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X-Factor's Niki Sings The Praises Of The RSPCA

X-Factor singing star and local Birmingham lass Niki Evans, is urging people to give up a couple of hours of their time this month to help raise money for Birmingham Animal Centre during RSPCA Week.

Niki, who was born and brought up in Birmingham, was a semi-finalist in last year's popular TV show X-Factor. As well as having a talent for singing, she is also a big animal lover and supporter of the RSPCA. With the charity's biggest fundraising week of the year just around the corner – RSPCA Week from April 28th to 4th May – Niki has voiced her support and is hoping other Brummies will give up some of their spare time to help the charity.

She said: "I have two dogs, two guinea pigs, one rabbit and a budgie so I am a big animal fan! I grew up with animals and can't think of a time when there wasn't a pet in the house. I can't bear the thought of animals being harmed or neglected and that is why I am a supporter of the RSPCA and the work they do. I hope other animal lovers will consider giving up a couple of hours of their time to help such a fantastic charity during RSPCA week."

Community Fundraising Manager for Birmingham Animal Centre, Helen Tuite, is delighted that Niki has given her support to the charity. She said: "Last year during RSPCA week in Birmingham we raised almost £10,000 which was a terrific amount. This money is spent on caring for the many neglected, sick and injured animals that come into our animal centre. One collector can raise up to £50 in just two hours which is how much it costs to care for a dog here for one week, so by sparing two hours you will be making a real difference for local animals in need. We are desperate for people to help. As well as collecting outside Tesco, people can always organise their own fundraising event during the week. Even if they just raise a tenner, every little can go a long way here in helping the animals we look after!"

Volunteers for the RSPCA in Birmingham are required to collect outside Tesco stores in Hall Green, Shirley, Quinton, Edgbaston, Sheldon, Weoley Castle, Cradley Heath and New Oscott.

For further information or to volunteer please contact Helen on 07715 540 518.

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Pictures are attached of Niki at her home with her two dogs, Angus and Nala, together with Helen Tuite, Community Fundraising Manager for the RSPCA Birmingham Animal Centre. Please credit pictures to Steve Gerrard Photography. For interview requests please contact Helen Tuite on 07715 540 518.