ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

England & Wales · Charity number 232262

Details

Other names	RSPCA - CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH, RSPCA CUMBERLAND NORTH AND EAST BRANCH, RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH
Status	Registered
Legal form	Other
Registered	1963-12-19
Register	View on the Charity Commission register

Contact

Address	117 Green Lane Belle Vue Carlisle CA2 7QE
Phone	01228512893
Email	rspca.carlisle@btconnect.com

Activities

Objects: THE OBJECTS OF THE BRANCH ARE TO PROMOTE THE WORK AND OBJECTS OF THE SOCIETY [ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS (219099)], WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO THE AREA OF THE BRANCH, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE POLICIES OF THE SOCIETY.

Activities: The RSPCA Cumbria North and East Branch is an unincorporated charity and separately registered branch of the RSPCA carrying out direct animal welfare in the area of North East Cumbria.The branches welfare work helps people in need to care for their animals by providing welfare assistance and treatment for their animals as well a supporting the local inspectorate in the Cumbria Area.

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/232262

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Animals
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** NORTH AND EAST CUMBRIA.
- Cumbria

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£59,879	£118,203	-	-
2023-12-31	£96,772	£93,307	-	-
2022-12-31	£45,641	£83,178	-	-
2021-12-31	£49,004	£59,367	-	-
2020-12-31	£78,276	£64,964	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Anita Armstrong		2014-05-10
Ben Smith		2017-06-24
Kathleen Richardson		2019-09-07
LINDA MORROW		2014-05-12
Louise Carruthers		2014-06-12
Marie Mcmurdo		2019-09-07
Mrs S Graham		2015-05-10
SUSAN SMITH		2014-05-12

Downloaded from opencharities.uk/ew/232262

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRA

England & Wales - Charity number 232262

Accounts

RSPCA.

Cumbria North & East Branch

Registered Charity Number: 232262



Mel and Eric



Gus

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending 31st December 2024

STATUTORY STATEMENT OF PUBLIC BENEFIT BY THE TRUSTEES

The RSPCA Cumbria North & East Branch is an unincorporated charitable association and separately registered branch of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, carrying out is direct animal welfare in the area of north and east Cumbria.

The Trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of our objectives and activities for the year to ensure that they are 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 due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

The Branch's animal welfare work, though local in nature, helps people in need to care for their animals, and has a moral benefit for society at large by promoting kindness and preventing or suppressing cruelty to animals. We provide subsidised veterinary treatment for animals and belong to local people on low incomes. We do this mainly through the Branch Clinic and with vouchers towards private veterinary treatment.

This work benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to obtain care for companion animals in need of veterinary treatment.

We provide subsidised neutering of companion animals for those in the Branch area on low incomes through the Branch Clinic.

This work helps to control the dog and cat population through neutering and benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to neuter their companion animals. It benefits the general public, as a whole, by promoting responsible pet ownership.

We support the RSPCA Inspectorate by taking in, free of charge, mistreated or abandoned companion animals, providing any veterinary treatment necessary, through the Branch Clinic.

The Society's Inspectorate rescue animals in distress and enforces laws against the mistreatment of animals in England and Wales by bringing prosecutions. This work is key to the 'prevention of cruelty' part of the RSPCA's objectives and promotes humane sentiments towards animals which has a moral benefit for the general public, as a whole.

We rehome animals in need, at low cost, to people willing and able to have a companion animal.

Our policy to charge a reasonable adoption fee aims to highlight the personal and financial commitment of pet ownership. It would not be in the interest of animals, and therefore fall outside our objectives, to rehome to those who could not afford them.

We provide volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, volunteering and fundraising.

This benefits local people by providing the possibility of doing work which is compassionate and rewarding. The following Trustees' report gives greater detail on how, and the extent to which, this 'public benefit' has been achieved during 2024.

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

Registered Charity No. 232262

Branch Centre and Veterinary Clinic

28 Close Street

Carlisle CA1 2HB

ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ending 31st December 2024

Board of Trustees

Hon. Chairman: Vacant

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs S. Smith

Hon. Secretary: Mrs A. Armstrong

Miss L. Carruthers

Mrs L. Morrow

Mrs K. Richardson

Auditors: Lamont Pridmore

Bank: NatWest, Carlisle

Consulting Veterinary Surgeons: Craig Robinson Vets Ltd.

The Trustees Annual Report for 2024

Welcome once again to the trustees' reports, firstly to that of the work of the branch veterinary clinic. This year has been disappointing once again in terms of numbers seen in the clinic itself and, *again*, clients have missed appointments without letting us know, wasting the vets time (and fee). The 'Statement of Animal Welfare Statistics' which we submit monthly to the national society illustrates this 'disappointment' – the monthly average of animals seen at the clinic was down this year to 55.2. There were peaks and troughs and in April the numbers seemed to be picking up, 'peaking' at 81 then gradually decreasing with the 'trough' of only 28 animals seen in November in the clinic itself. Although several more animals could have been seen directly at Craig Robinson Vets each month as being an emergency or in need of urgent treatment.

The number of cats and dogs getting repeat prescriptions each month remained constant, but while the prescriptions are written up each month by our vets the animals generally only need to be seen by the vet in the clinic every 6 months. Clinic protocol means dogs requiring neutering needed to be examined first at the clinic, cats did not need to be seen prior to referral for neutering. While the above may go some way to account for the decline in numbers, this lack of numbers of pet owners booking appointments is perplexing to say the least, in light of the continued rise in the cost of living and increasing costs of private veterinary treatment.

With our clinic costs such as rent, rates fixed and those of 'Utilities' increasing, but the revenue in the form of clients' consultation fees decreasing led, in the face of this , to me (with my clinic manager hat on, as well having worked in the clinic for over 30 years) undertaking an evaluation of the way the clinic worked and questioning its cost effectiveness *now* - in effect a 'cost-benefit' analysis.

The clinic and Craig Robinsons use the same veterinary computer programme system and, on questioning each vet attending the clinic, each felt they could work more effectively the way they worked at their own practice, that was essentially working 'solo' in the consulting room. This was trialled and with other slight administrative changes, it did work to reduce the time the vets were charging for seeing clinic clients.

Another, but major, fixed cost was the (one) paid employee; originally contracted to work three hours per clinic session, but with the declining numbers and the 'new' system of working, her role was agreed to be now redundant. Our employee was offered another role, namely an enhanced reception role but declined and decided on taking a redundancy package. She was with us for eight years and we thank her for her contribution towards the running of, and her commitment to, the clinic and wish her well. With the minimum wage rising and again with the declining numbers in mind it was decided not to employ anyone else just now until we see if numbers pick up in 2025. My own thoughts/ideas on why the clinic is underused is that of demographic and social change in the areas once our 'heart land', also a one-hour window, in middle of day for an appointment, is no longer convenient/ logistical for potential clients.

To end on a more positive note, with the Act requiring cats to be microchipped coming into law in June, we launched a 'Snip and Chip' campaign in April subsidising even more heavily the amount cat owners on benefits would need to pay to have their cats neutered and microchipped, or those cats who had already been neutered, to be microchipped. Our average is 2- 3 per month so when we 'snipped and chipped' 10 in May we hoped the campaign had really taken off, however, despite advertising the scheme in the vets and on our website, the numbers reverted to the norm! And, while it made a small dent in the number of cats breeding indiscriminately, as I will leave my cat re-homing colleague to report, the number of unwanted kittens she was asked to take in was as high as ever.

Income generation

In common with most charities we rely on legacies to fund our work. We were lucky to receive a large legacy several years ago which is still keeping us 'afloat'. This year we received the final payment of a 2023 legacy and notification at the end of the year that we were to receive a small (but equally welcome) legacy from a retired nursing sister. Along with several smaller funeral donations, we also received a thousand pounds donated in memory of a younger local man whose family came to the clinic to personally present the money and learn what we do in the clinic and of the animal welfare work we do in the rural branch area (as this was late December, this will show in the Financial Accounts for 2025). As we say each year, we haven't the person-power to fund raise ourselves, so these donations are a lifeline for the branch.



And finally.....

Our thanks go to ***all*** the staff at Craig Robinson Vets Ltd for their support. Lesley and Allan Doyle at Pawfection Cattery who take in our waifs and strays. Karen and Tony Aitkin who fosters and socialises kittens. From the National society, AWO Graham Carter who we can call on (and hope he feels he can call on us) and our Branch Partnership Manager Denise McCabe for her advice and support.

CAT REHOMING IN 2024

2024 proved to be a very busy year for taking in and rehoming just under 70 cats and kittens in this area. We are very lucky to be able to rent six units in a lovely private cattery, run by genuine cat lovers. They take brilliant care of our cats and give them lots of TLC, as some can come from not so brilliant backgrounds, as a result are very scared and frightened when they first come in. We also have a foster home we can use, Karen and Tony love to look after the 'kittens' who arrive into our care, either signed over or 'found'.

We started this year with the brilliant news that our two 'oldies', Legs and his sister Misty, had been offered a home, were soon adopted and now living a life of luxury and pampering at the good age of 15, soon to be 16! We were asked to take in several young cats from a home, where the mum had moved out, with the rest of the household due to move soon, but no one could take the cats. Signed over were 4 adults, one a mum and 4 kittens only 3 weeks old, but with the news one was already chosen, and would be adopted when old enough. Dotty proved to be a really lovely mum and her little ones soon grew into playful little kittens, finding homes easily,

Rebecca, a grey tabby, decided to give birth in a gentleman's garden in an old suitcase. She had already had one kitten when he rushed her to the vets, where she then went on to have another two kittens. She was checked over and found not to be microchipped and sadly, after being advertised, did not have anyone come forward for her. She did find a lovely forever home after her kittens had gone to their own homes.

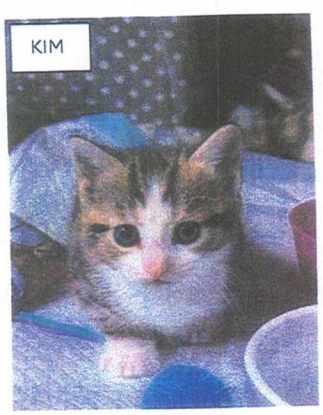

Rebecca & her 3 kittens

I was asked to take in two young girls, when I arrived to collect them, the lady said she thought one was pregnant. They were taken to be checked over, as we do with any we take in, and I was told that it wouldn't be long until she gave birth. She had 3 lovely black and white kittens, with the help of Lesley from the cattery who gave her lots of strokes and encouragement.

A magnificent grey Maine Coon was taken in after being signed over to our Inspector, he had a lot of matted fur and was left outside in all weathers, rain, hail and snow, but was the sweetest boy you could meet, a typical gentle giant! He was adopted by a couple who had recently lost their beloved cat, so were very taken with him and he has settled down so well with them in the countryside, where he loves to sit in the sun watching them in the garden. (Please see front cover for his picture).

In a secluded country area, there were several kittens running about with their mum. She had been fed by a concerned man, who also started feeding the kittens when they were old enough. He was concerned that the kittens would remain feral like their mum, so called us to see if we would take them in, he was quite happy to catch the mum and take her to be neutered and ok about taking her back to his and keep feeding her. His two neighbours already had beds for her in their shed and greenhouse.
We managed to take in 5 of the 6 kittens, but sadly the one left, totally evaded all of us, even with our trap set ready and waiting.

Nearer the end of the year, I received a call about a tabby who suddenly appeared in a man's garden with two lovely kittens about 3/4 weeks old, just starting to wobble along. He had purchased an outside, waterproof cloth, kennel type of bed so she could shelter with them as it was raining most of the days she was there. I took the trap round and set it, meaning to leave it for a while and come back, but she was so hungry (even though she was being fed) she just went right into it straight away. The kittens were so easy to pick up and had doubled in numbers!! The man had heard squeaks in next doors garden and looked over the fence to find two tiny kittens looking back at him. For my sins I decided to foster the whole family. We called mum Rachel and the four kittens, Mel and Kim (on the right) because I was told they were girls and the boys Eric and Ernie.



Treasurer's Introduction to the Financial Accounts for Year ending 2024

I would like to present the Financial Report of 2024.

Our aim as trustees is to promote animal welfare in this area. We offer subsidised veterinary treatment for pet owners on benefits at our Clinic in Close Street, Carlisle.

The inspectorate is supported by our branch, taking in cats signed over to them. We use a private cattery for all the neglected and unwanted cats and are lucky to have a foster home, to take in any found or signed over kittens.

We count ourselves fortunate to have the stability of a large legacy left to us in 2017, to help us throughout the year, although it has reduced over the years, we still have enough to take us through to the foreseeable future.

As with many other Charities, the number of Legacies left to us has reduced compared with a few years ago. This year the total of our legacies amounted to just under £16,000 compared to 2023, where the total was just under £47,000.

Our van is still proving to be dependable and reliable, only requiring the usual yearly service and MOT, with minimal extra work being carried out, to keep it in good order.

At the beginning of 2024, the private cattery we use, had to increase their fees to coincide with the current rising cost of living and utility expenses, which is reflected in the "Cat boarding and rehoming fees" section in the financial accounts.

Unfortunately, due to the lack of clinic clients and the current utility charges increasing, along with other cost increases (vet's bills etc) we had to try and find a cost-effective way to run the clinic. The difficult decision was made for our only paid member of staff to be made redundant.

We have decided to look into the clinic expenses going into 2025, to see where we can save on any expenditure connected with it.

If anyone would like to ensure that their bequest is used solely for animal welfare work in the Branch area, the wording is as follows:

'I bequeath to the ***Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Cumbria North and East Branch (Reg charity no. 232262)*** *for the general purposes of the Branch, the sum of*
£..... free of all duties and taxes payable at my death and I declare that the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer or other proper Officer for the time being of the said Branch shall be sufficient discharge to my Trustee'.

I would like to thank everyone who supports our local Branch, without your involvement we would not achieve the standards of welfare which we do.

Susan Smith (Hon Treasurer)

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

Contents

1	Statement of Financial Activities
2	Balance Sheet
3	Notes to the Accounts
5	Independent Examiners' Report to the Trustees

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

	Note	£ Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	£ Total Funds 2024	£ Total Funds 2023
INCOMING RESOURCES					
FROM GENERATED FUNDS					
Voluntary Income	1	37,765		37,765	68,435
Investment Income	2	3,338		3,338	3,005
FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITES	3	18,776		18,776	25,332
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		**59,879**	**0**	**59,879**	**96,772**
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	4	115,532		115,532	90,094
ALLOCATION OF SUPPORT COSTS	5	1,735	0	1,735	2,317
GOVERNANCE COSTS	6	936		936	896
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**118,203**	**0**	**118,203**	**93,307**
Net incoming resources		(58,324)	0	(58,324)	**3,465**
Gain (Losses) on investments	7	53		53	(365)
Transfers between funds					
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(58,271)	0	(58,271)	**3,100**
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1st January 2023		233,618	0	233,618	230,518
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31st December 2023		175,347	0	**175,347**	**233,618**

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2024

	Note	£ Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	£ Total Funds 2024	£ Total Funds 2023
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Fixed Assets	10	3,298		3,298	4,123
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock		20		20	20
Debtors				0	0
Investments	7	5,732		5,732	5,679
Cash at Bank & in Hand	9	188,961		188,961	230,379
		194,713	0	194,713	236,078
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Sundry Creditors		22,664		22,664	6,583
NET CURRENT ASSETS		172,049	0	172,049	229,495
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		175,347	0	175,347	233,618
NET ASSETS		175,347	0	175,347	233,618
FUNDS					
Undesignated Funds		175,347		175,347	233,618
Designated Funds		-		-	-
Restricted Funds		175,347		175,347	233,618

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2024

	2024 £ Unrestricted	2023 £
1 VOLUNTARY INCOME		
General Donations/Fundraising	354	79
Legacies	15,590	46,764
National scheme entitlement (door to door)	20,438	19,786
Donations and subscriptions	1,383	1,806
	37,765	**68,434**
2 INVESTMENT INCOME		
Standard Chartered	394	394
Nat West Bank	2,944	2,611
	3,338	**3,005**
3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		
Contribution to Animal treatments	18,776	25,332
TOTAL	**59,879**	**96,771**
4 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURE		
Boarding and Rehoming Fees	32,936	20,409
Rent & Utilities	4,379	5,096
Clinic Insurance	34	34
Stationery and postage	2,488	1,878
Telephone	2,903	2,739
Van expenses	1,249	1,555
Clinic Repairs	567	314
Clinic costs - security,cleaning,sundries	448	310
Clinic admin & support	9,649	7,918
Vet consultations & fees	42,273	40,575
Drugs and medicine	10,408	9,266
Head Office backdated claims	8,198	
	115,532	**90,094**

	2024 £	2023 £
5 ALLOCATION OF SUPPORT COSTS		
Bank charges	910	1,287
Depreciation	825	1,030
	1,735	**2,317**
6 GOVERNANCE COSTS		
Independent Examiner Fees	936	896
TOTAL	**118203**	**93307**
Total of Receipts over payments (payments over receipts)	**(58,324)**	**3,464**

7 INVESTMENTS

	2024 Value £	Cost £	2023 Value
£5,340 £1 Standard Chartered Plc 7 .375% Pref Stock Non-Cum Irred Preference Shares	5,732	5,868	5,679
	5,732	5,868	5,679

8 Clinic Income & Expenditure

	2024 £	2023 £
Income for year	44,289	50,552
Expenditure for year	81,347	66,991
Excess of Income (Expenditure) for year	(37,058)	(16,439)

9 Cash at Bank

	2024 £	2023 £
Balance on Deposit Account with the Nat. West	187,284	218,340
Current Account	1,677	12,039
	188,961	230,379

10 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	IT Equip £	Fixtures etc £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
Costs to 1st January 2024	7,910	3,853	15,893	27,656
Additions during year	0		0	0
Less Original cost of disposals during year			0	0
Costs to 31st December 2024	7,910	3,853	15,893	27656
Depreciation to 1st January 2024	7,176	3,797	12,560	23,533
Less Depreciation on assets disposed of during year			0	0
Charge for year	147	11	667	825
Depreciation to 31st December 2024	7,323	3,808	13,227	24,358
NET BOOK VALUE 31st December 2024	587	45	2,666	3,298
NET BOOK VALUE 31st December 2023	734	56	3,333	4,123

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH TRUST

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

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011);

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 statement

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 the seeking of 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, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a true and fair view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with 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 s130 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 and the regulations made thereunder 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.

M UPPARD F.C.A.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT
LAMONT PRIDMORE
31 LONSDALE STREET

CARLISLE

28th June 2025

2024 Annual Report to Branches Cumbria Group

The current team consists of Inspector ARO Graham Carter covering Cumbria. Inspector ARO Nick Green, Inspector Amy McIntosh and Inspector Carl Larsson covering South Cumbria and North Lancashire. Finally Rob Melloy Chief Inspector.

Martyn Fletcher - Inspector Martyn Fletcher passed away unexpectedly in May after working for the animal charity for 24 years. Martyn, a former police officer in West Yorkshire and accountant, was well known in his community. He would often have local people - as well as the police and local vets - reaching out to him for help in dealing with animal welfare issues at all times of the day and night and he was always happy to assist. Throughout his career with the RSPCA he helped save hundreds of animals and also helped many people who needed advice in caring for their pets. He also brought to justice those who had committed serious animal cruelty offences and was trained in specialist rescues as part of the charity's rope and water rescue teams. Martyn was really respected in the community for his work and passion for animal welfare. Lots of people would call on his expertise and I know local vets and the police would be in touch with him at all times and he would always have his phone turned on and offer to help when needed. It was the same with work colleagues - even if he was on a day off - he would say they could call him if needed and he would always make himself available for them - and the animals.

He was a real outdoors man and loved being in nature and was a climber which made him a natural rescuer. During his career he spent time as an RSPCA Water Rescue Technician involved in several rescues of people and animals during large scale flooding incidents. He also spent time on our rope rescue team and the casualty animal specialist team. He was also a true gentleman, always willing to go the extra mile to help people as well as animals. Once the water rescue team revisited a street in Morpeth in Northumberland in 2008 where they had rescued people and animals the day before. The devastation was obvious to all. When arriving at one house they had visited, they found Martyn with a broom in hand, helping the elderly homeowner clean up the mess. Martyn, who was also a keen photographer, won a number of commendations for his rescue work including saving a stag which had become entangled in a tree on a river - as well as the rescue of a sheep from a clifftop in Shap, Cumbria. Martyn was proud to be an RSPCA Inspector. He was - among many things - passionate about animal welfare, a diligent case officer with a particular interest in wildlife crime, and the go-to officer for help in the Cumbria area. He was a fiercely loyal colleague and will be missed by all those who knew him.

Appleby Horse Fair - Once again we had a large team of Inspectorate colleagues from across the country come up to Appleby for the Fair. Because of the way the dynamic of the Fair has changed we now have three phases to the operation. In Phase 1 we have a small team in the area around Appleby as there are always lots of horses and owners who turn up early for the fair. We are on the ground checking on the welfare of the animals from the Friday before the Fair starts. Phase 2 is when we deploy the large team of 32 Inspectorate staff. This is the main event of the Fair itself in its traditional time slot. We are assisted during this time by staff from World Horse Welfare, Redwings, Blue Cross and Bransby Horses. Phase 3 is the mop up stage which is the Monday and Tuesday after the fair. This is carried out by just 2 officers who are making sure that nothing has been left behind and carrying on investigations started during the first 2 phases where necessary. This year there was unfortunately a death of a horse early on at the Fair. We believe this horse had been worked to the point of exhaustion and then collapsed and died. There is an ongoing investigation.

Work carried out at the Fair was; 355 Interactions, 8 Warnings, 3 ongoing investigations. Animals that came into care: 25 (+5 puppies together) (15 equines, 2 dogs, 6 puppies, 1 kitten, 1 domestic rabbit, 2 wild rabbits, 1 duckling, 1 captive bird, 1 wild bird). This year Westmoreland and Furness Council delegated powers under the Animal Welfare Act to the RSPCA team. This made our operation so much more efficient as we didn't need to rely on the Police to use their powers. We were able to act far more quickly to secure animals and get them to safe places for treatment when required. Getting powers for RSPCA staff under the Animal Welfare Act is a national target for the RSPCA. I understand that the Welsh Parliament may be close to giving powers to the Inspectorate in Wales. However, Cumbria and Westmorland and Furness Council beat them to it. The first ever Horse taken into possession by an RSPCA Inspector using powers under the Animal Welfare Act was named Fletcher after our much missed colleague and Appleby Fair Veteran Martyn Fletcher.

Court Cases - A Woman from Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria – starved a six-month-old puppy to death and dumped her body in a freezer bag. The woman was prosecuted by the RSPCA after the body of a Staffordshire bull terrier type dog called Ariel was found in the Ormsgill area of Barrow in May 2023. The puppy, who weighed 7kg, had deteriorated over several weeks and was described by a vet as "emaciated". Sweeney told the inspector that Ariel belonged to her. She said she hadn't starved her pet and that the dog had been 'sick for several weeks', before she left her body in a place she 'liked to go'. A post mortem report was carried out which showed that Ariel had no body fat. When interviewed by the RSPCA about what had happened, Sweeney said Ariel had stopped eating her food but there seemed to be no obvious reason for this. She said she didn't seek any veterinary help and continued to watch her pet deteriorate and lose weight for 'about four or five weeks'. She said Ariel had shown no outward signs of illness and she didn't believe she was suffering. No veterinary help had been sought at any time, primarily, she said, due to concerns about the cost. She stated there was no one she could have asked for help, and she wasn't aware that the RSPCA or similar welfare organisations could have provided financial assistance. Sweeney pleaded guilty to one offence contrary to the Animal Welfare Act 2006. The court heard in mitigation that she had poor mental health and that she was the primary carer for three children. In sentencing the woman received a 12-week custodial, suspended for 12 months. 20 days of rehabilitation activity; £157 victim surcharge. Disqualified from keeping animals indefinitely with a minimum of 10 years before she can appeal.

A Cumbria man who mistreated 28 owls has been handed a 20 week suspended prison sentence. A man from Walney, Barrow-in Furness, Cumbria was also disqualified from keeping all birds for five years after pleading guilty to three Animal Welfare Act 2006 offences; for causing unnecessary suffering to a tawny owl and a barn owl - and not meeting the needs of a further 26 owls. He was also put under a curfew from 9pm to 7am for a period of one month. He was sentenced at Preston Crown Court on 17 May. This case began in 2022 but due to the backlog in the court system was only heard May 2024. The court heard that the man kept a total of 31 owls, ranging from tawny, snowy and eagle to Indian scops, burrowing and Australian boobooks. Five of the birds were kept at his residence and at a lock-up in Barrow-in-Furness. When RSPCA inspectors visited the two premises on 8 March 2022 to check on the birds' welfare, they found owls with obvious neurological conditions and others with current or previous injuries, which did not appear to have received the necessary veterinary care. In most cases, the birds were being kept in cramped unsuitable conditions - including dog crates not much wider than their wing-span. RSPCA Inspector Amy McIntosh said: "When I attended the address up to assist police with a warrant, I found two tawny owls stacked in dog cages on top of each other. Both of them were showing neurological conditions. One was rolling around in his cage unable to stand properly. The owner told me the owls had been given to him by vets and that they were wild owls. He said they had been in this condition for a number of months". On the same day, Inspector McIntosh moved on lock-up premises where police had to force entry. The RSPCA and vet surgeon examined each of the 26 birds kept there. Inspector McIntosh added: "The lock-up unit was very cramped with a large number of cages containing numerous owls of various species. The cages varied in size from larger enclosures for the Eagle Owls to some cages which were simply small dog crates. None of the cages appeared to contain any water. There was very little natural light getting into the unit and it was dark inside. Some of the owls were visibly disabled with hanging wings indicating they had broken a wing at some point". The vet examined each owl and their enclosures before each was placed into animal carriers. In total, 26 owls were removed from this lock-up site. The Vet said that his overall impression of the lock-up premises was that it was very dark and the housing of all the birds was inadequate. There were no windows, and the lighting was all switched off. It was dusty, incredibly cramped with numerous owls housed both together and in close proximity to other owls. Later that day, when the Vet visited the owners house to examine a further five birds, he found more owls showing injury, illness and housed unsuitably. He reported that one owl appeared to have a serious neurological deficit, including a marked head-tilt, and that the owner had said that the bird had been behaving that way since he got it. The bird was unable to stand, and was constantly rolling on the floor of the cage. This bird, and another owl in very poor condition with a wing fracture, were put to sleep to curtail their suffering. In addition, he was very concerned that gravely debilitated and injured owls were being kept and that despite birds of prey being adept at hiding clinical signs of disease, three birds were clearly in physical distress.

Multiple Animal Case in Barrow-in-Furness. 1 Spaniel, 4 cats and 7 Guinea Pigs removed from a property after the spaniel was taken to the vets in a collapsed, emaciated state and crawling with fleas. Whilst awaiting a court date the defendants decided to acquire 4 kittens of which 2 died when put back in the flea ridden house. The surviving 2 were seized. The case was in Barrow-in-Furness Magistrates court for a Sec 20 hearing on 19th December 2024, which was successful. This means the RSPCA can re-home these animals after a 21 day appeal period.

Rescues - 22 dogs were removed from a static caravan near Seascale, Cumbria. The elderly gentleman owner was taken into secure care by police and social services. The owner had clearly been struggling to look after himself and had allowed the dogs to cover the inside of the caravan in excrement. The elderly gentleman was taken into secure care by police and social services. He agreed to relinquish ownership of all the dogs. Cumbria branches did a great job with rehoming some of these dogs.

13 cats were removed from a property in Dalton-in-Furness. Cats were living in filthy conditions. The owner of these cats was clearly not coping with the cats and asked the RSPCA to re-home all the cats in the property. They were signed over to the RSPCA and taken to GMAH for vet care before going into branches.

In December, ARO Graham Carter attended an incident where a swan had crash landed through glass panels at a garden nursery greenhouse, He was taken to the massive greenhouse and located the swan walking around under the plant benches. He eventually caught the swan and examined it and to his surprise it didn't have any injuries. He bagged it into a swan bag and released it on a local lake around half a mile away. Another happy ending. Swans sometimes land on wet roads that they mistake for rivers but this is the first time I have heard of one attempting to land on a green house.

Chris Towler - Inspector Chris Towler resigned from the RSPCA at the end of the year after 39 years of dedicated service. Chris is a well loved character and will be missed by the team. Though he has promised to join us for social events to roll out his latest "dad Jokes" on us. In his career Chris has improved the lives of thousands of animals, prosecuted many offenders and helped innumerable colleagues along the way. We all wish Chris a long and prosperous retirement.

Chris And Stella Norman, Milnthorpe Kennels and Cattery - Chris and Stella moved on from their business at Milnthorpe kennels and cattery. Chris and Stella have been a huge asset to the Inspectorate team in Cumbria. They always seemed to be able to find us space at any time of the day or night for pretty much any domestic animal. Over the years they have helped us to help thousands of animals. Including, on one occasion, a batch of over 200 rabbits with only a few hours notice!

To Conclude - These are challenging times for the Cumbria Inspectorate team. We are very few but have high hopes of a new recruit Called Lucy who will be joining us when she finishes her training in April. As we are so few and cover a very large area we are very grateful for the work of the branches and our Volunteers. Without these people giving up their time we wouldn't be able to do nearly so much for animals in need.

So from the team THANKYOU!

Structure, Governance & Management

Cumbria North and East branch has as its governing document the National Society's Branch Rules (amended in 2006.) In this branch the trustees are in effect committee members. They are appointed at the Annual General Meeting by polling over 50% of the vote in a secret ballot, which takes at the AGM, by those eligible to vote under RSPCA rules.
All eligible branch members are sent a nomination form with the notice calling the annual general meeting, enabling them to put themselves forward for election, if proposed and seconded by a member of the branch. Non branch members can also be co opted to the committee and subsequently act as trustees. The maximum number of elected committee members is 14 and 3 co options are allowed in any one year.
All trustees are asked to sign a 'Declaration of Willingness to Serve as a Trustee' and appraised of the duties and responsibilities of Trusteeship. Induction to policies & procedures for, and training of, trustees is undertaken by the Branches Development Advisor.

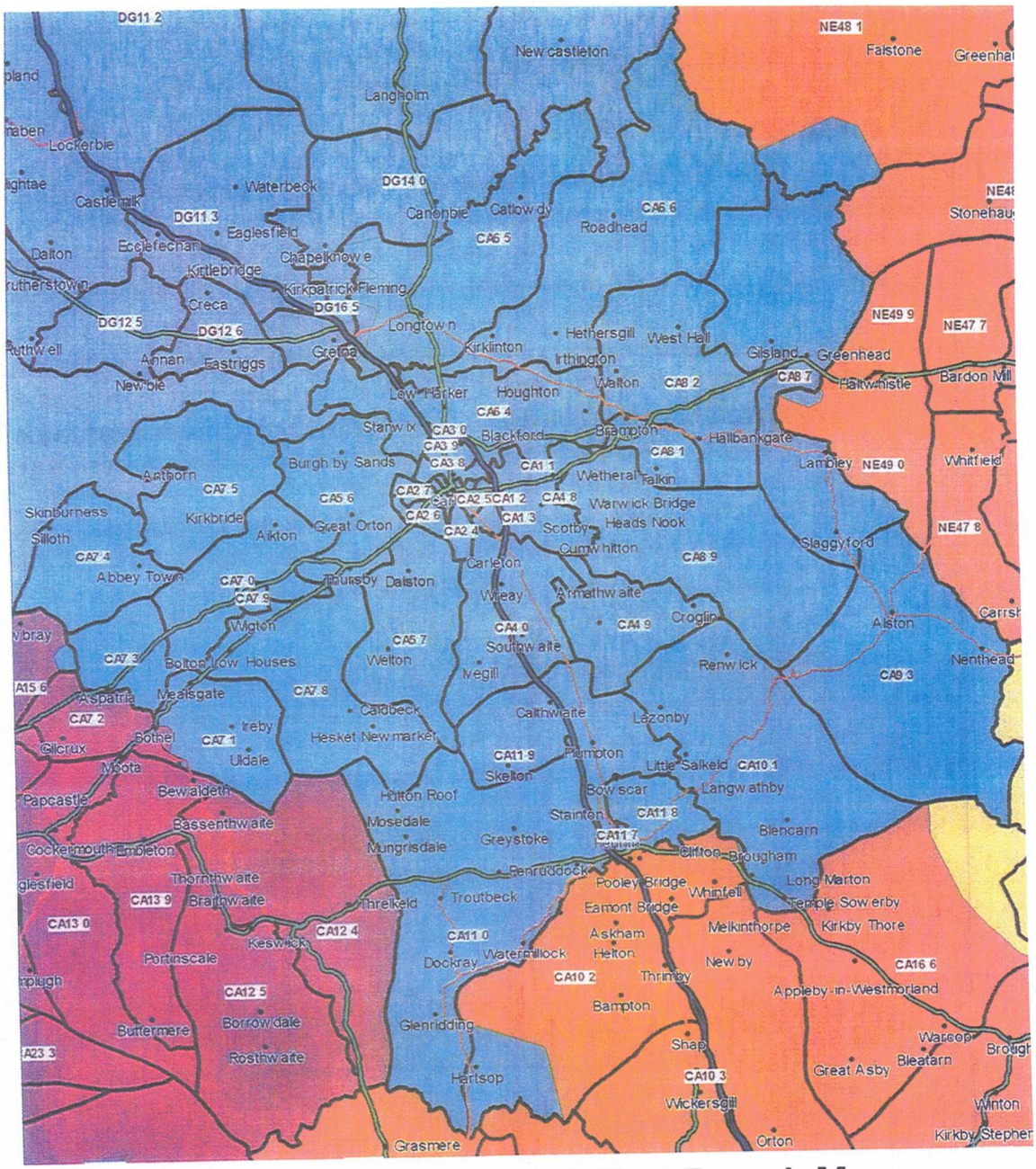
The organisational structure of the branch is that of three executive officers, the honorary chairman, treasurer and secretary, appointed by ballot, at a meeting held directly after the AGM, to make day to day decisions in the running of the Branch. Any major policy decisions are put to the committee for ratification. The committee meets two monthly.

The branch has specific risk management procedures in place which are always being re evaluated, and we are continuously working towards new policies and procedures.

The secretary is also responsible for the administration of the Branch Clinic.

The branch has a Re-homing Coordinator for cats, who liaises directly with the private boarding cattery where the cats are kept, awaiting re-homing, visiting regularly to check on their general health and wellbeing, obtaining veterinary treatment, if necessary. The Re-homing coordinator, place these animals in suitable new homes, after carrying out a home visit to assess the home's suitability for the animal chosen and also carry out post-homing checks.

Cumbria North and East branch is connected to the wider RSPCA network by a Trustee attending North Regional Board meetings and of course the National Society, under whose guidelines the branch operates. The RSPCA's Chief Vet, as well as licensing the Branch Veterinary Clinic, updates the branch on new veterinary medicine guidelines and provides recommendations as to 'best practice'. Contact with the RSPCA Inspectorate is maintained through the RSPCA National Control Centre and on a 'face to face' basis when an animal signed over to the RSPCA is taken into Branch care.



RSPCA Cumbria North & East Branch Map

Branch Mobile: 07718 065995
Welfare, Neutering & Microchipping

Rehoming Mobile: 07487 582495
Cat Adoptions & Sign overs

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRA

England & Wales - Charity number 232262

Accounts

CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH



LEGS



FLUFFY & THOMAS



BONNIE

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending 31st December 2023

Registered Charity No. 232262

STATUTORY STATEMENT OF PUBLIC BENEFITBY THE TRUSTEES

The RSPCA Cumbria North & East Branch is an unincorporated charitable association and separately registered branch of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, carrying out is direct animal welfare in the area of north and east Cumbria.

The Trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of our objectives and activities for the year to ensure that they are 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 due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

The Branch's animal welfare work, though local in nature, helps people in need to care for their animals, and has a moral benefit for society at large by promoting kindness and preventing or suppressing cruelty to animals. We provide subsidised veterinary treatment for animals and belong to local people on low incomes. We do this mainly through the Branch Clinic and with vouchers towards private veterinary treatment.

This work benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to obtain care for companion animals in need of veterinary treatment.

We provide subsidised neutering of companion animals for those in the Branch area on low incomes through the Branch Clinic.

This work helps to control the dog and cat population through neutering and benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to neuter their companion animals. It benefits the general public as a whole by promoting responsible pet ownership.

We support the RSPCA Inspectorate by taking in, free of charge, mistreated or abandoned companion animals, providing any veterinary treatment necessary, through the Branch Clinic.

The Society's Inspectorate rescue animals in distress and enforces laws against the mistreatment of animals in England and Wales by bringing prosecutions. This work is key to the 'prevention of cruelty' part of the RSPCA's objectives and promotes humane sentiments towards animals which has a moral benefit for the general public as a whole.

We rehome animals in need, at low cost, to people willing and able to have a companion animal.

Our policy to charge a reasonable adoption fee aims to highlight the personal and financial commitment of pet ownership. It would not be in the interest of animals, and therefore fall outside our objectives, to rehome to those who could not afford them.

We provide volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, volunteering and fundraising.

This benefits local people by providing the possibility of doing work which is compassionate and rewarding.

The following Trustees' report gives greater detail on how, and the extent to which, this 'public benefit' has been achieved during 2023.

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH & EAST BRANCH

Registered Charity No. 232262

Branch Centre and Veterinary Clinic

28 Close Street

Carlisle

Cumbria CA1 2HB

ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ending 31st December 2023

Board of Trustees

Hon. Chairman (vacant)

Hon Treasurer Mrs S Smith

Hon. Secretary Mrs A Armstrong

Miss L. Carruthers

Mrs L. Morrow

Mrs K Richardson

Auditors: Lamont Pridmore

Bank: NatWest Carlisle

Consulting Veterinary Surgeons: Craig Robinson Vets Ltd.

The Trustees Annual Report for 2023

Welcome to the trustees' reports, which we hope you will find interesting even though it can only be a snapshot of the work we do as a whole.

The work of the branch clinic

The appointment system has been maintained and feedback from clients is that they now prefer it. However, we are still getting people not turning up for their appointment, usually without letting us know, which means we can't offer the appointment to anyone else, and the vet's time (and fee) is wasted. Despite this the number of visits to the clinic was slightly up on last year averaging 76.8 per month, added to which an average of 12 dogs or cats per month were referred for further treatment, operations, x-rays, blood tests etc. The practice computer system, essential for record keeping and keeping track of the medicines received and dispensed, also gives us many other parameters with which to measure performance so to speak. For instance, in 2023 we had 146 new clients, some of whom may have just come the once, perhaps just to get their dog or cat neutered, taking advantage of our highly subsidised price rate. Even if this is the case, at least it is cutting down on the number of unwanted puppies and kittens. For some pets however we become their 'NHS', but without the lengthy waiting times! With many seen regularly throughout their lives and others even more so, receiving monthly repeat prescriptions.

The computer system's 'Sales Quantity/Value Report' is a useful tool in monitoring the range of conditions we see and the medication prescribed. For instance, the drug Apoquel, at the top of the list in terms of 'value', underlines the prevalence of dogs with long term skin conditions. This is followed closely in 'quantity' by flea treatment for dogs and cats. However, the lead item, in terms of quantity, was Prednisolone with 1,437 tablets prescribed, for short term use in a variety of conditions. It also highlights which medicines are not being prescribed regularly, helping with stock control and reducing wastage.

While vets' costs for operations have risen again, in the main our clients' ability to pay seems to keep pace, the 'shortfall' not increasing significantly from the previous year(s). What this 'Sales Quantity/Value Report' does show however is that there is a marked shortfall between the vet fees for attending the clinic (while still comparatively reasonable) and the commensurate amount received from clients. This 'shortfall' added to our(one) employee's salary, rent, rates, and utilities etc brings home that we are a charity and demonstrably 'not for profit', but we strongly feel that we are still providing a worthwhile service by running a clinic. As well as the clinic being a well-known 'fixture' in Carlisle (70 years and counting) we can give help and advice to members of the public on whom to contact (if not ourselves) on general matters of animal welfare. We can liaise with Social Services, Dog wardens, Dog Breeding licensing officers and Trading Standards/ Animal Health. We also give the *national* society a *local* face.

We had problems getting cat vaccines this year, so the numbers were down, and the number of dogs vaccinated was small with only 10 getting their 1st and 2nd vaccinations

and 9 getting a booster. With Parvo virus out there as a potential killer, a 'straw poll' asking clients if their dog had been vaccinated and if their vaccinations (which they may have had done elsewhere) were up to date revealed the majority were not.

As regards dog neutering, this is more encouraging, we are finding more are already done before coming to us. Even French bull dogs are either already neutered, or their owners now want them done, when once they wouldn't hear of it!

We have had to be wary of bull breeds at the clinic for some time (and of *some* of their owners). This year, in particular, with 'pocket bullies' (one with an equally aggressive owner), and (supposed) American Bulldogs, at least one of which has since turned out to be an XL Bully. With reports of horrific injuries and deaths caused by XL Bullies in the news we re-examined our Risk Assessment regarding 'Dangerous Dogs' in October. In conjunction with, and taking the advice of, a Craig Robinson Vets director– our 'go to man' in clinic matters - we decided not to see these breeds of dog (as well as those on the Dangerous Dog/Banned Breeds List) at the clinic at all, referring them to Craig Robinson Vets when treatment was needed.

To end with a 'good news story'; we were asked to help a small stray lurcher. She had been found exhausted, in poor condition, by member of the public and taken in by the dog wardens. The vets the dog warden had taken her to, said it would need £1,000 plus to treat her. No one came to claim her, and her time was running out as she as due to be euthanised. Apparently, she was so sweet natured that the dog warden sought a second opinion at Craig Robinson Vets who thought that at her age (she was judged to be 12 plus) dental extractions were basically all she needed for now. The lady who'd found her offered her a home but couldn't afford the treatment so the dog warden and his son offered to pay half the money themselves if an animal charity would provide the rest. Approached by our vets, we were happy to do so. This was an 'executive' decision on the part of myself and the treasurer and is something which we have not been asked to do before that we can recall, so we would welcome branch trustees/members views on this, should we be asked to do so in the future.

CAT REHOMING IN 2023

In 2023 we were kept busy with the rehoming of cats and kittens in our care. I was especially pleased to receive a request from a farm for two feral cats to live on their farm. We still had Jenny and Jill who had been trapped at the Stagecoach bus depot, after they feared that some of the younger ones would get run over when the buses returned to be cleaned and checked over. They were taken over to the farm and lived in a large cage each for 3 weeks to acclimatise to the area, with a warm bed, quilt and lots of food and biscuits each day. The lady farmer is still feeding them now, but not as much quantity and catches sight of them now and then, but they both look identical with the same ear tipped as a sign that they have been neutered and microchipped. But they are fulfilling the job they were brought in for and have lots of warm hay bales to sleep in when it is cold.

A local farm got in touch with me asking if I could take some kittens seen on the farm running about. They managed to catch one, with the lure of fresh creamy milk, and I went on a cold, rainy and blustery day to this tiny little black and white kitten in a carrier shivering with fear in the corner. He turned out to be a lovely, friendly and handsome boy who has a small dog as a play-mate and they sleep curled up together.

Some of the kittens and cats can get handed in as 'found' to a vets, and we are asked if we have room to take them. Bill and Ben, a small black kitten and a larger grey one, were 2 who were found wandering around peoples houses in a village just outside Carlisle, looking for food, frightened, but desperate to be fed. We think they were sadly dumped by someone, to fend for themselves. Unfortunately, Cats Protection have not got any facilities in this area and we do receive requests from a lot of people and vets asking if we can take in more and more cats.

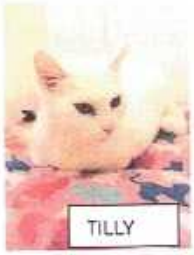
We use a lovely private cattery, but obviously with a limited number of units and we have a brilliant fosterer who adores all the kittens she looks after, rehabilitating and socialising them, to the lovely friendly and cuddly furballs that I have the pleasure of rehoming.

In the middle of the year, I was asked to take in 6 cats from one home. The lady's sister had sadly passed away, leaving all her cats looking for somewhere to go. This lady lived in Spain, so was on a deadline to see them away from the property, in fact she had rehomed 3 (the outside ones) to a farm across the fields, but think they were just put in an open barn and they soon appeared back at their 'old' home again. We enlisted the help of Graham an Animal Welfare Officer, as six was a lot to catch and carry.

A brother and sister, Legs and Misty, were 15 and took a good while to find their forever home and I was so pleased they went to live together. Two were long haired, Fluffy and Thomas, and again I was pleased they went together to a lovely man, who had bought his own home and wanted some feline company. He had never looked after cats before, and I made him promise to keep brushing both of them. He has had them for a lot of months now and they have settled down completely. The two left – Whitey, was renamed by her adopter to Bonnie and is totally adored, and Sasha went on to a home with several cats living in it, but she was obviously used to living with a lot of cats, so has now settled down. (some of these cats are on the front cover)

While visting a property, the Police made an unexpected, and surprising discovery of four small black kittens at the bottom of a wheelie bin. They were handed into Craig Robinsons Vets who contacted the Clinic and they came into our care, non the worse for their adventure. But where their mum was, we would never know, they were about 6 weeks old. They all found lovely forever homes, going in two sets of two.

Lastly, we have Tilly, she is a lovely stunning, pure white girl but with a slight problem. She was very temperamental when it came to stroking her back just below her head and would lash out and try and bite you. The cattery owner totally adored her and her 'little' ways, calling her a 'Diva'. We thought we were never going to find the right home for her. I received loads of requests to rehome her, from Scotland down to the Isle of Wight, but people were not reading what I had put about her behaviour, just seeing the fact she was an indoor cat and very beautiful. I just could not believe it when I received a phone call from a couple who had just lost their beloved cat, and were thinking of adopting Tilly and took on board everything about her behaviour. They came over to meet her and the cattery owner explained how to stroke just her head and how she just loved to play. This couple said they definitely wanted to adopt her, and totally adore her now, so this was a perfect Christmas present for Tilly.



I receive lots of pictures and updates from the special people who adopt our cats and count myself very lucky to find/have the right home for them to go to. Also to have a lovely cattery, owned and run by Lesley and Allan to use, and Karen and Tony, our fosterers, who can have several kittens in one go to look after without any problem.

Income Generation.

Yet another year has gone by without the trustees being able to fundraise, so we were grateful to receive eight funeral collections from people in our branch area who died in 2023. All but one were unknown to us but all must have been supporters of animal welfare. We also received notification of two legacies coming to us, which bucks the current trend for charities. A lady, who said we are one of the four charities "dear to her heart", donated £100 and a gentleman who brings in and assists his Turkish neighbour with her cats (by translating of sorts), always gives a generous donation!

And finally, the trustees would like to thank the following;

Craig Robinson Vets Ltd who provide veterinary services for the clinic and the branch - the directors for their ongoing support for our work and *all* their staff at both branches.

Mr and Mrs Doyle, the cattery owners who continue to care so well for the unwanted, lost, injured cats until we can find them their forever home. And to Karen, our cat fosterer who is 'mum' to the abandoned, unwanted kittens we take in.

AWO Graham Carter, who will advise us and always help when he can.

Denise McCabe our BSS for her help and support.

And last, but not least - the branch members for supporting the RSPCA and especially to those who attend the AGMs year after year thus supporting the branch.

Treasurer's Introduction to the Financial Accounts for Year ending 2023

I would like to present the Financial Report of 2023.

Our main aim, through our Clinic in Close Street Carlisle, is to promote animal welfare, with subsidised veterinary treatment, which we are able to offer to pet owners on means tested benefits.

We also take in abandoned, neglected or signed over cats from our Inspectorate and they are looked after in a private cattery and at a foster home, until suitable forever homes are found.

We would have also liked to assist our Inspectors by taking in the dogs that they also have to house somewhere, but we cannot find suitable affordable kennels or would be able to extend our limited time to rehome them.

We count ourselves very fortunate and very lucky to have received two legacies this year, and we still have the use and stability of the large legacy left to us in 2017, which is good to know we are still in a healthy position to carry on our vital work in this branch.

Our accounts remain consistent with other years and there are no major differences, our van remains in good condition, the computer system is still suitable for our needs, the credit card machine has proved to be a great asset and is working well. We have one paid member of staff. Craig Robinsons Vets continue to provide the consult cover in the clinic and the out of hours cover for clinic clients.

If anyone would like to ensure that their bequest is used solely for animal welfare work in the Branch area, the wording is as follows:

*'I bequeath to the **Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Cumbria North and East Branch (Reg charity no. 232262)** for the general purposes of the Branch, the sum of £..... free of all duties and taxes payable at my death and I declare that the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer or other proper Officer for the time being of the said Branch shall be sufficient discharge to my Trustee'.*

I would like to thank everyone who supports this branch, without your involvement we could not achieve the standards of welfare work we do.

Susan (Smith)
Hon. Treasurer

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

Contents

1	Statement of Financial Activities
2	Balance Sheet
3	Notes to the Accounts
5	Independent Examiners' Report to the Trustees

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	Note	£ Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	£ Total Funds 2023	£ Total Funds 2022
INCOMING RESOURCES					
FROM GENERATED FUNDS					
Voluntary Income	1	68,435		68,435	30,131
Investment Income	2	3,006		3,006	898
FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITES	3	25,332		25,332	14,612
		0			
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		**96,772**	**0**	**96,772**	**45,641**
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	4	90,094		90,094	79,679
ALLOCATION OF SUPPORT COSTS	5	2,317	0	2,317	2,687
GOVERNANCE COSTS	6	896		896	812
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**93,307**	**0**	**93,307**	**83,178**
Net incoming resources		**3,465**	0	**3,465**	(37,537)
Gain (Losses) on investments	7	(365)		(365)	(978)
Transfers between funds					
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		**3,100**	0	**3,100**	(38,515)
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1st January 2023		230,518	0	230,518	269,033
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31st December 2023		233,618	0	**233,618**	**230,518**

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2023

	Note	£ Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	£ Total Funds 2023	£ Total Funds 2022
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Fixed Assets	10	4,123		4,123	5,153
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock		20		20	20
Debtors				0	544
Investments	7	5,679		5,679	6,044
Cash at Bank & in Hand	9	230,379		230,379	225,804
		236,078	0	236,078	232,412
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Sundry Creditors		6,583		6,583	7,047
NET CURRENT ASSETS		229,495	0	229,495	225,365
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		233,618	0	233,618	230,518
NET ASSETS		233,618	0	233,618	230,518
FUNDS					
Undesignated Funds		233,618		233,618	230,518
Designated Funds					
Restricted Funds		-		-	-
		233,618		233,618	230,518

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023

1 VOLUNTARY INCOME	2023 £ Unrestricted	2022 £
General Donations/Fundraising	79	545
Insurance Claim re window	-	1,569
Legacies	46,764	4,721
National scheme entitlement (door to door)	19,786	21,840
Donations and subscriptions	1,806	1,457
	68,435	**30,131**

2 INVESTMENT INCOME		
Standard Chartered	394	394
Nat West Bank	2,612	504
	3,006	**898**

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		
Contribution to Animal treatments	25,332	14,612
TOTAL	**96,772**	**45,641**

4 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURE		
Boarding and Rehoming Fees	20,409	19,650
Rent & Utilities	5,096	3,049
Clinic Insurance	34	34
Stationery and postage	1,878	1,671
Telephone	2,739	2,370
Van expenses	1,555	2,777
Clinic Repairs	314	2,006
Clinic costs - security,cleaning,sundries	310	851
Clinic admin & support	7,918	5,365
Vet consultations & fees	40,575	32,900
Drugs and medicine	9,266	9,006
	90,094	**79,679**

5 ALLOCATION OF SUPPORT COSTS	2023 £	2022 £
Bank charges	1,287	1,399
Depreciation	1,030	1,288
	2,317	**2,687**

6 GOVERNANCE COSTS		
Independent Examiner Fees	896	812
TOTAL	**93307**	**83178**
Total of Receipts over payments (payments over receipts)	**3,465**	**(37,537)**

7 INVESTMENTS

	2023 Value £	Cost £	2022 Value
£5,340 £1 Standard Chartered Plc 7 .375% Pref Stock Non-Cum Irred Preference Shares	5,679	5,868	6,044
	5,679	5,868	6,044

8 Clinic Income & Expenditure

	2023 £	2022 £
Income for year	50,008	40,920
Expenditure for year	68,130	57,252
Excess of Income (Expenditure) for year	(18,122)	(16,332)

9 Cash at Bank

	2023 £	2022 £
Balance on Deposit Account with the Nat. West	218,340	221,728
Current Account	12,039	4,076
	230,379	225,804

10 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	IT Equip £	Fixtures etc £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
Costs to 1st January 2023	7,910	3,853	15,893	27,656
Additions during year	0		0	0
Less Original cost of disposals during year			0	0
Costs to 31st December 2023	7,910	3,853	15,893	27656
Depreciation to 1st January 2023	6,993	3,783	11,727	22,503
Less Depreciation on assets disposed of during year			0	0
Charge for year	183	14	833	1,030
Depreciation to 31st December 2023	7,176	3,797	12,560	23,533
NET BOOK VALUE 31st December 2023	734	56	3,333	4,123
NET BOOK VALUE 31st December 2022	917	70	4,166	5,153

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH TRUST

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st December 2023, which are set out on pages 1 to 4.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011);

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 statement

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 the seeking of 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, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a true and fair view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with 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 s130 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 and the regulations made thereunder 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.



M UPPARD F.C.A.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT
LAMONT PRIDMORE
31 LONSDALE STREET

CARLISLE

22nd June 2024

Structure, Governance & Management

Cumbria North and East branch has as its governing document the National Society's Branch Rules (amended in 2006.) In this branch the trustees are in effect committee members. They are appointed at the Annual General Meeting by polling over 50% of the vote in a secret ballot, which takes at the AGM, by those eligible to vote under RSPCA rules.
All eligible branch members are sent a nomination form with the notice calling the annual general meeting, enabling them to put themselves forward for election, if proposed and seconded by a member of the branch. Non branch members can also be co opted to the committee and subsequently act as trustees. The maximum number of elected committee members is 14 and 3 co options are allowed in any one year.
All trustees are asked to sign a 'Declaration of Willingness to Serve as a Trustee' and appraised of the duties and responsibilities of Trusteeship. Induction to policies & procedures for, and training of, trustees is undertaken by the Branches Development Advisor.

The organisational structure of the branch is that of three executive officers, the honorary chairman, treasurer and secretary, appointed by ballot, at a meeting held directly after the AGM, to make day to day decisions in the running of the Branch. Any major policy decisions are put to the committee for ratification. The committee meets two monthly.

The branch has specific risk management procedures in place which are always being re evaluated, and we are continuously working towards new policies and procedures.

The secretary is also responsible for the administration of the Branch Clinic.

The branch has a Re-homing Coordinator for cats, who liaises directly with the private boarding cattery where the cats are kept, awaiting re-homing, visiting regularly to check on their general health and wellbeing, obtaining veterinary treatment, if necessary. The Re-homing coordinator, place these animals in suitable new homes, after carrying out a home visit to assess the home's suitability for the animal chosen and also carry out post-homing checks.

The Fund Raising coordinator arranges fund raising ventures the branch undertakes itself.

Cumbria North and East branch is connected to the wider RSPCA network by a Trustee attending North Regional Board meetings and of course the National Society, under whose guidelines the branch operates. The RSPCA's Chief Vet, as well as licensing the Branch Veterinary Clinic, updates the branch on new veterinary medicine guidelines and provides recommendations as to 'best practice'. Contact with the RSPCA Inspectorate is maintained through the RSPCA National Control Centre and on a 'face to face' basis when an animal signed over to the RSPCA is taken into Branch care.



CLINIC OPENING HOURS:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday

1pm – 2pm

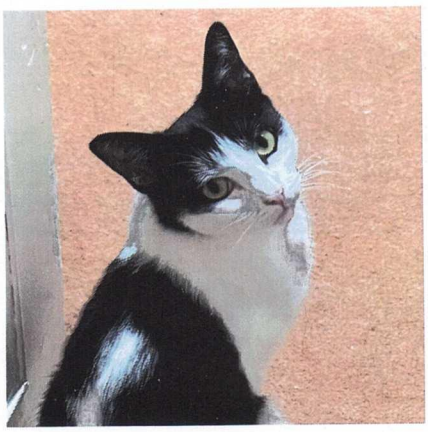
Telephone: 01228 512893

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRA

England & Wales - Charity number 232262

Accounts

CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH



ROSIE



THEIR 3 KITTENS



JIM

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending 31st December 2022

Registered Charity No. 232262

STATUTORY STATEMENT OF PUBLIC BENEFIT BY THE TRUSTEES

The RSPCA Cumbria North & East Branch is an unincorporated charitable association and separately registered branch of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, carrying out is direct animal welfare in the area of north and east Cumbria.

The Trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of our objectives and activities for the year to ensure that they are 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 due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

The Branch's animal welfare work, though local in nature, helps people in need to care for their animals, and has a moral benefit for society at large by promoting kindness and preventing or suppressing cruelty to animals. We provide subsidised veterinary treatment for animals and belong to local people on low incomes. We do this mainly through the Branch Clinic and with vouchers towards private veterinary treatment.

This work benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to obtain care for companion animals in need of veterinary treatment.

We provide subsidised neutering of companion animals for those in the Branch area on low incomes through the Branch Clinic.

This work helps to control the dog and cat population through neutering and benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to neuter their companion animals. It benefits the general public as a whole by promoting responsible pet ownership.

We support the RSPCA Inspectorate by taking in, free of charge, mistreated or abandoned companion animals, providing any veterinary treatment necessary, through the Branch Clinic.

The Society's Inspectorate rescue animals in distress and enforces laws against the mistreatment of animals in England and Wales by bringing prosecutions. This work is key to the 'prevention of cruelty' part of the RSPCA's objectives and promotes humane sentiments towards animals which has a moral benefit for the general public as a whole.

We rehome animals in need, at low cost, to people willing and able to have a companion animal.

Our policy to charge a reasonable adoption fee aims to highlight the personal and financial commitment of pet ownership. It would not be in the interest of animals, and therefore fall outside our objectives, to rehome to those who could not afford them.

We provide volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, volunteering and fundraising.

This benefits local people by providing the possibility of doing work which is compassionate and rewarding. The following Trustees' report gives greater detail on how, and the extent to which, this 'public benefit' has been achieved during 2022.

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH & EAST BRANCH

Registered Charity No. 232262

Branch Centre and Veterinary Clinic

28 Close Street

Carlisle

Cumbria CA1 2HB

ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ending 31st December 2022

Board of Trustees

Hon. Chairman (vacant)

Hon Treasurer Mrs S Smith

Hon. Secretary Mrs A Armstrong

Miss L. Carruthers

Mrs L. Morrow

Ms G. McHard

Mrs K Richardson

Auditors: Lamont Pridmore

Bank: NatWest Carlisle

Consulting Veterinary Surgeons: Craig Robinson Vets Ltd.

The Trustees Annual Report for 2022.

Welcome to what, thankfully, turned out to be a less traumatic and disruptive year than the last two in global pandemic terms, but still affecting the working of the branch to a certain degree.

The work of the branch clinic

As the map of the branch (which we have included) shows, we cover a large mainly rural area, however most of the work of the clinic, and indeed the branch, does centre on Carlisle and it's surrounds. The clinic remained open all year, but with Covid still having an effect on it's working; appointments were cancelled last minute, shortage of vets, and our (one) staff member succumbing to it. We have retained the appointment system and clients are getting used to it, but it's a bit of a 'Marmite' thing – we love it- logistically and from a Health & Safety point of view, and for our sanity- it could get very noisy and confrontational at times with a full waiting room, sometimes the whole family would arrive! Some clients say they miss that social aspect of sitting waiting their turn while others appreciate the 'new' system. Limiting the numbers in the building at any one time was recommended to achieve a safe level of 'air flow' and it also means that one person (with the vet) could safely manage the Clinic, when necessary, as we have not replaced our receptionist, to cut down on costs. Despite us being able to offer 7 appointments per session (more if clinically indicated), the numbers of patients treated in the clinic has gone down, averaging about 72 per month, the peak months being July and August for some reason, but this number is augmented by the animals we refer for further treatment at Craig Robinson Vets for operation/Xray/ blood tests/ neutering etc.

We have kept the consultation fee the same and do not put a mark-up on medication but vet costs for operations etc have increased, dramatically it seems, and despite the discounted price the vet practice gives us, and the further subsidy we offer, people are finding

it difficult to afford operations. A case in point is that of Belle a rescue(d) greyhound. I quote what Belle's owner told us when she rang the clinic next day: Belle had been playing in the garden on Sunday afternoon when she suddenly let out a scream of pain and had clearly broken her leg. Belle's owner told us that she had phoned round several vets but, because she hadn't the money to pay up front, none would treat the dog, so she was left with only paracetamol to give Belle overnight. She was seen at the clinic next day and referred immediately to have the leg amputated. Recovery was quite slow for Belle, as the wound took a long time to heal but she did make a full recovery.

Her owner took to 'Crowd Funding' and the story was taken up by the local paper and the money soon raised to pay for the operation and after care. Belle's owner also raised one of the FAQs at the clinic "Can I have/make a payment plan" when saying she had asked the vets, she had phoned to agree to such a plan. The answer to this is "No" for us too – it is not legal for us to do so as well as it being doubtful that any 'plan' would be adhered to! Despite this the level of non-recoverable client debt has not escalated as you might expect and has stayed at the level it has for several years -at about £3,000 per annum. This is mainly accrued by animals presenting needing an emergency operation; two days later, at the post op check the animal (usually a dog) has recovered so well that we never see it or the owner again!

Our neutering policy which we back up by offering even further subsidised costs, has not, as we say each year, not been taken up as widely as we would like by dog owners. Cat owners are more compliant but despite this there are even more seemingly unowned, unneutered cats in the area, as we learn from concerned members of the public who ring the clinic, or our rehoming coordinator.

While Covid restrictions eased, Bird Flu restrictions came into force again this year. Sadly, there wasn't anything we could do but advise

the member of the public to contact the Defra help line as wild-life sanctuaries couldn't take in injured birds nor could vets or ourselves take them into the premises even to euthanise.

We can however end this section on a self- congratulatory note; in March we had the 4 yearly Veterinary Medicines Directory inspection and passed with flying colours getting the top rating of five for compliance! It's quite a vigorous inspection but by keeping up to date with rules and regulations, regular stock checks and good record keeping we can hopefully be well prepared for the next one!

CAT REHOMING IN 2022

In 2022 we were fairly consistent with our rehoming of the cats in our care. Just about every month, we managed to rehome 1 or 2, so we were kept going with visits to the vets for their pre-adoption check over, vaccinations, neutering and microchipping. Kittens are able to be rehomed from the age of 9 weeks when they receive their first vaccination.

We had one or two young kittens found in different areas, in the middle of nowhere which was very strange. I received a call by a workman, who was working on a side road just off the A6. They had found 2 kittens just sitting there with no houses, farms or signs of anyone living nearby. We can only assume they had been 'dumped'.

I rushed over to meet up with them on a cold blustery day, and they both were in a warm lorry cab, each one being cuddled by two large workmen! They were very lucky to be adopted together and now are living a life of luxury which is brilliant.

We took in a mum and her two kittens and were so grateful when a lady offered all three a home together. It is not often three can get adopted together. However, mum Minnie, was the most outgoing and her two offspring very frightened and nervous. Sadly, it was

found that Minnie was bullying just her son, but not her daughter. So, I agreed I would go back and pick her up. Her two kittens just came on so much after that and now enjoy going out into the garden on little adventures! Minnie received a loving forever home of her own and enjoyed waking her new owners up early in the morning for her breakfast but has now settled down to a more reasonable wake-up time.

The most memorable request to take in a family in 2022, came from Craig Robinson's Vets. A lady walking her dog in a local park found a zipped-up holdall with 5 cats in it. This turned out to be a mum, dad and 3 gorgeous kittens. They were very lucky as they could not have escaped from this holdall. We named them Rosie and Jim and their 3 kittens, Zoe, Chris and Callum. (Pictures on the front page) They played together well, but the two black and white ones were always together, so we counted ourselves very luck and happy when they were adopted together and Callum, now called Frank, also to his own lovely family. Mum and Dad were devoted parents each sharing the tasks of washing and keeping eye on their offspring not to get into trouble.

We count ourselves very lucky to be able to have some units in a lovely cattery and very cat-oriented owners, and have a devoted fosterer to look after the many cats and kittens we take in. We do, however, wish we could find more cat spaces or more fosterers, as now the Cats Protection do not have any facilities to take in cats in our area, we find that they give out our phone number to numerous people, so we are getting a lot more requests to take in cats and kittens. We also find some households have 4 or more in one go to hand over.

While it has been a busy year, it has been a very rewarding year in finding suitable and genuine forever homes for all our cats and kittens.

Income generation

It seems we are to continue to be a 'cash-less/cash-free' society with little or no income from collecting boxes placed around the area, and as a branch we are unable to field enough people to undertake fundraising efforts ourselves.

We had two donations from the funerals of local people and a potential legacy from someone who had died in the North-East. However, the legator had no connection to our area, it seemed that our 'title' had led the solicitor to conflate us with the 'North-East' ie; Northumberland, so we could not (morally) accept.

We received a donation from a lady who had sought to sell some family items at auction. Some of the items were made of ivory and post-dated the 1947 convention on the sale of ivory and couldn't be sold. The lady kindly instructed the auctioneers to donate £100 of the proceeds of the goods she *could* sell to the branch.

And finally, "Thank-you"

To Craig Robinson Vets who have provided veterinary services for the clinic and branch for longer than we can remember, thanks to *all* the staff there, on both sites, for their support again this year.

To the cattery owners who care so well for those abandoned, unwanted, injured cats and kittens until we can find them a new loving home. And, also, to Karen, our new cat fosterer, who looks after our younger felines, who often need that extra bit of care and socialisation.

To AWO Graham Carter, who while we don't see much of him, we know he is always there, when needed, for advice.

To Denise McCabe our BDS who, while she has many branches to support, is always available for help and advice.

And to you -the branch members who, by staying members, support the cause of animal welfare.

TREASURER'S REPORT

I would like to present the Financial Report of 2022.

Our aim as trustees is to promote animal welfare in this area, by offering subsidised veterinary treatment for pet owners on benefits through our Clinic in Close Street, Carlisle.

We also support the inspectorate by taking in cats they have, abandoned or signed over. We use a private cattery and a fosterer for these neglected and unwanted cats. We would also have liked to support the inspectorate by taking in dogs, but we don't have either the personnel or can we find suitable affordable kennels.

Of our expenditure, the van had to have a service, MOT and four new tyres, as the original ones were cracking along the tyre walls. Under 'Clinic Repairs' in the Charitable Activities Expenditure list, we had a large window broken by vandals and included in the £2006 is the invoice for £1669, but we did receive back from the insurance - £1569, the difference being the excess.

We are still fortunate to have the stability of the large legacy left to us in 2017, to help throughout the year. Although reducing over the years, it is still comforting to know we are still in a healthy position. Especially as the total of our legacies in 2022 was just over four and half thousand, compared with 2021 where the total was just over twenty-one thousand. And of course, no Furlough grant this year, we received nearly three and half thousand in 2021. We also had a refund from HQ of seven and half thousand in 2021, this was part of the money we paid into a fund set up to help those Branches with just 6 months or less running costs.

In 2021 we had two admin and support paid staff, however at the end of 2021, when the receptionist had decided to change jobs, we decided not to replace her. This makes a saving of nearly eight thousand a year.

In all, we received nearly twenty-one thousand less in 2022 compared to 2021, illustrating the need to remain prudent with Branch finances.

If anyone would like to ensure that their bequest is used solely for animal welfare work in the Branch area, the wording is as follows:

*'I bequeath to the **Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Cumbria North and East Branch (Reg charity no. 232262)** for the general purposes of the Branch, the sum of £.....free of all duties and taxes payable at my death and I declare that the receipt of the Honorary Treasurer or other proper Officer for the time being of the said Branch shall be sufficient discharge to my Trustee'.*

I would like to thank everyone who supports our local Branch, without your involvement we would not achieve the standards of welfare which we do.

Susan Smith (Hon Treasurer)

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

Contents

1	Statement of Financial Activities
2	Balance Sheet
3	Notes to the Accounts
5	Independent Examiners' Report to the Trustees

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

	Note	£ Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	£ Total Funds 2022	£ Total Funds 2021
INCOMING RESOURCES					
FROM GENERATED FUNDS					
Voluntary Income	1	30,131		30,131	59,073
Investment Income	2	898		898	420
FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITES	3	14,612		14,612	10,815
		0			
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		**45,641**	**0**	**45,641**	**70,308**
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	4	79,679		79,679	81,897
ALLOCATION OF SUPPORT COSTS	5	2,687	0	2,687	2,767
GOVERNANCE COSTS	6	812		812	2,390
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**83,178**	**0**	**83,178**	**87,054**
Net incoming resources		**(37,537)**	0	**(37,537)**	**(16,747)**
Gain (Losses) on investments	7	(978)		(978)	**462**
Transfers between funds					
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		**(38,515)**	0	**(38,515)**	**(16,285)**
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1st January 2022		269,033	0	269,033	285,318
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31st December 2022		230,518	0	**230,518**	**269,033**

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2022

	Note	£ Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	£ Total Funds 2022	£ Total Funds 2021
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Fixed Assets	10	5,153		5,153	6,441
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock		20		20	20
Debtors		544		544	679
Investments	7	6,044		6,044	7,022
Cash at Bank & in Hand	9	225,804		225,804	268,431
		232,412	0	232,412	276,152
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Sundry Creditors		7,047		7,047	13,560
NET CURRENT ASSETS		225,365	0	225,365	262,592
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		230,518	0	230,518	269,033
NET ASSETS		230,518	0	230,518	269,033
FUNDS					
Undesignated Funds		230,518		230,518	269,033
Designated Funds					
Restricted Funds		0		0	0
		230,518		230,518	269,033

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022

1 VOLUNTARY INCOME	2022 £ Unrestricted	2021 £
General Donations/Fundraising	545	1,213
Insurance Claim re window	1,569	-
Legacies	4,721	21,304
Donations repay RSPCA HQ	-	7,530
National scheme entitlement (door to door)	21,840	24,024
Donations and subscriptions	1,457	1,570
Furlough Grant		3,432
	30,131	**59,073**

2 INVESTMENT INCOME		
Standard Chartered	394	394
Nat West Bank	504	26
	898	**420**

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		
Contribution to Animal treatments	14,612	10,815
TOTAL	**45,641**	**70,308**

4 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURE		
Boarding and Rehoming Fees	19,650	20,972
Rent & Utilities	3,049	4,434
Clinic Insurance	34	34
Stationery and postage	1,671	1,515
Telephone	2,370	2,115
Van expenses	2,777	1,559
Clinic Repairs	2,006	614
Clinic costs - security,cleaning,sundries	851	348
Clinic admin & support	5,365	13,085
Vet consultations & fees	32,900	28,121
Drugs and medicine	9,006	9,100
	79,679	**81,897**

5 ALLOCATION OF SUPPORT COSTS	2022 £	2021 £
Bank charges	1,399	1,157
Depreciation	1,288	1,610
	2,687	**2,767**

6 GOVERNANCE COSTS		
Independent Examiner Fees	812	2390
TOTAL	**83178.01**	**87054.45**
Total of Receipts over payments (payments over receipts)	**(37,537)**	**(16,747)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2022 (cont)

7 INVESTMENTS

	2022 Value £	Cost £	2021 Value
£5,340 £1 Standard Chartered Plc 7 .375% Pref Stock Non-Cum Irred Preference Shares	6,044	5,868	7,022
	6,044	5,868	7,022

8 Clinic Income & Expenditure

	2022 £	2021 £
Income for year	40,920	49,004
Expenditure for year	57,252	59,367
Excess of Income (Expenditure) for year	(16,332)	(10,363)

9 Cash at Bank

	2022 £	2021 £
Balance on Deposit Account with the Nat. West	221,728	260,224
Current Account	4,076	8,207
	225,804	268,431

10 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	IT Equip £	Fixtures etc £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
Costs to 1st January 2022	7,910	3,853	15,893	27,656
Additions during year	0		0	0
Less Original cost of disposals during year			0	0
Costs to 31st December 2022	7,910	3,853	15,893	27656
Depreciation to 1st January 2022	6,764	3,765	10,686	21,215
Less Depreciation on assets disposed of during year			0	0
Charge for year	229	18	1,041	1,288
Depreciation to 31st December 2022	6,993	3,783	11,727	22,503
NET BOOK VALUE 31st December 2022	917	70	4,166	5,153
NET BOOK VALUE 31st December 2021	1,146	88	5,207	6,441

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH TRUST

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st December 2022, which are set out on pages 1 to 4.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011);

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 statement

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 the seeking of 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, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a true and fair view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

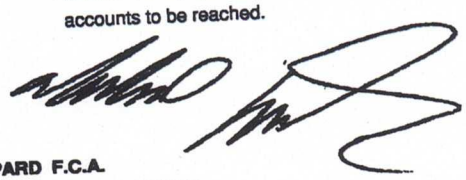
In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that, in any material respect, the requirements

to keep accounting records in accordance with s130 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 and the regulations made thereunder 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.



M UPPARD F.C.A.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT
LAMONT PRIDMORE
31 LONSDALE STREET

CARLISLE

24th June 2023

Structure, Governance & Management

Cumbria North and East branch has as its governing document the National Society's Branch Rules (amended in 2006.) In this branch the trustees are in effect committee members. They are appointed at the Annual General Meeting by polling over 50% of the vote in a secret ballot, which takes at the AGM, by those eligible to vote under RSPCA rules.
All eligible branch members are sent a nomination form with the notice calling the annual general meeting, enabling them to put themselves forward for election, if proposed and seconded by a member of the branch. Non branch members can also be co opted to the committee and subsequently act as trustees. The maximum number of elected committee members is 14 and 3 co options are allowed in any one year.
All trustees are asked to sign a 'Declaration of Willingness to Serve as a Trustee' and appraised of the duties and responsibilities of Trusteeship. Induction to policies & procedures for, and training of, trustees is undertaken by the Branches Development Advisor.

The organisational structure of the branch is that of three executive officers, the honorary chairman, treasurer and secretary, appointed by ballot, at a meeting held directly after the AGM, to make day to day decisions in the running of the Branch. Any major policy decisions are put to the committee for ratification. The committee meets two monthly.

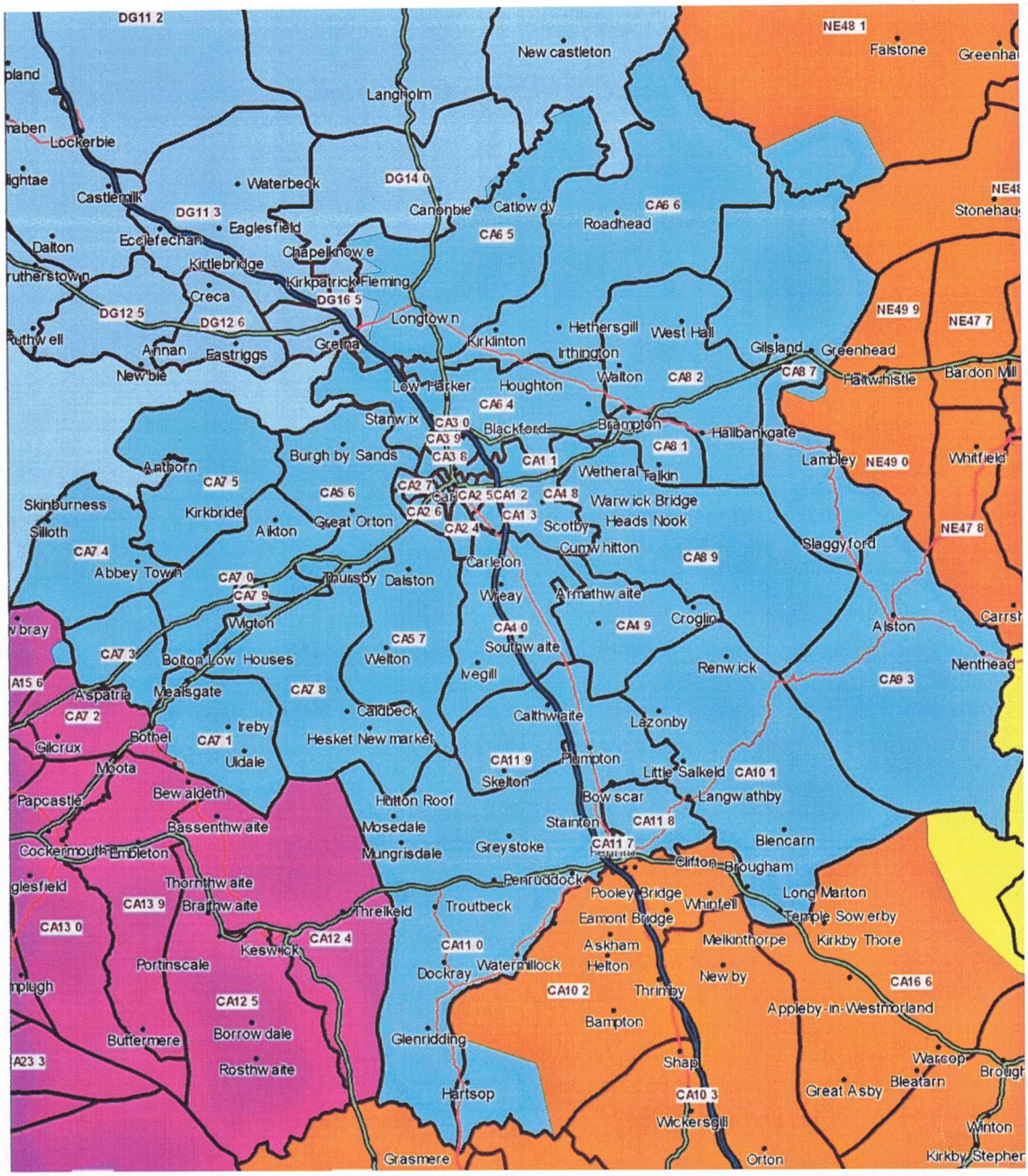
The branch has specific risk management procedures in place which are always being re evaluated, and we are continuously working towards new policies and procedures.

The secretary is also responsible for the administration of the Branch Clinic.

The branch has a Re-homing Coordinator for cats, who liaises directly with the private boarding cattery where the cats are kept, awaiting re-homing, visiting regularly to check on their general health and wellbeing, obtaining veterinary treatment, if necessary. The Re-homing coordinator, place these animals in suitable new homes, after carrying out a home visit to assess the home's suitability for the animal chosen and also carry out post-homing checks.

The Fund Raising coordinator arranges fund raising ventures the branch undertakes itself.

Cumbria North and East branch is connected to the wider RSPCA network by a Trustee attending North Regional Board meetings and of course the National Society, under whose guidelines the branch operates. The RSPCA's Chief Vet, as well as licensing the Branch Veterinary Clinic, updates the branch on new veterinary medicine guidelines and provides recommendations as to 'best practice'. Contact with the RSPCA Inspectorate is maintained through the RSPCA National Control Centre and on a 'face to face' basis when an animal signed over to the RSPCA is taken into Branch care.



RSPCA Cumbria North & East Branch Map

Clinic Opening Hours:

Monday, Wednesday & Friday

1pm-2pm

Tel: 01228 512893

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRA

England & Wales - Charity number 232262

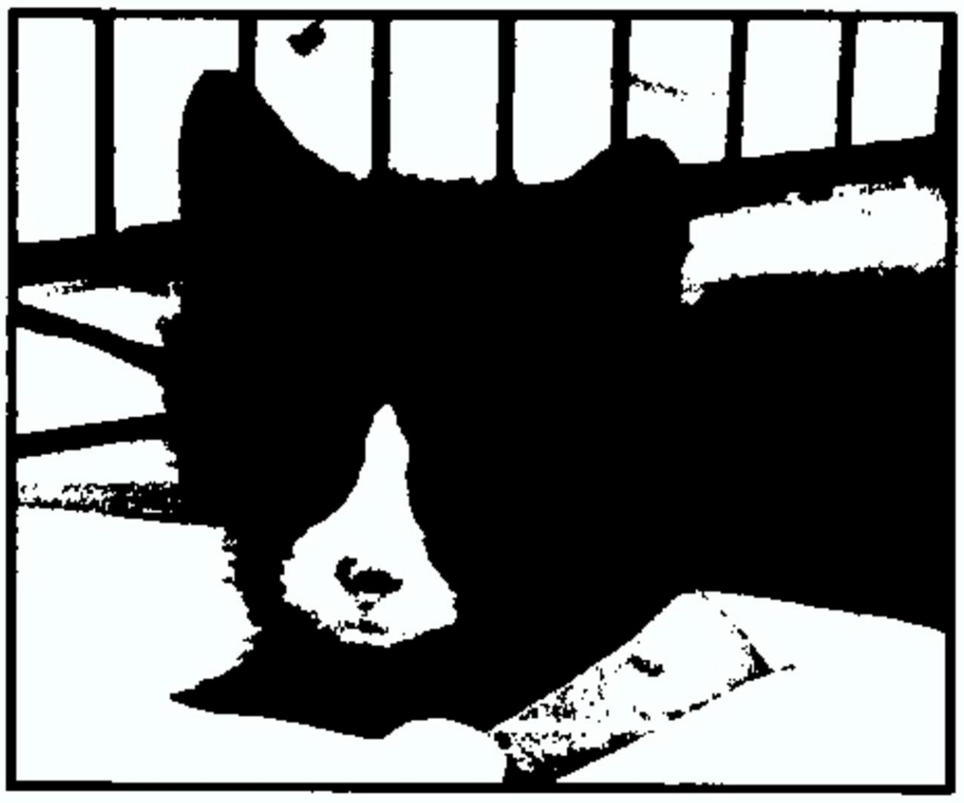
Accounts

RSPCA

CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH



MINNIE



FELIX

ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending 31st December 2021

Registered Charity No.232262

STATUTORY STATEMENT OF PUBLIC BENEFIT BY THE TRUSTEES

The RSPCA Cumbria North & East Branch is an unincorporated charitable association and separately registered branch of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, carrying out is direct animal welfare in the area of north and east Cumbria.

The Trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of our objectives and activities for the year to ensure that they are 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 due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

The Branch's animal welfare work, though local in nature, helps people in need to care for their animals, and has a moral benefit for society at large by promoting kindness and preventing or suppressing cruelty to animals. We provide subsidised veterinary treatment for animals and belong to local people on low incomes. We do this mainly through the Branch Clinic and with vouchers towards private veterinary treatment.

This work benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to obtain care for companion animals in need of veterinary treatment.

We provide subsidised neutering of companion animals for those in the Branch area on low incomes through the Branch Clinic.

This work helps to control the dog and cat population through neutering and benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to neuter their companion animals. It benefits the general public as a whole by promoting responsible pet ownership.

We support the RSPCA Inspectorate by taking in, free of charge, mistreated or abandoned companion animals, providing any veterinary treatment necessary, through the Branch Clinic.

The Society's Inspectorate rescue animals in distress and enforces laws against the mistreatment of animals in England and Wales by bringing prosecutions. This work is key to the 'prevention of cruelty' part of the RSPCA's objectives and promotes humane sentiments towards animals which has a moral benefit for the general public as a whole.

We rehome animals in need, at low cost, to people willing and able to have a companion animal.

Our policy to charge a reasonable adoption fee aims to highlight the personal and financial commitment of pet ownership. It would not be in the interest of animals, and therefore fall outside our objectives, to rehome to those who could not afford them.

We provide volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, volunteering and fundraising.

*This benefits local people by providing the possibility of doing work which is compassionate and rewarding.*The following Trustees' report gives greater detail on how, and the extent to which, this 'public benefit' has been achieved during 2021.

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

Registered Charity No. 232262

Branch Centre and Veterinary Clinic

28 Close Street

Carlisle CA1 2HB

ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ending 31st December 2021

Board of Trustees

Hon. Chairman: Vacant

Hon. Treasurer: Mrs S. Smith

Hon. Secretary: Mrs A. Armstrong

Miss L. Carruthers

Mrs S. Graham

Mrs L. Morrow

Ms G McHard

Mrs K Richardson

Auditors: Lamont Pridmore

Bank: NatWest, Carlisle

Consulting Veterinary Surgeons: Craig Robinson Vets Ltd.

The Trustees Annual Report for 2021.

The report this year will *again* be brief, but we hope comprehensive enough to demonstrate that as the global pandemic continues, the animal welfare work we carried was as comprehensive as it could be under Covid Restrictions and Covid safety measures.

The work of the branch clinic.

As the rate of Covid infections increased after the Christmas period, Carlisle became a 'hot spot' within Cumbria, so the decision was made to close the clinic again on the 6th of January. Logistically the physical layout of the clinic meant we could not ventilate the premises adequately, and the way clients and their animals need to 'flow' through it, meant we could not continue to work in a Covid secure manner;.

As in 2020 Clinic clients and members of the public were informed by notices on the door and by the telephone answer phone message on how to obtain veterinary treatment for their pets and by referring callers to the National Control Centre in cases of allegations of cruelty and neglect. The secretary, in her role as clinic manager, dealt with calls from registered clients needing ongoing treatment for their pets, or needing treatment for new conditions, by liaising with our consulting veterinary surgeons and arranging Covid safe appointments for them down at the vets' premises. Members of the public who had not previously been to the clinic and who were eligible for subsidised veterinary treatment were also referred for a consultation with our consulting vets and any essential treatment. With the very much appreciated assistance and cooperation from our consulting vets, Craig Robinsons Vets Ltd, we were able to continue to provide a clinic service.

As the level of Covid infection in the area fell we felt able to reopen the Clinic at the beginning of May. Even with Covid safety measures in place and guided by advice and recommendations from the National Society, the RCVS, UK Government, this still meant in a limited capacity. The appointment system we had introduced the previous year was adhered to and we were still able to refer to our consulting vets' practice those animals needing urgent treatment, whom we had been unable to see during a clinic session. We were also able to offer highly subsidised neutering for dogs, cats and rabbits.

Surprisingly, despite attending to all those requesting, seeking and eligible for treatment for their pets, the number of animals seen in 2021 did not spiral as expected, once 'lockdowns' and the Furlough Scheme ended, and possibly putting more people in receipt of means tested benefits, and therefore in need of the clinic's help.

Rescue and Rehoming Work.

As our branch is not able to take in dogs, the surge in requests to take in dogs and puppies as the Furlough Scheme wound down, and people couldn't cope with them once they returned to work, that rescue societies were expecting, didn't happen to us. However, the reason many people gave for needing to hand over their much loved cats was that they were having to move and couldn't take their cats with them, perhaps as a consequence of Covid/ post furlough redundancies.

The branch rehoming coordinator worked to the regulations laid down by government, the national society *and* respected those of the cattery; we could not visit as regularly as we did in 'normal' times to assess the cats and, as in 2020, had to rely heavily on expertise of the owners of the cattery as to the nature of the cats. They also monitored their health and took them to the vets when necessary, as well as for routine treatment, while the clinic was closed.

Among some of the cats we took in because of their owners having to move house was Luna, who gave birth on arrival to 4 kittens. She was handed over along with a kitten from a previous litter. Molly, who had been adopted from us as a kitten, found herself, at 13, homeless as her owner's home circumstances changed. Emily was abandoned by her owners when they moved, she was in a poor condition and very frightened.

We were also asked to take in several cats who had travelled further afield than Cumbria, only to find their owners were no longer able to keep them. Brought back from Qatar were *Siberian* Forest Cats Syrri and Pushka - one wonders how they had coped with the heat there! From Hungary came Maisie, an ordinary 'moggie', and we took in a Norwegian Forest Cat we named Kenny, but he probably hadn't travelled far, he was found matted and emaciated in a Carlisle suburb!

We also rescued several mothers with their kittens; Midnight who had been living in a hedge with her 4 small kittens, she was very thin having put all her energy into feeding her offspring. A member of the public had been feeding a mother and her 5 kittens which had appeared in her garden When they were old enough to leave their mother, she asked us to take in the kittens but gave their mother a home.
And Princess, a stray who was taken into the cattery with her day-old kittens in 2020, who didn't settle once they had been rehomed and became quite unfriendly and withdrawn, was successfully rehomed this year.

Three tiny kittens were found late on a November evening by a dog walker on a quiet country road, with no mother in sight or any forms of habitation, like a farm or houses nearby. They needed bottle feeding by Susan until old enough to be weaned and go in the cattery. Two kittens came from a stable, and while they appeared to be semi-feral in the cattery, once they got into a home became very loving.



Now we come to the other end of the age spectrum and, in some cases, a not so happy ending. AWO Graham Carter brought in Shadow, a female cat of about 10 years old. She had had her tail amputated, which wasn't healing properly 6 months later, and was obviously neglected - very thin - matted coat. Despite treatment she did not improve and was found to have a bowel tumour and euthanised on vet advice. We also took in an elderly cat whose owner had died, she needed a dental but her pre anaesthetic bloods showed she had irreparable renal damage and again on vet advice was euthanised.

Another elderly cat was Mary, she had been abandoned, was very anaemic and also had renal disease, probably due to being malnourished for a long time. She was also rather grumpy, but a kind couple adopted her, she became very loving, and they adored her. With support from the branch and on-going treatment by our vets she was stabilised and had a very happy six months or so until sadly she deteriorated and died.

To end on a happier note, we took Junior, a lovely old boy of 11 plus whose owner had died, he urgently needed a dental (as is often the case with older cats we take in, or see at the clinic) but otherwise he was fit and while he was very unsettled by the loss of his owner, so that he didn't settle in a foster home as we hoped, he has become happily settled again in a new home.



Those are just some of the stories of the 37 cats we took in and rehomed in 2021, Covid restrictions and safety precautions respected.

Income generation

2021, understandably, was another year lost for fundraising. A local 'Well Being Group' had to disband due to the pandemic and kindly decided to donate their funds to us. There was only one funeral donation, one small, but welcome legacy, and notification of a legacy, amount unknown and yet to come. Linda Morrow our fundraiser was able, when Covid allowed, to empty and replace collecting boxes, but sadly some 'outlets' no longer wish to have them replaced, perhaps understandable, as we have become a cashless society due to Covid.

Treasurers Report

The large legacy received several years ago now is diminishing, but with careful management of our resources the branch finances are still healthy. The two paid members of staff were furloughed for the four months the clinic had to close, which helped with expenditure, but again this year this was offset by a quantity of the clinic's medicines going out of date and having to be disposed of. On the plus side, when our clinic clients went to Craig Robinson vets when the clinic was closed, they usually paid in full for their treatment, which is not always the case at the clinic! The full picture can be seen in the audited accounts and any points/ items of income and expenditure clarified by the treasurer.

And finally, "Thank you"

We could not have carried on this year without *all* the staff at Craig Robinson Vets Ltd. Although they had to manage Covid restrictions and find a Covid safe way to be able to see their own private clients, they always agreed to see the animals we referred to them, as indeed they had done in 2020.

To the cattery owners who, as we outlined above, still agreed to take in cats for us and had an important role again this year in socialising the cats as well as taking them to the vets for us, when required.

To AWO Graham Carter, who while we didn't actually see much of him during the year, was, as usual, always ready to assist us when he could.

And 'thank you' and 'goodbye' to our receptionist Beverly who in December, after 4 years with us, decided to 'swap' animals for humans by joining the NHS!

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

Contents

1	Statement of Financial Activities
2	Balance Sheet
3	Notes to the Accounts
5	Independent Examiners' Report to the Trustees

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

	Note	£ Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	£ Total Funds 2021	£ Total Funds 2020
INCOMING RESOURCES					
FROM GENERATED FUNDS					
Voluntary Income	1	59,073		59,073	63,998
Investment Income	2	420		420	641
FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITES	3	10,815		10,815	13,636
		0			
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		**70,308**	**0**	**70,308**	**78,276**
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	4	81,897		81,897	64,964
ALLOCATION OF SUPPORT COSTS	5	2,767	0	2,767	43,148
GOVERNANCE COSTS	6	2,390		2,390	0
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**87,054**	**0**	**87,054**	**108,112**
Net incoming resources		**(16,747)**	0	**(16,747)**	**(29,837)**
Gain (Losses) on investments	7	462		462	**(248)**
Transfers between funds					
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		**(16,285)**	0	**(16,285)**	**(30,085)**
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1st January 2021		285,318	0	285,318	315,403
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31st December 2021		269,033	0	**269,033**	**285,318**

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2021

	Note	£ Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	£ Total Funds 2021	£ Total Funds 2020
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Fixed Assets	10	6,441		6,441	8,051
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock		20		20	20
Debtors		679		679	155
Investments	7	7,022		7,022	6,560
Cash at Bank & in Hand	9	268,431		268,431	270,532
		276,152	0	276,152	277,267
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Sundry Creditors		13,560		13,560	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		262,592	0	262,592	277,267
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		269,033	0	269,033	285,318
NET ASSETS		269,033	0	269,033	285,318
FUNDS					
Undesignated Funds		269,033		269,033	285,318
Designated Funds					
Restricted Funds			0	0	0
		269,033		269,033	285,318

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2021

1 VOLUNTARY INCOME	2021 £ Unrestricted	2020 £
General Donations/Fundraising	1,213	
Legacies	21,304	34,307
Refund of Branch contribution to Head Office re support for other branches	7,530	0
Collection Boxes		90
National scheme entitlement (door to door)	24,024	25,173
Donations and subscriptions	1,570	1,677
Furlough Grant	3,432	2,751
	59,073	**63,998**

2 INVESTMENT INCOME		
Standard Chartered	394	394
Nat West Bank	26	247
	420	**641**

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		
Contribution to Animal treatments	10,815	13,636
TOTAL	**70,308**	**78,276**

4 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURE		
Boarding and Rehoming Fees	20,972	18,216
Rent & Utilities	4,434	3,722
Clinic Insurance	34	
Stationery and postage	1,515	1,939
Telephone	2,115	1,841
Van expenses	1,559	1,562
Clinic Repairs	614	717
Clinic costs - security,cleaning,sundries	348	82
Clinic admin & support	13,085	13,682
Vet consultations & fees	28,121	16,285
Advertising, publicity and appeals		482
Drugs and medicine	9,100	6,437
Contribution to HQ Appeal Fund		
	81,897	**64,964**

5 ALLOCATION OF SUPPORT COSTS	2021 £	2020 £
Branch contribution to Head Office inc support for other branches		40,173
Bank charges	1,157	962
Depreciation	1,610	2,013
	2,767	**43,148**

6 GOVERNANCE COSTS		
Independent Examiner Fees	2390	
TOTAL	**87054.45**	**108112.5**

Total of Receipts over payments (payments over receipts)	**(16,747)**	**(29,837)**

7 INVESTMENTS

	2021 Value £	Cost £	2020 Value
£5,340 £1 Standard Chartered Plc 7 .375% Pref Stock Non-Cum Irred Preference Shares	7,022	5,868	6,560
	7,022	5,868	6,560

8 Clinic Income & Expenditure

	2021 £	2020 £
Income for year	49,004	43,969
Expenditure for year	59,367	44,705
Excess of Income (Expenditure) for year	(10,363)	(736)

9 Cash at Bank

	2021 £	2020 £
Balance on Deposit Account with the Nat. West Bank Plc, English Street, Carlisle	260,224	260,198
Current Account	8,207	10,334
	268,431	270,532

10 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	IT Equip £	Fixtures etc £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
Costs to 1st January 2021	7,910	3,853	15,893	27,656
Additions during year	0		0	0
Less Original cost of disposals during year			0	0
Costs to 31st December 2021	7,910	3,853	15,893	27656
Depreciation to 1st January 2021	6,478	3,743	9,384	19,605
Less Depreciation on assets disposed of during year			0	0
Charge for year	286	22	1,302	1,610
Depreciation to 31st December 2021	6,764	3,765	10,686	21,215
NET BOOK VALUE 31st December 2021	1,146	88	5,207	6,441
NET BOOK VALUE 31st December 2020	1,432	110	6,509	8,051

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH TRUST

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st December 2021, which are set out on pages 1 to 4.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011);

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 statement

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 the seeking of 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, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a true and fair view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with 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 s130 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 and the regulations made thereunder 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.

M UPPARD F.C.A.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT
LAMONT PRIDMORE
31 LONSDALE STREET

CARLISLE

26th June 2022

Structure, Governance & Management

Cumbria North and East branch has as its governing document, the National Society's Branch Rules (amended in 2006). In this branch the trustees are in effect committee members. They are appointed at the Annual General Meeting by polling over 50% of the vote in a secret ballot, which takes place at the AGM, by those eligible to vote under RSPCA rules.

All eligible branch members are sent a nomination form with the notice calling the annual general meeting, enabling them to put themselves forward for election, if proposed and seconded by a member of the branch. Non branch members can also be co-opted to the committee and subsequently act as trustees. The maximum number of elected committee members is 14 and 3 co-options are allowed in any one year. All trustees are asked to sign a 'Declaration of Willingness to Serve as a Trustee' and appraised of the duties and responsibilities of Trusteeship. Induction to policies & procedures for, and training of trustees is undertaken by the Branch Support Specialist.

The organisational structure of the branch is that of three executive officers, the honorary chairman, treasurer and secretary, appointed by ballot, at a meeting held directly after the AGM, to make day to day decisions in the running of the Branch. Any major policy decisions are put to the committee for ratification. The committee meets two monthly.

The branch has specific risk management procedures in place which are always being re-evaluated, and we are continuously working towards new policies and procedures.

The secretary is also responsible for the administration of the Branch Clinic.

The branch has a Re-homing Co-ordinator for cats, who liaises directly with the private boarding catteries where the cats are kept, awaiting re-homing, visiting regularly to check on their general health and wellbeing, obtaining veterinary treatment, if necessary. The Re-homing Co-ordinator, places these animals in suitable new homes, after carrying out a home visit to assess the homes' suitability for the animal chosen and also carry out post-homing checks .

The Fund Raising co-ordinator arranges fund raising ventures the branch undertakes itself.

Cumbria North and East Branch is connected to the wider RSPCA network by a Trustee attending the Midland and North Regional Board meetings and of course the National Society, under whose guidelines the branch operates. The RSPCA's Chief Vet, as well as licensing the Branch Veterinary Clinic, updates the branch on new veterinary medicine guidelines and provides recommendations as to 'best practice'. Contact with the RSPCA Inspectorate is maintained through the RSPCA National Control Centre and on a 'face to face' basis when an animal signed over to the RSPCA is taken into Branch care.



RSPCA
CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST

Clinic and Branch Administrative Centre
28 Close Street, Carlisle, CA1 2HB
Email: rspca.carlisle@btconnect.com

Clinic Landline: 01228 512893
Clinic Mobile: 07718 065995
Rehoming Mobile: 07487 582405

OPENING HOURS
Monday, Wednesday & Friday
1pm-2pm

Registered Charity No. 232262

National Website:
www.rspca.org.uk

ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRA

England & Wales - Charity number 232262

Accounts

RSPCA

CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH





ANNUAL REPORT

For the Year ending 31st December 2020

Registered Charity No.232262

STATUTORY STATEMENT OF PUBLIC BENEFIT BY THE TRUSTEES

The RSPCA Cumbria North & East Branch is an unincorporated charitable association and separately registered branch of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, carrying out is direct animal welfare in the area of north and east Cumbria.

The Trustees have reviewed the outcomes and achievements of our objectives and activities for the year to ensure that they are 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 due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission.

The Branch's animal welfare work, though local in nature, helps people in need to care for their animals, and has a moral benefit for society at large by promoting kindness and preventing or suppressing cruelty to animals. We provide subsidised veterinary treatment for animals and belong to local people on low incomes. We do this mainly through the Branch Clinic and with vouchers towards private veterinary treatment.

This work benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to obtain care for companion animals in need of veterinary treatment.

We provide subsidised neutering of companion animals for those in the Branch area on low incomes through the Branch Clinic.

This work helps to control the dog and cat population through neutering and benefits those on means tested benefits by giving them financial help to neuter their companion animals. It benefits the general public as a whole by promoting responsible pet ownership.

We support the RSPCA Inspectorate by taking in, free of charge, mistreated or abandoned companion animals, providing any veterinary treatment necessary, through the Branch Clinic.

The Society's Inspectorate rescue animals in distress and enforces laws against the mistreatment of animals in England and Wales by bringing prosecutions. This work is key to the 'prevention of cruelty' part of the RSPCA's objectives and promotes humane sentiments towards animals which has a moral benefit for the general public as a whole.

We rehome animals in need, at low cost, to people willing and able to have a companion animal.

Our policy to charge a reasonable adoption fee aims to highlight the personal and financial commitment of pet ownership. It would not be in the interest of animals, and therefore fall outside our objectives, to rehome to those who could not afford them.

We provide volunteering opportunities for those who wish to support our work, including trusteeship, volunteering and fundraising.

This benefits local people by providing the possibility of doing work which is compassionate and rewarding.

The following Trustees' report gives greater detail on how, and the extent to which, this 'public benefit' has been achieved during 2020.

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH & EAST BRANCH

Registered Charity No. 232262

Branch Centre and Veterinary Clinic

28 Close Street

Carlisle

Cumbria CA1 2HB

ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ending 31st December 2020

Board of Trustees

Hon. Chairman (vacant)

Hon Treasurer Mrs S Smith

Hon. Secretary Mrs A Armstrong

Miss L. Carruthers

Mrs S. Graham

Mrs L. Morrow

Mrs K Richardson

Mr. B. Smith

Auditors: Lamont Pridmore

Bank: NatWest Carlisle

Consulting Veterinary Surgeons: Craig Robinson Vets Ltd.

The Trustees Annual Report for 2020.

The report this year will be brief, but we hope comprehensive enough to demonstrate that during this global pandemic, the animal welfare work we carried was as comprehensive as it could be under Covid Restrictions and Covid safety measures.

The work of the branch clinic

The clinic had to close at the end of March along with the national lockdown because, although we were considered by the government as essential workers, it became unsafe - we could not continue in a covid secure manner. Clinic clients and members of the public were informed by notices on the door and by the telephone answer phone message on how to obtain veterinary treatment for their pets. The branch mobile was also manned, *at all times*, to offer welfare assistance and advice, referring callers to the appropriate agencies regarding injured wildlife etc, and to the National Control Centre in cases of allegations of cruelty and neglect or abandonment. The secretary, in her role as clinic manager, dealt with calls from previously registered clients needing ongoing treatment for their pets, or needing treatment for new conditions or urgent operations, by liaising with our consulting veterinary surgeons and arranging Covid safe appointments for them down at the vets' premises. Members of the public who had not previously been to the clinic and who were eligible for subsidised veterinary treatment were also referred for a consultation with our consulting vets and any essential treatment. With the very much appreciated assistance and cooperation from our consulting vets, Craig Robinsons Vets Ltd, we were able to continue to provide our usual clinic service.

Our vets also continued to neuter dogs and cats through our welfare neutering programme (which is part of our remit, as a charity and expressed in our 'Statutory Public Benefit Statement' to promote responsible pet ownership) but also as they saw it as a welfare issue, to prevent a future 'explosion' of unwanted pets, particularly cats.

The clinic was able to reopen in July with strengthened Covid safety measures in place and guided by advice and following regulations/recommendations from the National Society, Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, UK Government, which, with reference to local Covid levels as well, meant in a limited capacity.

However, we were still able to refer to our consulting vets' practice those animals needing urgent treatment and who we had been unable to see during a clinic session.

Rescue and Rehoming Work.

This side of our work was probably most affected by Covid restrictions, as other 'agencies' (besides the branch) had their own restrictions to work to, for example, the RSPCA national society Inspectors, other rescue societies, and the private boarding facility where we keep our cats for rehoming. The branch rehoming coordinator worked, *at all times*, to the regulations laid down by the national society and respected those of the cattery. Re homing had to be put on hold for a long period as visits to the cattery to choose a cat was not an option. When brought to our attention, cats in need were still taken in -social distancing honed to an art as stray cats and kittens were caught, abandoned cats or cats whose owners could no longer take care of them, picked up and transferred to the cattery in a Covid safe manner. Once rehoming was allowed, this meant virtual home visits to assess a home's suitability for a particular cat, with cats having to 'sell' themselves by looking cute on photographs or videos sent to potential new owners. We therefore had to rely heavily on expertise of the owners of the cattery as to the nature of the cats as we could not visit to assess that ourselves. Nevertheless, 35 vulnerable cats and kittens were taken in and rehomed in 2020, including three deaf white cats.

Income generation

At the beginning of the year we received several funeral collections but once the country was locked down any fund raising events from which we may have benefitted were obviously cancelled, with one exception. In July we received a donation from the pupils of Irthington Primary school, as one of the two charities they had been fundraising for during the school year.

Treasurers Report

Thanks to a large legacy several years ago and prudent management of our resources the branch finances are still healthy. The two paid members of staff were furloughed for the time the clinic had to close, which helped with expenditure, but that was offset by a considerable quantity of the clinic's medicines going out of date and having to be disposed of, and by us having to keep cats longer in the cattery. A full set of accounts will be available for members and attendees at the AGM to be held in December (2021)

And finally, "Thank you"

We could not have carried on this year without *all* the staff at Craig Robinson Vets Ltd. Although they had to manage Covid restrictions and find a Covid safe way to be able to see their own private clients, they always agreed to see the animals we referred to them.

To the cattery owners who, as we outlined above, still agreed to take in cats for us and had much more of a role this year in socialising the cats as well as taking them to the vets for us, when required.

To Graham Carter who, while we saw less of him this year, we knew he would offer what assistance the national society's Covid restrictions allowed, if asked.

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS

CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

Contents

1	Statement of Financial Activities
2	Balance Sheet
3	Notes to the Accounts
5	Independent Examiners' Report to the Trustees

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

	Note	£ Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	£ Total Funds 2020	£ Total Funds 2019
INCOMING RESOURCES					
FROM GENERATED FUNDS					
Voluntary Income	1	63,998		63,998	33,438
Investment Income	2	641		641	1,056
FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITES	3	13,636		13,636	14,191
		0			
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		**78,276**	**0**	**78,276**	**48,685**
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	4	64,964		64,964	98,993
ALLOCATION OF SUPPORT COSTS	5	43,148	0	43,148	6,794
GOVERNANCE COSTS	6	0		0	780
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED		**108,112**	**0**	**108,112**	**106,567**
Net incoming resources		(29,837)	0	(29,837)	(57,882)
Gain (Losses) on investments	7	(248)		(248)	718
Transfers between funds					
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		-30,085	0	-30,085	(57,164)
TOTAL FUNDS AT 1st January 2020		315,403	0	315,403	372,567
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31st December 2020		285,318	0	**285,318**	**315,403**

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2020

	Note	£ Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	£ Total Funds 2020	£ Total Funds 2019
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible Fixed Assets	10	8,051		8,051	10,064
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stock		20		20	20
Debtors		155		155	1,811
Investments	7	6,560		6,560	6,808
Cash at Bank & in Hand	9	270,532		270,532	296,700
		277,267	0	277,267	305,339
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Sundry Creditors				0	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		277,267	0	277,267	305,339
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		285,318	0	285,318	315,403
NET ASSETS		285,318	0	285,318	315,403
FUNDS					
Undesignated Funds		285,318		285,318	315,403
Designated Funds					
Restricted Funds			0	0	0
		285,318		285,318	315,403

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

1 VOLUNTARY INCOME	2020 £ Unrestricted	2019 £
General Donations/Fundraising		18
Legacies	34,307	1,127
Grants (assisted neutering grant)	0	0
Collection Boxes	90	170
Pet insurance	0	0
National scheme entitlement (door to door)	25,173	26,739
Donations and subscriptions	1,677	905
V A T Recovered	0	4,478
Furlough Grant	2,751	
	63,998	**33,438**

2 INVESTMENT INCOME		
Standard Chartered	394	394
Nat West Bank	247	663
	641	**1,056**

3 INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES		
Contribution to Animal treatments	13,636	14,191
TOTAL	**78,276**	**48,685**

4 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES EXPENDITURE		
Boarding and Rehoming Fees	18,216	23,116
Rent & Utilities	3,722	4,682
Clinic Insurance		0
Stationery and postage	1,939	1,441
Telephone	1,841	1,697
Van expenses	1,562	382
Clinic Repairs	717	1,971
Clinic costs - security,cleaning,sundries	82	34
Clinic admin & support	13,682	13,381
Vet consultations & fees	16,285	34,213
Advertising, publicity and appeals	482	1,446
Drugs and medicine	6,437	16,629
Contribution to HQ Appeal Fund		
	64,964	**98,993**

5 ALLOCATION OF SUPPORT COSTS	2020 £	2019 £
Branch contribution to Head Office inc support for other branches	40,173	3,308
Bank charges	962	970
Depreciation	2,013	2,516
	43,148	**6,794**

6 GOVERNANCE COSTS		
Independent Examiner Fees	0	780
TOTAL	**108112.46**	**106567.1**
Total of Receipts over payments (payments over receipts)	**(29,837)**	**(57,882)**

7 INVESTMENTS

	2020 Value £	Cost £	2019 Value
£5,340 £1 Standard Chartered Plc 7 .375% Pref Stock Non-Cum Irred Preference Shares	6,560	5,868	6,808
	6,560	5,868	6,808

8 Clinic Income & Expenditure

	2020 £	2019 £
Income for year	41,218	47,558
Expenditure for year	44,070	72,111
Excess of Income (Expenditure) for year	(2,852)	(24,554)

9 Cash at Bank

	2020 £	2019 £
Balance on Deposit Account with the Nat. West Bank Plc, English Street, Carlisle	260,198	295,951
Current Account	10,334	749
	270,532	296,700

10 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	IT Equip £	Fixtures etc £	Motor Vehicles £	Total £
Costs to 1st January 2020	7,910	3,853	15,893	27,656
Additions during year	0		0	0
Less Original cost of disposals during year			0	0
Costs to 31st December 2020	7,910	3,853	15,893	27656
Depreciation to 1st January 2020	6,120	3,715	7,757	17,592
Less Depreciation on assets disposed of during year			0	0
Charge for year	358	28	1,627	2,013
Depreciation to 31st December 2020	6,478	3,743	9,384	19,605
NET BOOK VALUE 31st December 2020	1,432	110	6,509	8,051
NET BOOK VALUE 31st December 2019	1,790	138	8,136	10,064

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY FOR THE PREVENTION OF CRUELTY TO ANIMALS CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH TRUST

I report on the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31st December 2020, which are set out on pages 1 to 4.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

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

It is my responsibility to:

examine the accounts (under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011);

to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under section 145(6)(b) of the 2011 Act); and

to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

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 the seeking of 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, no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a true and fair view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In connection with 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 s130 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 and the regulations made thereunder 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.

M UPPARD F.C.A.
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANT
LAMONT PRIDMORE
31 LONSDALE STREET

CARLISLE

1st December 2021

Structure, Governance & Management

Cumbria North and East branch has as its governing document, the National Society's Branch Rules (amended in 2006). In this branch the trustees are in effect committee members. They are appointed at the Annual General Meeting by polling over 50% of the vote in a secret ballot, which takes place at the AGM, by those eligible to vote under RSPCA rules.

All eligible branch members are sent a nomination form with the notice calling the annual general meeting, enabling them to put themselves forward for election, if proposed and seconded by a member of the branch. Non branch members can also be co-opted to the committee and subsequently act as trustees. The maximum number of elected committee members is 14 and 3 co-options are allowed in any one year. All trustees are asked to sign a 'Declaration of Willingness to Serve as a Trustee' and appraised of the duties and responsibilities of Trusteeship. Induction to policies & procedures for, and training of trustees is undertaken by the Branch Support Specialist.

The organisational structure of the branch is that of three executive officers, the honorary chairman, treasurer and secretary, appointed by ballot, at a meeting held directly after the AGM, to make day to day decisions in the running of the Branch. Any major policy decisions are put to the committee for ratification. The committee meets two monthly.

The branch has specific risk management procedures in place which are always being re-evaluated, and we are continuously working towards new policies and procedures.

The secretary is also responsible for the administration of the Branch Clinic.

The branch has a Re-homing Co-ordinator for cats, who liaises directly with the private boarding catteries where the cats are kept, awaiting re-homing, visiting regularly to check on their general health and wellbeing, obtaining veterinary treatment, if necessary.
The Re-homing Co-ordinator, places these animals in suitable new homes, after carrying out a home visit to assess the homes' suitability for the animal chosen and also carry out post-homing checks .

The Fund Raising co-ordinator arranges fund raising ventures the branch undertakes itself.

Cumbria North and East Branch is connected to the wider RSPCA network by a Trustee attending the Midland and North Regional Board meetings and of course the National Society, under whose guidelines the branch operates. The RSPCA's Chief Vet, as well as licensing the Branch Veterinary Clinic, updates the branch on new veterinary medicine guidelines and provides recommendations as to 'best practice'. Contact with the RSPCA Inspectorate is maintained through the RSPCA National Control Centre and on a 'face to face' basis when an animal signed over to the RSPCA is taken into Branch care.



RSPCA
CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST

Clinic and Branch Administrative Centre
28 Close Street, Carlisle, CA1 2HB
Email: rspca.carlisle@btconnect.com

Clinic Landline: 01228 512893
Clinic Mobile: 07718 065995
Rehoming Mobile: 07487 582405

OPENING HOURS
Monday, Wednesday & Friday
1pm-2pm

Registered Charity No. 232262

National Website:
www.rspca.org.uk