



Sandbach Animal Rescue Society

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Avalon, Zan Drive, Sandbach, Cheshire, CW11 4QQ

[www.sandbachanimalrescue.co.uk](http://www.sandbachanimalrescue.co.uk)

### **Trustee's Annual Report 2023**

#### **Introduction**

Sandbach Animal Rescue Society, hereafter referred to as SARS, was founded in 1981, and registered with the Charities Commission (No. 512966) the following year. From a small beginning, in temporary accommodation, SARS now operates from its own property in Sandbach and has a small retail shop in Sandbach town centre.

The society is run entirely by volunteers and relies purely on fundraising and donations to cover its costs which include day to day running expenses of the rescue centre, fostering, veterinary fees, advertising and printing.

Our rescue centre has six modern, secure and easy to maintain pens, as well as an isolation room, an outside "catio" area, and a fantastic indoor enrichment area. This allows us to accommodate around twenty cats at any one time, although this does depend on the family mix of the cats and kittens.

During the year ending 31 December 2023, SARS rescued one hundred and eight and rehomed ninety-two cats and kittens.

We also had sixteen cats and kittens in foster care during the year.

SARS is unable to provide facilities for dogs at our rescue centre at its current location due to environmental legislation, but we do work in collaboration with neighbouring dog rescue centres.

#### **Objectives**

SARS aims to reduce the number of stray and unwanted animals within Sandbach and its surrounding area through rescue and rehoming initiatives. At the same time, SARS strives to support members of the local community in need of assistance with animals, for example support for those struggling with the costs of feeding their cats short term and educating the public regarding neutering and microchipping.

#### **Governance**

SARS holds several formal meetings: an AGM open to the public, monthly committee meetings, and Extraordinary General Meetings are called as required.

Officer positions on the Committee are guided by job descriptions and there is a suite of policy documents that are complemented by standard operating procedures.

## Trustees and Officers

SARS ended 2023 with the following officers in post:-

### Trustees

Trustee	Mel Wilson
Trustee	Eddie Dautry-Turner
Trustee	Stuart Mitton

### Committee members

Chairman	Mel Wilson
Secretary	Alison Bayley
Aftercare Coordinator	Kim McQuade
Assistant Cat Co-ordinator	Audrey Boston
Cat Co-ordinator	Linda Gibbs
E-commerce / Website Manager	Richard Jarmin
Fundraising Coordinator	Sarah Lamb
Rescue Shift Coordinator	Laurence Dautry-Turner
Rescue Treasurer	Julie Slater
Shop Manager	Karen Guy
Shop Treasurer	Georgina Greenhalgh

### Other role holders

Volunteer Coordinator	Donna Cleveley
Cat Café Coordinator	Natalie Richards
Crafters Coordinator	Julie Slater
Bakers Coordinator	Samantha Moss
Shop Rota Coordinators	Yasmin Woods & Dariane Moore

## Financial Summary

More detailed financial information can be found at the end of this report; the summary below shows that from a financial perspective, SARS continues to be a viable on-going concern.

### Income: Jan – Dec

Adoptions	£9,680
Donations & collections	£11,805
Shop income	£31,682
VAT & Gift aid	£18,268
Fundraising events	£18,849
Other	£8,345
<b>Total income</b>	<b>£98,629</b>

### Expenditure: Jan – Dec

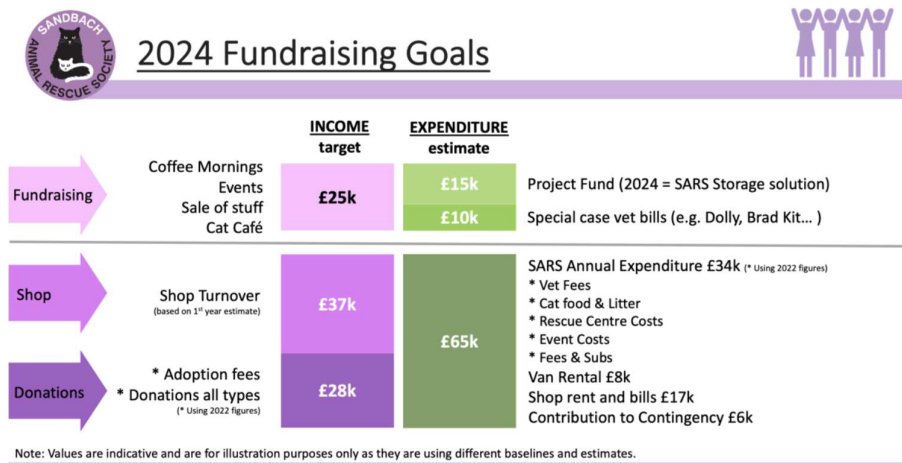
Vets fees	£31,780
Rescue centre expenses	£10,665
Utilities & insurance	£5,981
Fundraising expenses	£1,985
Equipment purchases	£986
Shop costs	£23,417
Other	£3,089
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>£77,903</b>

## Plans for 2024

To run alongside our normal business as usual operations (BAU), our plans for 2024 will address two specific items: -

- 1) *Special case vet bills* - we regularly have large veterinary bills to pay, for both routine visits and medical procedures, as well as for the special cases where the SARS committee literally must make very difficult life and death decisions about funding treatment for complex and expensive cases
- 2) *Storage* – we need to solve our storage problem. Storage is needed for all the donations we receive for the shop, as well as all our event equipment. We have been loaned storage space over the past year, but this will become unavailable shortly. Therefore, we need to find a long-term sustainable storage solution to facilitate all our events, fundraising and shop activities. The proposed storage project will utilise unused ground at the back of the Rescue centre, level it and install dry storage units

In order to fund these special items and BAU we have set ourselves the following budget:-



We have set ourselves a fund-raising target of £90k to cover our FY2024 plans. We recognise that in the current economic climate our ability to fundraise will come under additional pressure next year. However, we feel this target is achievable and we will continue to ensure alignment of expenditure to fundraising as the year progresses.

## Chairmans Report

Once again, the SARS fundraising activity during the last 12 months has been incredible, the efforts from our volunteer fundraisers and our shop staff have been outstanding, their sterling work is what keeps SARS going. The trustees would like to pay tribute to these incredible efforts and thanks every one for their amazing support and dedication.

For SARS, 2023 saw the opening of our first Charity Shop in Georges Walk, Sandbach. Not only was this an exciting new challenge for us it also has had a huge impact on our fundraising ability. A big thank you to everyone involved in getting the shop ready for trading, ensuring the stock was sorted, labelled, and priced, and to the Volunteer coordinator Donna Cleveley for helping to appoint the volunteers to run the shop. A special thank you to Karen Guy and her family who work tirelessly every day (and night) to ensure the shop is open, well stocked, and ready to make us some money!!

Because of the shop opening, in 2023 we attended fewer fundraising events through choice, sticking to the events we knew would raise us money, as well as the local PR events needed to support the town. Our coffee morning was held at the Town Hall throughout 2023, and this has made a big difference to the money we raise and the clientele we attract.

Fundraising highlight of the year was Sarah Lamb surrounded by 100 enthusiastic children at the Spooky Saturday event which had to be seen to be believed!!

Fundraising from events and goods sold this year raised £27077.

SARS is also well supported by the local veterinary practice, local supermarkets and pet stores that allow donation bins. Local pet stores donate unwanted food which is used within the rescue or distributed to other local charities.

SARS continued to provide a safe home to stray and unwanted cats at our rescue centre. The charity also supports members who foster cats and /or kittens in their own homes. The services provided by SARS continue to be crucial especially as we continue through the current cost of living crisis, when more cats are either being (reluctantly) surrendered or abandoned.

I would like to close my statement by saying a big thank you to our volunteers, partners and supporters without whom SARS could not continue to operate.

Mel Wilson  
SARS Chair



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Sandbach Animal Rescue Society

No (if any)  
512966

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

01/01/2023

To

31/12/2023

### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total funds	Last year
	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £	to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations	10,961	-	-	10,961	14,651
Adoptions	9,680	-	-	9,680	12,091
Collection Boxes	844	-	-	844	1,572
Bequests	-	-	-	-	-
Fund Raising - Events/Sales	18,849	-	-	18,849	26,052
Fund Raising - Other	8,228	-	-	8,228	871
Shop Income	31,682	-	-	31,682	-
Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Loan receipt	-	-	-	-	-
Interest Received	117	-	-	117	11
VAT on receipts	15,685	-	-	15,685	-
Gift Aid	2,583	-	-	2,583	-
Compensation	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>98,629</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>98,629</b>	<b>55,247</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
Motor Vehicles	-	-	-	-	-
Scottish Widows	-	-	-	-	-
VAT refunds re: PY	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>98,629</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>98,629</b>	<b>55,247</b>

### A3 Payments

Accountant Fees	156	-	-	156	1,350
Advertising	-	-	-	-	-
Cat Boarding	-	-	-	-	-
Cat Food	4,427	-	-	4,427	4,216
Cat Litter & Essentials	692	-	-	692	831
Cattery Expenses	-	-	-	-	369
Cleaning	1,262	-	-	1,262	-
Deed Events Cost	-	-	-	-	-
Equipment Purchases	986	-	-	986	-
Fostering Expenses	-	-	-	-	-
Fundraising Expenses	737	-	-	737	-
Hall Hire etc.	1,248	-	-	1,248	796
Insurance/Membership	2,195	-	-	2,195	1,139
IT Software and Consumables	60	-	-	60	53
Legal Fees	-	-	-	-	-
Merchandise	-	-	-	-	1,868
Mobile Phone & Broadband	-	-	-	-	724
Motor Expenses	2,873	-	-	2,873	-
Postage	3	-	-	3	7
Printing & Stationery	398	-	-	398	-
Property Costs - Repairs & Maintenance	3,053	-	-	3,053	841
Shop costs	23,417	-	-	23,417	-
Stationery	-	-	-	-	24
Subscriptions	710	-	-	710	561
Sundries	120	-	-	120	52
Supplier Invoices not paid yet	-	-	-	-	-

Telephone & Internet	770			770	
Utility Costs	3,016	-	-	3,016	2,183
VAT on payments		-	-	-	
Vet Fees	31,780	-	-	31,780	19,265
Waste Costs		-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>77,903</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>77,903</b>	<b>34,277</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases. (see table)</b>					
<b>Fixed Asset Purchases</b>		-	-	-	
		-	-	-	
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>77,903</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>77,903</b>	<b>34,277</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>20,726</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,726</b>	<b>20,970</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>- 6,957</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 6,957</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>35,745</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>35,745</b>	<b>14,775</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>49,514</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>49,514</b>	<b>35,745</b>

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

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	<div>202409 10787728</div> <div>202409 73934829</div> <div>202409 13536130</div> <div>202409 90664391</div> <div></div> <div><b>Total cash funds</b></div> <div>(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))</div>	<div>22,350</div> <div>12,936</div> <div>14,228</div> <div>-</div> <div></div> <div><b>49,514</b></div> <div>OK</div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div></div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div><b>-</b></div> <div>OK</div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div></div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div><b>-</b></div> <div>OK</div>
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	<div>VAT refund - Outstanding</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div> <div></div>	<div>3,934</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>	<div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div> <div>-</div>

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	Loan		3,500	31/12/2025
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Charity Name

Sandbach Animal Rescue Society

On accounts for the year  
ended

2023

Charity no  
(if any)

512966

Set out on pages

1 - 3

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2023.

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent  
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

03/10/2024

Name:

Anita Marie Maddock

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body  
(if any):

Accountant (MIAB)  
Institute of Accountants and Bookkeepers  
Top Cat Accountancy Ltd

Address:

Winnington House, Winnington Lane, Winnington, Northwich, Cheshire,  
England, CW8 4DE.



Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

**Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.**