



**RAPTOR  
RESCUE**  
Registered Charity No. 283733

# News Update

Issue 9

The 2010 Annual and General Meeting took place on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October at St Joseph's Community Centre, Rugeley, Staffordshire. Eight members attended and following a buffet lunch the business was conducted including a report from the Treasurer and Chairman. Three Trustees, Steve and Carol Davidson and Andy Craven had come to the end of their term of office; all had indicated they were happy to stand for re-election. All three had been nominated, seconded and were duly re-elected. Ian Taylor who had been co-opted as a Trustee last year was nominated, seconded and duly elected. There were two new nominations for Trustees, Sharon Mathews nominated by Malcolm Robbins and Geoff Windsor, nominated by Carol Davidson, both were seconded and duly elected. The Chairman welcomed Sharon and Geoff to the Board of Trustees.

During AOB, member and rehabilitator Geoff Garrett raised the issue of colour ringing by the BTO of Hobbies. Last year Geoff had had a Hobby that had been caught up in a tree by its coloured rings; this caused distress to the bird and resulted in injury to its leg. Geoff took this up with the BTO but got no encouraging response. Since then, Geoff has had another Hobby to rehabilitate which also had colour rings on it; Geoff has raised this with us as there is no reason why these coloured rings should be fitted, they can not be seen in flight and would be very hard to see even when the bird is at rest. Geoff has asked the Board of Trustees to review the situation and if possible make representation to the BTO.



The team for the forthcoming year are:



Steve Davidson      Malcolm Robbins      Carol Davidson      Steve Dewsnap      Andy Craven      Ian Taylor



Lesley Smith      Jenny Morgan      Daniel Goldsmith      Geoff Windsor      Sharon Mathews

- Steve Davidson** – Chairman, Newsletter Editor
- Malcolm Robbins** - Vice Chairman, Re-Homing Coordinator
- Carol Davidson** - Treasurer
- Lesley Smith, Jenny Morgan** – National Helpline & Secretaries.
- Steve Dewsnap** - Stock Control
- Andy Craven** – IT Communication Coordinator
- Ian Taylor** – Rehabilitators Handbook and Code of Practice.
- Daniel Goldsmith** – Rehabilitator Coordinator
- Geoff Windsor** – Sponsorship Coordinator
- Sharon Mathews** – Survey Coordinator – Junior Members Newsletter/Web Pages
- Membership Secretary** - Barbara Turner, Membership

The Board of Trustees would like to give a special thanks to Alan Brookman, who kindly verifies the RR accounts each year so they can be submitted to the Charity Commission.

### Rehabilitating

Gentleshaw Wildlife Hospital has had a busy few months with an influx of casualties.

Thursday (Jenny is struggling for nicknames!), was bought in by a vet on...Thursday. She had been checked over and had no serious injuries. Found near a road and had a small amount of blood in her mouth which cleared quickly. Apart from that she is well. She had one force feed and some fluids and is now flying around a secluded aviary; she appears to have made a full recovery and can go in a day or so.



'Cat' The Sparrowhawk was dropped at a vet's in a cat's basket. She had head butted a window and was thought to have an injured wing. On closer inspection she just had slight concussion and an attitude problem, 2 days later she went shooting back into the wild, away from any windows.

To add to the influx they had another kestrel in, a youngster who went with their other young kestrels. A Barn owl and Little owl sadly died. The Barn owl's injuries were more severe than first suspected and the Little owl died a few days after having his leg splinted. That was really sad as he was only a



baby. The Kestrel with both wings broken was put to sleep, she would not have recovered from her injuries suitably to be returned to the wild due to the location of the breaks and we do not keep wild disabled birds in captivity. In better news, the Sparrowhawk with the hairline fracture healed beautifully and was released. A second Sparrow hawk is doing well, her wing appears to be healing nicely and shortly we will know if has healed properly.



### Challenge Andi

Carol and I attended the Fir Tree Farmers Market, Rainford on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> October. Prior to that, BBC Radio Merseyside had contacted me to see if we could accommodate the Challenge Andi spot on the Billy Butler Show.

This involved clues being given out, listeners solving them and phoning in to direct Andi to a local event where she then had to do a challenge. As Raptor Rescue were at the farmers market, the BBC asked if we could provide the challenge, so I agreed that Andi had to hold one of our birds.

To make it a little difficult for Andi, she has to complete the challenge live on air by 12 noon or it's a failure. This particular Saturday was the first time she had managed to complete the challenge in the allotted time, so it was a first for Andi and a good bit of publicity for Raptor Rescue.



*Andi (left) me (right) talking live to Billy Butler at BBC Radio Merseyside*

Steve Davidson

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, we wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.



**The UK's leading specialist bird of prey and owl rehabilitation organisation**  
**National Help & Advice Line: 0870 241 0609**  
**[www.raptorrescue.org.uk](http://www.raptorrescue.org.uk)**

#### 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](mailto:steveandcarol.rr@btinternet.com)  
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