



RSPCA Cheshire (Altrincham) Branch

Registered Charity No 223367

Annual report and unaudited financial statements
for the year ending 31 December 2020

RSPCA Cheshire (Altrincham) Branch

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Branch Information

Trustees

Nicola Raven	<i>Honorary Chairperson</i>
Clare Hart	<i>Honorary Secretary</i>
Naeem Dean	<i>Honorary Treasurer</i>
Michael Hart	<i>Trustee</i>
Lesley Hung	<i>Trustee</i>
Julie Reilly	<i>Trustee</i>
Nicola Rushby	<i>Trustee</i>
Joanne Yoli	<i>Trustee</i>
Stephanie Nicholson	<i>Co-opted Trustee</i>
Debbie Grindley.	<i>Co-opted Trustee</i>

Charity number

223367

Charity address

5 Dalebrook Road, Brooklands, Sale,
Manchester M33 3LD

Bankers

Nat West
19 School Road
Sale
Cheshire
M33 7ZA

Yorkshire Bank
34 Princes Street
Stockport
SK1 1RE

Virgin Money
1 Princess Street, Manchester M2 4DF

Independent Examiner

Fari Minaeian BSc, FCA
Hanleys,
Spring Court,
Spring Road,
Hale,
Cheshire WA14 2UQ

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Trustees Report

Structure, Governance and Management

The Charity is constituted as an unincorporated association. The Charity operates as an autonomous branch of the National RSPCA subject to its rules for branches.

The Trustees are fully briefed on their responsibilities as Trustees prior to their acceptance of the role and are issued with a guidance handbook on the role and responsibilities of a Trustee. The Trustees are elected at the AGM and form a committee which governs the branch.

The Trustees hold monthly meetings at which management decisions are made. The day to day running of the Branch is delegated to the Branch Manager. Support and strategic direction is given by the Trustees.

The principal funding sources for the branch are from income from fundraising events, donations, legacies and income from rehoming animals. The Trustees review the risks that the charity faces on a regular basis through regular meetings of the Trustees which cover operational and financial reviews.

Objectives and Principal Activities

The objectives of the Branch are to promote the work and objects of the National Society of the RSPCA, with particular reference to the area covered by the Branch.

The primary aims are to provide proper care for animals that have been mistreated or neglected and to rehome as many animals as possible. This is achieved by providing accommodation for those animals most at risk, identified by the RSPCA Inspectors.

Achievements and Performance

As everyone is aware, 2020 has been a difficult year for everyone with the huge effects of the Covid 19 pandemic on our country, our economy, our businesses, our healthcare workers and our family, friends and colleagues. During this period, we have tried to meet the many challenges presented and continued to support the National RSPCA as well as we can and have also tried to provide animal welfare in our area.

During 2020, the branch took in 390 animals. As we have a great network of fosterers within our branch, we can take in a real variety of animals. This year, they included dogs, cats, rabbits, hamsters, gerbils, degus, mice, chickens, cockatiels, parrots and many more. A lot of our animals came from the RSPCA Greater Manchester Animal Hospital where we are part of the space management project and from the Inspectors who needed space for the animals rescued due to neglect or cruelty. As a branch, we aim to target and help animals most in need and we also help members of the public who are struggling with their animals.

We work with Warrington RSPCA and take their ex case animals once they are ready to be rehomed and move them into foster care. We also work with Regional RSPCA and their networks to help move animals from private boarding into foster homes.

In 2020, we rehomed 381 animals – 24 dogs, 186 cats, 71 rabbits and 100 others. Our dedicated team of home visitors also carried out 189 home visits, often virtually, in 2020.

The branch continues to offer financial assistance to sick and injured animals whose owners are on low incomes. (Continued)

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Achievements and Performance (Continued)

Whilst the branch has a large volunteer base for fundraising events, our fundraising opportunities were unfortunately severely affected by the pandemic with no collections, dog shows or fairs possible after the lockdown in March 2020. Before the lockdown, we had collections at Tesco's in Altrincham and Sale which raised £238 and £165 respectively and the Pets at Home weekend which raised £229. Fortunately, we were able to continue our online auctions which raised an amazing £5,500 and we also raised £3219 through Facebook Sales. Cats of M33 fundraisers also raised £2312 for us.

The branch also receives a payment from the National RSPCA each year in respect of the door-to-door collections. This year, we agreed to forgo roughly half of the money we were due with the money instead being placed in an emergency fund set up to help struggling branch centres to continue to operate in the following few months.

The branch did not receive any legacies in 2020.

We were unable to sell our Christmas cards in the local libraries this year as the shops were unable to go ahead.

We are always looking to increase our volunteer base and hope to find new ways to recruit volunteers in the future.

Objects and Public Benefit Statement

The Trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of our objectives for the year, to ensure that we remain focused on our charitable aims and continue to deliver benefits to the public. We have complied with the duty under the Charities Act 2006 to have regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

Advancement of Animal Welfare

Our animal welfare work, taking in animals from the Inspectorate, benefits society at large and also aims to help people in need with the care of their animals. Under the Charities Act 2006 the advancement of animal welfare is recognised as a distinct statutory charitable purpose. This legislation and the Animal Welfare Act of the same year indicate an acceptance by society that treating living creatures with compassion has a moral benefit for the public as a whole. Our main activities, highlighted below, demonstrate the benefit provided to the public. All of our charitable activities focus on promoting kindness and preventing or suppressing cruelty to animals and are undertaken to further these purposes for the public benefit.

Charitable Activities pursued for the public benefit

We support RSPCA Inspectors by taking in, caring for and rehabilitating animals which have been removed as a result of cruelty, neglect or abuse. The Society's Inspectorate rescues animals in distress or at risk and enforces laws against the mistreatment of animals in England and Wales by bringing prosecutions.

This work is key to the prevention or suppression of cruelty, part of the RSPCA objects, and promotes humane sentiments towards animals which involves moral benefit to human kind as a whole. We provide subsidised veterinary treatment for animals that are sick or injured or whose owners are on low incomes and unable to meet the full cost. Animals in our care receive veterinary treatment and preventative care, including, vaccination to help control the spread of infectious diseases. Dogs are microchipped to comply with the law at the earliest opportunity. Once animals become available for rehoming they undergo assessment, and all animals are neutered and microchipped. (Continued)

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Charitable Activities pursued for the public benefit (Continued)

Animals are rehomed at a reasonable cost to adopters. Whilst we recognise that companion animals provide measurable benefits to people's physical and mental health, we consider the provision of pets as subsidiary to the main charitable aim of this Charity, which is to reduce animal suffering. Our policy to charge a reasonable adoption fee for animals aims to highlight the ongoing personal and financial commitment of pet ownership. It would not be in the best interests of animals, and therefore would fall outside our objects, to rehome to those who could not afford to keep them.

We provide volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, pre-adoption home visiting, fundraising and fostering. This benefits local people by providing the possibility of doing voluntary work which is compassionate and rewarding.

Financial Review

As you will know the year 2020 has been dominated by the world's Corona Virus pandemic and the effects on the whole population with national lockdowns, businesses shut and families being confined to their homes. These started in March 2020 resulting in the committee ceasing all physical meetings and moving onto virtual meetings from the April 2020 meeting onwards.

This clearly resulted in a total curtailment of our planned fundraising events for the rest of the year, which had an impact on the income we were able to raise.

Luckily our main source of annual income, our branch share of the national door-to-door collections, was still received by us during the year as this is based on the collections made in the previous year i.e. 2019.

Our total income for the year fell from £86.7k to £79k in the year, a fall of £7.6k. This was made up of the door-to-door collection receipts staying more or less the same at £25.5k, an increase in donations to the tune of £11k, though this was offset by a lack of any legacies in the year -we received £12.5k in legacies last year. In addition to this we had a fall in rehoming fees and other income too.

Our total expenses for the year were £89k (£77.3k the previous year), this being an increase in animal welfare costs of £3.3k, a fall in branch admin costs of £3.1k and an increase in Branch contribution costs to £12.1k.

As a number of branches were in financial difficulties the branch agreed to support the national RSPCA appeal for an emergency fund to assist those struggling branches. We donated £12k to these funds, roughly half of our door-door collection.

The net outgoings (loss) in the year was £10.2k.

As we were able to benefit from an increase in the value of our Charities Official Investment Fund by £12.3k the total net movement in funds was a positive £2k, down from the positive £31.7k last year. Our total funds carried forward was therefore £208.8k.

The two prime contributors to this change were therefore the loss of £12.5k in legacies and the one off contribution made to the Emergency fund of £12k. All in all a break even in a tumultuous year.

Given the difficult backdrop to 2020 with the Pandemic, my thanks to Nicola Raven who has already settled in quickly to the role over the last two years and marshalled us and the branch really well in our monthly online meetings in a difficult year.

My thanks also to Julia Tucker, our Branch Manager, once again for all her hard work in keeping the branch running on a day to day basis. As always she does a tremendous job.

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Finally, I've been the Treasurer for some 14 years now and my wider thanks go to the rest of my fellow trustees and our team of fosterers and volunteers for helping provide the animal welfare and rehoming services we do. They do a terrific job.

As I write, the UK is in the middle of a mass vaccine programme with signs of a relaxation of lockdown rules. After more than a year of frustration all round we might be seeing some signs of normality reappearing later in the second half of the year.

The provision of Animal welfare will remain our priority and we will do as much as we can whilst striving to ensure the longer term longevity of the branch. I think next year will be more difficult again as I think maintaining income streams will be more challenging than in the past. Our fingers are firmly crossed!

Reserves Policy

The trustees have a policy of ensuring that the branch has sufficient reserves to continue to operate for a period of three years from the balance sheet date. The trustees take this relatively long term view because, while the demands on our expenditure are fairly constant each year, our income can fluctuate significantly from one year to the next depending on any legacies received. Should there be a two or three year period without any significant legacies, then our level of reserves would start to fall.

Investment Policy

The trustees believe that our policy of holding surplus cash in a higher interest account is most appropriate for the charity, given our plans for future donations, which will require ready access to the funds held.

Related parties

A salary and some expenses were paid to the Branch Manager, Julia Tucker, who is the sister of Nicola Rushby, in the period 1st January 2020 to 31st December 2020.

Future Plans

The branch looks forward to 2021 after a difficult 2020.

We will continue to develop our successful network of fosterers and will also continue to assist the GMAH space management project and help the Inspectors as best we can. We will also help the public where we can when they are struggling with their animals. We are proud of our rehoming figures and will continue to work, with the help of our incredible volunteers, to rehome as many animals as possible.

We will continue with our work in the community as far as we are able and permitted and to offer financial assistance to sick and injured animals whose owners are on low incomes. We will also continue with our fundraising efforts and as soon as we are able and permitted, this will include our regular dog shows, fairs, quizzes and the sale of Christmas cards as well as online auctions and Facebook sales.

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Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Observe the methods and principle in the Charities SORP
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They 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.

We would like to thank all our volunteers and supporters for everything they have done in 2020 and look forward to their continued support in 2021.

On behalf of the Trustees

Clare Hart

Honorary Secretary

Please see Financial Statements below for:

Independent Examiner's Report

Statement of Financial Activities

Balance Sheet

Notes forming part of the Financial Statements

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE
PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS**

ALTRINCHAM BRANCH

Charity no: 223367

**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements**

Year ended 31 December 2020

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS -
ALTRINCHAM BRANCH**

Financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

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ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS - ALTRINCHAM BRANCH

Report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2020

The Altrincham Branch of The Royal Society of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was established in 1963.

Objectives

The objectives of the charity are to promote kindness and to prevent or suppress cruelty to animals and to do all such lawful acts as the charity may consider to be conducive or incidental to the attainment of these objects.

Results

The branch's expenditure exceeded income by £10,291 in the year. There was an unrealised gain in the value of investments of £12,332.

Future plans

It is hoped that the continued efforts of Trustees, staff and supporters will lead to an increase in the charity's income.

Trustees

The trustees during the year were:

Ms N Raven	Honorary Chairperson
Mr N Dean	Honorary Treasurer
Ms C Hart	Honorary Secretary
Mr M Hart	
Mrs J Reilly	
Ms L Hung	
Ms J Yoli	
Miss N Rushby	
Stephanie Dawn Nicholson	(appointed 27 April 2020)
Deborah Grindley	(appointed 27 April 2020)

Reserves policy

The principal funding sources for the branch are from income from fundraising events, donations, legacies and income from rehoming animals. The Trustees review the risks the charity faces on a regular basis through regular meetings of the Trustees, which cover operational and financial reviews.

The trustees have a policy of ensuring that the branch has sufficient reserves to continue to operate for a period of three years from the balance sheet date. The trustees take this relatively long-term view because, while the demands on our expenditure are fairly constant each year, our income can fluctuate significantly from one year to the next depending on legacies received. Should there be a two or three year period without any significant legacies, then our level of reserves would start to fall.

The amount of reserves that would be required is three years.

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS
ALTRINCHAM BRANCH**

Report of the trustees (continued)

Risk review

The trustees have reviewed the risks that the charity face and believe that the main risk is the fluctuation in its income due to legacies received, as noted above in the reserves policy.

Investment policy

The trustees believe that our policy of holding surplus cash in a high interest account is most appropriate for the charity, given our plans for future donations, which will require ready access to the funds held.

Responsibilities of the trustees

It is the responsibility of the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the balance sheet date and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the financial year. In preparing those financial statements the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principle in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue.

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. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention or detection of fraud or other irregularities.

By order of the Board of Trustees

Claire E Hart
Secretary

Date: 1st June 2021

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS-
ALTRINCHAM BRANCH**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE RSPCA
ALTRINCHAM BRANCH**

I report on the accounts of the RSPCA Altrincham Branch for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 4 to 9.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year (under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act)) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the 2011 Act);
- to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act); and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

- 1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act.

have not been met; or

- 2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Fari Minaeian, BSc, FCA
Spring Court
Spring Road
Hale
Cheshire
WA14 2UQ

Date: 30 June 2021

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS-
ALTRINCHAM BRANCH**

**Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended
31 December 2020**

	Note	Restricted funds 2020 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Incoming resources					
Branch share of National collection		-	24,551	24,551	25,506
Legacies		-	-	-	12,561
Subscriptions and donations		-	24,556	24,556	13,399
Collecting boxes		-	435	435	672
Supermarket collections		-	-	-	-
Flag days	2	-	-	-	-
Rehoming		-	22,820	22,820	25,631
Bank interest		-	340	340	494
Sale of goods		-	752	752	923
Other income	4	-	5,586	5,586	7,525
Total incoming resources		-	79,040	79,040	86,711
Resources expended					
A) Animal Welfare					
Hardship cases	5	-	1,198	1,198	1,791
Rehoming animals	6	-	48,813	48,813	44,534
Fostering expenses		-	6,543	6,543	6,459
Advertising		-	-	-	458
Donations		-	-	-	-
		-	56,554	56,554	53,242

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS-
ALTRINCHAM BRANCH**

**Statement of Financial Activities (including Income and Expenditure Account) for the year ended
31 December 2020 (continued)**

	Note	Restricted funds 2020 £	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
B) Branch administration					
Independent examination	9	-	850	850	850
Telephone		-	-	-	-
Insurance		-	524	524	734
Sundry expenses	7	-	1,524	1,524	5,519
Bank charges		-	82	82	-
Stationery and printing		-	406	406	195
Storage		-	1,900	1,900	1,710
RSPCA goods		-	673	673	558
Administration wages		-	14,248	14,248	13,860
Pension costs		-	428	428	382
		-	20,635	20,635	23,808
C) Payments to RSPCA, HQ					
Branch Contribution	3	-	12,141	12,141	321
Total resources expended		-	89,331	89,331	77,371
Net incoming/(outgoing) resources for the year		-	(10,291)	(10,291)	9,340
Gain/(loss) on revaluation of investments		-	12,332	12,332	22,424
Transfer to designated funds		-	-	-	-
Transfer to restricted funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		-	2,041	2,041	31,764
Fund balances brought forward		-	206,772	206,772	175,008
Fund balances carried forward		-	208,813	208,813	206,772

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS-
ALTRINCHAM BRANCH**

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2020

	2020 £	2019 £
Current assets		
Stock	348	484
Accrued Income	-	-
VAT Debtor	1,810	3,682
Other Debtors	-	-
Charities Official Investment Fund	138,352	126,019
Cash at bank	69,153	77,437
	<u>209,663</u>	<u>207,622</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
Accruals	<u>850</u>	<u>850</u>
Net assets	<u>208,813</u>	<u>206,772</u>
Fund balances		
Unrestricted funds	208,813	206,772
Designated funds	-	-
Restricted funds	-	-
Total funds	<u>208,813</u>	<u>206,772</u>

Secretary *Claire E Hart*

Trustee *N. Barber*

Approved on behalf of the Trustees on *1 June 2021*

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS -
ALTRINCHAM BRANCH**

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020

1. Accounting policies

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the relevant provisions of Part 8 of the Charities Act 2011 and follow the recommendations in Charities SORP (FRS102), applicable to accounting periods commencing on or after 1 January 2019.

The following principal accounting policies have been applied.

Incoming resources

Income is accounted for on a receipts basis. In particular, credit for income arising from legacies, subscriptions and donations is taken in the year these sums are received.

Resources expended

Resources expended are recognised in the period in which they are incurred.

2. Flag days

	2020 £	2019 £
Altrincham	-	-
Hale/Hale Barns	-	-
Sale	-	-
Pets at Home	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

3. Branch contribution

During the 2020 coronavirus pandemic the branch donated £12,000 to the RSPCA national appeal to assist struggling branches. This is a one-off expense.

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS -
ALTRINCHAM BRANCH**

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended
31 December 2020 (continued)

4. Other income

	2020 £	2019 £
Other Dog Shows	-	530
Sundry	454	817
Easter fair	-	800
Quiz night	-	540
Online auction	-	96
Other fairs	-	2,123
Christmas fairs	-	605
AGM fund raising	-	70
Pets at home	229	251
Facebook sales	4,903	1,643
Car boot sale	-	50
Jackson's Boat dog shows	-	-
	<u>5,586</u>	<u>7,525</u>

Facebook sales comprise income from auctions, raffles, donations and sales of products.

5. Hardship cases

	2020 £	2019 £
Veterinary fees	<u>1,198</u>	<u>1,791</u>

6. Rehoming

	2020 £	2019 £
Veterinary fees	37,352	34,608
Animal boarding charges	11,461	9,926
	<u>48,813</u>	<u>44,534</u>

**ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS -
ALTRINCHAM BRANCH**

Notes forming part of the financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 (continued)

7. Sundry expenses

	2020 £	2019 £
Animal treatments	340	570
Larkhill Centre	-	60
Expenses	97	885
Irrecoverable VAT	-	794
Fairs	10	108
Miscellaneous	740	1,163
Just Giving subscriptions	216	216
Bowdon Community Association	18	235
Incubators (Ashleigh Vet Centre and Others)	103	1,488
	<u>1,524</u>	<u>5,519</u>

8. Employees

There was one employee in the year, an administrator.

Total staff costs for the year were £14,675 (2019 : £14,242).

9. Independent examination

	2020 £	2019 £
Independent examiner's fee	850	850

10. Expenses paid to Trustees

There were no expenses paid to Trustees apart from reimbursement of costs/expenses incurred on behalf of branch's activities.

11. Related parties

The one employee is the sister of Trustee, Miss N Rushby.