

Animal Welfare Action Plan

This week, Battersea Dogs and Cats home (as well as many other animal rights charities and rescue centres, welcomed new Government plans which look to improve the lives of animals in the UK and abroad.

Rt Hon George Eustice MP, the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, launched the Action Plan for Animal Welfare.

The Action Plan will see several new laws and non-legislative changes coming into effect over the coming months.

The first of these is a new Animal Welfare (Sentience) Bill, which recognises animals as sentient beings, which will be introduced to Parliament this week and will be followed by other measures that include; prohibiting live animal exports, cracking down on pet theft and puppy smuggling, and introducing compulsory microchipping for owned cats.

Every year, thousands of animals are smuggled into the UK by backyard breeders, are stolen or live in homes unsuitable for them or are homeless. The Action Plan aims to recognise that animals are sentient beings with feelings, and should be protected as such. The bill also aims to make microchipping law for cats so that lost animals can be reunited with the owners, and also tougher punishments for pet thieves and backyard breeders!



Happy News

Ex-Disney animators creating art opportunities for young people

Elite Academy was founded in 2012 by two former Disney Animators- Gladys and Todd west. The Wests imagined a design studio with the main mission being to develop the minds of young people through the art of animation. The studio provides art and animation training from experienced movie, cartoon and print instructors. Part of the delivery is also designed around supporting those diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder or ASD, and trains students for jobs in animation and publishing. A.J. who is 19 and was diagnosed with autism at the age of 5 has been thriving in his animation studies, according to his parents. This is thanks to one Disney legendary animator, Woody Woodman (who worked on Mulan, Lilo and Stitch and Tarzan) who worked closely with AJ. Over a period of 10 years, the Digital Arts for Autism, (DAFA) Centre, has grown to include an expansive line up of summer camps and virtual opportunities through which students acquire design and animation skills.



DID YOU KNOW?

A GROUP OF RABBITS IS CALLED A FLUFFLE.



98 year old Cycling Champion!

Diana O'Flynn, a 98 year old grandma from West Hill in London. has taken up the 'Around the Sitting Room in 80 Days' challenge to raise funds for her beloved charity, WLM (West London Mission), a charity set up by her great grandmother in 1887! From the comfort of her armchair, Diana is aiming to cycle for 80 days Diana aims to cycle for at least half an hour every day until June 30. She started on Monday, April 12, and her 80-day challenge can be followed on Instagram: @aroundthesittingroomin80days

The charity she is raising funds for is called the West London Mission and supports those who may have experienced homelessness, trauma and poverty in order for

for them to transform their lives for the better.

Well done Diana!

Find out more or at: www.wlm.org.uk or visit the GoFundMe website to donate.



What: Addingham Clue Trail

Enjoy completing a self-guided 4.5km circular walk around the lovely village of Addingham, near Ilkley, solving clues as you go!

Starting and finishing at The Swan on Main Street, enjoy spending 2+ hours exploring the local area.

Pick up your guide and clues from the or £5 cash at Addingham Newsagents (Main Street, Addingham LS29 0NS).

Or online at:

(www.cluetrails.co.uk/shop/addingham) for an additional £1 p+p.

All profits from Addingham ClueTrail sales will support Jaime's Journey.

Trail includes some steps and potentially muddy paths. It is also recommended you bring a pen.



What's on this week



What: Studfold's Woodland Walk experience and nature trails.

When: Saturday 15th May 2021 until Sunday 13th June 2021 00:00 am

Where: Studfold adventure trail, Studfold farm, Lofthouse, Harrogate, HG3 5SG