

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES
AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2024
LEEK HOME FOR STRAYS**

LEEK HOME FOR STRAYS
INDEX TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2024

	Page
Trustees' Annual Report	1-6
Receipts and Payment Account	7
Statements of Assets and Liabilities	8
Notes to the Financial Statements	9-11
Independent Examiner's Report	12

LEEK HOME FOR STRAYS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2024

CHARITY NAME : Leek Home for Strays

CONSTITUTION OF CHARITY : Unincorporated Association

NATURE OF GOVERNING DOCUMENT : Trust Deed dated 1st March 1995

CHARITY REGISTRATION NO : 1045089

REGISTERED OFFICE : Leek Home for Strays
PO Box 4858
Uttoxeter
ST14 9DL

BANKERS : Nat West Bank Plc
Derby Street
Leek
Staffordshire

ACCOUNTANTS : Thompson Wright Limited
Chartered Accountants
Ebenezer House
Ryecroft
Newcastle
Staffs
ST5 2BE

CHARITY TRUSTEES : Date of Appointment

Andrea Bagnall	26th January 1996
Robert Duncalf	16th December 2013
Julia Turner	6th July 2021

The method of appointing Trustees is by a Resolution of a Meeting of the Trustees.

LEEK HOME FOR STRAYS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2024

The objective of the Charity by reference to its Governing Documents is as follows:-

The Trustees shall hold the capital and income of the Trust Fund upon trust to apply the income and all or such part or parts of the capital at such times in such manner as the Trustees may in their absolute discretion think fit for or towards the relief of suffering of animals of any species that are in need of care and attention and in particular to provide or maintain kennels, catteries, refuges, rescue homes, animal hospitals, sanctuaries or such other facilities for the reception and care of unwanted animals or animals in distress and the treatment of sick or ill-treated animals.

These objectives are being furthered by obtaining donations from the public in cash and clothing and goods. The goods and clothing are sold through the Charity's own two shops to generate further funding, which is considered to be an effective way of generating funds within the local community.

Funds are also kept within a savings account to gain interest. The charity has a small portfolio of properties which are rented out to bring in revenue and act as an investment.

Organisational Structure

N Pierzchalla has continued in the role of manager / administration officer / property manager. She is the named contact for the Charity Commission and is authorised to act on behalf of the Trustees.

P Faulkner (who is a qualified veterinary nurse) has continued to take on training to widen her knowledge of how the charity works so reducing the risk to the continuity of the work of the charity should N Pierzchalla become ill or need to resign. All persons paid by the Charity for work carried out are self-employed and invoice the Charity as agreed by the Trustees.

There continues to be three Trustees who attend meetings regularly. The process of publishing monthly bank account statements (with annotations) has continued from 2022 – 2023. The detail of the breakdown of financial records have developed and so increased further their understanding of expenditure.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 1993. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees have acted in regards to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission. The charity takes advice and guidance as published by the Charity Commission.

The Charity is a member of the Charity Retail Association in order to have access to additional information and support.

Although the registered name remains Leek Home for Stray Cats and Dogs the working name is now Leek Home for Strays.

LEEK HOME FOR STRAYS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2024

Summary of Main Activities

During 2023-2024 the Charity has focused on the following activities:-

- In partnership with a local Vet the charity is providing a voucher system allowing members of the public to have access to vaccination, chipping and neutering for canines and cats at a reduced cost.
- In cases of hardship the charity has been providing financial support for veterinary care. This is done on a case by case basis.
- Neutering of all cats which come into the care of the charity.
- Providing free neutering of feral cats in order to try to reduce the number of these animals within our local community.
- Liaising with other agencies such as social services to provide help for animals in distress.
- Finding new forever homes for strays and unwanted pets.

Annual Review

The Trustees met six times, during the financial year. The majority of the meetings are now carried out as 'face to face meetings. At each of these a report for each month is presented by N Pierzchalla which includes the following subheadings:

- Charity Shops and Staffing
- Overview of Finances
- Property Updates
- Animals currently in our care and homed during that month
- Health and Safety
- Other Updates

Fundraising

For 2023 – 2024 our main sources of income came from:

- shop sales at our two charity shops in Stanley Street, Leek which are run by volunteers only which ensures that running costs are kept low.
- rent from our portfolio of properties.
- cash donations from supporters.
- bequests.

For the first time the charity has a QR code so that customers can pay for items purchased in the shop using Paypal as an alternative to cash.

During this financial year the Charity received a very significant sum from the estate of a local lady totalling £18,882.43. A second bequest to the sum of £3,543.65 was received via A.H.Brooks and Co. £10,000 was also received via Bowcock and Pursaill from the estate of local gentleman.

LEEK HOME FOR STRAYS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2024

The Trustees remain very grateful for the hard work of the volunteers who work within the shop setting and to those who help with the nursing of sick animals. They also greatly appreciate the support given by the local community and beyond in terms of cash donations, items for the shops and bequests from loved ones.

The clinic and charity offer veterinary support to individual cases where the owners are unable to pay the full cost and will take on unwanted felines for rehoming through the rehoming programme alongside helping 'true stray' cats.

Investments

To reduce the risk from poor payment by tenants any new tenants for the residential houses will be sort via Open Rent to increase the rigor of financial checks. For other properties the number of month's rent required will be increased to 3 months.

The Trustees continue to invest in a bank deposit account.

They have a portfolio of properties including two shops which they use as Charity shops to raise funds through the sale of donated goods. They also own two other shops, three studio apartment flats and a terraced house which they rent out. One of the shops was empty for 4 months of the financial year but following a significant refurbishment including rewiring it is now fully rented out.

The Trustees also completed on the purchase of a new bungalow to strengthen their portfolio of investment properties. This will be a high value rental property.

Key Successes

Throughout the financial year the Charity has continued to work alongside The Leek Veterinary Clinic to provide support for neutering, vaccination and chipping via a voucher system. This system provides these services at a significantly reduced cost.

The clinic and charity also offer veterinary support to individual cases where the owners are unable to pay the full cost. During this financial year over 75 cases ranging from medical bills, neutering of farm cats and providing medication have been supported.

The Charity has also taken on unwanted felines for rehoming through the rehoming programme alongside helping 'true stray' cats. Over the year they have found new homes for over 85 animals.

The local rural community is also supported by providing free or subsidised neutering for farm and feral cats. These animals are then returned to their homes.

LEEK HOME FOR STRAYS

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2024

The administration has also:

- Reviewed and implemented new protocols linked to the provision of vouchers and veterinary support.
- Implemented new chipping protocols reflecting the change in legislation from June 2024 regarding chipping of felines.
- Implemented revised systems / protocols which are working well by improving communication with the vets and monitoring of costs and numbers of cases being supported.
- The first piece of work on the external review by Heaward Solutions has been completed.
- Ensured that by the end of the year all properties within the portfolio are rented out.

Looking forward to 2024 – 2025 the Trustees intend to:

- Review risks to the Charity
- Finish the external review of the Charity to help with future planning. Then in 2025 – 2026 to write and start to implement a short / medium and long term plan.
- Carry out significant building work on one of the shops due to ongoing issues with ventilation.
- Review of all rental properties (specifically the older lower value properties within Leek) and Charity shops to ensure that these are adding value to the work of the charity.

**LEEK HOME FOR STRAYS
TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 APRIL 2024**

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees have recently reviewed all the major risk areas faced by the charity, and systems are in place to reduce these.

These accounts comply with current statutory requirements and with the requirements of the Charity's governing document.

On Behalf of the Trustees

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A. Bagnall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped 'A' and a trailing 'l'.

Andrea Bagnall (Chair of Trustees):

Date : 21st November 2024

LEEK HOME FOR STRAYS

RECEIPT AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30th APRIL 2024

Unrestricted Funds	Notes	30.04.24 £	30.04.23 £
Receipts			
Donations	2	47,140	61,398
Shop Takings		37,227	26,465
Deposit Account Interest Received		4,757	2,562
Rental Income		34,114	26,280
Other Income - Commission/Courts		261	265
Total Receipts		<u>123,499</u>	<u>116,970</u>
Payments			
Charitable expenditure	3	99,287	85,814
Management & administration of the charity	4	2,640	2,700
Total Payments		<u>101,927</u>	<u>88,514</u>
Net Receipts / (Payments)for the Year		21,572	28,456
Cash fund brought forward at 1st May 2023		<u>976,918</u>	<u>948,462</u>
Cash fund carried forward at 30th April 2024		<u>998,490</u>	<u>976,918</u>

The notes on the following pages form part of these financial statements.

LEEK HOME FOR STRAYS

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AS AT 30 APRIL 2024

	Notes	30.04.24		30.04.23	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Fixed Assets	6		732,880		653,511
Monetary Assets					
Cash In Hand		370		370	
Paypal Account		5,350		2,063	
Bank Current Account		11,519		107,423	
Club/Societies Reserve Accounts		337,867		304,941	
		<u>355,106</u>		<u>414,797</u>	
Liabilities					
Accountancy Fees & Accruals	5	4,772		6,666	
		<u>4,772</u>		<u>6,666</u>	
Net Assets			350,334		408,131
Total assets less liabilities			<u><u>1,083,214</u></u>		<u><u>1,061,642</u></u>

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 21st November 2024 and signed on its behalf by
Andrea Bagnall - Chair of Trustee's

A Bagnall

The notes on the following pages form part of these accounts.

LEEK HOME FOR STRAYS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2024

1 ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting Convention

The accounts have been prepared on the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005)', issued in March 2005, applicable accounting standards and the Charities Act 2011.

Income from Donations and Shop Takings

2 <u>DONATIONS</u>	30.04.24 £	30.04.23 £
Various Donations	47,140	61,398
	<u>47,140</u>	<u>61,398</u>

3 CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE

	30.04.24 £	30.04.23 £
Rent and Rates	546	274
Animal Upkeep	32,407	31,857
Veterinary Fees	15,802	12,286
Heat, Light & Water	1,689	1,036
Sundries	3,573	3,048
Telephone	1,113	971
Repairs and Renewals	4,766	1,468
Postage, Stationery & Advertising	2,788	2,095
Motor	2,496	2,096
Bank Charges	516	412
Legal and professional	2,515	701
Insurance	1,079	2,486
Animal Welfare	14,159	10,310
Administration	4,300	3,080
Loss on disposals of assets	-	-
Depreciation on assets	11,538	13,694
	<u>99,287</u>	<u>85,814</u>

4 MANAGEMENT & ADMINISTRATION OF THE CHARITY

	30.04.24 £	30.04.23 £
Accountancy	<u>2,640</u>	<u>2,700</u>

LEEK HOME FOR STRAYS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2024

5 Liabilities

	<u>30.04.24</u>	<u>30.04.23</u>
	£	£
Monies owed to consultant	-	-
Accountancy	2,640	2,520
Accrued Invoices	2,132	4,146
	<u>4,772</u>	<u>6,666</u>

6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Computer Equipment £	Security Equipment £	Fixtures & Fittings £	15 Stanley Street £	18 Westview
Cost as at 01.05.23	1,324	6,632	17,660	115,000	120,000
Additions	-	-	-	-	-
Depreciation	849	4,131	9,909	-	-
Cost as at 30.04.24	<u>475</u>	<u>2,501</u>	<u>7,751</u>	<u>115,000</u>	<u>120,000</u>

	Land, 16a 16b & 18 Stanley Street £	Improvement to Property £	Motor Fiat Qudo £	<u>33 Reddie Close</u> £	Total £
Cost as at 01.05.23	225,000	110,556	4,987	118,232	719,391
Additions	-	-	-	90,907	90,907
Depreciation	-	58,429	4,100	-	77,418
Cost as at 30.04.24	<u>225,000</u>	<u>52,127</u>	<u>887</u>	<u>209,139</u>	<u>732,880</u>

LEEK HOME FOR STRAYS

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

YEAR ENDED 30TH APRIL 2024

7 ACCOUNTANCY FEES

These are costs relating to the preparation of the accounts and the independent examiner's report.

LEEK HOME FOR STRAYS

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Leek Home for Strays

I report on the accounts of Leek Home for Strays for the year ended 30th April 2024, which are set out on pages 7 to 11.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:-

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act.

have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



D Wright
Chartered Accountant
Director, Thompson Wright Limited
Chartered Accountants
Ebenezer House
Ryecroft
Newcastle-under-Lyme
Staffordshire ST5 2BE

Date: 21st November 2024