



Oxfordshire Branch November 2009



Remember, Remember Your Animals This November

The number of complaints to the RSPCA about firework related incidents fell to its lowest level in four years in 2008, with hopes for even fewer this year.

The RSPCA received a total of 451 complaints from members of the public about fireworks throughout 2008, compared to 573 in 2005, 501 in 2006 and 555 in 2007. The RSPCA investigated 306 fireworks related incidents last year, which is a significant drop compared with 553 in 2007, 500 in 2006 and 575 in 2005.

Mark Evans, the Society's chief veterinary advisor, shares his advice on how to deal with firework phobia in the latest RSPCA wildlife podcast, which can be listened to at www.rspca.org.uk/wildlife

Fireworks, as well as other loud noises such as thunder, cause a great amount of anxiety in dogs, but it is important that owners realise there is help out there for them and their animals. They don't have to watch their pets suffer, year after year. An estimated 45% of dogs in the UK – more than three million – are likely to show fearful behaviour when they hear fireworks.

Suzie Graham, RSPCA East regional manager, said: "It isn't just household pets that can suffer at this time of year and it is extremely important that people think about the dangers bonfires and fireworks can pose to wild animals RSPCA wildlife centres often have to treat injured and burned hedgehogs that have been caught in bonfires as a result.

"People should build bonfires as late as possible to reduce the risk of animals hiding in them. Disturbing the bonfire's foundations and checking carefully for any animals before lighting the fire can also give wildlife a chance to escape before it is lit."

It is therefore encouraging that the amount of people visiting the fireworks pages on the RSPCA's website doubled last year to 21,710 visits, compared to approximately 10,000 in 2007. Numerous packs – including the RSPCA endorsed Sounds Scary! by Sound Therapy 4 Pets5 – are available to help owners help animals to learn to be less afraid of loud fizzes and bangs.

The RSPCA's firework leaflet, which is full of useful advice, is available to download at www.rspca.org.uk/fireworks

www.rspca-oxfordshire.org.uk

Animals for Adoption



Scampi is a 12.2 hh. 14 year old Welsh Section A pony. He is a very pretty strawberry roan. He has no health problems but is rather nervous and wary of strangers. However, once he trusts someone he is very friendly and wants lots of cuddles.

Scampi is a very willing and forward going pony who still has a lot of potential and would make an excellent second pony for an experienced child.



Rollo is one of a family of cats (Tollie, Dax, Rani, Livvy, Malachi and Lovell) that came to us when their owner died. He is a big ginger cat, and a very lovable 12 year old fella, he is very friendly and affectionate, and just loves lounging in your lap. Rollo was obviously head cat in the household, and can dominate his other family members.

We would like to rehome as many of this family together as possible due to their age, but Rollo may suit being a single cat with a family who could give him all the fuss he craves.



Smartie is a 11 hh. 12 year old grey Shetland pony. He is very friendly and happy, but like all Shetlands does sometimes like his own way and can be a little stubborn. He enjoys the company of people and other horses and gets on very well with the latter. He has suffered badly in the past with laminitis which has left his feet a little tender, so he would only be able to do light ridden lead rein work with a small child.

Smartie would probably be best suited as a companion to a horse who needed restricted grazing, as he himself does because of his foot problems. He is a very cheeky, lovable little fella, who would fit in well in a knowledgeable home and give a lot back.



Ice is a blue-eyed white, uppy-eared female rabbit, approx 1-year old. She is a lively, friendly rabbit who loves her nose being stroked. She lives with Cream, who is possibly her sister. Although she is more forward with humans than Cream, Cream is definitely the more dominant of the two of them.

Cream is a blue-eyed uppy-eared female rabbit, approx 1-year old, with faint markings as though there is some Dutch in her ancestry. She is a lively, friendly

rabbit who is learning how nice humans can be. She lives with Ice, who loves having her nose stroked and is teaching Cream to love it too. Cream is definitely the top bunny of the two.

Ice and Cream need to be homed together where they will have lots of room, lots of fresh grass to eat and a tame human who will spend lots of time stroking them.

www.rspca-oxfordshire.org.uk

RSPCA Gets Rose The Cow Moo-ving

The RSPCA teamed up with firefighters to rescue a cow which was stuck in a stream near Mill Lane in Rickingham, Suffolk.

The rare-breed Red Poll cow named Rose had become stuck up to her shoulders in mud at the edge of the stream on Sunday 18 October. She went to get a drink but the mud was very deep and she could not scramble back up the bank.

Rose's owner Susie Deakin and two helpers tried to free her, but the cow was becoming cold and tired. Mrs Deakin contacted Suffolk fire service who then called the RSPCA for help.

RSPCA inspector Jason Finch was on leave, but was contacted by the officer on duty for advice as he is the coordinator of the Society's national flood rescue team. He decided to go and help the rescue effort as he lives just a 15 minute drive away.

After consulting with Mrs Deakin's vet, inspector Finch decided to attach slings across Rose's back and under her chest whilst Jo Sadler, a family friend, held her head. It then took 15 people pulling on the attached ropes to help the cow up the bank.

Rose barely moved on the first attempt, but with inspector Finch's encouragement, she moved two feet. The people on the land then managed to help the cow up onto the bank and back to safety.

The rescue took an hour to complete.

Mrs Deakin said: "Rose had a calf two weeks ago and she was anxious to get back to her once she was freed. She had only gone to the stream for a drink but became stuck in the mud and the more she scabbled at the bank, the steeper it became. Thankfully, she is fine now."

"We'd like to thank inspector Finch who was calm and professional and very happy to help, even on his day off, and also the fire service."

Inspector Finch added: "I was so near by that I wanted to help with the rescue and I'm really pleased it worked so well and that

Elaine Hopes (Administrator)
tel 08456 045507

elaine.hopes@rspca-oxfordshire.org.uk

Sarah Twist (Fostering Co-ordinator)
tel 07879 861941

sarah.twist2@ntlworld.com

Katherine Morris (Microchipping Co-ordinator)
tel 01993 813701

katherine.morris@mansfield.ox.ac.uk

Rosemary Dowell (Welfare Assistance)
tel 07548 929679

Francesca Iaria (Newsletter Editor)
tel 07805 167756

frankikki@yahoo.co.uk

FUNDRAISE FOR THE RSPCA!!

Like pub quizzes? Coffee mornings? Tombolas? If you have a good idea and enjoy fundraising for a good cause then the RSPCA need you! For more information on how you can help us please telephone

Elaine on
08456 045507.

If you require information about caring for any pet please look at the 'advice for pet care' on the national web site www.rspca.org.uk.

www.rspca-oxfordshire.org.uk

Does your company offer matched funding for raising money for a local charity? - Please remember local animals that need our help.

We have monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of every month in Woodstock Church hall from 7pm - All are welcome.

We are now open at 36 Church Lane, Banbury!
Open 9:30-4:30pm Mon-Sat

We are looking for volunteers, particularly on Saturdays and good quality donations - clothes, bric-a-brac.

Please drop in or contact Kim or Sasha on 01295 265632

Donations Urgently Needed!

We urgently require donations for our shop in Banbury. Demand is ever growing on our services to help all types of animals, some in desperate need, throughout Oxfordshire. Our shop is a key source of revenue to fund the many success stories of distressed animals we have helped to a happier and better life.

We can only continue with this valuable and worthwhile work if our shop is well stocked with goods for sale.

Please help us to help your local animals and support our shop with any goods you can spare. We have a comprehensive collection service available across the Oxfordshire area, please contact us for details.

Please telephone Kim or Sasha on 01295 265632.

Blackberry Farm, the RSPCA National rehoming centre near Bicester always has lots of animals looking for new homes Tel 0870 0101 852

There are also lots of other animals available - gerbils, rats chincillas, and even lots of lovely birds.

Please also look at www.rspca-oxfordshire.org.uk for more animals and further details.

Is your school having a charity fundraising day?
- Please think of helping your local RSPCA (please contact Elaine on 08456 604 5507 for balloons, posters, banners, etc. to help advertise the charity)

If you would like to take part in a charity or sponsored event, such as a fun run, sponsored silence, pub quiz, coffee morning, or tombola please contact Elaine for more information or to obtain a sponsor form for your local RSPCA.

www.rspca-oxfordshire.org.uk

Animal Cruelty Helpline Number
0300 1234 999