



## Introducing Doris Johnson

Doris was born and spent her early life in Vienna, Austria. She witnessed the occupation of her home country by invading forces from both Germany and the Soviet Union. These were very difficult times for Doris as she was born into the Jewish faith and so her family were at great risk. In the late 1940's, Doris met her future husband 'Bob' who was a serving member of HM Forces. They married in 1952 and remained together until his death in 2017.

Doris was always a keen supporter of nature and wildlife, especially wild birds and during her lifetime Doris and Bob always had an African Grey Parrot. First Polly, then Pepe.

When Doris first contacted us in 2017 she was becoming increasingly anxious about the future care of her beloved Pepe; her companion of 30 years.

Doris was invited to the park to look around and to take the opportunity to have any questions answered. Doris spent a sunny afternoon with Steve, our Chief Executive who did his best to reassure Doris and to answer all her questions about long term care for Pepe.

Steve gave Doris his business card and asked her to give it to her solicitor. He gave his word that should anything happen to Doris, he would personally collect Pepe and would bring him to the Sanctuary (The Parrot Zoo Trust) for his forever home.

Sadly, Doris passed away in 2019.

Doris very kindly remembered us in her Will, and it is with that kindness and generosity in mind that we have established the Doris Johnson Peace of Mind Foundation.

## The Doris Johnson Peace of Mind Foundation

The Doris Johnson Peace of Mind Foundation is a brand-new initiative, launched in 2022. The Foundation is a part of the National Parrot Sanctuary at The Parrot Zoo Trust in Lincolnshire.

The Trust is a registered Charity (number 1162135) and is known and respected worldwide for the care and compassion given to its resident birds and animals.

The Parrot Zoo Trust currently provides a forever home to over 1500 parrots offering a haven for over 100 different species of these incredibly special birds. Our small and dedicated team provides the care and attention each bird needs to enable them to lead a fulfilling life, from nutrition to one-to-one care and enrichment. We encourage all our birds to live naturally within a flock allowing them to not only survive, but thrive. Unlike any other sanctuary in the UK, The Parrot Zoo Trust provides long term care in an environment where parrots can live outside in the fresh air, taking in the sun and rain and making their own choices about when they sleep, eat and play.

The Doris Johnson Peace of Mind Foundation wants to support you now and into the future, to provide the very best care and attention for your Parrot. The Foundation will provide a totally free service for you. Once you have provided your details to us, and we have sent you your membership card, we will be there for you - to provide information and advice about caring for your parrot.

We will stay in touch by sending you our quarterly newsletter, so you get to know about all the exciting developments at the Trust.

But most of all, we want you to have Peace of Mind.

**01754 879 733**

**07538 460 166**

**pepe@lincswildlife.com**

(Registered charity number 1162135)

**INFORMATION  
PACK PAGE 1**

Doris Johnson Peace of Mind Foundation  
The Parrot Zoo Trust  
Dickon Hill Road,  
Friskney, Boston,  
Lincolnshire PE22 8PP



## Our promise to you

We really do understand how much your parrot means to you. Should something happen to you, we know that you want to make sure there is someone who will care for the bird you love. Through the Doris Johnson Peace of Mind Foundation, you can plan for the future so that in the event of your illness or death, we can give your parrot a forever home with us.

We promise that we will never put a healthy parrot to sleep.  
We promise that we will never rehome your parrot.  
We promise there will be no cost to you.

You can be assured that we will always give your parrot the love and care they need and deserve.

### **Applying to Doris Johnson Peace of Mind Foundation: your step-by-step guide.**

- 1** Please read through this information pack carefully, then complete the Foundation membership form giving us your details and the details of your Parrot(s). Please return this to us in the envelope provided in this pack.
- 2** Please consider including arrangement details in your Will so your Executor knows the details of your wishes. (Your Will is the only official document that they will refer to when dealing with your estate). As long as your wishes are clearly stated in your Will and you have included The Parrot Zoo Trust and Charity number (1162135), your Executor should have all the details they need.
- 3** Once we have confirmed your membership, we will send you a membership card; give the card provided to your solicitor/legal adviser. We will also send you a fridge magnet showing the Doris Peace of Mind Foundation contact details.
- 4** **And that is it! You can enjoy the rest of your life with your Parrot, safe in the knowledge they will be lovingly cared for in your absence.**

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## Frequently asked questions

### What happens to a Parrot after its owner dies?

If you have already written a Will and bequeathed your entire belongings to a loved one or expressed a wish for someone to care for your Parrot when you die, they are not duty-bound by law to conduct your wishes.

Your loved one could be unaware and unprepared for the responsibility particularly if you have not discussed your wishes with them, or they feel unable to provide your Parrot with the care it needs.

It is wise to have a conversation with family members or friends about looking after a much-loved Parrot. That way you can ensure your wishes – and your companion's welfare – are considered.

If you live alone, then it is also sensible to consider leaving instructions that will make friends, neighbours, or authorities aware of any Parrots you have and how to access them, should you suddenly be taken ill or die away from home. These instructions can also be supplied to the Doris Johnson Peace of Mind Foundation at the time of application.

If you have no family or friends willing or able to adopt your Parrot, there are animal charities that have schemes you can sign up to. These agreements give a charity responsibility after the death of an owner.

The Doris Johnson Peace of Mind Foundation is the only initiative that specialises in Parrot care. We also promise we will never rehome your companion.



## How do I make provision for my Parrot in my Will

If you have agreed with someone to take on responsibility for your Parrot, you can include details about any arrangements when writing your Will or add it as a Codicil to your existing Will. Although you cannot leave any money directly, or in trust, to your Parrot, you can still consider estate planning. You can include a bequest to cover the cost of upkeep and vet's bills.

A Solicitor can help you to draft this kind of clause in your Will, stating the money has been left to be used to pay for the animal's upkeep until the end of its natural life, or while it is in their care. You can leave funds for the upkeep of a Parrot in the form of a discretionary trust, a sum set aside for the care and upkeep of your Parrot. Usually, the new owner becomes the trustee responsible for administering the money during your Parrot's lifetime. You can leave instructions about to whom any money left should go to, after the death of your Parrot.

It is advisable not to name your Parrot in your Will, but simply refer to them and that you are bequeathing. This makes things simpler in the event you adopt a new Parrot after making your Will.

You may also want to add a 'letter of wishes' with instructions on how you wish your Parrot to be taken care of and details about its routine, the veterinary surgery it is registered at, and so on. You don't need a solicitor to change or add to a letter of wishes, but it's sensible to keep this alongside a copy of your Will.

## How much does a registration cost?

The Doris Johnson Peace of Mind Foundation membership is entirely free. However, the National Parrot Sanctuary would not exist without public donations, and without kind gifts left to us. That is why we ask you to consider leaving a gift in your Will, to enable us to continue our vital work caring for Parrots.

## Is there a limit to the number of Parrots you can take?

No, there is not a maximum number of Parrots. However, if you are looking to rehome more than five at once, then please contact us to discuss your requirements as capacity needs to be taken into consideration.

## What if my family offer to take my Parrot?

The Doris Johnson, Peace of Mind Foundation is there for when no other provisions have been made. If you later decide that you would prefer someone else to take care of your Parrot, please let us know.

## How long will you look after my Parrot for?

Your Parrot will stay with us forever. We promise we will never rehome them.