



Newsletter

October 2022

This Year's Cygnets

In our July issue we featured the cygnets that hatched by The Old Rectifying House.



Sadly, the cob and one of the five cygnets were lost, but the pen brought the remaining cygnets to the daily swan feed at the boathouse steps, and they integrated well into the flock.

About 15 cygnets had joined the flock by October.

Most of Worcester's swans will overwinter here, but as the young ones mature and pair off, some will leave to find their own territory.

Avian Flu is Back

We have already lost some of this year's cygnets, as well as a number of older swans. Losses seem less severe than last year, which may mean some swans are developing immunity.

An AI Prevention Zone has been declared across the UK to reduce the risk of infection spreading amongst poultry and captive birds. It requires all bird keepers to follow strict biosecurity measures.

The public, too, can help. Please avoid getting close to the swans and their faeces, and keep your dogs away too. It's never a good idea to touch or hand feed the swans, and now more than ever we urge people to follow this advice.

If you see a dead swan, please report it to the City Council, providing details of the exact location.

<https://www.worcester.gov.uk/report-it>

You are here: [Worcester City Council](#) ▶ [Report it](#)

Report it!

There are a number of things you can report online. We have also provided guidance on how to report. We advise you read the service guidance first before contacting us.

Refuse and recycling

- [Missed refuse collection](#)

Environment

- [Abandoned motor vehicles](#)
- [Animal fouling](#)
- [Broken glass](#)
- [Bins – overflowing public bins](#)
- [Biohazard - Vomit, human excrement or blood on Public Land](#)
- [Broken streetlight](#)
- [Bus shelters](#)
- [Damage or vandalism](#)
- [Dead animals](#)

Recruitment Drive for Volunteer Feeders

The project is looking for volunteers to join its team of regular feeders to cover Wednesday and Saturdays.



You need to be fit enough to carry buckets of mixed corn down the boathouse steps to feed the swans, and to wield buckets of water and a broom to clean the lower steps: what goes in must come out!

It's fun and satisfying, but we do need you to be able to make a regular commitment – an hour or so of your time one day a week (or more if you'd like to!).

Interested? Have a look at our video and the volunteer feeder information sheet:

<https://theswanfoodproject.co.uk/volunteer-feeder-activities/>

<https://theswanfoodproject.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Volunteer-feeder-role-info-sheet-Final1.pdf>

The Big Christmas Swan Feed

The Big Christmas Swan Feed at South Quay is a popular event, enjoyed by children and adults alike.

We'll be sharing a whole sack of floating swan pellets with you, 2:00 - 2:30 p.m. on each of the following days:

- ❖ Monday 26th December
- ❖ Thursday 29th December
- ❖ Sunday 1st January

The Mayor, Councillor Adrian Gregson, will be handing out pellets with us on 29th December.

Everyone is welcome, so come along and feed the swans for free!

