

# Newsletter

P.O. Box 8686, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG31 0AG • Registered Charity No.  
1194494

Tel: 07940 714830 • [admin@hedgehogwelfare.org.uk](mailto:admin@hedgehogwelfare.org.uk)

Firstly, a reminder about our annual fundraiser on Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup> at Foston Village Hall. The doors open to the public at 13.15.

We have a great raffle with the top three prizes being two tickets to the award-winning spa at Eden Hall, and a Breakfast Voucher at The Governor's House, Newark, and a Sunday Lunch Voucher for two at The Chequers in Woolsthorpe. Check out the other cracking prizes at the end of this newsletter. Perhaps you can forward this Poster on to your friends, family and contacts as we would appreciate as much publicity as possible.

At Foston there are stalls selling plants, craft work, and books, jigsaws and lots more. And you can pick up lots of information about hedgehogs and how you can help them. Refreshment will be available with homemade cakes. This event is our ONLY fund-raising event this year, so please come along and support us.

Over the year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026, we cared for more than 200 hedgehogs; more than half we nursed back to health and released back into the wild. But since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2026 we have taken 381 calls, 46 were general enquiries, all were given advice over the phone and confirmed by email. 180 calls were out of our area. We gave the caller advice, and alternative numbers for people who may be able to help. We have taken in 109 hedgehogs, 16 of which are still in care, 64 have been released back into the wild, 29 died or were put to sleep while in our care. 46 were sent directly to our vets as they were badly injured or sounded as they needed more help than we are allowed to do for them. Sadly, they were put to sleep. At least they are not suffering any more now. The numbers of calls and hedgehog taken in show how this summer's weather has affected not only us, but all rescuers this summer. So many have closed their door and put answer machines on to say they are full. At least we have kept going by being strict in taking from our own area when we were really over full. And a big thank you to all our volunteer carers, who have taken on extra hedgehogs so that we can keep our doors open.

All this tireless volunteer work needs funding. The money raised by your continued support helps buy kit, vital medication, vet care, food, and countless other commitments that need money.

## The Magnificent Seven



*All 7 on admission 24-06-2026*

Several weeks ago (29-06-2026), we took on our biggest challenge – saving seven small two-week-old hedgehogs from the same litter.

Janet received a call from a lady in Stathern near Melton Mowbray. She was desperate for help after finding the seven hoglets huddled together on a foot path. The path was part of a well-used dog walk.

The finder was concerned the hoglets were easy prey for passing dogs, also a host for flies and their eggs.

Stathern is not in our rescue area. But this was an emergency we could not walk away from. The most hoglets we had cared for in

the past was five. Janet liaised with our senior carer Sally about the enormity of the task. It was agreed, we'd taken the hoglets in.

The seven – four boys and three girls – were handed over to Sally by a very relieved finder as all other carers in the area were full. Day and night Sally nursed – waking every two hours to bottle feed and tend the seven. The smallest boy was Paul weighing in at 62



*Cosmos and Paul 29-06-2026*

grammes. Rose was the tiniest girl at 58 grammes. Eventually, the hoglets gained weight - all were up and around the 500 grammes mark - and were ready for a return to Stathern.

Meanwhile, the finder had found gardens – and helpers – in Stathern where the hogs could be returned to the wild within the same area they were found (but still would have help in the way of water and food being left out for them every night). So, a happy ending for John, Paul, George and Ringo – the Fab Four, and Daisy, Cosmos and Rosie the Flower Power Girls. Sally said: “This was a big challenge but we were up to it. We’ve never raised as many as seven abandoned hoglets.

It’s very tiring having to get up every couple of hours. But the results are rewarding.” Janet on seeing the release pictures, said “you can tell they are all



*John and Rose 29-06-2026*



*George almost feeding himself 06-07-2026 150g*

related, look at the extra-long nose and dark faces”



*Cosmos released 28-07-2026 478g*





*Rose released 28-07-2026 485g*



*George Released 22-07-2026 517g*



*John released 22-07-2026 497g*



*Paul released 04-08-2026 460g*



*Ringo released 04-08-2026 476g*

**Thank you, Sally, from all of us for all your efforts, not only with these but all the hedgehogs that come into your care.**

# Warning: This story has unpleasant pictures.

## A hedgehog caught in a rat trap

Sadly, not all our hedgehog rescues have a similar happy ending.

This hedgehog was brought to Minster Vets in Newark, by a man who spotted him snared in a rat trap in a neighbour's garden.

He could see the hedgehog was still alive and struggling to free itself, the front right leg being held by the trap.

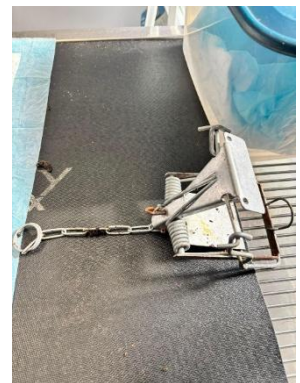
The man vaulted the fence and took the hedgehog straight to Minster Vets in Newark, complete with trap.

On returning home had "a few words" with the neighbour who set the traps to kill the rats: the week before a hedgehog had been killed by one of his traps. Since this the neighbour has removed all the traps, thank goodness.



*The hedgehog in the trap (after being gassed down)*

A first examination showed the hedgehog to be a strong, sturdy, and healthy adult. Vet Nurse Anita gassed him down to ensure he was not in pain while they removed the trap, although there were some soft tissue injuries, which with luck, would repair itself. They gave him some pain relief and antibiotics, and asked Hedgehog Welfare if we would observe and care for him, as she just could not put him down, but she did warn us, he had may still need to be Put to Sleep but she felt



*The trap*



*The injured leg after the removal of the trap*

he needed a chase. Of course, the hedgehog came into the loving hand of Sally, who continued with the pain relief and antibiotics and Anita and the vet would examine him again in three days. On the return visit Anita and the vet found the leg swelling had gone down and his leg shape looked good, but he was not weight bearing on the leg fully. She suggested filming the hedgehog walking in 3-4 days. Sally did his, but sadly, he was walking on his forearm as the injured right front leg which suffered the damage. Sally,

Janet and Anita (and other member of the team at Minister and the finder) were all heart broken. Despite all our hopes, the hedgehog had suffered too much damage to his tendons and ligaments, and he was put to sleep the same morning as Sally took the video and sent it to Anita.

It was a genuinely sad moment for all those rooting and praying for him to pull through.

## **On A Happier Note**

This Summer we have had three Mum with their hoglets

Spirit (mum) and her four hoglets were Martini, Sherry, Rum and Whisky

Mary (mum) and her two hoglets Molly and Moana

Agatha (mum) and her four hoglets Tango, Pepsi, Fanta, and Sprite

All were reared by their mothers, (no getting up every two hours to feed) and all the families did well, and all the Mums and Hoglets were released. They do so much better when they are reared naturally by their mothers. So, if you do disturb a nest please grab mum first, make her safe in a large box and then lift the complete nest into the box with the mother, complete with hoglets. Please do with as little noise as possible. Close the lid on the box and do NOT disturb them by opening the box. Make sure you do not touch the hoglets, with your ungloved hand, if you do, the mother may reject them. Then telephone us ASAP 07940 714830.

## **A Big Thank You**

Thank you to everyone one, who has helped the hedgehogs out in the wild this summer by putting out food and water. Janet has had so many calls, and they have all responded by following her instructions to feed and water, many never having done this before, but have responded to say how much they are enjoying watching the hedgehog every night.

A few good sites that give you lots of information on gardening with hedgehogs and how to help them

<https://www.hedgehogstreet.org/>

<https://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk/>

<https://www.rhs.org.uk/wildlife>

Numbers to remember:

**Hedgehog Welfare** - 07940 714830, Charity Registration No. 1194494, Address PO Box 8686, Grantham, NG31 0AG,

**Bank Detail** - Account Name Hedgehog Welfare, Account No. 57750203, Sort Code 55-50-11, Reference Your Name

Our Email Address is [admin@hedgehogwelfare.org.uk](mailto:admin@hedgehogwelfare.org.uk), but please do not email us or use facebook or sent text or What'sApp about sick and injured hedgehogs as they are not live and we only deal with them when we are not looking after hedgehogs. You should telephone 07940 714830 and not Sally if you have her number. If we do not reply we will call you back as soon as we can.

<https://www.facebook.com/Hedgehog-Welfare-102664205902433/>  

If you have any stories or pictures then please contact Philip Braund at [philipbraund@hotmail.com](mailto:philipbraund@hotmail.com)

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Registered Charity Number: 1194494

Find us on



# Annual Fundraising Event

Sunday 13th September 2026

1:15pm - 4:30pm

Foston Village Hall

**Free Admission**

Just off the A1 between Newark and Grantham

Sat Nav: NG32 2LG

## AMAZING RAFFLE

- ♦ Eden Hall - 2 x Twilight tickets.
- ♦ Breakfast Voucher - Governor's House Newark
- ♦ Sunday Lunch Voucher - The Chequers, Woolsthorpe
- ♦ Gift Voucher - towards a course with Floral Media in Caunton Newark
- ♦ Hedgehog Box - gifted to Hedgehog Welfare
- ♦ Bird Box from Daisy Dog Creatives
- ♦ Box of hand-crafted chocolates by Hannah Colson

**Hedgehog Welfare's Stalls**  
Hedgehog themed gifts and crafts and a selection of beautiful garden plants

**Daisy Dog Creatives**  
Selling a fantastic range of unique gifts; bird boxes and crafts

**Refreshments!**  
Relax, enjoy a drink and sample our delicious homemade cakes!

**Information**  
**Games**

See you  
there!



For more information contact Janet on 07940 714830

or email [admin@hedgehogwelfare.org.uk](mailto:admin@hedgehogwelfare.org.uk)

Please **do not** use the email to report sick, injured or orphaned hedgehogs.