but luckily the deer tripped up landing on the ground giving Chris an opportunity to jump onto the shoulders and pin the deer to the floor. I quickly joined him taking control of the deer, leaving Kathy to start cutting the rope” said Trevor Weeks.

On this occasion the quick and efficient work of the rescuers meant the whole episode took no more than 4 minutes.

“We were very lucky that there was only a small amount of rope entangled on the antler. But where it had twisted round and round it made it very difficult to cut through” said Kathy.

“Once untangled, it was time to release the deer. This can be just as dangerous as the capture if you don’t know what you are doing and don’t communicate with your fellow rescuers. As I was on its shoulders it came down to me to control the release. Kathy stood clear, and after deciding which way Trevor and I were going to move, it was a case of 3,2,1 and release. I’m glad Trevor didn’t have to move out the way too far as his wellington boot became stuck in the mud so he had to leave that behind” said Chris Riddington.

The deer ran off across the field through the hedge and into a woodland where it quickly disappeared.





## ***Grebe Rescue at Princes Park Eastbourne.***

Rescuers were called to reports of a grebe struggling at Crumbles Pond, Princes Park in Eastbourne just after 6pm on 3rd April. It was reportedly struggling to stay afloat.

WRAS's Casualty Manager Chris Riddington headed there, but due to the urgency also contacted rescuer Laura Carrick who lives closer in Eastbourne.

She arrived and found the grebe who didn't look as bad as first feared. It was clear after observations, that there was something wrong and it needed to be caught.

Nets and poles were obtained from the ambulance and Chris and Laura attempted to catch the bird who was playing hard to get. They were then joined by rescuers Amelia, Andrew and Charlotte who helped keep the bird down one end of the outlet channel.

After a few attempts at capture the grebe was having none of it and swam off. With the outgoing tide the grebe was taken by surprise and began to be pulled towards the outlet which goes under the road out to the beach. Rescuers saw it struggling but couldn't get to the poor bird before it disappeared behind the grill and under the road and beach. Fearing the worse rescuers were upset to hear her shouting in the tunnel being pulled out to sea. Chris went to the bank close to the metal grill and was relieved to see she wasn't too far in but then realised she was struggling, trying to get back through. The Grebe had got her head stuck in the water, caught up in litter and debris. He quickly jumped into the water and put his hand through the grill and managed to secure and free the poor bird.

The Grebe was passed up to rescuers and then driven back to WRAS's Casualty Centre.

On arrival it was assessed and a puncture wound was found. She has also plucked a large amount of feathers causing her to be waterlogged and freezing cold. In addition she was quite underweight with some injuries to it's beak.

The bird stayed at WRAS's Casualty Centre but is expected to be transported to the RSPCA Mallydams Wood Centre for the use of their specialist waterbird facilities.

## **Kingfisher Release on River Uck**

This kingfisher was admitted as a likely window strike in April. Our Care Team were concerned about neurological signs and spoke to Caroline at Vale Wildlife Rescue for advice.

Following that advice the kingfisher was given a lovely recipe of sprats, special cat food, vitamins and rehydration fluid which was blended together. Our care team monitored him closely and tube fed the small bird to keep him hydrated and up to weight.

After some rest and some time his neurological symptoms had gone and he began to perch and took food really well. Due to how stressed they get in captivity it's important to try and get them home as soon as possible. This is one beautiful and very



## **Muddy Bunny Admitted.**

This adorable albeit muddy bunny was admitted to WRAS in April after being found laying in a road at Broadoak near Heathfield. Orphan Team Leader Katie has taken him in and cleaned him up using a small brush, which he clearly enjoyed! He is now being hand reared by our Orphan Team.



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## ***First Fox & Badger Cubs of 2018.***

This little fox cub was rescued in Hastings on 25th March after being found cold and hungry on a lawn. Rescuers Chris and Katie tried to reunite the cub with its mum sitting up till 3am that night but there was no sign of her. WRAS's Orphan Team Leader Katie is now hand rearing it. We look forward to him returning to the wild in September.

This baby badger was found in woodland just off the Cuckoo Trail near Hailsham. After being gently warmed up, Badger Cub expert Annette Risley at Folly Wildlife Rescue was contacted and the cub transferred to them for specialist care.

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## ***Dog Attacked Hedgehogs.***

Every year we deal with dozens of hedgehogs picked up and injured by dogs. We also get many others which are picked up and not injured but blood seen has been from the dogs mouth not the hedgehog. Often adult hedgehogs will be sufficiently protected by their spines but sick or young hedgehogs may be killed or seriously injured.

We often get asked to remove hedgehogs from gardens or asked not to return them because people are worried about dogs attacking hedgehogs.

You might think the sensible answer is to block off your garden and stop hedgehogs from entering, but a major contributing factor in the decline in hedgehogs is how hard it is for hedgehogs to get around and blocking up garden fences can wipe out entire communities of hedgehogs.

Should you take them elsewhere and release them? Dumping any wild animals into an environment it doesn't know could be an offence. This is a high risk as the wild animal won't know the local hazards, food sources, water sources or places to bed down, nor the other local wildlife too. Releasing a wild animal into an unknown area should only be done via a "soft release" to ensure they get acclimatised and are supportively fed as they get used to the new area. This reduces the risk but doesn't remove it completely. Releasing hedgehogs into an area where they don't currently exist is also frowned on by many including WRAS. It can be very difficult to establish why there are no hedgehogs in an area. If there aren't any something has to have killed them off or stopped them from reproducing so releasing a hedgehog in such an area is likely to result in its death or inability to reproduce and again could be an offence under the animal welfare act, and certainly would not meet the requirements of the five freedoms.

So what is the answer?

The answer is simply but not easy. If you know your dog is prone to attacking hedgehogs then try to warn hedgehogs visiting your garden when the dog is being let out. This is best done by using an outside light. Turn it on a minute or so before letting the dog out. You need to teach the hedgehogs that when the light turns on your dog is going out so initially take your dog out on a lead to prevent any injuries. You may need to do this for a couple of weeks.

However for the dog's final patrol of the evening consider putting your dog on its lead, putting a muzzle on the dog or supervising the trip into the garden to prevent any attacks.

Some people have fenced off sections of their garden where they know hedgehogs frequent so their dog can't get to the hedgehogs in the first place. Hedgehogs often have a routine, and will visit at certain times, so if you can work out a pattern, try to keep your dog in at those particular times.



## **WRAS Displays 2018:**

We will be at a number of events this summer with either our gazebo or educational trailer. So please pop along and say hello and help support our work.

- 5th May - **Bishopstone** Village May Fair by the Village Church. 12noon till 4pm.
- 19 & 20th May - **Herstmonceux** Castle Connections Event 10am till 4pm.
- 2nd June - Wild About Mid-Sussex 10am-4pm St. John's Park, **Burgess Hill**. RH15 8HL.
- 3rd June - **Uckfield** Lions Big Fun Day, 12:30pm till 4pm Luxford Field Uckfield. TN22 1AR.
- 15th June - **Jevington** Village Fair—watch our facebook page for more info.
- 23rd June - **East Dean** Village Fair 12noon till 4.30pm at The Greensward, BN20 0HX
- 7th July - Ratton School **Eastbourne** Community Arts Festival. BN21 2XR.
- 28th & 29th July - Lammas Festival , Western Lawns **Eastbourne**. BN21 4EH
- 11th August - **Framfield** Village Show. Framfield Memorial Hall and Recreation Ground TN22 5NR - From 12.30pm .
- 1st September - Stix Summer Madness, Shinewater Park, **Eastbourne**.

There are other events in the pipeline too, so please keep an eye on our facebook page and twitter too. [www.facebook.com/wildlifeambulance/](http://www.facebook.com/wildlifeambulance/) or <https://twitter.com/eastsussexwras>

## **Love Birds Cause Traffic Chaos.**

WRAS received numerous calls from motorists and members of the public as well as one from Sussex Police and Companion Care Vets.

The swans were wandering on the grass verge at the Office Outlet next to the busy Seaside / Lottbridge Drove roundabout . Rescuer Tony Neads from Polegate was on site within 15 minutes of the first call and collected one swan which had



been taken to Companion Care Vets due to a leg injury and then diverted straight to the second swan which was quickly rescued and loaded on board his ambulance after being looked after by members of the public and local Police Officers.

At WRAS's Casualty Centre, both swans were checked over by Casualty Manager Chris Riddington. "The swan from Companion Care Vets had a deep cut to its leg, which needed suturing and bandaging up. However we noticed that both swans seem very settled and started forming the classic heart shape with their heads and necks as well as chatting to each other like a pair of swans will. As they appeared to be a couple they were kept together whilst the wound on the one swan recovers" said Chris.

17 The swans were returned to Princes Park lake about a week later.

## ***First Duckling Call of Spring.***

WRAS rescuers rushed out after reports of an orphaned duckling sat by a pond in Uckfield. On arrival they found the callers standing next to the pond keeping guard to prevent cats from catching it.

The callers were extremely embarrassed when rescuers told them it was a resin model of a duckling!

Everyone saw the funny side of the situation and the caller believe their son may have placed it there on Mothers Day.



## ***Chimney Rescue in Herstmonceux.***

WRAS were called to reports of a trapped bird in a chimney on 24th March, at a house in Herstmonceux. Rescuers Chloe and Stacey attended shortly after 6pm. They were greeted with quite a small vent to attempt to rescue the bird from.

Using a small camera they could just about see the jackdaw sitting on a ledge quite high up in the chimney, but it was out of reach. They used a flexible tube to try and dislodge the trapped bird but sadly he wasn't budging. Rescue co-ordinator Chris was called in to assist and after many more failed attempts, a builder was called in.

The builder had his work cut out as the walls were quite tough to get through and the bird was still proving difficult to reach.

Over 4 hours later, Chris managed to reach in and dislodge the bird and grab it as it tried to flap around. After a quick examination it was taken back to WRAS's hospital to recover. The following day the jackdaw was returned to Herstmonceux with a stern warning not to do it again.

Thank you so much to the caller for being so patient with us and allowing us to make so much noise and mess.





Rescuers Hannah and Nathan with the rescued swan.

## ***Tackled Langney Pond Swan Rescued.***

Members of the public called out WRAS just before 4pm on Sunday 25th of March after noticing a swan with weights hanging from its beak.

A team of rescuers attended and on arrival they found the RSPCA were already there trying to catch the swan but due to a crowd they hadn't been successful. WRAS rescuers offered to continue to wait and to monitor the swan as the RSPCA inspector was inundated with calls. The swan was with a partner, and they were very wary about being caught. Rescue Co-ordinator Chris Riddington slowly built up trust with the swan and carefully approached offering food. Gradually Chris and the swan were getting closer and closer. Choosing his moment carefully, whilst the swan was concentrating on food, Chris took the opportunity to grab the swan and carefully lift the bird out of the water. Rescuer Hannah Stainton helped gain control of the swan and it was quickly secured and assessed.

WRAS's vet Mike was contacted and the line and hook surgically removed in the safety of WRAS's Casualty Centre.

The swan was bedded down for 24 hours and released the following day after a check up.

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# 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.

**Charity Shop:** 192 Terminus Road, Eastbourne, BN21 3BB.

**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

**Vets:** Simon Harris BVSc Cert VR, MRCVS. Dr Chris Hall BVSc, MRCVS, Mike Symons BVSc MRCVS, Sophie Common BVetMed 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:** Chris 01825-873003

chris@eastsussexwras.org.uk

**Charity Shop:** 01323-643111

## 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 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](http://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.

21 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 (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 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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AIR CONDITIONING  
& HEAT PUMPS

Aspen Air Conditioning &  
Heat Pumps is proud to  
support East Sussex Wildlife  
Rescue & Ambulance



**ASPEN**  
AIR CONDITIONING  
& HEAT PUMPS

**Ark®**  
**Wildlife**

*for a garden full of life™*

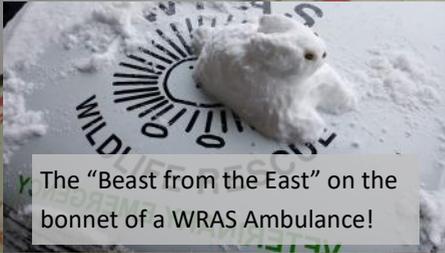
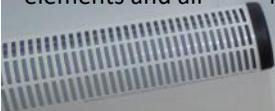
Ark Wildlife are suppliers of high quality food for a wide variety of wildlife. They also sell habitats for wildlife like hedgehog houses and bird boxes, as well as wild flower seeds and gift cards, toys and more. You can contact them on 0800 085 4865 or via [www.arkwildlife.co.uk/Agent/0/WRAS.html](http://www.arkwildlife.co.uk/Agent/0/WRAS.html). When phoning don't forget to mention East Sussex Wildlife Rescue as they will give us a donation if you do!

## **No Stopping WRAS During February Snow.**

Whilst schools closed, trains and planes were cancelled, WRAS's ambulances were out there working hard to look after our wildlife. Staff slept in their offices to ensure the casualties were looked after properly.

WRAS saw a variety of wildlife dealt with over the freezing cold spell. This included a catted thrush, a fox suffering from mange and a hedgehog licking at some frozen ice in Priory Road Eastbourne.

The hedgehogs at WRAS's Hedgehog Suite were well protected from the elements and all hibernated successfully. Kathy made sure they were all cleaned, had fresh food if necessary and had plenty of bedding every day.



The "Beast from the East" on the bonnet of a WRAS Ambulance!

## **Memory Tree.**

Every now and then we get a legacy or a donation in the post via a funeral director where money has been collected for our charity at a funeral instead of flowers or a collection has taken place. We find it really touching that at such a sad time people think highly enough of our humble charity to choose us to donate to.

We have wanted for a while to honour those people. So in our reception we now have a "Memory Tree" on the wall, where leaves are being placed to commemorate past lives.

We have already backdated a few leaves with names on and are more than happy for folk to visit and see the names in reception as a lasting memory, tribute and a thank you.

These donations are invaluable and make a huge difference in keeping our service on the road so this is the least we can do to say thank you and remember those who, like us, loved wildlife.



<http://wildlifeambulance.org/donate/memory-tree/>

## Swan Rescued After Hitting Power Cables.

A swan was extremely lucky not to be more seriously injured after it collided with power cables Close to Golden Jubilee way near Langney.

Rescuers Tony Neads and Chris Riddington attended on site after a passing motorist reported seeing the swan crash into the cables.

After a search we found the injured swan in a drainage dyke.

Working as a team Chris and Tony were able to catch the swan using a swan hook. The young bird was taken to WRAS's Casualty Centre where it was checked over and found to have only minor minors. After a few days of care it was taken to Princes Park in Eastbourne and released with the non-territorial flock of swans.



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](http://www.wildlifeambulance.org) Reg Charity 1108880