

Autumn/Winter Newsletter



WELCOME

RSPCA  NOTTINGHAM



Hello everyone!

We've had a busy few months with lots going on both locally and nationally. There's plenty changes afoot, or should that be 'apaw'?

You may have noticed a different look to this & our previous newsletters. RSPCA National rebranded back in April and we are following suit. There's advertisements promoting the new slogan 'For every kind' featuring singing animals of all species, including a little snail.

There's a change in logo too. The well known 'lozenge' has been with us since the 1970's and the previous brand colours were introduced in 2010. The 'drawing board' has been wiped clean and we now have a very bright palette and a capitalised logo of the societies acronym!

As mentioned, the rebrand was introduced in the Spring and as a branch we are replacing the old signage (at our office and shop) and redesigning the website to stay 'on brand'. It's a steady approach we are taking but that's always stood us in good stead in the past.

Changes at the National Control Centre and how the Inspectors & Animal Rescue officers now work have seen us adapting to new procedures on a local level.

We celebrated the 200th anniversary of the RSPCA in June with a lovely get together of supporters who've been with us for decades and also new faces who've joined us recently! There was lots of catching up and cake! So, we hope you enjoy our Autumn/Winter Catch Up and thank you for your ongoing support of your **local** RSPCA branch.



RSPCA 200

On the 15th June we had a fabulous get together here at Farrington Way to celebrate the 200th anniversary of the RSPCA. We wished say thank you to all the volunteers, staff and trustees who have played a MASSIVE part in branches history. Thank you to everyone who came along and enjoyed a trip down memory lane. As a branch we cover the city and parts of the county and assist Inspectors/ARO's as much as possible to reach as many animals in need living in Nottingham.

Without volunteers we simply couldn't function. **Thank you all again!**

PS Not to miss a fundraising opportunity our mini tombola raised £70! Our supporters really are the best.



New way to report cruelty and neglect – www.rspca.org.uk/reportaconcern

Another change that has been brought in is reporting animal cruelty via the National website as opposed to calling on the 0300 1234 999 number. There's lots of advice available online that we are sign posting people to. You can still get in touch with HQ via the 'contact tab' at the bottom of the website but neglect concerns should be sent via the above link.

Chief Inspector Becky Lowe—Annual report 2023 Notts/Lincs—in brief

NB We have not reported court cases as some readers find details of animal cruelty upsetting.

In April we said farewell to Inspector Laura Kirkham who left the Society after 17 years of service. She hasn't gone far though and is now working for Cats Protection dealing with welfare and I know some officers have already worked with her in her new role. Animal Rescue Officer Ian Callingham retired in Sep 2023 after 32 years and we wish him all the best in his retirement. Also in Sep, the training for the new ARO's commenced. We welcomed ARO Karen to the group in Feb 2024.

As of 2024 the team are as follows:

Chief Insp Becky Lowe
DCI Dan Bradshaw (Flood/Boat team)

ARO's

Dan Holman
Karen Nix
Kat Kellegher P/T ('X' Social media Officer/ Food bank Coordinator)
Paula Jones (Volunteer Coordinator/Wildlife Officer)

Inspectors

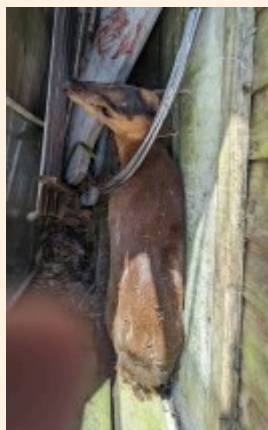
Andy Bostock P/T (Flood/Boat team)
Annette della-Porter P/T (Equine Officer)
Deb Scotcher (Flood/Boat team)
Kate Burris P/T (Boat team/Wildlife Officer)
Keith Ellis P/T

Laura Jones (Tutor Inspector)
Teresa Potter P/T (Training talks)

ARV's (Animal Rescue volunteers)

Lucy Steele
Andrea Williamson
Dan Goldsmith
Jayne Taplin
Yasmin Sharpe
Tanya Palmer

The society has broadened the range of scope for volunteers. ARVs are invaluable not only for wildlife but moving small domestic animals too.



Female Muntjac deer rescued by Insp Keith after becoming trapped between a greenhouse & fence in Nottm. Her heads at the top of the pic.



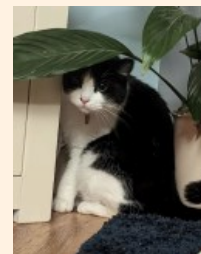
An exhausted calf found stuck in a bog in Nottingham. Rescued by Insp Annette with the help of Fire & Rescue.



Cat rescued from a roof in Nottm thanks to ARO Dan with Fire & Rescue.



DCI Dan was off duty when he came across what he thought was a dead cat at the side of the road. He pulled over to move the body when he realised the cat was alive and also chipped! Dan contacted the owner and got the cat to a vet, Dexter made a full recovery and Dan got to reunite with him in his families home!



Animals we have cared for Sep 23 to Sep 24

Dogs	Cats	Other	Total
4	227	25	256

Animals we have helped neuter Sep 23 to Sep 24

Dogs	Cats	Other	Total
67	66	7	140



XL bully type dogs—neutering help.

There's a couple of months left for those with younger exempt XL bully type dogs to apply for help with neutering. Owners of dogs who were between 7-12 months old at the end of Jan 2024 have until 31st Dec to neuter their pet. Any dog who was under 7mths at the end of Jan 2024 owners have until June 2025. We offer £100 off the cost at a vet. Ring 0115 7841110.

eBay & Retail update



We are approaching our first full year of trading on eBay and we are absolutely thrilled with what's been accomplished. At time of going to print we have made over

£20,000 and are heading for the busiest time in the retail

year! Kate our Ecommerce Manger has earned a 'Purple Star' - this award requires 500 positive eBay feedback scores and consistency in quality customer service! The Eastwood emporium, our charity shop on 58 Nottingham Road continues to be a hive of activity! Helen, Monika and the terrific volunteers are a great team. The shop is a little jewel and all staff work hard to keep it an attractive place to visit & grab a bargain or 2.

Neutering and microchipping vouchers are also available to the public over the counter at the shop.



**NATIONAL
FREE WILLS
NETWORK**

Free will writing service

People often put off making a will but the reality is it can be a great comfort and help to those left behind. Having your wishes stated means loved ones can arrange everything just as you wanted. Legacies are a large part of our income and without people kindly remembering us, we would not be able to continue our work.

As a branch we have been around over 140 years. The world has changed beyond recognition but sadly animal cruelty still occurs. At our core, our aim has remained the same, to treat animals here in Nottingham with the kindness and respect they deserve. That will never change.

The cost of having a will written is often a reason people give as putting them off the process. We have joined with **The National Free Wills Network** to offer a free will writing service over the next 3 months.

As mentioned, the service is free. There's also no obligation to remember the RSPCA Nottingham and Notts in your will.

However, if you wished to do so you can express where your gift is used. If you would like more information please email Jo at

jo@rspca-nottinghamandnotts.org.uk or ring 0115 7841110.

Naming us as a beneficiary means you will continue to help local animals when you are no longer here. You'll leave legacy that really will make a difference.

BEANS ADOPTED

Earlier in the year, Leicestershire Police raided a 'grow house' in a drugs bust. In amongst the chaos was a little ginger kitten who had been left behind. He was boarded for months until the Police were able to sign him over and this is how Beans came into our care!

Bright, playful and full of Beans (hence the name) this affectionate little tom had an awful start and we were determined to make his future a happy one.

The Bailey Oates family came to view Beans and spent some time getting to know him. Our adoption process focuses of conversation and is relaxed but thorough making sure all parties involved are happy and it's the best home for the animal involved.

Beans is pictured on our first page with his doppelganger cut out & we've received these pics recently. He is now going outside, has a passion for climbing and the family say 'We honestly think it's the best decision we've made and love having here!' Safe to say he has the family wrapped around his paw...just what we love to hear! We wish you a wonderful future Beans and thanks to the Bailey Oates for providing this for him!



Beans

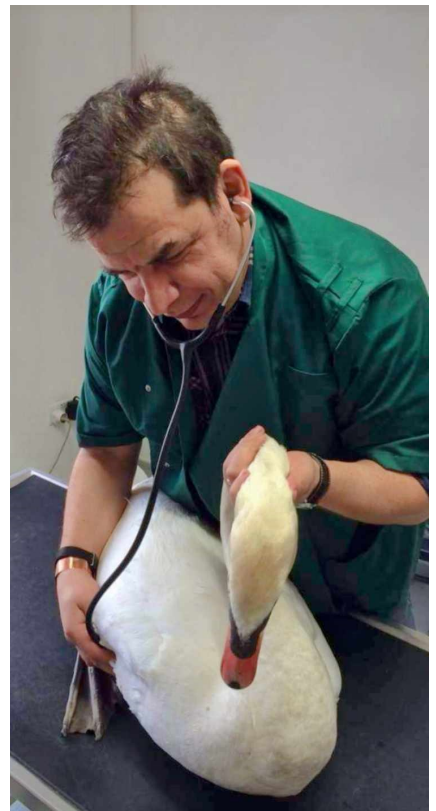


Thank you Ben!

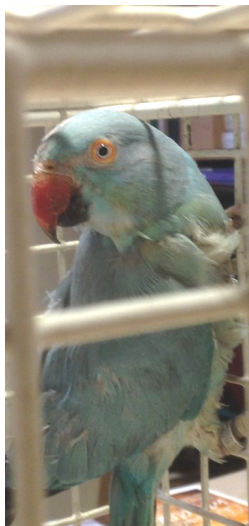


It's a well deserved retirement but we are all very sad that Ben Berlyne of Arnold and Carlton Vets is hanging up his stethoscope. Ben has been our Branch vet for many years, something that is not as easy as you'd perhaps assume. The nature of rescue work means for us that normal scheduled appointments don't work. An animal collected by the RSPCA often needs pain relief immediately and a diagnosis later. Ben would go the extra mile for us, staying open late, administering intensive care and above all providing continuity and compassion. He has a wide knowledge of various species including wildlife and has an interest and speciality in exotics and pet birds. Lola the parrot's welcome screech on entering the surgery could be more than disconcerting! Over the years Ben helped not just us but our officer colleagues with all manner of animals. He also assisted with tranquilising & darting larger species like deer when the need arose. Of course, Ben was ably assisted. Maz the practice vet nurse/receptionist often fielded our calls, making way for us to drop in with an injured or distressed animal at the drop of a hat, something we greatly appreciate.

Over the years, local Inspectors and officers would take case work to Arnold & Carlton meaning assessments were used when going to court. Ben's expertise has been used countless times to get justice for abused animals. Rescue veterinary medicine is very different from that of private clients. Resources are obviously not infinite as rescues are dealing with multiple animals unlike owned pets. Ben was always realistic and took into account that RSPCA animals needed to be well enough to find new homes. It's a vital part of animal rescue and having a vet who understands this is essential. Below are pictured some of the memorable patients we've sent Arnold and Carltons way over the years.



Postie parakeet was literally posted through our letterbox with severe injuries to his breast bone. Buddy the black kitten had to undergo an amputation. Sam the tarantula was abandoned in a vivarium in a public litter bin. Sid the snake was abandoned in the freezing cold. Bingo the dog was handed into branch as 'found' but actually belonged to the woman who alleged he was a stray. Kermit the tree frog hitched a ride from Costa Rica via Lidl's bananas! All of these animals were treated and cared for by Ben who's experience and knowledge covers so many species. Independent vet practices are few and far between in a corporate world, that's why Bens retirement is felt so keenly. It just remains to say, but to Ben have a long and happy retirement Mr Berlyne. Thank you SO much for all you have done over the years, there's not many like you left & we will miss you. However... you can still get your 'fix' of baby animals (Ben's kryptonite) as you will be a perfect fosterer! You can't escape that easy! Love from all at Nottingham and Notts x



POSTIE

BUDDY

SAM

SID

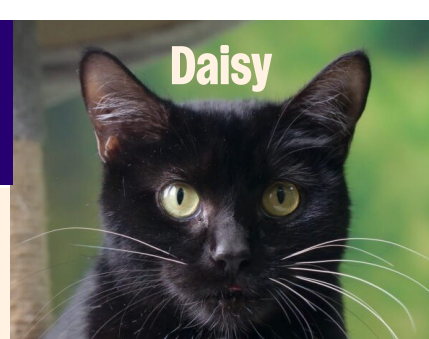
BINGO

KERMIT

Where it counts—welfare work

So far during 2024 we've had 177 animals come into our care. The majority of these are cats. Out of this number, there were 7 notable addresses. Why were these of particular note? Well, we removed 62 cats and 10 rabbits from just 7 properties. Multi animal houses (MAH) are one of the biggest problems we face due to several factors. The first being the volume. Rescue space is finite so when you have multiple animals to find room for it puts pressure on the whole system. There is some provision made for this nationally, to network throughout England and Wales. However, at busy times of the year, even these spaces are gone. Secondly, with the volume naturally comes increased risk of disease, parasite burdens and behavioural challenges. It's not often that a MAH has perfectly socialised healthy animals. Thirdly, you are often talking to distressed or upset owners/keepers who often don't see there is a problem. Lastly, you need people who can go into properties that are cramped, smelly to retrieve terrified animals who have known nothing else. Approaching MAH situations poses an initial challenge—access. The biggest single job we dealt with this year had 24 cats. There was communication difficulties with the owner & conditions inside were bad. Sadly, a kitten was deceased when we first were allowed inside and another was rushed to the vets but didn't make it. One thing that did go ours and the cats way was that they were all indoors and therefore parasite free. None were neutered, all were extremely nervous and hungry.

The owner, through incapacity, forgot to feed the cats. We were able to catch a few by placing food down & capturing them whilst distracted. However, this proved the exception to the majority rule. Most of the animals evaded us by getting behind and on top of kitchen units, into the back of sofas & even squashing under washing machines. Patience is key in these situations as well as persistence. There were 5 of us involved including Inspector Deb and ARO Dan. It took 4 visits to eventually get all the animals. A real team effort with branch, officers, Radcliffe, vets and boarding all involved. Each cat needed examining, flea & worm treatment and vaccinating. They were petrified, never experiencing anything but the house we removed them from. Cats are resourceful and adaptable animals and thankfully, aside from the 2 kittens who didn't make it, the other 22 did! Pictured top to bottom are Daisy, Bluebell, Violet and Angus—photographs thanks to RSPCA Radcliffe Animal Centre. As mentioned, the pressure the MAH's puts on self funding branches like us is huge. We cover a heavily populated area, Nottingham being amongst the largest cities in the UK. The Nottingham and Notts branch exists thanks to the kindness of our supporters. We couldn't reach as many animals like those featured without you. **With that in mind, we'd like to ask you to help us be there for animals living here in Nottingham now and in the future...**



Daisy



Bluebell



Violet



Angus



Daisy
the rabbit

Please, give what you can in the run up to Christmas!

You can donate safely and securely online by visiting

rspca-nottinghamandnotts.org.uk

You can sign up to Gift Aid there too which will make your donation go further if you are a UK Tax payer.

Or if you prefer, **send a cheque made payable** to RSPCA Nottingham and Notts Branch

The Kemp McAdam Building, 7 Farrington Way, Eastwood, Nottingham, NG16 3BF

By donating you will directly assist animals like Daisy the rabbit. Daisy was from a MAH and had been fed sausage rolls (you read that correctly) She is now happy and thankfully healthy, enjoying spacious accommodation & a diet suitable for rabbits!

