

Thames Valley Animal Welfare

Registered Charity No. 900616



Annual Report for the year to 31 March 2022

Aims and Organisation

Thames Valley Animal Welfare (TVAW) is registered with the Charity Commission (No. 900616).

The postal address is TVA W, P O Box 3139, Reading, RG1 9FQ.

The e-mail address is tvawcats2018@gmail.com or tvawcats30@gmail.com and the website address is www.tvaw.org.uk.

The Charity operates under a constitution approved by the Charity Commission and is administered by a Management Committee of Trustees, comprising at 31.3.2022.

Chairman	Mrs A Butler-Smith
Vice-Chairman	Mrs J MacGregor
Secretary	Mrs M Fogarty
Treasurer	Miss H Westgarth
Other members	Mrs P Parfitt, Mrs Y Room, Mrs C Laker, Miss S Aubrey, Mrs K Brewer and Mrs J Phelan.

The object of the charity is to rescue abandoned, unwanted, ill-treated, and neglected cats. Veterinary treatment is provided when necessary and all cats are spayed or neutered and microchipped before rehoming. The cats are cared for in individual foster homes until they are ready for rehoming. TVA W aims to find loving permanent homes with responsible people for all animals in its care and undertakes never to destroy any cat unless advised to do so by a veterinary surgeon on the grounds of ill-health. The work of the charity is undertaken entirely by volunteers working from their own homes.

Throughout the year the trustees have given due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and consider that its activities meet the public benefit requirement. Although we record our performance in terms of the number of cats helped, behind each case is an owner, relative, neighbour or member of the public who needs help, either with an owned cat or a stray.

Review of the year to 31 March 2022

For the second consecutive year, the Coronavirus Pandemic has made this year challenging – trying to take in and rehome cats whilst always remaining within the government's guidelines. The situation has improved over the last 6 months as the restrictions have lifted, this has enabled us to return to normality.

We operate a waiting list for places in foster homes, with priority being given to the pregnant cats, kittens and sick or injured cats. We have had a high proportion of stray cats on the waiting list again this year, with very few owned cats being handed into foster care. Our waiting list was high over the summer months, however, the rest of the year we have been in a fortunate position to be able to take in most cats very quickly. We have had fewer litters of kittens in foster care this year and the rehoming figures reflect this.

The high number of people applying to adopt cats has continued this year, resulting in some disappointed people.

Foster homes

We started the year with 14 outdoor foster homes and 16 cathouses, 5 indoor foster homes and 4 kittens socialisers.

We have again seen quite a few changes within our fosterers. We are grateful to Anne Edmundson, Jackie Ralph, Janine Isenegger, Linda Adamson and Frankie Feast for all their hard work and dedication over their years of fostering for us. Jackie is still involved with the charity and occasionally helps out with foster cats/kittens in her home.

During the year we have welcomed Niki Marshall, Stephanie Shearman, Samantha Trott and Amanda Farr, who have taken on a cathouse each, Sue Duke and Philippa Faulkner as indoor foster homes and Chantal Cornelius who joined us as a kitten socialiser.

We appreciated Caroline Airey's help socialising kittens again over the summer months. We finished the year with 14 outdoor foster homes and 16 cathouses, 6 indoor foster homes and 4 kitten socialisers.

We continue to be incredibly grateful to all our fosterers, who work extremely hard caring from cute kittens to ferocious ferals. We would also like to thank all our transport volunteers who travel far and wide collecting and trapping cats.

Statistics

	2021/2022	2020/2021	2019/2020	2018/2019	2017/2018
Adult cats rehomed	155	154	161	174	192
Kittens rehomed	102	143	123	146	141
Returned to owner (b)	6	14	3	9	30
Put to sleep/Died (d)	10	7	7	11	8
Neutering scheme – low cost	34	38	76	151	118
Neutering scheme - free	23	14	28	0	108
Golden Oldie Scheme cats which received vet treatment	22	30	31	25	45
Other cats helped (c)	59	47	46	49	52
	411	447	475	565	694

Notes

(a) Kittens aged up to 6 months

(b) These figures do not include the cats who are matched by our lost and found register and do not therefore come into our care.

(c) These are cats which have been helped by TVAW in some way, usually by the provision of veterinary treatment when owners have been unable to afford it and have not come into a TVAW foster home.

(d) One was an elderly cat with cat flu, 1 semi feral cat with FIV and cat flu, 2 cats with renal failure, 1 with a tumour, 1 cat with multiple issues and 1 deformed kitten. The decision to euthanase was taken, in conjunction with the veterinary surgeon, to end their suffering.

Golden Oldie Scheme

Rehoming elderly cats is never easy, but it is sometimes helpful if they are offered for adoption under the "Golden Oldie Scheme". Often these cats have come into our care with ongoing health problems, such as hyperthyroidism, and therefore prospective owners would be unable take-out pet insurance. People are encouraged to offer them a home if TVAW is responsible for future veterinary care. More cats are now being rehomed under the scheme and some cats which were rehomed under the scheme several years ago have now required expensive ongoing treatment for age-related health issues such as heart problems. Several generous owners do not take advantage of the scheme and opt to pay for their cat's treatment themselves, which is very helpful as the cost of the scheme this year was almost £19,000.

Low-cost neutering scheme

Between April 1st 2021 and March 31st 2022, 57 cats have been neutered or spayed under our Neutering Schemes. This is slightly more than last year. Several owners had more than one cat castrated or spayed and 23 cats benefitted under our Free Neutering Scheme (14 last year) and 34 from Low-Cost neutering (38 last year). Many of the vets recommend us to clients, as do several of the larger charities – the RSPCA and Cats' Protection, particularly - who approach us for financial help and in the present climate of the Coronavirus pandemic, we anticipated that these requests would increase. This has not been the case and one or two applicants have never presented their vouchers! Very few other charities offer this help nowadays and everyone who we do help, is immensely grateful to us, proving how worthwhile this scheme is.

Lost and Found Register

During the year 1st April 2021 to 31st March 2022, 89 cats have been reported lost and 26 reported found, (last year 56 and 22 respectively). We recorded 16 of the cats registered lost as happily reunited with their owners. The figures for found cats doesn't include the cats who have been taken into foster care. The numbers for this year are slightly up on the previous year, this is most likely due to a return to normal activity as Coronavirus Covid-19 pandemic restrictions eased during 2021.

Most cats reported to us have come via our lost and found email, by private messaging to our Facebook page or by phone.

Facebook continues to be a valuable resource for both rehoming and lost & found, with several cats finding new homes and being reunited with their owner as a direct result of content/appeals via the TVAW Facebook page. During the year, our followers have increased by 14%, a steady increase which we expect to continue throughout 2022.

Friends of TVAW

The Friends of TVAW was introduced in 1993 as a way of keeping people who are interested in our work informed of our activities. This is achieved by the publication three times a year of our newsletter "Paws for Thought". We have more than 650 members and the newsletter is very well received. Subscriptions and donations from the Friends now form a substantial and very welcome proportion of our income.

TVAW Website

We are very grateful to Pam Budd at Loud-n-Clear who regularly updates our website.

Financial

Thames Valley Animal Welfare is entirely dependent upon donations and its own fundraising efforts to finance its work. It does not own any land or buildings or employ any staff. Its work is carried out entirely by volunteers.

Our main sources of income are donations, including Friends' subscriptions, and our own fundraising activities – mainly stalls at various local events plus the sale of our Christmas cards and calendars. We are grateful to Gerry Horrox, one of the fosterers, who continues to raise funds by selling donated items for TVAW on eBay and through donations made via his own website. Reclaiming Gift Aid creates a lot of work in terms of record keeping but generated a most welcome income of almost £9500.

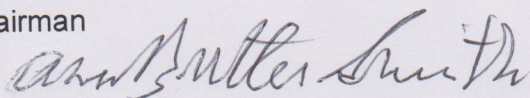
The fact that we still have healthy reserves due to the generosity of our supporters, has meant that we have been able continue to cover the increasingly expensive veterinary costs and maintain our commitments to our fosterers. However, with expenditure continuing to rise, we review our levels of expenditure monthly as this continues to be a source of concern.

Of particular concern, is the need to plan for the replacement of some of our older Lindee Lu cat houses. We have 14 Lindee Lu and 2 Quality Timber cathouses, some which are over 10 years old. Even with regular timber treatment and maintenance the manufacturers do not expect them to last much beyond 15 years. To replace the smallest of our cathouses at current prices would cost from £6,000 per unit.

Acknowledgements

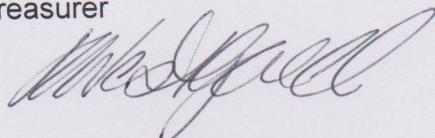
Once again, very many people have helped TVAW financially with both large and small donations during the year and small legacies and donations in memory of relatives, friends, or pets. Whilst it is not possible to list all of them individually in this report, we would like to thank them all for their continued support. Our fosterers have been very grateful for the cat food, litter and bedding which has been donated by many of our supporters during the year - this is a tangible way in which supporters can help us and fosterers find it very encouraging to receive such contributions.

Ann Butler-Smith, Chairman



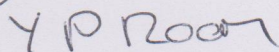
Date: 21/09/22

Hilary Westgarth, Treasurer



Date: 21.09.22

Yvonne Room, Co-ordinator



Date: 21.9.22

For and on behalf of the trustees

Thames Valley Animal Welfare
Registered Charity No 900616

Accounts for the year to 31 March 2022

1. Receipts and Payments Account

Income Receipts

Donations, Payroll Giving, Standing Orders, Charities Trust, give as you Live, Friends, Sales, Sale of Stock, Paypal, Gerry's Website, Recycling, Collecting Tins, Re-payments		
Legacies	67,786.10	
Interest	124,610.77	
HMRC Gift Aid repayments	448.61	
Other	9,455.79	
Total receipts	1,904.34	204,205.61

Direct Charitable Expenditure

Advertising	0.00	
Equipment	14,433.90	
Fosterhome and carer expenses	11,358.74	
Veterinary costs, Vet Grants, Neutering Scheme, Post Homing, Golden Oldie Scheme	83,599.41	
	109,392.05	

Other Expenditure

Fundraising event costs	20.00	
Stationery/postage/printing/telephone/Newsletter	4,249.19	
Professional fees (PO Box/Bank Charges)	687.40	
Stock for Re-sale	656.29	
Public liability insurance	327.40	
Other (re-inbursement of income)	82.50	

Total payments

	6,022.78	115,414.83
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Net receipts for the year

	5,230.37	107,771.59
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Actual Cash & bank balances at 31 March

-9,956.34

Net Cash & bank balances at 31 March

222,217.00

212,260.66

2. Statement of Assets and Liabilities

Monetary Assets

Cash and Cash equivalents at 31.03.22

Total

	2021-22 £	2020-21 £
	399,676.15	212,260.66
	399,676.15	212,260.66

Non Monetary Assets

14 Lindee Lu cathouses
2 QualityTimberCat houses
14 Traps
2 Remo Traps
14 Large Kitten Pens
28 Scanners
10 Microchip Application Guns
2 Laptop Computers
1 Panasonic Telephone

Direct charitable expenditure

Specific costs incurred

Allowance for post homing treatment
Allowance for Golden Oldie Scheme
Allowance for Neutering Scheme
Allowance for Vet Grants

Total liabilities

Ann Butler-Smith, Chairman

Ann Butler-Smith

Hilary Westgarth, Treasurer

Hilary Westgarth

For and on behalf of the trustees

2021-22
£

4,000.00
26,000.00
10,000.00
15,000.00

55,000.00
55,000.00

2020-21
£

4,000.00
25,000.00
10,000.00
6,000.00

45,000.00
45,000.00

Date

21/09/22

Date

21.09.22

Independent examiners report to the trustees of Thames Valley Animal Welfare “TVAW”

Registered Charity no. 900616

I report on the accounts of TVA W for the year ended 31 March 2022

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity’s trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts.

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

It is my responsibility to

- Examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- To follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- To state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner’s reports

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

Independent examiners statement

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

1. Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
 - To keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 act and
 - To prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 act have not been met OR
2. To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Martin Tucker

Name: Martin Tucker

Date: 23 September 2022