

The STONHAM SCREECHER

Spring/Summer 2014

Taiga's Lunchbox!

Raptor Hospital

Medic Maz

Use Your Egghead!!

**Lanark
the Long Eared Owl**

Write to Cobweb



Hello!
My name is Lanark. I am a Long Eared Owl and I live at the Suffolk Owl Sanctuary with lots of owl friends and other birds of prey. Here are some interesting facts about me:

Long Eared Owls nest in the old stick nests of magpies, crows and sparrowhawks and in old squirrel drays. Comfy!

We are usually solitary birds, but in winter we owls are known to roost in large groups called Parliaments.

In China "eared" owls like me are known as "cat eared hawks"

Long ago, only noblemen were allowed to wear plumes of feathers, so in France the Long Eared Owl, with feathers in his 'hat' was known as the Owl Duke!



Young Long Eared owls are very noisy when calling for food! They sound like a squeaky gate being opened. OUCH!

The feathered tufts on my head are not used for hearing, but are raised when I am wary and laid flat when I am relaxed.



We are masters of camouflage. By fluffing up or flattening down our feathers we can alter our shape to blend in with our surroundings.

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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MEDIC MAZ

Maz Robinson is the falconer in charge of the Raptor Hospital at the Suffolk Owl Sanctuary where injured wild owls and other birds of prey are treated.



When birds are admitted to the hospital, Maz assesses their injuries, their weight and general condition.



Many of Maz's patients have been injured in road traffic accidents after colliding with vans & cars. Some are badly bruised - others have injuries to eyes or wings.



To fatten up a poorly bird, Maz will feed it small morsels of food frequently. As it gains strength it will start to feed on its own again.



Some birds are very thin when they come in - perhaps bad weather means food is scarce or an injury or infection has prevented the bird from hunting.

If the bird has an infection or needs a bone x-rayed, Maz will take it to our vet, Paul, who has specialist knowledge of owls and other birds of prey.



Once our patients have recovered and gained weight, they are released back to the area where they were found.

Sick birds are kept in special rehabilitation aviaries - which are quiet and secluded - whilst they recover. They usually stay for about 3 weeks.

REMEMBER!! if you find an injured owl 'phone our helpline on 0845 680 7897, email us on info@owl-help.org.uk or visit the 'Help For Injured Birds of Prey' section on our website at www.owl-help.org.uk

TAIGA'S LUNCHBOX

Taiga the Great Grey Owl is always hungry... but not everything on this list should go into his lunchbox

Can you help Taiga to fill his lunchbox with foods that will keep owls healthy?

FRIDAY LUNCH

- Crisps
- Lettuce
- Mice
- Cheese
- ~~Popcorn~~
- Voles
- Bananas
- Sausages
- Shrews
- Porridge



USE YOUR EGGHEAD

Try this simple numbers quiz to test your adding & subtraction

Phoenix the Great Horned Owl has laid 6 eggs on her nest. They will all hatch in 32 days.

She laid them on the following dates:

Egg 1: May 1st

Egg 2: May 3rd

Egg 3: May 5th

Egg 4: May 7th

Egg 5: May 9th

Egg 6: May 11th



How many days apart were Egg 2 & Egg 5 laid?

When Egg 6 hatches, how old will the owlet from Egg 2 be?

How many days did it take Phoenix to lay the whole clutch?

How many eggs can Phoenix lay in a week?

If Phoenix had laid 9 eggs, on what date would Egg 8 have been laid?

Egg 3 was laid on May 5th. How many days later was Egg 6 laid?

