



Trustees' Annual Report & Accounts for the period

from 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020

Charity name: Home Counties Boxer Welfare

Charity registration number: 1006246

Objectives and Activities

<p>Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document</p>	<p>The stated aim of the charity is: "The relief of sick, ill-treated, neglected or rejected dogs, in particular dogs of the Boxer breed."</p> <p>Our activities include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Rehoming dogs who can no longer stay in their current homes, where necessary using a network of foster homes and kennels.2. Meeting veterinary costs for dogs both in our care and also for some who remain with their families.3. Providing behaviourist support to help dogs overcome issues which may arise from lack of training or even abusive treatment.4. Providing advice and support to boxer owners on training, health and other boxer issues; giving encouragement and confidence to help them and their dog enjoy a positive and fun relationship.5. Co-ordinating home checks and follow-up visits through a network of volunteers for potential adopters, adopting homes, fosterers and foster homes.6. Fundraising via a range of activities to financially support the charity's operational costs.7. Liaising with HCBW members through the issue of the annual 'Newslink' and the HCBW Facebook page. <p>HCBW is a breed specific rescue. We are involved only with Boxer dogs and sometimes Boxer crosses. We believe Boxers are unique and because of their distinctive behaviours and generally high energy, ensuring the dog is in the right empathetic home is very important. The knowledge within the charity gained over many years has proved invaluable in the successful rehoming of many dogs. We take care in seeking the right home for each and every dog and in the rare cases where this goes wrong or the circumstances in the new home change adversely, we are there to take the dog back into our care.</p>
<p>Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.</p>	<p>2020 was a very challenging year for everyone, and for all dogs in need of rescue help.</p> <p>We started the year with 4 dogs in long-term foster, 2 in kennels and 2 still in their original homes. During 2020 we had 21 people contacting us wanting help with their dog. Out of those, 5 have ended up staying with their owners after we offered some behavioural help and moral support. The rest have been re-homed either to people who were already on our waiting list, or to people who came forward following specific adverts on our website and Facebook page.</p>

	<p>In addition, one of our long-term foster dogs who struggled with separation anxiety, convinced his foster Mum he should stay with her permanently.</p> <p>At the year end we had 2 dogs in long term foster care and 1 dog seeking a new home but remaining with his family whilst that home was being sought.</p> <p>We provided respite care with one of our valued fosterers for a young dog whilst her owner was hospitalised.</p> <p>The introduction of lockdown in March meant that the movement of rescue dogs was only permissible for the welfare of the dog, and had to be completed by a member of the committee. We managed this situation as best we could, and were relieved when the restrictions were eased a little.</p> <p>Our highly valued foster homes again played an important role this year, stepping up at short notice and providing a safe haven for the dogs who needed urgent special care.</p> <p>Our veterinary costs continue to be a major expense, as there have been a number of dogs, this year, needing expensive vet treatment and operations. In addition, we have had a number of dogs requiring on-going veterinary treatment for pre-existing conditions, one with epilepsy and several with allergy and skin conditions. Such conditions will not be covered by any pet insurance and so HCBW make arrangements to help finance their care.</p> <p>All vet bills are covered by HCBW for our foster dogs and, where necessary, food is provided, especially if the dog requires a specific diet.</p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	<p>HCBW's paramount concern is for the welfare of our dogs. When a dog comes into our care we endeavour to assess fully before seeking a suitable home. When seeking that home, we are mindful of the abilities and expectations of potential adopters and their resident & frequent visiting families and friends. We do not rehome rescue dogs to homes with children unless we feel confident about the dog's background and history, and believe the dog and children will be able to cope.</p>
Contribution made by volunteers	<p>Our foster homes remain very special to us, and we work closely with them regarding any support they need for the care of our dogs.</p> <p>We are also indebted to the small army of volunteers across a wide swathe of the country, who home-check for us, often with little notice, and who diligently check out applicants' homes for suitability to adopt or foster. Although named Home Counties we routinely cover the Midlands down to the West Country and across to Kent and Essex from Gloucester, Worcester and occasionally Wales,</p> <p>We remain grateful to the regular sponsorships and donations made to support the running of HCBW. Members and supporters prove themselves selfless and generous, enabling us to provide the support to the dogs in our care, even during the difficult times we have all found ourselves in this year.</p>
Other	<p>During normal years HCBW organise 2 Fun Dog Shows as well as a Christmas party. Unfortunately, all of these had to be cancelled this year due to the pandemic.</p>

Achievements and Performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	<p>HCBW successfully placed 18 dogs into new, loving homes where their needs and welfare are being managed. The majority of these dogs go on to lead happy lives without the help and further support of HCBW.</p> <p>We maintain a continual connection with new families either with direct contact through the trustee or volunteer who oversaw the rehoming, and/or via update posts on our Facebook page. The welfare of HCBW's dogs is our main priority, and we will provide support wherever it is needed.</p> <p>We were able to provide support for an additional 4 dogs to remain with their loving families. This included providing short term foster care, and also behavioural support for some, as well as moral support for owners who just needed to be reassured that their dog was fine.</p>
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	<p>HCBW organised our regular dog show at Worplesdon, Guildford and at Tyttenhanger Green near St Albans but sadly both events, as well as our Christmas party, had to be cancelled.</p> <p>The cancellations meant we raised no funds from events in the year, but we continued to raise money via an on-line shop, accessed through our website, selling boxer-related merchandise, including Christmas cards and our own HCBW Calendar.</p>

Financial Review

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Financial Statement attached. Our income was boosted by the receipt of three legacies in the year totalling £8,500 which meant we had no operating loss, as was the case in all recent years.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	The charity has invested money accrued over many years, including from significant legacies in past years. The funds are held to be used by the Trustees in order to cover any costs which may occur not covered by income. Over recent years we have operated at an annual loss and the funds have been used to cover these. Readily accessible monies are held in bank and building society deposits with the larger sum held in a portfolio of funds managed by Fidelity Wealth Management, Bath.
Amount of reserves held	At 31 December 2020, monies held totalled £427,881.28
The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	<p>HCBW generates funds from adoption fees, membership subscriptions, regular sponsorship donations, one-off donations and, in normal times, events such as our fun dogs shows and Christmas party.</p> <p>We also have a portfolio of funds generating a regular return on our long-term investment.</p>
A description of the principal risks facing the charity	As the number of Boxer puppies born in the UK and registered with the Kennel Club has declined, the demand for the charity's services has seen a relative decline too. However, in the long term we expect that there will continue to be a need for the charity to continue operating.

Structure, Governance and Management

Type of governing document	HCBW is governed by a written constitution, adopted at the AGM in 2012
How is the charity constituted?	HCBW is an unincorporated charity.
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Trustees are elected from the membership at the AGM, being proposed and seconded by members. Trustees are elected, or re-elected, every year.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	Home Counties Boxer Welfare
Other name the charity uses	HCBW
Registered charity number	1006246
Charity's principal address	26 Latimer Stony Stratford Milton Keynes MK11 1HY

Names of the Charity Trustees who manage the Charity

Trustees name	Office if any	Dates acted if not the whole year
Donna Russell	Chairperson	From 15 March 2020
Karen Kerby	Secretary	
Lorraine Harvey	Treasurer	
Eleanor Barton	Chairperson	To 15 March 2020
Rosemary Westbrook		
Tracey Lowes		
Frank Armstrong		

Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	N/A
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Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Financial	Fidelius Wealth Management	Alexander House, James Street West Bath, BA1 2BT

Declarations

The Trustees declare that they have approved the Trustees' Report and Accounts above		
Signed on behalf of the HCBW Trustees		
Signature(s)	<i>Karen Kerby</i>	<i>Dr Russell</i>
Full name(s)	KAREN KERBY	DONNA RUSSELL
Position (e.g. Secretary, Chair, etc)	SECRETARY	CHAIR
Date	22/2/2021	23/2/2021



HOME COUNTIES BOXER WELFARE ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER

Income for the year	2020		2019	
Subscriptions	2020	£930.00	2019	£1,040.00
	2021	<u>£380.00</u>	2020	<u>£460.00</u>
		£1,310.00		£1,500.00
Sponsorship		£7,398.58		£7,788.06
Gift aid on Virgin Money donations		£277.50		<u>£222.50</u>
Donations for adopted dogs		£3,175.00		£5,980.00
Payments under Oldies Scheme		£1,735.00		£2,230.00
Donations including legacies received		£14,032.01		£5,952.21
Shows & rally receipts		£0.00		£1,151.62
Fundraising from Paypal Giving, Amazon, Easy Click, Give as You Live		£1,244.37		£1,265.46
HM Revenue & Customs- gift aid	2018/19&2019/20	£6,232.63		£0.00
Merchandise sales		£1,276.76		£982.38
Investment income				
Bank and building society interest receivable				
	Barclays	£27.28		£41.79
	Manchester	<u>£85.39</u>		<u>£91.92</u>
		£112.67		£133.71
Total income		<u>£36,794.52</u>		<u>£27,205.94</u>
Expenses				
Stock purchases for fund generation		£193.70		£207.00
Dog care and welfare activities				
Veterinary costs		£27,281.63		£22,831.56
Kennels charges		£5,499.75		£3,746.00
Travelling costs		£1,312.80		£3,145.49
Miscellaneous dog related expenses		£238.98		£370.11
Support costs				
Insurance		£468.60		£468.60
AGM, Shows & Rallies		£0.00		£397.08
Website and software costs		£830.99		£661.00
Printing & Stationery.		£336.26		£840.28
Newslink production		£95.80		£85.00
Miscellaneous expenses		£196.29		£57.50
Charitable donations		£0.00		£530.00
Total payments made		<u>£36,454.80</u>		<u>£33,339.62</u>
Excess of income over receipts		<u>£339.72</u>		<u>-£6,133.68</u>

Value of investments	LTI	£415,551.92		
	less transfer	-£20,000.00		
	loss on revaluation	<u>-£1,883.27</u>		
		£393,668.65		£415,551.92
Monies held				
Cash		£7.91		£5.24
Bank current account		£4,471.98		£3,019.31
Bank deposit account		£28,729.24		£10,201.96
Building society account		£17,163.02		£17,077.63
Paypal		£1,003.50		£669.29
Virgin Money		£0.00	£51,375.65	£62.50 £31,035.93
			<u>£445,384.02</u>	<u>£446,587.85</u>
Non- monetary assets				
Merchandise		£359.12		£415.57
PA system	Written down value	£75.00		£100.00



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Home Counties Boxer Welfare

On accounts for the year
ended

31st December 2020

Charity no
(if any)

1006246

Set out on page

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I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2020

Responsibilities and basis
of report

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's
statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination (other than that disclosed below *) which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

L. E. Gorsuch

Date:

26/02/2021

Name:

Louise Elizabeth Gorsuch

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body (if
any):

Address:

Woodlands Barn, Snitterfield Road, Bearley

Stratford-upon-Avon, CV37 0EX