

**RIDGEBACK RESCUE**

**TRUSTEES REPORT, EXAMINERS REPORT**  
**PROFIT & LOSS AND BALANCE SHEET**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

# RIDGEBACK RESCUE

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## **RIDGEBACK RESCUE**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

The trustees have pleasure in presenting their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st December 2020.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

The details as set out below are those required by the Charities Commission.

#### **LEGAL STATUS**

Ridgeback Rescue (formerly The Midlands & Northern Ridgeback Support & Rescue Trust) is constituted by a Deed of Trust, and is registered as charity number 1146704.

#### **TRUSTEES**

Ms Julie Robinson  
Mr Kevin Blackwell  
Mrs Kerry Rhodes  
Mr Tyler Rhodes  
Mrs Sheridan Gray  
Ms Helen Crowe

All trustees have acted for the whole financial year.

#### **OBJECTIVES OF RIDGEBACK RESCUE**

The objectives of the charity are to provide appropriate care, protection, treatment, security and support for Rhodesian Ridgebacks; to relieve suffering and distress where necessary to find suitable permanent new homes for such animals; and to educate and advise both Rhodesian Ridgeback owners and the wider public in matters pertaining to the health, welfare and the prevention of cruelty and suffering of these dogs.

#### **ORGANISATION**

The management of the charity is under the control of the trustees. The trustees shall have power to deal with any matters not covered by the charity's rules.

## **REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENTS, ACTIVITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

The pandemic has hit the entire country hard, indeed the whole of the global economy has taken a severe hit. Standing orders and general donations have decreased as everybody has had to tighten their belts.

From a financial standpoint, it was fortuitous that we had already decided we would be moving away from the kennels at C-Four Paws and instead looking at using kennels on an ad hoc basis as and when they were needed. Indeed, we recently started working with Laxton kennels in Leicestershire who helped us enormously when we were dealing with Indi. Laxton kennels offer a very professional set up that includes Bex, a qualified behaviourist, who we can call on for assessment and training work should we have a dog who would benefit from such interventions. The added safety net of a professional being able to look over a dog and give a qualified opinion of their behaviours and temperament is worth its weight in gold and certainly gives us added confidence if and when we are called upon to help with a "difficult" case. Their fees are very reasonable and, as they are only to be paid if we actually have a dog with them, they are a massively reduced outgoing for us to bear.

Although the Midlands and Northern RR Club are no longer supporting us with their fundraising or competition events, it is heart-warming to see that the Scottish club is still very much onside and is splitting their fundraising efforts equally between ourselves and the RRWT.

Fundraising this year has been of a much lesser endeavour than usual ( we did several fun videos that people paid to be in - "The Barkness", Hand Sanitizer Challenge" and Toilet Roll Challenge - and also ran a weekly quiz on Friday evenings throughout lockdown No 1. We wanted to give our supporters a little fun and a bit of feel-good free activity to say thank you. Although we didn't charge for our supporters to participate, when the quizzes drew to a close, we did receive donations of over £300 which was lovely). What we lost in activities such as the regular auctions (we decided it was not fair to ask our supporters to partake in these during such difficult times) we have made up for in merchandise sales which have gone very well indeed. The shop aspect of the website is doing very well indeed with some really lovely products being available, particularly the fleeces and coats made by Carol Ann at Oridgenals.

Sadly both our May events - our Predation Workshop with Claire Staines of Lothlorien Dog Services arranged for Welton and also our Ridgeback Fun Day planned for Malton, at which Julian Norton our Patron was to be judge, have had to be put on ice. We tried to rearrange for May of 2021 but it seems this is still too soon and so the hope now is that they will take place in May 2022 instead. In the same vein, our participation in at Crufts 2021 has also had to be shelved until 2022 at the decision of the Crufts Committee.

We received a sizeable donation from Diane following her custody battle with Until Every Dog Has A Home regarding Cuthbert. Cuthbert was surrendered to UEDHAH but did not appear to be getting the new life she had hoped for him. She launched a legal campaign to try to get him released, for which the Ridgeback world at large donated a substantial amount to cover her legal fees. When it finally broke that Cuthbert had indeed been rehomed in December, Diane will pay her remaining fees and in 2021 has been kind enough to gift the outstanding monies to us here at Ridgeback Rescue. We are, of course, absolutely delighted, coming as they did on the back of a huge medical bill we had incurred for Eli - a young male RR who had been found to have a dermoid sinus when we initially took him on. Invasive and complex surgery on the DS and then surgical treatment of a massive abscess under the muscle sheath following the surgery left us with a bill just shy of £5,000. The donation from Diane, together with an appeal we put out on behalf of Eli, brought in more or less the full amount necessary to cover his bills and give him the happy ending he needed. Once again, the Ridgeback world didn't let us down.

Those who are fostered or rehomed by us when they are already 'elderly' have their veterinary fees met by our Charity. As our rehomed dogs get older, it is inevitable that they often require more veterinary support. Billie and Diwa were two elderly dogs who were rehomed together. Sadly, Diwa has now passed but did manage to rack up substantial medical bills as her life drew to a close. Billie, now also in her dotage, is struggling with various respiratory and heart problems and the total vet fees over last year for Billie and Diwa combined were £3,000. Our third "big hitter" in the medical stakes was our lovely foster dog Evie. Evie has really been battling with her Laryngeal Paralysis and associated recurrent aspiration pneumonia. Her fees for 2020 alone were a massive £2,374.

The number of dogs being surrendered to us this year has been down massively at just 20 as opposed to the 31 who were rehomed last year. One can only assume this is down to a number of factors:

- a) People working from home, so able to spend time with their animals and meeting their needs.
- b) People working from home has also meant the market for dogs has soared dramatically both in sheer demand and also in the prices being charged. This "perfect storm" has meant that instead of being surrendered to us as dogs normally would have been, they were sold on Gumtree etc for a highly inflated fee. I worry as to the fitting nature of the homes these dogs were paired with and can only hope that if, and when things return to "normal". That they seek help from us to rehome then to a better suited environment.

Lastly, I would like to thank our Trustees who have all worked seamlessly as a team and put in hours of work in ensuring the smooth running of the charity, website optics, social media accounts and round the clock support to those who need us. This year has brought some very trying situations both from a logistical, emotional and ethical standpoint. Some decisions have not been easy to reach but I am glad to say that on every occasion, the Trustees have worked together as a single entity, agreeing en-masse with all decisions and plans.

**RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES**

The Charities Act requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for every financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity at the end of the year and of the surplus, or the deficiency for the year.

In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to select suitable accounting policies, and then apply them on a consistent basis, making judgements and estimates that are prudent and reasonable. The trustees must also prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011. The trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The report was approved by the Trustees on .....  
and is signed on their behalf by Mrs Kerry Rhodes

.....

## **RIDGEBACK RESCUE**

### **INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS REPORT** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

#### **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 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- :- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act
- :- to follow the procedures laid down in the general directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities 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 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 the 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 section 130 of the Charities Act; and
- :- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities 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.

**Signed:**

**Date:**

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**David H Clarke**  
**Rhodes Clarke & Co Limited**  
**Accountants**  
**Alison Business Centre**  
**39-40 Alison Crescent**  
**Sheffield**  
**S2 1AS**

**RIDGEBACK RESCUE**

**PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020**

		2019
Income	39,496	39,561
Deposit account income	29	63
	<u>39,525</u>	<u>39,624</u>
 <b><u>Resources Expended</u></b>		
Merchandise	11,272	8,796
Veterinary fees	6,031	9,979
Kennel fees	11,210	14,571
Insurance	718	745
Post and stationary	2,617	1,514
Accountancy	240	240
Sundry expenses	575	1,584
Shows & events		
Administrative expenses	323	261
<b>NET PROFIT</b>	<u><u>6,539</u></u>	<u><u>1,934</u></u>

**RIDGEBACK RESCUE**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**31ST DECEMBER 2020**

		2019
<b><u>CURRENT ASSETS</u></b>		
Bank accounts	85,727	78,948
Stock	2,500	2,500
<b><u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u></b>		
Creditors & accruals	480	240
<b><u>NET ASSETS</u></b>	<b><u>87,747</u></b>	<b><u>81,208</u></b>
<b><u>FINANCED BY</u></b>		
Balance as at 1st January 2020	81,208	79,274
Net profit for the year	6,539	1,934
	<b><u>87,747</u></b>	<b><u>81,208</u></b>