

The UK's leading specialist Bird of Prey & Owl rehabilitation organisation



**RAPTOR  
RESCUE**

Registered Charity No. 283733

An organisation dedicated to ensuring  
all sick or injured birds of prey and  
owls are cared for by qualified people  
and that whenever possible released  
back into the wild.

# NEWSLETTER

Issue 1 2012



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Sponsors the Raptor Rescue National Helpline

National Help & Advice Line: **0870 241 0609**

Online: [www.raptorrescue.org.uk](http://www.raptorrescue.org.uk)

PLEASE NOTE; THE HELPLINE IS NOT A 24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE, IF YOUR CALL IS NOT ANSWERED AN ANSWER PHONE IS AVAILABLE; PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE AND SOMEONE WILL GET BACK TO YOU.

## Chairman's Chat



It seems an awfully long time since Ian Taylor persuaded me to switch from being a Raptor Rescue member to joining the Trustee Board; and now quite suddenly I find myself Chair. I certainly had no intention to become Chair when I accepted what I thought was the largely honorary title of Vice Chair and thought I could continue as a rehabilitator with a special interest and involvement with rehoming. How wrong can one be?

I am still a rehabilitator at heart and get the same buzz whenever I release a bird back into the wild and watch it fly off without a backward look. Just the same buzz as when my own birds fly to the fist. Nevertheless here I am and I hope I will not let anyone down in this new role. So it is many thanks to Steve Davidson for his sterling work as Chairman and all his other activities for Raptor Rescue – please do not go too far Steve, I am sure I will need you all too soon! Thanks also to all the other Trustees for their continued hard work for the Charity and a very warm welcome to our new Trustees, Barbara Royle and Geoff Garratt.

Raptor Rescue will, no doubt like many other charities, find 2012 to be a major challenge to maintain membership levels and to attract donation income and sponsorship. Hopefully we can count on our current loyal membership to maintain their commitment, which provides us with the sound base to continue our core activities, but it would be a real boost if we could get every current member to recruit another. I have tried this by giving RR membership as Christmas and Birthday gifts and hoping recipients will then take on personal membership for themselves.

The current economic downturn has seen a marked increase in the number of people looking to re-home birds of prey and owls, and the Raptor Rescue Helpline is a very popular contact number. Many birds are also being referred to RR when owners and keepers find they are unable to obtain A10 certificates for birds following Animal Health/DEFRA changing policy for wild disabled birds: increased by the fact Animal Health / DEFRA then refers keepers to RR for advice regarding rehoming.

Rescue and rehabilitation remains our primary focus and this is an area where we need to attract more rehabilitators to replace those who are ceasing rehabilitation for one reason or another, and to increase the number of rehabilitators we can call on across the UK and Europe. I think we also should reach out and make contact with Wildlife Rescues and Centre's to increase the list of resources we can draw upon. Thank you for your continuing support and please contact me or other Trustees to let us know how you think we are doing or how you think we can improve. After all, Raptor Rescue belongs to you the members. Please come along to the Shows we attend and spend some time with us, and remember

Rescue                      Rehabilitate                      Release                      (Re-home)

Malcolm Robbins

## Charity News

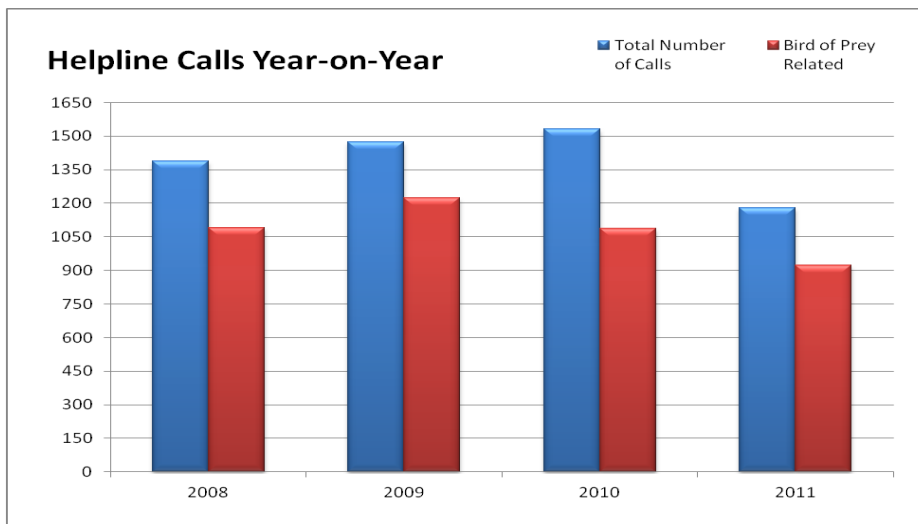
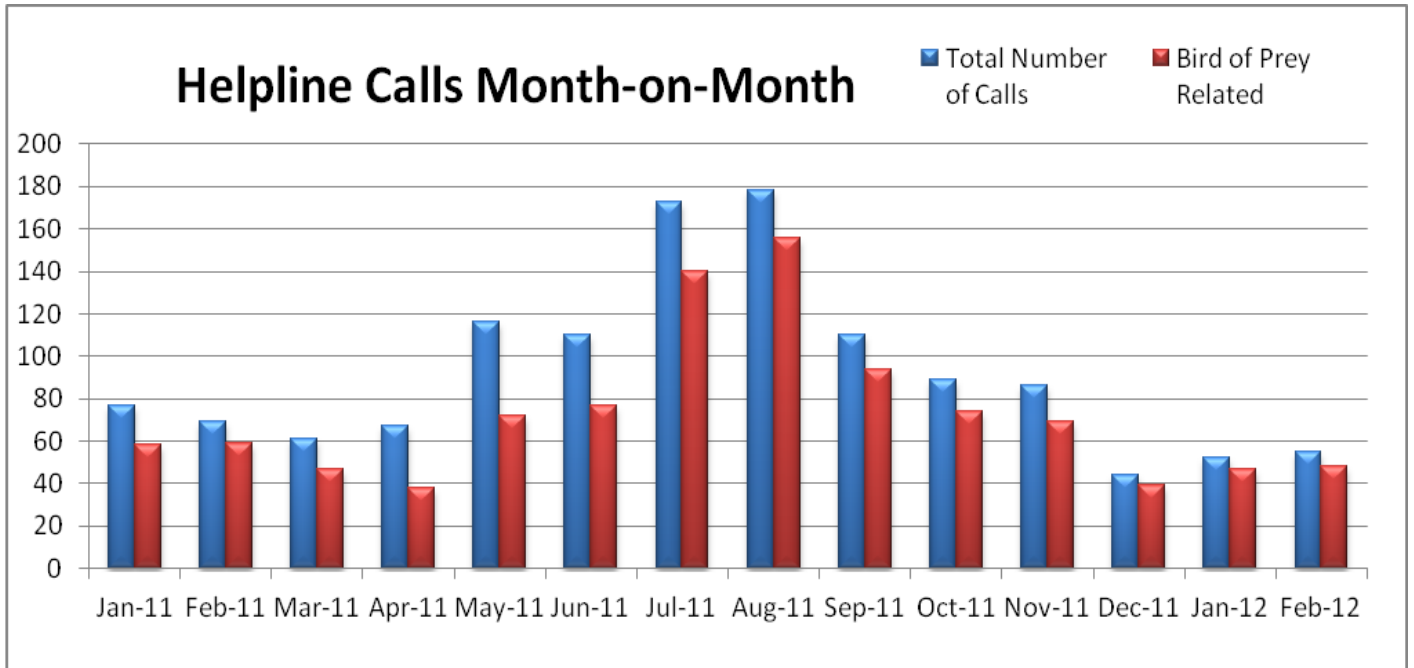
**The Board of Trustees would like to welcome to the following new members:**  
Sharon Beech, Emma Higgs, Joanne Parker and Colin Taylor

**The Board of Trustees would like to thank the following for their kind Donations:**  
Feathercraft, Val Turner, Sandy Acres Feeds, Yorkshire Falconry Club, R Swales, Newport Pagnell and Olney Lions, Malcolm and Doreen Page and I Taylor

And thanks all those members who give a little bit extra when renewing their membership.



## Helpline Update



2011 has been a slightly quieter for the National Helpline, could this mean fewer sick and injured birds or less birds are being found?



Our special thanks go to Jenny and Lesley and all the volunteers at Gentleshaw, for their continued work in running the helpline and to ExoticDirect for sponsoring the Helpline for a second year

## Raptor Rescue Events 2012 -

Steve & Margret Dewsnap will be at:

Wirral Country Park Thurstaston, Wirral - 8th April, 10th June and 21st. October.

Royden Park, Greasby, Wirral - 27th May, 1st July and 26th August

St Bridget's Church Fete, West Kirkby, Wirral - 30th June.

## Other Dates for Your Diary



The Falconry Weekend 2012 at the International Centre for Birds of Prey, Newent on 1st and 2nd September.



The International Falconry Event - now

in it's 23rd year - returns to it's spiritual home!



THIS EVENT IS ORGANISED AND RUN BY THE UK FALCONRY CLUB & SUPPORTS THE CAMPAIGN FOR FALCONRY, THE HAWK CONSERVANCY TRUST AND MACMILLAN CANCER SUPPORT

Member meets a star



Raptor Rescue patron, Chris Packham, met Raptor Rescue member Rachel Taylor at Buxton Opera House in November.

Chris was touring with his current show and Rachel is the Front of House Manager at the theatre.

Unfortunately Rachel did not have an opportunity to speak to Chris about Raptor Rescue but hopes that he will return to Buxton in the future.

## Rehabilitation

### Gentleshaw - 2011

'Spot' the Barn Owl



This little girl was found at the side of a road. After 2 days TLC she was fine and returned to the wild.

'Bob' The Little Owl who was rescued on 5<sup>th</sup> November, made a full recovery and gone back to the wild.



### January 2012 - Snowy Owl Rescue



Time for a rant!!!! This poor male Snowy was bought in by its desperate new owners. They had bought it as a young bird, a bit of a jump from their current owl which was a barn owl. They were concerned about its health as it was not feeding and had a wing injury. Due to financial difficulties, the owl's owners could not afford a vet so we took the bird in.

It was a mature male, had a severe mite infestation and had clearly never been handled. Due to his age, a quite life in an aviary was required, unfortunately his new owners had been chasing him around his aviary on a daily basis

in an attempt to catch and handle him.

This had caused severe feather and wing damage as he has been trying to get away and hitting the mesh of his aviary.

He was taken to the vet, given antibiotics and parasite treatment and was put on a good mixed diet. The wounds healed, and the feathers grew back on his wings. He has now gone to a home where he can spend his life in peace. Snowy owls are notorious for bad tempers, are large birds and need lost of time to train them. They are not a wise choice for inexperienced owners.

This owl was ok in the end, but due to a lack of knowledge on his owner's behalf, he had been put through unnecessary stress. A little research would have given his new owners at least a little insight into what they were letting themselves, and the owl, in for.

## Ryedalerehab - 2011

These beautiful young Barn Owls were found cold and wet on the floor outside a stable. They were dried out and are feeding well and have just started to fly. They will be ready to go in mid November, but to release or not?

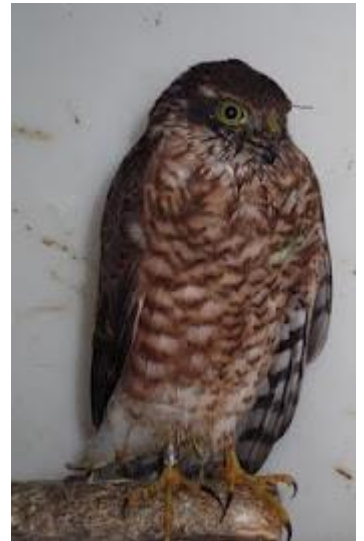
Barn Owls had a rough winter and some of the breeding females were not in good enough condition to breed, so had late broods. I have had more youngsters in that did not make it. Will have to wait and see what the weather is like before I let them go.



## Sparrowhawks & Kestrels

August 2011, Jean had 6 birds in. One had to be put to sleep, as she had a badly smashed wing but the rest all made it back. This little male only weighed just over 100g. He was found in York unable to fly off. He was a this year's bird, as were the majority of the others, they just hadn't got the hang of their independence.

Sparrowhawks can be tricky; they are so nervous and shy. I tube feed with critical care as soon as they arrive and leave them to settle in an I.C box. They usually refuse to eat and have to be encouraged by tit bit feeding, trying not to stress them too much at the same time. All the birds were BTO rung before release. It's grand to see them go back.



A Kestrel was found in West Yorkshire with badly melted feathers, very strange and a mystery as to how it happened. He was brought here by the RSPCA. He was in good bodily condition and a flyer, just. He had no trouble with his breathing and his skin was not touched. Birds moult their feathers slowly so they can continue flying and feeding.

This bird would not be able to hover as Kestrels do to catch food. I took him for Andy Forsyth the vet to examine. He would have to be kept in an aviary for months until new moulted feathers come through or given medication to encourage moulting. We're 3 weeks into a 5 week regime of daily medication. He has remained wild and daily tolerates the handling. Fingers crossed that he can go out with new feathers soon.

## Chrissie's Owls - 2012



Chrissie's first rescue of 2012 was a Short-eared Owl that she was called out to collect one evening in January.

"I think it is a male and he was found on a farm near RAF Brize Norton during a shoot. The shoot was stopped whilst he was caught and put into one of the shooters vehicles until I could be contacted to go and pick him up, he has a broken wing which my vet believes will heal in time so at the moment it is strapped up although he did manage to pull the first lot of strapping off overnight.

He is very feisty and is eating three day old chicks a day or the equivalent in mice, the swelling has gone down and he is due to be checked over in another week or two".

### **A painful and expensive experience**

Cae my Red Tailed Hawk is a rather large bird and obviously very powerful, ironically I had been waiting for a friend of mine to come and give me a hand to cast her and cope her beak as she is too strong for Marg to hold for me. It has been a practice of mine for many years to fit flight jesses for my bigger birds through a second, small eyelet in the anklets.

Walking towards the Red Tails flight I was alarmed to see her on the floor “mantling” and as I got closer she fell over on her side but with her head still down by her feet, Cae had somehow managed to get her beak stuck in the small eyelet. I dashed down to the house to collect some equipment, and shouted for Marg to help me, unfortunately she was on the phone and didn't respond.

When I got into the flight Cae was easily caught up and all the time my mind was in overdrive thinking of the best plan of action. The easiest thing to do would be to cut off the anklet but this would still be stuck on her beak so I decided to cut the flight jess, pull it out and then hopefully there would be enough space to get the beak out of the eyelet. I had picked up various bits of kit that I might need so with a small pair of electrical cutters I attempted to cut through the jess, straight away Cae lashed out with her other foot and I had two talons embedded either side of my thumb and another into the back of my hand by my index finger.



I can honestly say I have never felt pain like it, the air was filled with screams and superlatives not found in the Welsh language! So I was now trying to use the cutters with the bird firmly attached to my hand and every time I tried to cut the jess she increased the pressure, but I had to carry on. Luckily I cut through the jess at the first attempt but still struggled to pull it free from the eyelet; her beak was still stuck as were her talons in my hand.

After a short while I managed to free her beak, the only thing to do now was to get her talons out of me, have you ever tried to get a very frightened Red Tail to relax and release it's grip, you can't. So with a deep breath and a loud scream (from me) I managed to prise open her foot using as much force as I could without doing any damage. Job done bird scampered off to her favourite perch, I scamper off (still screaming) to clean up my wounds.

Back at the house hand under a running tap on my knees with the pain, Marg appears, “Did you call me” she enquired before realising I wasn't facing Mecca and was in fact talking to a different God! So with liberal amounts of Savlon and dressings applied I was sorted out. The rest of the day was taken up entertaining some friends who had come to visit us, and as we hadn't met for a while it was quite late and getting dark before they went. I decided to forgo the daily weighing of the birds and just prepare their food and feed them.

Cae and my buzzard are the last to be fed and as I got to Cae's flight I couldn't believe my eyes, she is on the floor again “mantling” with her beak stuck in the other anklet!!!! Fed the buzzard and dashed back to the house for the kit and this time Marg heard my calls and was at least able to come and hold the torch for me. Having been in this situation earlier I managed to complete the task much quicker and released Cae's beak without any further injury to her or myself, but understandably she was quite distressed, so I just left her with her feed.

Next morning early inspection revealed her left eye was matted with sand from the aviary floor, which she must have got in her struggle to free herself. We caught her up and I cast her while Marg gently cleaned her eye and we fitted new flight jesses, this time through the larger eyelets. Checking on her a number of times through the day she was very quiet, hadn't eaten but otherwise looked ok. Next morning her eye was almost fully closed and was quite inflamed and some discharge.

A quick phone call to Richard Jones at Avian Veterinary Services and I was on my way to Knutsford. Richard cleaned up her eye, administered anti-biotic, anti-inflammatory and pain relief and also coped her beak. Richard prescribed two types of drops, which we had to apply to both eyes twice a day for 5 days. Cae was very good during her treatment, no problem catching her and casting her while the drops were applied and her eye cleared up very quickly.

After the five days I telephoned Richard to tell him all was ok and she was back to her normal awkward ways. He asked me to send him a photo of her eye as he had taken some when first treating her, he wanted the before and after shots to include in a presentation so that he could emphasise how important it is too treat eye injuries quickly, if this had been left it is more than likely she would have lost her eye!



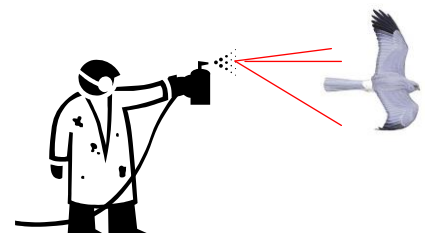
Moral of the story,

1. Don't fit small eyelets for flight jesses just thread them through a hole in the anklet.
2. Cope the beak as soon as necessary.
3. Don't hesitate to get proper treatment for eye injuries.
4. Keep plenty of Savlon and Elastoplast's.

Steve Dewsnap

### **From the pages of Cage & Avairy Birds**

A farmer in New Zeland has been found guilty of trapping and spray-painting Swamp Harriers with red paint for his own amusment.



## Raptor Rescue Strategy

### Introduction

The Raptor Rescue Strategy provides a clear vision for how the charity will develop over the next 5 years and includes a set of themes to guide the Trustees in managing these and future changes. It promotes the highest standard of raptor rehabilitation expertise and facilities as defined in the Raptor Rescue Rehabilitation Handbook.

To assist the Trustees achieve these key objectives we would appreciate YOUR comments and or help. We have identified a number of questions relating to each topic, so if you can offer an answer then please contact Ian Taylor by email on [taylor.ian9@gmail.com](mailto:taylor.ian9@gmail.com) or by telephone 01298 70959.

**Theme 1 – Accredited Rehabilitators** - To increase the number of Raptor Rescue accredited facilities in the UK.

**Question 1:** Do you know of any local wildlife hospital or rescue centre who takes in raptors and/or owls?

**Theme 2 – Facilities** - To increase the provision of Raptor Rehabilitation facilities in the UK

**Question 2:** Do you know of any local rehabilitators who take in raptors and/or owls?

**Theme 3 – Training** - To arrange for suitable training to be available for raptor rehabilitators and members

**Question 3:** What type of training should we provide for rehabilitators?

**Question 4:** What type of training should we provide for members?

**Question 5:** Where would be the best location for such training, bearing in mind that participants could be from any part of the UK?

**Theme 4 – Membership** - To increase the number of members supporting the charity

**Question 6:** How can we increase our membership base?

**Question 7:** Are our membership categories right or should we offer different categories?

**Question 8:** Is our membership charges too cheap?

**Question 9:** Should we increase them? If so to what?

**Question 10:** How can we attract more members to attend the AGM?

**Theme 5 – Financial aid** - To increase the number of Companies giving financial aid by seeking out all possibilities

**Question 11:** Do you know of any company or organisation that would be willing to sponsor our work?

**Question 12:** Are there any fundraising opportunities that you can identify which would benefit the charity?

**Theme 6 – Publicity** - To promote the charity to a higher standard

**Question 13:** What can we do to promote the charity to a wider audience?

**Question 14:** Do you have contacts in national publications or media networks?

**Question 15:** Have you marketing experience that could help the charity?

**Theme 7 – Liaison** - To become the UK's main raptor rehabilitation organisation. We currently liaise with Defra (Animal Health), RSPCA, ScottishSPCA, PAW, Scottish Government and the Welsh Assembly.

**Question 16:** Can you identify individuals in other organisations that we should contact?

**Theme 8 – National Help line** - To maintain the raptor rescue national help line

**Question 17:**

**Theme 9– Rehabilitation Handbook** - To maintain the raptor rescue rehabilitation handbook

**Question 18:** Have you publishing skills that can be used to maintain this and other charity documentation?

## British Wildlife Rehabilitation Council

### Annual Symposium 2011

I volunteered to attend the BWRC Symposium in October 2011 and to make a presentation on behalf of Raptor Rescue, only to discover it clashed with the Raptor Rescue AGM. I now wonder if I was “volunteered” to be out of the country while I was voted in as Chair!!



The Symposium was held in Inverness with an extremely varied and wide ranging programme commencing with a presentation entitled “Return of the Native” detailing the Scottish Beaver Trial covered. It was interesting to discover the large amount of background research and investigation that preceded the release of the beavers, the significant monitoring exercise in place to follow progress of the beavers and the dedication of the project team. There was a somewhat lively discussion later as to the more general larger subject of the appropriateness of reintroducing species to the UK, e.g. red kites, sea eagles, beavers, wolves etc and the impact upon other indigenous species.

Other presentations included a progress report by Emma Higgs for the Irish Wildlife Rehabilitation Trust and you may remember that Steve Davidson attended the IWRT conference last year to introduce Raptor Rescue and activities. It was very pleasing to hear that the Trust is utilising much of the Raptor Rescue philosophy, procedures and documentation. There was a mixed reaction to the session “How Homeopathy Helps Us Help Wildlife”, I remain open minded but quizzical but have followed some advice as to treating a stressed dog. No opportunity to treat a Bird of Prey or Owl with a homeopathic remedy yet! There was a detailed presentation by the Bat Conservation Trust that works very much in the same way as Raptor Rescue with a National Helpline supported by volunteer rehabilitators, providing best practice care advice and developing public awareness.

Another fascinating session detailed the rearing of Garden Birds and Lorraine Gow of Scottish SPCA shared her tricks of the trade experience, recipes and feeding methods, not to mention a number of anecdotal adventures. The presentation on the project to remove hedgehogs from Uist to protect wader birds was similarly intriguing as to the number of interested parties involved, the logistical difficulties, the apparent conflicting priorities, the capture and equipment methods required, and the ultimate dispersal of the hedgehogs. The final presentation on the frontiers of wildlife rehabilitation veterinary medicine ranged from welfare auditing to minimal invasive keyhole surgery which has interesting connotations for fixing Birds of Prey.

The Raptor Rescue presentation outlined our main activities, the Helpline, core strategies, the codes of practice, and the Rehabilitators Handbook and judging by the feedback and networking during the weekend, the BWRC members and audience found the input useful and informative. If anyone wants more information on the British Wildlife Rehabilitation Council or any of the presentations, please let me know.

British Wildlife Rehabilitation Council  
Bat Conservation Trust

[www.bwrc.org.uk](http://www.bwrc.org.uk)  
[www.bats.org.uk](http://www.bats.org.uk)

### Hand Rearing Garden Birds and Pigeons

Following on from the British Wildlife Rehabilitation Council Symposium, Lorraine Gow has produced a website with all the information that was in her presentation 'Hand Rearing Garden Birds and Pigeons'. You can find it at [www.birdrehab.org](http://www.birdrehab.org) and it is designed to assist people around the world to know about these techniques and be a source of information and help.

This is Lorraine's personal project and she is happy for everyone to spread the word as they like. She will be updating the website regularly and will be adding the PowerPoint presentation that she used at the Symposium for everyone to use.

## Mapping bird of prey poisoning

Science and Advice for Scottish Agriculture (SASA), RSPB Scotland & Scottish Land & Estates

Locations of bird of prey poisoning incidents in Scotland in 2011 are revealed in the latest 'hotspot map', which is published today. The maps published by the Partnership for Action Against Wildlife Crime (PAW) outline the number and general location of confirmed illegal poisonings in 2011, and cumulative figures for 2007 to 2011. A total of 10 poisoning incidents were recorded in 2011 resulting in 16 dead birds of prey including 7 buzzards, four red kites and a golden eagle. This compares to 22 incidents and 28 birds of prey poisoned in 2010.

Environment Minister Stewart Stevenson said: "This is the fourth year we have published these maps and I very much welcome the reduction in poisoning numbers. I hope this proves to be the beginning of a continuing reduction in such cases, leading to the end of this outdated, dangerous and cruel practice. Birds of prey are a key part of our ecosystems and a magnificent spectacle in our countryside. They are valued by locals and visitors alike. However a small minority continues to persecute them for their own selfish ends. I hope we are beginning to see a change in attitude. In the meantime we will continue to work with our partners in PAW Scotland to tackle poisoning and other forms of wildlife crime."

Duncan Orr-Ewing, Head of Species and Land Management for RSPB Scotland, said: "We hope that this is the start of a downward trend in illegal poisoning in Scotland, which in time should also be reflected in an increase in the populations and ranges of some of our most vulnerable species, including golden eagles, hen harriers and red kites. The annual PAWS maps highlighting the hotspots for the illegal poisoning of birds of prey in Scotland, are now one of the key tools used for targeting the enforcement resources at the right places. At the same time, this targeted approach also protects the reputation of the many responsible land managers in Scotland, who do not tolerate crimes against birds of prey on their land. We commend the work of Science and Advice for Scottish Agriculture, and Scottish Government, who are working with RSPB Scotland, Scottish Land and Estates, and other PAWS partners, to tackle wildlife crime in all its forms."

Douglas McAdam, Chief Executive of Scottish Land & Estates, said: "These statistics reveal the lowest number of cases on record for confirmed illegal poisoning of birds of prey since we started producing these hot spot maps. This is very welcome and encouraging news and clearly demonstrates substantial progress in this area. From a high of 34 birds of prey illegally poisoned in 2006 we have seen a significant drop to only 16 in 2011, a drop of over 50 per cent. Last year we have seen a 42 per cent decline from 28 cases in 2010 and this is even more significant as it occurs at a time when the Government laboratories at SASA are testing more intensively. These results illustrate the effectiveness of partnership working and a proper evidence based approach to this area of crime. The map for 2011 will also give a clear focus for future partnership work to continue to eradicate this area of criminality through effective prevention and, where required, enforcement activity."

Superintendent Ewen West of Tayside Police who chairs the Raptor Persecution Priority Delivery Group said: "The reduction in the numbers of Birds of Prey poisoned in 2011 is very good news which should be welcomed by all that wish to see such illegal practices eradicated. This reduction in poisoning incidents is in my view reflective of the ongoing work in relation to the prevention and investigation of such criminality. This work clearly requires continuing until the poisoning of Birds of Prey is completely stopped. The RPPDG continues to develop and promote good practice in terms of preventing poisoning criminality and is working hard with all PAW partners and other interested groups and individuals to ensure that these illegal practices are stopped."

Anyone who finds a dead bird of prey, and suspects it may have been poisoned, should contact the police as per the PAW Scotland guidance. PAW Scotland is the Partnership for Action against Wildlife Crime in Scotland. PAW Scotland membership encompasses a wide range of bodies with an interest in tackling wildlife crime including conservation, land management, shooting and law enforcement organisations.

The maps do not show exact location of incidents, in recognition of the fact that birds may travel some distance after exposure to the poison. The map therefore applies an obscurity factor to avoid any inference being drawn for the exact point of discovery of the bird, but still allows an overview of the worst affected areas.

**PATRONS:**  
**Steve Lingham - Chris Packham - Pollyanna Pickering**

**Honorary President: Mr Bryan Paterson**

**Honorary Vice President: Mr Robert Haddon**

**TRUSTEES**

**Steve Davidson** – Chairman/Newsletter Editor - Tel: 01925 726704 – contact for any issues relating to Raptor Rescue and the Newsletter and Updates.

**Malcolm Robbins** - Vice Chairman/Rehoming Coordinator - Tel: 07734 845288 - contact for any issues relating to Raptor Rescue in the Chairman's absence, any issues relating to external magazine articles, press releases or TV related activities, re-homing birds of prey.

**Carol Davidson** - Treasurer - Tel: 01925 726704 – contact for any financial issues, donations, membership payments, and first aid equipment.

**Lesley Smith, Jenny Morgan** – National Helpline & Secretaries - Tel: 01785 850379 – contact for any issues relating to the National Help Line, to order publications, to request attendance at events.

**Steve Dewsnap** - Stock Control - Tel: 01244 813127 – contact for any issues relating to sales goods.

**Andy Craven** – IT Communication Coordinator - Tel: 07879 007007 – any issues relating to the website or for links to the website.

**Ian Taylor** – Trustee – Tel: 01298 70959 - any issues relating to the Rehabbers Handbook and Code of Practice.

**Daniel Goldsmith** – Rehabilitator Coordinator – Tel: 07881 826811 –, contact for applications to become a rehabilitator.

**Sharon Mathews** - Survey Coordinator – Junior Members Newsletter/Web Pages – Tel: 01603 485006 - contact for annual survey and junior newsletter/web pages.

**Geoff Windsor** – Sponsorship Coordinator – Tel: 01625 584586 - contact for details of sponsorship for Raptor Rescue.

**Barbara Royle** - Trustee

**Geoff Garrett** - Trustee

**Membership Secretary:** Barbara Turner, 31 Touches Meadow, Chard, Somerset, TA20 1PA, Tel: 01460 64664 – contact for membership and membership renewals.

**Benefits of Membership**

Membership of Raptor Rescue is open to anyone with an interest in birds of prey and who wish to support the Charity.

Annual membership fees are divided into three categories:

Junior Members (Under 16) £7.50

Household Membership (One address) £15.00

Wildlife Centre Membership (Raising own funds) £25.00

Application forms are available from our web site.

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Chris Packham, & Rachel Taylor – Ian Taylor

**PLEASE NOTE:** Whilst every effort has been taken to ensure the accuracy of this publication, no responsibility for loss occasioned to any person as a result of any statement contained in it can be accepted by the author or publisher. Comments made by the author(s) do not constitute advice. The guidelines we issue are advisory only and have no force in law.

**National Help & Advice Line**  
**0870 241 0609**

**[www.raptorrescue.org.uk](http://www.raptorrescue.org.uk)**

**Registered Charity Number 283733**

