

Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date				Period end date		
From	01	01	2023	To	31	12 2023

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name **WARWICKSHIRE HEDGEHOG RESCUE**

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) **1183331**

Charity's principal address

45 Mallory Drive

Warwick

Postcode

CV34 4UD

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Clare Watson	Chair and Secretary		Two trustees
2	Kenneth Faisey	Treasurer	2 February 2023	Two trustees
3	Elizabeth Lyne			Two trustees
4	Gemma Smith			Two trustees
5	Sally Ellis			Two trustees

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

Constitution

How the charity is constituted
(eg. trust, association, company)

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Trustee selection methods
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

Appointed by trustees

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

Section C

Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

1. FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC TO RELIEVE THE SUFFERING OF HEDGEHOGS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION BY PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING RESCUE FACILITIES FOR THE RECEPTION, CARE AND TREATMENT OF SUCH ANIMALS IN THE WARWICKSHIRE AREA.
2. TO ADVANCE PUBLIC EDUCATION IN THE STUDY OF HEDGEHOGS. TO INCREASE THEIR KNOWLEDGE INCLUDING THE CONSERVATION AND HABITAT OF HEDGEHOGS

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

In operating our charity, the trustees have regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on providing a public benefit.

Our main activity is to provide a point of contact for members of the public and veterinary practices in Warwickshire and adjoining borders who has found a hedgehog they are concerned about.

Following a telephone triage process, any hedgehog who is deemed to be requiring in person assessment and/or intervention will be brought to one of our rehabilitators. If a hedgehog is deemed not to require assessment or intervention, appropriate advice will be given to the finder about supporting the hedgehog in the environment where it was found, generally the finders garden.

The rehabilitator will provide the rescued hedgehog with safe housing, artificial heat, when necessary, food, water, bedding, closed monitoring and any required treatments. If the hedgehog has a condition requiring intervention by a vet, it will be taken to one of our hedgehog-friendly veterinary practices nearby.

Rehabilitators are distributed throughout Warwickshire, and each uses a veterinary practice near him or her. It would be impossible for us to continue our work without the support of vets on whom we rely to:

1. Advise on difficult/unusual medical conditions;
2. Recommend treatment for stubborn or complex problems;
3. Supply medication for use by rehabilitators;
4. Examine and, if possible, treat hedgehogs with serious injuries or conditions
5. Euthanise hedgehogs that are very ill or badly injured.

We provide, 24-hour care. Our rehabilitators will provide care and, where appropriate, treatment for the hedgehog until it can be released back to the wild or handed to one of our foster carers to provide continuing care in preparation for its release. In the late autumn, hedgehogs that are considered too small to be released, or who are later arrivals still requiring treatment, will be overwintered with us until such time as the weather has improved and they reach an appropriate release weight. There may be small number of hedgehogs each year are not suitable for release and these are found long term homes suitable to their condition.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Members of the organisation are all volunteers who have been helping hedgehogs, as a cohesive group, since the formation of the organisation in 2014. Some members of the group have worked with hedgehogs independently for many years prior to that date.

The group comprises 9 rehabilitators and many foster carers, dedicated to making a positive impact on the survival of the Warwickshire hedgehog population. All operate from their homes and gardens in Warwickshire where they provide, between them, a wide range of rescue facilities. Rehabilitators are trained in the care of hedgehogs and, specifically, the administration of medication and specific treatment to sick or injured hedgehogs. Foster carers, typically, provide shelter, food, care to the hedgehog during the recovery period until they are at an appropriate release weight. Many of the rehabilitators and some of the foster carers have attended the Vale Wildlife Hospital and Rehabilitation Centre where they have completed the First Aid, Care and Rehabilitation of Hedgehogs Course.

The task of nursing a hedgehog back to health can be a lengthy process, sometimes taking a number of months. This involves feeding, cleaning, medicating, keeping records of care, vet visits and communicating with finders.

During the year we are often invited to attend events to raise public awareness about supporting hedgehogs, and to give talks to a variety of groups, including schools. We have display stands and educational material to support the team on these occasions.

Volunteers form the backbone of the charity and donate their time, personal funds and expertise for the benefit of the public and Warwickshire's hedgehogs. Thanks to them the charity continues to generate goodwill amongst the hedgehog loving public. It is that goodwill, often accompanied by generous donations of money and supplies, that keeps our doors open and the trustees wish to thank all our volunteers and supporters for their generosity of spirit.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

During 2023 our rehabilitators received over 900 sick or injured hedgehogs, an increase of 28% on the previous year. Public awareness, widely fluctuating weather conditions and other environmental factors may have accounted for some of the increase. However, the admission area widened as a result of the limited availability of one nearby rescue and the closure of another.

Approximately 55% of those admitted recovered fully and were released back to the wild. Sadly, some hedgehogs with serious injuries or advanced conditions could not be saved despite, where necessary, veterinary intervention. The environmental conditions in 2023 made it a very difficult year for hedgehogs and our rehabilitators received record numbers. We received many hedgehogs with severe problems as well as more babies and juveniles than previous years. In the autumn, the admissions arrived with complex parasitical and bacterial problems. We continue to develop our practices to respond to these changing circumstances.

Our native European Hedgehog is still identified as a species vulnerable to extinction. Public awareness of the threat to hedgehogs has increased thanks to national and local campaigns, social media and the availability of information about what to do if they find a sick or injured hedgehog. We have worked to improve our social media presence in recent years and now have a large number of followers on our Facebook and Instagram sites. Users are directed to our website www.warwickshirehedgehogrescue.org where educational material and contact information for rehabilitators can be found.

During the last three years the trustees have developed and agreed policies covering the following areas of business:

Finance
Foster Caring
Risk Management
Complaints

Our policies are regularly reviewed and updated by the Trustees in line with national guidance.

The charity is pleased to report that income has continued to exceed expenditure, although by less than the two previous years, with donations and grants coming from individuals, businesses, and charitable trusts. We have seen an increase in expenditure over the last year which has been driven by the significant increase in the numbers of hedgehogs being treated and the increasing costs of essential medication and food.

Our continued thanks go to the large number of individuals who continue to support the charity financially and to the following businesses and charitable trusts for their invaluable support grants:

Rose Animal Trust, Lennox Hanney Trust, EH Smith Trust, Patrick Trust, Dumbreck Trust, Beryl Evetts and Robert Luff Trust, Betty Philips Trust, Kenilworth Books. The Carl Lewis Foundation, Johnsons Vet Ltd

Thanks to everyone for their support!

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity aims to keep sufficient funds in reserve to cover at least one year of operational costs should the annual required income fail to be achieved. Year on year the charity aims to increase its reserves at least in line with inflation.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Our principal source of funds in 2023 were unrestricted funds from charitable trusts and businesses and donations from the general public via PayPal.

Expenditure in 2023 has directly supported our key objectives with food, care and medical supplies 65%, medication and veterinary care 26%, equipment 7%, educational activities and administration 2%.

Section F

Other optional information


Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Clare Watson

Sally Ellis

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair

Trustee

Date

27 January 2024



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name

WARWICKSHIRE HEDGEHOG RESCUE

No (if any)

1183331

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date

1/1/2023

To

Period end date

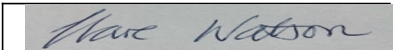
12/31/2023

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations General	10,404	-	-	10,404	8,930
Grants	11,176	-	-	11,176	28,365
Interest	414	-	-	414	182
Refund	106	-	-	106	231
Gift Aid	1,157	-	-	1,157	1,436
Legacies	-	-	-	-	83
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	23,257	-	-	23,257	39,227
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	23,257	-	-	23,257	39,227
A3 Payments					
Food, care and medical supplies	11,924	-	-	11,924	8,461
Medication	-	-	-	-	480
Vet fees	4,769	-	-	4,769	1,467
Equipment	1,288	-	-	1,288	3,820
Educational Activities	57	-	-	57	531
Administration	381	-	-	381	267
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	18,419	-	-	18,419	15,026
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
Brinsea Incubators x2	-	-	-	-	1,380
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	1,380
Total payments	18,419	-	-	18,419	16,406
Net of receipts/(payments)	4,838	-	-	4,838	22,821
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	69,362	-	-	69,362	46,541
Cash funds this year end	74,200	-	-	74,200	69,362

Err:522

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Bank	74,200	-	-
	Cash		-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	74,200	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	to nearest £	to nearest £	to nearest £
			-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	Brinsea Incubators x2		1,380	843
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
			Clare Watson	27-Jan-24



Sally Ellis

27-Jan-24