



EAST SUSSEX
WRAS
WILDLIFE RESCUE

The Rescuer

APRIL 2022 NEWSLETTER • REG CHARITY 1108880



EAST SUSSEX WILDLIFE RESCUE AMBULANCE
SERVICE

UNIT 2
THE SHAW BARN
WHITESMITH
EAST SUSSEX
BN8 6JD

24 HOUR RESCUE LINE: 0300-10-26-999

GENERAL ENQUIRIES: 01825-873003

[HTTPS://WILDLIFEAMBULANCE.ORG](https://wildlifeambulance.org)



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WRAS's mission is to save, care and protect our precious and endangered wildlife across East Sussex. Our vision is to be the leading provider of veterinary care and treatment to all wildlife in East Sussex.

Trevor's Editorial

This January saw me hit my half century, I'm now 50 years old and don't I feel every single day of it! Where has that gone. I can remember as a teenager thinking about where I might be in 2022 when I turned 50 and thinking "that is so far away" and I would never reach that! Well here I am. At least when I forget, drop, or misplace something I can blame it on my age now.



Trevor Weeks MBE, WRAS Founder & Operations Director

A huge thank you to everyone for my birthday wishes and it was so nice to hear from so many people who have been following and supporting me and WRAS from my origins back in the 1980s and 90s. My JustGiving and FaceBook birthday fundraising pages managed to raise a total of £1460 towards the expansion of our Orphan Rearing facilities and supplies for the imminent orphan season. It's so nice to be working with such a dedicated team of volunteers and staff. Seeing them on a day to day basis working so hard is a real inspiration so on days when things are tough and casualties you've rescued don't survive, I just look at everyone pitching in and helping each other as well as thinking about all the animals which we have managed to save and release back to the wild, and it gives you a real lift and sense of achievement. To have our volunteers and staff receive a Wealden Heroes Award from the local MP Nus Ghani was a real surprise and it was nice to hear some of the complimentary comments that had been made about the staff and volunteers by local Wealden residents. 2021 has been another busy year. Not as busy as 2020 when the first lock down sent casualty numbers sky high. As you will see from this edition of "The Rescuer" we have had an array of animals in and have been working very hard. A huge well done to all our staff and volunteers who helped out during Storm Eunice. With power cuts, phone lines down, generators running and emergency calls still to deal with, we coped quite well. The power held out till after our vet had finished anaesthetising the Laughton fox which needed work doing on one of its legs. Your support is still as vital as ever, we are working hard again and already January casualty figures are the highest we have ever had with at least 161 casualties dealt with. So will 2022 be another record year for WRAS? If you can spare a donation please do send it our way and if you haven't already set up a monthly standing order you could be a real life saver if you do. Just £1 a month can made a huge difference to us.

Wealden Heroes award presented to WRAS!



Wealden MP Nusrat Ghani, presenting the Wealden Heroes Award to Amy, Kathy, Trevor, Netta, Jo, Katey and Laura (Left to Right)

Nusrat Ghani, MP for Wealden, has crowned the East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service staff and volunteers as Wealden Heroes for their exceptional work helping people and the wildlife of East Sussex.

The East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service (WRAS) is a group of over 150 rescue volunteers, set up to provide a front-line rescue service for wildlife casualties. The casualty centre located in Whitesmith can accommodate up to 300 casualties at any one time and it stayed fully open and active throughout the pandemic, responding to countless rescue calls from the public and providing support to Wealden District.

Every year, WRAS' rescue line receives between 3-4,000 calls from the public and partner animal welfare organisations. 2020 saw the charity deal with over 5,100 casualties and despite the circumstances, the staff remained dedicated and worked countless hours which kept the hospital running and helped with responding to casualties, collecting them, and delivering them to the hospital. WRAS service is free of charge but the average cost of each a call-out is £85, which includes veterinary bills, food, bedding, caging, rescue equipment and other necessary expenses. All donations to help cover these costs are most welcome and WRAS also offers cage sponsorships. To find out more, visit www.wildlifeambulance.org.

To donate, please call 01825-873003, or visit our website. Every donation made will help a wildlife casualty in need. Thank you for your continued support, from everyone at WRAS.

Wealden Heroes award presented to WRAS!

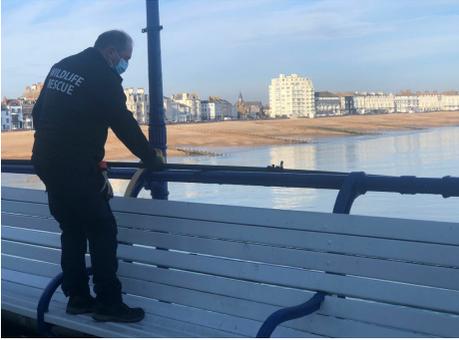


Nusrat Ghani said: "Many thanks and congratulations to the whole team of fantastic volunteers at WRAS! It was a pleasure to visit the site and see the incredible facilities we have in Whitesmith to care for injured wild animals. The centre cares for mammals including hedgehogs, badgers and foxes as well as all native British wild birds. Some of the animals that come into care include incidents of being entangled in plastic and rubbish, so I would like to urge Wealden residents to take greater care of our environment and wildlife and dispose of their rubbish appropriately." Trevor Weeks said: "Our volunteers and staff have work exceptionally hard over the last couple of years and Covid has proven very problematic trying to keep everyone safe and secure as well as trying to rescue the casualties."

WRAS stayed open and kept providing its front line rescue service for local wildlife in need throughout the pandemic. Without our staff, volunteers and donors, none of this would be possible. For our staff and volunteers to be recognised by the local community is great and it's giving everyone a buzz that their huge efforts over the last couple of years have not gone unnoticed".



Guillemot death due to discarded fishing line



Rescuer Keith Ring assesses the situation

WRAS volunteer rescuers were devastated after a seabird's injuries ended up being too severe! A black and white seabird was reported as being entangled in line towards the end of Eastbourne Pier on Monday 29th November 2021.

Rescuers Keith and Ches attended and found the bird to be a Guillemot. The bird, which people often mistake for a penguin, was caught by its wing part way along the line, quite a way from the pier but attached to one of the metal supports by fishing line.

"Our longest reach and rescue pole is 15 metres but this poor bird must have been at least 30 if not 40 metres away" said rescuer Keith Ring.

Rescuers were able to use their longest reach and rescue pole with a hook on the end to reach down and lift the line up to the rescuers at the top of the pier. They were then able to pull the bird closer to the pier where a net could then be used to lift the bird up to them and the line cut.

"There must have been at least 25 metres of line attached and trailing behind the guillemot, which was constantly trying to swim away and getting very tired in the process," said Ches Rogers.

Rescuers walked back to WRAS's waiting ambulance at the entrance to the pier before returning to WRAS's Casualty Centre at Whitesmith near Lewes.

On admission WRAS's vet Lourdes Cortes Saez examined the Guillemot and found fishing gear deeply embedded in the wing. A general anaesthetic had to be used so that an x-ray could be taken and the gear removed safely.

The bird was placed into one of WRAS's recovery incubators. Sadly and despite the Care Team's best efforts, the tightly applied line to the wing unfortunately proved to have fatal consequences for the poor bird.



The bird being treated by WRAS Vet, Lourdes



Guillemot in care at WRAS' casualty centre

WRAS' New Hospital Plans



East Sussex WRAS' casualty care centre in Whitesmith being opened in 2010 by Sarah Honeywell

As announced in our last newsletter, WRAS is needing to move to bigger and better premises. We would like to ask our supporters to keep an eye and ear open for any land and buildings for sale. Ideally we would like to buy somewhere where there is an investment opportunity like small rental units to help bring in some income to help us expand quicker. We hope the new site will allow us to build a new casualty centre with improved veterinary and rehabilitation facilities to improve the level of care and quantity of casualties we can take in each year. This all costs money and although we have managed to put aside funds over the last 5 years we need further funding to help with building costs and to purchase the extra equipment we need. If you are able to help offer land or would like to help donate towards our new hospital please have a look on our website www.wildlifeambulance.org/donate/hospital



24 hr RESCUE HOTLINE
Call us on 0300 10 26 999

East Sussex WRAS is changing its rescue line number to 0300-10-26-999. Over the next few months our branding and vehicles will all change to this new number. The old number will remain in place and be used by our Rescuers for a while to ensure no calls are missed during the cross over period. Calls to 0300 numbers are charged at the same rate as dialling 01 / 02 numbers. They can be included as part of free minutes bundles if you have these on your phone contract. Thank you to Core Telecom for providing this 0300 number to us completely free of charge and without any operating charges.

To donate, please call 01825-873003, or visit our website. Every donation made will help a wildlife casualty in need. Thank you for your continued support, from everyone at WRAS.

Amazing Buzzard Recovery



The Buzzard throughout his care at WRAS with a broken wing....

...what a recovery! This is exactly why we do what we do.



In November 2021, WRAS had this buzzard transferred into its care from Bexhill & Hastings Wildlife Rescue. They had rescued him near Heathfield where he was found by the side of the road, so we suspect he had been clipped by a car. Suffering from a broken wing as well as being almost half their normal body weight, WRAS's Care Team weren't sure if he was going to pull through. "We administered pain relief and antibiotics and started him on fluids to help get his system started again. His wing was stabilised to allow it to heal" explained Katie Nunn Nash, WRAS's Lead Casualty Manager.

"After a few weeks of tube feeding and fracture management, he was doing really well and we were able to remove the bandage. Within 30 minutes of his bandage being removed - and much to our surprise - he ate for himself for the first time!" From here he progressed from strength to strength and after some time outside building up his muscles (and remembering to roost up at night) we were pleased to release him home on New Years Eve.

Are you ready to book your next trip?



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Leaving WRAS a gift in your Will

Are you aware of what it would mean to leave East Sussex WRAS a gift in your Will?

Leaving a gift to East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service in your will is a way of leaving an expression of your passion and love for our local wildlife. Last year over 5,000 wildlife casualties were responded to by our small team of dedicated staff and volunteers. We anticipate that during 2022 the number of casualties will grow. Habitat degradation, pollution, disruption of ecosystem and climate change are all challenges that have an impact on the life and survival of our wildlife. East Sussex WRAS's work focuses on the rescue, care, rehabilitation and release of injured, lost, abandoned and displaced wildlife. Our work is totally dependent upon the generosity of our supporters, and gifts left in wills (legacies) are especially important. Your gift may be big or small but the impact creates the opportunity for our wildlife to have a second chance. Once you have looked after your loved ones please remember East Sussex WRAS in your will. Your action today will make a difference tomorrow. After the passing of the mother of one of our volunteers we were kindly donated £10,000 from money left in her will to help us replace one of our veterinary ambulances. We were able to acknowledge her support with an inscription on our ambulances saying "In Memory of Betty Arber". This simple act has had a huge knock on impact to our work. The ambulance has driven over 60,000 miles since it was purchased and helped rescue thousands of casualties. WRAS is currently raising money to purchase a property in order to construct a new hospital and rescue centre more suited to our needs than our current hospital. Legacies will play an important part in ensuring our ability to fulfil this project. A recent small legacy of £500 was sufficient for us to purchase some additional and replacement rescue equipment including some long poles and nets as well as a cage trap.

Make your Will For Good

WRAS has teamed up with Bequeathed, a free will-writing service. When you choose Bequeathed to make your will you get as much support as you need to complete their online will interview. Bequeathed then arrange a free 30 minute appointment with an accredited legal firm, which can be by phone or video call or in person. The firm advises you on your will and sends it to you to sign and have witnessed. There's no obligation to include a gift to WRAS in your free Will For Good, but we'd appreciate it if you would consider supporting our future work in this special way. Give yourself peace of mind, and get started on your will today. With East Sussex WRAS and Bequeathed, it's quick, efficient and free. Good for friends, good for family, and good for charities like ours.

For more information head to:

www.bequeathed.org/eastsussexwras



To donate, please call 01825-873003, or visit our website. Every donation made will help a wildlife casualty in need. Thank you for your continued support, from everyone at WRAS.

The dangers of discarded rope & netting



In late October last year, WRAS rescuers were called out to two deer tied together with blue rope. These rescues are extremely dangerous and problematic and you have to think fast on your feet. After breaking free from the tree, rescuers tracked the deer for about half a mile before they were able to secure them and release them after removing all of the rope.

We suspect that one of these deer may be the same deer we had received numerous calls about running around trailing blue rope in the Framfield area over the previous few weeks.

It is possible a well meaning member of the public has cut the deer free after seeing the deer thrashing around and out of desperation to help cut the rope free from a distance so the deer runs off trailing rope. The problem with that is these deer frequently re-entangle and often in



The dangers of discarded rope & netting

places where they are not found and after struggling and stressing themselves out they die. The best course of action anyone can take when finding a deer entangled is to leave the deer alone and back away and keep out of sight of the deer so it calms down, stops thrashing around and rests, then to call a rescue service for help like WRAS or the RSPCA. It is tempting to try wrestling deer and cut the rope from the antlers following seeing how WRAS rescue deer, but when our trained rescuers deal with deer they are not just securing them and cutting them free, they are checking them for signs or more serious problems and may have to administer medication or treatment which could involve a veterinary surgeon attending on site. Rope going around the mouth, throat or neck can cause pressure injuries which could be fatal after the deer is released. Even applying pressure to a deer's chest in the wrong way could prove fatal after release. There is also the safety of doing such rescues too, knowing the safe way to approach and handle deer to avoid serious or even potentially fatal injuries. Some deer can take 3 or more people to control. You may have heard us say on other rescues that there is a 30 minute window to cut a deer free or it runs the risk of having a heart attack. This 30 minutes is from the point in which rescuers secure the deer not from the point when the deer became entangled in the rope. This is why it is important for anyone who finds a deer to stay out of sight or the stress levels of the deer will raise to the point of a heart attack before rescuers arrive and greatly reduce the survival chances. The people who called us out to these two deer in Framfield did exactly what they should have done and stayed well out of the way across the other side of the field out of view of the deer and where they could not be heard. Well done on doing the right thing! For the sake of the deer please call a rescue organisation so the deer stands the best chance of survival after release.



***Rescuers
Ollie, Brian,
Keith and
Trevor
restrain
and cut free
two
distressed
deer.***

Boxed in Badger!



The badger fell down an embankment into a basement garden area in Hastings

Saturday 27th November WRAS received a call from Hastings after residents found a badger had fallen down an embankment into a basement garden area and was unable to get out again. The badger had already been there for a few days so needed to be rescued and returned home. These types of calls are quite common in the Hastings area and ones we get called to several times a year as they can be dangerous to handle and release again. Rescuers arrived on site and quickly found the rescue was not going to be as simple as they first thought as the badger was able to get through a hole in the retaining wall and inside some concrete blocks. The slightest movement from the rescuers and the badger would run off into the hollow concrete blocks. This made it impossible for rescuers to reach him. There was only one way this badger was going to get rescued and that was for a trap to be set. Traps can take days or weeks to work sometimes so rescuers were rather concerned. However within 90 minutes of the trap being set the badger went inside for the food. The badger turned out to be one of this year's juveniles who had just got into a bit of bother and needed a little help back up onto the banks above and to a near by sett. He was nice and healthy and alert and none the worse for his ordeal. It was already late in the day and there was a sett nearby so rescuers were able to pop him up on the banks and release him straight away. The badger shot off and quickly disappeared up the bank and into the undergrowth. To be reunited with his family.

Your support makes a huge difference to East Sussex Wildlife



Ellie and Karen providing care to a casualty

Your donations have helped us buy essential veterinary equipment like X-ray machines, processors and ultrasounds to ensure a quick and efficient diagnosis and fast treatment of casualties.

£25 DONATION CAN:
Fund essential food for the casualties in our care. (E.G. Lettuce, Kale, Cat Food, Bird Seed & Fish)



£60 DONATION CAN: fill up the tank of one of our ambulances to help provide our vital rescue service.



£5 MONTHLY DONATION CAN: provide medication and care for an oil covered bird.



DRIVEN BY VETERINARY SCIENCE

Our number one goal is to prevent suffering of wildlife. We have always been proud to work closely with wildlife-friendly vets and other specialists to ensure we provide professional help and assistance to all native wildlife, regardless of its conservation status

WRAS Talks are back!

After an 18 month break from undertaking talks due to covid-19, WRAS finally started booking talks in towards the end of last year. WRAS currently has the following presentations which can be undertaken at schools, colleges, universities and community groups:

The Work of East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service

This is a general PowerPoint presentation, using picture and videos, approximately one hour. The majority of the presentation is taken up by showing some of the casualties WRAS deals with and the situations which WRAS finds itself being called to, but it also gives some background on the charity, how it started, as well as how the organisation is run and funded. This presentation does not show any graphic images. This presentation is updated at least twice a year to ensure that photos and videos are up to date.

Hedgehog Awareness

This PowerPoint presentation which includes photos and videos, lasts about 1 hour. It looks specifically at hedgehogs, their ecology, where they live, population, myths, problems, hazards and what to do if you find a hedgehog and how you can help. This presentation does not show any graphic images.

Wildlife Rescue, Rehabilitation and Release

This PowerPoint presentation includes photos and video, can be edited to last from 60 minutes to 180 minutes. The presentation looks at the principles of Wildlife First Aid, the Production Line of Wildlife Rescue looking at everything from the initial phone call, site assessment, approach, methods of capture, hospitalisation, when to euthanase, methods of release as well as looking at various rescue situations and types of injuries dealt with. This presentation is aimed at colleges and universities and people studying animal or wildlife care courses. This presentation DOES include graphic images so is not suitable for those under 16.

Costs: Talks cost anything from £55 upwards depending on the length, type of presentation and location, plus 35p per mile travel expenses. We may ask for cheap accommodation for talks further afield outside of East Sussex, especially where an early start or late finish is required.

To Enquire or Book: If you are interested in booking a talk or presentation, please download a booking form from our website at <https://wildlifeambulance.org/talks/> or call phone 01825873003.

Trevor
*delivering a talk
with an
accompanying
powerpoint
presentation*



To donate, please call 01825-873003, or visit our website. Every donation made will help a wildlife casualty in need. Thank you for your continued support, from everyone at WRAS.

Pigeon Post by Kathy Martyn

At WRAS we often see birds being admitted covered in oil or other pollution. They are normally waterfowl like ducks, geese and swans or seabirds like guillemots and gulls. However, in January rescuers were called out to this poor pigeon found hiding under a pallet for over 24 hours. WRAS sent rescuers to the scene to investigate and found the pigeon was covered in some type of oil. Back at WRAS's centre, she was found to be in good health (other than the oil). The Care Team used fairy washing up liquid to bath her and remove the oil, which took several attempts and also stopped her ingesting any when preening. Having moved into an incubator to dry off, she took no time tucking into her seed. The pigeon is due to be released shortly.

Before....



The pigeon upon admission to the casualty centre...

After...



A few baths later and some time in the incubator, back to normal!

Fox caught in fencing near Laughton!



Katie assessing the fox



Volunteer Coordinator Ellie & Rescuer Sandra secure the fox

Rescuers rushed out to a fox with a rear leg caught in stock fencing near Laughton on Thursday 17th Feb. Rescuers Ellie Langridge and Sandra Furner attended on site and were able to secure the fox whilst working to free its twisted body and leg from the wire fence. After cutting a few strands of wire the fox was able to be lowered into a transportation cage. The fox was taken back to WRAS's Casualty Care Centre and checked over. Initially it was thought that the fox may have a dislocated leg, but an X-ray showed that not to be the case. The fox was given pain relief and bedded down for the night. The following morning the fox was anaesthetized so the rear leg could be better assessed and a wound sutured closed. The fox is currently recovering in care.



Duck Fat & Fractured Gull Recovers!

This lovely mallard got himself into a bit of trouble after getting covered in some sort of oil or lard. He was spotted in Uckfield after being left behind by all the other mallards when they flew off and still remained after a few days. "He was a very good patient. We used Fairy washing up liquid to clean his feathers and remove



the contamination to his feathers. Unfortunately this also removed the natural waterproofing on the feathers too. So he was given time to bath and preen to build up the natural oils again. We were really pleased we could return him to where he was found and release him again several weeks later" said Karen Francis Casualty Manager.



Having our x-ray facilities makes such a difference to the care we are able to give the casualties. This Herring Gull came into care found sitting in the road after (we assume) being hit by a car. It was clear she had a fracture to the end of her wing but one leg was swollen at the ankle and knee joint as well. An x-ray revealed a fracture that ran down the length of the bone between the swellings. We stabilised both fractures and after a period of time on reassessment were over the moon to find the fractures had healed beautifully. Once he was back up to full strength he was released near where found and quickly joined by a friend.

Badger rescued from Southern Water treatment tank in Uckfield

A badger had to be rescued from the bottom of a wastewater treatment tank on Monday 7th February 2022 after falling in overnight. The black and white nocturnal animal fell over 10ft down into the bottom of a, luckily empty, circular concrete treatment tank at Southern Water's treatment works in Uckfield. Staff on site discovered the badger around 9:30am and alerted WRAS who promptly sent experienced rescuers Trevor Weeks and Keith Ring. "These rescues can be difficult, and we were not quite sure what we were going to face when we arrived. The initial report was that the badger had shallow breathing and could have been in a bad way" said Keith. Once on site Southern Water staff provided a ladders for Keith and Trevor to climb down into the tank with rescue equipment. Keith used a bright yellow stretcher to help encourage the poorly sighted badger towards Trevor so that he could catch the animal in a net. Once caught the badger had to be secured into a transportation crate. "This is easier said than done as badgers are very strong animals. They don't have a scruff like foxes so can be difficult to control" said Trevor. Once in a cage, rescuers had



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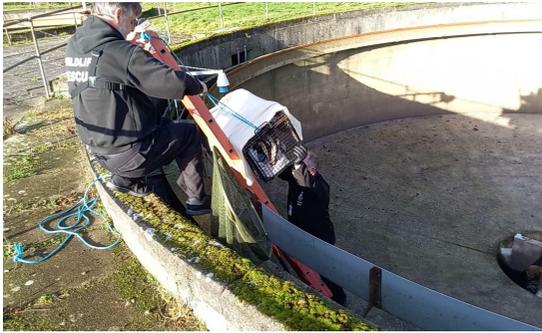
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Helping to support the wildlife of Sussex.

To donate, please call 01825-873003, or visit our website. Every donation made will help a wildlife casualty in need. Thank you for your continued support, from everyone at WRAS.

Badger rescued from Southern Water treatment tank in Uckfield

to lift the badger out of the tank to safety using a rope and the ladder. The badger was then transported in one of WRAS's veterinary ambulances to East Sussex WRAS's Casualty Centre down the road at Whitesmith, where it was checked over by their vet Lourdes Cortes Saez MRCVS. "The badger is in a good condition and clearly none the worse for his fall into the tank, so there is no reason for him to stay in care". Rescuers returned to the A22 next to the treatment works in Uckfield late Monday night to release the badger back into the wild. "The badger could have come from any direction and as we wouldn't want him being run over the safest place to release him was at the roadside where he can cross in a controlled manner and run off back into the wild" said Trevor. "A huge thank you to the helpful staff at Southern Water for noticing the badger and calling us in straight away. This badger was very lucky he was not seriously injured, but thanks to the quick actions of Southern Water and our rescuers we were able to ensure the badger's safe rescue and return to the wild" said Trevor. This is not the first time WRAS has been called to help wildlife escape from these tanks. Staff have twice called on WRAS's service to help swans and geese swimming in full tanks too.



Fundraising Thank You's

A big thank you to everyone who donated items via our Amazon Wish List over Christmas and into the New Year. Unfortunately the way Amazon Wishlists work, we don't always get to know who has sent us each item. So wanted to collectively thank all of you and knowledge your support. Anyone wanting to donate items via our wishlist can go to:
<https://amzn.eu/2g06g90>



Thank you to Suzanne F, Wendy P, Laura Y, Michelle G, Tracy-Ann K, Sarah A, Nigel R, Angel K, Sandra D, Belinda H, Sara L, Meg H, Jayden B, Francesca G and Carol M who set up fundraisers via our Facebook page and raised over £1039.00! If you would like to raise funds for East Sussex WRAS or set up a facebook birthday fundraiser just click on the fundraising link on our facebook page! We have also been presented with a couple of cheques. The first was for £500 from Waitrose & Partners from the "Give-a-little-love" campaign. The second was from the Crowborough and Hailsham Slimming World clubs who raised £1000 for WRAS. A huge thank you to both organisations! On our Just Giving Page we have received over £385 in anonymous donations - if you are one of them, then thank you very much! Other donations have been received from Monica H, Elizabeth B, Richard E, Francesca B, Stephen O, Ruby T, Oli B, Amanda S, Vanessa W, Alison J, Lily V, Michelle B, Roy E, Paul M, Dennis Q, Diana B, Barbara D, Janet A, Vanessa R and Catherine H totalling over £913.75. Did you know that you can also set up monthly recurring donations via Just Giving? We also have hundreds of other monthly standing order payments set up directly transferring money into our account. Too many to mention unfortunately, but they are all really appreciated! A big thank you to everyone who entered WRAS's Christmas Virtual Race! Especially young Jenson Miles (pictured) who raised an amazing £115 for WRAS for walking 2.5 miles! Thank you to everyone else who has helped raise money for WRAS recently, we are unable to mention everyone, but if you send us a photo we will always try our best to include as many as possible.



To donate, please call 01825-873003, or visit our website. Every donation made will help a wildlife casualty in need. Thank you for your continued support, from everyone at WRAS.

Lady returns home to find a Swan in her pond!

A lady in Sevenoaks Road Langney returned home to find a swan in her fish pond back in November last year. The lady called WRAS for advice and rescuer Keith Ring attended on site. where he found a juvenile Mute Swan swimming in this rather small fish pond. This particular area of Eastbourne is well known for swans crash landing. The wide variety of ground cover of houses, rivers, wetlands, grassland, and roads encourages turbulence. This time of year young swans are flying with L plates on and are not use to the turbulence and some times get caught out, causing them to crash land. "I doubt the swan landed in the garden because of the pond, but obviously thought it would make a nice temporary home whilst trying to figure out how to get out the garden" said Keith.



There are various reasons swans crash land. Although it used to be thought that swans crashed on roads due to them thinking they were rivers when wet, it's now known that they more frequently crash due to turbulence. There are other causes of swans crash landing which can include them being bitten by leaches around sensitive skin areas like their eyes or due to them already having an underlying health condition making them weak. The young swan was checked over, was a good weight, and had no injuries so was released at the nearby Princes Park. We would urge anyone who sees a swan crash to seek advice and not to just pick the swan up and release it on a near by water source. Being 8-12kg in weight they can suffer internal injuires and can be territorial, so please seek advice first.

To donate, please call 01825-873003, or visit our website. Every donation made will help a wildlife casualty in need. Thank you for your continued support, from everyone at WRAS.

Toad & Newt drain rescue in Seaford



WRAS received an unusual call from a member of the public after they noticed something moving down a drain in Firle Road Seaford. Unable to lift the drain cover WRAS rescuers were called out. Using WRAS' drain tools they were able to lift the drain cover and rescue ten toads and a smooth newt down the bottom of the drain. It is likely that they had fallen down during their autumn migration back to their hibernation grounds in woods, gardens and hedgerows near by. All the amphibians were released unharmed.

Get your celebratory 25th year WRAS mug!

2021 and into 2022 is WRAS's 25th Year as a voluntary group. To help us celebrate this remarkable achievement we have some commemorative mugs for sale. They cost £5 each and are available from our Charity Shop at 192 Terminus Road Eastbourne, BN21 3BB, they can be order by phoning 01323643111 as well as from our Casualty Centre, Unit 2, The Shaw Barn, A22, Whitesmith, BN8 6JD or at our Ebay Shop.



To donate, please call 01825-873003, or visit our website. Every donation made will help a wildlife casualty in need. Thank you for your continued support, from everyone at WRAS.

Fallow Buck entangled in electric rope: released!



A lady discovered a Fallow Buck entangled in electric fencing on her property in Sandhill Lane, Bodle Street Green near Hailsham on Tuesday 15th Feb 2022. WRAS send two veterinary ambulances, including one of the technical rescue ambulances based at Whitesmith. Rescuers Trevor Weeks, Katie Nunn Nash, Keith Ring, Ellie Langridge and Andy May attended. "The deer was well entangled but luckily had been swinging round a tree which was restricting the distance in which the deer could move. The flat electric rope often use to divide horse fields into smaller paddocks was luckily turned off" explained Trevor. "Once the deer's movements have been restricted using the walk-towards net, Keith grabbed the antlers, Trevor grabbed the rear legs and once on the floor, Katie jumped onto the back and shoulders of the deer. This allowed Andy and Ellie to start working on removing the huge amount of rope attached to the antlers. "This rescue took just 8 minutes, which was quick. The deer then ran off strongly across the field and didn't look back" said Trevor.



To donate, please call 01825-873003, or visit our website. Every donation made will help a wildlife casualty in need. Thank you for your continued support, from everyone at WRAS.



Contact Us

East Sussex Wildlife Rescue & Ambulance Service (WRAS)
PO Box 2148, Seaford, East Sussex. BN25 9DE

Casualty Centre: Unit 2, The Shaw Barn, Whitesmith, BN8 6JD.
Registered Address: 8 Stour Close, Stone Cross, East Sussex. BN24 5QU.

Rescue Line: 07815-078234.

Non-emergency Line: 01825-873003 (9am till 6pm)

E-mail: hospital@eastsussexwras.org.uk

Website: www.wildlifeambulance.org

Volunteering & Student Work placements:
ellie@eastsussexwras.org.uk

To make a donation or enquire about a casualty please call: 01825-873003.

Reg Charity: 1108880
www.facebook.com/wildlifeambulance
www.instagram.com/eastsussexwras
www.youtube.com/user/eastsussexwras
www.twitter.com/eastsussexwras



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Thank you to Aspen and International Animal Rescue for their continued support.

EAST SUSSEX WILDLIFE RESCUE AMBULANCE SERVICE

UNIT 2
THE SHAW BARN
WHITESMITH
EAST SUSSEX
BN8 6JD

24 HOUR RESCUE LINE: 0300-10-26-999

GENERAL ENQUIRIES: 01825-873003

[HTTPS://WILDLIFEAMBULANCE.ORG](https://www.wildlifeambulance.org)

