

RAYSTEDDE MAGAZINE



RAYSTEDDE
GIVING ANIMALS A BETTER LIFE

Autumn 2025 Issue 28



IN THIS ISSUE:

**STANDING SIDE BY SIDE TO
SUPPORT ANIMALS – STORIES
FROM RAYSTEDDE AND OUR
ANIMAL-LOVING COMMUNITY**

ALSO INSIDE

- A Rabbitry refurb
- Let's talk terrapins
- Friends of Raystede turns 70!

WELCOME

to our Raystede magazine

Angelica
and
Poppet



Stephanie Smith
Chief Executive

Welcome to the Autumn 2025 edition of our Raystede magazine!

In this issue, there are lots of interesting and uplifting updates about the animals we are caring for. I very much hope you will enjoy reading about the many animals Raystede has been able to help find loving new homes, such as ponies Chilli and Pepper on page 7 and Coffee the cat on page 8.

It is particularly encouraging that in the past year we have assisted many more animals - 1,964, an increase of 19% on the 1,655 animals we helped the previous year. Dog rehoming also increased by almost 15% year on year with 117 dogs going to new homes.

We have so many animals looking for loving homes so if you have a place in your heart and home, please take a look at our Adoption article on page 12 where we explore some of the misconceptions around adopting an animal from a rescue centre like ours. Every animal is unique, as is every home, so you might just be the perfect match!

Or, if you can't commit to adopting an animal, we are desperately looking for new foster carers for dogs, cats, rabbits and small rodents. Fostering is usually for just a couple of months, either for our Break Away scheme - helping people fleeing domestic abuse or facing short term hospitalisation - or because an animal might be struggling in the rescue environment. Find out if fostering is for you on page 13.

It is concerning that we are still seeing such high numbers of people sadly needing to surrender their animals. We had 4,655 surrender requests last year - we thought it couldn't go any higher but this is the highest ever. Behind each of these requests is often a sad story of an animal in need and all of us at Raystede are doing everything we can to help each and every one.

It is factors like this, as well as the current financial and economic situation affecting all of us, that has spurred us into looking closely at everything we do at Raystede and developing an exciting strategy for the next few years to help animals in Sussex have a good life and to support people to achieve that. You can read more on page 3.

Without your incredible support, we would not be able to help as many animals as we do and we hope that you will share our vision for the future of animals - and people - in Sussex and the part we can all play in achieving that.

Thank you for everything you do for Raystede and please continue to support our vital work and help us be there for all the animals who so desperately need our care.

With very best wishes,

Stephanie Smith
Raystede's CEO



Shaping the future for animals in Sussex

The changing financial and external landscape has led us to look at Raystede’s strategy and potential new ways of working for the next three to five years, with the goal of ensuring that...

Animals in Sussex have a good life, and people are supported to achieve that.

The two important elements to this statement are animals and people – Raystede is here to support and help both, with animals front of mind.

Within the strategy, there are three main elements or ambitions – **Prevention, Support, Care.**

1. More people are choosing their pets and keeping animals more responsibly and knowledgably - **Prevention**
2. More pets are able to live a good life and, where appropriate, stay at home with their owners with subsequent animal welfare benefits – **Support**
3. More animals that are not able to be looked after elsewhere are rehabilitated and rehomed well or are provided with sanctuary – **Care**



We will endeavour to reduce the causes of poor animal welfare and health and promote good practices through an enhanced emphasis on preventative and promotional work. We want to support more owners to keep their pets through a stronger strategic focus on advice and support. We will, of course, continue to care for animals which, despite our best efforts, need to enter Raystede for expert rehabilitation and care.

As a charity, we need to constantly adapt to a rapidly changing world where lots of things are beyond our immediate control. We know that there are many pressures on all of us – economic, social and financial – so this new direction and emphasis on Prevention, Support and Care will enable us to help more animals in Sussex and to support the people who care for them.

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Sheldon



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Raystede – the difference you made in 2024 – 2025

In the past year, it is very encouraging that we have assisted many more animals – an increase of 19% on the previous year. But there are still very high numbers of people sadly needing to surrender their animals – last year saw the highest ever number of requests. Thanks to your ongoing generosity, we can continue to help the animals who so desperately need our care. This shows the difference your wonderful support made last year – thank you from all the animals and people at Raystede!

£6,500 per day
from money donated to us went on animal care, rehoming, sanctuary and animal welfare education.

Animal healthcare days
Our surgery team helped
41 cats
At microchipping days
43 rabbits
At vaccination days

Raystede reached 1,930 school pupils and students in 24/25 both on and off site.

Peaceways, our pet crematorium, cared for **1,291** animals.

Raystede assisted **1,964** animals..

...which included...

276 cats
173 dogs
32 horses, ponies and donkeys
134 aviary birds
121 terrapins and tortoises
779 chickens and cockerels
399 small animals
23 alpacas, goats and sheep
27 ducks, turkeys and geese

Animals under the care of Raystede averaged 420 animals per month.
(these are not all on site).

Raystede was asked to take in 4,665 animals – the highest number ever – this included 1,770 dogs, 1,136 cats and 369 rabbits and 198 guinea pigs. In addition, we were asked to take 201 gerbils, hamsters, chinchillas, rats, degus and mice. Plus 166 terrapins and 61 tortoises.

You helped us rehome **580** animals.

Our charity shops in Lewes, Hailsham, Uckfield and at Raystede welcomed a total of **186,600** customers.

We helped **20 people & 27 animals** through our 'Break Away' scheme which offers short-term care of up to 3 months for people fleeing domestic abuse or needing medical treatment.

During 24/25 Raystede was on the TV 3 times and also did 28 radio interviews.

We gave pet advice to **2,584** people at **61** events in the local community.

Animal fosterer volunteers gave us **54,336** hours and our staff gave us **7,200** additional hours caring for animals in their own homes.

Volunteers gave us **85,313** hours in 24/25
93 new volunteers joined the team
Total number of Raystede volunteers **317**

During the year, **46** people told us they'd left a gift to Raystede in their Will.
Thank you

64,000 people visited the main Raystede site.

Over 8,470 people took part in Family Learning Days and special event animal days in 24/25.

Visiting Raystede

Animal welfare is our priority, so we let our animals live as naturally as possible. Also, as many are shy and nervous, you may not be able to see all of them during your visit. In addition, depending on the season and weather, they might choose to be outside, or they may retreat inside – no day is the same!

Some of the animals you may see:

- Goats, horses, ponies, alpacas and sheep are usually to be found grazing in the fields.
- Mice, rats, chinchillas, degus, gerbils and hamsters can be spotted in the Small Animals area.
- The rabbits can be nervous but you may catch them enjoying some fresh greens in the Rabbitry.
- Our colony of tortoises are often out on warmer days and our terrapins can be seen basking in and around the lake. They are likely to be in hibernation from the Autumn until Spring.
- The Aviaries close at 2pm every day for the welfare of our birds. Many of the birds love seeing visitors but for others it can be stressful, so we close the Aviaries early to ensure that all our birds have time to relax and unwind.
- Visitor numbers are limited as this is beneficial to the welfare of the animals in our care, and our visitors have a better experience. It is essential to book a ticket in advance to avoid disappointment. It's easy to book online at www.raystede.org/visit-us or phone our friendly Visitor Information Team on 01825 840252.

A few things to remember when visiting

- Entry is free and we are open from 10am to 4pm every day, apart from Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.
- We politely ask all visitors to be quiet and calm for all our animals. If you stand still and watch quietly, you'll see how they behave and learn more about them. We also ask that you don't feed any of our animals – they have a natural healthy diet so have everything they need. Some of our animals may be on special diets for health reasons.
- There is a free daily guided tour at 11.30am – meet your tour guide outside Visitor Information for a gentle stroll around Raystede and an insight into our work rescuing, rehoming and caring for the animals.
- Raystede is dog-friendly and dogs on short leads are very welcome. You can take dogs into our café, pet goods shop and charity shop.
- Don't forget, there's free parking, you can browse for bargains in our pet goods and charity shops, enjoy delicious home-cooked lunches and snacks in our café.



ANIMAL WELFARE UPDATE

There is a real sense of community here.

Introducing Mark Beazley – our new Head of Animal Welfare. Mark joins us with a wealth of experience in animal welfare operations. Mark reflects on some of the successes of his first few months in post and what he loves about working at Raystede.

Hello all! I have been in post now since January and am hugely enjoying my relatively new role as Head of Animal Welfare. I'd like to say a special word of thanks to everyone for making me feel so welcome and to all the teams for their support, guidance and patient good humour during my settling in period. It is clear to me that there is a real sense of community here with a passion and commitment to do the very best for animals and their owners in Sussex.

Prior to starting at Raystede, I held various roles at the Royal Kennel Club, Cats Protection, Dogs Trust and the Irish SPCA. Whilst I thoroughly enjoyed my time working for national organisations, it is a real pleasure to be working for a charity with such strong and long-established connections to the lives of animals and their owners in Sussex.

Since joining, I was delighted to see that at the end of the financial year 2024-2025, we had assisted 1,964 animals up from 1,655 in the previous year, an increase of almost 19%!

Dog rehoming in particular increased by almost 15% on last year with 117 dogs going to new homes. It was also wonderful to see Ash and Dusty – two rabbits that were with us for almost two years – find a fantastic home with a special adopter.

We got through our first terrapin winter, and it was wonderful to see them emerging from their brumation in good health this Spring. This really is a significant achievement for our new sanctuary and a testament to the skill and expertise of our staff, volunteers and all who have supported the project.

As you will read in the section updates, so much has been happening across Raystede, but the positive outcomes we achieve for our animals would simply not be possible without all those who volunteer and work here, together with our dedicated supporters and donors.

Thank you.



Mark and our donkeys



MORE INFO

Find out more about adoption, fostering, fundraising, volunteering and much more on our website www.raystede.org

EQUINES



Chilli and Pepper

Nervous newcomers to happily homed.

From the moment two New Forest ponies Chilli, and Pepper, arrived in January, it was clear they had a long road ahead of them. Equine Manager, Alice, tells us about their rehabilitation.

As soon as two yearlings, Chilli and Pepper, arrived, we assigned each pony with a dedicated carer and began the slow process of introducing them to a daily routine. We started with the basics, just getting them used to our presence and moving slowly on to halter practice, target training, and eating their breakfast with us standing quietly nearby.

Chilli – the bolder of the two – quickly took to grooming and was soon unfazed by daily handling. Pepper, however, needed more time. Touch was unfamiliar and scary, so we moved at her pace, using gentle encouragement and plenty of positive reinforcement.

Then, something clicked

After three weeks, Pepper began to show curiosity and approached us willingly. One day, she let us pick up a front foot, and gradually all four feet. Soon after, she had her first vet visit where she was microchipped, vaccinated, and both had their first hoof trims.

It wasn't long before both ponies were confidently approaching us in the field for scratches and strokes. When it was time to meet the rest of our herd, they loved it! Zoomies, naps in the sun, and learning new cues like 'halt' and 'walk on', became part of their new daily routines.

The perfect surprise

We received an application for our Loan to Rehome Scheme which enables people to loan an equine for a year before committing to a full adoption. Chilli seemed like the perfect fit. After a successful home visit, the family came to meet Chilli and fell in love – not just with Chilli but Pepper too! A few weeks later, Chilli and Pepper started their new life together with a kind and experienced pony-loving family.

Nothing compares to seeing Chilli and Pepper thrive in their new homes. It's the greatest reward to help change the course of an animal's life forever. We are delighted for them both.

Mischief



Here comes Mischief!

After a slow recovery from a chronic case of laminitis, Mischief is ready to live life to the full in a special home. She's not alone. Mischief bonded with our lovely resident Mags, who you may remember from our Spring edition has his own history of laminitis.

Now, Mischief runs out happily for her daily turnout, full of life and curiosity. Her favourite pastime? Admiring herself in the mirror!

Thank you

We'd like to thank the Barry Green Memorial Fund for their donation to help part-fund our equine sand school irrigation system. Also, the Rose Animal Welfare Trust, their donation funded new equine mud mats and a rug rail.

MORE INFO

If you'd like to know more about our Loan to Rehome Scheme, visit: www.raystede.org/equine-loan

CATTERY

Coffee

Mature moggies make great pets.

At Raystede, we receive many surrendered older cats, sometimes due to the ill health or passing of their owner. Sadly, they can often take longer to rehome than younger cats, but we believe that special seniors – like Coffee – make the most rewarding pets.

Coffee's story

Coffee is a sweet older lady who sadly found herself at Raystede due to the ill health of her owner. At the age of 15, she was looking for a quiet retirement home to spend her golden years.

Older cats like Coffee make fantastic pets due to their calm demeanour, ability to adapt and often need less supervision compared to kittens. They also come with established personalities, so you know exactly what to expect. We knew Coffee would make a wonderful companion for the right person – but first she needed some health support.

Coffee arrived with a history of urinary tract infections which were worsened by stress, as well as periodontal disease and suspected arthritis. After being assessed by our vet, she had a dental operation to extract a bad tooth and was put on pain relief for her joints.

Time in foster care

After spending a month in the Cattery with no interest from any potential adopters, one of the team took Coffee home to foster her and gave her some much-needed TLC. Coffee loved spending her days lounging on the sofa, being fussed and groomed, and having her

fosterer at her every beck and call – including waking her up at 5am for breakfast!

Despite being in her teens, we knew that Coffee loved to go outside so we wanted to find her a home where she could potter about in the garden and do a spot of sunbathing. Her adopter also needed to be willing to take on a senior cat with on-going medical issues.

At last... Coffee finds her purrfect match

Finally, after another month in foster care, Coffee's wishes were answered. We processed the application form for a lovely couple who had a lot of experience with senior cats having just lost their 22-year-old Burmese. After meeting Coffee and immediately falling in love (the feeling was mutual!), Coffee was adopted and went off happily to her forever home.

Sadly, older cats in our care often wait much longer periods to find new homes than their younger counterparts. That's why it's so special when cats like Coffee find their way to a new home. Good luck Coffee!



Coffee in foster home

Thank you

Well done to Tina Vening who swam the distance of the English Channel over the course of a few weeks in her local pool. Raising £70, this could cover the cost to care for one of our cats for a day. Thank you!

HOW YOU CAN HELP

If you're interested in rehoming any cat from Raystede, including a superstar senior – visit www.raystede.org/adopt/cats/

KENNELS



Whisper

Seeing Whisper's potential.

Training an anxious dog requires patience, positive reinforcement, and a focus on building trust. Our Kennels Team explain how they helped a timid Saluki cross grow in confidence and become ready to be rehomed.

Fourteen month-old Whisper arrived at Raystede in February 2024. Prior to that she had been living with a young family in a flat which was unsuitable for her energetic breed as she had no access to a garden. After neighbours had made several noise complaints when Whisper was left alone, she was eventually brought to Raystede.

Whisper hadn't received much training before she came here, and she appeared very nervous of strangers, other dogs and being handled. As she got used to her surroundings, she started to bark loudly at both people and dogs.

Patience is everything when training a nervous dog

Over the 15 months Whisper was with us, we trained her using lots of positive reinforcement to change her emotional response around people and dogs. We began by getting her to check in with us at a distance and eventually introduced her to a couple of volunteers to build her circle of trusted people.

Work around other dogs, however, took a little longer. For that, we enlisted the help of two calm sociable male dogs. We began by walking at a distance behind one of the dogs and then slowly decreased

the distance over a two-week period until she felt relaxed enough to interact.

Over time, Whisper came on in leaps and bounds. Around people she knew, she was cheeky, playful, and affectionate, but her progress around other humans and dogs was ongoing. We knew we needed to find a home willing to work with her and see beyond her behaviour to the Whisper we knew and loved.

Luckily for Whisper, she found her perfect person

A potential new owner came in and spent three days a week getting to know her over the course of several weeks. They decided Whisper was the one.



Whisper has settled in really well to her new home. She's made new human friends and is slowly working her way to new dog friends. We wish her all the best with her training, and we continue to be here to support her new owner if she needs us.

Whisper in her new home

Thank you

We'd like to thank the Edith Murphy Foundation for their donation which funded the installation of new Perspex shields around our Kennels areas, helping to keep our dogs safe and secure.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

We currently have a number of dogs in our kennels that are waiting patiently to find their forever homes. You can view their profiles at www.raystede.org/adopt/dogs

AVIARIES

Horrid
and
Zammy

Aviary antics.

It has been a busy (and noisy) year for the Aviaries Team. Aside from caring for our colourful bird community, the team has also been hard at work keeping avian flu away and helping to forge bonds between birds.

If you visited Raystede at the beginning of the year, you would have noticed that the Aviaries were closed for a large part owing to avian flu restrictions. It is a legal requirement for all bird keepers to follow strict biosecurity measures to help protect their flocks when the threat of avian flu is high. We have since been able to reopen our Aviaries and welcome visitors back to see our birds.

During the warm days of the Summer, lots of birds spent time outside soaking up the sun's rays. Even some of our usually reserved birds enjoyed time outside in the fresh air. Amigo, our Hen Amazon, who likes to vocalise with a trimphone call – a sound a lot like the ring of a 1970s telephone – could be heard ringing out early in the morning to make sure everyone else was awake!

We have also been busy moving some of our birds around into different aviaries to form pair bonds. Many birds enjoy the company of a chosen mate and engage in behaviours that indicate a strong social attachment. To help facilitate these connections, we've been introducing more birds together in a neutral space for companionship.



Amigo

Finding a soulmate for Zammy

Zammy, who sadly lost his mate of over 30 years to age-related health issues, has been lonely without a companion. We tried introducing him to one of our other Amazon cock birds, Charlie, but they were sadly indifferent to each other and neither seemed to benefit from the other's company.

Another bird named Horrid, however, appeared rather excited when we trialled quality time with him and Zammy together. We are now starting the slow process of introducing them to each other and hoping they can both find companionship together for the rest of their years at Raystede. Watch this space!

Update on Boysie

Brilliant Boysie, who you may remember from our Spring edition, is continuing to do well with his hands-off treatment. Staff have been working to train him to be more cooperative when they administer his medication, so it becomes less stressful for him. He now loves being served fresh juice from a spoon!

Thank you

Well done to all the runners who took part in the Brighton Marathon while raising money for Raystede. Your collective fundraising total could pay to look after one of our exotic birds for a whole year!

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Did you know that you can buy a gift for our birds via our Amazon wish list? Our parrots adore cargo ropes and wooden toys so why not make their day and buy them a present - www.raystede.org/amazon-wishlist

SMALL ANIMALS

Ash
and
Dusty

A Rabbitry refurb and a successful rehome.

We're always looking to improve our facilities for the welfare of the animals. We have recently made some major improvements in our Rabbitry to help enhance the lives of rabbits like Ash and Dusty during their time here.

As much as Raystede staff work hard to maintain the living quarters for all our animals, sometimes the facilities do succumb to the wear and tear of old age. A recent refurb of our Rabbitry involved building 16 new sheds to replace our old hutches that were starting to develop issues with rotten wood, holes and leaks.

The new sheds are a vast improvement on the hutches for many of our rabbits as they have been designed to accommodate those individuals with mobility issues, such as arthritis. They are also great for giant breeds who can struggle with the smaller areas and ramps.

Our Estates Team adapted the new sheds to make them easier to clean and maintain. A shelf was installed in each shed to give the rabbits opportunities to jump onto higher levels or hide underneath for protection.

We're incredibly grateful to our volunteer groups who came in to help treat the outside of the sheds with preservatives so that they can continue to house rabbits for years to come.



New rabbit sheds

Ash and Dusty

We were pleased to wave off Ash and Dusty on their way to a lovely new home complete with a purpose-built shed and run. We were so happy to see them find a forever home after almost two years at Raystede.

Regular visitors might recognise these two characters as they could often be seen foraging and sunbathing in their gardens. They also have lush velvet coats which are typical of their Rex breed.

Ash and Dusty were at Raystede for nearly two years. When they first arrived, they were scared and frightened, but they soon showed us their huge personalities and love of food and mischief!

Interestingly, they were almost identical sisters who arrived very attached. It can be difficult to rehome bonded pairs as people are often looking for single companions to adopt for their own rabbit. We're so pleased that Ash and Dusty's new owners saw the benefits of keeping them together.



Ash and Dusty in their new home

Thank you

We'd like to thank our supporter Carole Nicholson for her generous donation to help fund the installation of our new rabbit sheds.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

If you feel you could provide a forever home for a rabbit, including for our cover stars Maia and Clio visit www.raystede.org/adopt/rabbits

ADOPTION

Clearing up some common misconceptions about adoption.

Making the decision to adopt an animal is amazing. However, it can feel daunting – especially when the process takes longer than expected. Amelia, Raystede's Rehoming Manager, provides some clarity on what to expect.

Q: Tell us about being a Rehoming Manager – what's the best bit of the job?

A: It's the difference we make, not only to animals' lives but to humans too, whether we're supporting them by taking an animal in or finding them a new pet. My favourite part of the job is seeing an animal being adopted.

Q: Adopting an animal can be complex. What are some of the common myths about rehoming that you hear regularly?

A: We look at every application individually and whether a specific animal is right for that person. We don't put an age cap on adoption, if you are over 18 and a good fit, then that's fine by us. Whether you have a garden, children or other pets may or may not impact the decision, we rehome on a case-by-case basis with the animal's needs as our priority.

But the onus is on the adopter to keep checking our website to see if there's a suitable animal for them. Unfortunately, we don't have the resource to contact you every time an animal that meets your requirements is added to the site.

Q: What would you say to a person who is frustrated with the adoption process?

A: There is someone here every day of the week. We can talk you through the process. We can look at your profile and see what's missing. You don't have to sit at home wondering why nobody's been in touch – call us we're here to help.

Q: What advice would you give somebody who is making an application for the first time?

A: The application form is key. We have carefully chosen the questions to help us understand someone's lifestyle and preferences. Even if you've sent a letter or email, we can't process an application without the form. And the more detail you supply, the better, so we can get a clear understanding of your situation. We love the detail!

Q: If somebody has already tried to rehome but been unsuccessful, what would you say to them?

A: Don't lose hope. Adopting does take time, but we want to ensure that it is right for both animal and owner. Just because you were unsuccessful the first time around, it doesn't mean you will be the next time. Just keep in touch.



**MORE
INFO**

We've tried to answer some of the most frequently asked adoption questions on our blog pages. Visit www.raystede.org/whats-new

FOSTERING

“You can help an animal out and help a human deal with a difficult situation.”

Raystede’s Break Away scheme helps people fleeing domestic abuse or facing short-term hospitalisation by placing their beloved pets with a foster carer during that time. Becoming a foster carer can be incredibly rewarding. Colin tells us about his experience.

“We previously adopted two elderly cats and really enjoyed their company. However, we knew that we would be away a lot this year, and we’re also contemplating moving house, so it didn’t seem fair to adopt another cat. Fostering seemed like the ideal alternative, as we could give a cat some ‘home time’ for a few weeks without conflicting with our other commitments.

The more we thought about fostering for Break Away, the more it seemed like the right thing to do, as we would be helping a person out of a tight spot, as well as giving the cat somewhere relaxing for a few weeks.

I would highly recommend it. We foster cats but you can give a temporary home to other animals, too. You can help an animal out with a dramatic change to their routine (and life) by giving them a few weeks of quiet interaction with humans, and it may help them cope better until they find an adoptive home. You’ll also be helping another human deal with a difficult situation.

For anyone who is thinking about becoming a Break Away foster carer, I would say you need to be realistic about the type and age of animal that comes to you and be prepared to make some adjustments to your home and routine to accommodate them. This is particularly important with Break Away animals, as they will have moved at short notice and will potentially be very confused or stressed. They won’t understand, so it’s up to us humans to adjust around them.

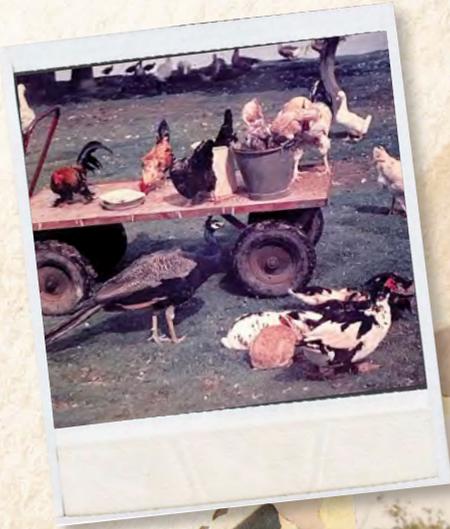
You also need to have the mindset that the animal will be going back at some point, either to an adoptive home or to their owner – this is particularly important for Break Away cats as their owners may be anxious that their pet won’t want to come home again. I try to make it clear in my feedback that whilst the cat is comfortable, settled and well cared for, we are just looking after them and we will be proud to reunite pet and owner at some point.”



HOW YOU CAN HELP

We are always looking for more foster carers, if you are interested in finding out more about this rewarding role, please visit www.raystede.org/foster

FRIENDS OF RAYSTEDE TURNS 70!



Miss Raymonde-Hawkins (left)
and John and Bette Nuttall

Remembering
seven decades of friendship
and support from the Friends
of Raystede community





Miss Raymonde-Hawkins



Early days of surgery at Raystede

My family and I were founding members of the Friends scheme. We would pay a monthly subscription, and we would get an invite to a garden party once a year. They also held film screenings at the De La Warr Pavilion at Bexhill and my family helped by organising the teas. We featured in one of the films about rehoming our dog, Ben, from the centre.

Nowadays, I continue to be a supporter from afar, having moved to the New Forest nine years ago. I will be a supporter until my dying day and in fact beyond, as Raystede is in my Will."

A force for good

"I started off with a great deal of love and encouragement from many friends. Hundreds of friends came to start off this new Sussex centre for animal welfare, destined to develop more speedily than I had ever intended."

- Miss Raymonde-Hawkins, official opening ceremony for Raystede, 1955.

The first official Friends of Raystede newsletter was published in the Autumn of 1964, and it was an opportunity for Miss Raymonde-Hawkins to share updates with the Friends on the work of Raystede.

Many of the themes and stories covered in that very first newsletter echo those of today, including the need to raise much-needed funds to help Raystede continue its vital work, as Miss Raymonde-Hawkins explained:

"The need for funds is genuinely serious. May I remind you that our running costs are £35 a day and this really does call for all possible money raising schemes among ourselves."

In today's world, that £35 would be the equivalent to £621, however, with the growth of the centre, an increase in the number of animals cared for and ever-increasing costs, our running costs are now in the region of £6,500 per day.

Could you be a friend to animals in need?

The Friends of Raystede community has grown from strength to strength over the last 70 years, helping to provide a lifelong sanctuary to thousands of injured and abandoned animals in need, and forming great friendships in the process. We're incredibly proud of all the group has achieved and hope the Friends continue to thrive for many decades to come.

Friends of Raystede – a dedicated group committed to transforming the lives of animals through regular gifts – is celebrating its 70th anniversary this year. The scheme, which is one of the oldest charity support groups in the country, was established by our founder, Miss Raymonde-Hawkins, to ensure the ongoing rescue and rehabilitation of animals in her care.

Liz Downs's family were founding members of Friends of Raystede. She recalls how the sanctuary and scheme grew from humble beginnings under the unwavering determination of its founder...

Fond memories with Friends

"When my parents, John and Bette Nuttall, first moved to East Sussex they were soon introduced to Miss Raymonde-Hawkins by a neighbour. I was in the Navy at the time, but I was often home, and we visited Raystede regularly.

Miss Raymonde-Hawkins was certainly a force of nature. I remember being at a Christmas bazaar to raise money for the animals and hearing a tap, tap, tap on the Tanoy system. She called out: 'Excuse me, could I have your attention please, I have just been informed that someone at one of the stalls was asking for a discount. This is not what we are here for!' My dad thought she was wonderful!

Miss Raymonde-Hawkins bought the Pest House to develop as an education centre and vet suite. The actor, Penelope Keith, funded the operating theatre in memory of her mother. I think it was during this time that we all realised there were a lot of people who were willing to help.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

If you'd like to become a Friend of Raystede and help us to be there for animals for many more years, visit www.raystede.org/friends

Running for Raystede
at the Brighton Half
Marathon

FUNDRAISING

From talks and tours to paddles and parades... find out what's been happening in the world of fundraising.

Partnering with Mars Petcare

We are delighted to have been working with our friends at Mars Petcare for just over a year. The successful partnership began in 2024, when we were invited to be part of the Goodwoof Festival on the Goodwood Estate. We joined the parade with former Raystede dog, Elder, together with his adopter, Alesha, along with the Duke of Richmond and TV's Clare Balding.

Following on from this event, Mars Petcare kindly donated £5,000 to help support our dog rehoming programme at Raystede. The donation meant that we could waive the adoption fee for some of our longer stay dogs, which would enable the adopting families to have extra funds available for medication or behaviour training.

This year, Mars Petcare again donated £5,000 for a sail shade for our outdoor kennel area. This allows our Kennels Team to use this space come rain or shine and it has made a big difference to how the team work with individual dogs.

A spokesperson from Mars Petcare said: "We are delighted that our donation towards the installation of a sail shade at Raystede has made a significant improvement to the outside area and to the wellbeing of the dogs, it's wonderful to know that our support will have such a meaningful and lasting impact."



Raystede team at Goodwoof alongside Paralympian Ellie Simmonds

Goodwoof 2025

This Summer, we were delighted to be invited back to Goodwoof in the Mars Petcare arena, and we had two guest speaker slots over the two days. We had the opportunity to speak to visitors and engage with an interactive game to look at the DNA of some of our dogs. We were able to provide visitors with a greater understanding of the likes and dislikes of different breeds. Most importantly, this also allowed us the opportunity to introduce Raystede to a wider audience.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Your fundraising efforts help hundreds of animals every year and we would love to hear from you if you would like to get involved. To find out more about fundraising for Raystede visit www.raystede.org/fundraise

Coastway team
in action!



Talks and tours

Throughout the year, we offer a range of talks for community and local interest groups to raise awareness about the animals we care for. We don't charge a speaker's fee, but a donation is always very much appreciated.

Our talks normally last around 45 minutes, giving an insight into our history, what we do, and the community services we provide. We offer a follow-up tour of Raystede for the group at a later date, to enjoy the site, our café and onsite charity shop too.

We have some new and revised talks in the pipeline about exciting new developments for Raystede, where we will be improving and upgrading our existing site next year, to further enrich our service for the animals we care for. Further talks will focus on prevention and education which is core to making changes and to improving animal welfare – so watch this space.

If you are part of a group or know a group that welcomes speakers and talks, please get in touch with us at fundraising@raystede.org



Sharing more about
what we do

Coastway Vets join the Lewes to Newhaven Raft Race

When the team at Coastway Vets in Lewes aren't treating cats, dogs, parrots, or pythons, they're donning life jackets and paddling down the Ouse – for a cause that's close to their hearts.

This year, the Lewes to Newhaven Raft Race turned 50, and the dedicated animal lovers at Coastway swapped scrubs for oars, with a mission to raise vital funds for animals in need at Raystede.

The annual event that takes place in July is not just about making a splash (though that's guaranteed!), it's a celebration of animal welfare, a spotlight on local wildlife, and a joyful splash in support of a cause that matters deeply to both organisations – helping injured and unwanted animals get the second chance they deserve.

Their raft, 'Shell-ebating 50', was more than a nod to the race's golden anniversary – it highlighted a critical local issue: the quality of life of non-native terrapins in Sussex waterways. Often abandoned in ponds or released into the wild after being kept as pets, these hardy reptiles are often overlooked. Thankfully, Raystede's Project Terrapin offers a safe alternative – rehoming them into specialist facilities, where they can live out their lives safely.

Jay from Coastway Vets said: "Terrapins are frequently misunderstood and, sadly, many end up being dumped in local lakes. Raystede offers them a second chance – and we're proud to help support that through our work and this fundraiser."

Coastway Vets are not only long-time participants in the local community, they're also exotic animal specialists that Raystede relies on to care for its more unusual residents. From parrots to tortoises, the team provides expert veterinary care for animals who've been injured, abandoned, or rescued.

Thank you

Thanks to all the generous donations collected from At The Pier in Eastbourne who via their collection tin raised £120. This amount could cover the cost to feed all our rabbits in our care for four weeks!

FUNDRAISING



When it comes to taking on a challenge, sometimes you've just got to go for it – as 82-year-old Uckfield grandmother, Sarah, and other members of #TeamRaystede can happily testify.

Despite being over the recommended age limit of 80, Sarah Hill was determined to (literally) rise to the challenge when she took on a Wing Walk in April. She climbed onto the wing of a plane to prove she was fit for Raystede and able with characteristic good humour, saying that both her and the Stearman aeroplane were 'built' in 1942, which she took as a good omen!

Given the option of having a 'smooth ride' or for the pilot to 'give it everything he's got', Sarah said, "I thought: 'I am never going to do this again' so I went for the full thing."

From the moment she signed up for the challenge, Sarah immersed herself in the cause. She promoted her campaign through her church, in the Uckfield community, local shops, and she took the initiative to harness the power of the media to tell her story, securing a cover story with Uckfield Matters magazine, followed by an article in Sussex Express and an interview on BBC Radio Sussex!

Sarah's amazing effort saw her raise over £2,300, which will make a real difference to the animals in our care. The amount could cover the cost to feed all our small animals for six months! Sarah also hand-painted a keepsake for every Wing Walk participant, a personal and time-consuming gesture that touched hearts.

Raystede staff go the extra mile

On 2 March 2025, Animal Care Assistants, Pippa and Ruth, joined #TeamRaystede's runners to take on the Brighton Half Marathon and helped raise a whopping £7,380.

The following month, Cat Bray from our Education Team took part in the London Landmarks Half Marathon and, alongside the others running for Raystede, helped raise a collective £2,375.

Feeling Inspired?

If you'd like to take on a challenge, as a team or individual, here are just a few of the events available.

- Brighton Inflatable Obstacle Course – 18 October 2025
- Brighton Half Marathon – 1 March 2026
- Brighton Marathon – 12 April 2026
- London Marathon MyWay – 26 April 2026
- Wing Walk - 20 June 2026
Headcorn Aerodrome, Kent

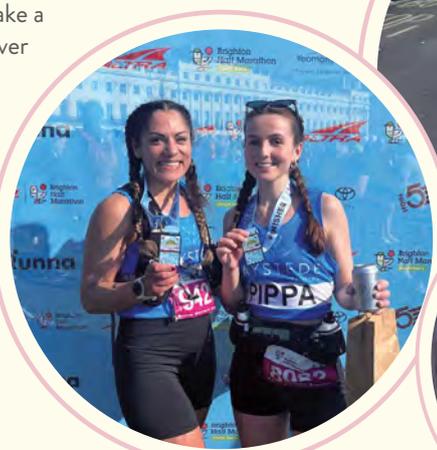
Looking ahead, Chris Shepherd a member of our Estates Team, will be saddling up and taking on a 1,000-mile bike ride from Land's End to John O'Groats, over 17 days in September. He says: "I work for Raystede, but that for me is not enough, that's why I am taking on this challenge, to do just a little bit more for all the animals."

To follow Chris's amazing challenge and to donate to help him reach his fundraising target, visit www.justgiving.com/page/chris-shepherd-1

Cat Bray



Pippa and Ruth



Chris Shepherd



GET INVOLVED

From running to abseiling, there are many ways to get active and raise money for animals in need. Check out our Challenge Events page www.raystede.org/challenge-events

Let your love of animals live on

Leaving a gift in your Will is a wonderful way to help Raystede continue caring for injured and unwanted animals in need. Your special gift will make a huge difference for many years to come.

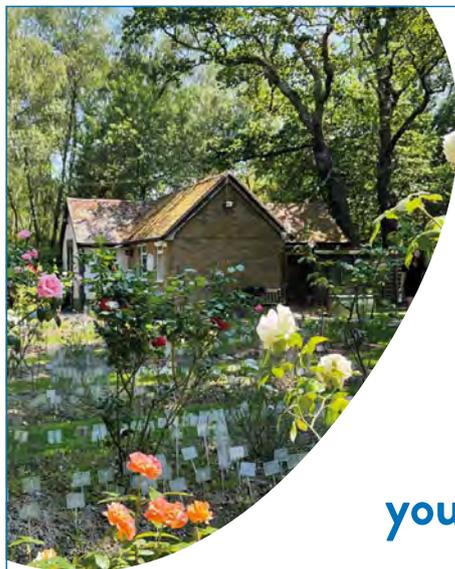
Have your Will written or updated for free, or request your Free Wills Guide:

Email: legacy@raystede.org

Call: 01825 627086

Visit: www.raystede.org/legacy

Scan the QR code



Helping you say goodbye to your pet with care and compassion

Say your final farewells in our peaceful Chapel of Rest. Celebrate the memory of your beloved pet in our rose garden of remembrance.

How to get in touch

Please contact Jeff Tucker, Peaceways Manager, on 01825 841460 or 07985 925378 to discuss your personal requirements or to arrange a visit to Peaceways.



www.peaceways.co.uk



Part of and supporting the work of Raystede Centre for Animal Welfare



VOLUNTEERS

Giving our animals a taste of the good life.

Our gardening volunteers have been hard at work growing lots of things requested by our animal care teams. From leaves and herbs to carrots and strawberries, our animals' favourite snacks can now be found on site.

Every animal has a favourite food, and our amazing team of gardening volunteers have been busy trying to cultivate them. Our education garden is dedicated to the purpose of growing animal-friendly produce on a regular basis.

Sowing the seeds for better nutrition

The purpose of the garden area is two-fold. Firstly, it enables us to grow some of the food our animals enjoy eating in a sustainable and cost-effective way. Secondly, it provides us with an opportunity to share information with visitors about good nutrition for animals, such as what is safe and healthy for them.

Opening a dialogue about food and nutrition means we can also help to dispel some of the myths surrounding what animals can and can't eat – like the fact that whilst rabbits enjoy eating carrots, they are high in sugar and should only be given in small amounts rather than being their staple diet.



Homegrown and healthy

During the Spring and Summer months we saw our education garden flourish with produce ready to be picked and the animals at Raystede got to reap the benefits.

Everything in the garden is clearly laid out and labelled. There are cabbages and pumpkins for the equines, leafy greens and celery for the small animals and some calming herbs for the dogs.

We've also catered to the the discerning palettes of our birds, with lots of varieties including rainbow chard, kale, cherry tomato, peas, beetroot, runner beans and rocket!

The success of the education garden is all down to the hard work of a small but dedicated team of green-fingered volunteers who come in to tend the garden regularly. We're incredibly grateful for their efforts and so are our animals.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

If you'd like to find out about more volunteering opportunities visit: www.raystede.org/volunteer

EDUCATION

Let's talk terrapins.

Contrary to popular belief, terrapins aren't native to the UK and don't belong in our homes, ponds or rivers. Not only are they bad for our ecosystem, but they don't thrive in our climate or in tanks in homes. Paul Eversfield from the Turtle Tally project tells us more about their plight.

"The terrapin trade flourished in the early 80s, particularly with the rise of the TV and film franchise, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, when terrapins were imported from North America in their droves. But few owners were prepared for the fact that these tiny hatchlings would grow into large adults that would no longer fit their aquariums. When this happened, many were illegally released into the wild.

We were starting to get some real data on the issue with terrapins, and finding the problem was bigger than we imagined, when Raystede approached us with the idea of creating a terrapin sanctuary. Project Terrapin was born out of an understanding that there was a need for real knowledge about terrapins and somewhere appropriate to keep them.

What we've now got, thanks largely to supporters, is a gold standard facility that will give up to 300 terrapins a natural quality of life so they can live happily for their lifespan, which can be 40 years! Most importantly, I believe we've created a way forward which is to educate the public through visits and events. The only way we can address the issue properly is to get people coming in and understanding what terrapins are, what they become and why they can be difficult to keep as pets."

"The terrapin issue begins and ends with education – and Project Terrapin (and the events at Raystede) does a really good job of ensuring it."

Paul Eversfield

Terry the terrapin returns!

The terrapins in our sanctuary emerged from their first winter underwater brumation (a state similar to hibernation, but with occasional wakings) in Spring. We held two terrapin-themed Family Learning Days in May to mark this occasion.

Over the two days, 770 visitors completed a trail following Terry the terrapin as he was sold in a pet shop and illegally released into the wild, before being rescued and finding sanctuary at Raystede. The trail ended in front of our terrapin beach and lake, where visitors could enjoy the sight of over 70 sunbathing terrapins living their best lives.

"Going to Raystede is always a highlight. We love the new terrapin area, and we learned so much about them."

Raystede visitor



Paul Eversfield (right) from Turtle Tally along with the Raystede Team



A family at Learning Day

Thank you

A big thank you to all of the runners who were part of #TeamRaystede at this year's Brighton Half Marathon, your collective fundraising could pay for six of our Family Learning Days, allowing us to teach more young people about animal welfare.

MORE INFO

Find out more about Project Terrapin, designed to help abandoned and injured terrapins, by visiting www.raystede.org/project_terrapin

COME AND TALK TO US ABOUT

EDUCATION

Pop-up pet advice.

When it comes to taking care of animals, we believe there's no such thing as a foolish question. That's why we run free pet advice sessions throughout the year – so anybody can come and visit us with their pet-related queries.

This past year, we've been delighted with the success of our free pet advice events out in the local community.

Heading out to a range of locations every Thursday, these pop-up sessions connect us to you, your pets and the kind of problems people sometimes encounter. And we get to hear some of the stories you share with us too.

In the last year we have met and chatted with 2,584 people in Lewes, Hastings, Eastbourne, Bexhill, Hailsham, Brighton, Newhaven and Rye at many weekend events and shows. Our biggest pride is that we don't judge. Anyone can approach us, and we listen. We have met so many owners and hear a lot of stories, and we understand that caring for animals can be difficult sometimes.

We're here to help

Sometimes people are worried that because we are an animal welfare charity, we might judge them for doing something differently to the way we do it. But, we just want to help, and we are aware that there are many methods and opinions and circumstances that influence the way we look after our animals.

In every case, we listen to your situation and try and work with your individual needs and share some of our useful knowledge. We focus in a single regional area for about 5-6 weeks at a time, so you can always try something out and come back for more information the following week.

We really enjoy hearing from you and getting a sense of the reality of how you and your pets get along and where you might need assistance. We also have a wealth of information and expertise from our vet nurses, dog behaviourists and education team – and it's all FREE.

We get asked a lot about dogs, but we have also been asked to help with questions about cats, rabbits, hamsters, gerbils, horses, terrapins, tortoises, chickens, bearded dragons, fish and wildlife. Admittedly, we don't have all the answers, but we do have information to signpost you towards, or we can ask our experts back at Raystede.

So please come and visit us if you see that we are coming to your local area. We look forward to meeting you!



Weighing a dog

Thank you

Well done to Kira Wieland who took part in the Worthing 10K RunFest and raised £515 for Raystede. This could pay for one of our pet advice days, enabling us to help more pet owners in our local community.

MORE INFO

Don't be afraid to ask! We're always here to help with any questions you have about your pets. Visit us on one of our pet advice days for more advice and support: www.raystede.org/popup-petadvice

What's wrong with prong collars?

Increasingly, we're being asked about dog leading and equipment options, particularly prong collars, which we have started to see more of in the community and at events. Raystede does not support the use of prong collars and our dog behaviourist, Michelle Mason, explains why in this Q&A.



Example of a prong collar

Q: What are prong collars and how do they work?

A: They are collars that have metal prongs on the inside next to the dog's neck. When a dog pulls on the lead, the metal points prong the skin around the neck. The principle is that if you apply something painful or frightening when a dog is pulling on the lead, it will potentially reduce the unwanted behaviour.

Q: I've been using a prong collar, it seems to work, do I need to change to use a different method?

A: We understand that sometimes leading a big strong dog can cause all sorts of problems and it can be painful for both you and the dog and so methods such as a prong collar can seem like an easy fix. However, if you are forcing your dog to comply using discomfort rather than guidance and training, it could damage the relationship between you and your dog.

Q: Are prong collars physically harmful?

A: Apart from being painful, prong collars can cause damage to your dog physically by causing a cough, skin and muscle damage, thyroid issues, or in extreme cases, spinal damage. A common argument for prong collars is that less force is used because of the prongs, however, the prongs focus the pressure on small areas to increase the discomfort. The British Veterinary Association also advises against the use of aversive methods and equipment.

Q: Is it possible to work with my dog in another way?

A: Yes, training is essential. Start in the home and garden or fenced area if you have one and build the relationship. Try some loose lead training indoors at first. You can also contact Raystede for a recommended list of behaviourists and trainers or visit us on one of our pet advice days.

Q: My dog is really strong and pulls on the lead. Can you recommend other leading equipment?

A: If you do need a training aid to support you physically while you train your dog, you can consider a double-ended lead attached to the collar and a harness. Two points of contact means that you can gently guide your dog where necessary.



Using a double-ended lead

MORE INFO

Contact us by phone (01825) 840252 or email info@raystede.org for information on recommended behaviourists or training equipment.



SHOPPING

Have you seen our latest charity shop?

Earlier this year, we opened our latest charity shop in the Langney Shopping Centre in Eastbourne adding to our network of established stores in Lewes, Hailsham, Uckfield and our main Raystede shop at Ringmer.

It's wonderful to see our network of charity shops continue to grow. The latest shop was officially opened in April 2025 and we were delighted to welcome the Mayor of Eastbourne to cut the ribbon.

Since then, we have been made to feel so welcome by the local community. The staff and volunteers have been astounded by the generosity of customers, and we've been inundated with many fantastic donations.

We'd like to say a big thank you to everyone who has worked so hard to get this shop up and running and looking so good. That includes a thank you to our dedicated band of shop volunteers. From sorting stock and making the shop look so inviting, to providing a warm and friendly welcome to all our customers – they have been invaluable to us.

And, a big thank you to all our wonderful customers for supporting our new venture at the Langney Shopping Centre. Please continue to support us, it really makes a big difference to the work we do and all proceeds from the shop go towards helping the animals in our care.



Sorting donations

How can I help support a Raystede charity shop in my area?

1. Don't forget to donate your unwanted items

Our shops stock a wide variety of clothes for adults and children. We also sell accessories, homeware, toys, books, bric-a-brac and much more.

We are always happy to accept donations of good quality at our charity shops.

Including:

- Clean clothes – women's, men's and children's
- Accessories – jewellery, hats and scarves and more
- Ornaments • Bric-a-brac • Books

For a full list of items that we can and cannot accept at our charity shops, please visit: www.raystede.org/shop/donate-goods/

2. Could you volunteer some time?

Are you a super salesperson, a fashion fan or a marvellous merchandiser? If you've got time to give and you are happy to volunteer, then our charity shops need you.

Roles include:

- Customer service • Operating the till
- Sorting and prepping donated stock

HOW YOU CAN HELP

If you think you could donate items or your time to volunteer at one of our charity shops, please visit www.raystede.org/shop for more information.

Bag a bargain or a new hobby at our eBay store

Raystede's eBay community is growing. Read more about the kinds of treasures you can pick up online, with every purchase helping to support the animals in our care.



Our eBay shop is a place where you can pick up bargains and collectables – all from the comfort of your own home. We're thrilled to share that it now has around 2,000 followers – a true testament to its success. This growth has meant the team has outgrown our office at the Ringmer site and moved to a larger, new space in our brand-new warehouse in Newhaven.

This is an exciting step for the team and the future of Raystede's online sales. Angela, Online Sales Manager says, "We're pleased to report that the additional space will allow us to reach our full potential, offering more volunteer opportunities, expanding to other online platforms, and most importantly, raising even more funds for the animals in our care."

All the items in our eBay shop are generously donated by Raystede's amazing supporters, helping us fulfil our mission to recycle and reuse whenever possible. This Spring, we launched a crafting, repurposing, and upcycling collection – a treasure trove of wools, fabrics, craft kits, pictures, and more. This section has been a big hit with buyers, and with the darker evenings ahead, we expect it to remain a popular choice!

We're also excited to introduce a new category to our eBay shop – retro gaming and classic tech – an eclectic mix of old-school tech and gaming items. From PlayStations and Xboxes to Nintendo 64, Wii, and more, you'll find consoles, games, accessories, and even rare finds and collectors' items.

We've also got stereo and DVD players, cassette boomboxes, and a vintage slide projector. Take a trip down memory lane and browse for items from your past – you might just find something you've been looking for! Visit www.raystede.org/shop/eBay-shop/ to view our items for sale.



Interested in joining the team? If you'd like to share your skills, make new friends, and contribute to our continued eBay growth, we'd love to hear from you. We're particularly looking for volunteers to help research and list books, collectables, electrical items, gadgets and clothing.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

If you have specialist eBay and online sales knowledge, or simply want to lend a hand, please get in touch – www.raystede.org/volunteer – we'd love to hear from you!



Hazel and Willow

FOREVER HOMES

Here are some Raystede animals that have found their happily ever after.

Hazel and Willow

We have loved having Hazel and Willow as part of the family. It has only been a few months, but we couldn't imagine our lives without them. They are affectionate, curious and playful, and often found together snuggled up or pouncing on each other. We feel like we hit the jackpot with them, they are just the perfect cats.

Pecan

She seems really happy in her new home, she's enjoying exploring her enclosure. She loves her little red hide that she came home with and now she happily climbs into my hand and up my arm.

Loki

Bringing Loki into our home has been one of the best decisions we have ever made. From the moment he arrived, it was clear he was meant to be part of our family. Watching him grow from a cautious, anxious boy into a confident, playful, and affectionate companion has been nothing short of incredible. We truly cannot imagine our lives without him.

Ronnie and Reggie

We had such a positive experience adopting Ronnie and Reggie (now called Woody and Buzz - chosen by our granddaughter). We adore our boys who are healthy, fun and friendly. The adoption process was very thorough, and we would recommend adopting from Raystede.



Pecan



Loki



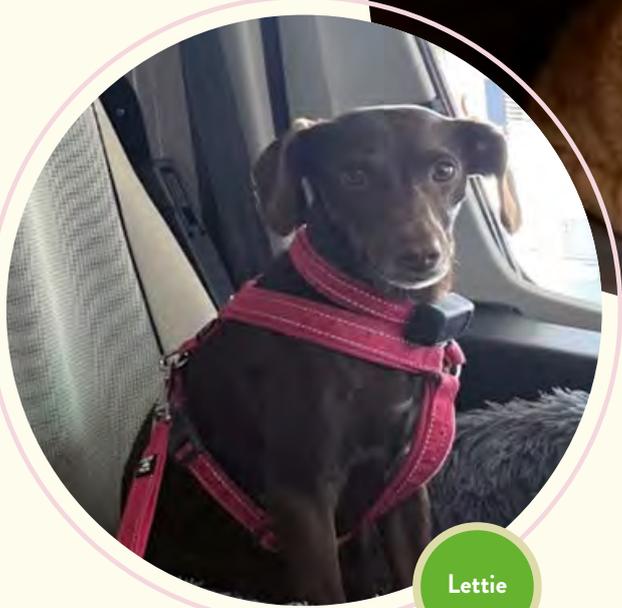
Ronnie and Reggie



Louis

Louis

Louis has been with us since the beginning of June and is already a well-established member of the family. It was astonishing how quickly he adapted to family routines; he is very inquisitive and watching him explore something new is a joy. I don't think we realised what a gap we had in our lives before Louis, which now, thankfully has been filled by this turbo charged ball of orange fluff.



Lettie

Lettie

She brings me so much love and joy. As Lettie is such an unusual breed we get stopped a lot and she laps up all the fuss and attention. Lettie just radiates love and makes everyone feel special. It's lovely to see people's demeanour change and the uplifting effect she has on them once they've met her.

Buddy

Good news for Buddy! After 12 months out on our Loan to Rehome scheme, Buddy has recently had his final home check, and we are delighted to share has now been officially adopted. His adopter, Megan, said she couldn't imagine not having Woody (as he's now called) around, and it is like he has always been part of her family!

Jimmy

Jimmy has settled into our home and family like he was always with us. We were not sure quite what to expect as he had been handed in as a stray and so had a limited history, but he is such a character, and we are all in love. All he has to do is look up at us with those teeth and our hearts melt!



Buddy



Jimmy



Kennels



RAYSTEDE
GIVING ANIMALS A BETTER LIFE



Cattery

Sponsor Happy Lives

When you become an animal sponsor you help us make happy lives.

Who will you choose to sponsor? We have a range of animals including donkeys, tortoises, ponies, goats, dogs and cats – who all desperately need your help!

As a sponsor, you'll get:

Updates on
your sponsored
animals

Certificate

Special invitations
to Raystede

Raystede
Magazine



Poppet

**Become a
sponsor today.**

**All animals deserve
to be safe and loved.**

**Your support makes
this happen.**



Timmy

Sponsor for as little as £5 a month:

www.raystede.org/sponsor or scan the QR code ►

