Wildlife information hub

Organisation websites

The following organisations provide information which may be of assistance when dealing with British (and other) indigenous wildlife.

Rehabilitation organisations

British Wildlife Rehabilitation Council (BWRC): www.bwrc.org.uk International Wildlife Rehabilitation Council (IWRC): www.theiwrc.org

Veterinary organisations

British Veterinary Association (BVA): www.bva.co.uk

British Veterinary Zoological Society (BVZS): www.bvzs.org.uk

Veterinary Defence Society (VDS): www.thevds.co.uk

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RVCS): www.RCVS.org.uk

Welfare charities

Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA): www.rspca.org.uk Scottish Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Scottish SPCA): www.scottishspca.org

Wild Animal Welfare Committee (WAWC): www.wawcommittee.org

Wildlife centres and hospitals

A list of UK wildlife centres and charities is available at: www.helpwildlife.co.uk

There is no current system for approval or certification of wildlife rehabilitation centres. The above link provides a very useful list of centres and information about them. However, Born Free is currently unable to recommend or endorse individual centres.

Wildlife disease organisations

European Wildlife Disease Association (EWDA): www.ewda.org

Garden Wildlife Health: www.gardenwildlifehealth.org

Wildlife Disease Association (WDA): www.wildlifedisease.org

Wildlife Organisations

Badger Trust: www.badgertrust.org.uk

Bat Conservation Trust (BCT): www.bats.org.uk

British Hedgehog Preservation Society (BHPS): www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk

The Wildlife Trusts: www.wildlifetrusts.org

Journal articles and other useful publications

General wildlife rehabilitation

Garden Wildlife Health Disease Fact Sheets

https://www.gardenwildlifehealth.org/garden-wildlife/ (open access)

First opinion veterinary surgeons and wildlife rehabilitation Mullineaux E and Kidner P BSAVA Companion, February 2021; pp 10 - 15 (not open access)

Perceptions of responsibility and capability for treating wildlife casualties in UK veterinary practices

Barnes E, Farnworth MJ

Veterinary Record, 2017; 180, 197 (not open access)

Principles of triage and first aid in wildlife casualties

Mullineaux E

Companion Animal, 2017; 22:6, 350-356 (not open access)

Veterinary care of British wildlife casualties Mullineaux E and Keeble E

BSAVA Companion August 2017, pp 12 - 14 (not open access)

Good Practice Guidelines for Wildlife Rehabilitation Centres

British Veterinary Zoological Society 2016 (open access)

https://www.bvzs.org/images/uploads/BVZS Good Practice Guidelines for Wildlife Centres 011016 .pdf

Legal responsibilities of veterinary professionals when working with wildlife centres Mullineaux E

Companion Animal 2016 21:10, 592-597 (not open access)

BSAVA Manual of Wildlife Casualties (2nd Edition)

Mullineaux E, Keeble E (Eds.) (2016) BSAVA Publications, Gloucester

Available from: https://www.bsavalibrary.com/content/book/10.2 2233/9781910443316

Early life disadvantage strengthens flight performance trade-offs in European starlings, Sturnus vulgaris

O'Hagan D, Andrews CP, Bedford T, Bateson M, Nettle D

Animal Behaviour 102 (2015) 141-148 (open access)

https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0003347215000251?via%3Dihub

Veterinary treatment and rehabilitation of indigenous wildlife

Mullineaux E

Journal of Small Animal practice, 2014; 55, 293-300 (open access)

https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/jsap.12213

A review of RSPCA research into wildlife rehabilitation Grogan A, Kelly A Veterinary Record, 2013; 172, 211. (not open access)

Infectious Diseases of Wild Mammals and Birds in Europe Gavier-Widen D, Meredith A, Duff JP Wiley-Blackwell 2012

Minimum Standards for Wildlife Rehabilitation (4th Edition)
Miller EA
IWRC 2012 (open access)
http://theiwrc.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/Standards-4th-Ed-2012-final.pdf

Badgers

Badger Protocol Ed. Mullineaux E

Badger trust, Defra, Secret World Wildlife Rescue, 2018 (open access)

https://www.secretworld.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Badger-Rehabilitation-Protocol-Final-Liz-07032018.pdf

Rehabilitating and releasing badgers in England Mullineaux E, Phoenix J, Brown E In Practice 2019;41 (5):198-204. (open access) https://inpractice.bmj.com/content/inpract/41/5/198.full.pdf

Enteropathogens of juvenile Eurasian badgers (Meles meles) – Diagnosis, treatment and control.

Barlow A, Mullineaux E, Cowen S, Kidner P

World and European Wildlife Disease Associations Conference, Lyon, France. 2012 (open access)

https://www.secretworld.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Enteropathogens-of-juvenile-Eurasian-badgers-for-web.pdf

Parvovirus enteritis in Eurasian badgers (Meles meles)

Barlow AM, Schock A, Bradshaw J, Mullineaux E, Dastjerdi A, Everest DJ, McGowan S, Steinbach F, Cowen S

Veterinary Record, 2012; 170, 416. (not open access)

Practical advice for vets in general practice who may be confronted with an injured badger Mullineaux E

BSAVA Companion 2012, pp 20 - 23 (2012) (not open access)

Elizabeth Mullineaux, Pauline Kidner Veterinary Microbiology, 2011 Jul 5;151(1-2):205-8. (open access) https://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/hal-00701906/file/PEER stage2 10.1016%252Fj.vetmic.2011.02.045.pdf

Bats

Bat Care Guidelines 2nd Edition
Bat Conservation trust (open access)
https://cdn.bats.org.uk/images/Bat-Care-Guidelines-2016-final.pdf?mtime=20181130163722&focal=none

Handling and veterinary care of British bats Bexton S, Couper D In Practice 2010;32 (6):254-262. (not open access)

Birds of prey

Veterinary care of wild owl casualties Couper D, Bexton S In Practice 2012;34 (5):270-281. (not open access)

Veterinary care of raptors Kubiak M, Forbes N In Practice 2011;33(1):28-32. (not open access)

Foxes

Infectious Causation of Abnormal Host Behavior: Toxoplasma gondii and Its Potential Association With Dopey Fox Syndrome.

Milne G, Fujimoto C, Bean T, Peters HJ, Hemmington M, Taylor C, Fowkes RC, Martineau HM, Hamilton CM, Walker M, Mitchell JA, Le´ ger E, Priestnall SL and Webster JP Frontiers in Psychiatry 2020 11:513536. (open access)

https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpsyt.2020.513536/full

Veterinary treatment of fox casualties Couper D and Bexton S In Practice 2016;38 (3):130-138 doi:10.1136/inp.i707 (not open access)

Increased prevalence and geographic spread of the cardiopulmonary nematode *Angiostrongylus vasorum* in fox populations in Great Britain Taylor CS, Garcia Gato R, Learmount J, Aziz NA, Montgomery C, Rose H, Coulthwaite CL, McGarry JW, Forman W, Allen S, Wall R, Morgan ER Parasitology 2015, 142(9), 1190-1195. doi:10.1017/S0031182015000463 (not open access)

Detection of Circovirus in Foxes with Meningoencephalitis, United Kingdom, 2009–2013 Bexton S, Wiersma LC, Getu S, van Run PR, Verjans GMGM, Schipper D, Schapendonk CME, Bodewes R, Oldroyd L, Haagmans BL, Koopmans MMP, Smits SL. Emerging Infectious Diseases 2015. 21, 7 (open access) https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/eid/article/21/7/15-0228 article

Deer

Blood L-Lactate Concentration as an Indicator of Outcome in Roe Deer (Capreolus capreolus) Admitted to a Wildlife Rescue Center.

Di Lorenzo E, Rossi R, Ferrari F, Martini V, Comazzi S

Animals 2020, 10, 1066. (open access)

https://www.mdpi.com/2076-2615/10/6/1066

Managing antler problems in deer Fletcher J, Foster A, Goddard P, et al In Practice 2016;38 (10):513-519. (not open access)

Hedgehogs

British Hedgehog Preservation Society
Care Rehabilitation and Aid for Sick Hedgehogs
http://www.hedgehogs.org.uk/

Hedgehogs in the waiting room
Partridge T
BSAVA Companion, January 2020; pp 12 - 17 (not open access)

Hibernation Patterns of the European Hedgehog, Erinaceus europaeus, at a Cornish Rescue Centre.

South KE, Haynes K, Jackson AC Animals, 2020; 10, 1418. (open access) https://www.mdpi.com/2076-2615/10/8/1418#cite

Evaluation of alfaxalone and dexmedetomidine for intramuscular restraint in European hedgehogs (Erinaceus europaeus)
Bellini L, Pagani G, Mollo A, Contiero B, Loretti E, Gelli D
Veterinary Record, 2019; 185, 145. (not open access)

Veterinary care of free-living hedgehogs Bexton S and Couper D In Practice, 2019; 41 (9):420-432. (not open access)

Should rehabilitated hedgehogs be released in winter? A comparison of survival, nest use and weight change in wild and rescued animals.

Yarnell RW, Surgey J, Grogan A et al.

European Journal of Wildlife Research, 2019; 65, 6. (open access)

https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s10344-018-1244-4

Parasites of European hedgehogs (Erinaceus europaeus) in Britain: epidemiological study and coprological test evaluation.

Gaglio G, Allen S, Bowden L. et al.

European Journal of Wildlife Research, 2010; 56, 839–844 (not open access)

https://doi.org/10.1007/s10344-010-0381-1

Veterinary care of the hedgehog
Ian Robinson and Andrew Routh
In Practice 1999, 21 (3) 128-138 (open access)
https://www.researchgate.net/publication/254738659 Veterinary care of the hedgehog

Pigeons

Factors affecting the likelihood of release of injured and orphaned woodpigeons (Columba palumbus)

Kelly A, Halstead C, Hunter D, Leighton K, Grogan A and Harris M Animal Welfare, 2011; 20: 523-534 (open access)

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/233684910 Factors affecting the likelihood of release of injured and orphaned woodpigeons Columba palumbus/link/57a2f50508ae ef8f31202fe4/download

Waterfowl

Veterinary care of sick and injured mallards Bexton S, Couper D In Practice, 2014; 36 (7):356-366. (not open access)

Other useful resources

BSAVA Guide to the Use of Medicines 2020 (open access) https://www.bsava.com/Resources/Veterinary-resources/Medicines-Guide

BSAVA Small Animal formulary Part B: Exotic Pets 2020 BSAVA Publications, Gloucester

Exotic animal formulary (4th Edition) Carpenter JW Elsevier Saunders 2013

This information hub was last update on 1st April 2021 and compiled by Dr Liz Mullineaux, in collaboration with other wildlife rehabilitators and veterinary professionals.

Disclaimer: This information is primarily for the benefit of veterinary professionals (veterinary surgeons and veterinary nurses registered with the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons (RCVS)) and registered students in those subjects.