

# The **STONHAM SCREECHER**

Summer 2015



**Great Grey Owls**

**Flying Figures!**

**Code Breakers!**

**Kevin's Corner**



**Hello!**

My name is Taiga and I am a Great Grey Owl. I live at the Suffolk Owl Sanctuary with my friend Josephine and over 80 other bird friends! Here are some interesting Great Grey Owl facts:

We are also known as Sooty Owls, Great Grey Ghosts, Lapland Owls and Spruce Owls.

When we feel threatened we look fierce! We will snap our beaks, spread our wings and **GROWL!!**

We have a white "bow tie" under our chins and are known as **Bearded Owls** in Russia.

When snow covers the ground, we can hunt using hearing alone. We can locate mice under **30cms** of snow!!

We are "perch and pounce" hunters: we sit quietly and wait for prey to approach and then quickly...**POUNCE!!**

We are the biggest owls living in North America & Canada, but we only weigh as much as a bag of flour! Our thick, fluffy feathers make us look bigger than we really are, but help keep us warm!

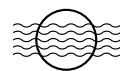
Keep your distance if we have babies in the nest. **G.G.O.s** are **VERY** protective and have been known to drive away black bears!!

Our eggs are more oval in shape than other owls eggs, so they don't roll out of our platform nests.



**Got a question?? ASK AN OWL!**

**Do you have any questions about Owls or other Birds of Prey? Cobweb the Barn Owl is happy to answer and will personally respond to your letter or email with an answer!**



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# Kevin's Corner

As a charity, the Suffolk Owl Sanctuary only has a few full time staff. It depends on a number of volunteers to assist with the workload.

Kevin works alongside the falconers doing all the jobs necessary to keep the birds healthy

Here Kevin is exercising Baloo, the Indian Eagle Owl

The boxes in the mews where the birds spend the night must be scrubbed daily and lined with clean newspaper ready for night time.

The water baths in the aviaries must be scrubbed daily and filled with fresh water for the birds to bathe in

Kevin also helps to build aviaries, paint buildings and maintain the sanctuary gardens

The aviaries must be cleaned and the gravel raked to ensure that the birds' living quarters are always clean & hygienic

One of Kevin's most important jobs is the feed round. The amount of food each bird receives must be appropriate to its weight & condition whether the bird is an active member of the flying team, an aviary resident, raising young or a hospital admission recovering from infection or trauma.

The Suffolk Owl Sanctuary could not operate without the help of its volunteers. A big THANK YOU to them all!

# Code Breaker

Suffolk Owl Sanctuary is the home of two Malaysian Wood Owls. They are very shy and secretive and spend a lot of time hiding in their tree!



Their names have been written on their aviary in code! Using the key below, can you discover what their names are?

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z  
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: ? 4 \* { > ..... = ? / & 4 \* .....

Can you write your own name using the same code? .....

# Flying Figures!

Matt the Falconer is in charge of the S.O.S Flying Team.

- He has 16 birds in the team.
- There are 3 flying displays every day.
- 4 Birds fly in every display.



How many birds will fly every day?

How many birds will not fly every day?

How many flying displays take place each week?

During a display, Matt flies each bird for 10 minutes.

How long does each flying display last?

How long will it take him to fly 3 birds?