



Our Special Friends



Helping people and animals
help each other

Supporting animal companionship

The benefits of animal companionship for human well-being are well known. Pets can be vital companions especially for the vulnerable or isolated. But, when times are difficult, help may be needed to maintain that special bond.

Our Special Friends is a charity that provides a range of support services to help those in need to continue to enjoy contact with animals during illness, bereavement and other crises.



Examples of how we help:

Practical support & advice

- help with dog walking or cleaning the cat tray
- enabling a pet to stay with its owner
- sourcing, introducing and monitoring a new pet
- regular visits from a 'visiting' dog and volunteer

Emotional support & advice

- coping with difficult pet decisions
- pet bereavement and the impact of loss
- pet care planning to give peace of mind

Work with vets, hospices & other organisations

- referral to specialists when support is needed

The charity

What makes **Our Special Friends** different is that we aim to fill a gap in community care by providing services dedicated to supporting the well-being of both people and their pet during times of need.

Our service is offered to all in need regardless of age or location; own home, a hospice or nursing home etc. Friends, family, hospices or other organisations often refer those we help.

We provide support through our volunteers and by working in partnership with human health and social care; as well as vets and animal charities.



**We are entirely dependent
on donations and volunteers –
please help us provide
these services.**

Please support us

If you would like to help us, please complete this form and return it to the address overleaf.

- I would like to make a donation to Our Special Friends
- I would like to know more about leaving a legacy
- I am interested in volunteering

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postcode: _____

Tel: _____

Email: _____

Donation

- I wish to donate £ _____
- I enclose my cheque payable to Our Special Friends

Charity Gift Aid declaration

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Boost your donation by 25p for every £1 you donate
Gift Aid is reclaimed by the charity from the tax you pay for the current tax year. Your address is needed to identify you as a current UK taxpayer.

To Gift Aid your donation you must tick the box below:

- I want to Gift Aid my donation of £ _____ and any donations I make in the future or have made in the past four years. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations in that tax year it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

Signature _____

Date _____

Please notify Our Special Friends if you:

want to cancel this declaration - change your name or home address - no longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains.

If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code

Data protection

Our Special Friends will not sell or pass on individuals' details to third parties unless we have their permission or are required to do so by law. Your contact details will be kept on our secure database for our financial records.

What those we help say

"Our Special Friends helped me greatly at a difficult time in my life, giving me practical support and helping me to make difficult decisions."

"I wanted to let you know how much your visits with Rolo each week helped my mother."

"Seeing people other than her daily carers and me was an uplifting experience and enabled her to continue to enjoy her love for animals, especially dogs. She spoke so fondly of little Rolo."



"I am so impressed at the wonderful, caring approach shown by Our Special Friends to my mother who has dementia and physical health problems. She gets great enjoyment from Luna who visits regularly and brightens up her days."

"What a delightful dog.- I love him! Thank you so much for introducing us. He has brought joy into my life and I am sure he has helped my breathing. Perhaps it's the relaxing effect of sitting and stroking him!"

"I will never be able to thank you enough. You were the lifeguard when I thought I was drowning, and it was so helpful knowing that you understood and cared. Thank you."

We are here to help, so please contact us:

Our Special Friends

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Bury St Edmunds IP28 6PA, UK

T: 01284 247077

E: office@ourspecialfriends.org

W: ourspecialfriends.org

f [ourspecialfriends](https://www.facebook.com/ourspecialfriends)

Our Special Friends is a Registered Charity: 1156778

Registered address: As above

