

# BRITISH HEDGEHOG PRESERVATION SOCIETY

## A guide to helping hedgehogs



Photo Mrs Pat Morris

- 1** Avoid using pesticides and slug pellets in your garden. Not only can these harm hedgehogs but also damage their food chain. Use organic methods instead.
- 2** Make sure hedgehogs have easy access to your garden. Ensure boundary fences or walls have a 13cm x 13cm gap in the bottom to allow hedgehogs to pass through. Keep a corner of your garden wild to offer shelter, protection and natural food for hedgehogs and other wildlife. Encourage hedgehogs into your garden, but you should never just move one in from another area, as it may well have a nest of dependent young that you would be condemning to death.
- 3** Provide a shallow dish of fresh water for all wildlife, and food such as meaty hedgehog food, meaty cat or dog food or cat biscuits for hedgehogs, especially during long dry spells.
- 4** Make or buy a hedgehog home, this offers a hibernation site that is safer from predators in the winter. It may also be used as a nesting box for a mother and her hoglets in the warmer months. The British Hedgehog Preservation Society can provide a leaflet on building a hedgehog home and sells one in its shop (see [www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk](http://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk) or contact details over).
- 5** Check areas thoroughly for hedgehogs and other wildlife before strimming or mowing. Keep pea netting 22-30cms (9 - 12 inches) off the ground so that hedgehogs can pass safely under and plants will grow to the netting.
- 6** Dispose of litter responsibly. Every year hedgehogs are injured by litter and starve to death by getting trapped in discarded rubbish.
- 7** Bonfires offer a tempting home for a hedgehog. Ideally, collected materials should be re-sited just before the fire is to be lit, if this is not possible, the base should be lifted up with poles or broom handles (not a fork!) and a torch shone in to look (and listen) for any wildlife or pets in need of rescue before lighting. Once checked, light from one side only to allow an escape route for anything you may have missed.
- 8** Hedgehogs are good swimmers but can become trapped in ponds or pools with sheer sides. Keep water levels topped up, provide a gently sloping edge if possible or place half submerged rocks in the water as an escape for them.
- 9** Cattle grids can be a problem, hedgehogs fall in and become trapped, a simple ramp placed in the grid will save lives. The surface should be rough to enable the escapee to gain a foothold. Holes in the ground should be covered over or surrounded by a barrier that keeps hedgehogs out.
- 10** Take care on the roads, hedgehogs are nocturnal so are out at night. A hedgehog's natural defence mechanism is to roll into a ball - this is no match for a vehicle.

The British Hedgehog Preservation Society - Registered Charity Number 1164542 (formerly 326885)

Tel: 01584 890 801 Web: [www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk](http://www.britishhedgehogs.org.uk)



@hedgehogsociety



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APPLICATION TO JOIN BRITISH HEDGEHOG PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Title: Name: Address (please print): Postcode: Telephone No: Age (if under 16):

I/We wish to enrol as: Minimum Annual Individual UK £7.50 / Overseas £20.00
Minimum Annual Family/Group UK £12.50 / Overseas £25.00
Minimum Life-Long Supporter (single payment) UK £300.00 / Overseas £500.00

I/We enclose Cheque/Postal Orders/Cash £ Please make cheques payable to: British Hedgehog Preservation Society



Please tick box if you require information on WILLS PAYROLL GIVING

How did you learn of the society eg. advert, show etc.

IF YOU ARE A TAXPAYER, BY SIGNING THE GIFT AID DECLARATION BELOW, YOU CAN HELP BOOST THE SOCIETY'S INCOME - AT NO COST TO YOURSELF

GIFT AID DECLARATION - Boost your donation by 25p of Gift Aid for every £1 you donate

Gift Aid is reclaimed by the BHPS from the tax you pay for the current tax year.

Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

In order to Gift Aid your donation you must tick this box:

I want to Gift Aid my donation of £ and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past 4 years to: The British Hedgehog Preservation Society.

I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Title: First name or intital(s): Surname:

Full home address:

Postcode: Date: SIGNATURE:

Please notify the charity if you want to cancel this declaration, change your name or home address or no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains. If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code.

WHETHER YOU HAVE COMPLETED THE GIFT AID DECLARATION OR NOT, PLEASE HELP US BY USING THE FORM BELOW

BANKER'S STANDING ORDER

Please return this form to us rather than setting up membership online with your bank or by sending this form direct to your bank because we may miss to make you a supporter if we do not process your Standing Order through our office.

To The Manager: Bank/Building Society

Address of Bank/Building Society:

PLEASE PAY TO THE NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK, LUDLOW (Sorting Code 53-81-18) FOR THE CREDIT OF BRITISH HEDGEHOG PRESERVATION SOCIETY ACCOUNT NUMBER 02935546 the sum of (minimum £7.50)

POUNDS PENCE (£) NOW, AND THEREAFTER ANNUALLY

EVERY 1st UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE IN WRITING FROM ME/US. Date:

Bank/Building Society Account Number: Signature:

Please Print Title: Name:

Address:

