

COCKER AND ENGLISH SPRINGER SPANIEL RESCUE

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

Registered Charity Number 1137589

The Trustees' report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024

CHARITY'S PRINCIPAL ADDRESS

The address of the Charity Secretary is:

C/o Old Mother Redcap

Duddon

Tarporley

Cheshire

CW6 OEL

OBJECTIVES

The Rescue was set up in March 2010 with the aims of:

- Putting in place a network of volunteers and supporting procedures to facilitate the rehoming and rescue of Cocker and English Springer Spaniels.
- Where necessary, providing veterinary and training support for the dogs placed in our care.
- Providing on-going support for veterinary care where necessary in order to facilitate the rehoming of elderly or infirm dogs.
- Where appropriate, encouraging responsible owners to persevere with their problem dogs by providing information, advice, support and guidance.
- CAESSR was set up by John and Pat Powell and Ian and Di Harrison.

ADVISERS

The principal advisers of the charity are:

Banker

The Co-operative Bank

P.O. Box 250

Skelmersdale

Lancashire

WNB 6WT

Charity Setup

Clive Denny IP, F.C.A.

14 Rue des Primeveres,

66180 Villeneuve de la Raho

France

clivedenny@aol.com

TRUSTEES AND GOVERNANCE

Cocker And English Springer Spaniel Rescue (CAESSR) is governed by its constitution that was adopted on 11th June 2010.

The Rescue became a Charity on 26th August 2010 and the trustees from that date are listed below:

Name	Position	(Re)Appointed	Resigned
John Powell	Chairman	16:01:2022	
Ian Harrison	Secretary	29:03:2024	
Pat Powell	Treasurer	26:08:2015	23:12:2015 (Dec'd)
Diana Harrison	Homing Officer	15:01:2023	
Lisa Guthrie	Treasurer	29:03:2024	
Emma Downing	Trustee	15:01:2023	

ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

CAESSR was initially set up to cover the Midlands, however, with our growing band of helpers, we are now able to re-home Cockers and Springers to most parts of the country.

Our main base is in Staffordshire. We use Hardiwick Kennels, which is a private Boarding Kennels. We have a block set aside for CAESSR dogs with an excellent staff member, who works closely with all the dogs and gets to know them. Most of our dogs are taken into these kennels for assessment before they are rehomed. All dogs with health problems are given any necessary veterinary treatment prior to rehoming.

During CAESSR's 14th year, we rehomed 47 new dogs plus one dog from a previous year who needed to be rehomed again. We had 4 dogs still awaiting homes in kennels on 1st April 2024. During the year, 3 dogs were P.T.S. Two due to aggression issues and one elderly Springer with no quality of life. Our statistics for the year show that the average number of days each dog spent at kennels rose from 31 days to 46 days.

At the beginning of the year we had very little help at kennels and the kennels were extremely busy with boarders. Accessing some of the more difficult dogs and giving them some behavioural help to prepare them to be rehomed successfully was difficult. Getting dogs to the vets for health checks and treatment was also difficult due to the lack of volunteer help and the availability of appointments. Our finances were also hit with the expensive veterinary treatment needed by a puppy needing heart surgery. Also, two dogs needing costly dental treatment and two needing eye surgery.

All trustees and volunteers of the charity are unpaid helpers. Out of pocket expenses are paid to trustees and volunteers but in many cases these expenses are not reclaimed.

DOG CARE

The Homing Officer works closely with the Chairman. Diana Harrison is largely responsible for the matching process to ensure each dog gets the right home. John Powell handles the home vetting of prospective new owners. They handle spaniel adoption and general enquiries received by the charity.

Mandy at Hardiwick Kennels can provide basic grooming. Some of the dogs that come to us are in such a mess we don't have any choice as we couldn't rehome them without being groomed.

In May Emma Downing appealed via Facebook for volunteers living close to the Kennels to become dog walkers for CAESSR. We had a good response and a reliable team was built. Some volunteers started to help take the dogs for Veterinary appointments. John Powell still attended Kennels to supervise adoptions. In January Emma started to help Diana Harrison with the matching of dogs to new homes.

VOLUNTEERS

The charity is still more than ever reliant on volunteers to help with the work of CAESSR e.g. vetting new homes and helping with transport.

WORKING WITH OTHER CHARITIES

We have established a good working relationship with many other dog rescue centres, sharing home checkers. We especially value our contacts with English Springer Spaniel Welfare. We have also made contact with a new Spaniel Rescue where one of the Trustees is a previous CAESSR adopter. We work closely with the City Dogs home in Stoke-on-Trent, who approach us to take unwanted and stray Spaniels that they can't rehome and shouldn't be destroyed.

ADMINISTRATION AND ACCOUNTING

Accounts for the year 2023/24 have been completed by Lisa Guthrie and independently verified by William Thompson. This year we have continued to feel the effects of the national cost of living crisis seeing Veterinary fees reach an all-time high in the UK. We had a number of dogs which required major surgeries/operations upon having their health assessments. These really impacted our veterinary fee expenses and this has eaten away our current reserves. The charity ended the year with a deficit of -£13,394.11 (income £40,992.08 and Expenditure £54,386.19). This left total assets carried forward and ending balance for the year of just £2,617.26 of unrestricted funds, to be carried forward into the new fiscal year.

We aim to hold a minimum reserves level of £5,000, these funds are held to cover a minimum of a month's operational costs in the event of a loss of income, two months foster dog cover and to meet any unforeseen expenditure that may occur. This year, we experienced significant veterinary bills which ate into our reserves, bringing it below the minimum. We ran an Emergency Appeal for donations on 28/03/24 and conducted a 'going concern' evaluation 3 weeks later once we had the results of the appeal. We received an amazing response, our supporters donated over £12,000, which falls into the new fiscal year. We have also appointed a new fundraising team and made enquiries in the likely hood of securing grant funding to assist with the veterinary costs. Therefore, we concluded that it was appropriate to continue to adopt a going concern basis in preparing the financial statements which assumes that the charity will continue in operation for the foreseeable future. To bolster the reserves further, the Trustees have secured a grant to help with the Veterinary fees, receiving a further £3,500 within the new year. Veterinary charges will continue to be reviewed by Trustees each month and any large cases will be promoted via JustGiving and social media to help ensure costs are recovered, where possible.

Our main source of funds for 2023/24 has been through Adoption and general donations from our supporters. We use these funds to cover rehabilitation costs for the dogs in our care. The majority of income is applied to Veterinary treatment for the dogs in our care and kennelling fees.

The secretary for the charity undertakes all statutory issues relating to the charity. He also maintains the Charity's website and submits any Gift Aid claims.

PUBLICITY

Facebook continues to grow in popularity and is a great resource to show the dogs we are anxious to rehome and brings in many donations and new volunteers.

FUNDRAISING AND FUTURE PLANS

In this our fourteenth year, funds have been raised mainly by donation, Gift Aid and sponsored events held by supporters. We produced and sold a 2024 calendar and Christmas Cards, orders handled by Emma Downing. Very popular are sponsored events through the 'Just Giving' facility. Our Sponsor-a-Spaniel scheme is also being managed by Emma and we are looking to expand our fund raising.

The coming year we will be focusing on attainment of grant funding to assist the Charity with high veterinary costs. We will be adopting a new policy of pre-screening dogs before they arrive, to help budget/plan for the costings.

ACTION PLAN FOR THE RECOVERY OF CAESSR

Since April 2024 after observations made by the Independent Examiner, CAESSR is now recovering well from the impact on our finances with the balances returning to pre-Covid levels. The financial help from our supporters and adopters has resulted in new regular

donations. The hard work of our new team has resulted in new fund raising ideas and action.

The new volunteer work at the kennels has had the effect of increasing the number of dogs being rehomed, hence more adoption/surrender donations have been received and the time each dog spends in kennels has helped to bring down the kennel bills.

The founder Trustees are advancing in years and are passing their skills on to the new younger team who are keen to take the Charity into the future. 2025 will be crucial to see if they are able to manage.

SIGNATURE AND DECLARATION

I declare in my capacity of charity trustee that the trustees have approved the report above and have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.

Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ian K. Harrison". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'K' and a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Ian Harrison

ACCOUNT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Incoming Resources			
Donations and Gifts	2	28,392.19	31,618.31
Other income	3	12,599.89	9,764.64
Total Incoming Resources		40,992.08	41,382.95
Resources Expended			
Direct Charitable Expenses	4	50,536.15	46,883.36
Fundraising and Publicity	5	1,807.92	1,687.08
Management and Administration	6	2,042.12	1,898.15
Total Resources Expended		54,386.19	50,468.59
NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES FOR THE YEAR			
Net Movement in funds during the period	-	13,394.11	- 9,085.64
Balance brought forward at 1 April 2023		16,011.37	25,097.01
Balance carried forward at 31 March 2024		2,617.26	16,011.37

All the funds accumulated are classified as unrestricted

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention and on a receipts and payments basis.

	2024	2023
	£	£
2. DONATIONS AND GIFTS		
Adoption donations	14,040.00	11,470.00
Surrender donations	1,300.00	1,885.00
Other donations and gifts	10,271.69	12,109.54
Gift Aid	2,780.50	6,153.77
Legacies	-	-
	28,392.19	31,618.31
3. OTHER INCOME		
Bank Interest/commision	9,101.14	6,771.64
Calendar/cards/promotional sales	3,498.75	2,993.00
Fundraise stamps	-	-
	12,599.89	9,764.64
4. DIRECT CHARITABLE EXPENDITURE		
Veterinary Fees	33,622.56	31,218.31
Kennels	16,704.00	15,625.90
Training	-	-
Dog Food	209.59	-
Goodwill payments	-	39.15
Microchip supplies	-	-
Grooming costs	-	-
	50,536.15	46,883.36
5. FUNDRAISING AND PUBLICITY		
Newsletter and Calender postage	424.02	389.28
Calendar/Car sticker printing	1,383.90	1,297.80
Promotional items	-	-
Event costs / equipment	-	-
	1,807.92	1,687.08
6. MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION		
Website / Software	-	-
Stationery & Printing	384.33	239.20
Insurance	301.98	521.33
Transport	717.65	513.90
Sundry Expenses	9.99	0.10
Bank/Pay Pal/Just Giving Charges	600.88	572.70
Legal	-	-
Post	27.29	51.12
Security	-	-
	2,042.12	1,898.15

There are no wages costs as all personal services to the charity are carried out on a voluntary basis

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AS AT 31 MARCH 2024



CURRENT ASSETS	£
Cash at Co-Op Bank (Statement as at 31st March 2024)	2,079.63
Funds to be Banked	537.63
Less Cheques to be presented	0.00
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>2,617.26</u>

REPRESENTED BY:

FUNDS

Unrestricted	<u>2,617.26</u>
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Approved by the Board of Trustees on 23/01/2025 and signed on its behalf by

	Ian Harrison, Secretary	Ian Harrison, Secretary
	Lisa Guthrie, Treasurer	Lisa Guthrie, Treasurer

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of

"Cocker and English Springer Spaniel Rescue".

We report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st March 2024, which are set out on pages 1 to 4.

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 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the 1993 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is our responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 43 of the 1993 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 43 (7)(b) of the 1993 Act; and
- to state whether particular matters have come to our attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

Our 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 a full 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 our examination no matter has come to our attention, which gives us reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 41 of the 1993 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 1993 Act

have not been met.



Name: W J Thompson

Relevant professional qualification or body: BSc, FCMA, GCMA

Address: 30 Rowley Hall Drive, Stafford, ST17 9FF

Date: 24th January, 2025