

## My Poor Deers! Three Orphaned Bambis Rescued in England

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### Description

Three fallow deer fawns, orphaned when poachers killed their mother, are rescued by workers at a reconstructed Norman village in Stanstead, England. Deer-poaching is illegal -- and has been for centuries.

### Keywords

Deer, Fawn, Fallow, Orphan, Orphaned, Poach, Poaching, Poacher, Deer-Poaching, Hunt, Hunting, Hunter, Carcass, Restaurant, Meat, Venison, Punishment, Historical, The Lord's Deer, Stockade, Stocks, Whipping, Chop, Hands, Axe, Rescue, Bottle-Feeding, Bottle-Fed, Mountfitchet Castle, Norman Village, Reconstruction, Stansted, Norfolk, England, Justice, Criminal Justice, Animals, Bambi

### Transcript

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GLEN GOODMAN reporting:

They were found wandering, lost and bewildered in a forest in Norfolk. With their mothers' dead, they were at the mercy of the elements. But last week these baby deer were rescued and they now have a new, somewhat surreal home, in Mountfitchet Castle, a faithful recreation of a Norman village at Stansted. Jeremy Goldsmith, who runs the place, is now known simply as mom.

JEREMY GOLDSMITH: Now I actually live next to the site so I have to come out here in the middle of the night which can be a bit demanding but it's the same for anybody who's got babies I suppose they know that they have to be on call all the time. But, you know, it's so rewarding, as everybody can see, so it's a beautiful thing to be doing.

GOODMAN: When they're bigger and stronger they'll be released into the village to jostle for food with the geese, ducks and chickens, as well as the other deer, like Holly, who was herself rescued after being hit by a car when she was a fawn. The poacher who shot the mothers of these deer still hasn't been caught.

ALAN GOLDSMITH: Deer poaching is a big problem especially in the Home Counties with all the restaurants in London, these poachers go out and shoot deer. A full-grown deer is worth about 150 to 200 pounds a carcass. And then they sell them to restaurants. And of course deer only give birth one time during the year which is the end of June beginning of July. And so when the mothers have got their babies running with them they don't run so fast obviously to keep up, that's so the babies can keep up, and so they become an easy target for poachers.

GOODMAN: These days if you get caught poaching deer you might be a two and a half thousand pound fine or perhaps up to three months in prison. But back in Norman times when this castle was built they took the problem of poaching just a tad more seriously. For starters, a man out poaching might get his leg trapped in one of these. After being dragged back to the castle, a minor offender might get put in the stocks or perhaps receive a light whipping. But if you were caught poaching the Lord's deer, you can expect to have your hands or even your head chopped off. With such punishments no longer widely available, poachers continue to hunt deer to sell to restaurants. And as long as the situation continues, young deer like these will only be truly safe behind the palisade. Glen Goodman, London Tonight, Stansted.