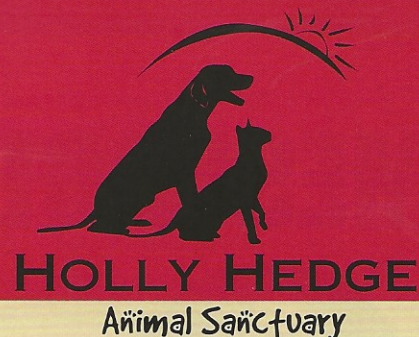


Holly Hedge news letter



Welcome to our 2017-2018 Newsletter, jam-packed full of heart-warming stories and ways you can help Holly Hedge reach more animals in need...

Providing shelter from harm and the promise of a brighter future

Our annual

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The largest fundraising event of our calendar, Fun Day 2017 is expected to attract up to 5,000 people and their dogs to the idyllic Ashton Court Estate.

There are extensive attractions that run on the day including our popular Fun Dog Show, Photo Entry Cat Show, Doggie Sprint, children's activities, Holly Hedge Doggie Games, refreshments and agility demonstrations (with the chance to have a go yourself) – not to mention our ever popular market place which is brimming with everything from fine foods to beautiful art works. With such an extensive array of attractions, Fun Day is an event like no other and draws a diverse crowd from Bristol, Somerset and the surrounding areas.

Turn to page 12 for a pull-out programme.



is back!

RAFFLE

Enter our Summer Raffle to be in with a chance of winning some great Prizes!

1st Prize: £500 cash

2nd Prize: One year kennel sponsorship at Holly Hedge with personalised plaque

3rd Prize: Pet photoshoot

4th Prize: Animal Carer for the day experience

Plus many other prizes.

Tickets are available at the sanctuary, in our shop or online at <https://zaffo.com/holly-hedge-animal-sanctuary>

Wild Country Lane, Barrow Gurney, Bristol BS48 3SE • Tel: 01275 474719 • www.hollyhedge.org.uk

Reg charity No: 294606

MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER



The past year has seen marked improvements in the progress of HH – not least the completion of 25 kennels and 3 long stay rooms with the dogs' own comfy sofas and individual gardens. We have also created sensory gardens with lots of interesting things to amuse and enhance our rescues' well-being, including agility equipment and fun things to capture their interest. This is not

to say there isn't still a fairly long snagging list that has to be put right!! But all in all, the new builds have the thumbs-up from our canine rescues.

As soon as we are able to obtain quotes and raise enough money, our rescued felines will also have their accommodation upgraded to a higher specification. Thanks to the **Jean Sainsbury Animal Welfare Trust** granting Holly Hedge £5,000 we have been able to buy hygienic feline Cat Forts for all our catteries, replacing the existing very 'tatty' and well scratched wooden furniture.

Jobs for the boys and girls

We no longer employ a Head of Fundraising, but we do have an innovative and enthusiastic Community and Events Fundraiser who is very pro-active, and has already raised the profile of the Sanctuary, as well as raising much needed funds.

We also have a new Kennel and Cattery Manager, **Sarah Schranz**, who has already proved to be an integral part of HH, although she only joined us a year ago. Another new member of our team is **Lucinda Pullen** who has been with us for just 10 months, but has settled in well and is getting to grips with the chaotic life of a busy animal sanctuary. They have both been well and truly thrown in at the deep end at our busiest time – but seem to be thriving on it! Both are already a great asset to Holly Hedge.

Rosie Bescoby, an accredited APDT, APBC and CABC Trainer and Behaviourist has joined us on a part time basis, showing us lots of new techniques for training and enrichment in the kennel and cattery areas and the outdoor gardens. As a result we have rehomed several of our long stay dogs – some of which needed very special and patient owners. Huge thanks must also go to our **staff** and **volunteers** for all the time and effort they put into the rehabilitation and rehoming process. They have made such a difference to these animals' lives, and given them the chance of a much brighter future through their commitment and dedication.

Tina Constance has also been instrumental in using her T Touch techniques to enhance our rescues' stay with us and make a positive difference.

Twilight years

Many of our long term dogs along with their little "foibles", as well as most of our long term felines have been rehomed, including our golden oldies, semi-ferals, and FIV cats. They have all gone to amazing homes, thanks to all the extra time and patience staff and volunteers have given them. I must extend a special thank-you to all our lovely **volunteer lock-up ladies and gents** who spend their evenings giving our felines individual attention and lots of cuddles and quality time. We are so very grateful to all our **adopters**, but especially the **kind people** who take into their homes and their hearts those who are elderly or terminally ill – but still have a good quality of life; those who have lost their trust in human beings because of abuse and neglect; and those with medical or behavioural problems. These wonderful people restore our faith in human beings, and give us the strength to carry on – regardless of the odds against us finding every animal a forever home.

We are so lucky to have **staff** and **volunteers** whose dedication and love for our rescues know no bounds, who devote their lives

to making a difference for the greater good of the animals in our care. Politics don't matter, only the animals and I am personally so proud to know them. **There are far too many to mention, but you all know who you are.**

We have a dedicated, working team of **Trustees**, who also only have the animals' interests at heart, and through strategic planning are ensuring the Sanctuary remains a safe haven for the increasing numbers of animals needing help.

On a sadder note, **Janet Temperton** has sadly had to resign due to her husband's ill health, but we thank her wholeheartedly for her dedication to HH and her continued support.

Our plans for the future are:

- Revamp our cattery to a higher specification, (which has been rather a long time coming), and re-roof the cat garden half way across. This will give more shelter from the elements when our rescued felines are stretching their legs and exploring lots of interesting things to do.
- Kit out our operating theatre so minor ops can be performed in situ – far less stress to our rescues as no travelling is involved.
- Use the Meeting Room for more income generating talks and staff training.
- Source another Charity shop whereby we can sell small items of furniture, as we made the decision to close down the Clevedon shop due to not making enough profit.
- Employ a part time Corporate/Trust Fundraiser.

Urgently needed is the creation of a quiet office for our Accounts manager and Fund raiser, so they can carry out their valuable work in quieter surroundings. The staff room will be refurbished to accommodate volunteers as well, and the reception and back office areas will be designed so that we have a bigger area to sell merchandise. We are so grateful to **Steve Copper** for volunteering to project manage this scheme which is already well underway, and for managing to recruit volunteers, and obtain a lot of the materials free of charge – which is brilliant!

Right now, Holly Hedge is full to capacity, with a long waiting list of dogs and cats needing our help. Kitten season is in full swing and in the last few months we have taken in 52 cats and kittens from 4 multi-cat households, as well as numerous others brought into us. So we now have over 100 cats and kittens in our care to find loving homes for, many needing veterinary treatment and rehabilitation. And so it goes on, but that's the nature of the work we have pledged to accomplish relentlessly.

Holly Hedge has so much to be grateful for – **wonderful volunteers and supporters, amazing staff, Trustees** who put everything into making HH a better place for our rescues, and most of all the **love and dedication** that shines through. HH has so much positive energy surrounding everything we strive to do. No matter how much we are up against it, we will survive whatever life throws at us, because we can never let down the animals who depend on us, or the wonderful people who believe in us. It is why we are all here, and why we will still be here for as long as it takes – and that could be a very, very long time.

Thank you all for your invaluable support.

Pauline Leeson

Founder

Footnote: Phase 1 and 2 of the new office has now been completed, and our reception and back office will be finished later in the year.

KENNEL AND CATTERY UPDATE

This will be my first article for the newsletter as your Kennel/Cattery Manager, having been here a year now! We have had a lot of positive changes over the last 12 months including the arrival of our Assistant Manager Lucinda, but with a new management team in place, we have both jumped in feet first and are continuously striving to improve our welfare and enrichment programmes. The general daily care of all of our animals and ensuring that Holly Hedge continues to provide the best possible care and support for them is what we are most passionate about, ensuring they are as happy as can be with us until they finally find their purrfect forever homes.

This year has been extremely busy in the kennels and cattery with 250 Cats and 198 Dogs rehomed. These numbers, we are so pleased to say, include many of our long termers – the longest being Midnight, our Alsatian X, who was here for nearly four years! Knowing they could offer the right environment to a dog who might take a little while to settle, a wonderful couple visited our Sanctuary looking for one that was hard to rehome. But from day one, Midnight took to home life with them like a duck to water... straight on the couch and snoozing away like he's always been there!

Sam, our German Shepherd X, was here for almost 18 months. His intelligent nature meant he had excelled at training – even doing some positive reward based police work whilst he was with us. Today, his new owners do a wonderful job continuing his training, ensuring he is well socialised.

Prince, our Brindle Lurcher, was here for three years until he was adopted by a wonderful couple who spent months building a relationship with him and getting to know his quirks. He excels in his new home with some behaviour support from us and is now a different and fun-loving dog.

Ridgeback X Luna arrived at Holly Hedge as a puppy and struggled with home life when he was adopted early into his stay, then came back to us after a short period. Having never had a real

home, we worried that he might never be able to settle. However one of our volunteers with time to give spent months walking him and building a bond with his other dogs; perseverance and patience which ensured that Luna now has a permanent home to call his own.

Other success stories were our dearest Staffy Dexter, Great Dane Bronson, stunning X breed Alani, Staffy Oz, Husky X Nicu, Staffy Tyrus, Labradoodle Rocky and many more – all of whom had lived with us for many months, before finding their own forever homes and families.

We haven't just had success with our long term dogs; we have also seen a rise in our longest resident cats being rehomed. Our beautiful Batman, who was one of our FIV* cats, finally found a home. FIV cats live long and happy lives and we were sad to see him constantly overlooked because of people's fear of taking a cat with a 'condition'. He sat patiently in his pen watching the world go by, until finally that special person came to the rescue. He isn't the only FIV cat to be rehomed this year; Claude, Jensen and Allsorts also moved on to loving, forever homes.

Other rehomed long-termers included some of our most shy residents, who struggled because they didn't come out to say hello to potential adopters and weren't overly keen on being handled. One such was Fox, a very sad looking boy who was constantly ignored, until one day someone took a chance and adopted him. They realised he might always choose to hide away, but they weren't put off by that. And how wrong were we all! He was curious, friendly and wanting a tickle before the day was out! Other success stories included Tommy, Snowie and Sadie, all of whom are now settled and content in their new homes.

It all just goes to show how important it is to not judge a cat or dog the first time you see and meet them in our Sanctuary environment; the trick is to be patient and take the time to get to know them. With a wonderful behaviour team supporting us post-adoption, we continue to

have success with animals that may sometimes have been previously overlooked.

Of course we still struggle to rehome some of our older dogs and have seen an increase in pairs of dogs coming in to the sanctuary – mainly due to their owners becoming unwell, or being unable to find pet friendly rental accommodation. And we have been extra busy this kitten season, with an influx of lovely mums and their variously aged kittens, mostly being found in sheds and gardens: current count 52!

Sadly the majority of these lovely friendly cats aren't being spayed or micro-chipped, so end up straying and getting pregnant. However we continually try to educate people about the need for neutering and will always strive to improve animal welfare in our community.

Whilst these dogs and cats are in our care, we work hard to ensure that our kennel and cattery environment is as homely and as enriching as possible. With the help of corporate volunteers, we have created some fantastic spaces this year, including two new sensory gardens, with plants that have calming properties, interactive games and feeders, sand pits and paddling pools. Training plans, activities and interactive games in their kennels, all help to make our residents' time here the best it can be... and we have added couches and armchairs or raised beds to those kennels with sufficient space, to make them more homely.

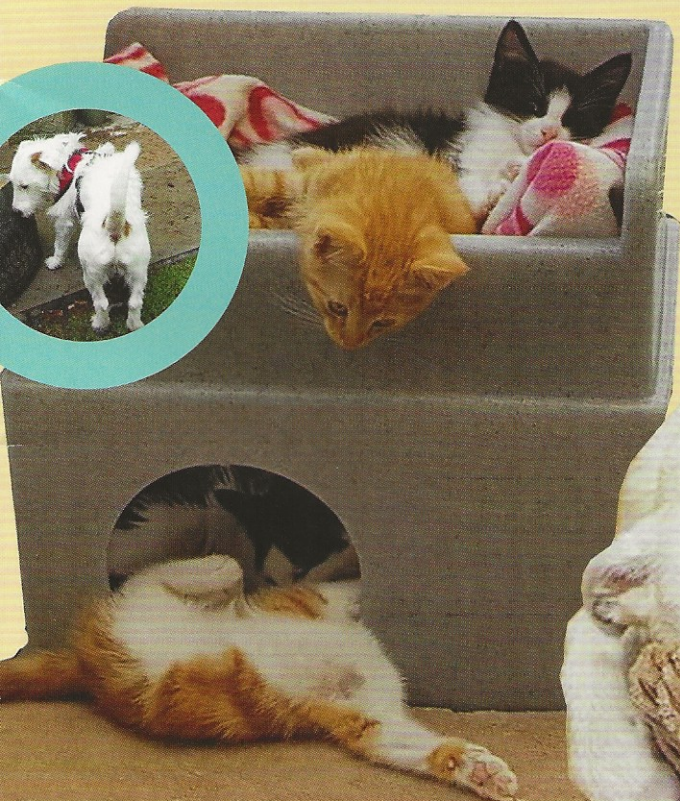
The highlight of the summer was the arrival of new cat furniture, thanks to a grant from the Jean Sainsbury Animal Welfare Trust. It has made a huge difference, being so much easier to keep clean and hygienic, and our cats love the multi hiding spaces and various levels to climb up and down. The furniture has made an amazing difference and we can't thank the Trust enough.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank all of our hard working volunteers who help us every day with our four-footed friends. Their efforts free up valuable time for staff, allowing us to focus on improving the lives of our animals and ensuring they're as happy as they can be.

Thanks for all your continued support and we can't wait to take part in Holly Hedge's exciting new ventures in the future.

Sarah Schranz
Kennel and Cattery Manager

*FIV (Feline Immuno Deficiency Virus) is a condition similar to the virus that causes AIDS in humans, although there is NO risk of humans contracting AIDS from FIV infected cats.

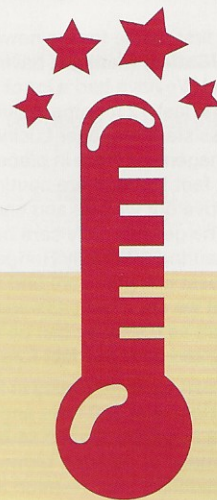


WATCH THIS SPACE!

2017 has been both a trying and triumphant year so far. We have said goodbye to some old faces and welcomed new ones, introduced new, exciting events to our calendar, turned things up a notch with a stimulating series of courses and talks, ventured into the realms of online raffles and more. Holly Hedge is committed to engaging with new activities and initiatives that will help us grow and reach out to more animals in need.

Putting the Fun in Fundraising:

As you know, here at Holly Hedge we receive no government or lottery funding and rely heavily on the kindness of our supporters. That's why every year we try to create lots more fun ways for you to be able to support us. This year we have made sure our Events calendar has something for everyone. Whether it be various fun days and dog shows, runs, abseils, skydives – or even a trek through Vietnam! – there have been so many ways to get involved. If you would like to chat through any of our events (or perhaps you have your own fundraising idea?) please give us a call or email us at: fundraising@hollyhedge.org.uk



Santa Paws is coming to town:

With the festive season coming up quicker than the time it takes to eat a mince pie, our festive plans are already underway. We will be running our calendar competition, where your own beloved pet can have the chance of becoming a star! We will also be asking for donations to our Christmas Shoebox appeal – we have been running this appeal for the last few years and have been amazed by people's kindness. Your donated shoeboxes full of food and toys for our rescues have made a huge difference and we are all eternally grateful.



The Technical stuff:

We are so pleased to announce that the new Holly Hedge website is finally up and running. It is a colourful hub of information on all things Holly Hedge. You can find an up-to-date list of our rescues, read happy ending stories, buy merchandise in our shop and scroll through our exciting Events calendar. We would like to say 'thank you' to Rocket Media who produced the site for us.



Facebook Fan-tastic:

Those of you who follow us on social media will know that our Facebook page is a really wonderful platform for Holly Hedge – full of stories of our lovely rescues, happy ending stories from adopters, detailed information on all of our events and more. This year our Facebook following has reached over 17,000 people – we thank you so much for being a part of this: all of the liking and sharing of our stories definitely helps us raise awareness more.



Going, Going, Gone!:

Holly Hedge held its first ever online auction earlier this year and what a cracking auction it was! We had an array of amazing lots, all generously donated by kind individuals and companies. We are now pleased to announce that we will be making our online auctions a regular event in future. So keep your eyes peeled on our website and social media and buy, buy, buy! in a very good cause.



Kennel Block:

On 1st July this year we were over the moon to celebrate our long-awaited kennel launch, for which we were joined by our Patron, friend and BBC celebrity, Monty Halls. We were also joined by two of our longest-serving supporters, Terry and Barbara Pavey. The sun shone and it was so lovely to be able to officially unveil our new kennels.



Edu-paw-cation:

Holly Hedge has always advocated the sharing of animal knowledge and advice from our own experiences and that of our wonderful team and 2017 saw a fantastic series of talks delivered by Rosie, our wonderful behaviourist from Pet Sense.



We're sure you will agree that this year has been a corker and we're already looking forward to what 2018 will bring. Keep an eye on our website and social media for regular updates, new enterprises and WATCH THIS SPACE!



Murder Mystery DINNER

27th October 2017

Join **Holly Hedge Animal Sanctuary** at the
fabulous **Hotel du Vin** for a

Murder Mystery Dinner



Price includes:

- A welcome drink
- Luxury 3-course meal
- Professional Murder Mystery

£50

*Option to stay overnight for an
extra charge*

Book your ticket by emailing
**[hannah.wozniak@hollyhedge.
org.uk](mailto:hannah.wozniak@hollyhedge.org.uk)** or calling **07858 050248**

PLEASE GIVE ME A LOVING HOME



JAG

Poor 7-year-old Jag arrived at Holly Hedge after she lost the special human in her life. Naturally she is feeling sad and lonely, but is slowly beginning to enjoy the extra attention we are giving her. We think

Jag will feel happier again once she's in a new home with lots of love and company. Could you be the one to bring the sparkle back to this beautiful girl's eyes? We really hope she won't have to wait too much longer.



DIESEL

Here's Diesel - we think he is absolutely fabulous and don't let his size put you off as he is a gentle giant with a huge heart to match! He loves nothing more than having cuddles and placing his paw gently in your hand! This lovable lad is 11 years old and really deserves to be spending his days in a loving 'forever home' where he can be pampered to his heart's content - could that be with you? He'd just love to have someone to share nice walks with when he's not gently snoozing the days away! Diesel is keeping those wonderful loving paws of his firmly crossed!

BETSY

Beautiful Betsy arrived with us as she didn't cope well sharing her home with young children and she is still settling in to cattery life. Betsy does like a gentle fuss as well as a nice soft brush to keep her stunning fur in tip-top condition. Betsy needs to be the only pet in a very quiet area, as she can be anxious with sudden noises. Please give Betsy a chance - she really does deserve it.



He has been with us for such a long time now and we are all really hoping that his 'forever home' is just around the corner.

Rupert has been with us for such a long time now and we are all really hoping that his 'forever home' is just around the corner.

STAN & ERIC

Poor little Stan and Eric arrived here as strays, lost and confused. Stan immediately wanted to be friends, loves a cuddle and is happy to see you every day. Eric is nervous of people and can be a little apprehensive if approached by strangers. However, now he is gaining trust, he is becoming more confident and affectionate and even enjoys sitting on the staffs' laps, now he knows them well! It would be wonderful if these two inseparable friends could finally find an adult only home to call their own together, as they do love each other. It would be heart-breaking to split them up and we could only do so if they went to exceptionally caring homes on the same day.

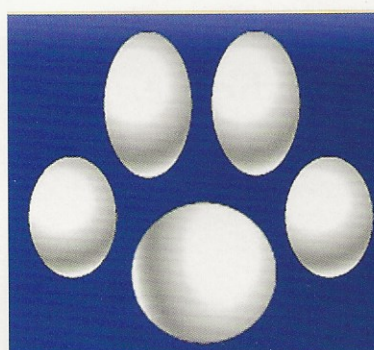
POPPY

Our 'Little Laundry' Helper!!!

Poppy, our 4-year-old Parsons Jack Russell X, is a very energetic and smart little dog who likes to be busy. She's looking for a special home with people who can give her the time and training she needs. She will get into mischief if left alone and puppy proofing in the home may be needed! These things aside, she's such a fun little lady and help will be given with training and support to get her settled. She really deserves a chance at a forever home...could you be the one to make her dreams come true?

RUPERT

Rupert is approximately three years old and is a very sweet and affectionate Jack Russell, though he can be a little nervous of new people and surroundings. Once Rupert has gained your trust he will be a friend for life! He enjoys his walks and toys and would suit a quiet, adult only home. We have worked on his social skills with other dogs and although he can sometimes be barking on the lead, he has made some doggy friends that he happily plays off lead with. We believe that with a little more training, Rupert would be a truly great companion.



Chapel Farm Rehab
Canine Rehabilitation and Hydrotherapy
Referral Centre

Tel: 01761 490944

PLEASE GIVE ME A LOVING HOME



MADDIE

Beautiful older girl Maddie, (whose beloved owner sadly passed away), is a lovely girl with a big heart and lots of love to give. She keeps us company in our office, but she would much rather be spending her days and nights in her 'forever home'.

Why am I still waiting? I can't believe it's true.

I try to make the best of things, but deep down I feel blue.

It's nice here in the daytime, there's lots to do and see,

I spend it with the office staff who keep me company.

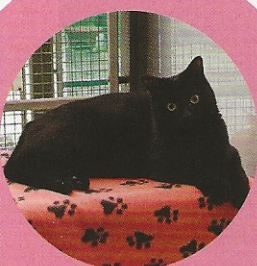
But there's that dreaded moment, when everyone goes home,

The nights draw in, I bide my time, sad and all alone.

Do you think that you might have a special place for me? If so, please ask one of my carers if you can meet Maddie...

CUDDLES

Cuddles is such a stunning girl with beautiful big, inquisitive eyes. She's only a year old and just loves to play with all her toys! Cuddles would benefit from being the only pet in the home, due to her wanting all the attention to herself. Can you make Cuddles' dreams come true? Please come and visit us if you would like to meet her. Thank you!



JET & KARLA

Meet Jet and Karla, a male and female lurcher duo, five and eight years old; large, loving lap dogs who like to put paws on shoulders and give you a cuddle! They love to spoon on their sofa and laze around but do enjoy walks in the woods and the great outdoors. A rural setting would suit them well, though they may chase small furries! These two are always smiling and really are a joy! They have proven this with their very own poem....

We We are extremely loving dogs, who dearly want a home.

Why is it we don't have one yet?

It's tough to feel alone.

In spite of all the daily yearning, for a special place,

We know that you should try to keep

A smile upon one's face!

HENNY

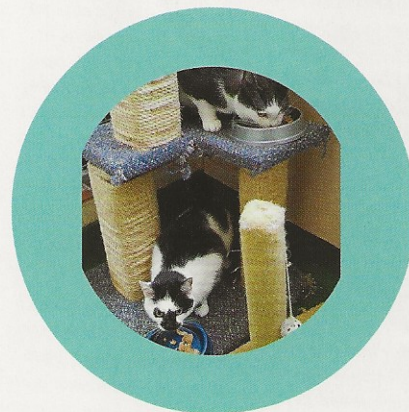
Henny arrived with us as she wasn't getting on with the new baby in the home. She is finding it a little tough in the cattery at the moment, but does enjoy a gentle fuss and some playtime. We feel that she would benefit from being the only pet with late teens children, as she does get over excited during playtime.

Can you make Henny happy again?



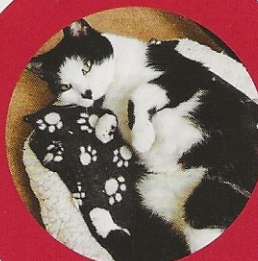
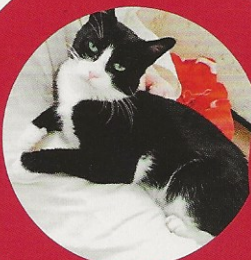
GEORGE & ALFIE

George and Alfie are two superb 11-year-old gentlemen who arrived at Holly Hedge after their owner sadly passed away. They are looking for a home together where they can be spoilt and pampered. Naturally they are feeling a little sad and confused just now and are missing their home comforts. George and Alfie are such sweet cats who adore company and attention and really would make a home complete. Can you give these very handsome and sophisticated felines the wonderful home they deserve? They would love nothing more than to be welcomed into a cosy new pad.

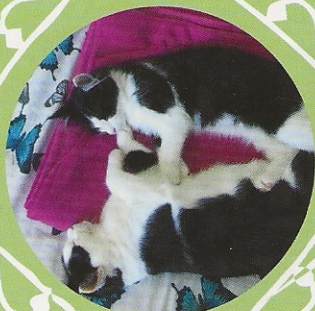


JOJO & JESS

JoJo and Jess arrived here from a multi-cat household and are looking for their 'happy ever after' where they can be together as the only cats in the home. Jess loves human attention and likes to climb up and lie around your shoulders whereas JoJo prefers a more gentle fuss. This stunning pair really do have so much love to give their 'purrfect' home.



HEARTWARMING HAPPY ENDINGS



Bryn & Mars

Our family cat died of an illness last June and our home wasn't quite the same without her around. We decided we would visit Holly Hedge at the end of the summer, so as soon as we were able we made our first visit. We were looking for two kittens and there were many available at the time – but two really stood out because they were so different and already we could see their different personalities. Mars was right next to the gate looking out at everyone and had the cutest little ears and a short stumpy tail and was just adorable. He was the last of a litter of three kittens and had been put with another female kitten called Bryn. Bryn was a stray and very shy, but with Mars being so confident they had been put together. We decided that day that we would have them, so after passing all the checks we were back a week later to collect them. As soon as we were home, Mars was straight out and wandering around and within a couple of hours he had been all over the house. Bryn on the other hand wouldn't even come out of the cat basket and for the first few days would only come out when there wasn't anyone around or only for food. By the end of the first week she was letting us stroke her and within a fortnight a was completely different kitten. She was so affectionate and wanted lots of attention – especially when Mars was around. (Little bit of kitten rivalry going on there!!)

They have settled so well and love playing with each other and anyone else who is around. Mars we have nicknamed mischievous Mars as he is always up to mischief and Bryn, well she just loves her cuddles and is always sneaking off to someone's bedroom for a long nap. As you can see above, Bryn and Mars snuggle up together and are very much enjoying their home comforts. We love them to bits and our home wouldn't be the same without them.

From The Gurneys,
Bryn and Mars xx

Katniss

Katniss came to live with us in November of 2015, after I had built a bond with her during my cat cuddling shifts. My heart went out to her as she had been overlooked for so long and just needed someone with understanding to take her on.

I went off to Australia and Holly Hedge kindly agreed for my partner, Dave, to foster Katniss with us, adopting her soon after. It did not take long for her to settle in.

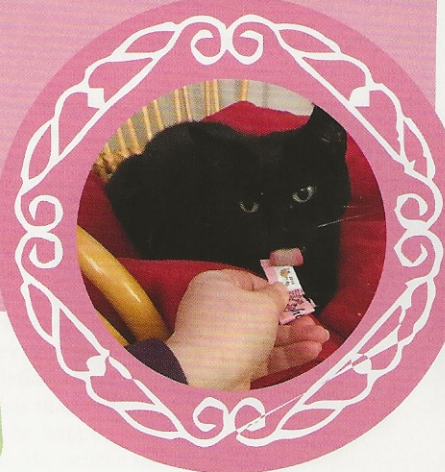
She spent a couple of days hiding, only emerging from behind the sofa to eat or go to the toilet, but after four days, she ended up on Dave's lap looking for fuss.

Katniss always had a habit of lashing out with her razor sharp claws when she heard a sound she didn't like or if you moved too quickly. It has been a long haul to get her to the stage of letting us pick her up and fuss her without risk of her scratching and now she can be an absolute Angel!

We have moved to a house in a quiet village. She has a cat flap and comes and goes through the day but mostly just sits on the fence catching the sun whenever possible. When she is not outside she is keeping the end of our bed warm.

Katniss loves to play, particularly after her dinner where she thunders backwards and forwards at the top of our stairs chasing her favourite green ball or kicking her Kong Kickaroo!

We are so pleased to have Katniss. She has settled into home life with us and proves that even the difficult ones deserve a chance. We wouldn't swap her for the world!



Fozzie

We love Fozzie and he has such a great character. In the morning he follows me everywhere, even to the toilet! until I feed him (even playfully batting my ankles, if I'm taking too long taking the food out of the cupboard). He'll then have a little play with his toys with my daughter before spending most of his day sleeping in our wardrobe. In the evening he comes and sits with us in the lounge. On top of the sofa is his favourite place but he'll often move to my lap for a cuddle and a brush.

Thank you for helping us adopt such a fab cat and one who has fitted in with us brilliantly.



Jackson

In memory of Jackson who passed away on 9th November 2016 who was very much loved and whose wonderful owners felt very lucky to have had him.

R.I.P. beautiful boy.

This is the story Jackson wrote for us with the help of 12-year-old Minnie:

I was found wandering in Basingstoke three days before Christmas 2014. I don't know why I was lost in the world with no one to love me but I was. Basingstoke dog pound found me and took me in. When I went to see the vet there, I was so old and thin that they said there was no hope for me....

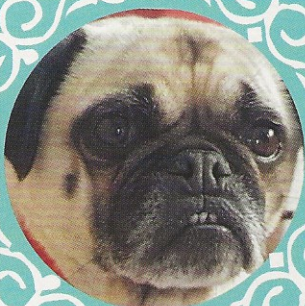
Holly Hedge heard about me and gave me a second chance. They were so kind to me because they sent me straight to a foster home where I was loved back to health. It was very confusing for me because the foster home I went to had two dogs there, both called Millie.

Six days before Easter Sunday, I was adopted by a kind and loving, forever family. They always give me whatever I need. I love going camping with my family because they always take me everywhere.

I am so grateful for everything Holly Hedge has done for me and to the foster family for helping me to get back to health. Without their care, I would not be here for my forever family. Even though I am old, I still love walks and playing with my rope toy. Thank you again,
Holly Hedge.



HEARTWARMING HAPPY ENDINGS



Dugly

Settled them in nicely

Well, so far so good. The family I adopted seem reasonable so I'll probably keep them. They've got a cat to keep me entertained but really it increases the number of places I can sleep.

Multum in parvo, or "much in little"

Like most pugs, I still have the ability to turn full size humans to gibbering idiots and have had one approach me saying "Oh lovely Puggy Dog Dog" which gets a bit embarrassing really as there were other dogs in the cafe at the time.

They've got me a sort of coat thing which I should wear when out in the rain, how daft are they?

Me, in the rain- I don't think so.

They've got me a lovely dog bed in the hall with cushions to sleep on at night, how daft are they?

Me, in a dog bed - I don't think so.

They've got me a normal dog guard to keep me in the boot area of the car, how daft are they?

Me, in the boot- I don't think so.

They take me for walks and don't expect me to stop when I meet people, how daft are they?

Me, keep walking - I don't think so.

They want me to be quiet when little birds fly into the garden, how daft are they?

Me, allow birds in the garden- I don't think so.

They've already got a cat who thinks she's the boss because she's older, how daft are they?

A cat as the boss- apparently I do think so!

Since I don't like getting my bottom cold I've found a great use for those things on the end of people's legs. The good thing is they've all got them so if the family aren't near I'll do it with strangers, including the girl in the Nailsea Holly Hedge shop!

So, all in all they're doing OK, so I think we could consider my adoption of this family as a happy ending.



Fox

Our little Fox or "fusser" as we've affectionately nicknamed him, has blossomed since we brought him home in November of last year.

At first he was very shy and was hiding in the corner, but as time went on he became more and more confident and now there's nowhere he won't venture - making sure that, no matter what room you go into, you're never unaccompanied.

As a big fan of the game "tripping hazard" he also loves to play up and down the stairs with the greatest love of his life, a bright green mouse, named, "mousey" (zero points for creativity).

A solid four months on and even with mousey missing a foot, ear and tail, Fox won't even look in another toy's direction.

Fox used to be scared of the bright shiny magic box in the lounge so would just sit in the doorway so he could be near us, but now he is king of the couch potatoes, sitting with us whenever we're TV watching in the lounge. We're unsure as to what his favourite programme is but we're pretty sure he's as excited as we are for the new series of First Dates.

Unhappy with the job that our own shower gel or soap does, he likes to give us a good clean, until his own exacting standards have been met and we all look as purrfect as he does. This may leave our skin raw and dry, but Fox assures us that this is for the best, if we ever hope to achieve the high standard of cleanliness that he does.

If it wasn't for all of the story reading, patience and love he received while he was at Holly Hedge, we wouldn't be as happy or as clean as we are now, so thank you xxx



Daisy

We never meant to adopt her, but some things are just meant to be! This is Daisy. When we met, her name was Blaze and she was having a terrible time, having found herself at Holly Hedge. She's a 9-year-old Staffy who suffers with separation anxiety and she was really not coping well with being in kennels. She cried constantly. We didn't go there to meet her. But when we met her, she was a whirling dervish of energy and noises, snarfs and squeaks galore and she had the waggiest of tails! My husband had the hugest "I LOVE HER" grin I have ever seen. She was ours from that very moment!

We weren't 100% sure our three cats would appreciate this black Tazmanian-devil-whirlwind-of-a-dog, so we agreed we would foster her initially, just to make sure everything worked out. Thankfully, after a month or so, everything settled down. As you can see... someone has made herself very comfortable! She's such a dappy dog, so gentle with the cats now and a lot less needy than she was! And a lot less farty too, thankfully! Although we can definitely tell when she's nervous!

She still bombs about like a loon, but is mostly chilled out and calm or demanding belly rubs. OMG, she LOVES belly rubs... There are never enough! She's such a vocal girl, making gremlin noises, snarfing about, snorting and snoring and we only really worry when she's quiet (as that seems to mean she's sneakily eating cat poo.... What a grim beast!). She still hates it if we go out though, but she's so good whilst we are out, and she gets so excited when we come home, she steals our shoes! She's definitely a perfect fit for our weird little family!



Meg

My name is Meg and it's fair to say I have a new home and I'm here to stay. I may be older but I'm lots of fun I enjoy play and cuddles with my new mum.

She fell in love with me don't you know The moment she saw my website photos. But now that she has me it's certain for sure I have her love far greater and more.

I fill Mum's world with love and joy We have great fun with my squeaky toys Even in the garden playing with figs I'm really happy in my new digs.

Fresh air and new places to walk I have my free choices to walk rest or play At my own pace every day I'm patient with Mum because she needs me to be

We go out in the car and find lots to do and see. I have lots of friends and it's great for me Lots of adventures, new places to see. Mum gets support from really great friends

Which makes a big difference to us both in a positive way So much fun throughout our day. Support is important in our weekly routine From great friends their kindness does not go unseen,

For Mum and I are really lucky we know Without it things would be very different and so To all at Holly Hedge who made our dreams come true And to all who support us we thank you all too.

When Dad gets home he's such a tease He adds more fun - I wag my tail and say let's play please.

HEARTWARMING HAPPY ENDINGS



Alani

March 2016 - the first time Carl and I met Alani the clumsy, pointy-eared, fox-tailed staffy X who would eventually join our family in August. Whenever we visited the sanctuary (most weekends), Carl would make a beeline for Alani's kennel where she would press herself against the door, wag her tail furiously, and smile her big staffy smile. We waited, every week sure we were going to see the reserved sign on her door, sure that the right family would meet and fall in love with her like we had. Little did we know that she'd already met the right family.

The first few days were both wonderful and extremely difficult and we felt overwhelmed and panicked when her first walk turned into a series of barks, growls and lunges at everything. I rang Holly Hedge in tears, terrified that we had taken on too much. Holly Hedge arranged for Rosie, animal behaviourist, to come and see Alani. She explained simple, effective methods we could use to keep her calmer. Following Rosie's advice and learning to adapt to Alani's needs has been tough at times. However, watching her begin to relax and gain confidence has been the most amazing journey for all of us.

We've now had Alani for 10 months, she doesn't behave perfectly but is learning to play and socialise with other dogs. She's been to the beach, climbed hills in Wales, and spent many days stretched out contentedly in front of the fire. She has so much love to give and believes herself to be the perfect lapdog.

Two months ago we couldn't get a sitter and she came with us to visit my friend who has a beautiful daughter with autism. I was worried about this meeting, almost cancelling it because of Alani's sheer size, strength and clumsiness. But Alani was patient and gentle, placing her paw softly on the seven year old's hand and sitting by her side even though her head was being patted a little too hard.

Alani is challenging, but more importantly, Alani is affectionate, loving, hilarious, intelligent and beautiful. She had a bad start to life and then spent a long time in kennels, as many staffies/staffy crosses sadly do. We intend to give her the most amazing forever home. We want to encourage everyone considering getting a dog to visit a rescue, not a breeder, and to consider a staffy. Just look at this irresistible smile...

Prince

My name is Prince, and I've been in this magazine before, under PLEASE GIVE ME A LOVING HOME. But this year it's all changed for me, Woof Woof. One day last July, two very nice people passed my block, I stood proud and gave them my puppy eyes and under my breath I was begging them to pick me. They read my story and started calling my name, I was so happy I started to bark at them.

They looked at my friends and returned to my kennel...my tail was like a helicopter. I was excited that someone was paying interest in me. We went for a walk in the woods but I was scared, my legs went like jelly and I couldn't go any further. The next day I was door watching for hours and to my delight they returned. That sign I'd waited so long for RESERVED! They were back every day to see me. Each day my love for them grew. I waited until they said: 'Today's the day you can come home with us'. I made them wait as I wanted a shower to be fresh for my new parents. I'm now in my new home and absolutely love it, I've got my own massive bed, I was scared at first and was a little naughty but Mum and Dad said, 'Everything will be ok, it will take time but you will love it in the end.' And how right they were. I go out for walks day and night, I've even been on a train and to the beach. Now I'm being a good boy for Mum and Dad, they even let me get in bed with them. I love sleeping next to someone who loves me so much. I just can't believe my luck. To all my friends at Holly Hedge, Don't give up, it will be your turn soon. A massive thank you to the staff that walked and fed me daily.

Lots of love and sloppy kisses Prince



Misty

Misty came into our lives earlier this year after an impromptu visit to Holly Hedge resulted in my daughter Amelie falling head over heels for a lovely white cat called Misty! We had been thinking for a while about getting a cat but hadn't acted on it, however as soon as we visited Holly Hedge and stepped into little Misty's enclosure we knew instantly she was the one! She took instantly to Amelie, strolling on to her lap and making herself at home. She was so sweet natured and affectionate with both of us, we were both instantly smitten!

Once she had met all members of the family, and Amelie's brother William had also fallen for her, we were able to officially adopt her. Misty took incredibly well to our home from the start, soon made herself comfortable and we have never looked back. These days she's a very contented and homely cat and doesn't venture much further than our back garden. She is also a real lap cat, taking any opportunity she can to jump on to any of us, including visitors, for a cuddle and a scratch!

We are totally in love with our beautiful cat Misty. Thank you so much, Holly Hedge for letting us give her a home.

Lots of Love Rhian,
Matt, Amelie & William

xx



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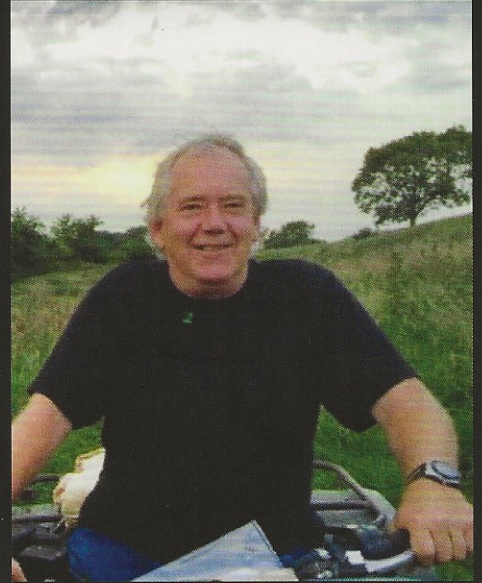
TRIBUTE TO DAVE PULLEY

It was such a shock to hear the heart-breaking news that Dave had passed away so suddenly, and the sadness was overwhelming for all of us at Holly Hedge who loved and respected him. Dave was such an amazing and wonderful man who did the animal kingdom proud - a real champion and unsung hero for those who had no voice.

Dave could always be depended on to answer calls for help at any time of the day or night if an animal was involved, and so many people admired and adored him for his total and unwavering commitment. He has been a saviour to Holly Hedge on numerous occasions over the years - nothing was ever too much trouble where animals were concerned, and his dedication knew no bounds.

He will be greatly missed by all who knew him, and our hearts go out to Rose and his daughters Claire and Helen. They all shared his love and compassion for animals, and as a family were united in helping him make such a difference to their lives.

Dave is a legend and will never be forgotten for all his work helping domestic pets and wildlife - it was a real privilege to have known this great man.



A Festival Tail

This year the huge three-day Volksfest festival was held in fields by Long Ashton, just down the road from Holly Hedge Animal Sanctuary. The area was filled with cars and campers, loads of stalls, thousands of festival-goers and lots of all-night partying.

As the festival had kindly offered to raise funds for us, their local charity, we were invited to take some of our residents down for a parade. Proudly wearing their 'adopt me' coats, we headed with some of our dogs down to the show. It was such a hot day that we didn't want to stop too long, but our mixture of Greyhounds, Lurchers, Staffies, Shih Tzus, a Westie and a Japanese Akita, all received plenty of attention, with our dogs on their best behaviour.

What no one bargained for was that we would arrive with ten dogs and leave with eleven! But our idea of maybe finding one of our dogs a home, turned into a rescue mission for a very sweet 18-month-old Springer Spaniel called Blaze....

During the festival, a trader had spotted this little black dog tied to a post at a car boot stall, with a large cardboard sign saying....

**FREE..To a good home..
springer x staffie, 18 months old,
vaccinated, micro-chipped, neutered,
black & white, boy**

As the dog sat tethered to the post in the blazing hot sun, it became more and more distressed as it was talked over and stared at by passing punters. Eventually a fellow trader who had watched the event unfold, realised the horrors that could face this lovely dog if it fell into the wrong hands during a show attended by thousands of people. So he asked the dog's owners if

he could take it for a walk. Apparently this had happened a few times during the day, except this time the trader had no intention of returning the poor dog.

Instead he went around the show, desperately trying to find someone to help. He eventually came across the dog agility team, which was demonstrating at the show - and they took the dog into their care whilst they tried to establish who was giving it away and why. An agility team member spoke to the Event organisers, who suggested they ask at our Holly Hedge stand for help. And of course we jumped into action, taking this little dog into our care.

Back at the Sanctuary, we scanned his microchip in case he was stolen property and confirmed that his name was Blaze, before attempting without success, to contact his owners. Meantime, Holly Hedge volunteers searched the showground for clues... and the owners were eventually located!

Sarah, our Kennel Manager, then talked to them about why they were giving Blaze away and they explained that the dog - which was still a bouncy puppy, needing plenty of exercise - couldn't be regularly walked, as they weren't well enough to do it. Yet it hadn't occurred to them that tying their pet to a post, along with a cardboard sign offering to give him away, wasn't the best solution.

In fact the owners were oblivious to the very real danger they had exposed this sweet little dog to. What if the wrong sort of person - perhaps even a child - had just taken him away? At the very least, he might have ended up abandoned somewhere, or taken into a home which wasn't suitable for



his particular needs; at worst, he might have ended up as dog bait at one of the many illegally run dog fights.

The owners claimed they had contacted other animal rescue centres in the Somerset area, but had not been offered kennel space, so instead had decided on this way of rehoming Blaze. At which point, Sarah encouraged them to allow Holly Hedge to rehome their pet with more suitable owners and helped them to sign Blaze over to us officially by completing the necessary paperwork.

We bring you this story to highlight the dangers of trying to give a dog away for free. Anyone could have taken possession of Blaze with just a convenient lie or two about what a nice, caring, spaniel loving family he would be going to. And the poor creature could easily have ended up abandoned, savaged and attacked for sport, beaten or killed - with no one any the wiser.

Blaze could easily have met with an awful fate at the hands of total strangers but instead, he was rescued by Holly Hedge. And he was such a lovely, friendly little dog that it's no surprise to us that we found him a truly loving, happy home with responsible, caring owners, in no time at all....

F U N D A Y

**Sunday 3 September 2017, Ashton Court
Holly Hedge Fun Day 2017 Programme**

Fun Day timetable

11am	Fun Day OPENS!
11am	Dog Show registration open
11am	Furry Foto Competition registration opens
11.30am	The Holly Hedge Dog Parade
12pm	The Dog Show starts
1.30pm	Dog Agility Display
2.30pm	Furry Foto Competition registration shuts for judging
3.30pm	Furry Foto Competition winners announced!
3.55pm	Best Dog in Show announced
4.00pm	Event Ends

Dog Show classes & approximate timetable

12.00pm	Cutest Puppy (up to 1 yr old)
12.20pm	Golden Oldie (8 yrs plus)
12.40pm	Loveliest Lady
1.00pm	Most Handsome Chappie
1.20pm	Child's Best Friend (child 14yrs & under)
1.40pm	Waggiest Tail
2.00pm	Shiniest Coat
2.20pm	Most Beautiful Eyes
2.40pm	Dog Most Like Its Owner
3.00pm	Best Rescue (from any rescue!)
3.20pm	Best in Show (winners of all the previous classes will automatically be entered)

All entries cost £2 per class and you must be registered to take part in a class. To enable us to keep to the timetable as best we can please be at the Dog Show Ring 10 minutes prior to the start of your class. All timings are approximate – please listen out for announcements throughout the day. You can enter as many classes as you like. If you and your dog win your class you will be automatically entered into The Best In Show Class; only the winner of each class is eligible for The Best in Show Class. Our Judges decision is final.

Furry Foto Competition!

- 1 Cutest Kitten/Puppy (cats or dogs aged 1 year and under)
- 2 Best Rescue (from any rescue)
- 3 Best Golden Oldie (cats or dogs aged 8 and over)
- 4 Best Cat or Dog Personality Poses (single cat or dog showing off his/her personality)
- 5 My Cat or Dog and Me (cats or dogs and their owner/s)
- 6 Best Cat or Dog in Show (all winners from all the other categories will be entered into this class automatically)

All entries cost £2 per class and you must fill out a registration form to take part. You can enter as many classes as you want but you will need to enter an individual picture for each class. The winner of each class will automatically be entered into The Best Cat or Dog in Show class; only the winner from each class is eligible for Best Cat or Dog in Show. Our Judges' decision is final.



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

It costs over £1,687 a day to run Holly Hedge and our annual veterinary bills alone are over £90,000.

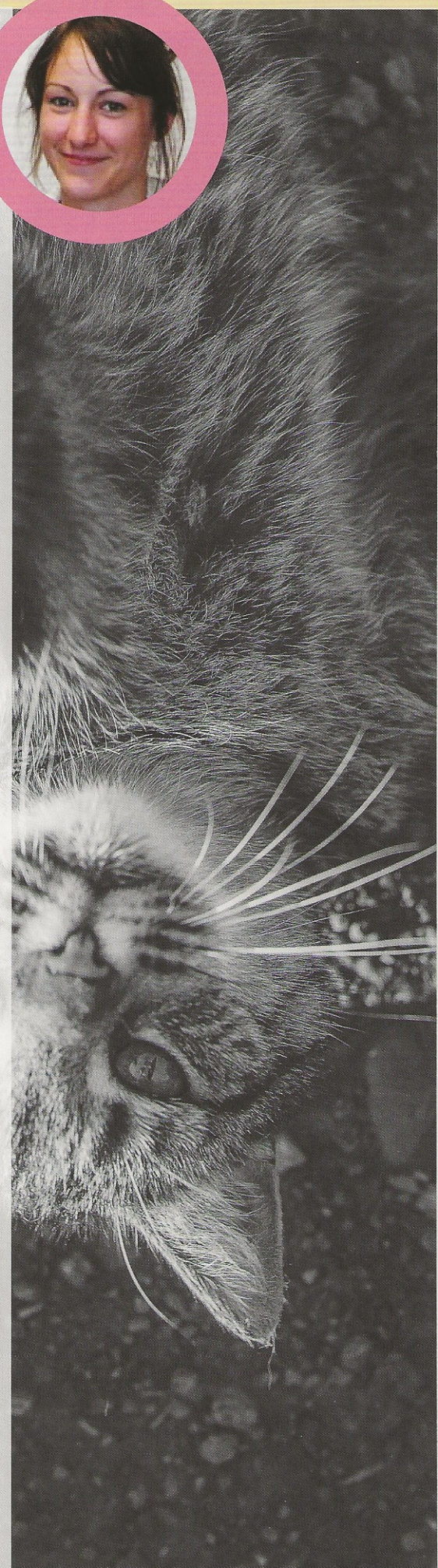
We receive no funding from the government or National Lottery and rely on the generosity and goodwill of our supporters to keep our kennel and catter doors open. It is a continuous struggle for us to raise these funds but it is vital that we do so to ensure that we are able to provide help to the ever-increasing number of homeless animals in need.

How can you help?

There are so many different ways that you can help Holly Hedge and here are just a few of them...

- **Buy a raffle ticket in our Summer raffle.** Tickets are available to buy at the Sanctuary, in shops, over the phone or even online.
- **Sponsor a kennel or cat pen.** Perhaps your company would like to sponsor one or perhaps you would like to sponsor one in memory of a loving pet?
- **Volunteer.** From helping at collections to assisting with events the volunteering possibilities are endless
- **Attend one of our events.** We have something for everyone from dance events to Murder Mysteries and our fabulous annual Fun Day at Ashton Court
- **Take part in a challenge event.** From marathons to abseils we have something for everyone.
- **Take your challenge overseas!** Perhaps you would like to try the London to Paris cycle or trek the Sahara?
- **Fundraise at work.** Perhaps you would like to hold a coffee morning or consider us as your Charity of the Year?
- **Fundraise at school.** Hold a school dance or dress down day.
- **Give a collection tin a home or help us at one of our collections.**
- **Register to help at one of our supermarket collections or bag packs.**
- Check out our **Amazon wish list** where you can purchase a gift for our animals
- **Leave a gift in your will.** Leave a legacy and help us give homeless animals that second chance.
- **Leave a gift in memory.** Perhaps you would like a plaque in one of our kennels or cat pens in memory of a loving pet? Or sign up to our new Paws for Thought scheme.
- **Set up your own fundraising event.** We will support you on your fundraising journey and provide you with a great pack to help you.
- **Sign up to our Lottery** where you can support us whilst also being in with a chance of winning some great cash prizes.
- **Purchase our Carer for the Day Experience** where you will get to work hands on with the animals and learn what life is like as part of team Holly Hedge!

There are so many ways to support us and together we can make a real difference to the lives of these wonderful animals. If you would like more information on how you can support Holly Hedge, please contact our Community Fundraiser Hannah and she will be more than happy to help. Email her on: hannah@hollyhedge.org.uk



OTHER WAYS YOU CAN HELP



Text to Donate

Donating to Holly Hedge could not be easier with our campaign text code.

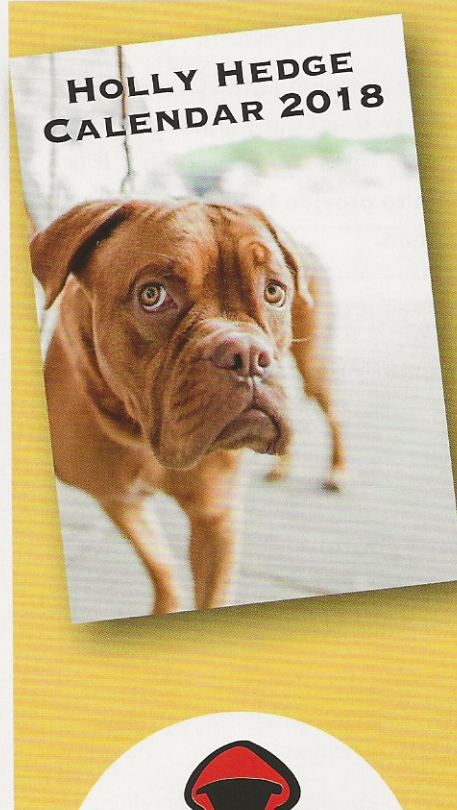
Text HHAS12 followed by your donation amount to 70070 to donate to Holly Hedge and make a difference today.

Holly Hedge Merchandise

We are now stocked up with a new array of Holly Hedge merchandise.

We have a selection of clothing, tote bags, doggie bag dispensers, dog water bottles and frisbees.

Goods can be purchased at the Sanctuary, shop, by phone or on the online shop.



enter the holly hedge Christmas calendar competition

Once again we will be running our Holly Hedge calendar campaign – a competition to make your pampered pooch or feline friend one of the stars of our 2018 Holly Hedge calendar.

To take part, please make a donation (suggested amount is £3) and submit your photo to the comments section of the post at the top of our Facebook page. The 12 pictures with the most likes at the beginning of October will then feature in our 2018 calendar. **Winners will receive a copy of the calendar along with a certificate!** Please be sure to include your name and contact information with your donation as anonymous ones cannot be accepted.



HOLLY HEDGE HOODIES AND T-SHIRTS

We are now stocked up with various colours and sizes of our lovely Holly Hedge hoodies and t-shirts, all proudly donning the Holly Hedge logo. Please pop in to the Sanctuary or give us a call or email for more information.

T-shirts = £10 • Hoodies = £20



CHRISTMAS CARDS

Our festive Christmas cards are in stock and on sale in the shops and at the Sanctuary. There are various packs and they are priced at £3 per pack, with all profits going directly to Holly Hedge. Please drop by to buy a pack.

If you aren't local, you can order by phone on 01275 474719 or via the website.



OTHER WAYS YOU CAN HELP

Kim just can't stop running for Holly Hedge!

Kim Urwin-Nash is currently preparing and training for – not her first, second or third, but her **FOURTH** run for Holly Hedge!

Kim is going to be taking part in the iconic Bristol Half Marathon this September and will be fundraising for Holly Hedge in this sponsored event.

"This is my fourth half marathon for Holly Hedge. On my first, which was Bath 2016, I raised £275. This year, on my second in Bristol, I raised £250 and on my third in Bath, I raised £207. The three things I most love in life are family, animals and running and on race day these three things come together!"

We are so grateful to have amazing people like Kim supporting our cause and we wish her all the best in the upcoming race.

If you would like to take part in a running event, please give us a call or email fundraising@hollyhedge.org.uk



take to the skies

Do you want to take part in one of the most adrenalin pumping challenges available whilst also raising vital funds for HollyHedge?

We will be sending thrill-seeking skydivers up to the dizzying heights of 10,000 feet for the jump of a lifetime.

No previous experience is required as you'll be attached to an instructor who is in complete control of your jump throughout so all you'll need to do is kickback and enjoy the ride. The jump itself will be officially adjudicated too so you'll be able to tell everyone you know you are a certified world record breaker!

You can choose to take part in a skydive at any time of the year, at various airfields.

Email hannah@hollyhedge.org.uk for more information or to book and receive your skydive fundraising pack.



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A VOLUNTEER?

My name is Erin Millard and I am twelve. I volunteer at Holly Hedge most Sundays and in school holidays as my mum, Angela Millard, works at Holly Hedge.

WHAT DO I DO?

As a volunteer at Holly Hedge there are many jobs. What I do is volunteer in the cattery and the office doing jobs for and helping the staff. In the cattery the jobs to do are: clean out the cat pens, help feed the cats, cuddle cats, sweep and mop floors, clean and fill the litter trays and clean the store room. Back in the office I make cat toys, help with donations, sort out stamps and help the staff.

WHY DO I LIKE VOLUNTEERING?

I like volunteering as the staff are so lovely and kind and you don't have to do anything you don't want to do. Also I love cats and dogs, and I get to see those a lot. And I can help out with fundraising.



BEHAVIOURAL ISSUES AND RESCUE DOGS

Many dogs show unwanted behaviours, whether they have come from rescue backgrounds or not. The likelihood of an individual dog exhibiting behaviour issues is down to both 'nature' (genetics) and 'nurture' (life experiences).

Sometimes behaviour 'problems' are completely normal behaviour from a dog's perspective, but are unwanted from a human perspective. For example, digging is a natural behaviour for dogs, but the owner may not want the dog to dig in the garden. Other times, owners expect a dog to be able to do something that is not actually natural behaviour, for example being left alone in social isolation all day, which may give rise to unwanted behaviours.

However, at other times expression of a behaviour problem is a symptom of pain, illness or an emotional disorder. In other words, there will be an underlying motivation which causes the dog to act in a certain way. It may be a response to something that is present in the environment, or a learned behaviour to something that happened in the past. In this instance, the dog will automatically resort to a certain type of behaviour when presented with situations that trigger a 'memory' of the thing that previously induced a reaction.

Whenever any animal exhibits a behavioural problem, the first port of call is always the vet. Some illnesses will cause certain unwanted behaviour, whilst pain or illness will reduce a dog's ability to cope with life and stressful situations.

When a dog feels frightened of something, it has various behavioural options to try to increase distance from the scary thing. Dogs will typically try not to use aggression because, in the dog community, this would lead to a risk of injury. However, when other behavioural strategies appear to be ineffective, dogs will resort to aggression in an attempt to repel a threat. They then learn that aggression is a successful strategy and start to use it more frequently, instead of other behavioural options.

Socialising Your Puppy

If the parents of a puppy appear fearful or aggressive in any way, the puppies are likely to inherit genes that make them more likely to exhibit fearful behaviours (or they may have learnt these behaviours from their parents). This is why it is always so important to meet the parents of any puppy you are interested in purchasing!

Anything a puppy is not exposed to during approximately its first 14 weeks of life, is more likely to make the animal fearful when it does eventually encounter the issue or experience. This is known as the 'sensitive period for socialisation'. This means that it is important to socialise your puppy to a variety of dogs and humans during this time, and to expose it to anything non-social that it is likely to be exposed to during its lifetime. However, it is also really important that anything that the puppy does encounter during this sensitive period, it finds positive. It has become very common for new owners to attempt to 'socialise' their puppies by putting them into situations that a puppy is likely to find overwhelming and so won't be a positive experience for it (e.g. 'Puppy parties' which involve all the puppies having a free-for-all with unregulated rough-and-tumble play, or taking a puppy to the kid's school drop-off and being swarmed by excitable children). Socialisation that is too intense can be highly damaging and fearful responses can develop.

A single, intensely fear-inducing event can be enough for a dog to exhibit fear responses in similar situations long-term and the dog will likely begin to generalise its fear. For example, if a dog initially had a negative incident with a black Labrador on a walk, it first might start to show a fear response towards black Labradors. Then it might begin to exhibit fear of other breeds of black dogs when it notices them in the distance. Add to this another event – such as the dog experiencing a bouncy, exuberant black terrier – and it will then start to show fear of terriers and so on.

When fears have already developed, it's essential to avoid encountering the fear-inducing situation until you can deal with the problem using an appropriate behavioural programme, given to you by a reputable behaviourist. This is because the more often you allow the dog to be scared by something, the more scared the dog will become and the more ingrained the fear. Avoidance is definitely the best policy to prevent the problem from getting worse, although the fear won't disappear on its own and behavioural training will be necessary under the guidance of the behaviourist.



BEHAVIOURAL ISSUES AND RESCUE DOGS

Other behavioural problems can be a result of frustration – where a dog has a high expectation of getting something and it doesn't get it; or when a dog is motivated to perform a behaviour that it is physically or psychologically thwarted to perform. Teaching puppies to cope and respond appropriately to low levels of frustration and to exhibit self-control is vital – in fact, this naturally occurs during the weaning process when the dam starts to prevent free access to the milk-bar.

Sometimes, humans attempt to stop a dog exhibiting unwanted behaviour by telling them off or using other forms of punishment. Sadly, unqualified behaviourists also advocate the use of punishment-based methods. However, this simply causes the unwanted behaviour to be suppressed, without addressing the underlying emotions driving the behaviour. Where a dog is reacting due to fear, punishing it simply increases its perception of threat and causes it to associate the already scary thing with being told off – that scary thing must be REALLY scary!

Dominance-reduction rules are apparently based on the natural behaviour and dominance hierarchies of Grey Wolves. However, the studies on which these assumptions were based used captive wolf packs that displayed very unnatural behaviour. Wolves in the wild do not actually have constant disputes over dominance – they live in family groups and share duties relatively peacefully.

Additionally, dogs do not think that we are dogs, or that they are human, and so wouldn't try to 'dominate' us anyway. Amazingly, it's actually been known for around 30 years that dominance doesn't actually work in the way that some 'trainers' have led us to believe. What a dog needs rather than an 'alpha leader' or 'boss' is something called a 'secure attachment figure'. This is a figure that the dog feels safe with and has a good relationship with, built on mutual trust. This can be a person or another dog in the family, but the bond between the attachment figure and the dog provides an in-built feeling of safety.

Cause and Effect

When we look to change a dog's unwanted behaviour, it's far more effective and kinder to alter the underlying cause (for example, change a dog's negative emotional response to a positive one) because if there is no motivation for the behaviour, it should stop. Trying to stop the behaviour without addressing the motivation means punishing the dog to suppress the unwanted behaviour. This method, sometimes used by unqualified dog trainers and behaviourists, leads to further suffering and can trigger other possibly more serious problems, including health issues.

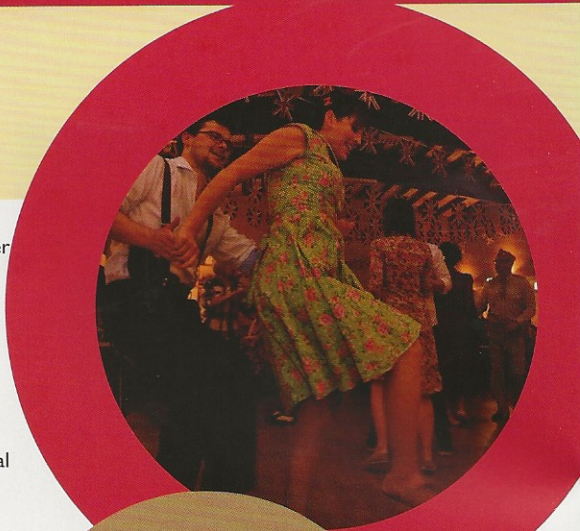
Every dog is an individual, so tailor-made advice from a reputable behaviourist is going to provide the most appropriate information. This will involve taking all known history of the dog and the problem, identifying the cause or motivation, addressing the way the dog is managed in everyday life and then applying an appropriate behaviour modification programme. The first stage is always to visit your vet to make sure that there are no physical causes for the behaviour; discomfort, pain and hormone imbalances resulting from illnesses or injury must be treated and ruled out, before embarking on a behaviour modification programme. After a veterinary check, ask your vet for a referral to a reputable behaviour counsellor.

Looking for a decent behaviourist can prove a real minefield, since lack of regulation in the industry means anyone can currently call themselves one without having to show qualifications. Any good, skilled behaviourist will not need to use any methods of punishment, or insist that you use outdated dominance reduction programmes when treating your dog. Don't choose a behaviourist who doesn't require a referral from your vet – the vet is responsible for the health and welfare of your dog and must be happy with your behaviourist's methods. In addition, depending on what the problem is with your dog, your behaviourist may need to work with your vet if medication is required.

If you are unsure about what to look for in a trainer or behaviourist, please contact us and we can provide you with relevant information or recommendations of local professionals who will be able to help you and your dog.



Rosie Bescoby
BSc (Hons), PG Dip CABC



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V E D A Y

Swing for Victory

Friday 18 May 2018 • 7.30-11.30pm

with the **Thornbury**
SWINGBAND

in aid of **Holly Hedge Animal Sanctuary** at the
Clevedon Community Hall, 2 Princes Rd, Clevedon BS21 7SZ

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RE-ENACTORS • BASIC SWING DANCE LESSON • SING-SONG • 40s FASHION SHOW

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T: 07909 531857 or E: ginnymatchwick@gmail.com (Ginny)

Tickets £12 each

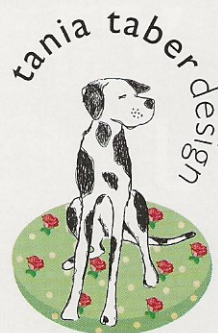
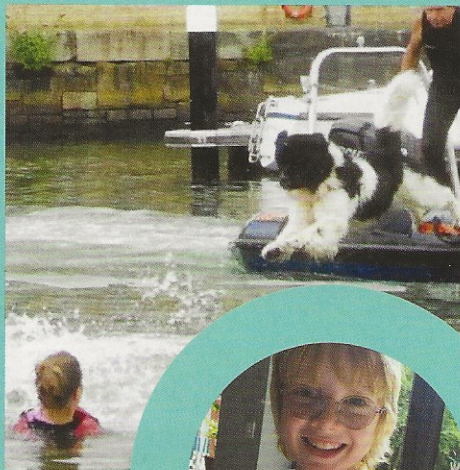
FUNDRAISING NEWS & THANK YOU

NEWFOUNDLAND RESCUE

This year's Newfoundland Water Rescue took place on 15th July at Portishead Marina, during their Festival on the Quay event.

The wonderful Newfoundland Friends supported us for another fantastic event. Their team took a group of brave participants out onto the water, where they gamely jumped off the boat to be 'rescued' and taken back to shore by the lovely Newfoundland dogs.

We are pleased to announce that the event raised over £3,000 for Holly Hedge and one of our young participants, **Isaac Pawsey**, even received a Blue Peter badge for his efforts!



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- brochures • exhibition stands
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T: **07989 945980**

E: herbie.inca@yahoo.co.uk



Above: Barratt Homes Bristol Division



Above: Ruff Hounds at Grufts



Above: Flax Bourton pupils

THANK YOU

Thank you to all our wonderful friends, staff and supporters! As always we could not do the work we do without the kindness of you all.

Here are just a few thank you's of late (we wish we could fit you all in!)...

Our wonderful team of volunteer collectors, led by the lovely **Dianne Stephens** who does so much for the Sanctuary. Their dedication and smiley faces whilst shaking Holly Hedge buckets help to raise thousands of pounds for the Sanctuary each year. We cannot thank Dianne and **her volunteers** enough for their support. We would also like to thank the various supermarkets and other locations for letting us collect on their premises.

A huge thank you to **Barratt Homes Bristol Division** who chose Holly Hedge as their charity of the year and raised an amazing £10,000 through various fundraising activities – this money is such a massive help to us, we can't thank them enough.

Thank you to **Ruff Hounds** for organising this year's **Grufts at the George Hotel**. Grufts: Fun Dog Show and the dog-themed quiz raised an amazing £420.20 for Holly Hedge Animal Sanctuary.

Thank you to all of you who came along and supported these events - giving generously and enduring the rain! Thanks to all the **fabulous local businesses** who also supported the event.

We would like to say a special thank you to all our **wonderful volunteers** who made yet another successful Bark in the Park event come to life. Especially our wonderful volunteer organiser **Jenny Green** who co-ordinated the event, putting in endless hours of her time to make sure everything was perfect for its successful second year. We are over the moon to announce that we raised an amazing £800!

Thank you to the **lovely pupils at Flax Bourton School**, who kindly collected and donated lots of wonderful items for the animals in our care.

Thank you to **Phil Girdlestone Photography** for hosting an array of events in aid of Holly Hedge and raising hundreds of pounds for our rescues.

MORE THANK YOUS!

THANK YOU

Monty Halls and his **family** for their kind support to our Sanctuary.

Terry and **Barbara Pavey** for all that they have done for us over the years as the longest standing supporters of Holly Hedge.

Tania Taber for organising another successful VE Day event. Tania provides so much support to us throughout the year and without her help this newsletter would not be possible.

Dianne and **Nicola** for going out whatever the weather and running stalls in aid of Holly Hedge.

Steven Copper for helping us transform our new office. Also to **Wickes** at Ashton Gate, **Howdens** at Avonmouth and **Chris Smart Flooring** for kindly donating the materials.

Rocket Media for providing us with free promotional material for use at our events.

M&S Yate for choosing us as their Charity of the Year and helping us to raise much needed funds throughout the year.

Our lovely team of office volunteers **Sandy, Nicky, Trudy, Judy, Heather** and **Jenny** for providing hours of help behind the scenes.

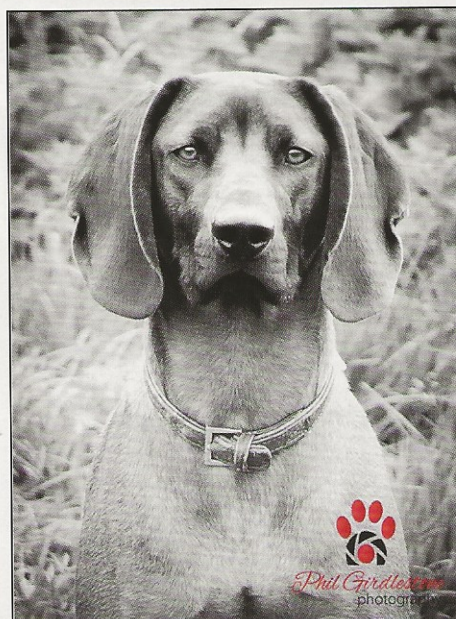
We would also like to thank all of our other **volunteers, corporate groups, fundraisers, home checkers, cat cuddlers** and **dog walkers** – you all mean so much to us!

And finally we would like to thank the staff for making Holly Hedge such a special place and helping to make life better for these wonderful animals.

Catering for parties, christenings, wakes, office lunches and many other events.

BY *Victoria*

☎ 07802 810897 ✉ byvictoriabristol@gmail.com



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Ladies Pamper evening

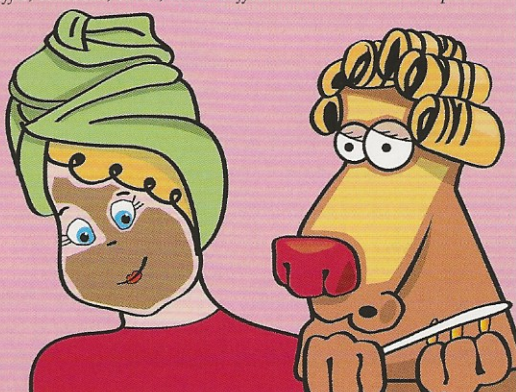
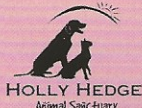
on Monday 9th October at 7.30pm
in aid of Holly Hedge Animal Sanctuary
at Pill Memorial Club, 1 Lodway, Pill,
Bristol BS20 0DH


Treatments including: Indian Head Massage • Mini facials
• Mini pedicures • Bowen therapy • Table Top Thai massage
• Hot stone therapy.

Stalls including: Partylite candles • Stella and Dot • Younique
• Neals Yard Remedies • Jewellery and more!

There will be a raffle, tombola, cakes, tea & coffee and the bar will be open

£3
incl. a glass of
bubbly





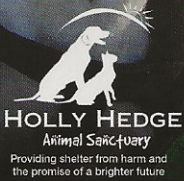
STAFFY STROLL

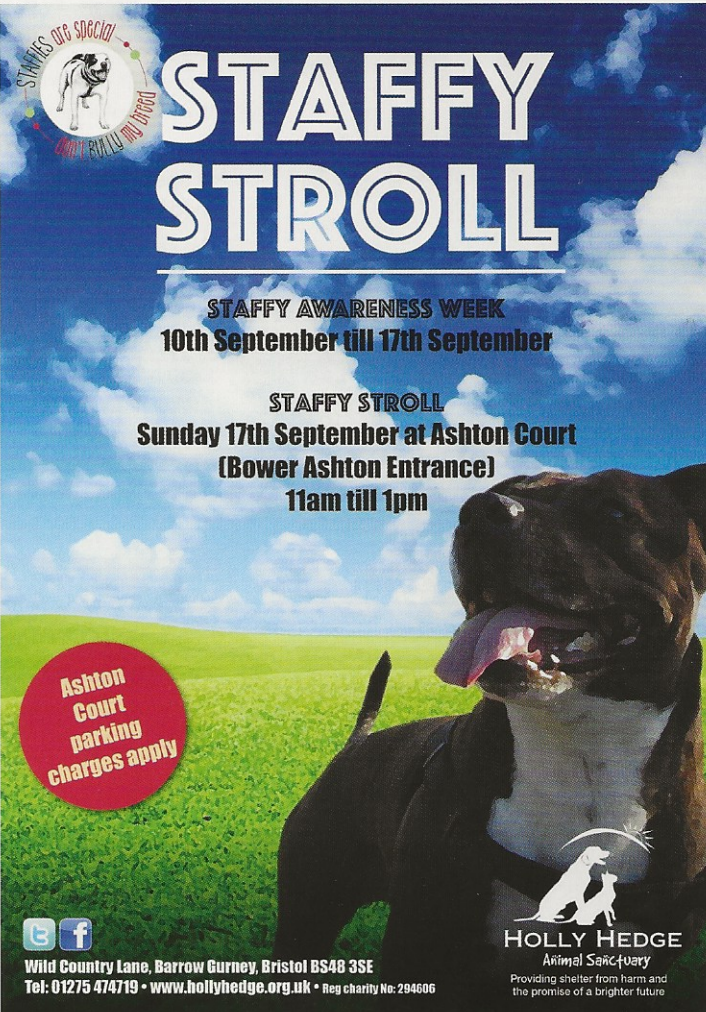
STAFFY AWARENESS WEEK
10th September till 17th September

STAFFY STROLL
Sunday 17th September at Ashton Court
(Bower Ashton Entrance)
11am till 1pm

Ashton Court parking charges apply

Wild Country Lane, Barrow Gurney, Bristol BS48 3SE
Tel: 01275 474719 • www.hollyhedge.org.uk • Reg charity No: 294606






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Are you a dog owner,
handler, trainer, walker,
boarder or rescuer?

Dog First Aid COURSE

Date: Wednesday 1 November 2017

Time: Evening

Venue: Long Ashton Community
Centre, Bristol BS41 3DP

Contact: Hannah on
01275 393570 or
hannah.wozniak@hollyhedge.org.uk



Take part in a sponsored Abseil



throughout the year

This exhilarating activity will really test your nerve! By controlling your own descent with back-up from a professional instructor, you will be rewarded with an unforgettable experience. Just don't forget to stop and look at the iconic view!

Uphill Quarry venue is located in the village of Uphill a few miles from Weston-Super-Mare. This is a great abseil venue down a very high slightly overhanging cliff face approximately 35 - 40 meters high!

No previous abseiling experience is necessary to take part in this exciting activity and it is suitable for most ages, abilities and fitness levels.

Deposit: £35 • Minimum sponsorship: £150

If you would like more information on taking part in a sponsored abseil in aid of Holly Hedge please email hannah.wozniak@hollyhedge.org.uk

If you are part of a large group why not ask about our fun-filled adventure days which can incorporate abseiling, climbing and canoeing?

Please also contact us if you would like to organise an abseil in a different location, perhaps even host an abseil down your office building!

OUR FIRST FORAY INTO FASHION

This year we welcomed a brand new event to our Holly Hedge Calendar – the first ever Holly Hedge Fashion Show!

The event was kindly organised by one of our long standing volunteers **Pip Sharp** and her wonderful team of **volunteer assistants**.

The show took place on 7th April at the Long Ashton Community Centre and showcased an array of specially designed garments made by our wonderful team of designers and worn by our fabulous models.

We cannot thank **Pip** and her **team** enough for the efforts they put in to making such a successful and flawlessly run event – all tickets sold out and the event raised an amazing £1420.45 for the animals in our care.

A special thanks to **Sarah** and **Alice** (Long Ashton Community Centre), **Terry Ashley** (Sound and Lighting), **Joe Chapman** (Master of Ceremonies), **Kirsty Dillow** (Bar), **Alison Evans** (Bar), **Lis Jones** (Refreshments), **Dianne Stephens** (Refreshments), **Angela Puddy** (Hair), **Sally Bracey** and her **Team** (Hair & Make-Up), **Jacqui Nelson** (Tombola/Raffle), **Nicky Leeson** (HH Merchandise), **Tanya Marriott** (SoleLution), **Ben Krekorian** (Pack-down) and of course all of the designers, models and the wonderful team of organisers; **Ginny Matchwick**, **Poppy Jenkins**, **Emma Davies**, **Jenny Green** and of course **Pip Sharp**!

The event attracted quite a bit of press and local writer Melanie Sews kindly wrote the following blog.

The Holly Hedge Animal Sanctuary is a local charity that takes in homeless animals and, where possible, finds their forever homes. I saw on Facebook that they were holding a fundraising fashion show and I really wanted to go – that kind of thing is right my street!

The show was held in a local community centre and was absolutely packed with people when I arrived, I was lucky to find a seat albeit in the back! There were also stalls selling various goodies around the outside of seating area; the catwalk started on the stage and ran down the middle of the seating area.

The show was split into three sections, the first featured clothes from the Holly Hedge charity shop, the second had garments made by the Gordano Sewing School and the third section showcased garments made or upcycled by local designers. The outfits shown were available to buy as well.

I believe the models were local men, women and children from the area and I thought they all did really well. I can imagine how daunting it must be to walk out into a packed room, all eyes on you, when you're not used to that kind of thing – yeeeah, scary!!

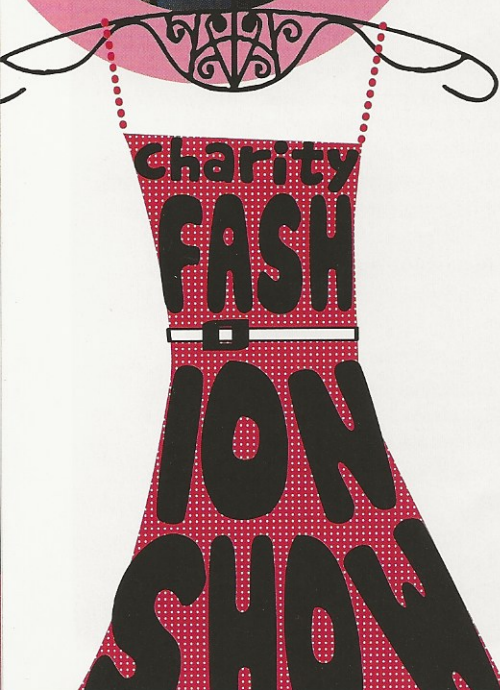
During an intermission, I spotted a couple of my teachers from when I was at college, studying a fashion course. I hadn't seen either of these ladies since I left college, 10 years ago yet they looked exactly as I remember them. Caroline's face when she saw me was a picture, it was funny that she could remember my surname but not my first name! I'm not sure if Jo recognised me at first but then the amount of students they both have taught in their careers, I wouldn't expect them to remember everyone!

It was great to catch up with them both, sharing the goss on where all my classmates have ended up. Some have really made their dreams a reality and I couldn't be happier for them – I'm not just saying that, I sincerely mean it. It's not easy making your dreams come true and the ones who have done it, have worked incredibly hard to get there and it's nice to know their talents and hard work have paid off.

Back to the show, I've got to say I really enjoyed myself. The "voice-over guy" who introduced each model was brilliant; he worked the crowd and was quite funny too. There was also a raffle and a magician but I left just after the third showcase, purely because I was so tired after a long week and I still had to drive myself home.

Holly Hedge announced that they raised an amazing £1420.45 from the event and every penny will go to a good cause.

This was the first fashion show event that Holly Hedge has ever done; maybe it'll be a regular thing? We'll have to wait and see on that one!



Grand Ball

at the **Grand Hotel, Bristol**
on **Saturday 24 February 2018**
starting at **7pm**

Dress code: Black tie (optional) - dress to impress!

Held in aid of **Holly Hedge Animal Sanctuary** - kindly organised by supporter,
Natasha Lees Tickets: £45 per person (this includes a 3 course meal served to your
table – 8-10 to a table – followed by coffee or tea

Live music from Momentum and DJ til 1am

**For more details or to book your place contact Mrs Lees
on tel: 0117 971 5122 or email: rachit72@hotmail.co.uk**

£45
per person



HOLLY HEDGE
Animal Sanctuary

DONATION FORM

Title: _____ Surname: _____ First Name: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____ Email address: _____

Telephone no (daytime): _____ Mobile: _____ Date: _____

● I would like to make a one-off donation of (please tick):

☐ £5 ☐ £10 ☐ £15 ☐ £20 **Other amount £**

☐ I enclose cash/cheque (delete as appropriate) (please make cheques payable to **Holly Hedge Animal Sanctuary**)

☐ or please debit my Mastercard/Visa/Maestro

CARD NUMBER:

ISSUE NO (if you have one):

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VALID FROM:

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SEC NO (last 3 digits on back of card)

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Signature: _____

Date _____

☐ I would like to make a regular payment to **Holly Hedge Animal Sanctuary** and have completed the banker's draft form below.

BANKERS ORDER FORM

To: **The Manager**, Bank

Address: _____

Please pay to **National Westminster Bank plc**, Bristol City Office Branch for the credit of:

HOLLY HEDGE SANCTUARY Sort Code: 56-00-05 A/C No: 21229015

The sum of £ _____ on (date) _____ & thereafter monthly until further notice

Name (cap letters): _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Bank Account No: _____

Sort code:

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(please quote above name on inter-bank credit for reference)

● Gift Aid declaration

Make your donation go even further at no extra cost to you

Are you a UK Tax Payer? If so then please fill out the following gift aid declaration. Please ensure you have completed your details in full at the top of this form. We must have your name, address and postcode in order to claim back gift aid on your donation.

☐ **I AM A UK TAX PAYER.** Please treat this donation and all donations I have made to Holly Hedge Animal Sanctuary in the past 4 years and any I make in the future as Gift Aid donations until further notice.

I understand that the Charity will reclaim 28p of tax on every £1 that I gave up to 5 April 2008 and will reclaim 25p of tax on every £1 that I give on or after 6 April 2008. Please notify Holly Hedge Animal Sanctuary if you change your name or address while the declaration is still in force. You can cancel the declaration at any time by notifying the charity – it will then not apply to donations you make on or after the date of the cancellation or such later date as you specify. You must pay an amount of Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax for each tax year (6 April one year to 5 April the next) that is at least equal to the amount of tax that all the charities and/or CASC that you donate to will reclaim on your gifts for that tax year. Other taxes such as VAT and Council Tax do not qualify.

☐ **I AM A NOT A UK TAX PAYER**

Holly Hedge Animal Sanctuary, Wild Country Lane, Barrow Gurney, Bristol BS48 3SE

www.hollyhedge.org.uk • Reg charity No: 294606