



**SEA LIFE Trust Cornish Seal Sanctuary  
For immediate release**



### **Cornish Seal Sanctuary seal pup waiting for flipper-saving operation**

The Cornish Seal Sanctuary has launched an urgent fundraising appeal asking its supporter to help a little seal pup named 'Leaf Cutter'.

Leaf Cutter needs a lifesaving front flipper operation which will test the Sanctuary vet's precision surgery skills. The operation is Leaf cutter's only chance of survival as she would sadly be unable to swim without a fully functioning front flipper.

Tamara Cooper comments; *"We have everything crossed for little Leaf Cutter. She needs an intricate operation on her front flipper that will see our vets try to only remove the affected bone. It's certainly not a routine operation and will put our brilliant vets through their paces. We are confident for a positive outcome and hope to see Leaf Cutter on the road to recovery very soon."*

#### **Rescue story**

Leaf Cutter was rescued from Carbis Bay by British Divers Marine life Rescue malnourished with hypoglycaemia and an obvious wound to her front flipper.

After four days at their hospital she was brought to us, and after examination by our vets they confirmed the suspicion of potential osteomyelitis in her front right flipper with a persistent puncture wound that was not healing.

The vets put her on a course of treatment but said to come back to them if the swelling was not going down.

Unfortunately, this was the case, and the Sanctuary therefore booked in for her to get an X-Ray.

This showed that she has a fractured metacarpal. After some further discussion with the vets, the Sanctuary decided to proceed with an operation to give her the best chance of survival.

The Sanctuary are hoping to raise £1000 for Leaf Cutter's operation and her ongoing rehabilitation as she learns to swim with her newly fixed flipper. Supporters can donate to the appeal via the Sanctuary's [Instagram](#) fundraiser.

#### **Support your Seal Sanctuary this February**

This appeal comes as the Cornish Seal Sanctuary launches their annual Locals' Pass to say thank you to their local supporters.

This Pass is the charity's 'thank you' to their supporters from across the region every year.

General Manager Sarah Pegg says: *“We are incredibly grateful to the support from our locals. We see family members of all ages; from babes in arms to grandparents visiting us all year round (and in all weathers!)*

*We’d love to invite local families who may have not visited since they were youngsters themselves, to come back this year and make some new memories with us.*

*This time of year is the perfect time to come and see what the Cornish Seal Sanctuary is all about, to meet the pups like Leaf Cutter who are recuperating in our seal hospital and nursery pools and say hello to our permanent residents.*

*As a charity we rely on our amazing local supporters and every visit or pass purchased goes directly into funding our vital work...We really couldn’t do it without them.*

Exclusively for residents living in TR, EX and PL postcodes, the Sanctuary’s Locals’ pass gives 30% off unlimited entry all year round, with a bonus 20% off in the onsite café and gift shop. Locals’ Passes can be purchased from the Sanctuary’s [website](#) or admissions desk, don’t forget to bring proof of address when you collect your pass.

ENDS

#### NOTES TO EDITORS

For interviews, images and more information, please contact Helene Weston (Marketing Manager) on [helene.weston@seallifetrust.com](mailto:helene.weston@seallifetrust.com) or call 01326 221361.

#### **About the Cornish Seal Sanctuary**

The SEA LIFE TRUST Cornish Seal Sanctuary is a charity that rescues and rehabilitates grey seal pups from around the Cornish coastline. Each season (September - March), the Sanctuary rehabilitates more 70 seal pups that have been rescued for various reasons, from malnourishment to being separated from their mum. Find out more [right here](#).