

# The hedgehog hub of love...

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Groups can book a talk from Hedgehog Rescue to help fund conservation efforts...

I spent today at a hedgehog hub of love. I was with the wonderful Yvonne Cox at Bristol's Hedgehog Rescue HQ. I found myself in a large room, floor to ceiling with cabins of small spiny wonders.

This morning she had just taken in another infant, pictured being held. This little one was found on a road in daylight, with low weight and covered in ticks. Now, she was greedily grunting her way through a trough of specially mixed, soft food.

This young hoglet is not mature enough to have much chance of hibernating successfully, so she'll get a puppy milk supplement and other food, plus a warm, safe shelter until she's big enough to go back to the wild.

There are plenty more rescued hogs with tales here, and others with Yvonne's foster carers. They are mostly in recovery after various mishaps or after having been found out during the day or in distress.

The big chubby chap on the scales is being weighed and treated for lungworm before he can go free. He didn't benefit from the immune system boost in his mother's milk because slug pellets killed her.



One of the ways Yvonne raises funds to cover the food & treatment costs is by giving talks to schools, clubs and adult groups. So if you'd like to help, why not book an interesting talk on hedgehogs for your group? Find out more here: <http://hedgehogrescue.webplus.net/abouthedgehogrescue.html>

Hedgehogs are now a priority species for conservation, both in Bristol and nationally. If you come across an individual animal and you are worried about it, helpful advice is available from the British Hedgehog Preservation Society at [www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk](http://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk)

They can also put you in touch with local charities and specialist carers in other parts of the country. You can contact the Society on this number to get help: 01584 890801.

You can also map your sightings on the Hedgehog Street website, to help build a picture of the remaining population: [www.hedgehogstreet.org](http://www.hedgehogstreet.org)

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