

'OPERATION JIMMY' Wales Osprey-Friendly Electricity Project



An unfortunate set of circumstances led to the tragedy:-

Utility - A Hazardous Medium Voltage Power Pole



with short distances between live wires + a transformer by a derelict Turnpike Cottage on A543, 3 km north of Pentrefoelas

Meteorological - bad weather

wind + rain
flushed Jimmy
on down to
the pole



Dimensions -

An Osprey has a **long 5 - 6 ft wingspan** so can easily contact live wire to ground to be electrocuted

Location - absence of perch alternatives



in these **barren tree-sparse landscapes** up on Hiraeth moor



Tragedy Struck on Mon 11th May 2015
when a ringed Osprey **Blue CU2 / Jimmy** chose a Power Pole to perch on to eat his fish only to be **Electrocuted**



An Outage left 20 homes without electricity. When Scottish Power engineers investigated they were shocked to find poor Jimmy with his talons and feathers singed, one wing completely severed off and a scorch mark of blood by his beak showed where the fatal current of electricity entered his body.. He would have died instantly of cardiac arrest.

News spread fast. Projects & thousands of news + facebook readers were devastated to hear of this sad fatal incident.



Electricity is a wonderful thing which has transformed our modern lifestyles and yet a current of electrons is so extremely dangerous. We may know the need to be careful but how can a bird? If not supplied in a bird-safe way it's a lottery of 'Do or Die'.

SNAPSHOT of Jimmy

Male Osprey
3 year old
Ringed 2012
Blue CU2
Dumfries & Galloway



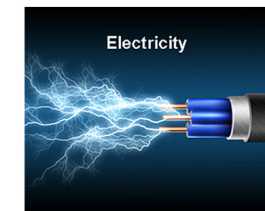
Jimmy was the first male suitor to touch down on the Glaslyn nest this spring + show interest in the female. 2 wks later he flew 25 miles north to Hiraeth moor. Many had high hopes he would stay on to establish the 5th breeding pair in Wales but sadly it wasn't to be. Having survived a long migration to Africa his life was stolen by the human made hazard of a 'Killer pole'.

'OPERATION JIMMY'

soon launched when Gail Edgley, a wildlife enthusiast, was galvanised into action, intent on doing something about it. "I couldn't believe that boiling a kettle or switching on a light could cause the death of a beautiful and rare bird."



On 29th May she met with 2 Scottish Power Managers + the engineer who found Jimmy and an inspiring Action Plan was formulated. On 30th July she met the managers again and the project is moving forward extremely well. "Our deepest hope, along with many others, is that Jimmy has not died in vain."



"Since the tragedy Scottish Power is making every effort to make their power supplies safe for Ospreys + pay something back."

"SCOTTISH POWER'S RESPONSE has been superb - immediate, heartfelt + responsible"