

# LITTLE PAWS FERRET RESCUE

England & Wales · Charity number 1182331

## Details

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**Status** Registered

**Legal form** CIO

**Registered** 2019-03-05

**Register** [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

## Contact

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**Address** 6 Taunton Square  
Sunderland  
SR3 4BD

**Phone** 07908610342

**Email** [littlepawsferretrescue@gmail.com](mailto:littlepawsferretrescue@gmail.com)

**Website** [www.littlepawsferretrescue.co.uk](http://www.littlepawsferretrescue.co.uk)

## Activities

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**Objects:** A) FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC TO RELIEVE THE SUFFERING OF FERRETS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION AND, IN PARTICULAR, TO PROVIDE AND MAINTAIN A RESCUE HOME OR OTHER FACILITIES FOR THE RECEPTION, CARE AND TREATMENT AND RE-HOMING OF SUCH ANIMALS.B) TO PROMOTE HUMANE BEHAVIOUR TOWARDS FERRETS BY PROVIDING APPROPRIATE CARE, PROTECTION, TREATMENT AND SECURITY FOR FERRETS WHICH ARE IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION BY REASON OF SICKNESS, MALTREATMENT, POOR CIRCUMSTANCES OR ILL USAGE AND TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC IN FERRET WELFARE

**Activities:** We will rescue abandoned, lost and unwanted ferrets from within Sunderland and South Tyneside. We will rehabilitate and care for these ferrets until they are able to be rehomed. We will carry out activities to find new homes for the ferrets in rescue and provide backup support for the lifetime of the ferret. We will promote neutering of pet ferrets to reduce the number of unwanted litters.

## Classification

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- **How:** Provides Services, Provides Advocacy/advice/information, Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Animals
- **Who:** Other Defined Groups

## Geography

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- Darlington
- Durham
- Gateshead
- Hartlepool
- Middlesbrough
- Newcastle Upon Tyne City
- North Tyneside
- Northumberland
- South Tyneside
- Sunderland

## Finances

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Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-05-31	-	-	-	-
2024-05-31	£14,556	£18,041	-	-
2023-05-31	£37,484	£34,891	-	-
2022-05-31	£21,050	£32,745	-	-
2021-05-31	£27,610	£19,741	-	-
2020-05-31	£20,688	£16,634	-	-

## Trustees

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Name	Role	Appointed
Jade Louise Gardiner		2022-09-15
MICHELLE BRUNTON		2018-05-24
Reuben James Gillett		2020-02-29
Vicki Hall		2022-09-15

**LITTLE PAWS FERRET RESCUE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1182331

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# Accounts

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# ANNUAL REPORT 2024

## Little Paws Ferret Rescue

You can't buy love, but you can  
rescue it!



# Trustees' Report

2023 - 2024

Little Paws  
Ferret Rescue  
Charity No:  
1182331

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- A photograph of a person smiling and holding a small, fluffy animal wrapped in a blue blanket. The image is overlaid with a dark blue vertical bar on the left side, which contains the table of contents text.
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# WELCOME

Hello and welcome to all of our supporters and followers for Little Paws Ferret Rescue.

This year sees our rescue in its fifth year of trading.

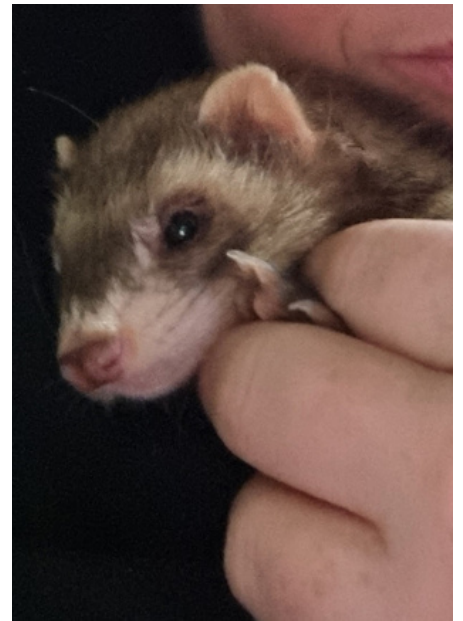
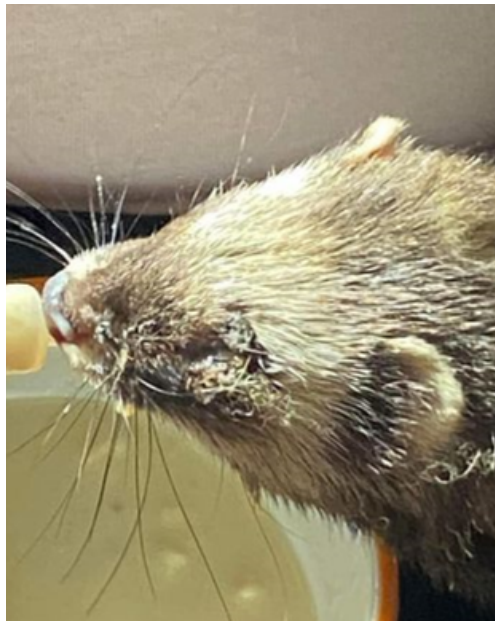
We continue to provide the excellent care that the rescue prides itself on. Our volunteers have worked tirelessly to provide care and enrichment for each and every ferrets that has entered the rescue and we continue to provide medical interventions such as neutering, vaccinations, microchipping, etc... for the hundreds of ferrets we see every year.

Our volunteer programme has grown to include over forty active and dedicated volunteers that provide day to day care, support for collection of strays, event cover and general support.

We have attended many events throughout the year and are very grateful to our supporters for making our social media and other marketing efforts a huge success.

We thank you all for your support and love throughout.

Michelle Brunton  
Rescue Manager



# Yearly Review

## GRANTS RECEIVED

This year we were lucky to have applied and been accepted for a grant of £3000 from Animal Friends Insurance. This was used to help neuter the ferrets that arrive in our care. .

The rescue received a grant from Animal Friends Insurance of £2500 to help with rescue running costs.

We have been lucky to be part of the Pets At Home Foundations VIP Scheme. This has allowed us to access grants based on your spending at Pets At Home. We have used our vouchers to purchase bedding, food and toys for the ferrets.

We have benefited from Charity discounts at Sore Paws Vets in Winlaton, Wrights Vets in Birtley and Vets for Pets in Sunderland.

Our Charity has received donations through Paypal giving, Easy Fundraising and Facebook.

We have received donated goods such as cages, bedding and toys that have helped us to generate income to fund our charity work.

## ACTIVITY THIS YEAR

During 2023/24 we held a number of events to benefit local ferret owners and members of the public. We have been to a number of rescue shows such as Sara Animal Rescue in Teeside and Pawz for Thought in Sunderland.

The rescue organised our annual camoing trip at Alnwick Rugby Club where we had a fun ferret show and ferret related activities.

The volunteers attended a number of different shows and events to raise funds, These include Wolsingham Show, Westmorland Show and Flatts Lane Summer fayre.



# OUR AIMS & ACHIEVEMENTS THIS YEAR

## Charity Aims

We aim to rescue abandoned, lost and unwanted ferrets in the North East UK. We will rehabilitate and care for these ferrets until they are able to be rehomed. The rescue will carry out activities to find new homes for the ferrets in rescue and provide backup support for the lifetime of the ferret.

Little Paws Ferret Rescue is run by volunteers. We rely on the support of our members, volunteers and generosity of members of the public. We also have benefitted greatly from a grant provided by the Pets at Home Foundation to help with neutering and feeding bills.

Every pound that is donated or raised through fundraising, goes straight to helping animals in need.

We are passionate about providing advice and information to the public about caring for ferrets and the importance of neutering. We will continue to provide educational opportunities to broaden the knowledge of ferrets as a species and the benefits of owning ferrets.

## Ferrets In and Out

During the financial year June 2023 to May 2024 Little Paws Ferret Rescue took in 352 ferrets. Around 52% of ferrets entering rescue were surrendered by their owners who could no longer care for their pets. The remaining 48% were found as strays. This increase in surrendered ferrets reflects the struggles related to the cost of living crisis.

We rehomed 103 ferrets during 2023/2024 which is less than the previous year.

The rescue has 31 permanent residents. This includes our PR team who are trained and experienced in meeting the public and also ferrets that are too old or sick to find a new home.

## Volunteer Development

The number of volunteers dropped this year. We retained a group of 60 volunteers. All volunteers have now completed training in understanding ferrets as a species and safe handling of ferrets.

Volunteers engaged in many activities from attending walks, PR events, crafting, show stewarding and judging, selling donated goods, transporting animals and many were involved in fostering ferrets.

# TRUSTEES AND VOLUNTEERS

NAME	APPOINTED ON	ROLE
Michelle Brunton	24th May 2018	Chair
Emma Moan	24th May 2018	Trustee
Lisa Thompson-Gillett	29th February 2020	Trustee
Reuben Gillett	29th February 2020	Trustee
Vicki Hall	15 September 2022	Trustee
Jade Gardiner	15 September 2022	Trustee

# FINANCIAL REVIEW

## Reserves Policy

The trustees' policy is to retain 3 months' worth of normal running costs in order to meet commitments and to cover any unexpected expenditure.

## Financial Review

Income for the period amount to £14,556 with expenditure of £18,041.

Profitability - Gross Loss £-3485 and net profits are £-5379 (This is due to funding from the previous year sustaining the charity).

Assets - The charity does not hold any fixed assets. Current assets include a balance in the bank of £3594, Paypal Balance (including the main Paypal and Paypal Giving accounts) £1557 and a petty cash balance of £919.

## Future Developments

The Trustees will continue to develop their calendar of events and will look at ways to create income from these events such as stall ideas, photo competitions, seasonal stalls, etc... They will develop more branded goods and merchandise in the future and look to supply goods such as food, oil, harnesses, bedding etc...

We will continue to develop our partnership with Pets at Home as this is a good way to reach our target audience and receive donations and grants from the store.

## Trustee Statement

The Trustees consider the Charity to be a going concern and it is assumed that the Charity will continue for the foreseeable future.

# 44%

Donations and GiftAid

## Sales Breakdown

# 21%

Rehoming

Sales for the financial year 1st June 2023 to 31st May 2024 reached £14556.

44% of the Charity income came from donations and Giftaid. This totals £6468 from a mixture of direct donations, donation buckets and cash donations, Support Adoption for Pets, Facebook donate, Paypal Giving, Giftaid and Easy Fundraising.

# 8%

Sale of Merchandise and Donated Goods

21% of the overall income for the charity came from rehoming fees. Fees are charged at £55 for a single ferret or £50 per ferret if adopting multiple at the same time. The total income from rehoming was £3031.

# 4%

Shows, Events and Stalls (including in store events)

Show takings, stalls and events raised £561, 4% of the overall income for the Charity.

We raised £1178 (8%) from the sale of merchandise, including food, ferret oil, harnesses, hammocks, donated equipment, Christmas cards, hoodies, microchipping, etc...

# 23%

Vouchers, Grants and Other

Vouchers and grants raised £3318 (23%)

# 90%

Direct Charitable Expenses

# £18,041

## Direct Expenses Breakdown

# %1.5

Bedding, Lino, etc...  
£229

# %0.5

Volunteer Expenses  
£95.70

# 36%

Food, Bedding, Blankets,  
Oil, Treats, Meat,  
Supplements, Special  
Dietary Food  
£6492

# 1%

Merchandise  
£179



# 21%

Vets Neutering  
£3812



# 40%

Vets General  
Treatment  
£7233



# 0%

Microchips  
£0



# 10%

Overheads

# £1894

Overheads Breakdown

# 16%

£299

Repairs and Renewals  
including the new  
building, tools, hutches,  
etc...

# 63%

£1198

General Expenses  
including stationary,  
bank charges and  
postage.

# 16%

£303

Show and Event costs

# 5%

£94

Marketing including  
web costs

# Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our volunteering team who have continued to support the development of the rescue.

Our Trustees, both old and new, who have supported the rescue manager and helped to develop the charity.

Our foster carers, who have supported the rescue to increase capacity to take in the increased demand for space for the endless line of incoming ferrets.

Our volunteers who help to transport ferrets to the vets for vaccinations, who search for hours for the missing frightened and abandoned pets, who share, like and comment on social media posts.

Our grant funders, who have helped financially.

A big thank you to everyone who has supported us through the Pets At Home VIP Scheme. We receive vouchers to spend in store which really helps with costs.

Our Vets and Vet nurses at Wrights Vets and Sore Paws for their dedication and hard work, especially our vet Kerida Shook who has given so much of their time to the ferrets.

Our donors who contribute regularly every month and for the one off donors, every penny helps us to rescue ferrets.

Our rehomers who give rescued ferrets a second chance at happiness.

Thank you to every supporter, donor and friend that have been a real support to us over the past year.

Without your support and care we would often find it very difficult to continue. Thank you all for helping us to make this year a success.

Thank you all for your continued Support!



**Little Paws Ferret Rescue**  
[www.littlepawsferretrescue.co.uk](http://www.littlepawsferretrescue.co.uk)  
[littlepawsferretrescue@gmail.com](mailto:littlepawsferretrescue@gmail.com)

# Little Paws Ferret Rescue CIO

## Profit and Loss Report

01 April, 2023 - 31 March, 2024

Sales		
4000 - Sales - Merchandise	547.82	
4001 - Sales - Hoodies	58.02	
4002 - Sales - Donated equipment (cages, etc..)	438.00	
4003 - Sales - Microchipping	12.00	
4004 - Sales - Ferret Oil	122.00	
4007 - Sales - Show Takings (class entries, food, etc...)	561.33	
4010 - Income - Rehoming Fees	3,031.23	
4011 - Income - Donations	4,365.56	
4013 - Income - Direct Donations for Treatments	1,000.00	
4014 - Income - Facebook Donations	518.38	
4015 - Income - Paypal Giving Donations	120.00	
4020 - Income - Easy Fundraising	50.54	
4021 - Charitable Grants	3,000.00	
4023 - Gift Aid	413.63	
4900 - Other income	317.66	
	<b>Total Sales</b>	<b>£14,556.17</b>
Direct Expenses		
5000 - Cost of Sales - Merchandise	178.62	
5020 - Cost of Sales - Food, Meat, Shavings	6,382.58	
5021 - Cost of Sales - Bedding, Lino, Etc...	229.25	
5030 - Cost of Sales - Vet Bills (Spay and Neuter)	3,812.44	
5031 - Cost of Sales - Vets Bills (general treatments)	7,233.28	
5035 - Cost of Sales - Volunteer Expenses	95.70	

5060 - Other Direct Expenses	109.08	
	<b>Total Direct Expenses</b>	<b>£18,040.95</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT / LOSS</b>		<b>-£3,484.78</b>
<b>Overheads</b>		
5080 - Show and Event Direct Expenses	235.78	
5082 - Show and Event Direct Expenses - Rosettes and Trophies	67.25	
7300 - Vehicle Fuel	20.01	
7540 - Website Fees	93.60	
7800 - Repairs and Renewals	298.74	
7810 - Cleaning	11.00	
7901 - Paypal Fees	20.07	
8200 - General Expenses	1,147.57	
	<b>Total Overheads</b>	<b>£1,894.02</b>
<b>NET PROFIT / LOSS</b>		<b>-£5,378.80</b>

# Balance Sheet

## Little Paws Ferret Rescue CIO

### Balance Sheet Report

To: 31 March, 2024

#### ASSETS

##### Fixed Assets

Total Fixed Assets £0.00

##### Current Assets

1100 - Trade Debtors	303.57
1200 - Bank Account	3,593.74
1220 - Petty Cash	918.85
1230 - Paypal	1,544.71
1240 - Paypal Giving	12.52

Total Current Assets £6,373.39

#### LIABILITIES

##### Current Liabilities

2100 - Trade Creditors	1,864.99
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Total Current Liabilities £1,864.90

##### Future Liabilities

Total Future Liabilities £0.00

TOTAL LIABILITIES £2,783.84

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<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>£2,670.70</b>
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<b>EQUITY</b>	
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Net Profit / Loss	2,670.70
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<i>Net Profit / Loss (prior year(s))</i>	8,049.50
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<i>Net Profit / Loss (current year)</i>	-5,378.80
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<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>£2,670.70</b>
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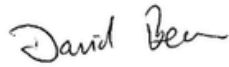
**Little Paws Ferret Rescue CIO**

Accounts reviewed by independent auditor David Beavis on 25th March 2026

**Summary of Financial Accounts for year ended 31st March 2024**

(1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024)

The accounts of Little Paws Ferret Rescue CIO, which are held on Sage software, have been checked and verified. The bank balance of £3,593.74 as at 31st March 2024 is confirmed as correct. In my opinion the CIO continues to be a going concern and should continue to trade for the foreseeable future. In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me any cause for concern. I believe that the requirement to keep proper accounting records and to prepare proper year end accounts has been fully met.



David Beavis CIA  
Independent Auditor  
12th March 2025

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**LITTLE PAWS FERRET RESCUE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1182331

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# Accounts

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# CHARITY TRUSTEE REPORT

Little Paws  
Ferret  
Rescue



2022 / 2023

Prepared by Michelle Brunton

# Trustees' Report

2022 - 2023

Little Paws  
Ferret Rescue  
Charity No:  
1182331

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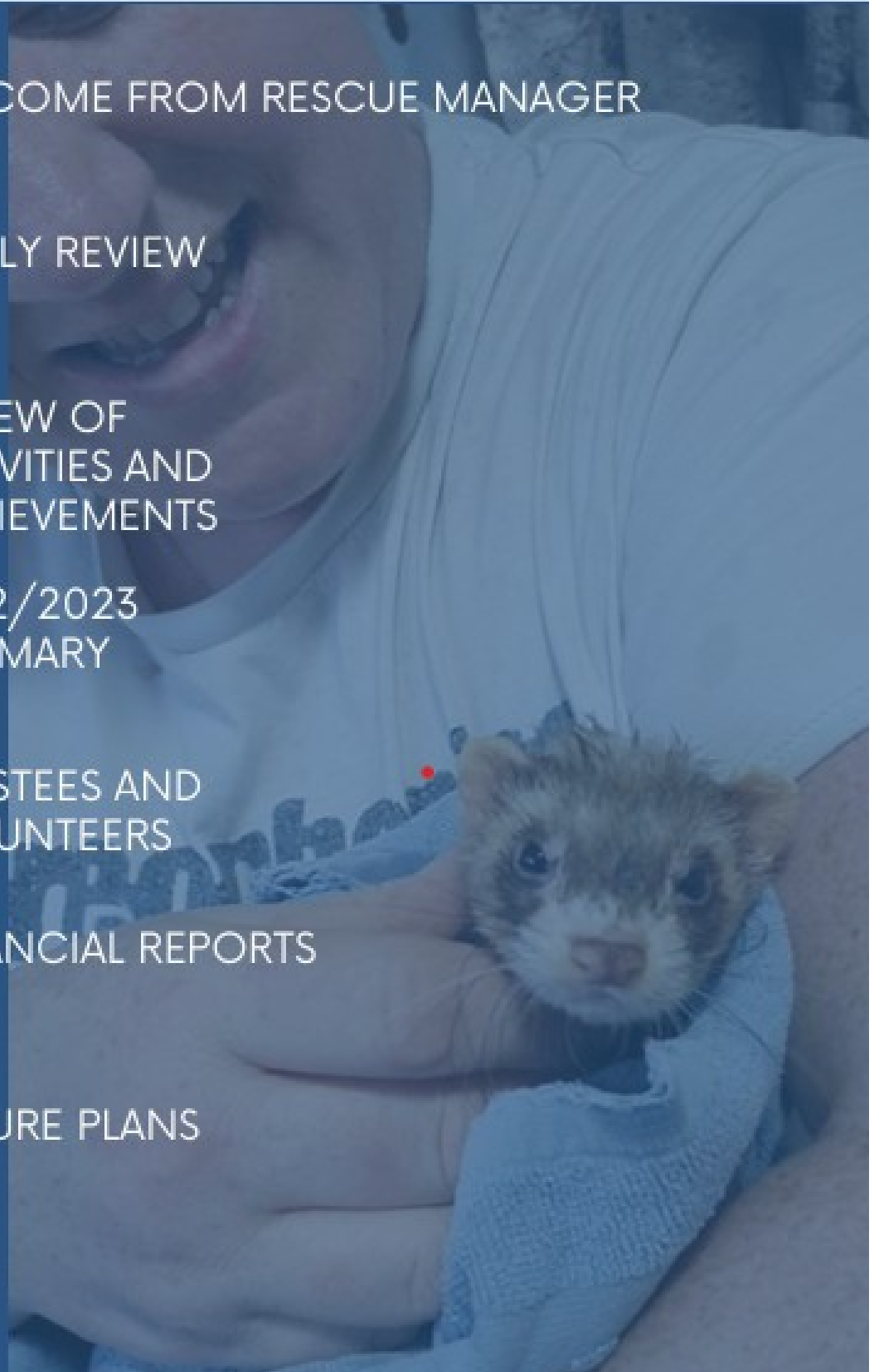
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# WELCOME

Hello and welcome to all of our supporters and followers for Little Paws Ferret Rescue.

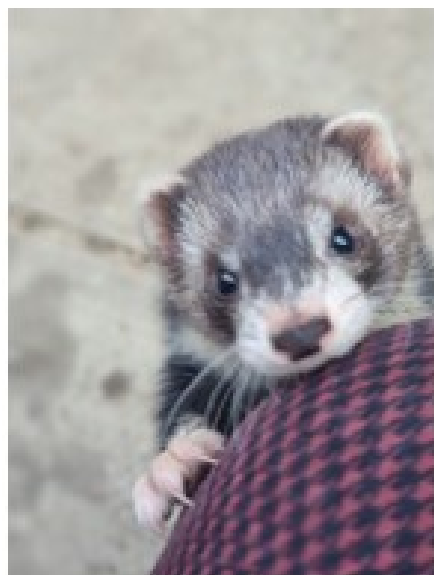
This year sees our rescue in its fourth year of trading. We have made it through pandemics and the trustees and volunteers are still committed to the welfare and rescue of ferrets in the North East UK. Following the pandemic there have been record numbers of abandoned pandemic pets and ferrets are being dumped and surrendered at record rates. The cost-of-living crisis has also posed a huge threat to animal welfare with owners struggling with the cost of feeding and vet care.

We continued to provide the excellent care that the rescue has prided itself on for the last four years. Our volunteers have worked tirelessly to provide care and enrichment for each and every ferrets that has entered the rescue and we continue to provide medical interventions such as neutering, vaccinations, microchipping, etc... for the hundreds of ferrets we see every year. This year we were successful in securing funding for some improvements and renovations to the rescue to increase our capacity as a rescue.

Our volunteer programme has gained a new volunteer coordinator this year and we have increased our trustee numbers. We welcome Jade Gardiner, Howell Davies and Vicki Hall to the rescue management team. We would also like to say a big thank you to our outgoing Trustees, Tracey Mowatt and Rachel Thompson who have been a great asset to our organisation and will be a huge miss.

We thank you all for your support and love throughout.

Michelle Brunton  
Rescue Manager



# Yearly Review

## GRANTS RECEIVED

This year we were lucky to have applied and been accepted for a number of grants to assist in running the charity and developing the rescue facilities. The following grants were received:

### Pets At Home Foundation Grant

This grant fund is provided by the Pets at Home Foundation which is a registered Charity linked to Pets at Home. They believe that every pet deserves a loving forever home and over the years they have worked alongside rescue and rehoming organisations across the country who strive to help pets in need find their forever loving homes. We received £10,270 towards vets bills, feed and housing costs, equipment and building work to open up our indoor space to be used for a critical care area.

The rescue received a grant from Animal Friends Insurance of £2500 to help with rescue running costs.

We received £3000 from the Jean Salisbury Foundation to help with animal care and vets bills.

## ACTIVITY THIS YEAR

During 2022/23 we held a number of events to benefit local ferret owners and members of the public. Two ferret shows were held in December and March which attracted a lot of attendees and visitors. Fun was had by all and there were some beautiful ferrets that all deserved to win a rosette. The rescue would like to thank the judges, stewards and volunteers that work so hard to make these events a success. We appointed Trustee, Lisa Thompson-Gillett as shop manager to organise merchandice and donated goods for sale on stalls to raise funds. We also set up a crafting group of fantastic volunteers that create harnesses, hammocks, toys and other goods for sale. It is hoped that this will provide further volunteering opportunities for people that enjoy crafting.

The rescue organised our annual camoing trip at Alnwick Rugby Club where we had a fun ferret show and ferret related activities.

The volunteers attended a number of diffent shows and events to raise funds, These include Wolsingham Show, Westmorland Show and Flatts Lane Summer fayre.



# OUR AIMS & ACHIEVEMENTS THIS YEAR

## Charity Aims

We aim to rescue abandoned, lost and unwanted ferrets in the North East UK. We will rehabilitate and care for these ferrets until they are able to be rehomed. The rescue will carry out activities to find new homes for the ferrets in rescue and provide backup support for the lifetime of the ferret.

Little Paws Ferret Rescue is run by volunteers. We rely on the support of our members, volunteers and generosity of members of the public. We also have benefitted greatly from a grant provided by the Pets at Home Foundation to help with neutering and feeding bills.

Every pound that is donated or raised through fundraising, goes straight to helping animals in need.

We are passionate about providing advice and information to the public about caring for ferrets and the importance of neutering. We will continue to provide educational opportunities to broaden the knowledge of ferrets as a species and the benefits of owning ferrets.

## Ferrets In and Out

During the financial year June 2022 to May 2023 Little Paws Ferret Rescue took in 390 ferrets.

Around 43% of ferrets entering rescue were surrendered by their owners who could no longer care for their pets. The remaining 57% were found as strays.

We rehomed 165 ferrets during 2022/2023 which is slightly better than the previous year but still less than pre covid figures.

The rescue has 26 permanent residents. This includes our PR team who are trained and experienced in meeting the public and also ferrets that are too old or sick to find a new home.

## Volunteer Development

The number of volunteers increased again this year. We were successful in retaining the existing volunteers and managed to increase the team by 31 volunteers bringing the total number of volunteers to 85. All volunteers have now completed training in understanding ferrets as a species and safe handling of ferrets.

Volunteers engaged in many activities from attending walks, PR events, crafting, show stewarding and judging, selling donated goods, transporting animals and many were involved in fostering ferrets.

# 2022/2023 Summary



The rescue indoor area was extended by taking out an internal wall, installation of a supporting joist, new custom hutches with plastic wasable surfaces for a criticle care area. We also started work on a new enruichment enclosure to allow the ferrets to have exercise and play which will benefit their welfare immensely and provide entertainment for those that get to watch their antics first hand.

We had an unusual resident in the rescue this year. Clover the weasel came to us as the finder did not know what to do with him. He was cold and weak and needed help so rescue manager stepped in to be his mama. He was hand reared on kitten milk until he was able to eat meat and then weaned. Clover was very fast and as he got older he liked to nip all the volunteers except his mam.

Weasels the UK's smallest carnivorous mammal. They are not pets as they are wild animals and need lots of space to run, stimulation and freedom. Clover was transferred to a wildlife centre in Yorkshire for soft release back to the wild.



# Rescue Stories



Lexi and Bowser came into rescue within a day of each other and both were severely neglected and in a terrible state.

Lexi came in first after we collected her as a stray in South Shields. She had an injury to her head and was extremely emaciated. She lost all of the skin on top of her head and had her skull exposed.

Bowser had been abandoned in a cage in the garden of a house after the residents were evicted. He spent at least a week with no food or water. Bowser was weak, dehydrated and emaciated.

Both are now fully recovered and thriving and will remain with rescue manager Michelle long term.

Aegon, his mum Alicent and his siblings Aegon and Helaena were rescued from awful conditions and were all near to death. They were living in a 2ft glass fish tank with no food or water and one of the kits had already passed away from starvation.

Mum and her babies were rescued along with a very neglected Cane Toad that we have named Jabba.

Amond had a very infected eye and both boys and their sister were very underweight. After intensive care and good food they all survived and thrived.

All are now fully recovered and thriving in the rescue with lots of love from the volunteers.



# TRUSTEES AND VOLUNTEERS

NAME	APPOINTED ON	ROLE
Michelle Brunton	24th May 2018	Chair
Emma Moan	24th May 2018	Trustee
Lisa Thompson-Gillett	29th February 2020	Trustee
Reuben Gillett	29th February 2020	Trustee
Vicki Hall	15 September 2022	Trustee
Howell Davies	15 September 2022	Trustee
Jade Gardiner	15 September 2022	Trustee

# FINANCIAL REVIEW

## Reserves Policy

The trustees' policy is to retain 3 months' worth of normal running costs in order to meet commitments and to cover any unexpected expenditure.

## Financial Review

Income for the period amount to £37,484 with expenditure of £34,891.

Profitability - Gross profits £10,860 (28%) and net profits are £2594 (7%).

Assets - The charity does not hold any fixed assets. Current assets include a balance in the bank of £5927, Paypal Balance (including the main Paypal and Paypal Giving accounts) £361.68 and a petty cash balance of £4060.33.

Liabilities - Trade debtors of £2522.66 and Trade Creditors £4076.07.

## Future Developments

The Trustees will continue to develop their calendar of events and will look at ways to create income from these events such as stall ideas, photo competitions, seasonal stalls, etc... They will develop more branded goods and merchandise in the future and look to supply goods such as food, oil, harnesses, bedding etc...

We will continue to develop our partnership with Pets at Home Byker as this is a good way to reach our target audience and receive donations and grants from the store.

## Trustee Statement

The Trustees consider the Charity to be a going concern and it is assumed that the Charity will continue for the foreseeable future.

# 29%

Donations and GiftAid

## Sales Breakdown

# 15%

Rehoming

Sales for the financial year 1st June 2022 to 31st May 2023 reached £37,484.

29% of the Charity income came from donations and Giftaid. This totals £10,842.96 from a mixture of direct donations, donation buckets and cash donations; £2391, Support Adoption for Pets, Facebook donate, Paypal Giving, Giftaid and Easy Fundraising.

# 7%

Sale of Merchandise and Donated Goods

15% of the overall income for the charity came from rehoming fees. Fees are charged at £55 for a single ferret or £50 per ferret if adopting multiple at the same time. The total income from rehoming was £5841.

# 4%

Shows, Events and Stalls (including in store events)

Show takings, stalls and events raised £1369.71, 4% of the overall income for the Charity.

We raised £2415.78 (6.5%) from the sale of merchandise, including food, ferret oil, harnesses, hammocks, donated equipment, Christmas cards, hoodies, microchipping, etc...

# 45%

Vouchers and Grants

Vouchers and grants raised £16733.10 (45%)

# 76%

Direct Charitable Expenses

# £26,625

## Direct Expenses Breakdown

# %1

Bedding, Lino, etc...  
£134

# %2

Volunteer Expenses  
£419

# 29%

Food, Bedding, Blankets,  
Oil, Treats, Meat,  
Suppliments, Special  
Dietary Food  
£7781

# 2%

Merchandise  
£528



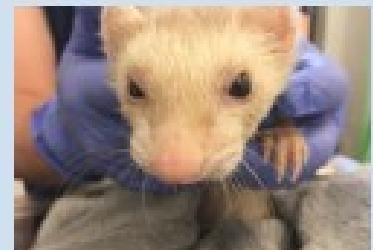
# 30%

Vets Neutering  
£8016



# 35%

Vets General  
Treatment  
£9507



# 1%

Microchips  
£240



# 24%

Overheads

# £8266

Overheads Breakdown

# 58%

£4823

Repairs and Renewals  
including the new  
building, tools, hutches,  
etc...

# 30%

£2481

General Expenses  
including stationary,  
bank charges and  
postage.

# 10%

£828

Show and Event costs

# 2%

£134

Marketing including  
web costs

---

# FUTURE PLANS

## Building Plans

Plans are ongoing to build a play pen in the ferret main rescue site to enrich the lives of the ferrets in care. It will be brick based and have two stories for more play space. The base will be created using funds from Pets at Home Foundation which is already secured.

The rescue will continue to develop the indoor area and will look to extend the rescue to a new site in South Pelaw that belongs to the new trustee Vicki Hall.

## Event Plans

We intend to return to regular ferret shows, fayres and events that we attended pre-covid and we will look to develop those events as an opportunity to raise vital funds and promote ferret ownership.

We will hold our annual camping trip which we hope to develop and grow over the next few years.

We intend to further develop our ferret racing set and practice delivering this as an activity to raise funds and provide entertainment.

Our monthly walks will continue, organised by Trustee, Emma Moan.

We will continue to develop the craft group and further develop the shop to create sustainable income for the rescue.

## Our Plans for 2022/2023

The board of trustees will meet to review our strategy, activity and identify the best course of action for the future to ensure that we meet the needs of our stakeholders, animals in our care and our community in a sustainable way.

We aim to develop new fundraising opportunities and apply for trusts and funds.

We will further our educational library of information through our website and social media platforms to increase awareness of issues such as vaccinating against Canine Distemper, good ferret diets, neutering, etc...

We will develop new relationships with rescues and veterinary surgeries in the North East Uk.

We plan to build our support and volunteer network to allow us to help more ferrets in need.

We will provide a source of information, research and guidance for new ferret owners and we will promote adoption over private buying.

We will continue to rehome the ferrets that come into our care efficiently and ensure a high level of welfare throughout their time with Little Paws Ferret Rescue.

# Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our volunteering team who have continued to support the development of the rescue.

Our Trustees, both old and new, who have supported the rescue manager and helped to develop the charity.

Our foster carers, who have supported the rescue to increase capacity to take in the increased demand for space for the endless line of incoming ferrets.

Our volunteers who help to transport ferrets to the vets for vaccinations, who search for hours for the missing frightened and abandoned pets, who share, like and comment on social media posts.

Our grant funders, who have helped financially.

A big thank you to everyone who has supported us through the Pets At Home VIP Scheme. We receive vouchers to spend in store which really helps with costs.

Our Vets and Vet nurses at Wrights Vets and Sunderland Vets 4 Pets for their dedication and hard work, especially our vet Kerida Shook and vet nurse Tyrina Gibson who have given so much of their time to the ferrets.

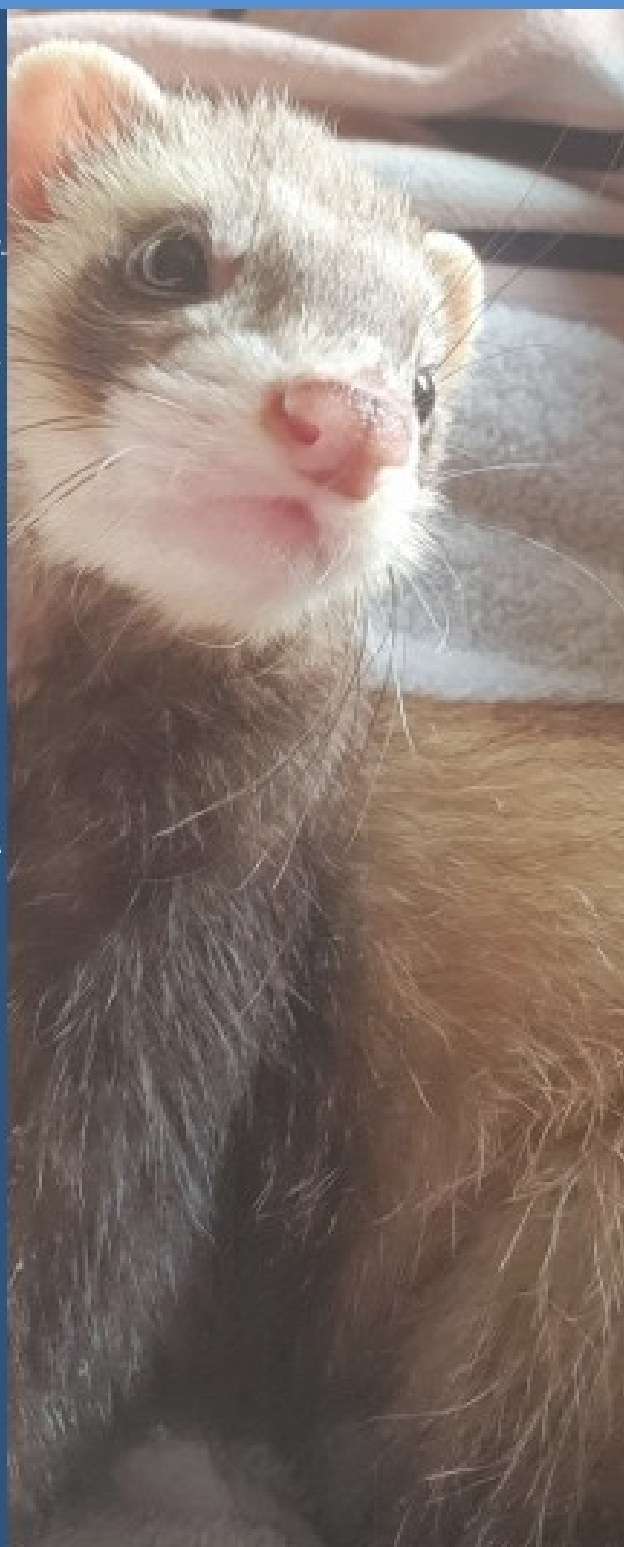
Our donors who contribute regularly every month and for the one off donors, every penny helps us to rescue ferrets.

Our rehomers who give rescued ferrets a second chance at happiness.

Thank you to every supporter, donor and friend that have been a real support to us over the past year.

Without your support and care we would often find it very difficult to continue. Thank you all for helping us to make this year a success.

Thank you all for your continued Support!



**Little Paws Ferret Rescue**

[www.littlepawsferretrescue.co.uk](http://www.littlepawsferretrescue.co.uk)  
[littlepawsferretrescue@gmail.com](mailto:littlepawsferretrescue@gmail.com)

# Little Paws Ferret Rescue CIO

## Profit and Loss Report

01 April, 2022 - 31 March, 2023

### Sales

4000 - Sales - Merchandise	1,713.83	
4001 - Sales - Hoodies	170.00	
4002 - Sales - Donated equipment (cages, etc..)	223.29	
4003 - Sales - Microchipping	41.00	
4004 - Sales - Ferret Oil	262.66	
4007 - Sales - Show Takings (class entries, food, etc..)	96.75	
4010 - Income - Rehoming Fees	5,841.00	
4011 - Income - Donations	5,669.68	
4012 - Income - Business Sponsorship Donations	295.00	
4013 - Income - Direct Donations for Treatments	721.00	
4014 - Income - Facebook Donations	3,522.35	
4015 - Income - Paypal Giving Donations	368.98	
4017 - Income - Stalls and Events	1,272.96	
4018 - Income - Pets at Home (Support Adoption For Pets Events)	138.01	
4020 - Income - Easy Fundraising	127.94	
4021 - Charitable Grants	16,733.10	
4023 - Gift Aid	282.25	
4900 - Other income	5.00	
	<b>Total Sales</b>	<b>£37,484.80</b>

### Direct Expenses

5000 - Cost of Sales - Merchandise	527.51
5020 - Cost of Sales - Food, Meat, Shavings	7,780.77
5021 - Cost of Sales - Bedding, Lino, Etc...	133.83

5030 - Cost of Sales - Vet Bills (Spay and Neuter)	8,016.40	
5031 - Cost of Sales - Vets Bills (general treatments)	9,405.17	
5032 - Cost of Sales - Flea, Tick, Worming Treatments	98.70	
5033 - Cost of Sales - Microchipping	240.00	
5035 - Cost of Sales - Volunteer Expenses	418.86	
5060 - Other Direct Expenses	3.50	
	<b>Total Direct Expenses</b>	<b>£26,624.74</b>
	<b>GROSS PROFIT / LOSS</b>	<b>£10,860.06</b>
<b>Overheads</b>		
5080 - Show and Event Direct Expenses	702.32	
5082 - Show and Event Direct Expenses - Rosettes and Trophies	125.65	
7510 - Postage and Carriage	27.49	
7520 - Office Stationery	116.07	
7540 - Website Fees	134.10	
7550 - Computer & Software	300.00	
7630 - Business Insurance	35.00	
7800 - Repairs and Renewals	4,823.24	
7900 - Bank Charges and Interest	35.97	
7901 - Paypal Fees	24.00	
8200 - General Expenses	1,942.35	
	<b>Total Overheads</b>	<b>£8,266.19</b>
	<b>NET PROFIT / LOSS</b>	<b>£2,593.87</b>

# Little Paws Ferret Rescue CIO

## Balance Sheet Report

To: 31 March, 2023

### ASSETS

#### Fixed Assets

---

<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
---------------------------	--------------

#### Current Assets

---

1200 - Bank Account

5,926.21

1220 - Petty Cash

4,060.33

1230 - Paypal

208.68

1240 - Paypal Giving

153.00

---

<b>Total Current Assets</b>	<b>£10,348.22</b>
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---

<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>£10,348.22</b>
---------------------	-------------------

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### LIABILITIES

#### Current Liabilities

---

1100 - Trade Debtors

2,522.66

2100 - Trade Creditors

4,076.07

---

<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>£6,598.73</b>
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#### Future Liabilities

---

<b>Total Future Liabilities</b>	<b>£0.00</b>
---------------------------------	--------------

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<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>£6,598.73</b>
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	<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>£3,749.49</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Net Profit / Loss	3,749.49	
<i>Net Profit / Loss (prior year(s))</i>	1,155.82	
<i>Net Profit / Loss (current year)</i>	2,593.87	
	<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>£3,749.49</b>

## Little Paws Ferret Rescue CIO

Accounts reviewed by Independent auditor David Beavis on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2025

### Summary of Financial Accounts for year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

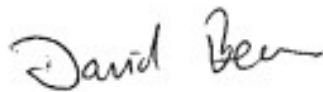
(1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023)

The accounts of Little Paws Ferret Rescue CIO, which are held on Sage software, have been checked and verified. •

The bank balance of £5,926 as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 is confirmed as correct.

In my opinion the CIO continues to be a going concern and should continue to trade for the foreseeable future.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention which gives me any cause for concern. I believe that the requirement to keep proper accounting records and to prepare proper year end accounts has been fully met.



David Beavis CIA  
Independent Auditor  
12<sup>th</sup> March 2025

**LITTLE PAWS FERRET RESCUE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1182331

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# Accounts

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# Trustees Annual Report

2021 - 2022



**Little Paws Ferret Rescue**

You can't buy love, but you can rescue it!

Prepared By:  
Michelle Brunton

# Trustees' Report

2021 - 2022

Little Paws  
Ferret Rescue  
Charity No:  
1182331

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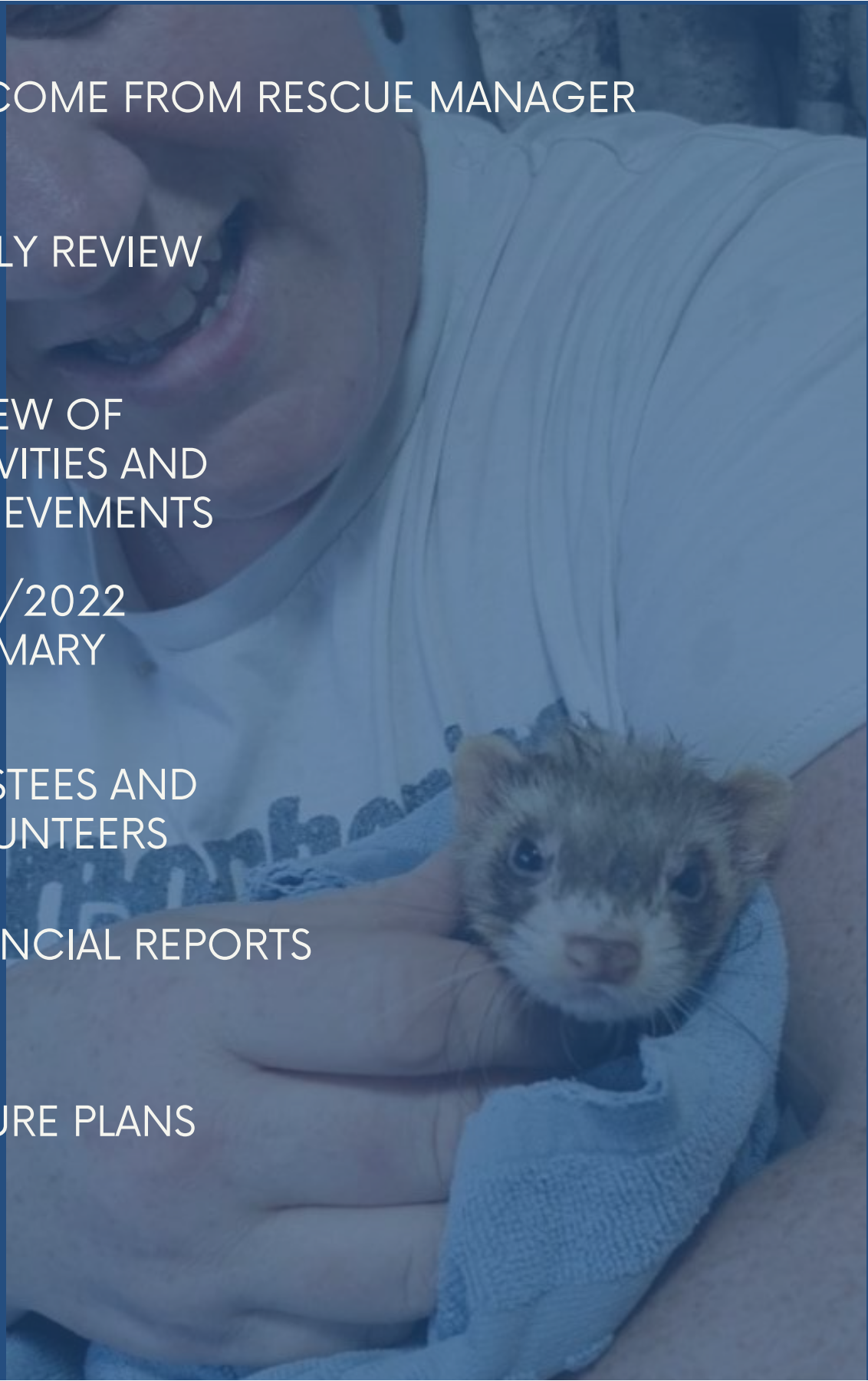
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# WELCOME

This is our third year as a Charity and we have been very busy. We have had some development work carried out in the rescue area, changed the roof on our ferret shack, increased volunteers and survived the Pandemic!

2021 saw a record 356 ferrets through the doors. 104 (29%) of those were surrendered ferrets. We collected 18 ferrets from Bradford, who's welfare was at serious risk and the owner could not look after them. One was seriously underweight and many had severe dental issues. All needed some TLC and the volunteer group were fantastic. They rallied round to help assess and settle them in.

We took in a massive 84 kits came into rescue during the period of June 21 to May 22. This was a result of mass breeding during the Covid 19 crisis. Many of these had swimmers disease from poor nutrition and due to the increased feeding requirements of kits, this increased expenses incrementally. Despite the rough year we managed to rehome 188 ferrets to new loving homes, including our fabulous, long term resident, Ferne, fondly known as Rotten Cotton! She had been in rescue for three years and had some personal boundary issues but she found the perfect owner to love her just as she is.

We thank you all for your support and love throughout.

Michelle Brunton  
Rescue Manager



**Ferne (Rotten Cotton)**

# Yearly Review

## FALLOUT OF COVID 19

The pandemic has profoundly impacted the animal rescue sector and Little Paws was no exception. We saw a stark rise in demand for lockdown pets which sparked a massive increase in breeding to meet the demand. Many ferrets were sold to owners that had done little to no research and did not understand the commitment that they were taking on. This led to many ferrets being dumped or surrendered when the novelty wore off or they became hormonal teenagers. The rescue took in a massive 84 unwanted kits during the year, many that were a result of overbreeding and drop in the demand post lockdown.

The demand for vet appointments increased rapidly for the new lockdown pets and this led to a shortage of appointments for regular vet visits and neutering appointments. Vets continue to struggle with the demand.

with unemployment on the rise and increased financial pressures facing many households, many of those who have taken on animals this year may find they can no longer afford to look after them.

## ACTIVITY THIS YEAR

In February 2022 we were able to host our Valentines Show, the first since 2020. This was a huge success and it was lovely to see some familiar faces.

We were able to restart our Monthly ferret walks arranged by Emma Moan. These proved very popular, especially our sunny trip to Hetton Lyons Park, where we caused quite a stir. Other venues included Plessey Woods, Wharton Park, Whitburn, Druridge Bay and Flatts Lane.

In August 2021 we had our annual camping extravaganza. Lots of fun and games were had and we all enjoyed a fun ferret show and ferret racing.

September we were able to enjoy Wolsingham Show which had been on hold during Covid 19. We had lots of interest in the ferrets and our merchandise stall was able to raise £578.

Volunteers also helped to repair and update cages. We were donated two stacks of cages from a lovely lady that rescues rabbits.



# OUR AIMS & ACHIEVEMENTS THIS YEAR

## Charity Aims

We aim to rescue abandoned, lost and unwanted ferrets in the North East UK. We will rehabilitate and care for these ferrets until they are able to be rehomed. The rescue will carry out activities to find new homes for the ferrets in rescue and provide backup support for the lifetime of the ferret.

Little Paws Ferret Rescue is run by volunteers. We rely on the support of our members, volunteers and generosity of members of the public. We also have benefitted greatly from a grant provided by the Pets at Home Foundation to help with neutering and feeding bills.

Every pound that is donated or raised through fundraising, goes straight to helping animals in need.

We are passionate about providing advice and information to the public about caring for ferrets and the importance of neutering. We will continue to provide educational opportunities to broaden the knowledge of ferrets as a species and the benefits of owning ferrets.

## Ferrets In and Out

During the financial year June 2021 to May 2022 Little Paws Ferret Rescue took in 356 ferrets.

Around 30% of ferrets entering rescue were surrendered by their owners who could no longer care for their pets because of a return to work or financial issues. The remaining 70% were found as strays. The number of strays increased dramatically and this has been attributed to an increased in dumped pets following the spike in breeding during the Pandemic.

We rehomed 104 ferrets during 2021/2022 which is a big drop from the previous year.

## Volunteer Development

The number of volunteers increased greatly this year. We were successful in retaining the existing volunteers and managed to increase the team by 32 volunteers bringing the total number of volunteers to 54. We designed a new online volunteer application form which has proven very effective.

Volunteers engaged in many activities from attending walks, PR events, camping, show stewarding and judging, selling donated goods, transporting animals and many were involved in fostering ferrets. This support has been invaluable and we sincerely thank the volunteering team for their hard work.

# 2021/2022 Summary

We maintained our Charity partnership with Pets at Home which brought in funding of £3344.16 as well as VIP vouchers. Through the Pets At Home Foundation we also received pallets of donated items such as shavings, etc... Rabbit food, hay, bird food and other items were donated onto other charities such as Binky Buns and Paws 4 Thought to help them out and share the good fortunes.



The rescue area was given a facelift with the brickwork raised and a new concrete area where there was once soil and weeds. This area will soon be filled with new cages and the raised brickwork makes the area more secure for ferrets to play. This work took a week to complete and the builder, Calvin, has previously adopted ferrets from the rescue so he enjoyed a few furry cuddles during his tea breaks!

## Funds Running Low

Financially this has been a very difficult and expensive year, with a massive increase in ferrets and lots of development going on.

Our accounts show a loss during this year due to funding that was secured in the previous year but expenses paid in this year. We also have had a great deal more ferrets to neuter, vaccinate and microchip and a drop in income coming in.

We continue to work hard and rescue ferrets but financial support is essential. The accounts have run very low but we have plans to apply for further funding through the Pets at Home Foundation and also Trusts and Funds so that we can continue to provide our vital service of rescuing ferrets. Please consider becoming a regular monthly donor for the Charity.



**Scan. Pay. Go.**

# Rescue Stories

## Tinsel



Tinsel, made her way to rescue just in time for Christmas after helping herself to an early Christmas dinner when she found herself in the middle of a hen house. She was desperately thin and exhausted.



## Bilbo



Bilbo was found dumped in a field in Peterlee in May last year. He was unable to move as his muscles had all gone rigid. We thought we were heading to a mercy mission and have him put to sleep but our wonderful vet agreed to try and treat him.

We helped Bilbo recover giving him hydrotherapy and medication and eventually he was able to walk and play.

## Rosa

Rosa was taken as a stray by the PDSA. She had been found on a building site with crows pecking at her eyes. As a result she had a very bad injury to the which was protruding from the socket and scabbed over. Rosa needed surgery to remove the eye however the infection needed to be under control first. Poor Rosa was unable to open her mouth to eat due to pain so we had to syringe feed until after the operation.

# TRUSTEES AND VOLUNTEERS

NAME	APPOINTED ON	ROLE
Michelle Brunton	24th May 2018	Chair
Rachel Thomas	24th May 2018	Trustee
Emma Moan	24th May 2018	Trustee
Tracey Mowatt	27th November 2018	Trustee
Lisa Thompson-Gillett	29th February 2020	Trustee
Reuben Gillett	29th February 2020	Trustee

# FINANCIAL REVIEW

## Reserves Policy

The trustees' policy is to retain 3 months' worth of normal running costs in order to meet commitments and to cover any unexpected expenditure.

## Financial Review

Income for the period amount to £ with expenditure of £.

Profitability - Gross profits £ (%) and net profits are £ (%).

Assets - The charity does not hold any fixed assets. Current assets include a balance in the bank of £, Paypal Balance (including the main Paypal and Paypal Giving accounts) £ and a petty cash balance of £.

Liabilities - Trade debtors of £ and Trade Creditors £.

## Future Developments

The Trustees will continue to develop their calendar of events and will look at ways to create income from these events such as stall ideas, photo competitions, seasonal stalls, etc... They will develop more branded goods and merchandise in the future and look to supply goods such as food, oil, harnesses, bedding etc...

We will continue to develop our partnership with Pets at Home Byker as this is a good way to reach our target audience and receive donations and grants from the store.

## Trustee Statement

The Trustees consider the Charity to be a going concern and it is assumed that the Charity will continue for the foreseeable future.

# 48%

Donations and GiftAid

## Sales Breakdown

# 31%

Rehoming

Sales for the financial year 1st June 2021 to 31st May 2022 reached £21050.

48% of the Charity income came from donations and Giftaid. This is made up of: £3934 direct donations, donation buckets and cash donations; £2391 from Support Adoption for Pets; £3173 from Facebook donate; £392 Paypal Giving; £215 from Giftaid and £53 from Easy Fundraising.

# 10%

Sale of Merchandise and Donated Goods

31% of the overall income for the charity came from rehoming fees. Fees are charged at £45 for a single ferret or £40 per ferret if adopting multiple at the same time. The total income from rehoming was £6555.

# 9%

Shows, Events and Stalls (including in store events)

Show takings, stalls and events raised £1839, 9% of the overall income for the Charity.

# 2%

Vouchers and Grants

We raised £2060 (10%) from the sale of merchandise, including food, ferret oil, harnesses, hammocks, donated equipment, Christmas cards, hoodies, microchipping, etc...

Vouchers and grants raised £374 (2%)

# 86%

Direct Charitable Expenses

# £27,568

## Direct Expenses Breakdown

# %0.1

Bedding, Lino, etc...  
£37.69

# %0.5

Volunteer Expenses  
£113

# 26.3%

Food, Bedding, Blankets,  
Oil, Treats, Meat,  
Supplements, Special  
Dietary Food  
£6873

# 3.1%

Merchandise  
£870



# 48%

Vets Neutering  
£13242



# 20%

Vets General  
Treatment  
£5986



# 2%

Microchips  
£484



# 14%

Overheads

# £5177

Overheads Breakdown

# 44%

£2245

Repairs and Renewals  
including the new  
building, tools, hutches,  
etc...

# 41%

£2102

General Expenses  
including stationary,  
bank charges and  
postage.

# 4%

£219

Show and Event costs

# 11%

£611

Marketing including  
web costs

# FUTURE PLANS

## Building Plans

As the rescue develops and grows, we need more space for ferrets to live and exercise. As a board we have identified that we need to have some building work completed to remove a supporting wall from within the area in order to maximise space and create a hospital wing.

The rescue manager will gather quotes and we intend to apply for the Support Adoption For Pets grant to fund this and also some assistance with vets bills.

There are plans to build a new run in the garden which will be used for enrichment activities for the ferrets in care.

## Event Plans

We intend to return to regular ferret shows, fayres and events that we attended pre-covid and we will look to develop those events as an opportunity to raise vital funds and promote ferret ownership.

We will hold our annual camping trip which we hope to develop and grow over the next few years.

We intend to further develop our ferret racing set and practice delivering this as an activity to raise funds and provide entertainment.

Our monthly walks will continue, organised by Trustee, Emma Moan.

## Our Plans for 2021/2022

The board of trustees will meet to review our strategy, activity and identify the best course of action for the future to ensure that we meet the needs of our stakeholders, animals in our care and our community in a sustainable way.

We aim to develop new fundraising opportunities and apply for trusts and funds.

We plan to continue our partnership with Pets at Home, Support Adoption For Pets and apply for any grants available to help us continue our work to rescue and rehome ferrets.

We will further our educational library of information through our website and social media platforms to increase awareness of issues such as vaccinating against Canine Distemper, good ferret diets, neutering, etc...

We plan to build our support and volunteer network to allow us to help more ferrets in need.

We will provide a source of information, research and guidance for new ferret owners and we will promote adoption over private buying.

We will continue to rehome the ferrets that come into our care efficiently and ensure a high level of welfare throughout their time with Little Paws Ferret Rescue.

# Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our volunteering team who have worked tirelessly this year under very difficult circumstances.

Our Trustees who have supported the rescue manager and helped to develop the charity.

Our foster carers, who have supported the rescue to increase capacity to take in the increased demand for space for the endless line of incoming ferrets.

Our volunteers who help to transport ferrets to the vets for vaccinations, who search for hours for the missing frightened and abandoned pets, who share, like and comment on social media posts.

Our partner store, Pets at Home Byker. Part of the Support Adoption For Pets Scheme, who have helped financially.

A big thank you to everyone who has supported us through the Pets At Home VIP Scheme. We receive vouchers to spend in store which really helps with costs.

Our Vets and Vet nurses at Wrights Vets and Sunderland Vets 4 Pets for their dedication and hard work, especially our vet Kerida Shook and vet nurse Tyrina Gibson who have given so much of their time to the ferrets.

Our donors who contribute regularly every month and for the one off donors, every penny helps us to rescue ferrets.

Our rehomers who give rescued ferrets a second chance at happiness.

Thank you to every supporter, donor and friend that have been a real support to us over the past year.

Without your support and care we would often find it very difficult to continue. Thank you all for helping us to make this year a success.

Thank you all for your continued Support!



**Little Paws Ferret Rescue**  
[www.littlepawsferretrescue.co.uk](http://www.littlepawsferretrescue.co.uk)  
[littlepawsferretrescue@gmail.com](mailto:littlepawsferretrescue@gmail.com)

## Profit and Loss

### Sales

4000 - Sales - Merchandise	858	
4001 - Sales - Hoodies	275	
4002 - Sales - Donated equipment (	290	
4003 - Sales - Microchipping	128	
4004 - Sales - Ferret Oil	509.16	
4007 - Sales - Show Takings (class e	1,108.30	
4010 - Income - Rehoming Fees	6,555.00	
4011 - Income - Donations	3,202.48	
4012 - Income - Business Sponsors	44	
4013 - Income - Direct Donations fo	732	
4014 - Income - Facebook Donation	3,172.64	
4015 - Income - Paypal Giving Dona	391.54	
4017 - Income - Stalls and Events	686.47	
4018 - Income - Pets at Home (Supp	2,390.82	
4019 - Income - Donation from othe	65.15	
4020 - Income - Easy Fundraising	52.71	
4022 - Vouchers (Grant in Kind)	373.95	
4023 - Gift Aid	214.5	
<b>Total Sales</b>		<b>£21,049.72</b>

### Direct Expenses

5000 - Cost of Sales - Merchandise	869.57	
5020 - Cost of Sales - Food, Meat, S	6,835.25	
5021 - Cost of Sales - Bedding, Lino	37.69	
5030 - Cost of Sales - Vet Bills (Spa	13,242.32	
5031 - Cost of Sales - Vets Bills (ge	5,986.11	
5033 - Cost of Sales - Microchipping	484.24	
5035 - Cost of Sales - Volunteer Ex	112.75	
<b>Total Direct Expenses</b>		<b>£27,567.93</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT / LOSS</b>		<b>-£6,518.21</b>

### Overheads

5080 - Show and Event Direct Expe	178.91	
5082 - Show and Event Direct Expe	39.75	
6000 - Marketing	578.34	
7510 - Postage and Carriage	57.43	
7520 - Office Stationery	17.7	
7540 - Website Fees	32.4	
7630 - Business Insurance	35	
7800 - Repairs and Renewals	2,245.45	
7810 - Cleaning	132	
7900 - Bank Charges and Interest	0.58	
7901 - Paypal Fees	4.85	
8200 - General Expenses	1,854.61	

Total Overheads	£5,177.02
NET PROFIT / LOSS	-£11,695.23

## Balance Sheet

Date	5/31/2023	
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Fixed Assets		
	Total Fixed Assets	£0.00
Current Assets		
1100 - Trade Debtors	200	
1200 - Bank Account	4,840.70	
1220 - Petty Cash	1,810.33	
1230 - Paypal	2,770.21	
	Total Current Assets	£9,621.24
	<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>£9,621.24</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
Current Liabilities		
2100 - Trade Creditors	3,375.64	
	Total Current Liabilities	£3,375.64
Future Liabilities		
	Total Future Liabilities	£0.00
	<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>£3,375.64</b>
	<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>	<b>£6,245.60</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>		
Net Profit / Loss	6,245.60	
Net Profit / Loss (prior year(s))	6,245.60	
Net Profit / Loss (current year)	0	
	<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>	<b>£6,245.60</b>

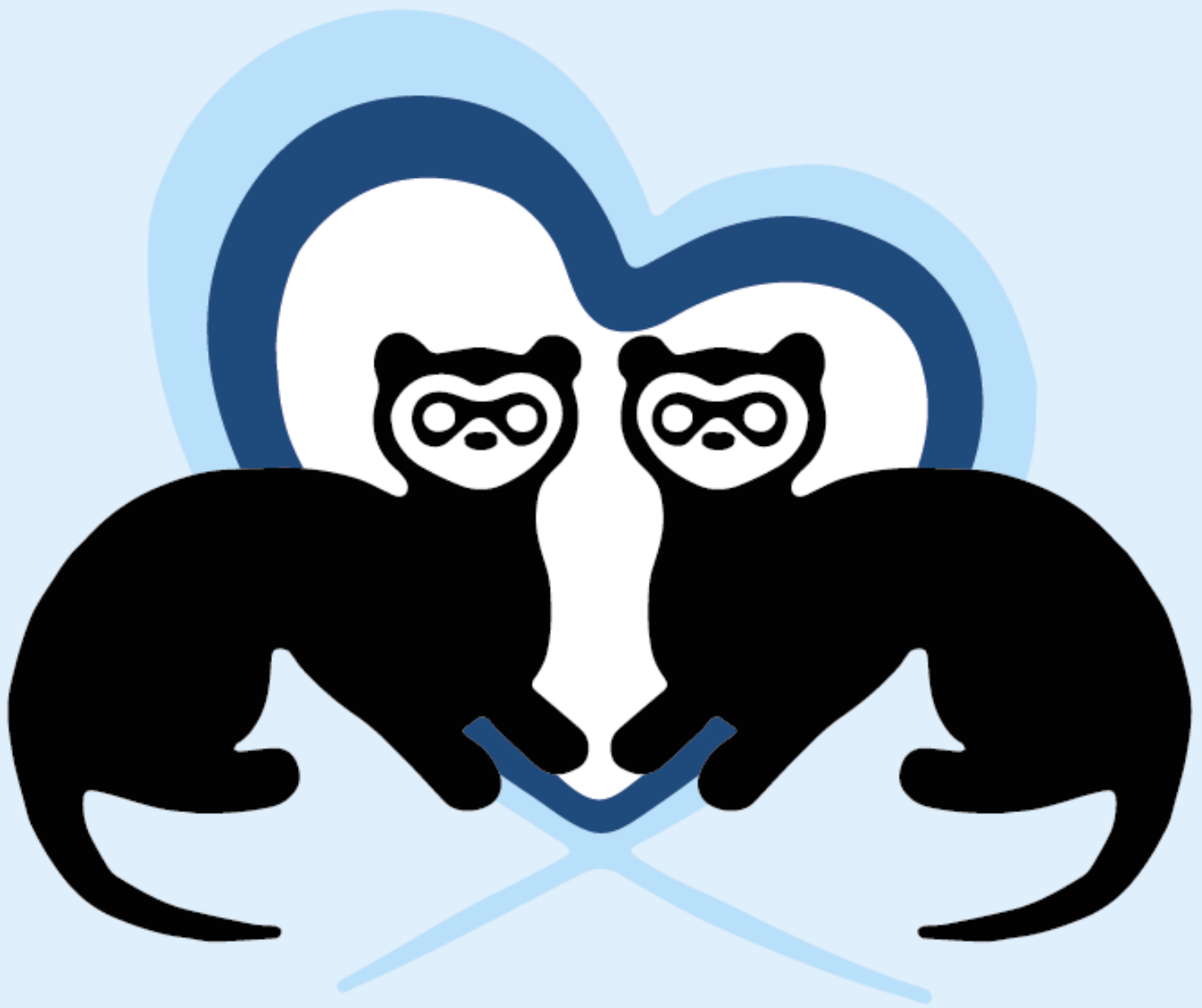
**LITTLE PAWS FERRET RESCUE**

England & Wales - Charity number 1182331

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# Accounts

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# **Little Paws Ferret Rescue**

You can't buy love, but you can rescue it!

**Trustees Annual  
Report**

2020 - 2021

Little Paws  
Ferret Rescue

# Trustees' Report

2020 - 2021

Little Paws  
Ferret Rescue  
Charity No:  
1182331

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# WELCOME

Our second year as a Charity in 2020 was such a challenging year. Working through a pandemic meant that we had to work around lockdowns and restrictions, vets were extremely stretched, volunteers were unable to help with care of the ferrets in rescue and travelling for rescues was difficult. However our team rose to the challenge in spectacular style and we fought through.

2020 saw 189 ferrets through the doors. 130 of those were surrendered ferrets. Many of this years surrenders were kits and a large number of those were suffering with Swimmers Disease. Heartbreakingly we were required to euthanise many kits that were just too ill to survive their condition.

Despite the terrible burdens and the extreme challenges we have faced this year, we have developed many processes and procedures to help us to operate effectively. The support that we have received from ferret owners and the public has been extraordinary and many supporters have become volunteers and lifelong friends of the rescue.

We thank you all for your support and love throughout.

Michelle Brunton  
Rescue Manager



# Our Covid-19 Journey

## A YEAR OF COVID

In March 2020 the world stopped! Covid 19 swept the country and Boris put us all in to lockdown. It seemed that the streets were apocalyptic and the nation was terrified. Amidst all of this the NHS Heros, Care workers and emergency services continued to do their best to help and so did we.

There were many wonderful sights from the doorstep celebrations to heroic efforts but the pandemic brought with it some very unexpected events too. Pet ownership increased as people craved for company and distraction from the events outside of their doors. The price of animals shot to record levels and animal theft increased exponentially. However in the ferret world we faced crisis of huge magnitude. Many ferret owners had time on their hands, hunting was not possible so there was a lack of free food for the ferrets, vets were struggling to cope and prices increased for jill jab. Many owners decided to breed.

As breeding increased and free whole prey was scarce, many people decided to feed cheap dog food and cat food. This led to many animals becoming nutritionally deficient. Kits became sick and animals started to be dumped in vast numbers as there were more ferrets that there was interest in buying kits.

The rescue became full to bursting point by the start of 2021 and has remained this way since.

Despite the stress and anxiety of the Covid-19 Pandemic we are still here and determined to continue to rescue ferrets. We will continue to build and grow and we will survive!

## IMPACT

As a result of Covid we have not been able to undertake our fundraising activities. We were not allowed in store with our Pets at Home partner store Byker and they were left to fundraise alone in store. They did a fantastic job and managed to raise £500 over the Santa Paws event with a further £2000 donated for Valentines Day 2021.

We were unable to operate any ferret shows or events which are essential to the rescue funds.

Vet costs increased due to the amount of ferrets requiring xrays and treatment for Swimmers Disease.

The number of volunteers fostering ferrets increased as we struggled to find space for the many ferrets coming through the doors.

Adoptions ceased throughout the lockdowns meaning less adoption income for the charity and less space for new ferrets coming in. This also meant that ferrets spent more time in rescue.

On a positive note we have had an extraordinary amount of support and we continue to be amazed by the kindness and strength of our rescue family.



# OUR AIMS & ACHIEVEMENTS THIS YEAR

## Charity Aims

We aim to rescue abandoned, lost and unwanted ferrets in the North East UK. We will rehabilitate and care for these ferrets until they are able to be rehomed. The rescue will carry out activities to find new homes for the ferrets in rescue and provide backup support for the lifetime of the ferret.

Little Paws Ferret Rescue is run by volunteers. We rely on the support of our members, volunteers and generosity of members of the public. We also have benefitted greatly from a grant provided by the Pets at Home Foundation to help with neutering and feeding bills.

Every pound that is donated or raised through fundraising, goes straight to helping animals in need.

We are passionate about providing advice and information to the public about caring for ferrets and the importance of neutering. We will continue to provide educational opportunities to broaden the knowledge of ferrets as a species and the benefits of owning ferrets.

## Ferrets In and Out

During the financial year March 2020 to March 2021 Little Paws Ferret Rescue took in 189 ferrets.

Around 70% of ferrets entering rescue during the pandemic were surrendered by their owners (an increase of 30% on last year) the remaining 30% were found as strays. The number of strays was less than the previous year as owners were at home more to care for them.

We rehomed 167 ferrets during 2020/2021 which is an amazing number considering the pandemic restrictions.

## Volunteer Development

The rescue have had a very successful year for volunteer recruitment. With the endless hours of free time created by the Covid pandemic and many people isolated and bored, many were looking for something to help them pass the time.

We welcomed them with open arms and the Manager, Michelle, developed training courses to help equip the volunteers with a good knowledge base. The rescue used Pets at Home VIP vouchers to secure hutches for volunteers to increase fostering and a new volunteer application form has been developed to gather and record volunteer details.

# 2020/2021 Summary

Despite the pandemic we were able to organise and attend a fantastic camping trip that happened to fall between lockdowns. This was a blessed relief and respite from the woes of the pandemic and was enjoyed by all.

The rescue website has seen a lot of development over the year and many features have been added to make it more appealing for visitors.

The rescue facilities have also undergone many changes with a new building being completed just weeks before the first lockdown. This houses up to 25 ferrets and provides a safe play space where ferrets can free run and get extra stimulation.



# TRUSTEES AND VOLUNTEERS

NAME	APPOINTED ON	ROLE
Michelle Brunton	24th May 2018	Chair
Rachel Thomas	24th May 2018	Trustee
Emma Moan	24th May 2018	Trustee
Tracey Mowatt	27th November 2018	Trustee
Lisa Thompson-Gillett	29th February 2020	Trustee
Reuben Gillett	29th February 2020	Trustee

# FINANCIAL REVIEW

## Reserves Policy

The trustees' policy is to retain 3 months' worth of normal running costs in order to meet commitments and to cover any unexpected expenditure.

## Financial Review

Income for the period amount to £27,610 with expenditure of £19,741.

Profitability - Gross profits £10636 (38.5%) and net profits are £7869 (28.5%).

Assets - The charity does not hold any fixed assets. Current assets include a balance in the bank of £7654, Paypal Balance (including the main Paypal and Paypal Giving accounts) £2641 and a petty cash balance of £3807.

Liabilities - Trade debtors of £30 and Trade Creditors £1133.

## Future Developments

The Trustees will continue to develop their calendar of events and will look at ways to create income from these events such as stall ideas, photo competitions, seasonal stalls, etc... They will develop more branded goods and merchandise in the future and look to supply goods such as food, oil, harnesses, bedding etc...

We will continue to develop our partnership with Pets at Home Byker as this is a good way to reach our target audience and receive donations and grants from the store.

## Trustee Statement

The Trustees consider the Charity to be a going concern and it is assumed that the Charity will continue for the foreseeable future.

# 31%

Grants and Vouchers

## Sales Breakdown

Sales for the financial year 1st March 2020 to 31st March 2021 reached £27610.

31% of all sales income was received from grants and vouchers supplied by Support Adoption for Pets program run by Pets at Home. We applied for grants to help with neutering and vet fees, feed bills and replacing the roof on our outdoor ferret enclosure. The scheme also provided a grant of £2000 for Valentines Day.

# 28%

Donations and GiftAid

28% of the Charity income came from donations and Giftaid. This is made up of: £2630 direct donations, donation buckets and cash donations; £4067 from Facebook donate; £407 Paypal Giving and £79 from Easy Fundraising.

# 22%

Rehoming Fees

22% of the overall income for the charity came from rehoming fees. Fees are charged at £45 for a single ferret or £40 per ferret if adopting multiple at the same time. The total income from rehoming was £5931.

# 12%

Sale of Merchandise and Donated Goods

Show takings, stalls and events raised £2019, 7% of the overall income for the Charity. This included in store Pets at Home events and microchipping.

# 7%

Shows, Events and Stalls (including in store events)

We raised £3371 from the sale of merchandise, including food, ferret oil, harnesses, hammocks, donated equipment, Christmas cards, hoodies, etc...

# 87%

Direct Charitable Expenses

# £17,218

## Direct Expenses Breakdown

# 0.6%

Other Direct Expenses  
£69

# 0.4%

Volunteer Expenses  
£47

# 18%

Food, Bedding, Blankets,  
Oil, Treats, Meat,  
Supplements, Special  
Dietary Food  
£3116

# 7%

Merchandise  
£1158



# 61%

Vets Neutering  
£10505



# 10%

Vets General  
Treatment  
£1738



# 3%

Microchips  
£566



# 13%

Overheads

# £2523

Overheads Breakdown

# 73%

£1843

Repairs and Renewals including the new building, tools, hutches, etc...

# 24%

£601

General Expenses including bad debt for an unpaid rehome fee, domain name renewal and postage.

# 2%

£57

Show and Event costs

# 1%

£23

Paypal Fees and General Expenses

# FUTURE PLANS

## Covid-19

### Covid 19 Crisis

Like most UK animal charities, we expect to be negatively affected by the covid 19 crisis.

As a charity we are completely reliant on donations from the public and our major concern is that many of our sources of income could potentially dry up overnight – fundraising events, rehoming and our main ferret shows could be postponed or cancelled.

We aim to find creative ways to reach our customer base and provide a social community of ferret lovers who can support each other remotely through the looming crisis.

We will also prepare for the potential fall out caused by the pandemic as we expect there will be many animals surrendered, abandoned and in need of help both during and following the Covid 19 crisis. We aim to support owners in financial difficulties to ensure the welfare of their ferrets.

Despite the difficulties that we may face in the coming months, Little Paws Ferret Rescue will continue its rescue activities to the best of our ability. Where possible we will remain open for rehoming and to support the ferret owners community. We will endeavour to respond to calls for help with stray and abandoned ferrets in the North East UK.

## Our Plans for 2020/2021

The board of trustees will meet to review our strategy, activity and identify the best course of action for the future to ensure that we meet the needs of our stakeholders, animals in our care and our community in a sustainable way.

We aim to develop new fundraising opportunities which conform to current social distancing rules.

We plan to continue our partnership with Pets at Home, Support Adoption For Pets and apply for any grants available to help us continue our work to rescue and rehome ferrets.

We will further our educational library of information through our website and social media platforms to increase awareness of issues such as vaccinating against Canine Distemper, good ferret diets, neutering, etc...

We plan to build our support and volunteer network to allow us to help more ferrets in need.

We will provide a source of information, research and guidance for new ferret owners and we will promote adoption over private buying.

We will continue to rehome the ferrets that come into our care efficiently and ensure a high level of welfare throughout their time with Little Paws Ferret Rescue.

# Acknowledgements

We would like to acknowledge the dedication of our volunteering team who have kept the wheels turning through the Covid-19 pandemic. They have gone above and beyond to save ferrets during a very difficult time.

Our Trustees who have supported the rescue manager and helped to develop the charity.

Our foster carers, who have helped with the endless line of incoming ferret kits. They have been instrumental in rescuing and teaching new kits some manners.

Our volunteers who help to transport ferrets to the vets for vaccinations, who search for hours for the missing frightened and abandoned pets, who share, like and comment on social media posts.

Our partner store, Pets at Home Byker. Part of the Support Adoption For Pets Scheme, who have really helped financially throughout the pandemic. A big thank you to everyone who has supported us through the Pets At Home VIP Scheme. We receive vouchers to spend in store which really helps with costs.

Our Vets and Vet nurses at Premier Vets for their dedication and hard work, especially our vet Kerida Shook who has given so much of her time to the ferrets.

Our donors who contribute regularly every month and for the one off donors, every penny helps us to rescue ferrets.

Our rehomers who give rescued ferrets a second chance at happiness.

Thank you to every supporter, donor and friend that have been a real support to us over the past year.

Without your support and care we would often find it very difficult to continue. Thank you all for helping us to make this year a success.

Thank you all for your continued Support!



**Little Paws Ferret Rescue**  
[www.littlepawsferretrescue.co.uk](http://www.littlepawsferretrescue.co.uk)  
[littlepawsferretrescue@gmail.com](mailto:littlepawsferretrescue@gmail.com)

# Little Paws Ferret Rescue CIO

## Profit and Loss Report

01 April, 2020 - 31 March, 2021

### Sales

4000 - Sales - Merchandise	1,706.55	
4001 - Sales - Hoodies	100.00	
4002 - Sales - Donated equipment (cages, etc..)	850.88	
4003 - Sales - Microchipping	48.50	
4004 - Sales - Ferret Oil	714.00	
4007 - Sales - Show Takings (class entries, food, etc...)	502.46	
4010 - Income - Rehoming Fees	5,931.00	
4011 - Income - Donations	2,240.49	
4013 - Income - Direct Donations for Treatments	380.09	
4014 - Income - Facebook Donations	4,067.00	
4015 - Income - Paypal Giving Donations	406.62	
4017 - Income - Stalls and Events	331.00	
4018 - Income - Pets at Home (Support Adoption For Pets Events)	1,136.75	
4020 - Income - Easy Fundraising	78.72	
4021 - Charitable Grants	8,000.00	
4022 - Vouchers (Grant in Kind)	431.40	
4023 - Gift Aid	654.34	
4920 - Royalties & Commissions Received	20.90	
	<b>Total Sales</b>	<b>£27,609.70</b>

### Direct Expenses

5000 - Cost of Sales - Merchandise	1,157.72
5020 - Cost of Sales - Food, Meat, Shavings	3,115.68
5021 - Cost of Sales - Bedding, Lino, Etc...	18.85

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5030 - Cost of Sales - Vet Bills (Spay and Neuter)	10,505.12	
5031 - Cost of Sales - Vets Bills (general treatments)	1,737.98	
5033 - Cost of Sales - Microchipping	566.08	
5035 - Cost of Sales - Volunteer Expenses	47.28	
5060 - Other Direct Expenses	69.00	
	<b>Total Direct Expenses</b>	<b>£17,217.71</b>
	<b>GROSS PROFIT / LOSS</b>	<b>£10,391.99</b>
<b>Overheads</b>		
5080 - Show and Event Direct Expenses	1.29	
5082 - Show and Event Direct Expenses - Rosettes and Trophies	55.29	
7510 - Postage and Carriage	37.91	
7540 - Website Fees	12.46	
7800 - Repairs and Renewals	1,843.25	
7900 - Bank Charges and Interest	1.58	
7901 - Paypal Fees	21.26	
8100 - Bad Debts	45.00	
8200 - General Expenses	505.43	
	<b>Total Overheads</b>	<b>£2,523.47</b>
	<b>NET PROFIT / LOSS</b>	<b>£7,868.52</b>

# Little Paws Ferret Rescue CIO

## Balance Sheet Report

To: 31 March, 2021

### ASSETS

#### Fixed Assets

Total Fixed Assets £0.00

#### Current Assets

1200 - Bank Account

7,654.04

1220 - Petty Cash

3,807.91

1230 - Paypal

2,376.25

1240 - Paypal Giving

265.00

Total Current Assets £14,103.20

TOTAL ASSETS £14,103.20

### LIABILITIES

#### Current Liabilities

1100 - Trade Debtors

30.00

2100 - Trade Creditors

1,132.71

Total Current Liabilities £1,162.71

#### Future Liabilities

Total Future Liabilities £0.00

TOTAL LIABILITIES £1,162.71

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**TOTAL NET ASSETS** **£12,940.49**

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**EQUITY**

Net Profit / Loss	12,940.49
<i>Net Profit / Loss (prior year(s))</i>	5,071.97
<i>Net Profit / Loss (current year)</i>	7,868.52

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**TOTAL EQUITY** **£12,940.49**

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## Independent Report on the financial records of Little Paws Ferret Rescue CIO

I have reviewed the financial accounts for Little Paws Ferret Rescue CIO for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

I confirm that the attached Financial Statement for 2020/21, which shows a net profit of £7,868, generated from income of £27,610, is a true and fair record of the financial year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.

The Balance Sheet position as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021, showing total net assets (and equity) of £12,940, is a true representation of the financial position of the CIO at that date.

Based on the information to hand, I confirm that Little Paws Ferret Rescue CIO is a going concern and has sufficient on-going income and funds to meet its current and foreseeable financial commitments.

David Beavis

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Beavis".

Managing Director,  
Northern Pinetree Trust Trading Ltd t/a  
Pinetree Business Centre