

INSIDE

Spring 2020 Edition

RESCUE ANIMALS: BEFORE AND AFTER

**KEEP YOUR PETS
ACTIVE AT HOME**

PLAY THE WOODSIDE LOTTERY



RSPCA Leicestershire Branch
Registered Charity No. 222621

WOODSIDE
ANIMAL CENTRE 

NUGGET THE THERAPY DOG

We first met Nugget, who is a St Bernard Cross, in November 2017 when he was part of a big cruelty case involving 11 dogs. When he was rescued by the RSPCA in October 2017 he only weighed 30kg and was in a terrible condition. He weighed 45kg when we fostered him from Woodside. He joined our two female Bernese and settled in straight away. Initially he was on 1kg of food a day which we spread over four meals. Very gradually his weight increased and his condition improved. After a week we knew there was no way that he would be leaving us, so we applied to formally adopt him from Woodside once he reached his ideal weight. Finally in February 2018 and weighing a very healthy 60kg he was officially adopted into our family.



It soon became clear that Nugget was a very special boy, always happy and so tolerant towards the two girls he shared a home with. He was a very quick learner and mastered basic commands. Considering he was pretty much starved before he came to us, he was such a fussy eater. He hated vegetables and even if we covered them in gravy he sucked the gravy off and then spat the vegetable back out.

We were at an annual Bernese event with all three dogs when I got talking to a lady from Therapy Dogs Nationwide. I asked her if she thought Nugget would be a suitable Therapy dog and she suggested I apply and get his temperament tested, which I duly did. He passed with flying colours and we started our volunteering for the charity.

Our first placement was a dementia care home in Leicester. Residents, staff and visitors love him and its great to see the smile on peoples faces when we visit. The residents love to tell me about the dogs they had when they were younger. Nugget now also visits two local primary schools to listen to children read. The scheme is called Paws and Read and it especially helps children with social/emotional difficulties as it encourages them to talk to Nugget. It has been proven that children feel more comfortable talking to an animal than an adult, especially if they lack confidence. It makes me extremely proud to see the difference Nugget has made to children's lives.



Nugget also visits company offices for occasional visits to promote positive mental health. The employees queue up for their five minutes with Nugget and they all wish that Nugget was a permanent member of staff

Therapy Dogs Nationwide is always on the lookout for new volunteers, to find out more please visit their website <http://www.tdn.org.uk/>

By, Sarah McTighe

SUPPORT WOODSIDE

In March 2020 we made the very hard but very appropriate decision to temporarily close Woodside Animal Centre to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With this decision also came the announcement that all of our charity shops, pet shop and all animal rehoming is closed until further notice. These decisions were made with the best interest of the animals in our care, the Woodside team, our supporters and our community at heart. We hope to reopen as soon as it is safe to do so and we can't wait to see all of our wonderful supporters at Woodside again.

During our closure we have already seen a decrease in donations made to our centre. The usual drop ins of food, towels and monetary donations have stopped. However, there are still lots of ways you can support Woodside and the life-saving work we continue to carry out every day...

DONATE ONLINE

Donating online is super easy and quick! Just head over to our Woodside at www.rspcaleicester.org.uk and click DONATE at the top of our home page.

DONATE VIA SOCIAL MEDIA



Donating via our social media channels is one of the easiest ways to donate to Woodside! Simply find us on Facebook or Instagram by searching 'Woodside Animal Centre' and click the donate button. On Facebook we have an Easter fundraising page set up if you would like to donate through this. On Instagram go to 'Highlights' and click on the 'Donate' icon. Donating this way means you also get to keep up to date with the latest Woodside news and see how all of the animals in our care and ex-Woodsiders are getting on.

AMAZON WISHLIST



Our Amazon Wishlist is the easiest way of donating items such as food, toys and blankets! Simply head over to <https://www.amazon.co.uk/hz/wishlist/ls/2VILC67AQ3X6K> to view our wishlist. Here you can order items which Amazon will then deliver directly to Woodside. Hassle free and easy to do from the comfort of your own home. Plus, if you shop through Amazon Smile, we receive 0.5% of your order as an extra monetary donation, from Amazon at no extra cost to you. Click here <https://smile.amazon.co.uk/> to find out more.

FUNDRAISE AT HOME **JustGiving**

If you suddenly have lots of time on your hands and aren't sure what do with it, why not set up an online fundraiser on JustGiving and set yourself a challenge at home! It could be anything from a sponsored silence to a pie eating challenge. What ever you decide to do, make sure you let us know on social media so we can share your fundraiser with all of our supporters. <https://www.justgiving.com/rspcaleicester>

THANK YOU

WOODSIDE LOTTERY

We are so excited to announce that we have now launched our very own Lottery!

As a self-funded centre costing over £20,000 per week to run, Woodside is always looking for new ways to generate enough funds to keep our much loved centre open and running.

Paving the way to ensure Woodside can continue to rescue, rehabilitate and rehome animals in need, Woodside Lottery is one of our most exciting projects to date!

For just £1 per week, you are entered into a draw to win £25,000! At no extra cost to Woodside, you could be in with the chance of winning a life changing amount of money.

Sign up before the first draw on Saturday 28th of April to be in with the chance of winning a £50 voucher to spend at Pingles in Barwell, Natural World in Syston and Woodside Pet Shop in Leicester. *Voucher available to spend once all shops reopen*

	60% of ticket sales supports our cause	
WIN up to £25,000		Join from just £1 a week
	Help change an animal's life	

Woodside Lottery is one of the easiest ways to support our centre and the life-saving work we carry out every single day.

Sign up now via the Woodside Lottery Website:

<https://www.woodsidelottery.co.uk/>

★ Trustpilot



Instagram @woodsideanimalcentre
Facebook @Woodside Animal Centre - RSPCA Leicester

RESCUE ANIMALS

BEFORE

BERNARD

AFTER



Before: Bernard on the day he arrived at Woodside just before Christmas.

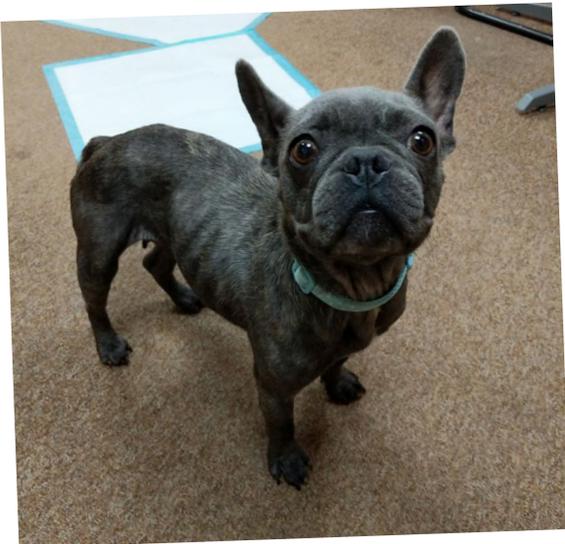
After: Bernard at the start of 2020, continuing to healthily gain weight.

Bernard came to Woodside as part of an RSPCA cruelty case, so we don't know much about his past. Bernard was severely underweight when he arrived at Woodside but after some tender loving care from our animal care assistants, Bernard soon became a healthy weight.

BEFORE

OOLA

AFTER



Before: Oola on the day she arrived at Woodside.

After: Oola on the day she left Woodside for her forever home.

Oola came to Woodside after being found abandoned on the side of a road. Oola was very underweight and had been severely overbred. Oola was very frightened when she came into our care but soon become a very loving character at the centre. Now a healthy weight and adopted into a loving family, Oola is loving life in her forever home.

KEEPING YOUR DOG ACTIVE INSIDE

LICKIMAT

Lickimats are a great activity for your pets to enjoy! Simply spread animal safe peanut butter, food or treats over the mat for your pet to lick. Don't worry if you don't have a mat like this one, you can use any textured surface as long as it is pet safe.



SNUFFLE MAT

Snuffle mats are great for getting your pets to sniff out their food. You can make one at home using an old garden mat and then tying strips of fabric through the holes to create lots of hiding places. Then scatter your pets food throughout the mat and let the fun begin!



DESTRUCTION BOX

Destruction Boxes are great fun for your pets! Simply find a box, pop in some toilet roll tubes and drop some treats into each tube. Your pet now has to figure out how to retrieve the food. They may pull the tubes out or tip the box over, whichever way your dog decides to play is up to them.



To watch a video tutorial and get more information, check out the Woodside YouTube channel by clicking here <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZBVthxCkItyAA00E->

MAKE SOME TIME TO EXPLORE WILDLIFE

Lockdown to-do-list for all the family.

Make some time to explore your garden with ten top tips:

ONE - Look out for:

Wildlife in my Garden	Date Seen
Butterflies	
Comma	
Peacock	
Brimstone	
7 - Spot Ladybird	
Frog Spawn	
Tadpoles	
Bird Nest - Sh, Don't Touch!	

TWO - Design and carry out a mini survey of what you have seen in your garden over a week. See what you can find but don't disturb this wildlife!

THREE - Make a simple Bug Hotel. If tidying your garden, save any hollow stems (you can use bamboo too) and pack them into a pot with the holes at the front. Lay or hang the pot about hip height in your garden and see what bugs visit it during the summer.

FOUR - Check for signs of hedgehogs. Check for poo. This is small and usually shiny black with crunched shells! Often, they are close to the edge of paths near to pots or plants.

FIVE - Hedgehogs will eat cat or dog food that isn't pork or fish based and they like cat biscuits too. If you think you have hedgehogs visiting, tuck food on a shallow dish under a hedge at dusk.

SIX - Make sure there is no litter in your garden. Don't cut back or tidy too much undergrowth in your garden as hedgehogs like to explore under hedges.

SEVEN - If you have a deep sided pond, create a ramp with a piece of wood so that a hedgehog can get out if it falls in.

EIGHT - Put out water dishes at different heights around your garden, birds, hedgehogs and other small animals will enjoy a drink or a bath! Top these up regularly.

NINE - Design a wildlife friendly garden with labels to show others what they can also put into their gardens.

TEN - Groom your cat or dog and save the fur. Put it out now in an old bird feeder or tuck it into a hedge and watch out for the birds taking it to line their nests!



For more Wildlife fun, a step-by-step guide on how to make your own bird feeder and much more, visit our website: <https://www.rspcaleicester.org.uk/blog/>

WOODSIDE QUIZ

Complete this quiz by writing the answers below the questions or print this page for your very own home quiz night.



QUESTION ONE



What is the most common type of bird on the planet?

QUESTION TWO



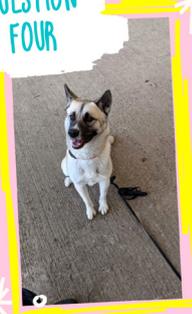
Can dogs eat chocolate?

QUESTION THREE



Can pet rabbits live on their own?

QUESTION FOUR



What is the estimated UK dog population?

QUESTION FIVE



What is the estimated UK cat population?

QUESTION SIX



How soon after being born will a lamb stand on its own?

QUESTION SEVEN



How much living space should you give a pet rabbit?

QUESTION EIGHT



At what age should a cat be neutered?

QUESTION NINE



How many more cats is an unneutered female and her offspring responsible for in just 5 years?

QUESTION TEN



What should you do if you see a baby bird on its own?

Thanks for playing!

You can find all of the answers at:
<https://www.rspc Leicester .org.uk/blog/>



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Registered Charity No. 202631

WOODSIDE
ANIMAL CENTRE