Cleveland Hedgehog Preservation Society
Annual Report for 2024

Welcome to the Annual Report for 2024.

First of all our figures for 2024.

We took in over 1682 hedgehogs throughout the year, that's a massive increase on previous years, over 400 more than 2023. 280 of those died within the first 24 hours, these are the ones too far gone or too badly injured to be saved, another reminder that time is important when rescuing wildlife. We released 1041 back to the wild, another big increase on previous years, not just the numbers but the percentage saved, which reflects on the expertise of our carers and their ever-growing experience.

Of those rescued 55 were babies, 862 male and 764 female. The boys still getting into more trouble than the girls. We overwintered 118 which were released in the spring and sadly 332 (20%) died or were put to sleep by a vet.

Our busiest month was June with 266 and the quietest February with only 10, we took in hedgehogs every month of the year.

I had figures from 9 people which is about normal, although I know others have supported their local hedgehog population.

Now for the rest of the report.

First of all, welcome to Tonia Booth, our newest committee member.

We don't just look after hedgehogs; we try to educate people about them as well. I think we did more talks than usual this year. Between us we did presentations for The College of further education in Sept 24, Ingleby Arncliffe WI in October 24, the residents of Green Lodge Nursing home in Billingham in October 24, a series of 4 talks for Oakdene Primary School in Billingham in October 24, The Beaches care home in Stockton in January 25, The 'Owl Group' In Osmotherly in February 25, then St Georges church / hobbies group in February 25.

Chris did a film interview for young film makers from Teesside University that also starred Tonia and Maxine in October 24. Chris also did an interview with Hits Radio Teesside (formally TFM) regarding hedgehogs and bonfire night in October 24 and did an interview for Sadie Meek of Teesside University, studying journalism, for the Tuxtra UK, online magazine in March 25. Enough talking to make us lose our voices!

Once again, we received a large donation from PD Ports via Alison Smiles for which we are extremely grateful. Thanks also for the £1000 from the Skipton Building society in Middlesbrough, and over £900 from Adam Thwaites from selling cakes.

Thanks to MKM Building supplies for supplying the wood that was made into hedgehog boxes by Steven Parish and students of East Durham College.

Thanks to Pam Shepherd for raising lots of money from the sale of knitted hedgehogs.

A big thank you to Lynn Hall and her friends Gwen, Jackie, Julia and Angela for all the hard work making knitted hedgehogs. Also, Lindsay for helping on the stall each time.

Big thanks to Roy and Beth who collect hedgehogs from all over and deliver them to our carers.

Thank you to Andrea at Paramount Global for doing all of our printing and thank you to Stuart Barfoot for providing the majority of our stamps and envelopes. These things save us a massive amount of money which means more can be spent on hedgehog care.

Congratulations to Amy on the birth of baby Rowan, born in June this year.

Of course, the biggest thanks of all go to our carers for looking after the hedgehogs that we support. This includes our very few front line crew as well as the supporters who feed up hedgehogs ready for release. Without everyone's hard work, incredible patience and the long hours they put in we couldn't exist.

Sadly, we said goodbye to 2 of our supporters, Annie Ross, graphic designer from Norton who donated her profits from hedgehog T shirts, died in January 2025 and June Nolton who was member number 1 and had been with us since we first started doing memberships in 1992. June died in August 2023. Both sadly missed.

We currently have 115 members and 5283 Facebook followers. Facebook remains the fastest way to get help to a hedgehog in trouble.

If you wish to pay your membership online or make a donation, please send me an email (chps98@yahoo.com) to let me know you've made a payment; I can then make absolutely sure that your money has not been lost within the banking system. Please include your membership number as well as your surname in the reference as that will appear on our bank statements. We have several members who share last names so adding the Membership Number will help to avoid any confusion. Memberships fees are due on 1st March each year and are set to remain at £10. Don't forget to use our new bank account, details are. Virgin / Yorkshire bank, Account name = Clev Hedgehog Pres Soc. account number = 74410459 and sort code = 05-02-00. It is classed as a business account. If you get a message saying that the account can't be verified (or something similar) check you have the numbers correct and continue anyway. This seems to happen quite often but always works. Thanks.

All that remains is for me to thank everyone involved in all the parts of the Organisation for everything you've done for us; we couldn't manage without you.

Chris Firth
Chairman
Cleveland Hedgehog Preservation Society.