



GSPCA Winter Newsletter

Www.GSPCA.org.uk 01481 257261

Volume 1, Issue 1



GSPCA Launches New Newsletter

Welcome to the new GSPCA Newsletter.

This is the first of what will be a regular publication updating you on the work of the GSPCA and animal welfare in Guernsey.

2011 has been a very busy year with the Shelter helping well in excess of 2000 animals both wild and domestic.



We have had more bunnies than the shelter can remember in 2011

You can also keep up to date on our website www.gspca.org.gg which is now updated weekly with news, fundraising activities and the animals we have for rehoming.

We are also hoping to have a shop online very soon so please watch this space.

If you have any news or views you wish to share with us or an article you think would be of interest for this publication then please do let us know.

We are now gearing up to 2012 and expecting it to be busier than ever. With the closure of Guernsey Hedgehog Rescue and the new Animal Welfare Legislation we



already know it is going to mean an additional 80 to 100 hedgehogs at any one time. We have already seen a dramatic increase in numbers and we are very grateful to Dawn and her team with the support and equipment we have received.

We already have a much larger range of products in the shop for pets, wildlife as well as some GSPCA branded goods.



We are also looking at a kennel and cattery sponsorship scheme where you can donate monthly to help care for the animals at the shelter., so a lot happening.

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Some Events:

- Christmas Tree Festival in Town Church 8th until 18th December
- GSPCA stall outside Instep for the late night shopping Thursday nights through December
- Christmas Fayre at the shelter 11am-330pm Saturday 17th December
- Christmas Gift Certificates on sale now
- Easter Fayre—Saturday 31st March 2012
- Summer Fayre & Dog Show—Saturday 7th July 2012
- September 9th Seafront Sunday Animal Welfare Day

Have you got everything you need for Christmas?

From Christmas cards to animal stockings we have a range of goods on sale now at the Shelter.

All sorts of stocking fillers like GSPCA mugs, cuddly toys, chocolate and a wide range of pet products.

Also if you are looking for

something a little special we are selling gift certificates that will allow the holder to have a guided tour of the Animal Shelter on arranged dates in January with the GSPCA Manager as well as a hot drink and a cake. These certificates and

the tour are only £25 each and all the money will go towards the care of the animals at the Shelter.

Also on Saturday 17th December between 11am and 3.30pm we will be holding a Christmas Fayre at the animal Shelter.



Bunny Boom

After an increase in numbers of unwanted rabbits and a female giving birth at the Shelter, the GSPCA have more rabbits than any of the staff can ever remember.

Anna Paint Animal Care Supervisor said 'In all my time at the GSPCA I have never seen so many rabbits.' 'We literally have hutches set up in rooms we wouldn't normally have them in.'

Currently the Shelter has 16 rabbits and a number of other small mammals such as mice and guinea pigs. Although not all are available for adoption at present we are appealing for prospective new owners to



come forward.

Steve Byrne GSPCA Manager said 'We really don't know why we have so many rabbits at the Shelter.' 'Many have come in as stray rabbits, others that people can no longer care for and we even have a litter that were born a few weeks ago.' 'Before going to pet stores and breeders we would ask people to think of those rabbits that we have rescued here at the shelter.'

Before taking on a rabbit the GSPCA would always ask that you seriously think how you will care for an animal which could well be with you for over 7 years and also how you are going to

keep them. Rabbits are not designed to live in a confined space. In the wild they cover an area equivalent to 30 football pitches. They're not designed to live alone either - wild rabbits live in large social groups, foraging, grooming each other and huddling together for warmth. Rabbits living alone experience high levels of stress.

Domestic rabbits are not fundamentally far removed from their wild cousins. They share the same need to run, jump, explore and share companionship with their own kind, so their accommodation must allow them to display these natural behaviours.

Gert the duck meets Oscar Puffin

Gert the first duck in Guernsey to have her own blog, facebook and twitter page got to meet Oscar Puffin from Channel Online after they launched their Childrens Christmas Card Competition.

We had loads of entries but after a very difficult decision the card from Catherine Gill age 7 from Vale Junior School was chosen.

All of the cards were wonderful and a huge thank you from the GSPCA to all that entered.



Catherine was invited up to the shelter to meet Oscar Puffin and Gert and was told live on camera that she had won.

Catherine and her family were shown around the Shelter and her class have been invited up to have a special guided tour in the new year. Catherine also wins one of our GSPCA teddies and we are getting her card printed for her.

The runners up will receive their teddies also through the post. If you've not met Gert she can often be seen



walking around the front of the Animal Shelter or you can follow her adventures on-line.

Do you have your dog taxed and an ID tag?

If your dog is over 6 months it is a legal requirement to have your dog taxed and that they have an ID tag on their collar with a letter representing the parish that you live in.

In 2012 this is due to go up from £5 to £10 and has to be paid at the beginning of each year to your local Douzaine.

The Animal Shelter receives dozens of

stray dogs each month that with a simple ID tag would mean that we could easily reunite them with their owners.

We now have an engraving machine at the Shelter, so if you don't have yours pop in and see the selection on offer from £5.

Another way to help reunite your pet if it is found as a stray is by having

them microchipped. We do this for dogs and cats at the Shelter for only £10 with no appointment necessary.

If you are interested in either an engraved tag or microchipping please get in touch for more details.



Fundraising in 2011

We are so grateful to all of the support we receive. It costs over £500,000 to run the Shelter each year to help the 1000's of animals we care for, investigate cruelty complaints, talk to schools and much more.

We have had some amazing donations in 2011. The staff from Carey Olsen choose us to receive donations in excess of £8000, we had £400 from the staff of Ardel Trust, also a cheque for £2500 to help pay for a number of intensive care units.

We also had a number of events we attended in aid of the Shelter such as our Summer Flag Day where we had a

fantastic turn out of staff and volunteers giving their own time to help raise over £1000.

We also attended the Guernsey Mums Summer Fayre as well as the Round Table Christmas event at Beau Sejour all helping to bring in the much needed money to run the Shelter.

You maybe thinking how can I help? There are many ways you can help from donating yourself to helping



Volunteers helping Bernard at the Herm Kiosk during our summer flag day.

raise funds. On our website there are lots of ideas from sponsored walks to donating animal feed for those in our care.

You can even raise funds when you shop online - just visit www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/guernseyspca/ to register and shop with over 2000 well known retailers like Amazon, Argos, M&S, eBay and many more. Whenever you buy something, the retailer makes a donation to Guernsey Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. They've helped other causes raise over £2,000,000 so it really does work.



Wildlife unit re-furbished

With the closure of Guernsey Hedgehog rescue and a rise each year with the number of sick and injured wild animals brought in to the Animal Shelter we have had to look at our facilities.

The oil bird unit which was built and opened on the 4th June 1992 has been mainly used for seal pups and the occasional oil birds that we receive each month. This was an ideal build-



ing to use to help with this increased work load. Staff at the Shelter have been busy sealing the pools, decorating and fitting it out with equipment.

It is now in operation and it has already been filled with over 30 hedgehogs, numerous birds and thankfully no seals as yet but this is the time of year we often see those injured pups being washed on to our shores.



"Have you joined us yet on facebook or twitter? Look for Guernsey SPCA and follow happenings at the GSPCA."



Thank you to our all of our wonderful volunteers and staff for their support during our fundraising events & training.

GSPCA is Fairtrade

The GSPCA are proud to announce that we have received Fairtrade status. We now not only retail a small selection of Fairtrade confectionary at reception we are also using Fairtrade coffee and tea.

By changing to Fairtrade we are helping change the lives of farmers and producers across the developing world.

Steve Byrne GSPCA Manager said

'We strive to help animal welfare but we have to think of mankind too.' 'By changing to Fairtrade we can demonstrate our sup-



GSPCA is Fairtrade

port for the producers and shows how dissatisfied we are with unfair trade rules that keep millions in poverty.' 'The fairtrade chocolate we have for sale at reception has gone down really well and not only helps support Fairtrade but helps us raise funds for our animal welfare work'.

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We're on the web

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**Helping prevent cruelty and promoting
kindness to animals in Guernsey**

Does your dog need training? Why not contact
the Shelter to find out about the training classes
we run here.



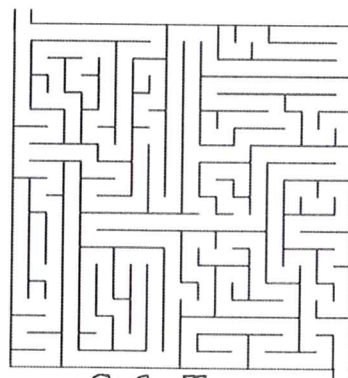
The GSPCA would like
to wish everyone a
very Merry Christmas
& Happy New Year.



Thank you to every-
one that has sup-
ported us in 2011



Help Gert find her
way home to her
pond.



Volunteers wanted

We are after volunteers to help with
fund raising, the wildlife unit and also
on the reception desk.

The phones ring all day every day and
we are looking for volunteers with
good customer care skills and tele-
phone manner to help answer the
phones and greet visitors that come to
the shelter.

We are looking to help cover the
phones 7 days a week between 8am
and 5pm. You would be volunteering
alongside one of our reception staff
and would be able to help us keep the
front of house clean and tidy as well as
helping stock the shop.

We receive dozens of calls every day
from distraught owners that have lost
their pets and members of public who
have found injured wildlife. We are
looking to improve our service on the
front desk by answering as many calls

as we possibly can.

The wildlife unit is growing and the
number of animals increases daily and
we are looking to recruit volunteers
that can help in the mornings to clean
out the hedgehogs and birds.



We are always looking
for volunteers to help us
with fund raising open
days, other Shelter
events to collections.
Your time can ensure
that we are able to be
here tomorrow.

If you are interested in volunteering
at the Shelter then please get in touch
and ask to speak to Steve or email
stevejbyrne@gspca.org.gg

To volunteer you must be 14 years and
over.



*Have you got a few hours you could
spare helping answer our phone?*