



# RAPTOR RESCUE

Registered Charity No. 283733

The UK's leading specialist Bird of Prey & Owl rehabilitation organisation dedicated to ensuring all sick or injured birds of prey are cared for by qualified people and that whenever possible released back into the wild.

## Annual Survey Report

### For 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011

**Raptor Rescue** has conducted an annual survey each year since 1990 to collate details of the birds treated throughout the UK. All our rehabilitators are asked to maintain detailed records of the casualties they handle and complete an annual survey return.

Typically, species handled each year including: Red Kite, Sparrowhawk, Buzzard, Kestrel, Marsh Harrier, Merlin, Hobby, Peregrine, Barn Owl, Little Owl, Tawny Owl, Long-eared Owl and Short-eared Owl. **Raptor Rescue** rehabilitators are also called upon to take in captive bred birds of prey that have either been lost or had escaped from their owners. Some of these birds require treatment but most just have temporary accommodation before being returned to their owner or re-homed.

2011 has again seen a low number of survey returns from **Raptor Rescue** rehabilitators. The number of rehabilitators sending in a nil return has gone up by two, while the total number of birds handled has dropped by two from 325 in 2010 to 323 in 2011.

#### Survey Results 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011.

This year, of the 34 rehabilitators sent survey forms, we received returns from 19 (56%) of which 5 were nil returns. Again 2011 saw a low number of returns from rehabilitators.

**We handled a total of 325 wild birds which included:** Kestrel (30) - Peregrine (13) – Merlin (1) - Red Kite (4) – Osprey (1) - Sparrowhawk (52) - Buzzard (50) – Marsh Harrier (1) – Hen Harrier (1) – Marsh Harrier (1) Barn Owl (34) - Little Owl (14) - Tawny Owl (121) - Short-eared Owl (3)

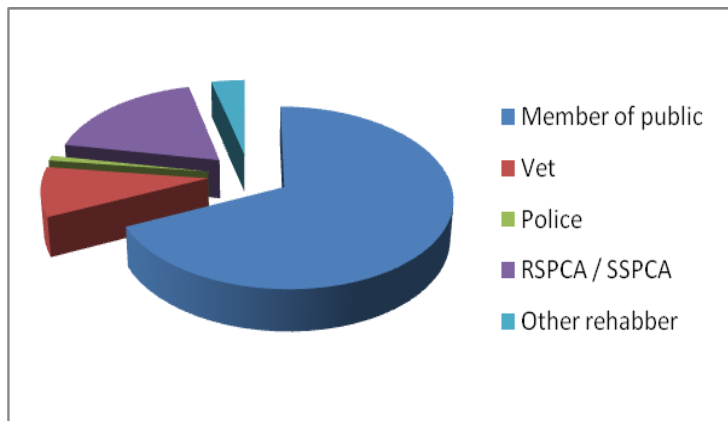
#### Of the 325 birds:

<b>Adult</b>	<b>237</b>
<b>Immature</b>	<b>88</b>

<b>Male</b>	<b>65</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>Unknown</b>	<b>181</b>

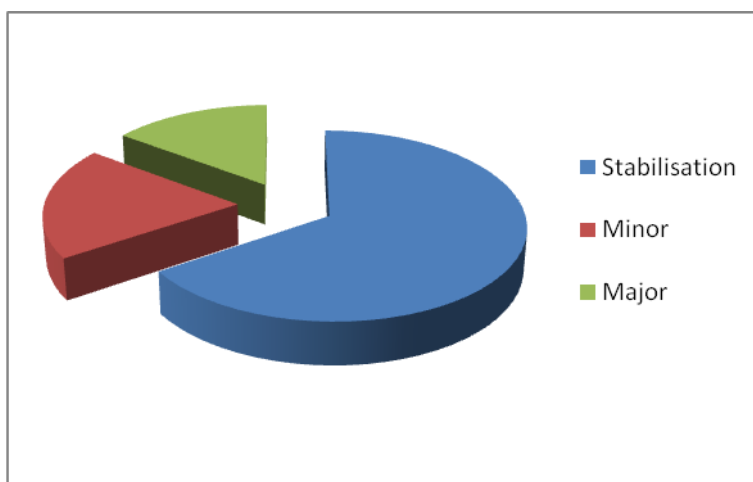
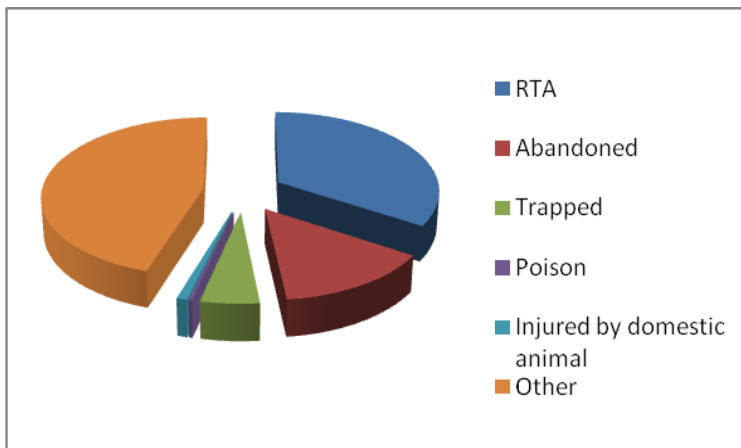
#### Of the above, birds were received from the following sources:

Vet: **29**  
 Police: **3**  
 RSPCA/SSPCA: **59**  
 Other Rehabber: **12**  
 Member of the public: **222**



**Injuries reported were:**

RTA: **112**  
Abandoned: **46**  
Trapped: **17**  
Injured by domestic animal: **1**  
Poison: **3**  
Other: **146**

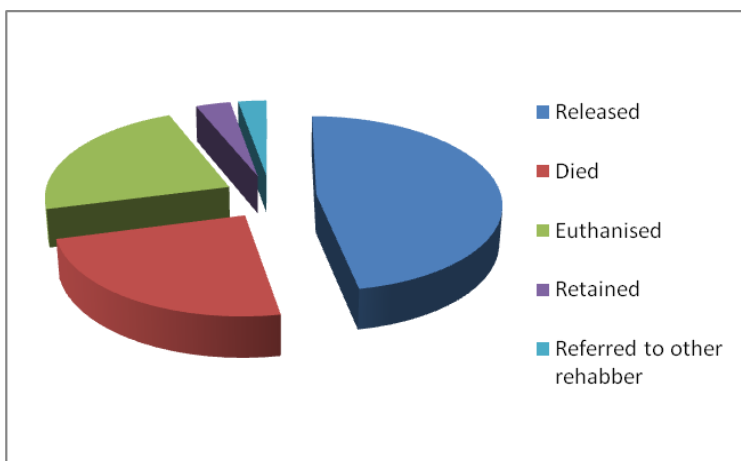


**Treatment consisted of:**

Stabilisation (no vet required): **212**  
Minor (injections/simple fracture): **64**  
Major (operation): **49**

**Outcomes:**

Released to the wild: **152**  
Euthanised: **79**  
Died: **74**  
Still in care at time of survey: **11**  
Referred to other rehabilitator: **9**



**We returned 47% of wild casualties back to the wild.**

**Raptor Rescue** also handled 14 captive breed birds, which included: 2 Barn Owls, 2 European Eagle Owls, 2 Snowy Owls, 1 Peri/Saker, 1 Gry/Saker/Peri, 1 Red tailed Hawk, 1 Bengal Eagle Owl, 1 African Spotted owl, 1 Ferruginous Buzzard and 2 Harris Hawk.

**N.B.** All poisonings were reported to the Police Wildlife Officer and the RSPB.

The Board of Trustees would like to thank all our rehabilitators for their continued work and support and a special thanks to Sharon Mathews for compiling the survey data.

National Help & Advice Line: 0870 241 0609 - Online [www.raptorrescue.org.uk](http://www.raptorrescue.org.uk)

PLEASE NOTE; THIS 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.

Raptor Rescue is a Registered Charity No. 283733