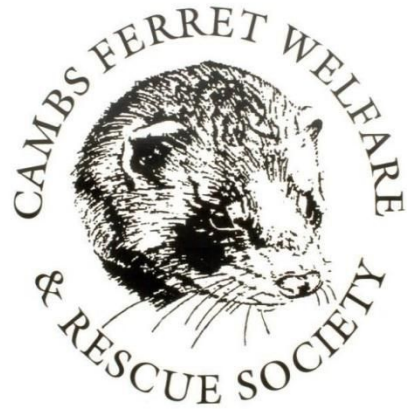


AUGUST NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the latest edition of the CFWRS newsletter.

As you may know I wear many hats and I am also the coordinator for the rescues, so I would like to give you an update as to how we are doing. To date we have had in 24 ferrets to the rescues. Our costs have been £906.31 and our donations given have been £330.00. Our cost per ferret this year is £24.01, last year it was £9.46, this is due to nearly all of the ferrets that have been handed in having to be neutered. These ferrets are why we work so tirelessly throughout the year and I thank you all - Tracey Webb



EVENTS OF 2019

AGM - 10th March

This is a great time for everyone to get to know any new members and we had a fun ferret show raising £91.00. I would like to welcome John Reynolds as our new Chair this year and Stephen Russell who has become Vice-chair.

SHOW RESULTS

Polecat Hob – Kerry with Malachai
Polecat Jill – Ian with Minnie
Sandy Hob – Kerry with Finnlay
Sandy Jill – Michelle with Ella
Albino Hob – Donna with Snowy
Albino Jill – Tracey with Bambino
Coloured Hob – Kezia with Gremlin
Coloured Jill – Kerry with Mckenzie
Matching Pairs - Adi with Beauty and Janie
Best New Ferret - Wendy with Cody
Veterans/Disabled – Kerry with Finnlay

Best in Show – Kezia with Gremlin
Reserve Best in Show – Kerry with Malachai

East Anglian Game and Country Fair - 27th/28th April

This was our first show of the season and as always it was cold, wet and very windy. Despite the weather we had a great turn out for the show raising

£62.00. We managed to race in between the showers raising £84.50 and donations raised £66.56. A total of £213.06 for the weekend. Many thanks to ABC Motorcycles for having a collection bucket in the shop raising £36.32.

SHOW RESULTS

Polecat Hob – Ian with Peewee
Polecat Jill – Kerry with Meeka
Sandy Hob – Kerry with Finnlay
Sandy Jill – Ian with Catalina
Albino Hob – Donna with Snowy
Albino Jill – Donna with Amber
Coloured Hob – Kerry with Ninky Nonk
Coloured Jill – Kerry with Zennia
Matching Pairs - Adi with Henry and George
Veterans/Disabled – Ian with Peewee

Best in Show – Donna with Amber
Reserve Best in Show – Kerry with Meeka

Euston Rural Pastimes 9th June

This is a one day show and the sun was shining! We were in a different spot this year with the racing attached to the stand which was a lot easier and meant we could race when we had a crowd raising £51.00. Donations were £26.63, giving a total for the day of £77.63.

Heveningham Hall Country Fair 22nd/23rd June

Again the Gods were smiling on us for this weekend as the weather was hot and sunny. We had been moved this year so was not as well positioned as last year but we made the best of it. Kerry dressed up as a ferret with full face paint, something she would later regret when the temperature rose, to encourage people to watch the racing raising £76.00. Donations were £58.72 and many thanks to Donna and Sandra for taking on the tombola raising £58.00 total of £192.72 for the weekend.

Holkham Hall Country Fair 20th/21st July

I think this was the first show that I thought the weather would actually get the better of us. By the end of the first day it was like the apocalypse was happening, we had thunder, lightning and so much rain, and the winds were over 50mph. At one point we had members hanging onto the tents for dear life for fear of a Wizard of Oz moment when we all might have flown away. Luckily the Sunday wasn't so windy and we managed to dry out from the day before. Even the professionals we still had a show and raced and chatted to the public raising £71.00 from the show, £111.00 from racing and donations were £51.06 and tombola on the Sunday made £57.00. Making a great total of £290.06.

SHOW RESULTS

Polecat Hob – Kezia with Ghoul
Polecat Jill – Kerry with Meeka
Sandy Hob – Kerry with Morphy
Sandy Jill – Ian with Catalina
Albino Hob – Ian with Elwood
Albino Jill – Adi with Janie
Coloured Hob – Kerry with Fluke
Coloured Jill – Kerry with Zennia
Matching Pairs – Adi with George and Henry
Veterans/Disabled – Tracey with Ozzie

Best in Show – Ian with Catalina
Reserve Best in Show – Kerry with Fluke

We still have 3 shows left of the season so please let our show secretary Adrienne Punt know if you would like to attend adrienne.punt@yahoo.com

Fenland Country Fair - Stow Cum Quy Park 25th/26th August

Sandringham Country Fair - Sandringham Estate 7th/8th September

Soham Pumpkin Fair- Soham Recreation Ground 28th September

We will also be getting together for a winter/end of season meal which will take place on the 10th November. Hopefully this will be at The Golden Boar at Freckenham and I will be taking names for this from the beginning of September. If you would like to come along please email me at tracey_webb@sky.com.



Kerry as a ferret and Ian with the Holkham shield

Story by Ian Cranston

My liking for and interest in ferrets began a couple of years ago when I was invited to Kerry Phillip's house for her birthday party. A drink or 6 and a lot of ferrety cuddles later she asked if I would like to go with her to help out at a show. In my not too steady on my feet stupor, I agreed!

Fast forward 3 years and a lot more than "A show", and I appeared to be officially hooked. Everyone I met had made me feel so welcome and "part of". It seemed I had become her personal "Donkey", mainly shifting and carrying with bits of learning and hands on ear cleaning thrown in for good measure. I was thoroughly enjoying it and was being recognised as part of Team Phillips as it was now known, due to my home circumstances not permitting me to have some of my own.

On 1st September 2017, I was happily minding my own business at work when my phone rang and it was my partner. She said "you know people who keep ferrets, don't you". She had been called by Goddards Vets in Barking, East London, who wanted to know if she could help them. She takes in, looks after and rehomes or releases cats, hedgehogs, small birds, and they thought she may know who to contact. It turned out that one male and one female ferret had been "dumped" outside their door in a carrier without even a note. I agreed to pick them up with the intention of passing them on to one of the many rescue organisations that I had heard about. They were duly brought home in Queen cages (it's the biggest size we had) and hammocks were fashioned from tea towels and string. Friends such as Kerry, Michelle and Dion, and others loaned bits and pieces and gave me presents for them including hammocks ("Well they can't stay in tea towels for the rest of their life, can they") I was told.

They were booked in at our vets for check-ups and the following week were to be spayed and neutered. The hob's op went well but the jill was opened and found to have already 'been done'. The male was duly chipped and as the female had already been chipped, I sent off a change of keeper details form, registering them to me. I was loaned a two tier tower cage and have now splashed out on a new powder coated one which they love.

As I have always promised since helping Kerry with hers, I have named the first one Peanut (I was introduced to ferrets by a "NUT" and her initials are "K P") so that was the only option and the male was named Peewee by the aforementioned nut.

SO..... I had now officially become a "Ferrant"

I was then told that 2 was not a good number, but 3 was as if one had to cross the rainbow bridge then the other would pine and pass away soon after, of a "broken heart"! (and stupidly, I fell for it !!). Since then I have gained another 2, both albino hobs called Jake and Elwood from a lovely guy named Dave who rescues loads of animals, mainly ferrets and when he was having to move his rescue and downsize I took on another 2 (a sandy jill and a polecat jill) Catalina and Minnie.

Peanut had health problems from the day I took her on with no fur at all on her back. She had already been spayed when I took her in to be done and as the fur problem was not getting any better with all treatments, she was taken in for an x-ray and ultrasound, both of which were inconclusive. She was operated on and an adrenal tumour was found and removed and fortunately it was benign. Fur began growing back and she was looking a lot more healthy. Roll on a couple of months and I found a lump on her abdomen. Thinking it could be a hernia I asked advice and then took another trip to the vets (ultrasound and x-ray inconclusive, again). Another operation (No. 4) and a mammary tumour was found and removed, again benign. Since then she has gone on to make a great recovery and at the Monsters and Malties show in July she won 1st place in the Polecat Jill class and this made me cry and REALLY made my weekend proving that love and care WILL overcome.

Grateful thanks must go to all those who have helped me on my journey, including :-

Dave Thompson, Michelle and Dion, Rachel and Neil Brant, Barbara Jack and Elaine Larne.

But most of all special thanks and love must go to my best friend Kerry Phillips. X

If you have a story that you would like to share please send it to me at the address below.

SHOW SECRETARY - Adrienne Punt - adrienne.punt@yahoo.com

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY - Tracey Webb - tracey_webb@sky.com

NEWSLETTER - Tracey Webb - tracey_webb@sky.com

REHOMING COORDINATOR - Tracey Webb - tracey_webb@sky.com

WEBSITE - www.cfwr.org.uk

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