

# **News Update**

# **Rehabilitation Handbook and Code of Practice**

**June 2010** 

The newly revised handbook is now available in pdf format on the Raptor Rescue website by going to the 'Rehabilitation' page and clicking on the 'Rehabilitation Handbook and Code of Practice' button.

I would like to say a special thank you to Trustee Ian Taylor, who was asked to review the handbook to see if it needed any changes, that was over 12 months ago.

It turned into a mammoth task for Ian as changes in legislation had taken place, and to make matters worse, there were now three lots of legislation, those of Defra for England; and for the Scottish and Welsh Governments.

lan also worked hard in getting the handbook endorsed by the above along with the Scottish SPCA.





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For further information, advice or to book an appointment please contact us on 01565 654131

www.avianveterinaryservices.co.uk info@avianveterinaryservices.co.uk

Avian Veterinary Services, at Gauntlet Birds of Prey Centre, Manchester Road, Knutsford, Cheshire. WA16 0SX.





Rehabilitation Handbook Including the Code of Practice

The UK leading specialist Bird of Prey and Owl Rehabilitation Organisation



National Help & Advice Line: 0870 241 0609

Online: www.raptorrescue.org.uk

# **First Aid Course**

Richard Jones BVSc, MSc, MRCVS who has just opened a new avian veterinary service has agreed to provide Raptor Rescue members and rehabilitators with a first aid course.

The course will consist of both tutorial and practical sections.

If you are interested in attending the course please forward your name and contact details to:

steve.vulture@btinternet.com or telephone: 01925 726704 to register your interest.

Full details of the cost and where the course will be held will be communicated as soon as details have been finalised.

# **Entrance to Attractions**

Raptor Rescue members can now enjoy either free entrance or reduced entrance to the following attractions upon producing your Raptor Rescue membership card:

Cotswold Falconry, Batsford Park, Bourton on the Mill, Moreton in the Marsh, Gloucestershire, GL56 9AB – free entry

Gentleshaw Wildlife Centre, Stone Road, Eccleshaw, Staffordshire, ST21 6JY – free entry Tropical Bird Land, Lindridge Lane, Desford, Leicestershire, LE9 9GN – discounted entry Turbury Woods, Lostock Hall, Preston, Lancashire, PR5 5JD - half price entry

Please remember, you must produce a valid **Raptor Rescue Membership Card** to be eligible for free or discounted entry. Please let Carol Davidson know if you have not received an up to date membership card.

# **IRISH WILDLIFE REHABILITATION CONFERENCE 2010**

Raptor Rescue has been asked to attend and speak at the *Irish Wildlife Rehabilitation Conference.* 

The conference will be bringing together international speakers for talks and practical sessions to teach a wide audience about the practicalities of wildlife treatment and rehabilitation.

The conference, scheduled for the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of August, will be a two day event: Day 1 will be for vets and veterinary nurses and will be a continuing professional development (CPD) event that is registered for 5 continuing veterinary education (CVE) credits. Day 2 will be for open attendance: rehabilitators, vet and animal care students, SPCA's, NPWS rangers, gardi, etc.

There is now an online wildlife first aid resource available <u>www.irishwildlifematters.ie</u> which should prove useful to the general public, rehabilitators, vets, and anyone working in the sphere of wildlife or conservation.

Irish Wildlife Matters is the culmination of a year's work of collecting, collating and verifying correct procedures for wildlife rescue, care and rehabilitation.

A full report on the conference will be in the next Newsletter.



### Stand by for Action

Raptor Rescue was contacted recently by Defra following the arrest of a man caught trying to leave the country for Dubai with 14 stolen Peregrine Falcon eggs.

Raptor Rescue was asked to be on standby to provide rehabilitator care should the eggs start to hatch before suitable foster nest sites could be found for them.

Defra and the RSPB were working to find suitable sites to place the eggs or newly hatched chicks. At the time of writing, the eggs had started to hatch but our services were not required. We will report on the outcome of the chicks in the September newsletter.

#### Firemen

Rehabilitator Barbara Royle was called out to a captive bred Kestrel caught by its swivel on a TV Ariel, unable to get on to the roof, Barbara called the Fire Brigade who responded with eight burly firemen (much to the annoyance of Helpline Coordinator, Lesley) and a cherry picker to take her up to the roof to rescue the bird. A special thanks to the fireman of Manchester for their kind support.



#### **Re-homing**

Raptor Rescue is receiving a large number of calls from people looking to have birds rehomed. We now have a need for suitable "foster"/adoptive" homes. If you are interested in becoming a re-homer, please contact Malcolm Robbins (Re-homing Coordinator) on 01400 281196. An article on re-homing birds will follow in the September newsletter'.

#### **Mission Fish**

Raptor Rescue has set up an account on Mission Fish, which enables us to sell items on eBay free of charge. If anyone has anything they wish to sell and donate the proceeds to the Charity please contact the Chairman.

The UK's leading specialist bird of prey rehabilitation organisation National Help & Advice Line: 0870 241 0609

Online: www.raptorrescue.org.uk

# Egg Theft

Raptor Rescue Rehabilitator Andy Bilsborough of Turbary Woods Owl and Bird of Prey Sanctuary, Whitesnake, Preston, has had two Steppe Eagle eggs stolen from the centre.

Breaking into the centre, thieves smashed the CCTV camera, forced the lock on the aviary, then using a ladder they climbed up to the eagles nest and took the two eggs, which were due to hatch. Police are asking fanciers to be on the lookout for suspicious sales of young eagles.

Turbary Woods handled around 88 wild sick and injured birds of prey and owls for the period September 2008 to December 2009.

#### 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 – <u>steve.vulture@btinternet.com</u>

**Design and production Steve Davidson** 

