

BRANCH

MAGAZINE

2024



www.rspcahalifaxhuddersfieldbradford.org.uk



**Halifax, Huddersfield,
Bradford and District**
Registered Charity No: 225575

Welcome!

Hello and welcome to our branch magazine!

The RSPCA Halifax, Huddersfield & Bradford Branch is an independent, self-funded local animal charity. Our Animal Centre is based in Halifax, but we cover the whole of the Calderdale, Huddersfield and Bradford area. Our priority is animal welfare and rehoming; we take in hundreds of unwanted and/or mistreated animals every year to give them a better life through rehabilitation, treatment, training and care before finding them loving new homes.

In this magazine you will find features on fostering, adoptions, our centre staff and charity shops. However, if you would like to receive regular updates on our upcoming events, appeals and stories please sign up to our online mailout list. We won't share your details with anyone else and you'll be able to keep up to date with all our activities. Get in touch with your details to:
supportercare@rspcahalifaxhuddersfieldbradford.org.uk

We'd like to say a huge thank you to all of our readers for your continued support in helping us care for so many local animals in need. We couldn't carry on the vital work we do and give our animals another chance of a loving family without you!

Contact Us!

RSPCA Halifax, Huddersfield, Bradford and District Branch
Wade Street, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX1 1SN

Telephone: 01422 365628

Email: enquiries@rspcahalifaxhuddersfieldbradford.org.uk

Branch Office: 01422 341160

Furniture Collections: 01422 362461

Fundraising: fundraising@rspcahalifaxhuddersfieldbradford.org.uk

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Search RSPCA Halifax, Huddersfield & Bradford and follow us on:



Animal stories



Dumped on Valentine's day...

Our Animal Care Team were shocked to discover a cardboard box dumped at the back gates of our Centre on the afternoon of February 14th – Valentine's Day! What is internationally thought of as a day of love, turned into quite opposite for these poor felines. After initially assuming just one cat had been abandoned (from the message scribed on the cardboard - "Free cat - save my life"), staff were appalled to find nine very stressed cats cramped into the small space. With the edges sealed by sellotape and just a few holes poked in to allow them to breathe.



We provided immediate care and veterinary checks for all nine of the cats, who thankfully were in good health despite their ordeal. Our team called these survivors: Amber, Bruce, Solo, Puma, Poppy, Daisy & Dottie, Tabatha and Timmy! Some of the cats took slightly longer to adjust to cattery life but with lots of TLC from our highly trained team, we're pleased to report that all nine of these beautiful kitties have now gone on to find loving, forever homes and will never have to deal with feeling un-loved ever again!



Suzie & the pups...



Suzie arrived in our care in March after being rescued from a multi-pet household. After being in our care for just a matter of hours, we learned that Suzie was heavily pregnant and could give birth at any given moment! Due to this, Suzie urgently needed to be placed in a foster home as a kennel environment just wouldn't be suitable.

Luckily, one of our incredible fosterers stepped up to save the day.... and that very evening Suzie gave birth to 6 beautiful puppies! Sadly 2 of Suzie's pups were stillborn but she and her remaining 4 babies flourished in their foster home. Suzie, Meadow, Nancy, Saffy and Charles have all gone on to find loving forever families! Here they are on their adoption day!...



Adoption day



A day at the Centre for a small furry!

We got a behind-the-scenes interview with Rebecca one of our fabulous animal carers, with a real passion for small animals...

What kind of small animals does the charity care for?

We mostly care for rabbits and guinea pigs, but we also care for mice, rats, hamsters, and gerbils too!

What does a typical day of caring for small animals look like?

In the morning we do a full clean of all the small animal pens and dish out fresh water and veggies! The corridor will then be set up so a rabbit can stretch its legs and explore. It's socialisation time in the afternoons, so each animal gets one-to-one time with our team. Rabbits and guinea pigs are also groomed, and enrichment is changed regularly to keep them entertained.

Are there any small animals stories that have really stood out to you?

Dogs and cats aren't the only animals that we get that are part of cruelty cases, sometimes we get small animals too. We recently had three adult female rats that came to us as part of a hoarding case. After being with us for a few weeks one of them gave birth to 7 babies! We've never had baby rats born at the centre during my time working here, so it was interesting to watch them grow and go to their forever homes!



How can someone adopt a small animal?

If anyone wants to adopt a small animal from us its always best to check our website. Something important to consider is that we can't rehome a singular rabbit or guinea pig to someone if they don't already have one of the same species. Rabbits and guinea pigs must live in at least a pair with the same species as they are very social animals. We will always give you advice on how to bond smalls if you've never done it before and you can give us a call if you need a bit of extra help once you've taken your new friend home.

If you've never had a small animal before, that's not a problem either. We will always give you advice on the best accommodation and sizes for the small you want, we will give you behaviour, dietary and health advice on any species you are interested in adopting from us.



Gemma's star pet products!



Whether it's a treat for your dog...
flea and wormer for your cat...
or hay for your guinea pig...
we have hundreds of pet and vet
products available online and
in-store! Plus, every purchase
made directly benefits the
animals in our care.

Why not browse our online shop or
call in to our Wade Street Animal
Centre shop in Halifax to check out
our brilliant range of products?



Scan to shop online!

www.rspcahalifaxhuddersfieldbradford.org.uk/shop

We also sell a variety of pet remedies and treatments through our
online vet shop too.

Our star fundraiser: Young Farmer Will!

William is just 7 Years old and is a farmer's
son from Bradford. He has a huge passion
for all animals and after coming to one
of our local dog shows with his Mum and
dog Rosie (a beautiful black Labrador),
he decided he wanted to do a special
fundraiser for us... by cycling 100 miles
during the school summer holidays!

Will completed his mission and drew in lots
of online support and donations through
JustGiving, raising an incredible £827.75!

We're so grateful to Will for his amazing
effort and the funds he's raised will go a
very long way in helping us to rehabilitate
and rehome local animals in need here
at the RSPCA Halifax, Huddersfield &
Bradford.



Furry tail endings



Adoption days

For all of us here at the branch, there's nothing better than adoption days and hearing how our ex animal residents are getting on in their forever homes!



Little V



Amber



Roxy



Kenny



Jade



Nadia

Forever Homes



Monroe in her forever home!



Paddington enjoys sofa snuggles with his forever humans!



Whizz is loving life with his new forever family!

Have you adopted from us? Send us your adoption update on Facebook/Insta!



Scan to follow us on our socials!

An interview with a fosterer...

Foster homes are a valuable asset to our centre: having a team of fosterers means that we are able to rescue more animals and more importantly, provide a calm & loving environment for those who are in need of a little more TLC.

We spoke with one of our Foster Carers Fiona Igo about why she fosters and why you should too!...

How long have you been fostering with the RSPCA HHB?

We have been fostering for years now and currently provide care for cats and kittens.

Is it easy to become a fosterer and do you receive support?

Becoming a fosterer was not difficult. I already knew I had the facilities at home due to being a home visitor. The RSPCA Animal Centre have always been helpful and give lots of practical advice when needed, you also get given everything you could need too!



Why did you want to be a fosterer?

I had decided when our last cat died aged 19yrs that we would not have anymore and in memory of our last cat we decided we would only foster. Although, I've failed that idea as we have adopted three of our foster pets!

What's your favourite part of being a fosterer?

Watching a cat or kitten needing help and TLC develop into a fit and healthy cat that can go to a new loving home!

Would you recommend it to anyone else considering becoming a fosterer?

I always recommend people to foster. Most say they couldn't do it as they don't think they could give up the animal and fosterers do fail sometimes...but I do my best to treat the fostering as a "job". We have always done our best and we know that soon there will be another foster coming along that needs that special amount of help, which is amazing to be a part of!



Fiona



Scan to find out more!

Out in our Community

We partnered with Vintage Inns to hold 2 great dog shows raising over £1500 altogether!



Tricks and Treats at Woofy, Sowerby Bridge.

We love our Animal Centre Back Gate Stalls!



We raised £2000 at our Furry Friends Open Day.



We raised £800 at Squid Shock Ink's Tattoo Fundraiser.



We held 17 Fun Dog Shows in 2023, including our K9 Party which raised over £10,000!



Out in our Community

Our Big Dog Canvas was displayed in the Piece Hall Halifax thanks to Moira and Louis Benoit at the Artworks Studio!



We continue to enjoy our close partnership with the Friends of Beaumont Park, Huddersfield.



A muddy but fun day at Shibden Park raised £1,200!



Our Kit Tea Party was another sell out!



Thank you to Covea Insurance and RSA for their continued support.



A huge thank you to our fantastic event volunteers and all who volunteer at our Animal Centre and Charity Shops!



FAQs

Can the RSPCA Halifax, Huddersfield & Bradford help me re-home my pet?

As a local RSPCA rehoming centre, we are duty-bound to provide rescue space to animals brought into our care by the national RSPCA inspectors. Our Centre is designed to care for abandoned, abused and neglected animals and our Animal Care Team are specifically trained to care for and rehabilitate these animals and find them a safe, loving new home. For this reason, we're unable to accept surrendered pets from members of the public. However, we're always here to help and offer advice and support if you need to rehome your pet. You can reach us on our socials or email enquiries@rspcahalifaxhuddersfieldbradford.org.uk.

What do I do if I find a stray cat or dog?

It can be tricky to identify whether a cat is actually a stray or not! For this reason, as tempting as it may be, we recommend not

feeding a cat and trying to establish whether it has a home or not first. We recommend checking for a microchip at your nearest vet. If there's no chip, you can attach a temporary paper collar to ask any owners to call you. Hang posters in your local area/post on Facebook. Finally, if you think the cat has been abandoned, you can report this to **National RSPCA on 0300 1234 999** or contact your nearest local cat rescue.

Stray dogs need to be reported to your local council's dog warden, which can be found online. Of course, we're always here to help offer help and support if you need us!

What should I do if I find an injured bird?

Unless in immediate danger you should never move a fledgling or bird. If a bird needs urgent care, all vets offer free care for any type of wildlife. We recommend calling in advance to let the veterinary centre know of your arrival

We have some great ways for you to support our animals and their ongoing care:

- Elderly Animal Rehoming Scheme – helping find homes for cats and dogs over 10 yrs old.
- Dog's Day Out Scheme – take one of our residents home for the day!
- Dylan's Draw – our very own Branch lottery with the chance of winning £100 every month.
- Sponsor an Animal – from as little as 50p a week you can help us care for the animals in our centre.
- Fostering – we supply all you need for the animal, you just open your home and your heart!
- Twilight Scheme – donations to help fund our Elderly Animal Rehoming Scheme.
- Sponsor an Animal Space – donations to help run our cattery, kennels and rabbit units.

To find out about all these schemes, please visit: www.rspcahalifaxhuddersfieldbradford.org.uk or call our Animal Centre for more info on **01422 365628**



Did you know?

To report cruelty you need to call the national RSPCA cruelty hotline on 0300 1234 999. As a local rehoming centre only, we're unable to respond to animal welfare concerns.



Microchipping for cats in the UK will soon be mandatory by law?

From June 10th 2024, all cats need to be micro-chipped. It has also been a legal requirement for dogs to be micro-chipped since 2016.



Our centre is appointment only?

If you're interested in adopting a new furry family member, you can fill in an online adoption form in a matter of minutes. Our friendly team will then call you back to arrange a meet and greet if suitable.

Are you struggling with the cost of living crisis?

We can offer microchipping/neutering assistance vouchers to those on means tested benefits. Please contact our Animal Centre directly for more information.

There's also many local pet food banks available to support struggling pet owners. Please don't be afraid to reach out to us if you need help and advice.



We're a separately registered charity to the national RSPCA?

Although we work closely together, we are a self-funding local charity!

The national RSPCA operate the cruelty hotline, rescue animals in need and arrange prosecutions.

Our job as a local RSPCA Centre is to provide full rehabilitation for these rescued animals (veterinary treatment/food/shelter and TLC) and find them loving new homes.



Our Charity Shops

Jo talks to us about our 8 charity shops and how you can shop with us on Ebay!

How many RSPCA HHB shops are there?

We have 8 shops - Hebden Bridge, Queens Road, Brighouse, Marsh, New Street (Huddersfield) Kirkgate (Bradford), Pudsey and Cleckheaton. We also have 2 eBay Outlets - one based in Marsh and the other in New Street.

What kind of items do they sell and what's the most unique item that has been donated?

Our shops sell all sorts! From clothing to toys, to bric-a-brac! 3 of our stores also sell furniture too: Queens Road, New Street and Kirkgate. One eBay specialises in fashion and the other in ephemera. We once sold a donated motorbike at auction and raised £1200! We also sold a Euphonium for £1100 to an international bidder!

Why do you think Charity Shops are so important?

Not only do our shops support our vital rehabilitation and rehoming work - but they're also local, ethical, sustainable, affordable and great for the planet. Our Charity Shops Team work hard to recycle any unsuitable or unsaleable donations so that virtually nothing goes to waste!

How can people donate items to the shops?

Donations can be made directly to our shops, or by calling and arranging a free collection from our friendly van team. Alternatively, we're now offering a totally free postage service (up to 10kg) via our website.



Scan to find out more!

Shop Locations

- 1 New Street Huddersfield**
45 - 47 New Street,
Huddersfield, HD1 2BQ
- 2 King Cross Halifax**
Queens Hall, Queens Road,
Halifax, HX1 3NS
- 3 Hebden Bridge**
22 - 24 Bridge Gate,
Hebden Bridge, HX7 8EX
- 4 Brighouse**
53 Commercial Street,
Brighouse, HD6 1AF
- 5 Pudsey**
17 Lidget Hill, Pudsey,
Leeds, LS28 7LJ
- 6 Marsh**
106 Westbourne Road, Marsh,
Huddersfield, HD1 4GL
- 7 Bradford City Centre**
51 - 53 Kirkgate,
Bradford, BD1 1PZ
- 8 Cleckheaton**
19 Cheapside,
Cleckheaton, BD19 5AF



Leaving a Legacy for our future

As a long established charity and the largest animal shelter in our region, we are fortunate enough to receive some legacy donations from our supporters. In fact, as much as 20% of our annual income comes from legacies left to us by our supporters in their Wills. This is equivalent to the cost of caring for 100 of the animals we take in each year including their medical treatment, training work and any other rehabilitation support required. This type of donation

makes a huge difference to the number of animals we're able to help and at times, is essential to keep our charity up and running. If you'd like to speak to someone about leaving a gift in your Will, receive our Legacy Brochure or need any further support with setting up a legacy donation, please contact our branch office on **01422 341160**, fill out the enquiry form on our website or email **branchoffice@rspcahalifaxhuddersfieldbradford.org.uk**

All the work we do at our Animal Centre is only possible due to generous donations and support from the local community. We truly appreciate your kindness and would like to say thank you to all who have donated to our cause.

In order to keep our Animal Centre running we rely on the support of our local community and we are only allowed to fundraise within our branch area boundary - which makes your support even more special to us! There are various ways you can support our branch from

personal challenges, donations to our charity shops, food and blanket donations to our centre and fundraisers at work.

Our team are always happy to speak to our fantastic supporters about how they can help, so please check the contact numbers on page 2 for more information.



Scan to find out more!

Sponsor an animal

Becoming an Animal Sponsor means that you will be helping hundreds of local cats, dogs & small animals in need. You can choose if you would like to sponsor a Cat, Dog or Small Animal with a one off-donation or regularly from as little as 50p a week.



By becoming an animal sponsor, you will be directly helping us save countless lives of many cats, dogs and small animals in need! You'll also receive regular e-updates about how your donation is helping and a personalised digital sponsor certificate!

You'll be helping cats like Nadia...



Nadia arrived in our care as a stray, after a thorough inspection poor Nadia had multiple infected open wounds and was also suffering from Fly strike. We apologise for the graphic images of Nadine's injuries - but it's hard to imagine her suffering without seeing the extent of her condition. We dread to think how Nadia would have managed on her own had she not been brought into our care.

Nadia received immediate veterinary treatment is now safe and on the road to recovery! The full cost of Nadia's care was over £1000 and without the help of our loyal supporters, we simply wouldn't be able to provide this life saving treatment - or find her a loving, safe new home.



and dogs like Edie...



Edie hit the headlines earlier this year, after being rescued from appalling living conditions. She had been confined in the kitchen without anything to eat or drink and had chewed her way through food and drink cartons in an effort to survive. As you can see from her before photo, she was shockingly emaciated.

After being rescued from the property, Edie arrived in the care of our branch and our Animal Care Team were all too happy to provide her with the love, care, treatment, feeding and rehabilitation she needed to recover! She weighed a shockingly low 3.9 kilograms and was given a body condition score of only one out of nine. Within just 6 weeks with us, her weight had increased to 6.8kg! Edie is firmly back on all four paws and is living her best life, in her new forever home!

OUR 2023 IN NUMBERS



334 **Animals
Rehomed**



31 **COMMUNITY
EVENTS**



£1823
**The cost of running
our Animal Centre
for a day**

311

**Volunteers
within our
shops, +
fundraising
departments**



13

**Educational
Talks to the
younger
generation**



Our volunteers are a huge part in helping us rehabilitate and rehome over 350 local animals in need every year. We are always in need of volunteer help at our Charity Shops, Animal Centre, and Fundraising Events. **Find a role that suits you by visiting** www.rspcahalifaxhuddersfieldbradford.org.uk/volunteer

RSPCA Halifax, Huddersfield, Bradford & District Branch
Donation Form

Title..... Name:.....
Address.....
.....
Postcode: Tel No:.....
Email:.....

**I would like to make a donation of £..... to the
RSPCA Halifax, Huddersfield, Bradford Branch**

If you are a UK taxpayer, you can increase the value of your donation by nearly a third at no extra cost to you. All you have to do is confirm you are a taxpayer and we will receive a further 25p for every pound you give from HM Customs and Revenue.

I am a taxpayer and would like my donation to be Gift Aided :
Yes/No ((Delete as necessary)

Please send this completed form, along with your donation to:

**RSPCA Branch Office, Queens Hall, Queens Road,
Halifax HX1 3NS**

Please make cheques payable to :
RSPCA Halifax, Huddersfield, Bradford & District Branch

You can also donate direct via our website www.rspcahalifaxhuddersfieldbradford.org.uk

Or text RSPCAHHB to 70085 to donate £1

If you are interested in donating regularly to our Branch,
we'd be happy to send you details on how to apply to do this
Please tick the box if you would like more information

On behalf of all the animals
in our care, we thank you for
your kind donation

Become an animal
sponsor today by
visiting our website
or scan this QR
code on your phone.

