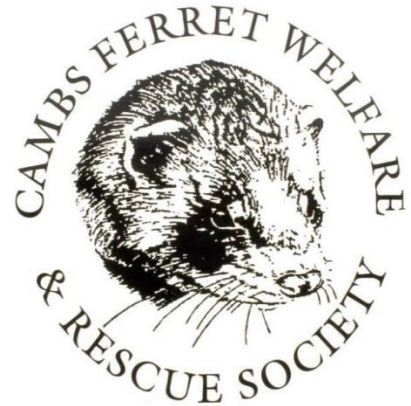


DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



Winter Meal 2017

We decided this year to have a winter meal instead of a winter show as a nice ending to a hectic season. It was a good turnout with over half of our members attending the meal at The Golden Boar at Freckenham and what a fantastic meal we had. It was great to catch up with everyone in a social environment and will hopefully be a date in the diary for next year.

2018

This season will start with the AGM on Saturday 24th of March at Swanton Morley Village Hall – doors open at 10am and finish by 4pm at the latest. We will need to re-ratify both the constitution and risk assessment, so please have a look at both documents and send Adrienne Punt any proposed changes you wish to put forward for discussion. If you need copies of either, let Adrienne know and she will email them to you. If there is anything that you would like to see on the agenda please also let her know. This is also a great time to renew your membership.

We will also be holding the first ferret show of the season, so bring your beautiful beasts along.

Merry Xmas And A Happy New Year

Message from the chair – Ivan Paul

I would like to thank you all for all your hard work this season and hopefully we will have a good 2018. It has been a busy year with over £820 made at the shows in 2017. We have some great new members, and have excelled in our efforts in making people aware of how to keep ferrets, and most of all how to get the most enjoyment from your ferrets.

Please continue to support CFWRS in 2018, ferret welfare needs you!

Winter Warmers

With winter now upon us and some frosty times ahead don't forget your loved ones as you sit by the fire.

As snow and frost settles on the ground extra checks are needed if you keep your ferrets outside.

Give them extra bedding to keep warm.

Make sure their house is in a sheltered position out of the wind and the rain.

Add a cover over the open areas to keep them extra warm overnight.

Check water bottles regularly to ensure that they have not frozen.

Events 2018

East Anglian Game Fair – Euston estate - Euston 28/29th April 2018

Fair on the Yare – Claxton Manor estate - Claxton 3rd June 2018

Euston Rural Pastimes – Euston estate – Euston 10th June 2018

Clare Party in the Park – Clare, Sudbury, Suffolk 7th July

Fenland Country Fair – Stow Cum Quay 26/27th August 2018

Sandringham Country Fair – Sandringham estate - Sandringham 8th/9th September 2018

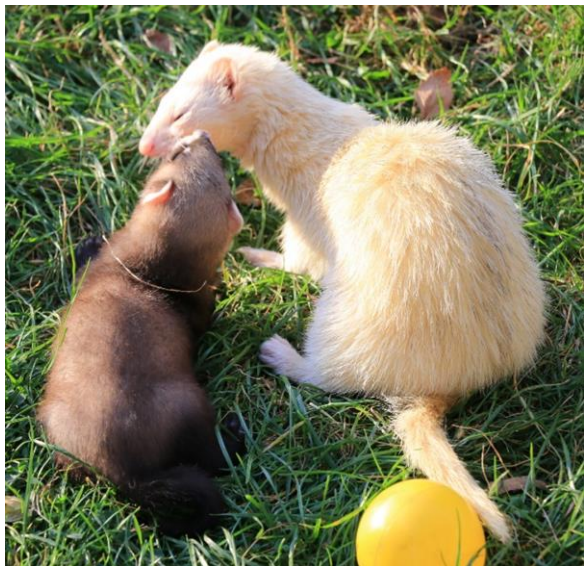
Soham Pumpkin Fair – Soham, Cambridgeshire 29 September 2018

Please let Adrienne Punt know if you can attend any of these events.

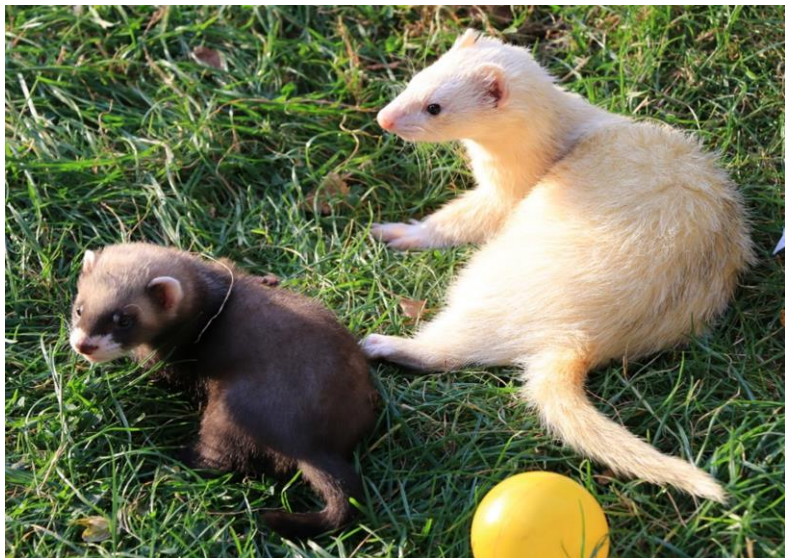
The Life and Times of Spud.

It was about three years ago that Spud came into our lives. He came along with a gang of six others from the R.S.P.C.A. during our last visit to the Robin Hood Show. Five were all lively and in good health and would easily be rehomed, except for this one fragile skinny chap we reckoned to be about seven years old. He didn't want to play, just sleep or cling on to me whenever I picked him up. So whilst lying in my tent that night I decided he was going to have to stay with me. His name derived from his yellow dingy coat a bit potato coloured. He also had a damaged canine that needed removing. The nurses nicknamed him Banana man due to his colour. So once home, he had his day at the vets to remove the tooth. The vets agreed he was too quiet so they checked his sugar levels and of course they were very low. Further examinations found tumours on his pancreas, so he was put on to steroids to keep them at bay. He picked up quickly plus being fed five-six times a day with a mixture 'Royal Canine' Feline convalescence diet, lactose free milk, chicken & crunched biscuits. On his very low days we would syringe fluids into him. Once he got his mojo back he would have the occasional bounce, that was great to see. There was never an ounce of malice in him, he never bit or even fought with his mates, a bit of a wimp really- but great for PR. The little chap taught us a lot. As soon as he went weak and wobbly we knew his sugar levels were low so it would be back to the extra feeds. As a quick fix jam and honey would work. He always knew he was special, as even on good days he had an extra breakfast and supper. He would trot up to you as soon as you called him. Yes he knew his name. We fought to bring him back from the brink many times plus many vet visits. He was very popular there. He raised money for the society last Christmas in a quiz to guess his name. He even survived the introduction of Tommy to his gang whilst at Sandringham last year. Tommy, now all grown up, was always very gentle with him. Ironically it was whilst at Sandringham this year that Spud took a turn for the worse. We have a veterinary nurse who looks after our ferrets whenever we are away and Claire takes great care of them. She had Spud all tucked up in the house and had syringe fed him but he was very weak. By the time we got home we could see the time was nigh for him. We also had another elderly gent with spinal damage not responding to treatment so we decided to send them to heaven together. They have a lovely plot on the stud. Spud is survived by his wife Blanche, equally fragile and blind but still dithers about and eats like a horse. They used to snuggle up together in their own hammock but now she's sleeps alone, the rest go upstairs to bed. She has the best fleeces so she's very cosy, although she does wonder where he's gone.

YVONNE EVANS



SPUD AND TOMMY



Many thanks to Yvonne Evans for another fantastic story. If you would like your story to feature in the next edition please email it through to me – Tracey Webb

This is the last newsletter of 2017 – so have a fantastic Christmas and a Happy New Year. See you all in 2018.

