

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BADGER GROUP

Actively involved in the welfare of badgers
in Northamptonshire



RESCUES. SETT RECORDING. EDUCATION. WELFARE. ADVOCACY



Welcome to the Summer Newsletter!

We've seen a very dry and hot year this year, which is making it hard for badgers, and other wildlife, to survive. Badgers eat a large number of worms which are unavailable when it is so dry. Is this a sign of things to come with climate change? We think so and we must do all we can to support our wildlife and to limit the impact we have on this planet. We also have the badger cull starting in West Northamptonshire in a few weeks. Please contact us to get involved or consider donating towards fuel.

Rescue & Activity Snapshot

Sally J had a call from Towcester Vets about a badger cub that had been hit by a car outside a house in Abthorpe. She was on her way to a work meeting and couldn't go to the rescue straight away, so she managed to liaise with the team at The Nutkin Ward, who were able to get to the cub quickly. At the time of writing, the cub is receiving treatment, but sadly it is not looking so hopeful.

Sally & Mick and Pat all went out to different incidents of injured cubs, but they had sadly died on arrival, one turned out to be due to poisoning.

Sally & Rich were called out by a dog walker who's dog had found a badger in a ditch near Hollowell. On inspection, it was unable to move its back legs. They took it to the vet where it was confirmed to be a road traffic collision and the car had gone over it, breaking the spine. He was put to sleep.

Sally R, Peter and Vera managed to return a cub to its sett after it got lost in a residential garden.



CUBS AT MONITORED SETT

We comment on many planning applications across the county and these take varying levels of work. We monitor cameras at a sett that is under threat from a housing development and last year the footage was vital to prove it was a main breeding sett. Main setts have more protection and mitigation needs on a development site. We've got 3 cubs at the sett this year.



THE BADGER CULL IS NEARLY HERE

We only have a couple of weeks now until badgers in Northamptonshire will be killed. There are new calls to cancel it, due to the terrible dry and heatwave conditions we are now experiencing.

WHERE?

New information now tells us that the cull is likely to stretch from the **Daventry area, including popular walking spot of Badby Woods and Fawsley, all the way through the villages down to Towcester and Brackley.** Villages including, but not limited to: Fawsley, Badby, Foxley, Blakesley, Radstone, Cold Higham, Syresham, Woodford Halse, Bradden, Abthorpe, Wappenham, Litchborough, Halse, Everdon, Preston Capes, Farthingstone and many more.

We know that badger culler cage trap training was undertaken at Seawell Grounds, near Blakesley, the property of one of the cull directors.

WHEN?

Culling normally commences around the **beginning of September for around 6-8 weeks.** It will be a 4 year licence as this is the last year that the Government are meant to be issuing these, meaning it will take place each September for 4 years.

WHAT HAPPENS?

Pre Baiting: 1 - 2 weeks before the cull starts, peanuts are scattered near setts, cages are baited with peanuts but tied open so badgers get used to entering them for peanuts.

Cage Trapping: Cages are baited with peanuts and set to trap, a badger enters and gets trapped and then will be shot dead in the morning. Cages are partially hidden near setts or on badger paths & routes.

Free Shooting: Bait points are set, either a hole dug into the ground, sometimes covered with a large stone, sometimes a wedge of turf is sliced with a spade and all are filled with peanuts. Badgers are shot at night when they stop at the bait points to feed.

Cages



Bait Points



PATROLLERS NEEDED

Wounded Badger Patrols are evening and night time walks, in groups, on public footpaths within the cull zone. Attendees wear hi-vis and carry torches, so are highly visible. This is a **legal activity** and **patrollers certainly save badgers lives** by being there.

PATROL DATES: Throughout September and October
Our Facebook will have updated information



Thank you to those who donated to our thermal imaging camera

If you're interested in taking part in a patrol you can contact us or northantsagainstcull@proton.me

URGENT FUEL & SUPPLIES FUNDRAISER

WE ARE URGENTLY FUNDRAISING TO COVER FUEL COSTS FOR THE WORK WE DO AND ALSO FOR WOUNDED BADGER PATROLLERS TO GET TO AND FROM THE CULL ZONE.

We are a small group of volunteers who are absolutely dedicated to protecting badgers. We give so much of our time and effort to the group and are asking our supporters if they you can spare some funds to donate to our fuel fund.

Click here to donate via Paypal or Debit Card: [Donate \(paypal.com\)](https://www.paypal.com)

Click here to donate online via Ko-Fi: <https://ko-fi.com/northantsagainstcull>

Click here for other ways to donate: www.northamptonshirebadgers.co.uk/donate

WE NEED YOUR HELP

**We are liaising with Northants Against the Cull so if you can help in any way:
CHECK YOUR LOCAL SETTS - DONATE TOWARDS FUEL - PROVIDE INFORMATION ABOUT
CULL ACTIVITY - ATTEND A PATROL - ANY OTHER SUPPORT.**

Please get in touch with us or email: NORTHANTSAGAINSTCULL@PROTON.ME



www.facebook.com/Northantsagainstthecull



twitter.com/NorthantsCull



Recording of Setts, Rta's & Live sightings by Peter Edwards (Sett Recorder)

Thanks to all your fantastic hard work surveying setts & reporting.
We have added 121 setts/outliers to our knowledge, mainly in the
South of the county this year so far!!!!

When reporting setts please include the following: the date you visited, an accurate location (map reference, pin drop on a map, or what3words), the number of active holes and other relevant information such as, is there fresh dung pits/bedding/footprints/hair or spoil present?

Your sett reports are so important to us as they can be used when new developments & roads are in the planning stage, consultants liaise with us so the best mitigation measures can be made to protect the badgers.

Thanks also to all the people who have been sending in Rta's & Live Sightings to me & a big thanks to those who include a map or a pin drop map or what3words, as these help me to not duplicate any of the reports. Anyone who is unable to do a map reference could also give me the distance from a junction I can identify on the map, please.

Accurate location & current activity is really useful to us, as can be used during planning, sett interference investigations, when co-ordinating with the Police & when returning rehabilitated badgers back to the wild.

RTA STATISTICS UNTIL 31/07/2022

STATS ARE INCLUDED FOR THE LAST THREE YEARS FOR COMPARISON:

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
2019	13	76	68	34	24	30	22	11	26	19	9	3	335
2020	17	73	59	36	26	23	19	19	21	16	9	3	321
2021	11	52	54	61	38	25	17	28	25	18	14	3	346
2022	19	89	82	56	43	27	19						335

IT IS IMPORTANT TO UPDATE SETT REPORTS REGULARLY & ADD NEW ONES WHENEVER POSSIBLE. WE ARE ALWAYS PLEASED TO GET REPORTS OF LIVE SIGHTINGS OF BADGERS AS THIS IMPROVES THE QUALITY OF OUR RECORDS.

NORTHANTSBADGERRECORDER@GMAIL.COM

[WEB FORM](#)



EVENTS

We've been able to attend a few more events this year to promote the group, educate about badgers, explain about the cull and raise vital funds.

However, we need more active members to help us to attend more.

Brackley Carnival LUSH Charity Pot Event Kettering Pleasure Park Grosvenor Centre

DO YOU CARE ABOUT BADGERS? CAN YOU SPARE SOME TIME TO HELP THEM?

As a group we can only help badgers in Northamptonshire if we have active members and committee members. Our committee urgently needs some more active members or we won't be able to continue this work. This can take various guises, levels of commitment or responsibility, to suit your current commitments and life, so please do have a chat with us about it.

The role is very rewarding and we are a lovely friendly bunch of people. We have some exciting ideas but need more hands to ensure the group and the work it does continues!

MAKERS: We are also looking for makers and talented people who can donate products for us to sell, on our event stalls and website, to raise vital funds for our work.

WE'RE NORTHAMPTONSHIRE BADGER GROUP

LOOKING FOR...

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The committee consists of a variety of people from different backgrounds, with various skills & experience. It helps shape the group in helping badgers across Northants and further afield.

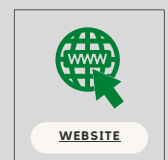
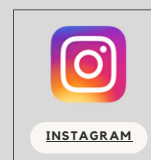
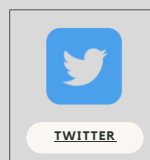
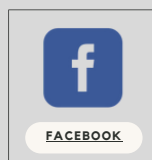
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LOOKING FOR...

MAKER

Calling all artists, crafters, makers... We rely on generous donations of beautiful handmade & crafted badger, or wildlife related, items to sell online and at events to raise funds.

KEEP IN TOUCH & UPDATED



Thanks to Committee Member Nick Sauntson for the beautiful badger photos

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