The city of Ipswich in Suffolk County, England, is known as the oldest continuously occupied city in England. It is also the first town in England to employ a Hedgehog Officer!

The position of Ipswich Hedgehog Officer was created after a 2-year study, conducted by the Suffolk Wildlife Trust, revealed that the population of nearly 12,000 hedgehogs in the county was declining rapidly.

The search for an “inspirational individual who will be the face of hedgehog conservation” began last summer. Approximately 150 applications were received from Britain, France, Spain, Germany, South Korea, China, Nepal, and the United States. According to the BBC, only four candidates were actually interviewed for the position and all were from the United Kingdom.

Candidates were expected to have experience with wildlife conservation as well as a “demonstrated understanding of hedgehog conservation.”
Continued from page 1

ecology."

Alexandra North, 25, who holds degrees in zoology, biodiversity and conservation and has worked as a researcher at BirdLife International in Cambridge, was the successful candidate for the position.

Her new job, which began this September, involves monitoring Ipswich hedgehogs, raising awareness of hedgehogs and their needs, and motivating people to adjust man-made barriers (such as fences and garden walls) to accommodate hedgehog travel. These barriers do not need to be removed. Creating a hedgehog-sized tunnel or passage will do. The goal is to support a street-by-street network of hedgehog habitat.
It’s Time To Pre-Order HWS Calendars

Are you running out of months in your favorite calendar? Do you need an adorable, hedgie-filled calendar in your life? Pre-order the 2017 Hedgehog Welfare Society Calendar! With more than eighty pictures of the cutest hedgehogs you have ever met, this calendar is the perfect gift for hedgehog enthusiasts in your life, or for yourself! Each calendar is $20 with all proceeds going to the Hedgehog Welfare Society.

For a limited time, we are offering FREE SHIPPING (to the continental USA) on all preordered calendars, so order now and save a few bucks (the price will be $21.50 if you don’t preorder)!

There are two convenient ways to order!

Are you the traditional sort? Send a letter with your name, mailing address, the number of calendars you are preordering and a check made out to the Hedgehog Welfare Society. Mail it to this address:

Hedgehog Welfare Society
P.O. Box 340967
Milwaukee, WI 53234

Would you prefer to pay via PayPal? Send an email with your name, your mailing address, your PayPal address and the number of calendars you are preordering to:

Christina.m.hannigan@gmail.com

We will deposit your check or send a PayPal money request when we order the calendars;

This offer is only available for preorders, so don’t miss out on your FREE SHIPPING (to the continental USA) and order today!
Thoughts from the President

My first thought, with Election Day near, is vote, VOTE, VOTE, VOTE! I think most everyone will be happy when this election is over.

My second thought, as we head into the last two months of 2016, is to take this opportunity to (1) thank my board members for all their hard work this past year and (2) wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas. I hope 2017 brings each of you nothing but joy.

My third thought, winter. Here comes another one — and here in the upper-Midwest the forecast is for above average snowfall and below average temperatures (couldn’t we just pick one?). This season can be hard on our hedgehogs. Below is an article I penned a couple of years ago about hibernation. We have a lot of new members since then, so I thought it was worth repeating.

Hedgehogs and Hibernation

The most extreme case of hibernation I have seen was with my girl Molly. I reached into her cage one night when I came home from work and she was literally frozen solid! It was like I had just pulled her from my freezer. I thought she was dead. Upon examining her, I noticed she was barely breathing. She had frozen with one eye open and one shut. She looked like she was in the middle of a stretch when she froze! I got a piece of fleece, put her on my bare chest, covered her with fleece, then my sweater, and I put my hand under the sweater but over the fleece. Then I waited, and waited, and waited.

It took 45 minutes before I felt any movement at all. After another 15 minutes or so she moved again. About 15 minutes after that she urinated. After another 30 minutes or so she pooped and started to move around freely. Warming her up was not quick, it took just under 2 hours to bring her back!

While we do not have any scientific answers as to why some hedgehogs attempt to hibernate, there does seem to be a correlation with weather and seasonal conditions. These changes seem to affect their circadian rhythms. Age seems to play a factor as well, it’s rare for a younger hog to attempt hibernation!

Continued on page 5
So, what can we do? Buying a sunlight mimicking light for the cage is a great way to ensure enough “sunlight” during the fall and winter months. Any pet store will have these lights in the reptile area. You will need to purchase a separate “sunlight” bulb. I can’t remember the exact cost ($40 for both?) but I’ve never had to replace a bulb and I run my lamps 12 hours per day for probably 8 of the 12 months of the year (I simply lay the unit across the cage top, not directly over where my hedgies sleep).

I am also a great proponent of extra warmth. Here in Wisconsin the shorter days are reaching cooler (morphing into bone cold!) temperatures. For the night hours, I am a big fan of the Snuggle Safe heat discs that you microwave. The discs come in a thin fleece cover and I tuck my discs into an extra layer of fleece so my kids won’t get burned. I tuck the entire thing right into their sleeping area.

This past spring it was very cold here and I was still providing the discs well into May (along with more and heavier fleece blankies). One morning I heard a great commotion from Wally’s cage and looked over to find him with his shoulder to the disc, trying to push it out of his sleeping area! Guess that was his way of telling me he was too warm!

Even with extra precautions, your hedgie may still try to hibernate (My Molly had a second attempt while lying on her heat disc!). The important thing to remember is to warm your hedgehog slowly. Do not dump them in a basin of hot water or super heat a sack or rice to put next to them. You do not want to kill them by shocking their systems! I also think it is important to provide a bit of extra warmth for them over the next 24 hours. Be sure to closely monitor them and make sure that they are eating and drinking.

It is such a scary experience to find your hedgehog this way! But hopefully having a plan of action will help you both to come through the experience with nary a mussed hair or quill.
The Hedgehog Welfare Society Wheel-a-Thon is Right Around the Corner!

Every year, the Hedgehog Welfare Society holds its biggest fundraiser of the year, the Wheel-A-Thon, on Hedgehog Day (February 2nd). In 2017, we hope to have the biggest and best Wheel-A-Thon yet! You can help us accomplish that goal by signing up to have your hedgies run, as well as making a donation to one or more of the teams participating in the event.

Keep an eye out for more information about how to sign up and contribute!

This fundraiser supports our rescue and research efforts. We were able to increase our veterinary reimbursement in 2016. Please help us continue to help hedgehogs!
The Eastern States Hedgehog Show (Hedgie-Con)
April 28—30, 2017   Laurel, Maryland

Mark your calendars now and start saving your pennies! More information will be coming soon, check out our website at: http://hedgiecon.wix.com/eastcoast

Events Include

- Friday Night Meet & Greet
- Saturday Conformation Show
- Educational Speaker
- Hedgehog Games
- Saturday Night Banquet Dinner
- Silent and Live Auctions & Raffles
- Sunday Conformation Show

New for 2017

- Friday and Saturday Cash Bar
- Registration/Attendance Gifts
- Scavenger Hunt and other games

Hotel Information

Double Tree by Hilton Laurel
15101 Sweitzer Lane
Laurel, Maryland  20707
(301) 776-5300

Discounted rate of $109 per night (plus taxes) — 2 double beds or 1 king bed, handicap accessible upon request. Just mention “Eastern States Hedgehog Show” when reserving your room to receive the discount and to be placed in our block of rooms. You must call the hotel to book as we do not have an online link at this time.  

Continued on page 8
There is no pet deposit, but there will be a limit of 5 hedgehogs per room. There may be a cleaning fee assessed if you leave the room excessively dirty (bedding on the floor, etc.), so please be sure to clean up after your hedgehogs. Other pets are not permitted (dogs/cats).

**Event Pricing**

This year, we are introducing a new pricing scheme that hopefully will allow the show to be more affordable for families with children. In the past, there was one price regardless of age.

All passes include full access to the event for all 3 days (Friday—Sunday), as well as the appetizers included in Friday night’s “Meet and Greet”. There are two pass options:

- **Option 1**: Full Pass (includes the banquet dinner on Saturday night)
  - Adults (13+): $100
  - Children (6—12): $80
  - Under 6: Free

- **Option 2**: Maryland Pass (does not include the banquet dinner on Saturday night)
  - Adults (13+): $80
  - Children (6—12): $60
  - Under 6: Free

**Sponsors**

Instead of asking for general sponsors for the show, this year we are asking for people to sponsor specific items or portions of the show. You can either sponsor in your name or in the memory of a loved one that has passed (both human and hedgehog). All sponsorships will either be listed in the show program or on the item itself at the show. Sponsoring is a good way to support the Hedgehog Welfare Society and the show if you are not able to attend.

This list is not all-inclusive; more will be added as we determine areas of the show that we would like to have sponsored.

- Raffle Basket Sponsors — $30 — 10 spots available
- Show Blanket Sponsors — $50 — 1 spot available
- Show Supplies Sponsors — $30 — 2 spots available
- Rainbow Bridge Sponsors — $20 — 20 spots available

If you are interested in sponsoring, please send an email to

**eastern.states.hedgie.show@gmail.com**

And be sure to include the subject “Sponsor”.

**Rainbow Bridge Ceremony**

On Saturday night, after the banquet dinner and the live auction, it is traditional to hold a Rainbow Bridge Ceremony to honor the hedgehogs that have passed since the last show (May 2015). In the past, we have honored these hedgehogs with a slide show presentation. Due to technological constraints this year, we will be changing the ceremony. **In lieu of a slide show, each person will receive a printed booklet with pictures, information, and names of those that have passed.**
Continued from page 8

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If you are interested in having any of your hedgehogs included in the ceremony, please send an email to eastern.states.hedgie.show@gmail.com. Please use the subject “Rainbow Bridge” so we can organize the submissions. You can include one photo per hedgehog and up to 150 words to be included. You do not have to submit a photo or paragraph, you can simply send in names, dates, or whatever information you would like included.
Here's the story:

Back in 2001, at a hedgehog show (I can't remember which one), Ruth Breitenbach was selling sets of Monthly Hedgehog pins she had made, in numbered sets. I was lucky enough to purchase set # 1! I no longer remember the cost, but I know she isn't making them any more, and I am so very happy that I have and use my adorable pins.

In the photo they range from January through December, and the very bottom pin is one she made of a hedgehog nurse, which of course I, an RN, had to have.

Jenn
The Literary Hedgehog

In the last few years Mitchell Lane Publishers, of Hockessin, Delaware, have developed “Robbie Readers,” a line of non-fiction books designed to appeal to young students who can read at a primary level but who are reluctant to do so.

Robbie Readers includes a 20 volume series called How to Convince Your Parents You Can… which describes caring for various pets. Some of the pets are of the every day variety —kittens, puppies, and goldfish — but others are more exotic animals such as racing pigeons, wild Chincoteague ponies, sugar gliders, and—of course—hedgehogs.

The first chapter of the book on caring for hedgehogs, “Go Hedgehog Wild,” describes pet hedgehogs and their behavior and offers tips on how to convince parents that a third or fourth grader is capable of caring for a hedgehog with help.

The remaining four chapters include “Learning More About Hedgehogs,” “Finding a Hedgehog,” “Caring for a Hedgehog,” and “Before Making Up Your Mind.”

A “Find Out More” section at the back of the book recommends Internet sites and books that offer information on African Pygmy Hedgehogs and hedgehog health, as well as organizations such as Hedgehog World and the International Hedgehog Association. A glossary and index are included.
Harry the Hedge Fund Bank is available from Uncommon Goods
http://www.uncommongoods.com/

Hedgehog Birthdays

Hedgehog Swag, Knick-knacks, Novelties, Trinkets, Gimcracks, & Tchotchkes

High on the Hog

Hedgehogs are well known for the maximum security system they've developed to protect their precious little faces and bellies, which perhaps makes them the perfect managers of your private hedge fund. Fitted with a removable silicone stopper, this ceramic bank also offers high rates of interest to anyone who sees it on display. Made in China.

$22.00  ceramic, silicone, 7.3" L x 4.3" W x 4.1" H
The story of Hedgehog Harbor in Door County, Wisconsin

CHAPTER XXXIX  THE GIANT OF GILLS ROCK

At the extreme northern end of Door County, Wisconsin, a wide bay opens into the peninsula from the north. The eastern side of the bay is known as Gills Rock—so named after Elias Gill, who owned about one thousand three hundred acres of land in the vicinity, with warehouses, fishing boats, a pier, etc. The name of Gills Rock is a comparatively recent innovation. On old maps and among old settlers it was known as Hedgehog Harbor.

There was a man on Rock Island by the name of George Lovejoy who had been a sergeant in the United States army and settled on Rock Island in 1836. Lovejoy was a famous hunter in many parts of northeastern Wisconsin and had a remarkable faculty for almost anything he undertook. It was said he almost broke up the settlement on Rock Island with the bewitching, homesick melodies of old time songs he drew from his violin. He was also a master ventriloquist. Sometimes he would go out on the ice where an Indian was fishing and make the trout talk back to its captor in the most approved Chippewa dialect, to the poor Indian’s terrorized amazement.

At an early date Lovejoy built a small sail vessel—said to be the first vessel built in Door County. One fall at the approach of winder his vessel was thrown on the beach near the present Gills Rock Pier. Next spring when he returned to launch her, he found her so high above the water that he had to give it up. Later he returned with a companion by the name of Allen Bradley—a tremendously strong man—and with his help the boat was launched. During the spring and summer the porcupines had gnawed so many holes in her, however, that they had much difficulty in making her float.

Continued on page 14
When Lovejoy was ready to leave he offered to pay Bradley for his help. But Bradley would not accept anything. "I like this Hedgehog Harbor of yours so much," he said, "it is the pleasantest place I have found in the West, so I am going to build me a home here. Since you brought me here I will take nothing for my work." Allen Bradley then built a shanty just back of where the present pier stands, and in 1856 became the first settler in the vicinity of Hedgehog Harbor by which name it was afterward known.

Source: History of Door County, Wisconsin, The County Beautiful by Hjalmar R. Holand (1917) Transcribed for Genealogy Trails by Mary Saggio


This contemporary sweatshirt celebrates the original name of Gills Rock — Hedgehog Harbor.