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## Volunteering with Animals – Factsheet

Always wanted to work with animals, but not quite sure how? There are virtually limitless ways that you can volunteer your time and energy to help animals - you just need the proper outlet. These are just a few of the national organisations which provide volunteering opportunities for animal lovers like yourself, but don't forget, you can always visit the volunteer section at <http://www.communitychannel.org/volunteer> to search for local volunteering opportunities near you in any specific area of interest.

### Cats Protection

Formed in 1927, Cats Protection (CP) has grown to become the UK's leading feline welfare charity. They now care for and find new homes for around 60,000 cats and kittens every year, through their network of 29 Adoption Centres and 260 voluntary-run Branches.

In addition, Cats Protection provides an array of cat care information via their publication, website and National Helpline. They promote the benefits of neutering for a happier pet and distribute education packets to a third of schools in the UK.

There is a wide range of work which can be done in conjunction with Cats Protection including everything from hands on work with cats as a fosterer or cat cuddler to public relations and fundraising. If you are interested in volunteering, visit their website to get a copy of their volunteering form and send it to your local branch or adoption centre.

**Address:** Cats Protection, National Cat Centre, Chelwood Gate, Haywards Heath  
Sussex RH17 7TT

**Tel:** (Switchboard) 08707 708 649

**Tel:** (National Helpline) 08702 099 099

**Tel:** (Adoption Centre) 08707 708 650

**E-mail:** [helpline@cats.org.uk](mailto:helpline@cats.org.uk)

**Website:** <http://www.cats.org.uk>

### Dogs Trust

Founded in 1891, Dogs Trust, formerly known as the NCDL, has always campaigned on dog-welfare related issues to ensure a safe and happy future for our four-legged friends. Volunteers play a valuable part in Dogs Trust's work and they will always try to match your skills with the roles available as best they can. You can be a Hope Volunteer, a Pre-Adoption home visitor, Fundraising Volunteer, or a Dog Walker. For information on volunteer fundraising, visit the website ([www.dogstrust.org.uk](http://www.dogstrust.org.uk)) for a volunteer form. For all other areas of volunteering, apply with a current CV and a letter describing why you feel you are suitable for the role to:

**Address:** Personnel Officer, Dogs Trust, 17 Wakley Street, London EC1V 7RQ

**Tel:** 020 7837 0006

**Email:** [Jobs@dogstrust.org.uk](mailto:Jobs@dogstrust.org.uk)

**Website :** <http://www.dogstrust.org.uk>

## RSPCA

The Vision of the RSPCA is to work for a world in which all humans respect and live in harmony with all other members of the animal kingdom. They work to reduce the harmful impact of human activities on animals through education, campaigning, and the application of ethics, science and law.

Volunteering for the RSPCA is one enjoyable way of helping animal welfare. The society has 175 local branches throughout England & Wales carrying out local animal welfare together with regional animal centres, wildlife centres, and hospitals run by the RSPCA. There are opportunities to gain skills in fundraising, campaigning, finance, team building, management, computers, and administration, just to name a few. You can apply by sending an enquiry at to their website.

**Address:** Enquiries Service, RSPCA, Wilberforce Way, Southwater, Horsham, West Sussex RH13 9RS

**Tel:** 0300 1234 9999 (cruelty line)

**Fax:** 030 3123 0284

**Website:** <http://www.RSPCA.org.uk>

## Animal Protection Trust

All the work carried out by Animal Protection Trust is voluntary - no-one is paid. The Trust's volunteers come from all walks of life but have one thing in common - the desire to help animals in need. They need help in many areas such as relief telephone support, foster homes for cats & dogs, home-checkers, and help with transporting animals. The animal Protection Trust will provide all necessary training required for volunteering.

**Address:** Coldlands Farm, Haroldslea, Horley, Surrey RH6 9PJ, UK.

**Tel:** 0173 722 1280

**Website:** <http://www.animalprotectiontrust.org.uk>

## Blue Cross

The Blue Cross is a registered UK animal welfare charity whose aims are to ensure the welfare of animals by providing practical care, highlight the benefits of companionship between animals and people, and promote a sense of respect and responsibility towards animals in the community. They provide support to the nation's pets and their owners by treating pets whose owners cannot afford private veterinary treatment, finding permanent homes for unwanted or abandoned animals, and educating the public in responsible animal ownership.

Volunteers are vital to The Blue Cross. Across the UK, they rely on volunteers' skills and commitment to help them deliver their range of animal welfare services, promote their work and raise funds for the animals in their care. The work is often difficult and demanding, but also deeply rewarding. Whether you can spare a couple of hours a month, or want to commit to several days a week, they would greatly appreciate your help. They need help in a wide variety of animal care and administration roles at a number of different locations including animal adoption centres, equine centres, animal hospitals, mobile clinic service, shops, fundraising and events, pet bereavement support service, and children's education.

Visit <http://www.bluecross.org.uk> to apply online or contact:

**Address:** The Blue Cross Head Office, Shilton Road, Burford, Oxon OX18 4PF, UK.

**Tel:** 01993 822651

**Fax:** 01993 823083

**Email:** [info@bluecross.org.uk](mailto:info@bluecross.org.uk)

**Website:** <http://www.bluecross.org.uk>

## Orangutan Rescue UK

The Foundation actively conserves the orangutan and its habitat whilst supporting long-term research on the ecology of orangutans and other fauna and flora within their rainforest habitat. Their objectives also include educational programmes in the UK, fundraising and increasing public awareness.

They welcome volunteers to come into the office to help with administrative work. They currently have a small team and would appreciate assistance! Volunteers can work from as little as two hours a week helping with many different tasks. Jobs you may get involved with are: sending out membership packs, organising the video library and general office assistance. Office hours are between 9.30am - 5.30pm Monday to Friday. If you are only available weekends or evenings there may also be the occasional opportunity to help at events or with merchandise sales.

**Address:** 7 Kent Terrace, London, NW1 4RP, UK.  
**Tel:** 0207 587 5000  
**Web:** <http://www.orangutan.org.uk>  
**E-mail :** [wspa@wspa.org.uk](mailto:wspa@wspa.org.uk)

## The Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)

The RSPB was founded in 1889 and since then has grown into Europe's largest wildlife conservation charity with more than a million members. From its initial stance against the trade in wild birds' plumage, the issues which the Society tackles have grown hugely in number and size.

The RSPB was founded over 100 years ago *by* volunteers, and continue to offer a wide variety of volunteer opportunities for those looking to make a difference for wild birds and the environment. Whether you want to work indoors or outdoors, at home or on a reserve, and regardless of the amount of time you have to offer, The RSPB will strive to put your skills to their best use. Volunteer opportunities include computing, project management, administrative support, and language interpretation.

**Address:** UK Headquarters, The RSPB, The Lodge, Sandy, Bedfordshire, SG19 2DL  
UK  
**Tel:** 01767 680551  
**Website:** <http://www.rspb.org.uk>

## Community Channel

**Address:** Community Channel, 2nd Floor, Riverwalk House, 157-161 Millbank, London, SW1P 4RR  
**Email:** [feedback@communitychannel.org](mailto:feedback@communitychannel.org)  
**Website:** [www.communitychannel.org](http://www.communitychannel.org)

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