

**RIDGEBACK RESCUE  
TRUSTEES' REPORT, EXAMINER'S REPORT  
PROFIT & LOSS AND BALANCE SHEET  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

Footprints Accountancy Ltd

CIMA

24 Gander Lane  
Barlborough  
Chesterfield  
S43 4PZ



**RIDGEBACK RESCUE  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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**RIDGEBACK RESCUE  
TRUSTEES' REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2023.

**Introduction**

The details as set out below are those required by the Charities Commission.

**Legal Status**

Ridgeback Rescue (formerly The Midlands & Northern Ridgeback Support & Rescue Trust) is constituted by a deed of Trust, and is registered as charity number 1146704.

**Trustees**

Ms Julie Robinson  
Mr Kevin Blackwell  
Mrs Kerry Rhodes  
Mr Tyler Rhodes  
Mrs Sheridan Gray  
Ms Helen Crowe  
Mrs Lisa Edwards

All trustees have acted for the entirety of the financial year.

**Objectives of Ridgeback Rescue**

The objectives of the charity are to provide appropriate care, protection, treatment, security and support for Rhodesian Ridgebacks; to relieve suffering and distress where necessary to find suitable permanent new homes for such animals; and to educate and advise both Rhodesian Ridgeback owners and the wider public in matters pertaining to the health, welfare and the prevention of cruelty and suffering of these dogs.

**Organisation**

The management of the charity is under the control of the trustees. The trustees shall have power to deal with any matters not covered by the charity's rules.



**RIDGEBACK RESCUE**  
**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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**Review of Developments, Activities & Achievements**

For the most part, the memory of the Pandemic is beginning to fade ... sadly, the ramifications of decisions that were made during that time are as stark as ever. The war in Ukraine continues to play out meaning the cost of living due to various extenuating circumstances has rippled throughout the country.

Bills have gone up for everything and this certainly includes dog food, veterinary expenditure and insurance. This combination of a rise in prices on the already strapped members of the public, together with the number of dogs purchased by people with little notion of HOW to rear a hound has now come home to roost as they find themselves in ownership of a rowdy teenage dog with power and no manners or training. This has resulted in an enormous leap in the number of dogs coming through our doors to be rehomed and those requiring behavioural training before going to their new home.

After seeing so little need for kennelling over the last financial year, we continued our policy of NOT renting kennel space annually; favouring instead an approach of paying for any kennelling from private organisations (who have Ridgeback experience) as and when it was needed. This decision has paid dividends and saved us paying out an enormous amount of "empty cash" throughout the course of 2023. However, we did have a rather unexpected expense when a female Ridgeback we took in (Lulu) turned out to be very newly pregnant and by the time we were made aware of the situation, there was little that could be done other than to keep her comfortable until the puppies arrived. Obviously, with Ridgebacks carrying such huge litters, the amount of care from the kennel staff including time, feeding, cleaning etc was quite a full workload and meant the mother and her 9 puppies needing board and lodgings for 8 weeks before they could be rehomed. This unexpected outlay was on top of what we could reasonably expect in the kennelling department. Our outgoings for kennelling were: £7938

With so many dogs/owners requiring direction and guidance on how to implement training and correct behavioural inadequacies, we are so grateful to be able to continue to use the "in house" skills of Lisa Edwards, one of our Trustees, who is a qualified behaviourist. Lisa takes the lead on all complex assessments.

As last year, our fundraising during this financial period has encompassed auctions, sponsored events and a huge return from the carefully selected products we have chosen to stock in our online shop. Our range is constantly being updated and we now have more choice than ever before. Dogmatic head-collars have always gone down very well with our supporters and although there had been difficulty in acquiring these last year, we are delighted that they are now back on our shelves and just as popular as ever they were. Our outgoing expenses for merchandise this year were: £11238

This year, after much careful planning, we were really excited to be able to run our enormously popular fun day. Having had to postpone due to Covid restrictions for the last couple of years, we did spend a great deal of time and effort discussing how to ensure that this year would be bigger and better than ever before. We contacted many pet related shops and also various artisan sellers and specialists to garner as many top-quality donations as possible to give our supporters a wonderful array of prizes at next year's show. The 2023 venue was secured and booked, new advertising signage was designed and created to ensure as many people would be able to find us as possible.

Sadly, our Patron, Yorkshire Vet Julian Norton was unable to attend as planned this year and we can't really blame him after him keeping two dates free for us over the last couple of years and both times being "stood down" at the last minute. Hopefully, for our coming fun days he will be available to help us boost the interest. We did, however, have the very kind offer for this year the "use" of Bargain Hunt TV presenter and antiques expert Caroline Hawley's ex Footballer husband! John Hawley was a very well-known local football star in a past life and in his new incarnation of auctioneer, was a great addition to our day. He drummed up an enormous amount of bids and sales due to his cheeky banter and everybody thoroughly enjoyed the buzz of bidding which brought us in a lovely total. Caroline herself has also kindly agreed to come along to our Fun Day in 2024 to run the auction and drum up more publicity and funds.



**RIDGEBACK RESCUE  
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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Our largest outgoings for the year were enabling us to purchase merchandise but, as above, this was an outgoing well worth spending as it has recouped much more than we have spent. We have had much less expenditure with our vet bills this which really has been a blessing. Our outgoings for veterinary care, medicine and medical procedures was £8073

There have been many things that have resulted in the number of dogs coming through our doors skyrocketing. Never has the need to support them been more vital – and more costly too. The cost of living really is ramping up with many people finding they are making a choice between heating and eating ... obviously with things so serious the family dog is often the only fat left to trim, and that's where we have had to pick up the slack.

Many people are finding that they simply cannot afford to feed their dogs and pay for their veterinary care when everything else is already so much more expensive. In several cases people who were previously working from home have now found themselves back in the office and this has resulted in many dogs being left for an unsatisfactory length of time while they wait for their owners to return. Sometimes, this is at best just not appropriate but at worst the dogs are suffering with extreme separation anxiety and destroying the family home. Dogs who have never been alone are suddenly being thrust into a world of 10 or 12 hour days of solitude the like of which they are simply not equipped to deal with. When this happens, and with no other alternative, owners are reluctantly realising that keeping their four-legged friend is no longer an option and really just not in best interests of the dog's welfare. We are just glad we are here as a safety net. Rescue is not a world for the faint hearted. The number of people seeking help, advice or support for their dogs through our charity was 121. The number of dogs being surrendered to us this year was 60.

Finally, I would like to thank our incredible Trustees who are not immune from the daily stresses, the need to return to the office and indeed the cost of living as either. Each one of our volunteers has stepped up when called upon and provided an experienced, knowledgeable and altruistic network for those who have really come to depend upon us. I don't know where I'd find another such band of happy campers!

As last year, and against all predications and expectations when compared to the overall state of our country, our Charity goes from strength to strength with a bank balance, moral, supporters and reputation being at an all-time high.

We continue to strive for progression in advice, education and all-round support for the breed to which we are all so devoted, but I'd be lying if I said we are not all praying for some kind of respite in what has become a real feeling of fighting against an ongoing tsunami.

Kerry Rhodes,  
Chairman – Ridgeback Rescue



**RIDGEBACK RESCUE  
RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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**Responsibilities of the Trustees**

The Charities Act requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for every financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the year and of the surplus, or the deficiency for the year.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies, and then apply them on a consistent basis, making judgements and estimates that are prudent and reasonable. The trustees must also prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

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. The trustees 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 report was approved by the Trustees on  
and is signed on their behalf by Mrs Kerry Rhodes

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**RIDGEBACK RESCUE  
INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

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**Responsibilities and Basis of Report**

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

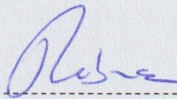
I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

**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 which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:  
accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or  
the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

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

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_



Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

25/1/24

Footprints Accountancy Ltd  
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24 Gander Lane  
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**RIDGEBACK RESCUE  
DETAILED INCOME STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	2023		2022	
	£	£	£	£
<b>TURNOVER</b>				
Sales	12,113		19,594	
Adoption, rehoming & fostering	25,331		14,821	
Pet insurances	-		-	
Donations	11,682		15,903	
Training Services	-		164	
Funding	11,236		2,654	
		60,363		53,136
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>				
Interest receivable		1,425		112
		61,788		53,248
<b>DIRECT COSTS</b>				
Merchandise purchases	11,238		10,909	
Veterinary fees	8,073		19,189	
Kennel fees	7,938		3,057	
Shows & events	1,277		-	
		(28,526)		(33,156)
<b>OTHER CHARGES</b>				
<i>Premises expenses:</i>				
Storage	1,775		1,775	
	1,775		1,775	
<i>General administrative costs:</i>				
Insurance	765		860	
Printing, postage & stationary	1,441		1,443	
Accountancy	462		462	
Donations	-		550	
Office costs	139		519	
Training	-		1,235	
Sundry	1,327		376	
Telecommunications	87		74	
Bank Charges	74		-	
	4,295		5,519	
		(6,070)		(7,294)
<b>NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)</b>		27,192		12,798



**RIDGEBACK RESCUE  
BALANCE SHEET  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023**

	<b>2023</b>		<b>2022</b>	
	£	£	£	£
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Bank accounts	146,503		117,361	
Stock	2,200		2,500	
Loan to trustee	650		2,300	
	<u>149,353</u>		<u>122,161</u>	
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Creditors & Accruals	(462)		(462)	
	<u>(462)</u>		<u>(462)</u>	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS (LIABILITIES)</b>		<u>148,891</u>		<u>121,699</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u><u>148,891</u></u>		<u><u>121,699</u></u>
<b>CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>				
Balance as at 1st January 2023		121,699		108,901
Net profit for the year		<u>27,192</u>		<u>12,798</u>
Balance as at 31st December 2023		<u><u>148,891</u></u>		<u><u>121,699</u></u>