

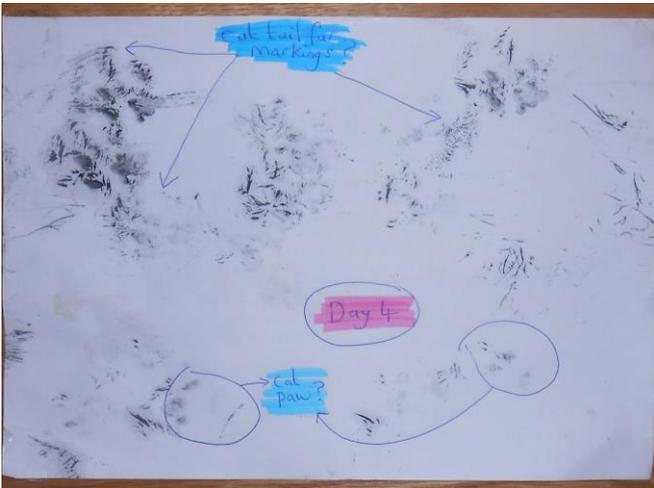
I love hedgehogs, so, when I heard that our University had begun the ongoing campaign...



## HEDGEHOG FRIENDLY CAMPUS

...I knew I would like to become involved and help in some way - especially since very sadly this adorable nocturnal mammal is now seriously endangered 🥺 and may become extinct by 2030(!!) unless we act now.

As part of the campaign, last Summer a group of us University staff attended an online presentation, then conducted a 5-day (ok, night!) hedgehog survey in our gardens – we set up a tunnel or box, containing food and plotting paper with ink strips, to capture evidence of any hedgehog (or other visitor's!) footprints.....



It was quite fun to do and I am sure we all definitely added to our knowledge base on the hedgehog and its habits and behaviours through a calendar year.

I now know how to successfully spot the various signs if hedgehogs **are** visiting my area and how best to safely leave out food and water for them, to optimise their survival.

In the process, I also learnt that my garden wasn't *just* as hedgehog-friendly as it could have been, so I pledged to make a couple of adaptations for the future.....creating a definite 'hedgehog highway' with neighbouring gardens, via a couple of small holes in the fencing and I also intend to purchase a hedgehog house for my garden this year.

## Simple ways you could help hedgehogs!

- March to October: **leave out a safely-located food supply** (meaty cat or dog food is best) & unless your garden has eg a pond, a dish of **water for hydration** (never milk! – they are lactose-intolerant).
- It is crucial that for their survival and their access to food, water and a safe haven to dwell, that hedgehogs can move freely from garden to garden within a neighbourhood. So, if your garden is enclosed, create a **“hedgehog highway”** underneath or through any fencing.



- Consider placing a predator-proof **‘hedgehog house’ in your garden**



to provide a safe area for a hedgehog/hedgehog family to sleep during the daytime of their ‘active’ months (March to October) & hibernate in over the winter months.

- **If you know of, or spot a hedgehog in your area**, please record it on the <https://bighedgehogmap.org/> (located on the “Hedgehog Street” website), to assist with national data stats.
- **Join our University’s Hedgehog Friendly Campus campaign!** (via an email to Elsie Hargate, Environmental Co-ordinator: [e.hargate@hud.ac.uk](mailto:e.hargate@hud.ac.uk) to register your interest).

**Did you know? ...there is now a local hedgehog rescue & rehabilitation centre here in Huddersfield ! ...**

**“Shelley Hedgehogs”** [https://www.facebook.com/pg/ShelleyHedgehogs/about/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/pg/ShelleyHedgehogs/about/?ref=page_internal)

Therefore, should you sadly find an injured or distressed hedgehog, Mel & her team at Shelley Hedgehogs could hopefully nurse the hedgehog back to health, before release back into the wild.

**Shelley Hedgehogs relies on donations, support of their regular fundraising activities, or via purchasing any of the items on their Amazon ‘wish-list’ to continue their brilliant work.**

In 2021 I am looking forward to encouraging hedgehogs into my garden and assisting our University’s H.F.C working group to help champion hedgehogs on site and becoming involved with our surveying and other initiatives. 😊

***Daniella, Receptionist in the School of Art Design and Architecture, and new Member of HudsHogs!***