



CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH



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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 its 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.

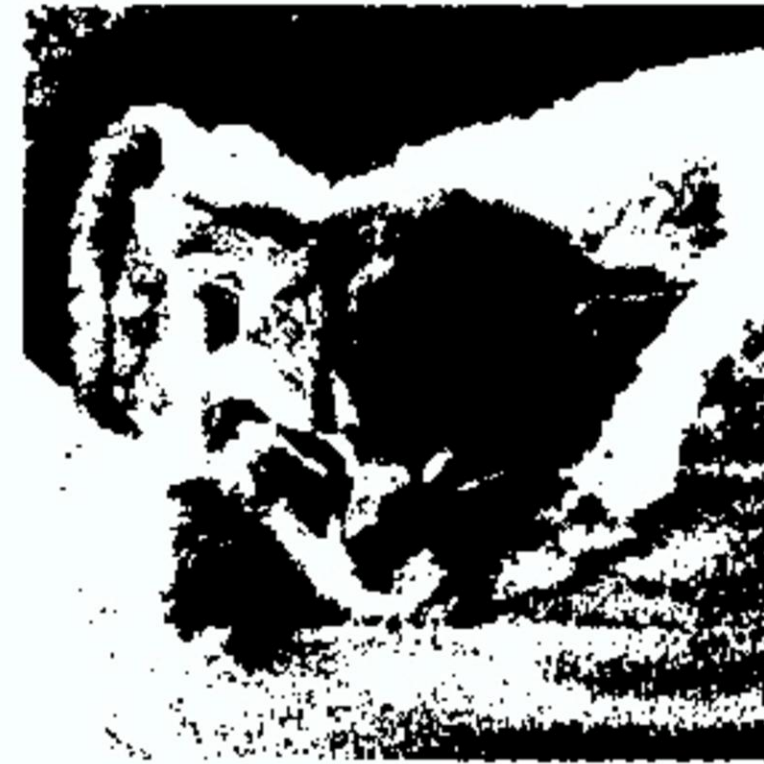
Among some of the cats we took in because of their owners having to move house was Luna, who gave birth on arrival to 4 kittens. She was handed over along with a kitten from a previous litter. Molly, who had been adopted from us as a kitten, found herself, at 13, homeless as her owner's home circumstances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

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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
<u>INCOMING RESOURCES</u>					
FROM GENERATED FUNDS					
Voluntary Income	1	59,073		59,073	63,998
Investment Income	2	420		420	641
FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	3	10,815		10,815	13,636
		0			
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		70,308	0	70,308	78,276
<u>RESOURCES EXPENDED</u>					
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
		<u>276,152</u>	0	<u>276,152</u>	<u>277,267</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Sundry Creditors		13,560		13,560	
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>262,592</u>	0	<u>262,592</u>	<u>277,267</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		269,033	0	269,033	285,318
NET ASSETS		<u>269,033</u>	0	<u>269,033</u>	<u>285,318</u>
FUNDS					
Undesignated Funds		269,033		269,033	285,318
Designated Funds					
Restricted Funds		0		0	0
		<u>269,033</u>		<u>269,033</u>	<u>285,318</u>

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

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

	2021 £	2020 £
1 VOLUNTARY INCOME	Unrestricted	
General Donations/Fundraising	1,213	
Legacies	21,304	34,307
Refund of Branch contribution to Head Office inc 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)

RSPCA CUMBRIA NORTH AND EAST BRANCH

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

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
	<u>7,022</u>	<u>5,868</u>	<u>6,560</u>

8 Clinic Income & Expenditure

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

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	<u>8,207</u>	<u>10,334</u>
	<u>268,431</u>	<u>270,532</u>

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	<u>7,910</u>	<u>3,853</u>	<u>15,893</u>	<u>27,656</u>
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	<u>286</u>	<u>22</u>	<u>1,302</u>	<u>1,610</u>
Depreciation to 31st December 2021	<u>6,764</u>	<u>3,765</u>	<u>10,686</u>	<u>21,215</u>
NET BOOK VALUE 31st December 2021	<u>1,146</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>5,207</u>	<u>6,441</u>
NET BOOK VALUE 31st December 2020	<u>1,432</u>	<u>110</u>	<u>6,509</u>	<u>8,051</u>

**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