



2024 - 2025 TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

CAT CHAT, the Cat Rescue Resource

Registered Charity no 1100649

Address: PO Box 358, Ramsgate, Kent, CT12 6YP

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT for the financial year 8.6.24 - 7.6.25

THE CHARITY'S OBJECTIVES ARE:

1. To promote the efficiency and effectiveness of charities whose purposes are to promote animal welfare, by the provision of an internet website, IT support and facilities.
2. To advance the education of the public in matters of animal welfare by the provision of a website and information service.

Public Benefit Statement

Cat Chat is committed to assisting members of the public in all matters relating to cats, cat rescue and cat welfare, and the advancement of public education through our website information, help desk, social media pages, and via our qualified advisors. The Charity's Trustees confirm their due regard to the public benefit guidelines published by the Charity Commission.

Specific services offered by Cat Chat for the benefit of the public are:

1. A comprehensive area-by-area database of cat rescue and rehoming facilities in the UK and Ireland.
2. Provision of a public database of cats needing homes, searchable by county / town / shelter.
3. Advice and information pages e.g. health & behaviour, lost & found, neutering, fostering, rehoming. Other cat-related articles are provided on our Blog.
4. Veterinary advice; our qualified volunteer veterinary advisor assists the public via email with specific (non-urgent) advice.
5. Helpdesk: our email help desk volunteers provide advice to the public on all other cat related issues.
6. We maintain active social media pages, enabling the provision and exchange of advice and information on a wide range of cat related topics.
7. A web-links directory covering pet help & services, pet health & behaviour, pet care, plus an A - Z of rescue organisations helping a wide variety of animals.

"After advertising Gingy & Oscar on your overlooked pages, they have now been rehomed. Thank you so much - you do an amazing job!"

MogsnDogs, Cambridge

CAT CHAT 2024-2025 ANNUAL REVIEW

Introduction

The financial year June 2024 - June 2025 included an important milestone for Cat Chat as the second half of this period coincided with the Charity's 25th Anniversary.

It has been a remarkable journey for Cat Chat. Launched in 2000 as one of the earliest, if not the first, of the UK's online cat rescue websites, it became a Registered Charity in 2003. The years that followed have seen Cat Chat attain a unique and respected position across the homing sector, and beyond, as the key support platform for hundreds of rescue centres and thousands of cats. The Trustees congratulate Founders, Mandy Cotter and Steve Wise, as well as the Cat Chat team and all the volunteers, as the Charity marks this major achievement.

Cat Chat will celebrate 25 years with the launch of its new website in the autumn of 2025. A huge undertaking for the team, working in partnership with web designers Footsteps Design Ltd of Colchester. The new site will offer top level access and showcasing for shelters, their cats and all the potential adopters - further reinforcing the charity's mission statement - Helping Cats out of Shelters into Homes.

2024-2025

The challenges facing Cat Chat during the financial year 2024-2025 remained demanding with, once again, the Help Desk dealing with high levels of enquiries. Pet owners and rescue centres alike continued to battle against rising living costs. Sadly, for some, this resulted in more cats than ever being given up to shelters, or worse, simply abandoned. The increased cost of vet care was also noted as a key contributor to this situation - and is an area currently under scrutiny by the UK's Competitions and Marketing Authority, which is due to report later in 2025.

In this landscape, Cat Chat remained determined to continue its services, offering advice and assistance to as many cat owners and shelters that need its help.



As always Cat Chat looks ahead. We never lose sight of our vision statement...

“ To Help Cats Out of Shelters into Homes ,,

Finances

Trustees of Cat Chat are pleased to report that the Charity's finances remain in good order at the end of the financial year 2024-2025 and acknowledge, once again, the careful management of resources. For a further year, the charity's main expenditure was the funding of the development of the new website.

Trustees remained supportive of this project, which is fully funded, and is critical to the charity's future.

Funding Sources

Cat Chat specially appreciates the continuing support from our regular donors, headed by the Friends of Cat Chat.

The charity also remains grateful to its loyal sponsors for their ongoing support which is a lifeline for Cat Chat: Burns Pet Nutrition, The Cat Butler, The Cat Gallery, CEVA Animal Health (Feliway), Erin House, FindPetBoarding, Kitty Collars, Pets Reunited, Protectapet and Tippaws.

Special thanks must also go to The Cat Gallery in York whose customers, and owners - Peter and Alison - have supported Cat Chat for over 20 years as one of their special 'Chosen Charities'.

Other funding sources in 2024-2025 include further kind legacies plus donations made via Charities Aid Foundation (CAF), Easyfundraising, eBay for Charity and other similar portals.

Governance

Governing Document: Constitution date 29 October 2003.

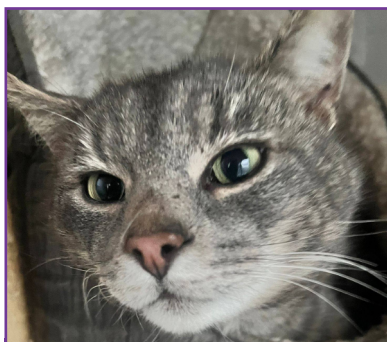
At the 2023-2024 AGM Mrs Maureen Bull, a Trustee for 16 years stood down from the Board. The Chair, fellow Trustees and Charity Founders thanked Mrs Bull for her service and were pleased to note that she remains with the charity as a volunteer.

For the financial year 2024-25 Cat Chat was led by a Board of six Trustees, who held five meetings plus the AGM.

Patrons

Sir Roger and Lady Gale and Bagpuss, represented by the Postgate family.

Cat Chat is especially grateful to Sir Roger and Lady Gale for their continuing generosity in standing as the Charity's Patrons. Sir Roger became a Patron in 2003 and Lady Gale in 2013. Our gratitude also to the Postgate Family, representing Bagpuss who also became a patron in 2003 at the special request of his creator, the late Oliver Postgate.



Cupid

Cupid came to CAFO Rescue, Crewe as an injured stray, with various fight wounds, and was also found to be FIV positive.

Once neutered and cared for, Cupid transformed into an affectionate cuddle-bug, and found an amazing home after being spotted on Cat Chat.

Champions

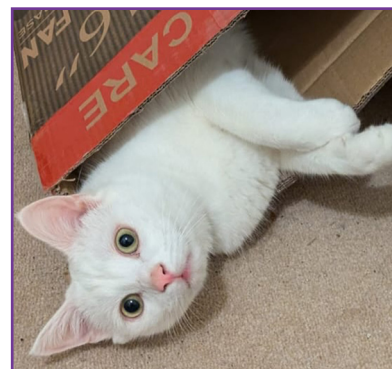
Cat Chat would like to acknowledge the following people who have kindly championed the work of the charity over recent years. Ian Anderson, Tom Cox, Vicky Halls, Susan Hampshire, Sir David Jason, Suzi Perry and Dr Pete Wedderburn.

Partnerships

Cat Chat is especially grateful for the support of two organisations which have partnered with the Charity for a number of years:

The partnership with **Blush.net** is now in its fifth year and Cat Chat remains very grateful to the Blush team for all their assistance. Over this period they have generously managed the effectiveness and reach of Cat Chat's Google Ads campaigns. As an online charity, the importance of this assistance cannot be underestimated.

Cat Chat's partnership with **Radio Caroline** started back in 2018 and since then the station has been a generous collaborator. The Caroline team have helped Cat Chat with the creation of radio ads, donated additional air time and, above all, kept the rehoming message on air to their thousands of listeners. Cat Chat is enormously grateful to the station for its ongoing support and help.



Jeff

Jeff had already had two homes when he found himself at Feline Rescue, Luton. He is loving and friendly and is totally deaf. Jeff got his 'third time lucky' when he was adopted by a family who found him on Cat Chat, and is now living his best life!

Animal Welfare Community

Collaborations across the Animal Welfare Community remain vitally important and Cat Chat greatly values these, which have continued throughout 2024-2025.

"Layla our beautiful three legged black cat now has a wonderful home, thanks to your overlooked cats section! What you're doing is brilliant."

Cat Welfare
Wisbech





Rosie

Rosie is a gorgeous, friendly lady, but aged 14 and with hyperthyroidism, she needed an especially caring home. Her rescuers, Cats Protection Chiltern branch told us: "You absolute miracle workers! Rosie was adopted after being spotted on Cat Chat."

"With your help we have found five star loving homes for about 800 rescue cats and kittens. Thank you all."

*Mitzi's Kitty Corner
Totnes*



Robbie

Robbie had been living rough, and needed trapping as he was so wild and scared. Months of trust building at Lancashire Paws Cat Rescue, Bolton, revealed a humble boy who really appreciates his new life of comfort. Robbie was seen on Cat Chat by his fantastic new owners, who love him dearly.

"Great news; both Osha & Bluebell found a new home together thanks to cat chat."

Thanks for all you do for us and cat rescues throughout the UK"

*Lucky Cat Rescue
Skegness*

2024-2025 Statistics

Shelters, Visitors, Followers

600,590

Monthly number of website pages viewed (average)

1,113

Shelters listed on our public database

467

Active individual shelter's homing pages

12,000

Facebook followers (at year end)

3,158

X (was Twitter) followers (at year end)

1,589

Instagram followers (at year end)

Admin, Volunteers, Trustees, Patrons

3

Staff (part-time)

20

Full Volunteers (excl. trustees & staff)

6

Trustees

3

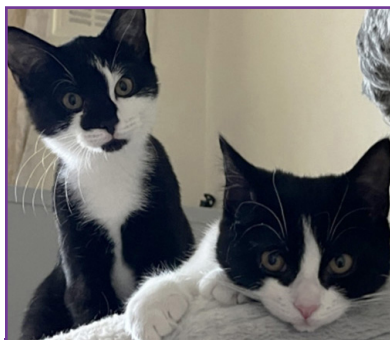
Patrons

"Many thanks to everybody at Catchat for all your help and support to us all. It is because of you that we in this small rescue, along with so many others of all sizes, are able to find great homes for many precious cats."

*Lancashire Paws
Bolton*

"Matilda has found a wonderful home after being spotted on Cat Chat. She had an awful start in life but thanks to Cat Chat she will now be loved as she deserves."

Maesteg Animal Welfare Society



Martyn & Morven

Martyn & Morven were taken to 8 Lives Cat Rescue, Sheffield along with their stray mum when they were barely 24 hours old. Mum ran into someone's house one rainy night and gave birth in their cellar! These devoted siblings were happily homed together after being seen on Cat Chat.

"We are thrilled to report that 18 year old Shadow found her perfect new home via Cat Chat! Thank you for making this possible."

*Twilight Cats
Worcester*



Liz Hurley

Liz Hurley arrived at Cramar Cat Rescue & Sanctuary, Birmingham as an un-neutered stray, with a badly broken leg and pelvis. Once recovered, Liz kept getting passed by for adoption, becoming the longest stay cat at the rescue. Happily, she found her ideal home after being seen on Cat Chat's 'Overlooked' section.

"Lilly was rehomed due to her new mum seeing her on cat chat. Thank you once again for your wonderful website."

Royston Animal Welfare

Patrons:

Sir Roger Gale MP, Lady Suzy Gale, and the Postgate Family representing Bagpuss.

Trustees:

Mrs M Ovens (Chair) (appointed 13.12.05)
Ramsgate, Kent

Mrs J Love-Hinsley FCCA (Treasurer) (appointed 13.12.05) Herne Bay, Kent

Miss M P Cotter (Co-Founder)
(founded 08.06.00 / trustee from charity registration 12.11.03) Ramsgate, Kent

Mr S L Wise (Co-Founder)
(founded 08.06.00 / trustee from charity registration 12.11.03) Ramsgate, Kent

Mrs A James (appointed 13.05.08)
Whitstable, Kent

Ms L Mahmood
(Social Media Co-ordinator)
(appointed 03.12.14)
Staplehurst, Kent

Accountant/Treasurer

Mrs J Love-Hinsley FCCA
Herne Bay, Kent

Independent Accounts Scrutineer

Ms Z Tudor CIMA
Ramsgate, Kent

The Trustees declare this to be an accurate report of the activities of Cat Chat for the financial year ended 7 June 2025.

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE CHARITY'S TRUSTEES

MRS. M. OVENS (CHAIR)

..... DATE.....

MRS J. LOVE-HINSLEY (TREASURER)

..... DATE.....



*"I would like to commend to you, my friends, this most feline website:
www.catchat.org
where they will help you to find a cat-friend, if you are a person, or a person-friend, if you are a cat."*

Bagpuss (Cat Chat Patron)

Cat Chat, the Cat Rescue Resource
Registered Charity no. 1100649
Website: www.catchat.org

Cat Chat - Registered Charity No: 1100649
Income and Expenditure Account for the Year Ended 7th June 2025

	£	£
Income		
Advertising/Sponsorship		2,375.00
Profit on Sale of Merchandise	841.10	
Donations	18,648.49	
Legacy Donations	24,523.72	
Total Donations		43,172.21
Bank Interest Received	579.36	
Total Income		46,967.67
Less Expenditure		
Wages, National Insurance and Pension		38,140.89
Website and Charity Development		32,253.00
Telephone		445.00
Donations		0
Advertising & Sponsorship		1,798.91
Internet and Webserver		13,310.12
Postage, Printing & Stationery		1,855.19
Travel Expenses		153.03
Consultancy and Professional Fees		0
Equipment/Repairs and Maintenance		0
Software Fees		1,677.62
Insurance Costs		353.55
Emergency Vet Fund		0
Paypal/Bank Charges		242.63

General Expenses	100.00
	90,329.94
Depreciation of Equipment	1,185.56
	91,515.50
Profit for the Year	-44,547.83

Cat Chat Registered No: 1100649
Balance Sheet as at 7th June 2025

	£	£
Fixed Assets		
Office Equipment	At Cost	9,352.70
		9,352.70
Less Depreciation to Date		6,172.55
		6,172.55
		3,180.15
Current Assets		
Stock of Merchandise		1,184.25
Balance at Bank		127,306.49
Cash in Hand		37.67
Sundry Debtors		529.20
		129,057.61
Less Current Liabilities		
Sundry Creditors		327.92
		128,729.69
		131,909.84
Capital Account		
Capital Account		176,457.67
Profit for the year		-44,547.83
		131,909.84



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees

Charity Name

Cat Chat

On accounts for the year
ended

07/06/2025

Charity no
(if any)

1100649

Set out on pages

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD/MM/YYYY.

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

[The charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 and I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of [insert name of applicable listed body]]. Delete [] if not applicable.

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.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

18/01/2026

Name:

Zoe Tudor

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body

CIMA

(if any):

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Address:

29 Canterbury Road East
Ramsgate
Kent CT11 0JX

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.

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