

INSIDE

Summer 2019 Edition



FUNDRAISING
Vital Funds Raised By Third Party Events

FIONA'S JOURNEY
How Our Expert Care Saved Fiona

PET NUTRITION
Expert Advice Directly From Woodside



RSPCA Leicestershire Branch
Registered Charity No. 222621

WOODSIDE
ANIMAL CENTRE 

VOLUNTEERING

As a self-funded centre, we rely on our amazing volunteers to give a helping hand. We spoke to Becky and Ingrid to find out why they love volunteering...

Ingrid, aged 59

When did you first start volunteering at Woodside?

I started volunteering in August 2018.

Why do you volunteer?

Mainly because I like cats but I also took early retirement due to illness and now I'm starting to get back into things, like volunteering and driving.

What do you enjoy most?

Mostly the cats. I also enjoy taking visitors around the centre and when I visited a school to receive a donation on behalf of the centre.

What advice would you give to anyone who is thinking about volunteering?

It is lovely to do but must be taken seriously. Just because you aren't paid, doesn't mean you don't commit, as Woodside relies on donations and volunteers to run.

Do you have a favourite memory from your time volunteering here?

I love it when a cat who has been here a long time goes home. I have lots of nice times with Georgie and her understanding of the cats.



When did you first start volunteering at Woodside?

I started volunteering at Woodside in 2009, initially as a dog walker.

Why do you volunteer?

At the time I started I had become unemployed and was suffering with depression and I wanted to do something constructive with my time and focus my energy on something positive. I have always been an animal lover but nowadays, even though I work full time, I volunteer because I love it! I do as many events as I can- it's great spending the day with friends who share the same passion, having a laugh and talking to people about the good work Woodside does.

What do you enjoy most?

Fundraising - it's brilliant fun. It can be hard work at times but so rewarding. Knowing that the money we get from these events helps the animals at the centre is a massive incentive to raise as much as possible!

What advice would you give to anyone who is thinking about volunteering?

I'd say make sure it's something you can commit to. So many people volunteer but don't stay long after the novelty wears off. Woodside simply can't function without volunteers. Secondly, I'd say come down to the centre and speak to the staff and volunteers and if you decide it's for you, get stuck in!

Do you have a favourite memory from your time volunteering here?

I have lots of wonderful memories from volunteering at Woodside but two stick out for me:

I became a mummy to my four beautiful cats (from Woodside).

I have met some really lovely people, one of whom ended up becoming my best friend.

Becky, aged 45



If you have time to spare or want to lend a helping hand then contact Woodside to speak to our team about upcoming opportunities. Whether you want to volunteer at the centre, at events or in one of our charity shops, we would love to hear from you.

Email: animal.care@rspcaleicester.org.uk - Call: 0116 233 6677 or check out our website for more information.

FOSTERING

As a self-funded centre, we rely on fosterers to help care for the animals at Woodside.

We're always looking for new foster carers to help us look after the hundreds of animals that come into our care every year. Volunteering as a fosterer is extremely rewarding and is ideal if you would like to welcome an animal into your home without the permanent commitment of adoption. As a fosterer, all costs involved are covered by Woodside, to ensure the best care is given to every animal.

Our amazing team of dedicated fosterers provide loving homes for animals which are not ready to be rehomed immediately. Examples of these may include animals recovering from surgery, pregnant cats, orphan and handreared kittens, and animals involved in ongoing RSPCA Cruelty Cases. Moving to a home environment could mean that the animal has a faster recovery, or can get ready for life in their forever home. It gives an alternative option to cattery life, as well as freeing up space for other animals to come in to the centre.



CAT FOSTERERS NEEDED

**KITTENS - PREGNANT MUMS - HANDREARING
NERVOUS CATS - ILL / DISABLED CATS**

- We are looking for new volunteer fosterers to help care for our rescue Cats.
- Do you have a spare room for the Cat to stay?
- Are you able to come to the centre regularly?
- Do you have Cats at home? They need to be fully vaccinated and neutered.

If you meet the above criteria & are able to foster then please contact Woodside Animal Centre.



Email: animal.care@rspcaleicester.org.uk
Telephone: 0116 233 6677

WOODSIDE PET SHOP

NUTRITION



Woodside Animal Centre has an on-site Pet Shop where all proceeds go straight back in to funding the centre. We spoke to Gemma, our shop supervisor and nutritional adviser to get all the tips on the best nutrition for your pet...

Why is it important to have a good diet for your animal & what are the benefits?

Primarily, health. A poor diet can have serious implications on an animal's allergies, causing serious risks to their skin, hair, oil, ears and causes over grooming. Bad nutrition also causes your pet to become very fussy about what they eat.

Why is it important to keep your animal on a good nutritional diet after leaving the centre?

Our animal care team spend a lot of time working with the animals on behavioural and health problems. So, when an animal finally finds their forever home, it's important to keep to a good nutritional diet, to ensure we don't undo any of the important work carried out at Woodside.

How do you know which food is the best for your pet?

I would always suggest Hypo-allergenic food, dry kibble especially. This ensures that your pets' allergies are catered for, as well as other nutritional factors. Treats given to pets are just as important as the food. So always make sure you feed hypo-allergenic food & treats to keep your pet at its optimum health. Always try to ensure the food is made with real meat and not with bi-products from the meat industry.

As well as health, what are the effects of a good diet on an animal's behaviour?

Your pet's behaviour is just as important as their physical health. Ensuring good nutrition is a simple way of avoiding bad behaviour. Pets can become very hyperactive, boisterous, frustrated and destructive when they're not eating the right food.

Myths surrounding costs of good quality food?

Good quality food doesn't have to break the bank. You don't need to buy top brands to achieve high quality but lots of cheaper foods are made with fillers, these bulk the food out but achieve more negative results. High quality food helps to encourage better dental care. The best food to buy is that which is both good quality and good value. At Woodside we suggest using 'Symply'. We like this brand as their food is very high quality and the cost per day, per animal is low. Good quality food saves you money in the long run and cuts out vet costs. This is because you need to give your pet much more of the lower quality food for them to be as satisfied and healthy as they would be if they eat high quality food.



**Summer Cooling
At
Woodside Pet Shop**

FUNDRAISING & EVENTS

We've been very lucky to have some amazing third-party fundraisers this year raising much-needed funds for the animals here at Woodside. Our supporters have pushed themselves to the absolute limit for us, and we wanted to share some of their inspiring achievements with you.

Louis Gavin and his team took to the Three Peaks to help raise money for several different charities including us. Woodside has a special place in Louis' heart, with Poppy (previously known to us as "Big Pug"), the Pug being one of our ex-cruelty cases rescued by the RSPCA. Louis said "It was a great privilege doing it for Woodside and the animals. In times of fatigue and great pain, thinking of the animals made me dig deep and not quit. Louis raised an amazing £1000 for Woodside.



Peter Barraclough performed his annual Piano recital for us at the New Walk Museum and Art Gallery in June and raised an amazing £210! Peter has had a long and distinguished international career as a concert organist and composer, and has performed for over fifty years professionally.

Peter and his wife Maria are very dedicated supporters and we love the passion they put in to their work.

Long term supporter and regular visitor Alan Widdowson recently put on an open gardens BBQ to raise money for us! Alan was blessed with beautiful weather on his fundraising day and invited friends, family and Woodside staff and volunteers to come and enjoy the gardens he works so hard on.

As an adopter of Akira the German Shepherd, Alan is passionate about animals. We sent fundraising merchandise, collection tins and made advertising leaflets to support Alan in his venture. Alan raised an amazing £419 for Woodside.



Thanks to people like Peter, Alan and Louis, we are able to keep on helping animals like Poppy "Big Pug" and Akira. If you want to get involved to help raise money, please email KatieM@RSPCALeicester.org.uk or come down to the centre to get your third party fundraising pack.

A very special mention to Megan, aged 8 who raised £77 at her bake sale and to Ellie, aged 8 & Amelia, aged 7 who raised £54 at their bake sale. A big thank you to everyone who puts their valuable time into raising money for Woodside, we couldn't do it without you!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Event	Date	Time	Where
Pet Fest 2	17th & 18th August 2019	11 AM - 4 PM	Woodside Animal Centre
Knighton Park Fun Dog Show	1st September 2019	11 AM - 4 PM	Knighton Park, Ring Rd, LE2 3RT
Mutt Strutt	28th September 2019	11 AM - 4 PM	Knighton Park, Ring Rd, LE2 3RT
Car Boot Sale	5th October 2019	11 AM - 3 PM	Woodside Animal Centre
Christmas Market	23rd - 24th November 2019	11 AM - 4PM	Woodside Animal Centre

FIONA'S JOURNEY



2 year old Staffordshire Bull Terrier Fiona came to Woodside in November 2018. Fiona was very under weight when she came into our care and had thick scar tissue on her ears caused by multiple untreated infections. Fiona's scar tissue continued to grow and the risk of more infections was inevitable, after careful medical consideration, the decision was made to remove her ear canals. After expert care at Woodside, Fiona is now recovering with support from our animal care team and is now a healthy weight. Fiona may be small but her big personality shines through, she is such a joy to be around and always has a beaming smile on her face. When the time is right, Woodside will carefully help Fiona find her forever home but for now, she is enjoying daily cuddles, walks and lots of attention from everyone at our centre.

A FOND FAREWELL TO MINTY



In 2009 West Highland Terrier Minty was brought into the kennels by an RSPCA Inspector. He was suffering from excessive hair loss and was subject to a pending prosecution of the owners for neglect. His skin improved enormously and he spent many months in the care of the RSPCA. Due to an injury to his leg, he couldn't go back into a kennel environment and therefore needed a foster home. Minty went into foster August 2010 with Kathy O'Reilly. During his time with Kathy he had more medical problems, Minty has been a very special and loyal little dog. Minty went on lots of family trips and was always welcome at Kathy's friends and family homes. In May 2019, Minty sadly passed away at 15 years old. He is missed dearly but his family are always so pleased they decided to foster and eventually adopt Minty.

Donate:

As a self-funded centre of the RSPCA, we rely on your generous donations to fund the life changing work we carry out everyday at Woodside. If you can help change an animals life then check out the many ways you can donate...

- Online - www.rspcaleicester.org.uk/donate/
- In one of our collection tins, located in shops across Leicestershire
- On site at Woodside Animal Centre
- Via Standing Order

Follow Us:



Instagram @woodsideanimalcentre



Facebook @Woodside Animal Centre - RSPCA Leicester

WOODSIDE GOING FORWARD

If there's one thing we humans struggle with, it's change but when it benefits the animals in our care, we at Woodside fully support any change needed. This coming september we will be altering our opening hours.

Our new opening hours are all in aid of ensuring that the animals in our care receive the required time, effort and attention they need & deserve. By closing the centre to the public on selected days, it allows our team of dedicated animal carers to work closely with each animal, spend more time working on health & behavioural issues and allow a more efficient and caring rehoming process.

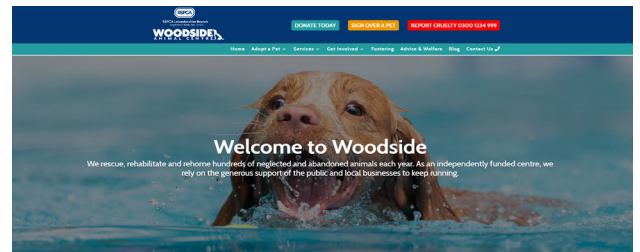
Our new opening times, starting 2nd September 2019:

Animal Centre

Day	Time
Monday	Appointment Only
Tuesday	Closed
Wednesday	Appointment Only
Thursday & Friday	11 AM - 4 PM
Saturday & Sunday	11 AM - 3 PM

Pet Shop & Reception

Day	Time
Monday to Friday	10 AM - 5 PM
Saturday to Sunday	10 AM - 4PM



NEW WEBSITE

As well as changing how our centre runs, we have also made changes to our website. The new website now features a blog where you can find out all the latest news stories, advice and going's on at Woodside. We also have all of our contact details, where you can find us on social media and how you can get involved. Check out our Fundraising & Events page to view a gallery of images from previous events and to find out about upcoming fundraisers. We will soon be inviting guest writers to feature on our blog, if this is something you want to be involved in then please contact us to find out more.

You can also Donate directly through our website by clicking the big green button at the top. A quick and simple way of setting up a monthly donation plan or a one-off payment.

To find out more information about our website or to get involved, contact:

Email: ChelseaH@rspcaleicester.org.uk

Call: 0116 232 4932

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THE PAWFECT FAMILY DAY OUT!

PET FEST 2

17th & 18th August 2019

Woodside Animal Centre, 190 Scudamore Rd, Leicester, LE3 1UQ

GATES OPEN 11AM - 4PM DAILY

ATTRACTIONS INCLUDE:

- Fun Dog Show – all entries welcome!
- Dog Demonstrations LIVE
- “Have a Go” Dog Agility Cup
- Pet Fest Market -
Kit your pet out with our pet stalls!
- Meet the animal experts
- Sausage Bobbing
- Great tips with our nutrition experts
- 50 + pet goods stalls!
- Kids attractions and games



£2.50
Adults

£1.50
Kids

£6.50
Family
2x adults
2x children

FREE
Under 5's

www.rspcaleicester.org.uk | 0116 224 2440

Follow the event for more exciting updates!



The animal centre will be closed to viewings on the above dates but appointments can be made with reception



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WOODSIDE
ANIMAL CENTRE