

New rescue group for wildlife and birds launched by an Anim-Mates fosterer

ONE of our kitten fosterers has started a new wildlife rescue service. Lauren Smith told us: "We are a non-profit, wildlife rescue organisation based in SE London, with the purpose of providing food, water, shelter and treatment to sick, injured, young or abandoned wildlife, particularly birds."



Andy and Lauren with their new aviary



Colored Dove with an eye infection

The charity, The Wildlife Lodge, was launched by Lauren and her partner Andy Callaghan some eight months ago, and already they have dealt with dozens of cases ranging from birds to hedgehogs and squirrels to mice.

Lauren's day job is as a veterinary nurse at the Foxgrove Veterinary Centre based in Beckenham.

Andy, who does not work in the animal industry, helps out with the wildlife, as well as doing all the behind-the-scenes work as administrator, treasurer and PR representative.

Lauren and Andy have recently assembled a Wildlife Lodge outdoor aviary in the grounds of the vet practice. Here sick or injured birds are treated and cared for until they are released back into the wild.

"This aviary was donated to The Wildlife Lodge by Anim-Mates, and has proved very helpful since it was put up," says Andy.

"I have a large number of contacts in

the veterinary and animal charity sector, who are more than willing to provide help and assistance when needed," says Lauren. "We have a lot of co-operation from the Willow Wildlife Rescue, and donations from other groups."

The website www.thewildlodelodge.co.uk is where you will find a daily blog which makes interesting reading about each of their rescues. On the Frequently Asked Questions page you can learn what you

should do if you find a baby bird, or why you need to get specialist help if a bird has been attacked by a cat.

Being a young group, The Wildlife Lodge are still collecting equipment and have a wish list of their needs like Aloe Vera gel, small glass pots and suet balls.

It's worth keeping a note of The Wildlife Lodge phone number which is 07983 708497.

They can also be contacted by email for non-emergency enquiries at info@thewildlodelodge.co.uk.

