



**RAPTOR
RESCUE**
Registered Charity No. 283733

News Update

Issue 3 - 2006



The
Primrose
Trust



Thanks to the donation from the Primrose Trust we now have the new Raptor Rescue Information Pack and have launched the new website (see below).

The new pack along with the new website are helping to raise the profile of the charity. The new information pack contains 12 fact sheets packed with information on all aspects of Raptor Rescue.

NEW WEBSITE LAUNCHED

As part of bringing Raptor Rescue into the 21st Century and raising the profile of the Charity it was decided to revamp the website. The new site has been in production for several months and now thanks to all the hard work of 2nd concept design the New Raptor Rescue Website became live on Saturday 21st October.

Darren Smith of 2nd concept design held a number of meetings with the Trustees in order to get a feel for what was required. All the old information is still there but has now been re-categorised.

So what is new! We have done away with the FAQ page and introduced a new Forum. The Forum lies in the new Community page and we hope you will all sign up to it. This will give you the opportunity to talk with each other or any of the trustees to ask questions and get answers for those spearheading our vital work. Also on the community page there will be up-to-date news on the Charities fund raising events and activities you can get involved with. We will post these updates and newsletters once they have been circulated to all members. We will list our publications and how you can get hold of them and from this year will add our annual survey results so you can see how vital your work has been.



We have also introduced a children's page with a section to learn all about the differences between hawks, falcons and owls etc, a section for games and a page all about the children's page mascot Midas. Midas was Mick Cunningham's European Eagle Owl and I think you will all agree that Darren has done an excellent job creating the Midas character. We hope you like the new look site and will join up to the new Forum.

We would also welcome your thoughts on the site. Do you like it? Is there anything you would like us to add or remove? Please let us know, either use the Forum or drop us an e-mail at: info@raptorrescue.org.uk

The UK's leading specialist bird of prey rehabilitation organisation
National Help & Advice Line: 0870 241 0609 - Online www.raptorrescue.org.uk

The Raptor Rescue AGM took place on Sunday 22nd October.

The business side of the AGM included the Chairman's and Treasurers reports. This was followed by the election of Trustees whose term of office was up. The following elections took place:

Jane Hemingway – Stock Controller & Fundraiser.

Steve Davidson - vice Chairman & Newsletter Editor.

Carol Davidson – Treasurer.

Phil Poole – Sponsorship, Phil has also taken on the role of Membership Coordinator.

John Spibey has stood down as Trustee.

Andy Craven has been elected onto the Board of Trustees.

Ian Taylor has stood down as Secretary but remains as a Trustee.

Chris Shaw-Thomson has taken on the role as Secretary.

Dean Hemingway, Keith Woodhead and Malcolm Robbins remain in their respective positions.

A special vote of thanks was given to Ian Taylor for all his hard work as secretary. The vice Chairman also thanked the Chairman for all his hard work during the past 12 months.

Following the business, Katrina Sullivan from Reaseheath College gave an excellent illustrated talk on her overseas conservation work.

North West Bird Festival

As Part of the campaign to raise the awareness of RR, Steve and Carol Davidson attended the 2006 North West Bird Festival held at the Wildfowl & Wetlands Trust, Martin Mere reserve near Ormskirk on Saturday 18th & Sunday 19th November. This is the first time RR have attended a bird watchers fair and the response was fantastic. It is hoped to be able to attend more of these events next year in particular the three-day bird fair at Rutland Water.



Bird Flu

As we near the start of the flu season, the possibility of a bird flu pandemic is creeping back into the news. Guidelines from DEFRA issued earlier this year suggested that anyone attending an event where they took birds along should keep a record of what birds were taken.

Fundraiser Jane Hemingway, following the DEFRA guidelines kept a log of all the birds that were taken to fundraising events this year. Although no officials at an event asked to see the list, it is good practice to compile the list and have it with them.



Barn Owls

Britain's barn Owls have had the worst breeding season for more than 20 years. Records of dead and injured birds reported to the Barn Owl Trust for the period January to July 2006 have tripled in comparison with 2005.

Annual Survey

A total of 85 survey forms were sent out this year but to date only 29 have been returned.

The annual survey returns are an important part of what we do, they enable us to assess what impact our good work is having. It's a legal requirement that all rehabbers keep details of the birds they handle, it then only takes a half hour to complete the survey.

We ask that all rehabbers please fill in and return the survey from so we can quantify the good work we do.

HAVE YOUR SAY

If you have any news, bits of information or articles on raptors/rehabbing you would like to share, or comments on the Newsletter or Update, then please send to the editor Steve Davidson, 28 Victoria Road, Great Sankey, Warrington, WA5 2ST - Tel: 01925 726704 – steveandcarol.rr@btinternet.com

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