



Orphaned ferrets rescued from patio

by Ria Nortcliffe

WILMSLOW wildlife expert Martin Turner (left) is hoping to ferret out good homes for this furry foursome.

These cute kits, or baby ferrets, are just five weeks old and had to be rescued from their nest under garden decking after their mother and sibling were found dead.

Now they are being hand reared by South Manchester Wildlife Sanctuary in Alderley Edge until they are able to find good homes. An animal lover since

boyhood Martin, has been giving wild creatures a second chance at life since becoming a full-time volunteer wildlife rehabilitator at a rescue centre in 1985. He became hospital manager before leaving to start his own sanctuary operating from his home.

Martin said: "There are three males, or hubs, and one female, known as a gil.

"They were found on Saturday by a Wilmslow resident who ripped up all his garden decking just to get to these creatures and then called me.

"If he hadn't done that and we hadn't taken them in they would have died."

He added: "I believe the ferrets are four to five weeks old because they have just opened their eyes.

Feeding

"They're now off the bottle and are feeding on powdered milk and Pedigree Chum dog food.

"They will make brilliant pets because they're now domesticated and are being handled as much as possible.

"Ideally we would prefer to rehome all four siblings together but we would be willing to let two go to one home and two to another."



A close-up of one of the ferrets