

WORK EXPERIENCE AT HESSILHEAD

The aims of HWRT are to rescue, repair, rehabilitate and return to the wild injured and orphaned wild birds and animals.

During your stay at Hessilhead we hope to give you some experience of the following topics. The detail covered will depend on the length of your visit, patients in care and time available. We will aim to have a short tutorial every day, covering some aspect of wildlife care or of behaviour in the wild and its relevance to the care and treatment of our patients. You are welcome to suggest topics for these tutorials.

RESCUE

Methods of capture, when and why

- On land
- On water
- Equipment available.
- Use of equipment
- The law
- Safety of personnel and public

TRANSPORTING THE CASUALTY

- Carrying boxes, pros and cons
- Swan bags
- Preventing further injury/stress

ADMITTING THE CASUALTY

- Name, address and phone number of finder
- As much history of casualty as possible
- Accurate details of location for territorial species
- Legal requirements for protected species.

EXAMINATION /HANDLING OF CASUALTY

- Small bird
- Large bird
- Small mammal
- Hedgehog
- Large mammal

FIRST AID

- Wound cleaning
- External parasite control
- Internal parasite control
- Weighing
- Splint for injured wing
- Splint for injured leg
- Stress management.

MEDICATION

- Antibiotics
- Anti-inflammatory
- Homeopathic treatment
- Fluid therapy.
- Pain relief
- Wound dressing

MICROSCOPE WORK

Identification of parasites and bacteria from faecal samples

HAND REARING

- Birds
- Mammals
- Imprinting
- Social interaction

HOUSING THE WILDLIFE CASUALTY

- Hospital cage for pigeons
- Hospital cage for finches, thrushes etc
- Hospital cage for waders
- Hospital cage for gulls.
- Heated cages for orphaned birds and mammals
- Swan hospital
- Aviaries
- Large mammal enclosures.

MANAGEMENT OF THE CASUALTY

- Natural foods
- Substitute foods
- Water
- Perches
- Dishes
- Cleaning

ASSESSING THE CASUALTY

- Examination/weighing
- Observation
- Flying on line

REHABILITATION

- Why
- Where
- How

HYGIENE

- Transmission of disease between patients
- Transmission of disease from patient to carer
- Disinfectants/hand washes, etc
- Protective clothing
- labelling

RELEASE

- Where
- When
- How
- Post release monitoring

- Record keeping

EUTHANASIA

- Why
- When
- How
- Post mortem examination

HELPING THE PUBLIC

- Telephone enquiries
- Admitting a patient

FUND RAISING

- Membership scheme
- Newsletter
- Sponsor-a-patient scheme
- Fetes/events