



GSPCA Spring Newsletter

www.gspca.org.gg 01481 257261

Volume 3, Issue 1



CARING FOR ANIMALS
IN GUERNSEY FOR
OVER 140 YEARS



Grey Seal Update: Page 2



Runaway Success

The safe capture of Slygo, the stray wire-haired terrier that divided island opinion, was finally concluded on 23 April as a result of almost two weeks of nightly observation by GSPCA Manager Steve Byrne.

The GSPCA had been working with the authorities and other charities to capture the nervous little dog which had been stray since February and had spent almost two months on the south cliffs of Guernsey, fending for himself; reportedly killing chickens in the vicinity.

Slygo had been returning to the same spot where the GSPCA trap had been laid and Steve had been patiently working to desensitise the scared little dog; encouraging him to enter the trap to feed before it could finally be set.

In the early hours of 23 April, the trap was sprung and Steve was pleased to see that Slygo was finally in safe hands; sitting quite happily beside the food which had been



left as bait in the trap.

Having been brought safe and well to the GSPCA Animal Shelter, Slygo was declared to be a healthy weight, even if in need of a worming tablet.

Any dog that has had to fend for itself for such a long period in the wild requires rehabilitation, care and patience before it can be rehomed. Sadly, in addition to his straying in Guernsey, Slygo already had a history of neglect which he had suffered previously in the UK.

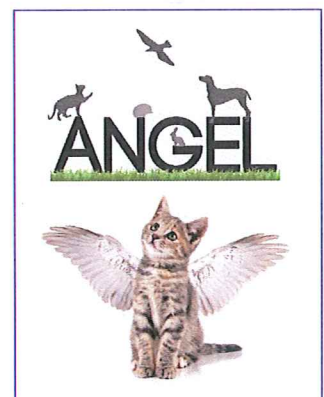
Following a full evaluation of his condition, Slygo was sent to a long-term foster home in the UK, care of the UK charity Animals in Need, to assist with his rehabilitation and we can confirm that he has settled in well at his new home.

The GSPCA would like to thank the press and the Guernsey public for their support as, without the combined help of everyone involved, we wouldn't have been able to catch him and bring him to safety.



Also Featured in this Issue:

Jethou Bumblebee and Hanois	2	Seasonal Advice - Hedgehogs	6
What to Do if You Find an Oiled Bird	2	Itex-Rotary Walk 2013	6
Seasonal Advice - Baby Birds	3	The ANGEL Scheme	7
Our Longest Resident - Lamar	3	New Cattery and Quarantine Build Appeal	7
Forthcoming Events in 2013	4	How to Make a Donation to the GSPCA	7
GSPCA Summer Fayre and Dog Show	5	Gert the GSPCA Duck	8



Seal of Approval as Jethou Bumblebee and Hanois are Released



"An injured seal pup was seen, thin and ill on Jethou in November 2012".

"On Saturday 5 January, GSPCA shelter staff had a call to an injured seal pup at Pleinmont".

So began the stories of two injured and malnourished grey seal pups ...

Jethou Bumblebee was rescued from Jethou in November 2012; sick from a chest infection, injured and less than half of her ideal body weight. She was reported by those living there and the call to action was taken up by GSPCA Manager Steve Byrne and Animal Collection Officer Geoff George. Less than two hours later, thanks to the assistance of the Bumblebee Cruises crew, she had been rescued and brought to the safety of the seal unit at the GSPCA Animal Shelter.

Hanois was found at Pleinmont and his rescue was attended by Senior Animal Care Assistant Yvonne Chauvel and Animal Care Assistant Annie Janes. The pup was thin, injured, with laboured breathing and certainly would not have survived had he been left.

Following months of dedicated care and rehabilitation by GSPCA shelter staff, a heartwarming event took place on the shore of Jethou in mid-April; two healthy grey seal pups were successfully released back into the wild.

Shelter staff waited for the seals to be healthy enough, at a good weight, and for a good period of weather, before the release could take place.



On 17 April, having determined that the pups were at a fantastic release weight, they were transported to the harbour and loaded aboard a boat to make their short journey to Jethou.

The residents of Jethou were at hand

to help and the pups were taken to the pebble bay next to the jetty where Jethou Bumblebee had been rescued some months before.

Although a little unsure at first, they were soon playing and enjoying being back in the wild.

A real heartfelt thank you goes out from the GSPCA to all those who were involved in the seals' care and release.

Nearly a month to the day since Hanois and Jethou Bumblebee were released by the GSPCA, the residents of Jethou spotted them back in the bay where they were released.



What to Do if You Find an Oiled Bird

The GSPCA Animal Shelter receives dozens of birds every year due to a variety of oiled substances.

In recent months, the chemical PIB (polyisobutene) has killed thousands of seabirds along the south coast of England and just a few short weeks ago, an oiled bird was found dead in Alderney as a result of PIB.

Gillette the razorbill was brought to the shelter from Alderney in February and in early May an oiled gull was rescued from Chouet (pictured).

If you find any seabirds that are struggling or covered in oil, following this simple advice can help save those birds in need.



- Do not risk your safety by looking for or picking up birds from dangerous locations. Be aware of the tides and weather conditions.
- If you do find an oiled bird and it is safe to pick it up, **ensure that you are wearing gloves** because the oil

could be hazardous to your health. The birds may also try to peck you, so keep them away from your face.

- Collected birds should be placed on their own in cardboard boxes lined with newspapers or a towel. **DO NOT** use hay or straw. The boxes should have ventilation holes.
- Call the GSPCA 24-hour helpline on 257261 or, if you can, take the bird directly to the GSPCA Animal Shelter yourself.

Please do not attempt to wash or feed the bird yourself - leave that to the shelter staff and volunteers who have received the correct training and have the facilities to do so.



Follow us on Twitter

@GSPCA



Seasonal Advice - Baby Birds, Nestlings and Fledglings

Spring has arrived and around the Bailiwick, birds are singing and nesting, with the first hatchlings already out and about.

The GSPCA would like to remind that, as a general rule, it is best to leave baby birds alone.

A baby bird has a greater chance of survival in the wild than it has being hand-reared by man as they learn to fend for themselves and are taught to forage for food by their parents.

Young birds usually leave the nest around two weeks after hatching; just before they learn how to fly. It is about this time that you may find a young bird out of its nest, as it is probably a fledgling.

Fledglings are almost fully feathered, able to walk, run and hop on to low branches, and will often try to hide in undergrowth where they are fed by their parents. Parent birds may not be far away and are probably collecting food but will not return until you have gone.

Within a day of leaving the nest, fledglings can usually fly enough to keep up with their parents and escape predators.

Please remember to only move them, or encourage them to move, a short distance to safety if they are in immediate danger.

If you have picked up a fledgling, put it back as near as possible to the place you found it. Don't try to return a fledgling to its nest as you may disturb other young birds.

If you are concerned about its safety try to put it nearby on a ledge, or somewhere it will be out of the reach of cats. You may wish to use an ice cream container with a kitchen towel



inside and place it in a tree or ledge.

Monitor the situation from a place where you will not be seen or heard as otherwise you may continue to discourage the return of the parents.

Do this for at least two hours. You will almost certainly find that the parents have taken care of their youngster within this time.

If, after monitoring, you think a fledgling is genuinely orphaned or sick please call the GSPCA on 257261 and choose the emergency option or bring it to the shelter where we have hospital cages set up ready for them. Please do not try and care for these birds yourself.

Nestlings are baby birds that only

have a small number of feathers. They are different from fledglings in that they are totally dependent on the security of the nest and will not fare at all well if left.

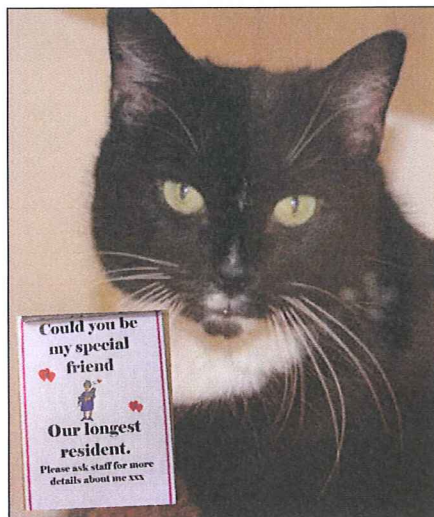
If a nestling is found, contain it as soon as possible in a warm, dark, well-ventilated cardboard box. DO NOT offer water, milk or food as this could make them ill or - if done incorrectly - worse. If the bird is sick, take it to your nearest veterinary surgeon or to the GSPCA Animal Shelter or call 257261.

Never try to return nestlings to their nests as this may disturb the other babies. Never try to rear nestlings yourself, as they need specialist care if they are to survive and the staff at the GSPCA have years of experience and training.

If you need further help and advice, please call us on 257261.



Our Longest Resident - Lamar



Lamar is the longest stay cat at the shelter; he came to us in March 2012.

This young cat is an independent lad who likes his own space. Still only two years old, he needs an understanding home where he can do his own thing - as he's not keen on being cuddled.

If you think you could give Lamar his forever home, please pop into the shelter between 11am and 4.30pm any day, except for Sundays when we are closed for viewing.

Forthcoming Events in 2013

The following events are planned for 2013. Further details can be found on our website at www.gspca.org.gg

■ Sunday 2 June

GSPCA Summer Fayre and Dog Show

This event is taking place at the Fairfield, Castel (see Page 5 for details)

■ Wednesday 5 June

Volunteer Induction Evening

■ Saturday 8 June

2013 Itex-Rotary Walk Guernsey

■ Friday 12 - Sunday 14 July

Chaos, Pleinmont Point

GSPCA stall - volunteers are required.

■ Sunday 14 July

Labrador Day

A fun day for Labrador owners at the Hotel Bon Port.

■ Friday 9 - Saturday 10 August

South Show

GSPCA stall - volunteers are required.

■ Wednesday 14 - Thursday 15 August

West Show

GSPCA stall - volunteers are required.

■ Saturday 17 August

Donkey Derby

GSPCA stall - volunteers are required.

■ Wednesday 21 - Thursday 22 August

North Show

GSPCA stall - volunteers are required.

■ Saturday 24 August

GSPCA Flag Day

We are looking for volunteers to help make this the biggest and best flag day the GSPCA has held.

■ Sunday 15 September

2nd Animal Welfare Seafront Sunday

A day to celebrate the animals in Guernsey and the wonderful work that is done on the island to care for them.

Full details in the Summer Newsletter.

■ Friday 4 October

World Animal Day

■ Saturday 2 November

The GSPCA Mystery of Masquerade Charity Ball at St Pierre Park Hotel.



Many thanks go to all of our wonderful volunteers and our staff members for their loyal support during all of our fundraising events.



Leading the way in pet healthcare





To benefit from our vast pet healthcare experience and 24 hour emergency cover; for informed advice or to book an appointment call:

Route Isabelle Surgery: tel **723863**
Route Isabelle, St. Peter Port

L'Islet Surgery: tel **241056**
Bakery Complex, Tracheries Road, L'Islet

www.isabellevets.co.uk

IsabelleVets
We love them like you do

GSPCA Summer Fayre and Dog Show

On Sunday 2 June the GSPCA will be holding a summer fayre and fun dog show at the Fairfield in Castel.

There will be plenty of parking (for a donation) in the field next to the show ground and marshals will be on hand.

The day starts at 11.00 am and the dog show runs from 12.30 pm - 4.00 pm. Entry cost for the dog show is 50p per class.

The judge on the day will be Bernard the GSPCA mascot dog, along with some helpers.

The classes will be as follows:

1. Best Puppy Bitch Under 1 Year
2. Best Puppy Dog Under 1 Year
3. Prettiest Bitch 1-7 Years
4. Most Handsome Dog 1-7 Years
5. Public Vote from the Winners of Classes 1-4



6. Best Veteran Bitch 7 Years +
7. Best Veteran Dog 7 Years +
8. Best Rescue Bitch
9. Best Rescue Dog
10. Public Vote from the Winners of Classes 6-9
11. Waggiest Tail
12. The Dog Most Like Its Owner
13. Fancy Dress
14. Best Trick
15. Judges' Favourite

There will also be a variety of children's entertainment:

- bouncy castle
- duck netting game
- football game
- catch the rat
(remember we are the GSPCA, so no splatting)

and lots more.

- GSPCA stalls / stands
- BBQ, cakes and refreshments
- pup cake competition
- tombola
- plant stall
- face painting
- ice-cream van

and lots more.

For more information please e-mail stevejbyrne@gspca.org.gg

THE BEST COMMERCIALS FOR GUERNSEY



VAN



DOUBLE CAB



MPV



PICK UP



LOADHOPPER



TIPPER

3 YEAR/60,000 MILE WARRANTY
FULLY UK TYPE APPROVED
DEMONSTRATION MODELS AVAILABLE
LARGE RANGE OF OPTIONS
FINANCE & LEASING AVAILABLE

THE CHOICE OF THE GSPCA



PRICES START AT £7,495 ON THE ROAD
FULL TANK OF FUEL INCLUDED
FIRST REGISTRATION FEE INCLUDED
EXTENDED WARRANTY OPTIONAL
SERVICING PACKAGES AVAILABLE

Carrus Automotive Limited, Landes du Marche Garage, Vale, GY6 8DJ, Tel: 256555, Fax: 253987, Web: www.carrus.gg

Seasonal Advice - Hedgehogs

This time of year we all like to venture outside to do the gardening and cut the grass while enjoying the spring weather.

Spare a thought for hedgehogs that are coming out of hibernation at this time of year if you are clearing the undergrowth or are using a mower or a strimmer in areas of long grass.

Here at the GSPCA we see hundreds of sick and injured hedgehogs every year and we are urging islanders to take care as a number of casualties have already been brought to the shelter in the past few weeks with injuries from garden machinery.

Encouraging hedgehogs into your garden can help to control the snail and slug population as well as other insect life. To attract hedgehogs, you can try providing hedgehog homes, both natural or man made, such as

placing a piece of board against a pile of bricks to form a type of bivouac. At the animal shelter we have a selection on sale which are purpose built.



We also sell a selection of hedgehog food which is designed specifically for them. Alternatively, you could try leaving out food such as minced meat, fresh liver, tinned dog food (not fish-based) or chopped hard-boiled eggs.

Although hedgehogs like milk it can cause severe diarrhoea, so never give

them cow's milk. It is best to give them plain, fresh water each night in a shallow bowl. It is also important that you do not feed them bread as this is not a natural or healthy diet for them.

If you do come across a hedgehog and you notice any of the following, please call the shelter on 257261:

- Any hedgehogs seen out in daylight will need URGENT help; hedgehogs DO NOT lie out sunbathing.
- Cuts or wounds will require help immediately.
- A hedgehog seen with flies on it or maggots crawling on it will need VERY urgent help.
- Any Hedgehog limping or walking strangely needs help.
- Any hedgehog that looks very thin or wobbly, that has bald patches or lost spines.



Hedgehog Survey 2013 Itex-Rotary Walk 2013

A UK hedgehog charity is asking for help to find out whether hedgehogs are on the decline.

Hedgehog Street is carrying out a survey between 1st February and 31st August and is looking for hedgehog champions to help them conduct their research.

The more data Hedgehog Street can get, a better picture can be drawn of how hedgehogs are doing in the wild. They would love to hear how Guernsey hedgehogs are doing and the GSPCA would love to know that there are hedgehog champions all around the Bailiwick sending their details through to Hedgehog Street.

See www.gspca.org.gg for further details.



On Saturday 8 June this year, four of the GSPCA staff will be taking part in the Itex-Rotary Walk around Guernsey.

GSPCA Manager Steve Byrne, Animal Collection Officer Geoff George, Animal Care Assistant Tony Gallie and Volunteer Warden Natalie Randall will be braving the 38.5-mile walk to help raise funds for the annual event and the nominated local charities.

We are very pleased to have been

chosen as one of the charities which have been nominated this year.

The walk, now in its sixteenth year, has become one of Guernsey's key fundraising events for local charities and each year it attracts several hundred participants; each determined to complete the route.

In 2012, the walk raised nearly £52,000 and with your help we aim to reach a similar level this year.

The chosen charities for 2013 are

- GSPCA
- Guernsey Voluntary Service
- Guernsey Ambulance and Rescue Service
- Friends of the Priaulx Library
- St Martin's Day Service
- Every Child Our Future

ANGEL - Animals Needing Guernsey's Everlasting Love



Towards the end of 2012, the GSPCA launched a sponsorship scheme - the ANGEL Scheme - that will enable people to sponsor an animal pen or kennel at the GSPCA Animal Shelter.

It costs around £2,000 per day to run the Animal Shelter and it is hoped that this scheme will enable us to provide the very best care for the thousands of rescued animals and birds we receive every year.

What is the ANGEL Scheme?

The scheme has been designed to enable individuals, families, friends and

organisations to sponsor individual pet accommodation at the shelter. The sponsorship can be for a dog kennel, a cat pen, or any other animal/bird pen.

How Much Can I Donate?

The scheme is flexible and easy to join; you simply choose the kind of animal accommodation you wish to sponsor and determine the payment method. We will do the rest.

You can pay with either a single donation or by setting up a monthly standing order, spending as much or as little as you can afford.

For monthly donors, we will reward your kindness by:

- displaying your name on a brass plaque at the GSPCA;
- listing your name on our website as a sponsor;
- sending you an ANGEL car sticker;



- sending you a newsletter.

Can I Make a Gift of My Sponsorship?

Absolutely. Sponsoring one of our residents through the ANGEL scheme can make an excellent gift. Simply tell us who the gift is for when completing the sponsorship form (online or at the animal shelter).

Where is My Donation Spent?

Your donation goes directly towards helping the animals in the care of the GSPCA.

If you are stuck for a gift idea, sponsoring an animal pen would make a wonderful present for a loved one.

New Cattery and Quarantine Build Appeal

The GSPCA has been helping cats in Guernsey since 1873 and now the cats need your help.

Whether they are sick animals, strays or cruelty complaints, cats that need care and love arrive at the GSPCA Animal Shelter every day.

Sadly, the existing cattery now has a

number of issues as it is over 35 years old. We need your support to build a cattery that will enable us to help the thousands of cats that come through our door every year.

The new cattery and quarantine unit will cost approximately £1.3 million to build so please help the build appeal.



Without your support, donations and legacies, we wouldn't be able to help thousands of animals every year.

How to Make a Donation to the GSPCA

You can make a donation to the GSPCA via any of the following methods:

- Visit the GSPCA website at www.gspca.org.gg and donate online via PayPal.
- Complete a form and post it to the animal shelter.
- Visit the Animal Shelter and complete the paperwork on site.

- Make a monthly donation by completing a standing order form (available online or via the GSPCA by calling us on 257261).



One way that you can help us acquire equipment which will assist us in caring for the many animals at the shelter is via our Amazon wish list which can be viewed online at the following address:

www.amazon.co.uk/registry/wishlist/25MJPPDAGXHL1

Gert the GSPCA Duck



Hello there. My name is Gert and I am a type of duck known as an Indian Runner. I am one of the resident ducks here at the GSPCA Animal Shelter in Guernsey.

I can often be found waddling about the shelter and my favourite hobby is to quack to people about what I get up to and what I see.

You can see many of my quacks on my twitter feed which you can follow me on at **@Gert_GSPCA_duck**

If you would like to tell me your stories about ducks and other animals, or even send pictures to the shelter, I have my own e-mail address, which is **gert@gspca.org.gg**

I will put some of your stories and pictures on my blog when I update everyone about my adventures at the shelter. Here are some jokes which I hope you will enjoy and share:

Q: When do ducks wake up?

A: At the quack of dawn.

Q: What goes "quick, quick"?

A: A duck with hiccups.

Q: What do you call a dog that likes bubble baths?

A: A shampoodle.

A seaside picture for you to colour.



Counter Boxes Available

If you would be interested in helping the GSPCA by having one of our counter boxes displayed in your establishment, please contact us on 257261.



Guernsey Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals,
Les Fiers Moutons,
St Andrew,
Guernsey, GY6 8UD
Phone: 01481 257261
Fax: 01481 251147
E-mail: admin@gspca.org.gg

Mystery of Masquerade Masked Ball



2nd November 2013
See our website for details.



Thank you for your continued support.

Volunteers Wanted



We are always looking for volunteers to help us with our fundraising, open days and other shelter events.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer at the Animal Shelter then please get in touch and ask to speak to Steve or e-mail him at:

stevejbyrne@gspca.org.gg

Please note: to be a volunteer you must be aged 14 years and over.