

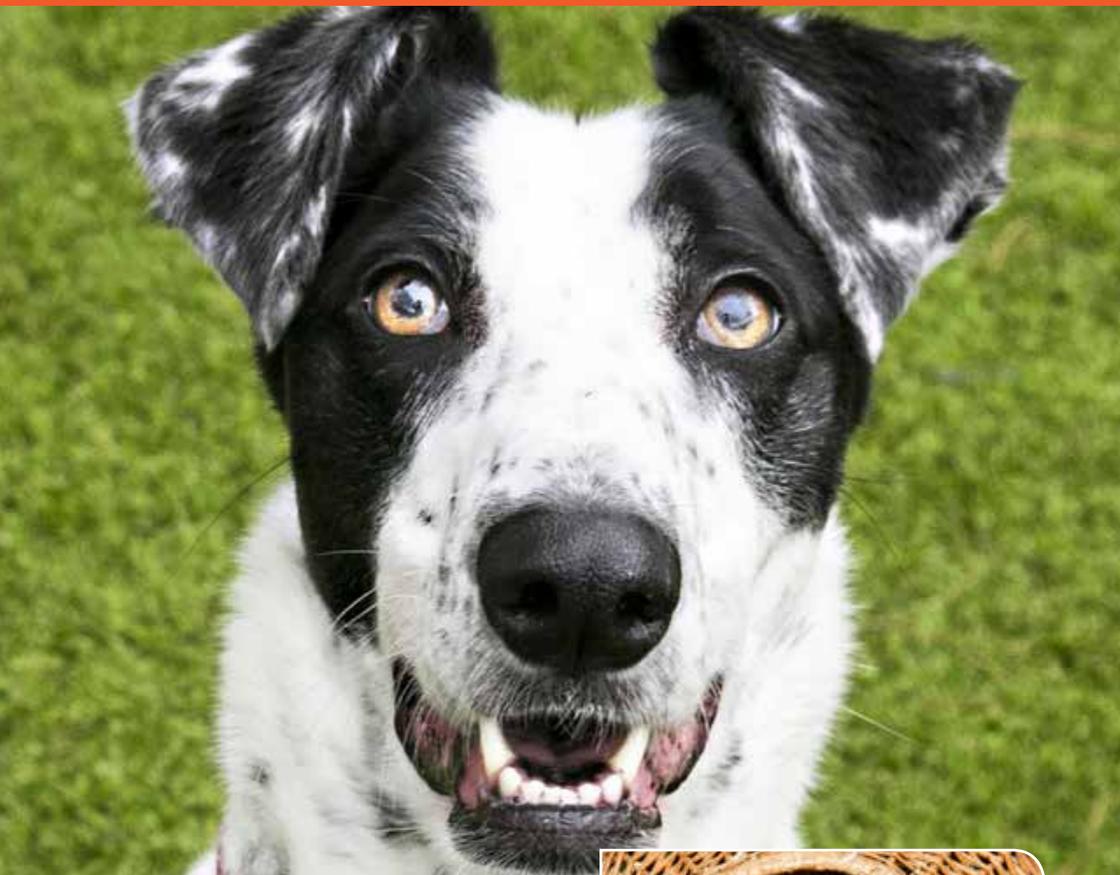


WYTHALL ANIMAL RESCUE

"A SECOND CHANCE OF LOVE" SINCE 1968

ISSUE 1

APRIL 2017



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- Why Adopt From Us?
- A Bunny is for Life

www.wythallanimalrescue.org





Our Patron

As this wonderful charity's proud Patron I am delighted to be welcoming you to this new look newsletter.

Like yourselves I have been a supporter of Wythall for many years and my family and I are huge dog lovers. I hail from the Midlands as you know, so this local charity has always had a place close to my heart.

It is a time of change here as we make new efforts to raise the money we need to be sustainable. We all have to adapt with the times and respond to our changing environment and the competition around us – something I know a lot about, making big decisions to change musical direction throughout my career with Black Sabbath and as a solo artist.

Some of you may be familiar with the lyrics of one of my songs “Changes” – “I’m going through changes...In love together we found a way”. That is what we are doing here at Wythall – finding a new way to go forward, with love at the centre of all we do to rescue, rehabilitate and rehome as many animals as we can.

Please keep supporting our charity in any way you can so we can give homeless, neglected and abused animals a second chance of love.

Many thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tony".

Notice anything different?

Our bold new look and the change of our name from “Sanctuary” to “Rescue” represents an exciting new chapter in the history of our charity.

We have evolved from humble beginnings when the animal loving Davies Family started taking strays into their home and garden back in 1968. As our operations have expanded over the years, along with the need to be licensed and regulated, our costs have escalated. To help us raise more money to continue operating, we knew we needed to reflect the professional operation we are today by updating our image to attract more support.

Our website has been running on steam for some time and our publications have not been professional enough to attract much needed advertising income so a new look was long overdue.

The new logo has been designed to simply symbolise love and home – what all of our animals need. For lovers of our traditional dog & cat figures, never fear they are still with us, we have just given them a bit of an upgrade and will feature in our “Now & Then” sections of this newsletter and website and on our Kids Club materials.

Why “Rescue” instead of “Sanctuary”? We thought long and hard about this. We will always be a Sanctuary for animals in need, that hasn't changed. However we rescue desperate animals every day from neglect and abuse. “Rescue” better

reflects what we do now and highlights the urgency and importance of our work.

Unfortunately we don't have enough money to re-brand everything at once (and are seeking sponsorship and grants to pay for new signs, new uniform for the staff etc) but this newsletter is our first step along the way and we are excited about launching our new website soon – a huge thanks to Glenn and Bryn at Hotlobster Design Ltd who are kindly giving us “charity rates”.

By our 50th Anniversary year in 2018 we aim to have everything updated and be looking and feeling good for some exciting celebrations and campaigns. We hope you will continue on this journey with us – we need you!

Now & Then

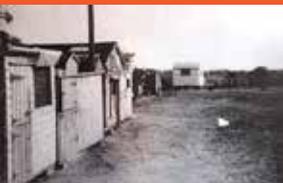
We are moving forward but will never forget our past, which has made us what we are today. So we thought we would have a regular trip down “memory lane” to remind ourselves how far we have come. We hope you enjoy reminiscing with us.



PAST



2017



Introducing Michelle Kimber

Michelle is one of our full time animal carers and has worked at the Rescue Centre for just over 3 years. Michelle mainly looks after our rescue dogs but the bird aviaries and ferret enclosures also come under her care. As well as caring for the



animals Michelle's duties include interviewing potential owners, carrying out home visits and vet visits with the animals under her care. At home Michelle has her own beloved cat Albus.

Michelle

says she enjoys every aspect of her job. Part of her responsibilities include our isolation kennels where new dogs are placed when they arrive at the Rescue Centre whilst they are assessed, neutered, vaccinated and receive their initial parasite treatment. Michelle tells us that she particularly enjoys this aspect of her work greeting the new dogs, getting to know them and getting them fit, well and settled in before they move on to different rehoming sections of the Rescue Centre.

Of all of the dogs in her regular care Michelle has a special fondness for Ronnie, a 14 year old Lakeland terrier cross, who is one of our long term occupants and is also featured in our sponsorship scheme. Amongst the newer dogs, Ella a German Shepherd cross who is currently looking for a home also has a special place in Michelle's affection.

Michelle has an obvious affinity with, and loves all of the animals in her care and they in return adore her.

Michelle has recently been appointed one of our duty managers so well done Michelle.

Introducing Darren Blick

Darren is a relatively new volunteer here. He says coming to the Rescue Centre gets him out of the house and meeting people.

Darren loves all types of animals and became a volunteer to help look after them and to gain experience as he



hopes to work with animals in the future.

At home Darren has a Springer Spaniel called Amber.

Darren helps by looking after the rescued rabbits and guinea pigs in Hazel House.

He is pictured

here with his favourite rescue rabbit Nova.

Become a Volunteer!

Love animals? Can you make a regular commitment on a weekly basis to work alongside our animal care team?

Duties are varied and include exercising, cleaning and feeding.

We need help in the office too!
Come and be part of our friendly team.

Call 01564 823288 and ask to speak to Ross or Fi.

Dogs



Ralph:
3 year old cross Husky.

Originally found as stray in terrible condition. Malnourished and suffering with a skin

infection. Now recovered fully vaccinated and looking for a home.



Tilly:
3 year old Jack Russell cross dachshund bitch.

Previous owners surrendered her because she did not get on with their new

puppy. Lovely lively girl neutered and vaccinated looking for a new home.

Cats



Benny:
Benny has come into the Rescue Centre as his owner could not care for him anymore. He can appear timid at first especially with new

people but once he knows you and he's having a fuss he's a totally different cat and his personality shines through. He is a very sweet boy who loves being fussed.



Marlin:
Marlin was found as a stray. He had been kindly fed by locals but they were unable to keep him as they had an elderly female cat. When he came into us he

had treatment for an abscess and also had to have the end of his tail amputated as it was badly damaged but he is now fully recovered and looking for a home of his own.

Rabbits



Munchkin:
Munchkin (Munchie) came into the Rescue Centre as unfortunately his owner was ill and could not look after him. He is quite a small friendly rabbit, and is easy to handle

due to his size. He is a small rabbit comparable to a netherland dwarf in size, so he would probably do well with a similarly small friend.



Cake:
Cake was brought in as the owners were moving and couldn't take any pets with them. He is a very fluffy rabbit who often needs a brush. Cake hasn't been

handled much in the past so is not used to people. Lived with older children. Neutered and vaccinated.



I cannot believe it is almost a year since we brought our mad puppy Dakota home! She has grown into a such a friendly , happy girl who wins hearts and makes friends wherever she goes. Thank you for letting us give her a home.

NICOLA REYNOLDS

Our white rabbit Fleur was in need of a friend to live with! So we decided to adopt Biscuit (renamed Freddie) who has settled in perfectly! They have become the best of friends and we couldn't be happier!

RACHAEL JANE



Hayden and Rossi 3 months after becoming part of the family and now ruling the roost.

JOHN READING



We think Velvet is happy in her new home.

CAT CLARKE



Just an update on Shadow. This is her in Wythall park finding every puddle possible. Shadow loves chasing the ball she is such a lovely natured.

KATHERYN HAMMOND



Adopt from us?



Adopt verb

to legally take another person's pet into your own family and take care of him or her as your own.

5 Great Reasons your next pet should be a Wythall Rescue

- They cost a lot less – our animals are vaccinated, neutered, dogs are micro-chipped and all of our animals come with a full health-check from the vets which can save you on many upfront costs of owning a new pet;
- If any animals do have health issues, you will have a full history and knowledge (not always the case with animals from breeders) ;
- Many of our dogs have been trained by our experienced, professional carers which will make it much easier for you to settle your new pet into your home;
- Our animals are so grateful for a second chance of love and will be your best friend forever, all they want is the love and care that they haven't had yet in their lives;
- Because you'll be a hero – everyone loves an under-dog story (even when it's a cat, or rabbit)!

Make the first move,
come and visit us soon!



Patient Pets

On our web site we have a Patient Pets Page which features some of our rescued animals that have been with us for a long time without finding a home.



Basil & Noggin

11 year old Norwegian Forest cats. These two golden oldies have come into us after their owner sadly went into hospital. They are both very friendly and affectionate boys who love to have a fuss and will dribble constantly when being fussed! Basil is the slightly more reserved one out of the two and can appear a little timid at first but that doesn't last long once he has a cuddle. They have both recently had big dentals and Basil has been diagnosed with bad arthritis in his hips and pelvis, he is on daily pain relief for this. They both need daily grooming which they both love and if anything, nothing relaxes them more than having a brush. We are looking for a very quiet home for them both with no children or other pets where they can be given lots of one on one attention. They are both neutered, fully vaccinated and have been blood tested for FIV and FeLV.



Shiva

Shiva, pronounced Sheeva, is a 12 year old large Labrador. She has been with us since 2015. Shiva was originally brought into the UK from Gibraltar with her family who then began to work long hours so could no longer keep her. She was initially adopted by a friend of the family, but their dog did not get along with Shiva and so she was surrendered into the Rescue Centre.

Shiva was adopted from us but it sadly it did not work out. Shiva is strong and confident and likes to think she's in charge. Her new owner will need to be able to be firm with her when needed. At the Rescue Centre Shiva does get along with older laid back dogs and could possibly live with another dog depending on a successful meeting. Shiva didn't get along with the cat in her previous home so wouldn't be able to go to a home with any cats. Shiva can be wary of strangers and protective of her home so we would like a home without young children. She would like her owner to be around for a large part of the day to give her the love, exercise and attention she craves. If you think you could offer Shiva a loving and quiet home please get in touch to find out more.

Joy at Christmas

Here is a familiar festive tale – a young heavily pregnant girl finds herself without shelter on Christmas Eve.



This beautiful young tabby female was abandoned at our gates on a cold winter night just two days before Christmas. She was only a baby herself and heavily pregnant. Luckily for her she was discovered at 10.30pm by Ross our assistant manager who lives on site so she did not have to spend the night out in the bitter cold and after some juggling in our cattery we were able to find a space for her. At least she was safe and had somewhere warm to have her babies. The beautiful tabby girl is very friendly and was wearing an old brown flea collar so we think she has been a pet.

Sadly the kitten who we Christened 'Joy' was not chipped.

Joy's story was featured on our Facebook page and lots of people were following her progress and were pleased to hear when her babies arrived safe and well. By the time the kittens were ready for adoption they had a list of people waiting to see them and were all reserved within a day of going on our web site.

Joy will now be taking a well-earned break from raising her babies and as soon as she is neutered and fully vaccinated will be looking for a new home herself.



Lady finds a Home

One small Jack Russell Terrier seeks loving home after 2 years in Rescue Centre. Owner comes forward. Love conquers all...



PICTURED, LADY WITH NEW OWNER EAMONN & ANIMAL CARER SARA HARRIS, SAYING A FOND FAREWELL

Lady was a little Jack Russell Terrier who came into our care back in October 2014 because her owner had become very ill and was unable to care for her. Lady was not an easy dog to rehome she was very unsure of strangers and could react by being vocal and snapping.

A lot of rescues would have given up on Lady but not us, she had a loving safe home with us for as long as it took to find her family and if that did not happen then she would always have a home with us.

With her carers she was a different dog once she knew you her true personality came through and we were desperate to find a new owner who would do this for her.

Finally last summer Lady was visited by Eamonn Young who lived in Devon and had seen her on one of our social media appeals.

Eamonn was the answer to our prayers; he was willing to make the journey up to Birmingham to visit Lady on regular occasions and spend time with her to get to know her and let her get to know him. In October 2016 the happy day came when Lady finally went home with Eamonn.

Our joy turned to fear when after only a few weeks in her fabulous new home a routine vet visit showed that Lady sadly had a tumour which did prove to be cancerous. After nearly two years in rescue was Lady's new life going to come to an end? No, because Eamonn was not ready to give up on Lady at all.

Finally last summer Lady was visited by Eamonn Young who lived in Devon and had seen her on one of our social media appeals.

With the help of Pet Plan, who offer an interim cover for all of our rescues who go to new homes, Eamonn is giving Lady all of the help she needs to beat the cancer and carry on enjoying life.

Eamonn keeps in regular touch and she is doing well. Her treatment is not making her poorly and the tumour is shrinking. Well done Lady and Eamonn, we love this happy ending.

A bunny is for life...

Easter is on the horizon and we cannot stress strongly enough that you encourage your family and friends NOT to give rabbits as Easter gifts.



The boys are now neutered and vaccinated and enjoying their surroundings in our recently refurbished Hazel House whilst they await a new home.

There are currently over 5000 rabbits in rescue throughout this country, and countless others living sad lives in inappropriate housing at the bottom of gardens because the child owner has lost interest.

Sadly rabbits are still only too easily available to purchase as impulse buys but many end up abandoned or surrendered to the already overburdened rescues like ourselves.

We have an alternative bunny related Easter gift idea for you. Why not give your friend a 12 month subscription to our sponsorship scheme where they can sponsor Hazel House which houses all of our rescued rabbits and guinea pigs. In our Junior Sponsorship Scheme aimed at those under 16 year old they can sponsor a rescue hutch inside Hazel House and be kept updated on the rescued rabbit currently residing there. See our web site for full details.

To paraphrase a famous logo 'A bunny is for life... Not just for Easter!'

These three young boys were recently brought into our care after being abandoned overnight in a box in a local park. We were the third rescue the lady who found them had tried and only we were willing to take them in. The box had got soaked from the morning rain and it was fortunate that the boys had not escaped as they would not have survived left trying to fend for themselves.

Rescue Centre gets a Prestige photo shoot!



Recently our friends from Prestige Photography visited the Rescue Centre to take photos free of charge for our new look website which we will be launching soon.

Amber Edgington, Studio Manager, was accompanied by her colleague Hope and they spent an afternoon here photographing dogs, cats, rabbits, guinea pigs and even some resident ponies along with some of our animal carers.

They gamely converted our socialisation room into a temporary studio and also toured the site taking photos to give us a whole range of top quality images to use.

Trevor Corless who you may remember is fostering Bailey the springer spaniel from us came along to have his and of course Bailey's photo taken by the team..

Bailey has cancer and Trevor and his family have given him a lovely forever foster home whilst we oversee all of his health care which means we get to keep in touch with Bailey and see how well he is doing. Which at the moment is amazingly well.

The Prestige Photography team specialise in family photo shoots with animals so get in touch to book in your bundle of fur!
www.prestigephotography.co.uk
Tel 0121 733 6303



“They gamely converted our socialisation room into a temporary studio...”



Reception becomes a haven with facelift...



Can we say a BIG thank you to our friends from the LEAR Corporation Redditch for lending us a hand this week by redecorating Dog Kennels, Staff Room and Reception. They did a great job and it looks 100% better. Here at the Rescue Centre we are so busy looking after our animals we forget to look after ourselves and so we are thrilled to have things brightened up. Eva Kelly who works for LEAR Corporation Redditch, had her dog Seamus from us, kindly put our name forward to receive funding and help from these guys.

KELLY'S K9 KUTZ
PROFESSIONAL DOG GROOMING IN EARLSWOOD
A CUT ABOVE THE REST
01564 703 626

“

We have taken our dogs Buddy & Blue to Kelly for many years. She is always very welcoming and does a great job for a good price and puts dogs at ease. I wouldn't go anywhere else.

Adrian Battersby, Adopter from Wythall Animal Sanctuary.

”

New injection of life to help Fundraising

Our fundraisers have a busy year of fun activities planned to raise much needed funds to keep our doors open to all of the animals that need our help.

Unfortunately our operation costs have been exceeding our income for quite some time but with a great team of enthusiastic staff and volunteers 2017 will see the fundraising tides change! Fi Harrison is our new Fundraising & Communications Manager and brings a wealth of experience from her many years as a senior fundraiser for charities such as Save the Children and The National Trust, specialising in business partnerships and digital campaigns. Becky Priest is a fantastic community fundraiser with lots of event organisational experience as a Guide leader. Dot and Lena, pictured here give up their evenings and weekends regularly, running stalls and attending events as volunteers along with Pam and Lynn Fowler who have done so for many years. Without our amazing, loyal volunteers we would be lost. We have set some ambitious targets for 2017 and 2018, the first of which is raising money to extend our isolation block facilities so we can increase the number of dogs we are able to accept.



Here are some of the events to look out for this year - please come and support us:

Events Calendar.

Some of the events that we will be holding or attending:

- February Quiz Night Raised £200
- 80s, 90s & Now Disco Night - 26th May Wythall British Legion Club, Houndsfield Lane
- Packhorse Pub Family Day - May Date TBC
- Table top sale St Laurence Church Northfield Birmingham - 29th April
- Table top sale - 13th May Hamstead House, West Heath, Birmingham.
- Bourneville Festival - 24th June Bourneville Village Green
- Wythall & Hollywood Fun Run - 25th June Wythall Park, Silver Street, Wythall
- Table top sale - 9th July Beoley Village Hall, Beoley, Worcs.
- Melvyn Danes Family Fun Day & Dog Show - 15th July Wythall Park, Silver Street, Wythall. Set to be bigger and better than ever. A fantastic day out for all of the family, including the ones with wagging tails!
- Animals Are Magic - 16th July The Jinny Ring Craft Centre, Hanbury Near Bromsgrove.



**WYTHALL
ANIMAL RESCUE**
"A SECOND CHANCE OF LOVE" SINCE 1968

We would like to thank...

We would like to give a HUGE thank you to the following for all of their support in the first quarter of 2017.

- Prestige Photography - Thank you Amber and Hope for our Fabulous Free photoshoot
- The Awesome Team from LEAR Corporation Redditch - for repainting our offices!
- Waitrose Solihull - Thank you Waitrose customers for voting for us and thank you Waitrose for our £400 cheque!
- Co-op stores in Yardley Wood, Earlswood and Studley.
- Sainsburys, Maypole - thank you for all of your support, we are so lucky to be your charity of the year! Thank you Sainsbury's customers for your very kind food donations
- Becketts Farm - free use of meeting room.
- PetPlan.
- Fish4Dogs - for all of the goodies.
- Melvyn Danes - a huge thank you to Pat Gilbert & Dawn at the Wythall office and to the man himself, Melvyn for agreeing to sponsor our Family Fun Day & Dog Show in July.
- Hotlobster Design Ltd.
- Packhorse Pub - free use of meeting room
- Wythall Community Choir - for choosing us as one of their charities of the year.
- Trident Social Investment - thank you to Gemma and team for all of your great fundraising for us as your charity of the year - Awesome Quiz Night!
- Lloyds Bank - brilliant customer service.

Finally, thank you to the families of the amazing people who have so very kindly left us bequests in recent months. These gifts in wills make a huge impact and we are eternally grateful.



Please help!

Donate by Direct Debit

You won't even notice a few pounds going from your bank account each month, but regular donations to us mean the difference between being able to afford to look after another animal or not and we hate turning animals away! Please consider becoming a regular donor - if we have secure, regular income we can plan ahead and increase the number of animals we can help. If you pay tax we can claim back Gift Aid which will increase the amount we receive by 25% (paid by the government) and ask your employer if they do matched giving - which could double the good you do!



- £3 per month will pay for a new toy to love or blanket to cuddle for a traumatised animal;
- £7 per month will pay for a Kennel Cough vaccination for one dog;
- £10 per month will pay for flea and worm treatment for a rescued cat.;
- £50 per month will pay for a dog to be fed, exercised and sheltered for a month

To set up a standing order, please complete and return the enclosed form.

Donate Stuff

We always welcome donations for our lovely little charity shop in Cotteridge, run by the ever smiling Bev Moughtin and her lovely team of volunteers. Drop your bags in at our office on Middle Lane or at the shop 1857 Pershore Road, Cotteridge, Birmingham, B30 3DJ. Telephone 0121 439 8780.

If you have really good stuff and are feeling generous we'd love to have great raffle prizes or auction items too.

Donate Yourself!

Volunteer your time - help us with the animals, help us in the office, help at the shop, raise some money for us by running, walking, doing something crazy or just having a fundraising coffee morning with friends! We love our volunteers and will make sure that volunteering for Wythall Animal Rescue is as rewarding an experience for you as it is for us.

**To volunteer call 01564 823288
and ask for Fi or Ross**



Boarding

Taking bookings now for Easter, long weekends and the Summer holidays – make sure you book early to avoid disappointment!

Each of our licensed boarding kennels has an indoor underfloor heated sleeping area or full size radiator connected via a hatch to their own run. Boarding dogs are exercised at least twice a day in our secure field and are cared for by our experienced and qualified kennel staff.

Dog boarding: £15 per day

**Individual Rabbits
& Guinea Pigs** £4 per day
(discounts for hutch sharing)



You do such a good job looking after Stanley, he loves the staff and I always feel reassured that he's being looked after.



All of the boarding income we raise is ploughed straight back into the charity to help the homeless animals that need our help. We are a not-for-profit organisation.

Quote from happy customer Suzanne Wyton owner of regular boarder Stanley, pictured left:

"You do such a good job looking after Stanley, he loves the staff and I always feel reassured that he's being looked after."

Sign off from the Trustees

2017 has already been a very busy and exciting year here at Wythall Animal Rescue, as we plan for new projects, move ahead on a new re-brand to update our image, and start preparing for our 50th Anniversary celebrations in 2018.



New to our team this year is an experienced fundraiser and marketer, Fi Harrison who will be launching priority appeals to raise funds for a number of projects including a much needed extension to our isolation block, so we can take in more animals and move them through our health checking processes more quickly. Fi is also helping to launch our new look website which will be much easier to use and will show case our lovely animals for adoption.

We are delighted to be welcoming some new faces to our Trustee Board in May as well, with specialist professional experience and knowledge to help guide and lead the charity as we enter our 50th year. Our Anniversary plans are well underway too and we look forward to sharing more news with you about them in the next edition of our newsletter.

Finally we hope you like the new look Newsletter, designed to bring you even more news and updates and we would like to thank our advertisers who have kindly supported this first edition.

Thank you everyone for your support as always. Be assured that every single penny is gratefully received and will be wisely spent. Please support us in any way you can.

The Trustees

Patricia Bernie | Stephanie Gill | Mohammed Mourad Hassan Labib
Ian Powleson | Michael Quinn | David Scott

Wythall Animal Rescue

Middle Lane | Kings Norton | Birmingham B38 0DU. 01564 823288

Or you can visit the Rescue Centre: 2pm to 4pm everyday (except Tuesdays when we're closed)
www.wythallanimalrescue.org email info@wythallanimalrescue.org

To receive updates from us by email about our animals and events please send us an email and we will add you to our database (we won't share it with anyone else without your permission!)



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