



# Trustees' Annual Report for the period

Period start date		Period end date	
From	To		
01	01	2019	31
			12
			2019

## Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name **WARWICKSHIRE HEDGEHOG RESCUE**

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any) **1183331**

Charity's principal address **31 St Michaels Road**

**Claverdon**

**Warwick**

Postcode **CV35 8NT**

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Linda Clements	Chair	09/05/2019	Two trustees
2	Clare Watson	Secretary	09/05/2019	Two trustees
3	Lynda Harris		09/05/2019	Two trustees
4	Virginia Kearsey	Treasurer	13/12/2019	Two trustees

### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO)
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by trustees

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

## Section C Objectives and activities

**Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document**

1. FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PUBLIC TO RELIEVE THE SUFFERING AND DISTRESS OF HEDGEHOGS IN NEED OF CARE AND ATTENTION BY PROVIDING AND MAINTAINING RESCUE FACILITIES FOR THE RECEPTION, CARE AND TREATMENT OF SUCH ANIMALS IN THE WARWICKSHIRE AREA.
2. TO ADVANCE PUBLIC EDUCATION IN THE STUDY OF HEDGEHOGS TO INCREASE THEIR KNOWLEDGE INCLUDING THE CONSERVATION AND HABITAT OF HEDGEHOGS.

In operating our charity, the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on providing a public benefit.

For the public benefit, our main activities include accepting into our care hedgehogs that have been found by the public and that we deem require our intervention to survive.

Generally, we are contacted by a member of the public who has found one or more hedgehogs. After a telephone screening process, a hedgehog is brought to us, whereupon we examine it and, if we are able to diagnose a condition, the medication appropriate to the condition(s) is administered. During the initial rehabilitation period, a Rehabilitator provides the patient with safe housing artificial heat where necessary, food, water, bedding and close monitoring. While the hedgehog is under the care of the Rehabilitator, any other conditions arising will be diagnosed and treated with the appropriate medication. Should the services of a vet be required the hedgehog is transported to one of our hedgehog-friendly vets nearby.

Rehabilitators are distributed throughout Warwickshire therefore each uses a veterinary practice local to them. It would be impossible for us to continue our work with hedgehogs without the support of the vets. Whilst most of the hedgehog care can be done without the need for a vet, we rely on vets to:

1. Advise on difficult/unusual conditions
2. Recommend treatment of stubborn or complex problems
3. Supply medication for use by rehabilitators
4. Examine and, if possible, treat hedgehogs with serious injuries e.g. broken leg or jaw, trimmer wounds
5. Euthanise hedgehogs that are very ill or badly injured e.g. head

injuries, broken spine or pelvis, deep tissue infections, multiple broken legs.

Occasionally, the hedgehog requires, and we provide twenty-four hour care. During the treatment phase our Rehabilitator cares for the patient until it has improved to the point where it can be re-released into the wild or handed to one of our Foster Carers who provides continued care, sanctuary and support for the hedgehog, for example in gaining weight, in preparation for its release. In the Autumn, hedgehogs that are healthy, but underweight for hibernation, are 'overwintered' with our Foster Carers. During that period the hedgehog is offered sanctuary, is monitored, kept warm, fed, watered and cleaned. Once the hedgehog has reached a suitable weight it is encouraged to hibernate. Upon awakening in springtime, after hibernation, the hedgehog remains in care until its weight is deemed appropriate to allow it to be re-released into the wild.

We find permanent homes for some hedgehogs that would not survive in the wild. In these homes they are provided with secluded, enclosed, outdoor facilities and are fed, watered and monitored.

### **Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

As dedicated volunteers we have been helping hedgehogs as a group since the formation of the organisation in 2014. Several members have worked with hedgehogs independently for many years.

The group comprises about ten Rehabilitators and many Foster Carers, all operating from their homes and gardens within the county of Warwickshire, where they offer rescue facilities. Rehabilitators are those volunteers who are specially trained in the care of hedgehogs and, more specifically, in the administration of medication to sick or injured hedgehogs. On the whole, Foster Carers care for the hedgehogs during the recovery period. Their job involves feeding the hedgehogs and cleaning their pens whilst continuing to observe and record the hedgehog's health.

Rehabilitators are all trained at Vale Wildlife Hospital & Rehabilitation Centre where they attend the *First Aid, Care & Rehabilitation of Hedgehogs Course*.

The task of nursing a hedgehog back to health is a lengthy process with one hedgehog requiring, on average, three months of care that involves feeding, cleaning, medicating, vigilance, recording, vet visits and, the other side of the coin, receiving the public into our homes and communicating with the public. Multiple tasks requiring time and expertise of a few dedicated individuals. We are a small team dedicated to making a positive impact on the survival of Warwickshire's hedgehog population.

Our volunteers have made us happen over the past year. We acknowledge that they form the backbone of our charity and, without them, we simply could not be. The trustees thank you all for your generosity of spirit.

During the summer months we take stands to events such as Village Fetes, National Trust events, and opens days at local attractions, e.g. Charlecote Mill.

We raise small sums for the charity at these events, and generate much interest from the public, both children and adults alike. These gatherings are educational opportunities allowing us to share information and stories

about hedgehogs. We answer questions and provide information for example, on feeding and providing 'houses' for wild hedgehogs, the annual life-cycle of hedgehogs including breeding and hibernation times, the management of gardens to reduce hazards and increase opportunities for hedgehogs, the reasons for the rapid decline of hedgehogs and what to do if someone finds a sick hedgehog.

Visitors may take our contact details, leaflets and flyers from our stand, and the pictures on display are reliable conversation starters.

It is important to acknowledge that we are staffed entirely by volunteers and that our objects and activities would fail to be achieved without them. Volunteers donate their time, their personal funds and their expertise for the benefit of the public in general and, on their behalf, Warwickshire's hedgehogs.

The support of volunteers cannot be underplayed because it enables us to continue our charitable work. Thanks to them, we continue to generate goodwill amongst hedgehog lovers, and it is that goodwill that keeps our doors open to the public.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

### Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

Our Rehabilitators received into care almost six hundred sick hedgehogs in 2019, a huge increase from 2018. Most hogs recovered fully and were released back to the wild, some were settled into safe gardens belonging to a member of the public who offers food and shelter. Sadly, some hedgehogs with serious injuries or advanced conditions could not be saved despite, where necessary, veterinary intervention. We have recorded a significant increase in hedgehogs with severe injuries (broken legs, strimmer wounds, etc.) and infections and continue to see the presence of intestinal fluke that is proving recalcitrant to treatment and thus causing the time in care to be extended.

Over the past decade, we have received increasing numbers of hedgehogs. The cause is unlikely to be that there is an increasing number of hedgehogs but may be driven by the media attention on hedgehogs that has raised awareness of the decline of hedgehogs and their habitat, and promoted hedgehog rescue centres. These days the public is much better educated about what to do if they find a sick or injured hedgehog or find a hedgehog out in the day.

Our talks, presentations and fundraising events continue to be well-received, as was our first calendar. We feel they have been instrumental in raising awareness of the plight of Warwickshire's hedgehogs as judged by the increasing number of calls we receive from the public and the increasing number of hedgehogs we receive into care. In addition, the publicity has brought us new volunteers who wish to train as Rehabilitators and Foster Carers. They will help us to accept even more sick and injured hedgehogs.

In May 2019 we gained charity status, a major achievement that enabled us to apply to charitable trusts for grants that contributed £7K to our income. For these grants we give our thanks to: The A.H. Lynall Foundation, Beryl Evetts and Robert Luff Animal Trust Charitable Trust, Martin Wills Wildlife Maintenance Trust, The Persula Foundation Charitable Trust, The Hickman Animal Trust, CB&HH Taylor 1984 Trust, Betty Philips Charitable Trust, Dumbreck Charitable Trust and The Marjorie Coote Animal Charity Trust.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

We are grateful for the ongoing support from 'Kenilworth Books' who actively raise funds for us and raise awareness of hedgehogs and of our work.

Two of our Rehabilitators undertook to produce our first calendar. It was an educational tool in which each page represented a month and included information about hedgehogs, their requirements and their habitat relevant to the month. The calendar was funded by the public and by the sale of sponsorships to businesses in the Stratford-upon-Avon area. The calendar was an overwhelming success, contributing almost £4K to our reserve as well as enabling us to purchase special cameras to assist with hedgehog care.

Importantly, an achievement that cannot be overlooked, at the end of our financial year we had succeeded in increasing our reserve by 80%, up from £10K in 2018, to nearly £18K.

During the year, Amy Swinbourne stepped down from managing the accounts for the charity. She had taken on the role when the Trustees of the Charity changed and played a crucial role in raising the standard of the financial records and 'stabilising' the record keeping. We are all very grateful to her for taking on this challenging role and supporting the organisation during a time of significant change.

Amy handed over the accounts to Virginia Kearsley who not only has taken on the finance role but using her experience working with other charities has also achieved a significant milestone for the organisation in attaining charity status.

A pattern of quarterly meetings has been established. During the meetings, the finances of the charity are discussed, and sources of funding are considered. News on hedgehog care is shared and updates on projects are given.

## Section E

## Financial review

### Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We aim to keep sufficient funds in reserve to cover one year of operational costs should we fail to raise the annual required income. Year on year the reserve amount has to increase due to the disproportionate fees required by veterinary practices.

### Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

### Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;

Our principal sources of funding in 2019 were charitable trust grants, the crowdfunding platform GoFundMe, the sale of our first calendar and donations from the general public.

91% of our expenditure has directly supported our key objectives, comprising 31% veterinary care; 21% medicines; 14% food and care; 13% medical supplies; 12% rehabilitation equipment, while 9% has indirectly supported our key objectives (goods for sale, admin).

- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

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## Section F Other optional information

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## Section G Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	<i>Virginia Kearsey</i>	
Full name(s)	VIRGINIA KEARSEY	
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Treasurer	
Date	30 August 2020	



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

WARWICKSHIRE HEDGEHOG RESCUE

1183331

## Receipts and Payments accounts

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For the period from	Period start date 01/01/19	To	Period end date 31/12/19
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donations-General	12,737	-	-	12,737	7,723
Donations-Hedgehogs In/Out	1,214	-	-	1,214	1,240
Donations-Presentations Talks	955	-	-	955	658
Grants	7,000	500	-	7,500	-
Sale of Goods	747	-	-	747	600
Sale of Calendar	1,385	-	-	1,385	-
Refund	75	-	-	75	-
		-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total(Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>24,113</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,613</b>	<b>10,221</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>24,113</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>24,613</b>	<b>10,221</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Food & Care	2,283	-	-	2,283	2,223
Medical Supplies	2,070	-	-	2,070	1,648
Medicines (Drugs)	3,545	-	-	3,545	5,523
Vet	5,107	-	-	5,107	244
Goods For Sale	206	-	-	206	100
Rehabilitation Equipment	1,413	500	-	1,913	67
Calendar Costs	1,190	-	-	1,190	-
Admin	286	-	-	286	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>16,100</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,600</b>	<b>9,805</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>16,100</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,600</b>	<b>9,805</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>8,013</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,013</b>	<b>416</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>9,788</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>9,788</b>	<b>9,372</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>17,801</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>17,801</b>	<b>9,788</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>	Bank	17,788	-	-
	Cash	13	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>17,801</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees		Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		<i>Virginia Kearsey</i>	Virginia Kearsey	30/08/2020